

The Essex Foundation

2023 COMMUNITY NEWS

This past year was an active time of community stewardship and funding for initiatives that benefit all residents in Centerbrook, Essex and Ivoryton. The Foundation continued to expand its support for projects that require fast, local action, working in partnership with town officials, residents and other like-minded organizations. Several grant awards helped fund new services and project needs typically not met by other charitable organizations or sources - all possible through the many generous bequests and donations made to the Foundation from the community at large. Learn more about the grant awards inside or visit us online at www.TheEssexFoundation.org and on Facebook.

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
OLD SAYBROOK CT
PERMIT NO. 30

The Essex Foundation
PO Box 64
Essex, CT 06426

Dedicated to making a difference in the lives of Essex residents.

Help Us Support Our Local Community

Dear Friends,

What a difference a year can make! Thanks to community members like you, The Essex Foundation had an incredible year of supporting a wide variety of local needs. Response to the matching gift challenge to help fund the Essex Veterans Memorial Hall expansion project was quick, generous, and beyond our expectations. We continue to expand town beautification efforts and daffodil plantings in all three villages. Many of you expressed an interest in contributing so we created an easy way to "Donate for Daffodils" online or by mail. We are always on the lookout for ways in which we can better our community, including assistance for basic, educational, and cultural needs. This would not be possible without your help. Please consider gifting to The Essex Foundation this year. Large or small, every contribution is appreciated.

Sincerely,
Bruce M. Glowac
President

The Daffodil Project

The memory and bequest of the late Elizabeth Callender continues to be honored through ongoing beautification projects. In addition to the Route 153/Route 154 gateway plantings, thousands and thousands of daffodils now bloom in concentrated sections of Essex Village each spring. This November, another 5,000 bulbs will be planted on Route 154 in Centerbrook near the Trinity Lutheran Church, and at the entrance to the Millrace Trail in Ivoryton. The spring blooms have been enjoyed by people near and far, serving as the main attraction of the Essex Board of Trade's Daffodil Days.

*Help Spread the Cheer and Donate for Daffodils in other areas of town.
Go to TheEssexFoundation.org/donate or mail the enclosed form and check payable to:
The Essex Foundation, PO Box 64, Essex, CT, 06426*



The Essex Foundation

Ivoryton Playhouse Steps Up in Style and Safety

Last November a \$15,000 grant was awarded to help fund the design and installation of new steps, handrails, and landing at the front entrance of the Ivoryton Playhouse. The project was initiated to improve patron safety while keeping within the period styling of the historic 1911 building.



Stocking the Tri-Town Backpack Program Pantry

A \$2000 grant was also awarded to The Backpack Program, a volunteer organization that provides students identified by social workers at Essex Elementary, John Winthrop and Valley Regional High School with nutritious food for weekends, during school vacations, or when other resources are not available. The grant award was used to purchase food items such as cereal, oatmeal, breakfast bars, milk, juice, tuna, peanut butter, jelly, pasta, sauce, apples, and soup.



Veterans Memorial Hall Challenge Matched

Thanks to a tremendous outpouring of community support, it took just six months to reach the \$100,000 goal to fund Essex Veterans Memorial Hall's expansion and renovation project. Donations from the community hit the \$50,000 mark in March, triggering the Foundation's \$50,000 match and a celebratory presentation at the Centerbrook site.

Equipping Sensory Gym for Children with Developmental Challenges

The Foundation answered a call for support from Middlesex Health's The Mayer Center, a comprehensive service provider for children and adolescents with autism, sensory processing disorder, speech disorders, cerebral palsy and other developmental challenges. A \$10,000 grant helped equip the sensory gym at the new state-of-the-art facility in Essex.



Barnes Callender Annual Scholarship Award

Tabitha Hardgrove was awarded a \$3000 scholarship to support her environmental studies at Rochester Institute of Technology. The award is given each year to honor the bequest and memory of the late Elizabeth "Diz" Callender and her sister Mary Frances Barnes to a Valley Regional High School graduating senior or an Essex resident pursuing studies related to land conservation and preservation, including the fields of agronomy, biology, botany, ecology, horticulture, floriculture, forestry, landscape design, and environmental science.



First Congregational Church Meal Outreach Program

A \$1000 grant was awarded to the FCC Essex Outreach and Justice Committee to support the group's community mission project that supplies special meals to local area residents who struggle to feed themselves. The project, which is dependent on donations from congregants and the greater community, provides Thanksgiving and mid-winter meals to families identified by the Tri-Town schools, as well as to Essex Court and Essex Place residents.



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



*Thank you for
 your support...
 No gift is too small!*

Consider 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. For more information contact Cheryl Harger at (860)767-0000.



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

www.TheEssexFoundation.org

- I want to Donate for Daffodils. Enclosed is my gift of:
- I want to support The Essex Foundation general fund. Enclosed is my gift of:
- \$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 \$1000 Other: \$ _____

Name: _____

(As it should appear on website/social media recognition list OR check here if you prefer not to be publicly recognized)

Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

The Essex Foundation, Inc is a 501(3)(c) nonprofit organization. Your contribution is tax-deductible to the full extent provided by law. Mail form with check to: The Essex Foundation, PO Box 64, Essex, CT 06426. Donate online at www.TheEssexFoundation.org/Donate or scan QR Codes.



Scan to
 Donate for Daffodils



Scan to
 Donate to General Fund