

Working to benefit the community of Westbrook and its residents

FOR THE KIDS



Photo courtesy of the Valley Shore YMCA

Keeping with Barbara Spencer's original intention of helping the entire community of Westbrook, especially the school children; in the spring of 2015 the Westbrook Foundation awarded a grant in the amount of \$2,120.84 to the Healthy Communities/Healthy Youth program at Westbrook Public Schools, in order to pay for the freshman class to attend a team building and leadership training day at Camp Hazen in Chester.

"The Westbrook Foundation is a fantastic foundation and a wonderful resource here in town," says Lyn Connery, Chairperson of the Healthy Communities/Healthy Youth program. "I am not sure if we could have had this very special day for our freshmen, if it were not for this generous grant, so we are extremely grateful."

She adds, "This day helps the freshmen create a much smoother transition into high school. The team building activities increase self confidence, as well as independent problem solving skills, which help students to be more successful in their future high school careers."

Praising the skilled and dedicated Camp Hazen staff for the challenging activities that create an environment of learning and working together for the students, Lyn says after the day's event there is a noticeable change in the students and their connectiveness to one another.

"The Westbrook Foundation grant allowed us to offer this very special program, free of charge, for all 62 freshmen students. That means a lot - because, let's face it, if these kids had to pay for it, there are definitely some

of them that would not have been able to afford it and they would have missed out on a very special day. So again, we cannot say thank you enough to the Westbrook Foundation and their generosity. The town of Westbrook is extremely lucky to have a foundation such as this here, to give financial aid when needed.", says Lyn.



Local Postal Customer

PRST STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

The bylaws of the Westbrook Foundation set five year terms for members of the Board of Directors. If approved by the membership, an individual may serve a second five year term. The terms are also staggered so that continuity and organizational memory are maintained. Finishing the fifth year of my second term, I offer this final message.

Serving with so many dedicated Westbrook volunteers has been a great privilege. Their energy, enthusiasm, and commitment are evident in all the areas the Foundation reaches. Scholarships, project grants, and charitable donations form the backbone of the Foundation's contributions to our community. Helping to preserve Westbrook's past, enhancing the quality of life today, and nurturing opportunities for future generations honor the legacies of those who created this treasure.

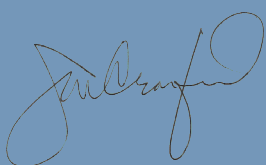
Barbara Spencer's incredibly generous bequest was the catalyst for the development of the Westbrook Foundation. However, more than the money she provided, the desire to give back to her fellow citizens engendered a climate that inspired others to offer their time, talent, and treasure for the betterment of our town. Those who knew Barbara understand that this would make her the most proud.

There are many wonderful volunteer organizations in Westbrook providing all measure of services and programs for our benefit. I encourage these volunteers to generate conversations within their groups about the dreams they envision if a financial stimulus could be found to make them happen. Members of the board are always seeking worthy initiatives that deserve support.

Grant applications are sought twice per year, in April and October.

Help make your contribution to Westbrook life more vibrant!

Finally, my sincere thanks to all those I have been fortunate enough to work with over the past ten years. It has been a very rewarding experience that has made me appreciate my hometown even more. I salute all of my fellow residents who give so much of themselves in a powerful commitment to our wonderful community.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'James Crawford', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

James Crawford, Chairman



Chairman of the Westbrook Foundation, Jim Crawford, happily hands out a scholarship to Sarah Cruz at the 2015 Westbrook High School Senior Awards Ceremony.

In 2015 the Westbrook Foundation awarded a total of \$136,388.34 in grants to community programs and projects.

The following scholarships are awarded to Westbrook residents each year. Help to increase these scholarships by contributing to the fund principal of your choice:

- Calderari-Hoxsie-Schubert-Steinson Memorial
- Josephine S. Crump Scholarship
- Dorothy C. Hoyt Scholarship
- Manstan/Nolf Memorial Industrial Arts
- Herbert A. Muller Jr. Memorial
- Henry Ortner Memorial
- Elliot A. Spencer Scholarship
- Raymond L. Wilson Scholarship
- Westbrook Grange #123 Scholarship
- Ellen S. Murphy Scholarship
- Barbara Spencer Memorial Scholarships
- Pat Mazeau and Myrtie Gareau Scholarship
- Messerschmidt Fund
- Brandon E. Norman Memorial
- Marie Patrice Mazeau Scholarship
- Dan Nuhn Scholarship
- Shoreline Amateur Radio Club Scholarship
- Joanne Marino-Murray Memorial Scholarship
- Eileen M. Daily Scholarship

- ☐ I am considering making a contribution to The Westbrook Foundation and wish to be contacted by a Director of the Foundation to discuss it.
- ☐ My contribution is enclosed and I would like it to be applied to the fund principal for the following existing Scholarship.

- ☐ Enclosed please find my company's matching gift form.
- ☐ I would prefer my gift to remain anonymous.

Name

Telephone No.

Address

Become a partner in philanthropy through annual giving. Please make checks payable to The Westbrook Foundation, Inc. All gifts are tax-deductible.

For Further Information

An individual contemplating a gift to the Foundation should seek the advice of his or her attorney.

This mailer was prepared as reference material, and further information, including copies of the Certificate of Incorporation and the By Laws of the Foundation may be obtained from:

The Westbrook Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 528
Westbrook, Connecticut 06498

Directors

- Eve Barakos
- James M. Crawford, *Chairman*
- Bernadette Jones, *Vice Chairman*
- Lawrence Lariviere
- Brian O'Connor
- Paul Polo
- Harry Ruppenicker Jr., *Treasurer*
- David Russell
- Constance Vogell, *Secretary*

Administrative Director

Nancy J. Howard

Public Relations

Karena Garrity

Honorary Members

- Edmund Binder
- Jane Butterworth
- Janet Dickey
- Teri Gavigan
- John Hall III
- Robert Kindt, Jr.
- Judith Lowe
- Joanne Marino-Murray*
- Donald Morrison
- Barbara Reeve
- Beverly Schirmeier
- Johanna Schneider
- Claire Anthony Smith
- Michael Wells, *Attorney*
- Richard Westbrook

* Deceased

HONORING THE ARTS

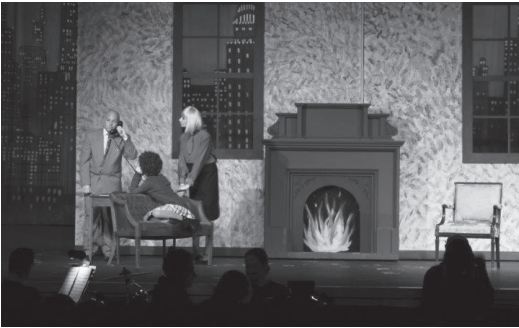
High school life in Westbrook isn't just about books and tests, for many students it's about branching out, finding their likes and dislikes, exploring new avenues and gaining new skills.

For the past 19 years, Nancy Malafronte, Director of the Westbrook High School Theatre productions, helps students explore the bright lights of stage life with an annual musical production and spring play.

While the casts diligently rehearse, learning lines and honing theatrical skills, others work on set design and construction. In an effort to support this extracurricular learning experience, the Westbrook Foundation awarded a grant, in the amount of \$10,000 to the Westbrook Public Schools, to purchase a 16x32 Master Dutch Barn style storage shed, which will house large set pieces so they can be reused and stored easily.

"We are so incredibly grateful for this grant," says Malafronte. "Several years ago we built a large staircase for one of our productions and we reuse it all time, but it is very difficult to store, now we will have the room to store it correctly and keep other set pieces; making it easier on the volunteers each year who put everything together for us."

She adds, "The Foundation has always been very supportive of the arts here at the high school and we are very thankful. It means the world to our students."



Westbrook High School students, back stage and on stage, at recent performances.

GRANTING A CANCER FREE FUTURE

In spring of 2015, the Westbrook Foundation awarded a grant, in the amount of \$4,000, to the Connecticut Sports Foundation to support grants for Westbrook patients and their families who are in financial need and are currently receiving active cancer treatment.

"The Westbrook Foundation is a wonderful community based organization and we are so grateful for this grant," said Jane Ellis, Executive Director of the Connecticut Sports Foundation. "It is absolutely fantastic that the town of Westbrook has the Westbrook Foundation, which so generously helps the community when its residents are in need,"

This is the first time that the Connecticut Sports Foundation has applied for a grant from the Westbrook Foundation.

"We saw the sign about grant applications on the town green and decided to apply," said Jane.

The Sports Foundation was founded in 1987 by Connecticut native John Ellis, a former catcher and first baseman for the New York Yankees.

The Foundation got its name from John's involvement with sports; however it was his own experience with cancer that sparked its beginning.

Before the age of 40, John had already lost a sister, a brother, and a sister-in-law to cancer. Then, John himself was diagnosed. Fortunately he is a survivor of the disease and now his

mission, through CSF, is to financially assist cancer patients and their families throughout the state, while they are actively undergoing treatment.

The Sports Foundation helps with the payment of rent, mortgages, transportation, food, utilities, medication, co-pays and more. Over the past 28 years, CSF has granted over \$4 million to more than 4,000 Connecticut families dealing with the financial hardship that often comes along with a cancer diagnosis. In 2014/15 CSF funded four cancer patients in the town of Westbrook alone.

Jane explained, one Westbrook resident CSF was able to help was referred through her oncology social worker at Middlesex Hospital. She was in need of financial help to pay her rent. CSF was able to financially help, so she could pay for rent and car repairs so she could get to and from her doctors' visits.

"This is how we get the majority of our referrals; from doctors or social workers and we do all we can to help these individuals who are going through tough times," said Jane compassionately.

She added, "This particular Westbrook resident completed her needed treatment, which was successful and now she is back to work and prospering. With the help of the grant from the Westbrook Foundation we hope to help more residents get through tough times and back on track to bright, cancer free futures without the burden of financial worries."



A Contribution to the Future

An individual or an organization who makes a gift or bequest to The Westbrook Foundation can be assured that they have made a contribution which will benefit future generations.

For more information about The Westbrook Foundation, go to **www.westbrookfoundation.org**.

Flexibility in Giving

CASH: An outright cash gift to The Westbrook Foundation qualifies for Federal Income Tax deductions in the year of the gift.

SECURITIES: Stocks and Bonds that have increased in value may be given to The Westbrook Foundation. The donor receives a tax deduction for the value of the gift at market value, and avoids capital gains taxes.

BEQUEST: Bequests of cash, securities or property may be made to The Westbrook Foundation either as a specific sum or as a percentage of the donor's estate.

MEMORIAL GIFTS: A gift to The Westbrook Foundation is a meaningful way to honor a special person or create a memorial to a loved one.

LIFE INSURANCE/CHARITABLE GIFT

ANNUITIES: Donors may name The Westbrook Foundation as a beneficiary of life insurance policies. In the case of annuities, donor may choose to retain income during his or her lifetime.

CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUST: A donor may designate The Westbrook Foundation as the beneficiary of this type of trust and still receive income during his or her lifetime. Donor receives tax deduction in the year the trust is established, and reduces estate taxes.



WHERE THEY ARE NOW

ABBY (HERRICK) FREDRICKSON AND PETER FREDRICKSON

It's small town Westbrook all the way for the Fredericksons. Both Abby and Peter grew up in the picturesque coastal enclave and now they are happy and proud to be raising their own children in the same community.

For Abby, who prospered in the Westbrook School system, from second grade through graduation in 2006, it was her middle school social studies teacher Jim Crawford and high school principal Bob Hale (both now retired) that inspired her to become an educator herself. Graduating from the University of Maine, with a double major in both, English and Public Administration, Abby has spent the past three years fostering the development of young minds in her Westbrook Middle School English Language Arts classes.

Student teaching in the Bronx and teaching at Amistad in New Haven, Abby says she is glad to be back in Westbrook, however, one take away

from her urban school experience is to teach the whole student, a mission she continues in her hometown community.

When not within the confines of the classroom, Abby is sharing the parenting responsibilities of six-month-old Gus and 17-month-old Grace, with her Westbrook native, husband Peter.

"It was important to us to bring up our children in a close knit community such as Westbrook," says Peter, who is a 2005 Westbrook High School graduate who went onto Columbia University and now works as an electric engineer at Electric Boat.

"We love the neighborhood environment here in Westbrook and the beauty of the area," says Peter, who knew from an early age that he loved math and science. This passion was further fostered for him in high school, where the school met his infectious yearning to learn, by

creating a statistics math class, which only had three students in it.

"That's the great part about a small town like Westbrook, if you have a passion in school, there are always teachers who are dedicated to helping you," says Peter.

Both Abby and Peter were recipients of Westbrook Foundation scholarships and they both agree that the money they received helped offset afterschool college loans, which has given them a jump start on their future together.

"The Westbrook Foundation is a great resource we have in town, which helps to make college and higher education more affordable to residents who are seeking to continue their education," says Abby.

Agreeing, Peter adds, "The Westbrook Foundation is a perfect example of how this community comes together to support its members."



KATHARINE MACKEL



The perfect combination of beauty and brains, in the last decade, 2006 Westbrook High School graduate Katharine Mackel has capitalized on all of her natural gifts. Taking full advantage of her studious character, after high school, Katharine set off to study at Georgetown University. She majored in Political Science and graduated in 2011, summa cum laude and a member of Phi Beta Kappa. From there, her passion for education took her to NYC, where she attended NYU and studied to get her master's in social work, graduating in 2014. This was the same year this elegant, young woman made the decision to celebrate not only her brains, but her beauty and she began modeling.

"My favorite moments as a model were

when I was selected to appear exclusively in Dior's Couture Show in 2014," says Katharine, of a career she has now given up to pursue what she calls a "more gratifying profession" of social work.

In 2016, after traveling throughout the world, to places such as Paris, London, Milan, and Sao Paulo, and appearing in Elle US, Mexico and Brazil, Harper's Bazaar UK, Vogue Russia, Marie Claire Brazil and Glamour Russia, Katharine decided to stop modeling because, "although it was fun at times, I wanted something more."

Now, living in Manhattan, pursuing a career that will be helping others, through her work in the mental health arena of social work, Katharine says that

the scholarship she was awarded from the Westbrook Foundation helped her pursue her higher education goals.

"The scholarship helped me further my education by offering me the support and motivation to succeed and to be ambitious," says Katharine. "It sent me the message that the Westbrook community was behind me all the way."

Katharine is excited to attend her ten year high school reunion this year and she encourages Westbrook students, "to take advantage of what you have at your fingertips. Take advantage of the classes, the teachers and the extracurricular activities. You have everything you need in Westbrook to grow, develop and progress. Don't be afraid to use it!"

In 2015 the Westbrook Foundation funded a total of \$82,150 in scholarships to Westbrook residents seeking higher education.