

# The Essex Foundation

The Essex Foundation  
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Essex, CT 06426

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## Cheryl Harger Joins Foundation Board

In March, The Essex Foundation Board of Directors announced the appointment of Cheryl Harger as Treasurer. Cheryl replaced Herb Clark, who made the decision to step down from the position after serving as an officer for more than four decades. He will continue on as a member of the Board of Directors.

Cheryl has lived in Ivoryton for 20 years and is currently employed as an Accounting Manager at The Clark Group in Essex. After earning a degree in accounting from Bryant University, she began her corporate career as a Certified Public Accountant for Deloitte & Touche, and later worked as a financial analyst for Heublein and Infiltrator Systems. Ms. Harger is also the Treasurer of the First Congregational Church in Essex; Treasurer for Handbell Musicians of America - Area 1 (New England); Bookkeeper for The Shoreline Soup Kitchens and Pantries; and Secretary of the Ivoryton Library Board of Trustees. She is an active member of her church and community choir, the Shoreline Ringers, and also fosters kittens for Forgotten Felines in her spare time.

The Foundation is fortunate to have Cheryl as its newest board member. Her financial acumen and commitment to the local community will be a great asset as it continues its efforts to identify and support worthy projects. Board members are also grateful for Herb's unprecedented contributions to the organization since its founding, and are counting on his continued stewardship.



*Herb Clark welcomes Cheryl Harger as the newest member of The Essex Foundation Board of Directors and as his replacement as Treasurer.*

### 2018 Board of Directors

Bruce Glowac, *President*  
Jay Tonks, *Vice President*  
Cheryl Harger, *Treasurer*  
Judy Bombaci, *Secretary*  
Herbert T. Clark III  
James Clark  
Strickland Hyde III

## Consider A Legacy Donation

If you like what The Essex Foundation does, please consider the possibility of a legacy donation. A gift through your will or living trust will continue your support of The Essex Foundation as an important legacy in our community. Many of our donors use their wills or living trusts to make their most generous gifts. A charitable bequest is also an excellent way to create a living memorial. For more information, please contact Essex Foundation Treasurer Cheryl Harger at (860)767-0000.

The Essex Foundation also relies on the many gifts sent by individual donors in dollar amounts of their choosing. *Use the enclosed envelope or mail a check to: The Essex Foundation, PO Box 64, Essex, CT 06426.* Donations can also be made online at: [www.theessexfoundation.org](http://www.theessexfoundation.org).

*All donations are tax-deductible to the full extent provided by the law.*

# The Essex Foundation

## 2018 Community News

The Essex Foundation is a nonprofit corporation dedicated to making a difference in the lives of Essex citizens by providing support for medical, educational, social welfare, cultural, recreational and civic needs. The Foundation's role is to provide "seed money" for new services and to allocate funds to fill needs not met by other organizations or sources. In general, funds are granted for special purposes, including land, buildings, equipment and programs, but not to recurring expenses. With a 45-year history of service to Centerbrook, Essex and Ivoryton, The Essex Foundation continues to expand its support for community projects that require fast, local action. This past year saw the completion of many initiatives, and the beginning of others, all tackled in partnership with town officials, residents and like-minded organizations. The resulting community news is shared here.

# The Essex Foundation

## Town Clock Repaired

Since last November, time had been at a standstill in Essex Village. The 158-year old town clock, housed in the cupola of the First Baptist Church on Prospect Street, stopped keeping time with the arrival of the cold weather. It had been keeping time and chiming on the hour for the past eight years since it was last repaired. Earlier this summer a proposal for new repair work was presented by Dick Adams, a Baptist Church volunteer whose duties include being the clock caretaker. The Town of Essex, owner of the historic clock, and The Essex Foundation agreed to co-fund the overhaul of the motion works and transmissions behind the four dials of the clock as well as the replacement of 100 feet of strike weight rope. This September, Connecticut Timekeepers, a Stratford-based tower clock specialist, provided the services and returned the clock to operation. Blast-All, Inc. donated the use of the lift and lift operator.



The clock was a gift to the town from Theodore Dwight Pratt, shortly before his death in 1860, with the provision that it be placed in the steeple of the Baptist Church. At that time, the church's steeple was the highest point in Essex and the town hall was located directly across the street. Tending to the clock has proved challenging over the years. Gravity powers the heavy granite weights suspended from the clock that keep the clock hands moving. Three times each week the weights need to be wound up to a height four stories above the ground, an easy but tedious chore that has been performed by Mr. Adams and volunteers Dot Burgon and Matt Nuss.



The location of the clock four stories above ground level makes it difficult to maintain the four outside faces that are exposed to extreme weather conditions. Repairs on the clock are expensive, and because the clock is located in a private building, town funds are not always available to cover costs. The Foundation has provided assistance in the past and looks to establish a designated fund for ongoing maintenance and repair. The hope is that the Town will also set up a sinking fund for the clock in its annual budget. Anyone interested in being a volunteer clock winder should contact Mr. Adams.

*TIME FOR A FACELIFT (above): Matt Miner of Connecticut Timekeepers replaces the hands on the Essex Town Clock while Jamie Bogan of Blast-All, Inc. operates the lift up to the tower.*

*THE WIND UP (left): Dick Adams prepares to wind the town clock in the First Baptist Church tower, a weekly volunteer service he has been providing for over 45 years.*



## Beautification Expands: Daffodil Bulbs Planted At Sunset Pond

The legacy of the late Elizabeth "Diz" Callender, through a generous bequest upon her passing in 2014, continues to enhance the Essex landscape. It has provided funding for the recent beautification of the Essex gateway, including the installation of 12 Chanticlear Pear trees and over 300 evergreen and perennial ornamentals at the intersection of Route 153 and Route 154. Now it is providing funds for the planting of daffodils along the West Avenue entrance into Essex village.



The first phase of the daffodil project was completed this fall. 15,000 bulbs were planted in a 3,000 square foot section of turf between Sunset Pond and West Avenue, with blooms expected next spring. Sullivan Lawn Care provided the planting services. Phase II will happen in Fall 2019 and includes expanded bulb planting in the Sunset Pond area as well as at the Route 153/154 gateway intersection.

The idea for the planting project came from the fact that Diz Callender enjoyed planting daffodils. Funding will also come from The Paul Foundation (owners of the Sunset Pond property), Centerbrook Properties, and individual donors.

As trustee for the Bumpy Warner Youth House on Bushnell Street for over 30 years, the Foundation continues to manage and provide support for its maintenance and repair. The building serves as headquarters for the Essex Boy Scout program.



## President's Letter

Dear Friends,

Essex is a very "special place" where things often seem to just happen for the benefit of our community. We are fortunate to have caring citizens and dedicated individuals who, without a lot of fanfare, are willing to volunteer and work diligently for worthy causes.

The Essex Foundation is an example of that fact. Whether it be beautifying the town landscape, repairing the 150+ year old Town Clock, providing support to our Boy Scouts or other projects, the Foundation continues to strive to do good things for the citizens of Essex. We seek to partner with individuals and other groups to encourage and support meaningful projects in our community that are not typically funded by other charitable organizations.

These efforts would not be possible without the generous support from individuals like you. With your support we continue to help make our community the "special place" we know it to be.

Please consider The Essex Foundation in your gifting this year, and be assured that, large or small, your tax deductible contribution will be greatly appreciated and put to good use for the betterment of our community.

Together we can continue to make a difference.

Sincerely yours,

Bruce M Glowac  
President  
The Essex Foundation, Inc.

