



Reaching Out

A REPORT FROM THE BRANFORD COMMUNITY FOUNDATION, 2006

BRANFORD COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Meeting
Community
Needs

“Without a sense
of caring, there can
be no sense of
community.”

Anthony J. D’Angelo

A Message from the President...

Welcome to the Branford Community Foundation’s first annual newsletter, Reaching Out! As we enter this twenty-first century, the Branford Community Foundation’s overall mission remains the improvement in quality of life for Branford, its institutions, and its citizenry. After two and a half decades of serving Branford, the Foundation continues to cultivate the impetus to attain new goals to further meet the ever-present needs of our town.

This past year, the Board of Directors at the Branford Community Foundation experienced several changes. First, Claire Bennitt has stepped down as President, ending a tenure in office marked by leadership excellence and growth. Fortunately, Claire will remain on the Board to lend her continued expertise. Second, Fran Walsh, who served ably as Vice President, has retired from the Board. We thank him for his energetic participation that is so intrinsic to his persona. Finally, the Board enthusiastically welcomed its newest member, Maureen Nobile, whose active community involvement will serve the Board well.

As the new President, my mission is twofold: first, to increase the visibility of the Branford Community Foundation in our town, and second, to increase our endowment in order to augment our grants and scholarships. Therefore, we look to businesses large and small, and every individual, to respectfully ask for their support of our goals at whatever level is comfortable for them. Together we can make Branford an even better place to live!

Eunice Lasala, President

The Branford Community Foundation contributed \$1,000 towards the major renovation of the J.B. SLINEY SCHOOL PLAYGROUND which had become outdated. Here the children are enjoying Phase I of the new installation.





**BRANFORD
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**

Meeting Community
Needs

P.O. Box 462
Branford, CT 06405
(203) 488-6063

.....
Eunice Lasala, President



Patricia C. Andriole, Vice
President

John E. Donegan,
Secretary

Jeffrey C. Clark, Treasurer

Christian P. Edmonds,
Assistant Treasurer

DIRECTORS

Claire C. Bennett
Victor J. Cassella
Sheila Giordano
Maureen Nobile

Logo design by Martha Link
Walsh; Newsletter design by
Words by Jen.

Treasurer's Report: 2004-2005 Financial Information

Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2005 and 2004

	2005	2004
ASSETS:		
CURRENT ASSETS:		
Cash	\$58,029	\$65,498
Accrued interest income	1,883	1,249
Total current assets	\$59,912	\$66,747
LONG-TERM ASSETS:		
Investments	\$820,540	\$744,697
Total Assets	\$880,452	\$811,444
LIABILITIES:		
CURRENT LIABILITIES:		
Grants payable	\$0	\$0
NET ASSETS:		
Temporarily restricted	\$26,568	\$11,467
Permanently restricted for High School Scholarships	144,514	145,418
Unrestricted:		
Unappropriated	554,562	535,129
Appropriated - by Board for scholarships	154,808	119,430
Total Net Assets	\$880,452	\$811,444
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$880,452	\$811,444

Statement of Activities & Change in Net Assets Year Ended December 31, 2005 and 2004

- *The consolidated total return in 2005 was \$55,271 or 6.53% of average year-end assets.*
- *Branford Community Foundation endowment funds and its scholarships returned 7.16% with a growth objective and a 70% Equity/30% Fixed Income portfolio target, per analysis of Olson Mobeck Investment Advisors.*
- *The Branford High School Scholarship fund is segregated from BCF funds for investment purposes and returned 4.91% with a growth and income objective and a 48% Fixed Income/48% Equity/4% Cash portfolio target, per analysis of Olson Mobeck Investment Advisors.*
- *Grants received from the Graustein Memorial Fund are for Discovery Grants for the Branford Early Childhood Collaborative. Distributions are shown as program expenses. All funds attributable to this program are carried as temporarily restricted until utilized.*

	2005	2004
REVENUES, GAINS & OTHER SUPPORT:		
Contributions	\$57,506	\$41,047
Contributions passed through BHS		50,176
Grants:		
Graustein Memorial Fund	20,000	
Income on long-term investments	16,446	13,256
Net unrealized & realized gain on long-term investments	38,825	65,108
Total revenues, gains, and other support	\$132,777	\$169,587
EXPENSES:		
Charitable giving:		
Grants	\$40,995	\$17,010
Scholarships	12,803	11,200
Program expenses*	4,898	5,900
Total giving	\$58,696	\$34,110
Administrative:		
Professional fees	2,279	2,049
Postage	714	383
Dues	220	220
Printing		310
Web site expenses	449	537
Administrative	1,101	1,340
Total administrative expenses	\$5,073	\$4,529
Total expenses	\$63,769	\$38,639
Change in net assets	\$69,008	\$130,948
Net assets at beginning of year	811,444	680,496
Net assets at end of year	\$880,452	\$811,444

* including Graustein expenses of \$4,003 and Alcoa expenses of \$895 in 2005 and Graustein expenses of \$5,900 in 2004

Treasurer's Notes:

**For a complete copy of our
audited financial statements
please visit our web site: [branford-
communityfoundation.org](http://branford-communityfoundation.org)**

FUND FOCUS: The Donald & Mary Lou Welch Fund

When Ginger Dendas wanted to celebrate her husband Sam's 50th birthday, she decided to go beyond the usual gifts and parties to something more lasting and purposeful. To honor the memory of her parents, Donald and Mary Lou Welch, and Sam's close bond with Mary Lou, Ginger started a fund with the Branford Community Foundation in their name. Don and Mary Lou's love of Branford and its community will be remembered and honored through the work of the Foundation.



Don and Mary Lou were thrilled to live and raise their family in Branford. Don was most at home on or near the water — fishing, clamming, lobstering, and boating, often with his grandchildren, or organizing the family's annual "Sedge Island Day," a well-timed picnic on a sandbar at low tide! Mary Lou was the 'glue' and strength of the family; she, too, cherished beach living, and along with her gardening, sewing, and cooking skills she created a nurturing environment for her family. Beyond her roles in real estate and as a preschool teacher, Mary Lou was involved in the Branford community. She was active with Habitat for Humanity and even had a house in West Virginia dedicated in her name. She was also instrumental in the establishment of Camp Totokett, a wonderful organization for children dealing with AIDS that the Branford Community Foundation initially helped fund and continues to support.

While Ginger created this fund to keep her parents' spirit alive, she also looks to the future. As a fourth grade teacher in Branford, she has taught her students the importance of giving back to the community. She explains to her kids how The Donald and Mary Lou Welch Fund, through the Branford Community Foundation, can help needy children or preserve the environment, two issues near to her parents' hearts. When Ginger celebrated her last birthday, the Foundation was thrilled to receive a check for \$48 from "Mrs. Dendas' Fourth Grade Class!"

The Branford Community Foundation is delighted to have Ginger Dendas honor her parents, Donald and Mary Lou Welch, and her husband, Sam, in a manner that so benefits the town of Branford.



Pictured above: Donald and Mary Lou Welch; pictured at left: Don and Mary Lou with daughter Ginger.

OUR FUNDS

- General Fund
- The Andriole Family Fund
- The H. Allen Carroll Fund
- The Clark Family Fund
- The A. Peter and Fae Delfini Memorial Fund
- The Darin C. Etzel Fund
- The Ellen McDonnell Ferguson Memorial Scholarship Fund
- The P.J. Ferriolo Memorial Fund
- The Vincent S. Giordano, Sr., Scholarship Fund
- The Donald W. Grigley Memorial Fund
- The Harry and Abby Johnson Fund
- The William C. and Barbara R. Lyons Fund
- The Mobeck Family Fund
- The John and Carol Moss Fund
- The William Owens, Jr. and Attorney Robert Owens Scholarship Fund
- The Mari-Ellen Reed Memorial Nursing Scholarship Fund
- The Austin Ryer Memorial Scholarship Fund
- The John B. Sliney Scholarship Fund
- The Eleanor Taylor Fund
- The Donald and Mary Lou Welch Fund

2005 Branford Community Foundation Contributors

A. Peter & Fae Delfini Memorial Fund
 (\$10,002.00)
 Dr. & Mrs. Ronald H. Delfini

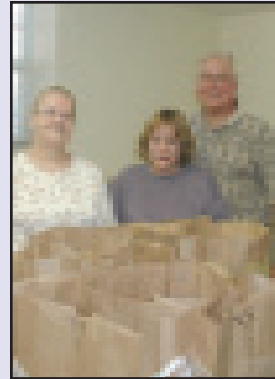
Andriole Family Fund
 (\$26,066)
 Patricia Andriole

Austin Ryer Memorial Scholarship Fund
 (\$8,376)
 Herman Bogli
 Evelyn Hamilton
 Mr. & Mrs. George Prokupek

Carol D. Redden Scholarship Fund
 (\$25,000)
 James Redden

Clark Family Fund
 (\$6,363)
 Martha & Jeff Clark

Darin Etzel Memorial Fund
 (\$98,447)
 Bailey, Moore, Glazer,
 Schaeffer, & Proto, LLP
 Bailey, Schaeffer, & Errato,
 LLC
 Daniel Cosgrove
 Dorothy Cummings
 Michael & Gail D'Addio
 Mrs. John Daly
 Marion & Edward DeLoiuse
 Todd D. Etzel
 Mardi Finegan
 Fusco Corporation
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert J. Gill, Sr.
 Vincent & Linda Giordano
 Richard & Ann Horan
 Kearney Insurance Agency
 Bernard & Jane Kohler
 Katharine Lawler & Family
 Edward & Ruth Logan
 Mr. & Mrs. William Lyons
 Theresa Mackintosh
 Robert Mailhouse
 Stuart & Joan Glazer Margolis
 Peggy & John Massaro
 Mr. & Mrs. John McColl



The Branford Community Foundation is proud to make an annual contribution to the BRANFORD FOOD COUNCIL. Pictured are Jay Webb, Brenda Holmes, and Nikki Flynn, just three of the dedicated volunteers who provide this essential service to the Branford community.

Eileen N. McDonald
 Martin McDonald
 Mary McDonald
 Ann McDonald
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Mobeck
 Olsen Mobeck Investment
 Advisors
 Frederick A. Parsons III
 Dominic & Antoinette Proto
 Stanton & Elizabeth Robison
 Herbert & Blossom Rose
 Gayle & Henry Schlenker
 Barbara & Allen B. Shockley
 Lore & Tony Smith
 Audrey, Carol, & Roy Walzer
 David Etzel & Jan Walzer
 Pamela & F. Perry Wilson, Jr.
 Robert A. Wolfe
 Jack Balkin & Margaret Wolfe

Mr. & Mrs. Theodore
 H. Geballe
 Mrs. Carla W. Grigley
 Stuart & Betsy Klarman
 Mr. & Mrs. John McGuire
 Bill & Maureen O'Brien, Jr.

Eleanor Taylor Fund
 (\$5,688)
 Robert Taylor

Ellen McDonnell Ferguson Scholarship Fund
 (\$34,864)
 Patricia M. Brady
 Dalio Family Foundation, Inc
 Niall Ferguson
 Raymond F. Ferguson

General Fund
 (\$228,466)

Truett Allison
 Mr. & Mrs. G. Ernest
 Anderson
 Anne Annunziata
 Joan Armstrong
 Mr. Donald T. Ballou
 Mr. & Mrs. Paul Barrett
 Mark Simon & Penny
 Bellamy
 Claire & Bob Bennett
 Ms. Susan Bennett
 Peter Borgemeister
 Brian Borgerson

Donald & Mary Lou Welch Fund
 (\$5,498)
 Margaret Boyer
 The Frione Family
 Bernadette Stak

Donald W. Grigley Memorial Fund
 (\$8,630)
 Eric & Jeanette Anderson
 Apache Roofing
 Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Geballe
 Mr. & Mrs. Joshua Geballe



In celebration of the Branford Community Foundation's 25th anniversary, Claire Bennitt was honored to present the STONY CREEK FIFE & DRUM CORPS with a \$25,000 grant toward the historic Seaside Hall Restoration Project. Seaside Hall and the Fife & Drum Corps have been a Branford treasure for many years.

2005 Branford Community Foundation Contributors

Jane Bouley
 Mr. & Mrs. William Briggs
 Bill Horne & Lea Brilmayer
 Carole Brown
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Burns
 Jeff Canavan
 Mr. & Mrs. Victor Cassella
 Dermot T. Clyne
 Robert Conroy
 Daniel Cosgrove
 Marjorie & Robert Crelin
 Philip & Lois DeLise
 Ms. Dorothy Desi
 Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Fitzgerald
 Fitzgerald & Wood, Inc.
 Lois Flesche
 Kathy Fox
 Dr. & Mrs. Gerald Freedman
 Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Gargano
 Janice Geier
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Gill
 Benjamin Golumb
 Mr. & Mrs. William Gorman
 Mrs. Marlene Gorman
 Dr. & Mrs. Richard Grossman
 Archibald Hanna
 John & Audrey Hanniford
 Mr. & Mrs. Richard Haran
 Carl Weis & Margot
 Hardenbergh
 HDB Corporate Liquidation
 Trust
 Mary & Bill Hitchcock
 Warren Hopper
 David K. Hyatt
 Mr. & Mrs. Donald Hyatt
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter Jackson
 Howard Jacobs
 Winnifred Judge
 Nancy Kahl
 Kenneth & Janet Kaminsky
 Hugh & Mary Keenan
 Dr. & Mrs. Jack Kelley
 Mr. & Mrs. John Kennedy
 Betsy & Stuart Klarman
 Mrs. Thelma Kmetzo
 Dr. & Mrs. Arthur Knowlton
 Bernard & Jane Kohler
 Eunice & Anthony Lasala
 Dr. & Mrs. Harold Levy
 Mr. George Lyons
 William & Barbara Lyons



A \$2,500 grant to the WALSH INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DRAMA PROGRAM gave scores of kids the opportunity to participate in a high quality musical production of Bye Bye Birdie. The children experienced all aspects of theater performance including singing, acting, dancing, production, direction, set design and building.

Robert Mailhouse
 Anne MacClintock &
 Jerry Mashaw
 Martin McDonald
 Harry & Joan Merrick
 David Colbourn & Mary
 Beth Michaelson
 Joseph W. Mooney
 Arnold & Eva Peterson
 Bruce Lively & Ann
 Rutherford
 Joan Samuelson
 Mr. & Mrs. David Schaffer
 Richard Squeri
 Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Stevens
 Summer Golfing Tour
 Mr. & Mrs. John Temple
 Mrs. Virginia Usher
 Jeff & Terry Vailette
 William & Alice VanWie
 Mr. & Mrs. Francis Walsh, Jr.
 Nancy Wheeler
 Tom Wilson
 Mr. & Mrs. Walter Zielinski
 Mr. & Mrs. Jeremy
 Zimmerman

Dr. & Mrs. Marvin
 Zimmerman
 Howard & Linda Zonana

H. Allen Carroll Fund
 (\$15,664)
 Estate of Mr. & Mrs.
 H. Allen Carroll

Owens Scholarship Fund
 (\$9,992)
 D. William Owens, Jr.

**P.J. Ferriolo Memorial
 Scholarship Fund**
 (\$23,451)
 Vivian & William Briggs
 Peter & Donna Ferriolo
 Creighton & Ann Hooker
 Peter & Susan Lupoli
 Carol Masotta
 Thomas & Vera Casso

The Mobeck Family Fund
 (\$11,380)
 Vining Bigelow
 James Brandolini
 Joe & Mary Beth Canavan
 Salvatore DeFelice
 Marcia & Ron Delfini
 John & Betty Ann Donegan
 Bob & Lynne Dow
 David & Valerie Engstrom
 Alfred Fordiani
 Carol Gagliardi
 Josephine Giordano
 Wendy Giordano
 Vincent & Linda Giordano
 Laurence Gormley
 Kathleen Higgins
 Alex & Valerie Klutch
 Eunice & Anthony Lasala
 Robert Mailhouse
 Geraldine Nicholson
 Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Peck
 Charles Pepe
 Joseph & Jean Polka
 Melrene & Ronald Savin
 Susan Schreck
 Thomas & Carol Simjian
 Gayle & Tim Stevens
 MaryEllen & Dick Swan
 Tiger Group
 Harry & Marie Torello
 Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Torello,
 Sr.
 Elizabeth Zoarski

**Vincent S. Giordano, Sr.
 Scholarship Fund**
 (\$26,985)
 Giordano Construction Co.
 Mr. & Mrs. Michael
 Giordano

GRANT FOCUS: The Lemonade Gang

2005 GRANTS

The Foundation's continuing commitment to our community was reflected by the number and size of our grants in 2005 which supported:

- Branford Food Council
- Branford Rotary Foundation
- First Congregational Church, Killam's Point Long Term Planning Committee
- "Lemonade Gang" Myelin Foundation, Hematology/Oncology Association
- Orchard House Adult Day Care Facility
- J.B. Sliney School Playground Installation
- Smoke Detector Program
- Stony Creek Fife & Drum Corps, Seaside Hall Restoration Project
- Walsh Intermediate School Performing Arts Program

In addition, 12 Branford High School seniors received scholarships for their education from memorial funds we hold and manage.

The German philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche once said, "Youth is a disagreeable time, for it neither possible then or prudent to be productive in any sense whatsoever." Perhaps his outlook would have been different had he known the dedicated and generous group of Branford kids who call themselves "The Lemonade Gang." Eight years ago, a group of young children decided to do something to



help their friend, Brian Kelley, in his fight against adrenoleukodystrophy. Their initial efforts were to raise money for the Myelin Project by selling lemonade. However, the 'Gang' soon realized that their love of musical theater and performances could be another way to raise funds. At first these productions were suitable for family members only, and took place in the homes and back yards of various members. Last year, however, The Lemonade Gang's production of Grease was opened to the public and was a huge success.

When a new friend entered their lives, Hanna Bloomquist, the Gang had a new goal to achieve, helping to fight childhood cancer. Instead of splitting their funds equally between their two causes, the Gang decided to double their efforts. Thus, the kids created and performed a holiday concert at the Blackstone Memorial Library. With this concert, the kids were able to provide holiday gifts to the families of Hanna's pediatric oncologist, families struggling not only with their children's health but also with huge medical bills.

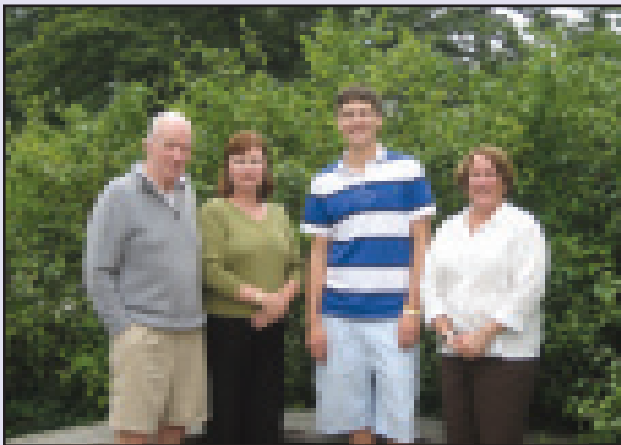
In 2005, the Branford Community Foundation was understandably impressed with the philanthropic spirit and dedication of the Lemonade Gang. In order to further encourage this group of wonderful kids, the Board of the Foundation elected to contribute \$1,000.00 to the Gang's charities of choice. The Board of the Branford Community Foundation is truly inspired by the Lemonade Gang and encourages all of Branford to support their efforts. Keep an eye out for upcoming productions!

Pictured above are: (back row) Tess Bloomquist, Meg O'Brien, Jonathan Carlson, Greg Nobile, Ryan Bloomquist, (front row) Rand Lewis, Ellie Bloomquist, Luke Jenusaitis, Ricky Weiss, and Conor Shea. Missing from picture: Coral Serrano-Bennitt, Katrice Kemble.

Community Foundation Smoke Alarm Program

When a smoke alarm woke Branford Community Foundation Board member Chris Edmond's family in the middle of the night in December 2003, he immediately called 911 and evacuated his family from the house. Upon reentering, Chris discovered that a reading lamp in his then 13 year old daughter's room had fallen over and set the blankets on fire. Everything turned out fine, but the experience opened Chris's eyes to the importance of smoke alarms, especially in bedrooms.

This incident prompted Chris to start a program, funded by the Branford Community Foundation, that gives a free smoke alarm to every baby born in Branford. The Program kicked off at the Branford Festival in June 2005 with help from Deputy Fire Chief Michael Klarman and Sparky the Fire Dog. At this time, any baby born after January 1, 2005 is eligible to receive a free smoke alarm. Look for the Branford Community Foundation's Smoke Alarm Program flyer in the Town Hall for further information.



The Branford Community Foundation is pleased to award, for the first time, the CAROL DOWD REDDEN SCHOLARSHIP. The recipient is Paul Dilella, Jr. of Branford, who is currently attending Emmanuel College in Boston. This scholarship was generously set up by the Redden Family in memory of Carol to benefit a student attending a two or four year college. Pictured are (left to right) Jim Redden, Tina Loftis, Paul Dilella and Maureen Nobile from the Branford Community Foundation. Photo by Kelly Loftis.



The Branford Community Foundation made a \$3,000 grant to ORCHARD HOUSE ADULT DAY CARE FACILITY to help offset the cost of a new wheelchair-lift equipped van. The van is an integral component in transporting elderly patients to and from the facility. Pictured are Patti Cifarelli, Senior CNA, Phil Giuliano, Assistant Director, Lisa Maltese, Nurse, Supervisor, volunteers Carie DeMartino and Martha Meeham, Volunteer, and Orchard House client Madeline Frey.

About the Branford Community Foundation

The Branford Community Foundation, founded in 1980, is a public, nonprofit, tax exempt, charitable trust. It provides an administrative, philanthropic service - a means by which public-spirited citizens may make gifts or bequests, the income from which is distributed for educational, cultural, health, social and civic needs.

OUR MISSION

- To provide a permanent endowment and to meet unforeseen and important community needs.
- To enhance the self-sufficiency of recipient agencies in order to make Branford an even better place to live.
- To provide initial support for new and innovative projects of special merit and to provide leadership and resources for the community.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

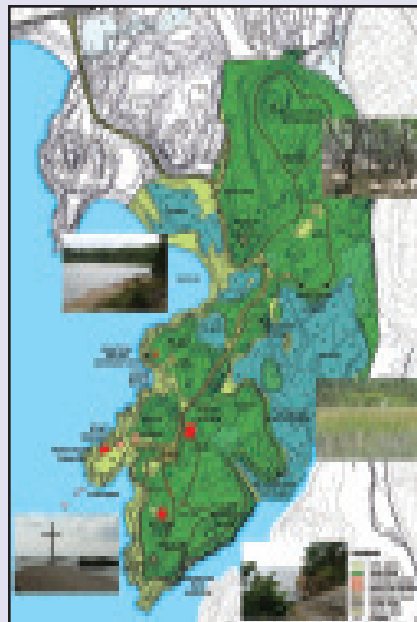
For more information about the Branford Community Foundation and how to apply for a grant or set-up a fund, visit our website, www.branfordcommunity-foundation.org.

Holiday Giving Ideas

Looking for ways to simplify your holiday shopping? Can't figure out what to get the person who has everything? Let the Branford Community Foundation help! Giving a gift to the Foundation in a friend or loved one's name is a wonderful way to honor the recipient and help the Branford community at the same time. Our new Thank You cards, featuring our redesigned logo by Martha Link Walsh, will let them know of your generous gift with a bit of style. "At the holidays, I want to give my friends gifts to show them that I truly value their friendship," says longtime contributor Mary Keenan. "Giving to the Foundation in honor of my friends is a way to support this community we're so fortunate to live in and to capture the true spirit of the holidays."



Do you need a stocking stuffer for your child or grandchild? A gift to the Branford Community Foundation can be an opportunity to teach your youngsters the importance of giving back to the community. Please take a moment to visit our website, branfordcommunityfoundation.org and explore the different ways the Branford Community Foundation has helped our community.



In 2005, the Branford Community Foundation supported the FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH'S KILLAM'S POINT LONG TERM PLANNING COMMITTEE in its efforts to revitalize and preserve one of Branford's most pristine and natural stretches of shoreline. The goal of the Planning Committee is to develop a comprehensive strategy for the beneficial use of the land well into the 21st century.