

The Essex Foundation

The Essex Foundation
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Essex, CT 06426

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Pandemic Planting

In April, 5,000 additional daffodils enjoyed their first bloom on the hill owned by the First Congregational Church in Essex Village. The bulbs were planted in the fall of 2020 by Sullivan Lawn Service, which required a few crew members and a few days to cover the 7500 square-foot area. Funding came from a bequest by the late Elizabeth Callender, with support also provided by The Paul Foundation, Centerbrook Properties, and individual donors.



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

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2021 Community News

The Essex Foundation continued its community stewardship by supporting several local projects and educational initiatives throughout the past year. Highlights are featured in this issue. Since its founding in 1970 as a nonprofit, charitable organization, The Foundation has been 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 charitable organizations or sources. In general, funds are granted for special purposes, including land, buildings, equipment and programs, but not to recurring expenses. With a 51-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, and to work in partnership with town officials, residents and other like-minded organizations.

More information can be found online at www.theessexfoundation.org or facebook.com/TheEssexFoundation

2021 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



How to Request Funding

The Essex Foundation provides "seed money" for new services and funds to meet the needs of Essex citizens and organizations that are not met by other funding organizations or sources. In general, funds are granted for special purposes, including land, buildings, equipment and programs, but not for recurring expenses. Requests are reviewed by The Essex Foundation Board of Directors and usually require an in-person presentation.

To initiate a request, download the Funding Request Form found on the Funded Projects webpage at www.theessexfoundation.org, or request a form via email at contact@theessexfoundation.org.

Submit the completed form by mail to The Essex Foundation, PO Box 64, Essex, CT 06426, or by email to contact@theessexfoundation.org.

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Helping First Responders Ready for Medical Emergencies

In the winter of 2021, The Essex Foundation answered a call for support from the Essex Fire Engine Company #1 (EFD). A \$10,000 grant was awarded to help fund the replacement of 12 automated external defibrillator (AED) units and two Lucas chest compression systems needed to respond to heart attacks and other cardiac events that happen each year in town. The total cost of the needed equipment and service contracts was \$68,111, which falls outside of the department's normal operating budget.



As first responders who provide medical support to the entire community, and to the Essex Ambulance Association, EFD made a town-wide appeal asking individuals and community organizations for help in closing the gap. It was an easy decision by the Foundation board members to make the award and help assure the fire department is well-equipped and ready to respond.

Pictured Above: Strick Hyde and Judy Bombaci of The Essex Foundation present a check to Essex Fire Department Treasurer and Emergency Medical Responder Robert Parkerson and Assistant Chief Ethan Goller for the purchase of emergency medical equipment.



Each EFD vehicle, as well as the personal vehicles of six EFD emergency medical responders, has an AED on board. The Lucas chest compression units are carried on the department's two light rescue trucks. The Essex Foundation grant was a significant contribution toward the equipment purchase. "Heart disease affects one in four Americans, and is the leading cause of morbidity," commented EFD Chief Aron Schumacher, "At Essex Fire we take cardiac emergencies seriously and we try to have the best equipment possible. Thanks to generous private donors and organizations such as the Essex Foundation this has become a reality."

Pictured Above After the grant award, a demonstration of the Lucas chest compression system was given.

Scout Support

Funding was provided for the ongoing operation and maintenance of the Bumpy Warner Youth House, which is headquarters for the Essex Boy Scout program, as well as other scout-related projects. The house is located on Bushnell Street and was a gift of the Gifford Warner family who donated the property in memory of Malcolm "Bumpy" Warner, the son of Enid and Gifford Warner, who died of leukemia. As trustee for over 30 years, the Foundation continues to manage and provide support for its maintenance and repair.



Environmental Studies Scholarship Award

Nathan Hill, an Ivoryton resident, was named as the 2021 recipient of The Elizabeth Barnes Callender and Mary Francis Barnes Memorial Scholarship by The Essex Foundation Board of Directors. The \$3000 scholarship award is presented to honor the bequest and memory of the late "Diz" Callender and her sister Mary. It is available each year to one local high school graduating senior or graduate, or an Essex resident, who plans on pursuing studies related to land conservation and preservation at a two or four-year college, a technical



school, or graduate school, or taking accredited courses in biology, botany, agronomy, ecology, horticulture, floriculture, forestry, landscape design, or environmental science. Nathan graduated from Valley Regional in June and is enrolled in the University of Vermont's Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources for the fall semester. His interest and achievement in protecting our natural world and waterways reflects the same passion for the community and environment that Diz and Mary both shared.

Pictured Above: Valley Regional graduate and 2021 Barnes-Callender Scholarship recipient Nathan Hill with Jay Tonks of The Essex Foundation.

President's Letter

Dear Friend,

The Essex Foundation has had another successful year in continuing efforts to improve our community. Little things can make a big difference. In our small town, many little things are constantly happening behind the scenes that most people are unaware of but benefit from the result. We are fortunate to have a multitude of volunteers that contribute their time and efforts for the greater good.

Recently someone mentioned that the intersection of Routes 9, 153 and 154, once being seen as an ugly and tacky gateway to Essex, was looking pretty good these days. They said they didn't know who it was, but someone was doing a nice job. I informed them of the Essex Foundation's efforts toward improving that area: contributing to the painting of the Route 9 bridge overpass, installing perennial plantings at the intersections, planting cedar trees along West Avenue to hide the substation and fire department building, planting flowering trees along Route 9 and 154, planting 10,000 daffodils across from the firehouse, and managing and maintaining all of these enhancements. Yes, I said, it is looking pretty good these days, and the Essex Foundation is very proud of the role we played to make it look that way. "Wow what a great job," they exclaimed, "I didn't know that."

Yes, little things can make a big difference and the Essex Foundation is always on the lookout for ways in which we can better our community, taking on projects quietly and effectively without a lot of fanfare. This would not be possible without the support of so many citizens like you. Please consider gifting to The Essex Foundation this year. Large or small, every contribution is appreciated.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, it is my pleasure to thank you for your support. Together we can make a difference.

Sincerely yours,
Bruce M. Glowac
President

