On the Board
The Foundation welcomed two new board members in October.

Chris Wall

Bradford Hoar

Assistant to the President of Philanthropic Services

Brad joined the Foundation in August 2013. Brad cultivates new philanthropic relationships, supports fundholders, and provides philanthropic services to donors and professional advisors. Having grown up in Kent, he knows upon his knowledge of the area to assist donors in making a positive impact in the lives of people of Northwest Connecticut. For nearly six years, Brad was Development Manager at a leading Czech civil society organization in Prague. Nadaas Vis, at which he led the Czech Republic’s most successful independent endowment-building campaign. Prior to coming to Prague, Brad taught English in Alaska, Japan, where he met his wife, Satomi.

Brad has provided philanthropic services for several private schools in Pennsylvania, most recently The Kilda School outside of Pittsburgh. Brad is a graduate of Colby College in Waterville, Maine. He currently resides in Warren with Satomi and their two sons.

A Harvard resident, Mr. Wall graduated summa cum laude from the University of Connecticut School of Law. He is a managing partner with Wall, Wall & Associates, a law firm based in West Hartford.

Mr. Wall is a member of the Connecticut Bar Association and the Connecticut Trial Lawyers Association. Mr. Wall is a vigorous advocate for the underserved, often representing individuals and families in our community who suffer social and economic injustices.

Ronald Rosenstein

A private attorney and community leader in Winsted for 37 years, Mr. Rosenstein serves as Vice Chairman of the Board for Northwest Connecticut Bank. He is a co-founder and past president of the Winsted Area Child Care Center and a past president of the United Way of Northwest Connecticut. Mr. Rosenstein served as a chair on the Winchester Ethics Commission and director of Connecticut Mutual Holding Co. and Greenwoods.

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Sylvia Demichel

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She supports the design and implementation of strategic grant making initiatives, including requests for proposals. She also supports team projects related to Foundation database development and data entry, gift administration, and communication protocols.

THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF NORTHWEST CONNECTICUT

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The Community Foundation of Northwest Connecticut Has a New Look

Your Community Foundation website has been redesigned. Visit www.cfnwct.org to view the newly designed foundation website. The website’s new navigation tab includes: About Us, Giving Your Way, Providing for Good, Grants, Scholarships, and Advisor Resources.

The new website enables your Foundation staff to share stories about donors and their goals through our main-page donor story carousel. Sections to the left of the carousel highlight grants that are making an enormous impact in our communities. News events, such as the availability of scholarship applications for the 2014-2015 academic year, the launch of The Plan to End Homelessness, grant opportunities for local non-profits, and grant award announcements for cycle grants, donor-advised funds and supporting organizations are displayed in the News section.

The About Us dropdown menu includes information about foundation staff, key policies and specific investment information. Giving Your Way provides information about gift types and fund options as well as information on how the foundation works with private foundations, corporate partners and give circles. Providing for Good explains how your Community Foundation works with nonprofits and highlights key initiatives. An interactive map enables visitors to scroll over towns in Northwest Connecticut to new information about population, poverty rates, education, unemployment, as well as grants and scholarships that have been awarded in that area. Grants provides all of the information nonprofits need to receive grants, operating, and submit applications as well as nonprofit education opportunities and additional resources.

Scholarships is the information hub for scholarship applicants, including information about specific scholarships, guidelines and applications.

Advisor Resources provides financial advisors with specific information about the benefits of charitable giving as well as useful tools, such as sample bequest language.

Additionally, your new Community Foundation website offers a Donor Resources page with easy access to the Gift Planner and Options for Charitable Giving guides as well as stock deduction and grant recommendation instructions.

Your Foundation’s Nonprofit Resources page offers nonprofits a collection of valuable tools, including grant applications and guidelines for multiple grants, opportunities information using the Foundation office for matching space, and how to access the Foundation Center, an online directory that includes more than 100,000 U.S. grant makers, as well as print directories and guides to proposal writing, fiscal management and nonprofit management. Additionally, The Nonprofit Resource Center provides all of the materials nonprofits require after they are awarded grants, such as payment request and grant report forms.

Your new cfnwct.org offers weekly news updates, donor stories, electronic versions of publications and links to the Community Foundation Facebook page. New features are coming soon. Please visit your new www.cfnwct.org.

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Tim Considine Memorial Scholarship Fund continued from front cover

During one of several memorable conversations with his sons, as Tim discussed with them the extent of his illness, he told them: “There are three things that are really important in life. Faith, Family and Friends.” Later that night, his son Brian designed wristbands with his father’s advice printed on them. The bands were ordered and quickly could be seen everywhere in the community. Starting out as solid green for family members, Brian decided to order more in green and white to sell to friends and the community, with all proceeds going to the ALS Association of CT.

On July 28, 2012, dubbed “Tim Considine Appreciation Day,” and recognized by Governor Malloy as an ALS Awareness Day in the State of CT, an estimated 3,500 people gathered in the rain at Action Wildfires in Goshen to raise money for the Considine family’s education and to show their support for the Considine family. Tim gathered each and everyone with a smile from his wheelchair.

With Tim passing, Cheryl Considine wanted to give back, “I wanted to show the town how much I appreciated everything they did for Tim, me and my children,” said Cheryl. “Tim always wanted to help the youth in his community, and that’s where he was really involved. I wanted to give back to them the way Tim would.”

Established in October 2011, the Tim Considine Memorial Scholarship Fund awards two $1,000 scholarships to students who, like Tim, have a love of athletics, a strong academic background, a connection to community, and a strong faith. In Tim’s spirit, the Tim Considine Memorial Scholarship Fund will continue to help local youth in perpetuity, “God willing and (whether or not) the creek don’t rise.”

Brian Considine designed wristbands with his father’s advice printed on them. The bands were ordered and quickly could be seen everywhere in the community. Starting out as solid green for family members, Brian decided to order more in green and white to sell to friends and the community, with all proceeds going to the ALS Association of CT.

Community Foundation Scholarships Provide for the Future

In January, your Community Foundation will begin the process of reaching out to high school students across Northwest Connecticut to help match students experiencing financial need with the scholarships that donors have established to help them achieve their dreams. Students will learn about scholarships available to them through their high school guidance offices, local news paper, and packets available in their high school guidance offices, with information about specific scholarships that they may qualify for and application instructions. During the months of January-March, students will apply online. They will receive notice of their awards for the Fall 2014/2015 semester in May. There currently are 83 scholarship funds at the Foundation. In 2013, 98 students received $308,325 toward their academic goals.

New Hartford Beekley Library Program Explores Multiple Cultures in our Northwest Corner with Grants from the Polly and Wesley Strand and James L. Holmes Fund for Programs Women and Children.

With grants made possible through the Polly and Wesley Strand and James L. Holmes Fund, the Licha & Mason Beekley Community Library of New Hartford presented several multicultural events during 2013 and 2014 school year.

In October, Author Leslie Bulion presented “A Taste of East Africa,” a lively presentation full of the sounds, tastes, and sights of East Africa. The author presented photographs and experiences from East Africa that helped shape the story book of “Fatuma’s New Cloth.” Participants stood on large cloth, learned kwashil greetings and a song, and made an East African cake.

In November, Parent Choice Award-winning storyteller Motoiko presented “Samoo Mice and Power of the Rice and Games from Japan.” Audiences were engaged by Motoiko’s music, humor and All attendees received Motoiko’s original paper sago game.

In December, The Institute for American Indian Studies presented "Celebrate Earth’s Gifts". The program featured Native American Thanksgiving celebrations that honored the earth. Participants learned about such traditional celebrations as the Maple Sugaring Festival, the Strawberry Festival, and the Green Corn Festival, and played authentic Native American instruments while learning a simple social dance.


What matters to you? Tell us at www.cfnwct.org

Contribute to your favorite fund online at www.cfnwct.org

The Considine family goes back to their community through the Tim Considine Memorial Scholarship Fund.
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Apolonia Scholarship Recipient Graduates from Dental School

Torrington high school student Andrea Chinderbek knew that she wanted to pursue a career in medicine. She explored psychology, neuro-physiology, and general dentistry at Kent State College, as a freshman recipient of the Apolonia Scholarship. “The Apolonia Scholarship went a long way toward paying for my undergraduate degree, which helped immensely,” Andrea Chinderbek said. In 2013, Andrea graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University School of Dentistry and began a one-year General Practice Residency at Latharly Hospital in allentown, Pennsylvania.

What matters to you? Tell us at www.cfnwct.org

Your Community Foundation, New Beginnings of Northwest Hills Litchfield County, and more than ten other nonprofits have developed The Plan to End Homelessness in Northwest Connecticut. The Plan concept is based on years of research and work by a host of communities around the country that embody best practices and program results in homelessness prevention, housing, employment, and clinical and life-skills services.

The Plan:
• dispels misconceptions and myths surrounding homelessness
• educates the public about the paradoxes of homelessness
• works to optimize the potential for funding, particularly at the federal and state level
• creates a roadmap for an integrated and strategic approach to ending homelessness systematically by creating a series of goals and objectives that address prevention, housing, services and employment

The Plan to End Homelessness in Northwest CT has been distributed to area libraries and is available on the Foundation website, www.cfnwct.org.

Susan Strand – Inspired by Family, Connected to Community

One of three children of a homemaker and a factory worker in a close-knit community, Susan Strand always felt a strong impulse to participate in her church, local non-profits and politics. “My parents were always helping someone,” said Susan. “It was the example set by my parents that told me, not just verbally, but by example, that I was supposed to be out helping others in the community.”

The Strand family rented a home in Torrington for much of Susan’s childhood. Susan’s parents, Polly and Wesley, lived in the downstairs, while Wesley’s sister, Aunt Agatha, and her husband, “Uncle Jim” lived upstairs. Polly Strand was a trained nurse who stopped treating patients when she married but never stopped caring for those around her.

Polly made meals for the Spencer House, a homeless shelter and soup kitchen. She volunteered at My Sister’s Pan, an organization that provided shelter and life transition support for homeless women and children, many of whom had experienced domestic violence. She drove cancer patients to their treatment appointments. During election season, and regardless of their politics, she drove those without transportation to the voting polls.

“My mother was always out there helping others and women’s organizations,” said Susan. Wesley worked in a local factory and served as a volunteer firefighter. He often left the dinner table after a long day’s work to fight a fire to help save a neighbor’s home. With no staff of firefighters, men in the community would answer by the number of horns blown where a fire was located.

“The horn would blow and we would stop whatever we were doing and count the number of blows,” said Susan. “If the fire was in our district, dad would run out to help.”

After his retirement, Wesley often helped members of the church and the community. Almost every day he clipped hedges, mowed lawns and helped with minor home repairs for others.

“Every day, I remember him going out to somebody’s house to help them with something,” said Susan.

When Agatha Holmes became ill with dementia, Polly cared for her, so James could continue to provide financially. And in turn, in need, James left Polly and Wesley an inheritance that provided for them, enabling them to purchase a home, and when Polly was ready, the financial resources needed to move into an assisted-living facility.

“My family was a real good example of a real about, not just your family, because they were very supportive of family, but also their community,” said Susan. “They instilled in me a strong feeling of connection to community.”

A successful business woman and community leader, Susan Strand, was a founding member of the National Organization of Women. Torrington’s most prominent citizen, Mrs. Strand and her husband, were a “mainstay of Northwest Corner,” said John D. Rodgers, Jr., past board chairman of the Connecticut Community Foundation.

Susan Strand holds pictures of her parents. Polly and Wesley Strand, namesakes of the Polly and Wesley Strand and James L. Holmes Fund for Programs for Women and Children.

New Hartford Beeley Library Program Explores Multiple Cultures in our Northwest Corner With Grants from the Polly and Wesley Strand and James L. Holmes Fund for Programs for Women and Children

With grants made possible through the Polly and Wesley Strand and James L. Holmes Fund, The Liza & Mason Beeley Community Library of New Hartford presented several multicultural events during 2013 fall school holidays.

In October, Author Leslie Bukon presented “A Taste of East Africa,” a lively presentation of the sounds, tastes, smells and sights of East Africa. The author presented photographs and experiences from East Africa that helped shape the story book of “Fatuma’s New Cloth.” Participants tried on kanga cloth, learned kiswahili greeting words, and a song, and made an East African chai.

In November, Parent Choice Award-winning storyteller Motsoko, presented “Samco and Power of Peace: Tale and Games from Japan.” Attendees were enchanted by Motsoko’s tipsy greeting words, song, and made an East African cha.

In December, The Institute for American Indian Studies presented “Celebrate Earth’s Gifts.” The program highlighted Native American Thanksgiving celebrations that honored the earth. Participants learned about such traditional celebrations as Mapsa Sugarloaf, the Strawberry Festival, and the Green Corn Festival, and played authentic Native American instruments while learning a simple social dance.

Attendees of Celebrate Earth’s Gifts learn about the musical instruments that Native Americans played during their many celebrations of the gifts of the earth: water, animals, fruits and vegetables.

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Please visit our website cfnwct.org
**FOUNDED FOCUS**

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**Spotlight on Progress:**

**The Women and Girls Fund Supports Working and Student Mothers**

In late October, local residents gathered at the Loftсхome of Dr. Frank Vanoni for a reception to recognize grant recipients of the Women and Girls Fund and to show their continued support for the welfare of women and girls in Connecticut’s Northwestern Corner.

During the event, two grants were awarded to the Winsted Area Child Care Center. The Child Care Center was awarded $750 for the purchase of a clothes washer and dryer for the purpose of washing children’s clothes, blankets, sheets, clothes and sewing covers to keep children clean and comfortable. The Child Care Center also was awarded $500 to provide childcare education materials.

The Women & Girls Fund, initiated by your Community Foundation in 1995, provides a unique philanthropic opportunity for community-minded women in Northwestern Connecticut who are committed to improving the lives of area women and girls by raising awareness and pooling resources.

By supporting the Fund, women help to advance the welfare of local women and girls, network with women who share similar interests and values, help women and girls make strategic and informed decisions about their philanthropic goals, join a dynamic group that empowers other women.

For the fourth year in a row, The State Auto Foundation of Northwestern Connecticut made a $5,000 contribution to the Women & Girls Fund to support marketing and communication efforts that further the Fund’s mission. To date, State Auto has provided $20,000 to support the Fund.

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**Tim Considine Memorial Scholarship Fund – a Gift of Faith, Family, and Friends**

Tim Considine, or ‘T. Come’ as many of his hundreds of friends called him, was a funny man known for his quick wit and endless corn-liners. He could take a bad day, a moment of anxiety or fear, and lighten the mood with a comment that could brighten a room. Tim was a happy man.

“When I was a boy, Dad taught me, ‘God willing,’ and the boys responding, ‘and the creek don’t rise,’ completing together the folk saying, ‘God willing and the creek don’t rise,’ meaning the speaker will complete a task of allgone well. An accomplished college athlete and Yankee fan, Tim coached Torggum Little League, Torgumm Babe Ruth, Pal/Elk Basketball, and basketball at his alma mater, St. Francis School, later renamed St. Pete/St Francis School. He found time to help paint the school cafeteria, prune trees in the schoolyard, and chair golf tournaments. Whatever he could do, he would try to help out,” said his wife, Cheryl Considine.

He was everyone’s friend. Everyone knew him, and everyone who knew him considered him a friend.

“Tim was known for making people laugh, often so hard that it hurt their sides. And his faith was as big as his funny bone. He grew up attending church with his parents, and he never stopped, always sitting in his favorite pew. ‘His faith was very important to him,’ said Cheryl. ‘It carried him through his illness and connected him to his community.’

In November 2014, Tim passed away a long three months later, he was diagnosed with ALS or Lou Gehrig’s disease. ‘Thank goodness it wasn’t renamed after a Red Sox player,’ Tim quipped. While Tim joked to ease again make a stressful situation easier for everyone else, he knew he didn’t have much longer to support his family, be there for his children, and share his time with his community.

‘The community of Torgongm reach out to the Considines with food, prayer, good will and community support. ‘The children reached out,’ said Cheryl, ‘and he wanted to see them,’ said Cheryl. ‘He wanted them in his life, and they wanted to be there for him.’ For months the Considine house was full of support from his faith, family, friends, and most of all of laughter. Continued on next page.