**Friends of Learning in Killingly Enters 3rd Decade of Grantmaking**

As FOLK enters its 3rd decade of grantmaking, it is important to honor and thank all the players who have helped transform the FOLK Fund into a thriving collective legacy:

- To all the original donors who took a huge leap of faith back in 1998;
- To all the repeat and new donors – individuals, groups, businesses;
- To Greater Worcester Community Foundation & its amazing staff;
- To all the volunteers working behind the scenes each grant cycle;
- To the Board of Ed and Superintendent’s Office, who have always acknowledged FOLK’s contribution;
- Above all, to the many teachers whose thoughtful grant applications make FOLK’s mission possible.

**Together we have made this happen!**

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**The Friends of Learning in Killingly invite you to join us for**

**FOLK’s 21st Annual Awards Reception**

To Honor FOLK Grant Recipients for 2020 & celebrate 20 years of grant-supported projects by Killingly Educators

**Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.**

Killingly Town Hall, 172 Main Street, Conf. Rm 102, Danielson, CT

Refreshments will be served

RSVP by Mar. 6, 2020 to Killingly Superintendent’s Office

(LuAnn Goyette, tel 860-779-6600, lgoyette@killinglyschools.org or Keely Doyle, tel: 860-779-6603 kdoyles@killinglyschools.org)

**OR Greater Worcester Community Foundation**

Tel: (508) 755-0980, email: sshrugue@greaterworcester.org

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**In Memory**

(Charles & Rita Beauregard (Class of ’81))

J. Stephen Flanagan (Marblehead, MA)

Kathy Krajewski Traut (in memory)

Mikel Fiske (Frisco, TX)

Ralph LaChance (Deering, NH)

Priscilla Davis (FF) (in memory)

Theodore Haveles (Class of 1969)

Keely Mancini & LuAnn Goyette (KPS Central Office support)

Margaret McQueen (FF, KHS teacher of Class of ’66) (in memory)

Donna M Raheb (Class of ’81)

Judy Rzucidlo (Dayville, CT)

Barbara Briggs Scripps (New Canaan, CT)

Jennifer L Timmons (Colchester, CT)

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**FF: Founding Friend**

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James Vance (Danielson, CT)

**FF: Founding Friend**

**Other FOLK Members to date**

Anonymous Donors

Sandra J. Ahola (FF, Class of ’61)

Saul J. Ahola (FF, Class of ’61)

Lori Aubin (dedicated past service)

Robin Beauregard (Class of ’84)

Brittany Carlsen & Joan Casenelli (Killingly Public Library, FOLK Display support)

George Davis (FF) (in memory)

Priscilla Davis (FF) (in memory)

Charles & Rita Beauregard (Class of ’81)

J. Stephen Flanagan (Marblehead, MA)

Ralph LaChance (Deering, NH)

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**FF: Founding Friend**
High School Student Leaders Learn About FOLK

In February, 2019 FOLK Co-chairs Janice Ahola-Sidaway and Bob Beauregard met with 15 formal and informal student leaders at Killingly High to provide in-depth information about the FOLK Fund. They discussed FOLK’s 20-year history and the behind-the-scenes processes that take place each year to ensure a smooth grantmaking cycle. Two students later attended FOLK’s Advisory Committee meeting and Awards Reception to get a firsthand glimpse of some of those processes.

Seniors Bryce Bentinck and Terren Allen, student members of the Board of Education, attend FOLK gatherings.

Sad News

In August 2019 the Class of ’66 lost one of its own – James Vandale. James, also a graduate of Ellis Tech, worked for many years as a tool and die maker at J.M. Tool Company in Brooklyn. More recently he worked for 10 years as a security guard at New England Laborers’ Training Academy in Pomfret.

FOLK Updates...

FOLK has awarded 160 mini-grants. To date, FOLK has reached an important milestone March 13, when they celebrated their 20th year of grant-making at the Town Hall by awarding $4073 to support 11 projects proposed and led by Killingly teachers. All five Killingly schools were represented among this year’s grant recipients: Christina Stravato of Goodyear Early Childhood Center; Ellen Huie of Killingly Central School; Lauren Konicki, Carol Records, Lisa Siegman, and Erin Sochor of Killingly Memorial School; teaching team Mike Morrill, Pam Ames, and Mike Eddy of Killingly Intermediate School; and Jim Hutson and Cheryl Wakely of Killingly High School.

On hand to honor this year’s teacher recipients were FOLK representatives, administrators, teachers and friends, KHS Technology Student Association members, Board of Education student representatives and Board of Education members, and a member of the Town Council.

Grants are made possible through the group’s FOLK Fund, an endowment initiative created in 1998 by members of the KHS Class of 1966 and managed by the Greater Worcester Community Foundation. Over the years the Fund has grown through donations from Alumni and friends, and more recently from local organizations that feel a connection to Killingly. Since 2000, FOLK’s continuing mission has been to inspire the love of learning in current and future Killingly children and youth by supporting innovative, enriching schooling initiatives. To date, FOLK has awarded 160 mini-grants with the common purpose of helping all students reach their full potential.

Each year teacher applications are reviewed by a team of volunteer FOLK Alumni and Killingly teachers, and final grant decisions are made by a subgroup of reviewers at the annual FOLK Advisory Committee meeting.

“This year we were also delighted to welcome three KHS seniors to the meeting: Terren Allen and Bryce Bentinck, who are the student members of the Board of Education, and their classmate Blake Wolanin,” said Committee Chair Janice Ahola-Sidaway. “In a few short months, these students will become KHS Alumni; and we wanted to provide them with an insider view of how FOLK functions. We hope that one day they and some of their fellow classmates will consider joining FOLK.”

This year’s grants include support for the Arts, traditional and cutting-edge science and technology initiatives, research tools, literacy, social studies and mathematics tools, and polling software to encourage classroom engagement.

Among the grantees was first-time FOLK award recipient, Christina Stravato, who received a $285 grant to create and maintain a hydroponic garden in her pre-school classroom at Goodyear Early Childhood Center. She plans to collaborate with her colleague Emily Ross, who has already created an outdoor garden at the Center, in part with support from a 2017 FOLK grant. Stravato and Ross plan to encourage the pre-schoolers to observe plant growth in the more traditional outdoor garden and the more unusual hydroponic garden. “For example, the hydroponic garden will provide an amazing view of the plants’ extensive root growth that remains hidden in traditional gardens,” explained Stravato.

KHS teacher Jim Hutson received a $500 grant to help support his students to compete at the annual Technology Student Association’s (TSA) State and National conferences.

(Cont’d on P. 3)

KILLINGLY friends of learning awards grants

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(Cont’d on P. 3)
As FOLK’s first-ever fundraising campaign comes to its official end, we want to acknowledge and thank all the individuals, companies, and service clubs for their generous donations. Your financial support of the FOLK Fund will ensure that our collective philanthropic legacy will continue to enrich the lives of Killingly children and youth for many decades to come.

20-Year Anniversary Campaign Virtual Donor Wall

RHS Alumni & Friends

Anonymous
Anonymous
Sandrea J. Ahola (Class of ‘61)
Saul J. Ahola (Class of ‘61)
Janice Ahola-Sidaway (FM, Class of ’66)
Walter Anderson III (FM, Class of ’66)
Robert Beauregard (FM, Class of ’66)
Robin Beauregard (Class of ’94)
Sandra Franklin Beauregard (FM, Class of ’66)
James A. Benson (FM, Class of ’66)
Alice Brochu Fiske (FM, Class of ’66)
Mikel Fiske (FM, Class of ’66)
Gerald Gibeault (FM, Class of ’66)
Jay Gould (FM, Class of ’66) & Cynthia
Peter L. Hajdun (FM, Class of ’66)
& Jennifer L. Timmons
Jeffrey Hardell (FM, Class of ’66)
& Marcia
Theodore Havelas (Class of ’69) & Anne
Patricia Correia Hoelter (FM, Class of ’66)
Susan Rees Jones (FM, Class of ’66)
& Anthony
George O. Kataja, Jr. (FM, Class of ’66)
Paul Lefrancois (FM, Class of ’66)
Leo L. Provost (FM, Class of ’66)
Donna M. Raheb (Class of ’81)
Joyce Michaud Rust (FM, Class of ’66)
Richard Rust (FM, Class of ’66)
Judy Rzucidlo
J. Robert Savoie (FM, Class of ’66)
Timothy Schmidt (FM, Class of ’66)
& Elaine
Barbara Briggs Scripps
Leonard Sidaway
Barbara Crabtree Simonetta (FM, Class of ’66)
James Vance
Cathy E. Wade (FM, Class of ’66)
* FM: Founding Member

In Memory (Special Gift)

Charles & Rita Beauregard
Mark J. Beauregard (Class of ’89)
Lillian Bristow (KCS 1st Grade teacher)
Jamie Brown (Class of ’84)
Dean “Randy” Davis (Class of ’66)
Bette Fillmore (KCS 4th Grade teacher)
Irwin Herbert Franklin (1918-1963)
Diane Hajdun (1953-2017)
Gerald T. Kopfman, Jr. (Class of ’84)
Brenda Lee Franklin Provost (Class of ’68)
Bruce Trinque (FM, Class of ’66)

In Honor (Special Gift)

Janice Ahola-Sidaway (Class of ’66)
Glenna Loos-Franklin-Bruno
Acorn Society
Cathy E. Wade (FM, Class of ’66)

Companies & Service Clubs

Archambault Insurance Associates
Bank Hometown
Charter Oak Federal Credit Union
Danielson Pharmacy
Gerardi Insurance Services - Edward
Desaulnier (Class of ’68)
Killingly-Brooklyn Rotary Club
Law Office of Todd D. Beauregard - Todd Beauregard (Class of ‘88) &
Anne Beauregard
Law Offices of Sarantopoulos &
Sarantopoulos – Christian Sarantopoulos
(Class of ’86)
Miyoshi America, Inc.
The Putnam Bank Foundation
Putnam Plastics Corporation
Savings Institute Financial Group Foundation
Spirol International
Steve Bousquet’s Appliance & TV

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FOLK receives second generous anonymous gift

As 2019 came to a close, the FOLK Fund once again received a very generous anonymous gift. Even Co-chairs of the Campaign Janice Ahola-Sidaway and Bob Beauregard do not know the identity of this mystery donor. Since they are not able to send a personal note of thanks, a public note of thanks will have to do: “On behalf of FOLK and on behalf of all the Killingly youngsters who will benefit from future FOLK grants... Thank you!”

FOLK in the Local News - April 5, 2019 (continued from p. 2)

This year’s State TSA Conference took place on March 23rd in West Hartford, and KHS students once again made Killingly proud. Of particular note was Senior Joey Raheb, who achieved first place in the mechanical engineering competition. Sophomore Taylyn Lemoine and Junior Kyle Keene were also elected to the State TSA Office team as Reporter and Sergeant at Arms, respectively. All three also qualify to compete at the National TSA Conference which takes place near Washington, DC in late June.

A $570 collaborative grant awarded to Killingly Intermediate teachers Mike Morrill, Pam Ames, and Mike Eddy means they can purchase two more cutting edge Oculus Go virtual reality goggles for their newly developed VR initiative. The initiative will enhance their yearlong exploration of global warming in their grade 7 science and STEM classes. For example, students are able to “virtually experience the Greenland ice sheet in dramatic detail and feel [the enormity of] the ice melt by virtually standing above the glacial rivers looking down into one of the thousands of moulins that have appeared on the ice sheet,” said Morrill. The VR goggles can be used for many disciplines, and more than 1000 apps are now available, with many of them available free of charge.

For more information about FOLK, visit FOLK’s Facebook page or email FriendsOfLearningInKillingly, or contact FOLK Chair Janice Ahola-Sidaway at email asidaway@uottawa.ca or Greater Worcester Community Foundation at (508) 755-0980 or at email donorservices@greaterworcester.org.
Highlights of Several Recent FOLK Grant Outcomes...

Each year, recent grant recipients submit a report summarizing the implementation of their project, its outcomes, impact, long-term benefits to students, and financial statement. Sometimes, too, they also share photos. Here are a few highlights from recent reports.

It’s exciting times for the KCS Art Program. Art teacher Ellen Huie has been methodically revitalizing, reconceiving and expanding the program to reflect her personal philosophy of art education. She has been working toward creating greater student independence in the Art Room by developing different Art Centers, which provide freedom within structure. Ellen’s 2018 FOLK grant helped with this plan. She purchased storage shelves so works-in-progress could be stored temporarily as well as racks for drying of painted objects. “By the end of the 2017-2018 year, first graders had learned to transition to more choice-based work; and kindergarteners who would soon be first grade artists, had by then learned to navigate the Centers well, she explained. She added that the Centers also build community by sharing maintenance of the area, encouraging group discussions, and providing opportunities for peer mentors to emerge.

Ellen’s 2018 grant was used to buy supplies for 3D exploration within a new Architecture Center and Sculpture Center. “In the Architectural Studio the artists can use blocks for temporary exploration and a supply area for 3D materials during open studio time,” she said. “Sculpture is translating ideas into forms in space. It is a work of art that stands up, and can be viewed from all sides. Students make sculptures out of clay, paper, papier-mâché, recycled cardboard containers, pipe cleaners, and wire.” Examples of student art from the Sculpture Center are shown below.

KMS teacher librarian Carol Records used her 2019 grant to purchase an online subscription to the World Almanac for Kids – Elementary version. Elementary-level students are expected to navigate various reference sources such as the dictionary, thesaurus, atlases, and almanacs. The library’s hard-copy Almanac dates back to 2007; hence her request for the online World Atlas, which is always up-to-date.

Goodyear educator Emily Ross used her 2017 grant to help create an outdoor discovery garden for the pre-school and kindergarten learners. She has also partnered with the KHS Vo-Ag Department, who constructed the raised garden and hosted a fieldtrip to the Department. The children even helped construct the garden. At the Vo-Ag Department they learned how to germinate seeds and they visited the greenhouse. They planted and watered seeds and seedlings in their new Goodyear garden, and along the way they also discovered friendly garden critters.

Jim Hutson, teacher and Technology Student Association (TSA) advisor at KHS and at the State level, received a $500 grant to help support his students to compete at the annual TSA State and National conferences. The CT conference brings together STEM students from 17 high schools, who compete individually and in groups across a wide range of competitions – for example, a timed technology problem-solving task provided onsite requiring a finite solution using materials both brought and provided; a 60-second on-demand video that is written, shot and edited onsite; a debate on a given timely technology issue; creation of an illustrated children’s story and physical story book of high artistic, instructional, and social value with a STEM focus that reflects the conference theme. Raheb earned first place in the mechanical engineering competition. Keene and Lemoine were elected 2019-2020 CT-TSA Sergeant-at-Arms and Reporter, respectively.

KIS teachers Mike Morrill, Mike Eddy, and Pam Ames used their 2019 grant to purchase two more Oculus Go Virtual Reality headset units for their Environmental Curriculum. Here Mike Morrill demonstrates the Oculus headset at the Awards Reception.

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Dan Durand ('14)
Michael Eddy ('17-19)
Kimberly Eller ('13)
Jeff Ehther ('14)
Mona Gardiner ('07, '08, '10, '16)
Chuck Gatti ('05)
Arlene Gauthier ('04, '06, '11)
William Gazzola ('05)
Laura Gencarella ('12)
Dale Goodwin ('10, '01)
Donna Guillot ('04)
Julie Gutierrez ('04)
Janet Hallbergh ('03)
Ellen Huie ('18-19)
Jim Hutson ('16, '18, '19)
Richard Jerr ('10)
Nancy Juhola ('09)
Sandra Kelley ('10, '11)
Doris Kennedy ('01)
Karen Kent ('11)
Lauren Konik ('19)
Kelley Kussey ('04)
Jessica Lackenbach ('06)
James Lackner ('08, '09)
Simonne Lamothe ('10)
Andrea Lassan ('00)
Rachelle LeBlanc ('12)
Joseph Lewerk ('11, '14, '17, '18)
Colleen LugLas (11)
Kathy Magalis ('09)
Patricia Maher ('05, '06, '13)
Lorraine McLeish ('08, '11)
Jan McRobert ('06, '07, '13)
Amanda Milliken ('17)
David Minikowski ('12)
Diane Misseri ('02, '03, '05)
Michael Morrill ('17-19)
Gloria Morrison ('09)
Lisa Morton ('14)
Barbara Mudd ('01, '07)
Jennifer Nadeau ('04, '13)
Gale Norman ('11)
Kathleen O'Brien ('04)
Rachel Pelletier ('13)
Michelle Pepin ('02, '08)
Jennifer Pielert ('11, '15)
Allegra Plantier ('10, '17, '19)
Kevin Plouffe ('14)
Barbara Porter ('11)
Carol Records ('06-09, '12-19)

Meet FOLK Founding Member Cathy E. Wade

Few among us can state with certainty the name of our very first “friend”. Fewer still can pinpoint when and where this friendship began. Not so with Cathy and me. The year was 1948, the day Wednesday, August 4th. The location: a room at Day Kimball Hospital in Putnam, shared by two new mothers and their newborn baby girls named Cathy and Janice who would forever share the same birthdate. So it’s no exaggeration to say that Cathy and I go way back. Way. Way. Back!

As someone who had neither the patience nor skill to master a musical instrument, I always admired Cathy’s 4-year participation as a flautist in the high school band. Over the years and decades, Cathy’s other passions have also brought her much joy. She has been an avid collector of ephemera - vintage magazines, postcards, calendars, posters, greeting cards, and the like; and for years her collection was on display at Jeremiah’s Antique and Collectible Shoppe in Putnam. Also, in an era where so much of our clothing is mass produced, Cathy’s amazing collection of polished antique and vintage clothing buttons evokes a by-gone period when artisans took great pride and pleasure in creating these beautiful applied visual art forms. An avid reader herself, Cathy has also served as a Literacy Volunteer of America at the Brooklyn Correctional Institution.

The proud mother of Christine and Heather, for decades Cathy made her home in Brooklyn, where she spent 12 years as Manager of the IGA supermarket in Dayville and another 17 years handling Medicare billing in the Day Kimball Business Office. Always a keen supporter of education, Cathy is thrilled that all of her six grandchildren are college-educated. Recently, one became a full-fledged dentist; another is an ROTC graduate from Worcester Polytechnic Institute and has received two Eagle Trophies - one for the Charles E. Kilbourne Award and the other for Distinguished Honor Graduate - and is now headed to Army Ranger School. Following her retirement from Day Kimball, Cathy relocated to northern New Hampshire, where she has been busy renovating and redecorating a large Victorian home in Lancaster using her love of London, England and knowledge of ephemera, collectibles, and antiques as inspiration. She has also discovered the fun and adventure of serving as an Airbnb Superhost. The private upstairs apartment with two bedrooms has been attracting many hikers, kayakers, leaf peepers and skiers.

Cathy has been a phenomenal supporter of FOLK since its inception, quietly working behind the scenes. Over the past 20 years she has reviewed FOLK applications each year and has participated in virtually all annual Advisory Committee meetings and FOLK Awards Receptions, even after her move to Northern New Hampshire in 2015. She has been known to dip into her wallet to help finance a worthy FOLK application when our budget could not provide full funding. In the days before small newspapers provided electronic access to readers, Cathy would make time to mail me newspaper articles showcasing FOLK’s annual grant awards, and she would also send along photographs she had taken at our annual FOLK meetings; these unsolicited gestures helped me immensely as I pulled together the annual FOLKtales newsletter. Cathy also helped with preparations and greeted visitors to our FOLK display at the Killingly Public Schools 150-year anniversary at Killingly Intermediate School.

The FOLK Fund is designed to provide grantmaking in perpetuity. Notably, Cathy is committed to FOLK in the long term; she has named the Fund in her Will. With a phone call to Greater Worcester Community Foundation, she has also become FOLK’s very first Member to join the Foundation’s Acorn Society. The Acorn Society honors individuals who have named the Foundation – in this case, the FOLK Fund – as beneficiary of a bequest. The Foundation lists Acorn Society Members annually in its Annual Report and also invites them to attend appreciation events they organize. Thank you, Cathy, for all you have done to help past, current, and future Killingly youngsters become the very best they can be!

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Janice Ahola-Sidaway, Editor

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FOLKtales
Volunteer editor & publisher Janice Ahola-Sidaway can be reached at asidaway@uottawa.ca or by mail at 1003-1500 Riverside Dr., Ottawa, ON, Canada, K1G 4J4. She welcomes all correspondence. Also, you can visit our new Friends of Learning in Killingly Facebook page; and like us and share us!

Accessing FOLKtales on the Web
A link to the electronic color version of FOLKtales can be found at https://www.greaterworcester.org/Grants/Grant-Opportunities/Friends-of-Learning-in-Killingly-FOLK-Fund
Download “FOLKtales” by hitting the link to it mid-way on the webpage.

2020 Grant Review Process in the Works
We are pleased to report that Killingly educators seeking support have now submitted their 2020 applications. The review process is now underway and will be legally completed by late February. All grant applications and written reviews are completed directly online, through the secure Greater Worcester website. The Advisory Committee, a sub-group of the reviewers, meets in early February to make final grant decisions.

Remember the FOLK Fund in Your Will & Also Join the Acorn Society
Have you considered making a gift – large or small, in your Will - to the FOLK Endowment Fund? It’s a great way to give back to the Killingly school community after your lifetime. A bequest in your Will entitles you to join Greater Worcester Community Foundation’s Acorn Society. Address: Friends of Learning in Killingly (FOLK) Fund, c/o Greater Worcester Community Foundation, 370 Main St., Suite 650, Worcester, MA 01608. Tel: (508) 755-0080; Ask for Kelly Stimson, VP donor services. Or email: donorservices@greaterworcester.org.

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