

# MAKING CONNECTIONS

NEWS ON PHILANTHROPY, GRANT-MAKING AND OUR NON-PROFIT COMMUNITY

THE  
COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION  
OF WILL COUNTY

AN AFFILIATE OF  
THE CHICAGO COMMUNITY TRUST



*Bill and Diane Habiger  
established  
The Bill and Diane Habiger  
Charitable Fund,  
a Donor Advised Fund, at  
The Community Foundation  
of Will County.*

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*Summer 2014*

## SHARING FAMILY VALUES AND A LEGACY

When Bill and Diane Habiger were raising their three children, they saved time on Sundays for “Family Council.” During Family Council they came together and discussed everyone’s questions and concerns and often augmented those sessions by listening to tapes by Denis Waitley, a motivational speaker, writer, consultant, and best-selling author. At the time, he was one of the most listened-to voices on personal and career success.

Denis’ lessons had helped Diane and Bill in their own lives and they wanted to share them with their children. They formalized this time because they thought it was important information and they

wanted to pass on to their children.

Although their children have grown and have children of their own now, Diane and Bill have once again found a way to share important lessons with their children. Both Diane and Bill are active in organizations in the community. They have a strong commitment to family, faith, education, senior services, and the community.

They believe in giving back and wanted to share this value with their children. Bill is a member of the Board of Directors at The Community Foundation of Will County. As Diane and Bill came to know more about the Foundation,

they decided to establish a Donor Advised Fund as a means to share their interest in philanthropy with their children and to establish a lasting legacy.

“Before we decided to start a fund, we talked to the kids about it and they liked the idea of being a part of the decision making. We can make recommendations today as a family and we named the kids as successor advisors on the fund so they can continue to make recommendations after we are gone,” noted Diane.

Bill liked the idea of endowments and has seen them used in education. “A Donor Advised Fund allows us to establish a fund that can grow and do good things in the community. We can keep the principle intact and use the growth of the fund to make investments in the community both today and in the future,” said Bill.

Join us on:



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**Grants in Action**



**Aunt Martha's, The National Hook-Up of Black Women, and CFWC  
*Reading for Life Corner***

Collaboration enabled Aunt Martha's to provide free books to children who are patients at their new East Joliet Community Health Center. With space available to house a Reading for Life Corner, Aunt Martha's reached out to the National Hook-Up of Black Women to provide books for the children to take home and build their own private libraries to improve literacy. A CFWC 2013 grant helped purchase the book cases, tables and chairs to round out the project.



**Warren Sharp Community Center  
*Youth-Run Urban Farm***

This collaboration will provide vegetables to be sold at a farmstand to benefit the center while other vegetables will be used to offer healthy choices at the center's food pantry. With land provided by the City of Joliet, volunteers and support from ComEd, United Way, Sodexo, the Northern Illinois Food Bank, the Joliet Police Department, and a grant from The Community Foundation, the garden came together.

*Dr. Elaine Maimon, Governors State University, and The Community Foundation of Will County hosted an On The Table event to discuss how to improve communities in eastern Will County.*



**COMMUNITIES PUT IDEAS ON THE TABLE**

The Chicago Community Trust was established when a group of community minded individuals gathered around the table 99 years ago and shared their vision for what the future could hold if people joined together to preserve philanthropic resources that could be used to do good things in the community for generations. On the eve of the Trust's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, they wanted to gather community members around the table once again to generate a vision for the next 100 years. On May 12<sup>th</sup> over 10,000 people from all walks of life came together at over 1,000 mealtime conversations to imagine the future of our region. As a geographic affiliate of the Trust, The Community Foundation of Will County invited community members to join in conversations in an effort to generate new ideas, inspire bold solutions, and cultivate relationships and collaborations that will help to build and sustain communities where everyone thrives and believes they can secure a bright future.

We started the day at Governors State University where over thirty people gathered to discuss

how to improve communities in eastern Will County. Guests were from Crete, Monee, Park Forest, University Park, Country Club Hills, Bolingbrook, Shorewood, Channahon, and other communities throughout Will and Cook Counties. Some guests worked in the region; others lived in the area, while others provide health and human services to the local residents.

The conversations at the tables identified opportunities for improving the Will County "Brand," marketing Will County's workforce in order to bring high paying jobs to the region, improving transportation, and sharing information among social service providers to improve access to services.

For lunch, we joined Jan Viano at First Midwest Bank for a gathering of women leaders who represented themselves first and foremost, but also worked for nonprofit organizations, government entities, and businesses in Will County. The guests were invited to explore issues and ideas on how to collectively build and sustain strong, safe, and stable communities.

Realizing that when we improve the quality of life for women in our communities, we improve the quality of life in our communities as a whole, this group had an open conversation about how to help women in the many roles they play in communities as business, community, and family leaders.

Understanding that obstacles come up in all these roles, they noted that the key to women's success lies in building confidence, self-esteem, and support networks that enable women to keep moving forward on positive paths as they address negative issues and work to obtain constructive outcomes.



*Jan Viano of First Midwest Bank hosted an On The Table luncheon to discuss women's leadership in Will County.*



*Jay and Lori Bergman established a "Pathways..." Matching Fund*

## Foundation Welcomes New Funds

(Funds established since October 1, 2013)

**The Diane L. Reynolds  
Charitable Fund**

**The Mark and Judy Inserra  
Charitable Fund**

**The Ed and Gloria Dollinger  
"Pathways..." Matching Fund**

**The Jay and Lori Bergman  
"Pathways..." Matching  
Fund**

**The Rink Family Grant Fund**

**The Joliet Region Education  
Scholarship Fund**

**The Rose E. Mancuso  
Charitable Fund**

**The Center for Correctional  
Concerns Fund**

Welcome to our  
family of donors!



## Building Pathways...

By helping build endowments for grantmaking at The Community Foundation of Will County, you will insure that philanthropic resources are available to do good things in the communities of Will County today and forever. Because we know that there are many

communities and many needs in Will County, we know that there is not one path that will enable us to help everyone, so we are building "Pathways" in the form of new funds. These Pathways can be designed by the people in various communities throughout Will County to address the needs closest to home. By building our endowed grantmaking resources to \$1.5 million, we will insure that \$75,000 is available annually forever. You can add to our existing endowed grantmaking funds or establish a new fund to address needs in your community. Matching funds are available to both individuals and small to medium-sized businesses to help establish new funds. To learn more, contact Michael Trench at 815.744.9223 or [mtrench@cfwill.org](mailto:mtrench@cfwill.org).

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## STAFF

Michael Trench – Executive Director  
Marilyn McSteen-Project Consultant

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Michael Trench the Executive Director of The Community Foundation of Will County can be reached at e-mail [mtrench@cfwill.org](mailto:mtrench@cfwill.org) or by phone at 815.744.9223.

## MAKING CONNECTIONS

### SAVE THE DATE

The Board of Directors of

## The Community Foundation of Will County

Invite you to make plans to attend the

### 2014 Annual Donor Recognition & Celebration of Philanthropy

*Recognizing*



*Janet Viano*



*Sentinus, LLC*

*Scott Reynolds and Tyler Qualio*

**Wednesday**

**August 13, 2014**

6-8p.m.

Bird Haven at the

Barber &

Oberwortmann

Horticulture Center

227 N. Gougar Road,

Joliet, IL 60432

*We look forward to sharing this  
special evening with you!*