

# UNITED WAY OF MILFORD

20 Evergreen Avenue  
Milford, CT 06460

Our Mission  
is to  
Strengthen  
and Enhance  
Community  
and Family  
Life.

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# United Way



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Volume 4, Issue 3

June 2014

## From the Desk of the President...



This time of year, if you ask people what makes Milford great, the answer might be the wonderful weather, the terrific beaches or the outdoor family activities that abound. But this year especially, most responses would likely be – the community. We have had a national media spotlight shone on us as one of our shining young people, Maren Sanchez, was tragically taken from our community. In response, Milford banded together quickly and seamlessly to help all affected by this senseless act of violence. Those outside our city may have reacted with surprise at the heartfelt response, but those

that live here cannot be surprised. It is what makes us a truly wonderful community. The United Way of Milford sees the giving nature of our city every day, in times of tragedy and in times of tranquility. We are proud to serve this community – reaching 1 in 3 residents – by providing food, shelter, basic care and crisis services.

The fourth annual Ride for Hope will take place June 8 and we are ready for yet another great ride. The Milford Police Department and the Leathernecks MC Connecticut will once again escort our riders, and we thank them for keeping our riders safe and the ride moving smoothly. As you may know, the Ride for Hope is a collaboration between three great organizations -- the United Way, the Milford Prevention Council, and the Rape Crisis Center of Milford – all working together to create positive change in the community. We are especially grateful to the Ride for Hope sponsors: The Milford Bank, Montano Coffee and Candy, Woodruff Family YMCA, OUTBACK Steakhouse, Napoli Deli, and DJ Pulse.

Finally, I'd like to thank our Campaign chairs, Tony and Diane Candido. Their tireless efforts yielded over \$840,000 this year, 94% of our optimistic goal. As you know, the funds raised during our campaign support 22 local human service agencies. These partner agencies support our mission of strengthening families, nurturing children, and meeting critical needs. Together, we can create lasting change. LIVE UNITED!

LIVE UNITED. UNITED WAY OF MILFORD



The United Way of Milford recognized its Stars of Milford at its annual Community Builders Recognition Luncheon. Honored for their dedication to the community were Barry Kasdan, Ralph Harrison, Joan Wolf, Richard Meisenheimer, Paula Smith, Maureen Eisenhandler, Mary Tesla and our youth honoree, Matthew Montano. Also recognized were supporters of the United Way of Milford Campaign whose investments help make lasting change. The United Way of Milford wishes to thank our emcee, Mark Kaminski, and our Luncheon sponsor, the law firm of Carroll Curseaden and Moore, LLC.

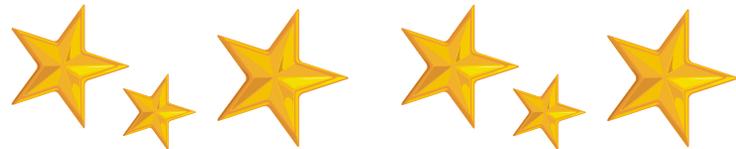
<b>Stars of Milford: Community Builder Awards</b>	
Lifetime Achievement	Barry Kasdan
Spirit of Milford	Paula Smith
Meeting Critical Needs	Joan Wolf
Strengthening Families	Mary Tesla
Champion of Caring	Ralph Harrison
Distinguished Service	Richard Meisenheimer
Nurturing Children	Maureen Eisenhandler
Youth Leadership	Matthew Montano



**2014 Stars of Milford**



Gary Johnson, United Way of Milford President; Richard Meisenheimer, Spectrum Associates; and Scott Stokes, BIC Corp. and United Way of Milford Board Chairman. (l-r)



<b>Stars of Milford: Community Investment Awards</b>	
Alinabal, Inc.	Milford Hospital
Beth-El Center, Inc.	Milford Police Department
Bic Corporation	Milford Public Schools
Boy Scouts of America, CT	Rape Crisis Center of Milford
Yankee Council	Schick, An Energizer Company
Bridges ... A Community Support System	ShopRite of Milford
Good Shepherd Child Development Center	Stirling Benefits, Inc.
	The Milford Bank

INVEST  
IN  
YOUR  
COMMUNITY

CHAMPION  
THE  
CAUSE

GIVE  
YOUR  
TIME



**SAVE THE DATE**

The **13th Annual United Way of Milford Golf Classic** will take place on Friday, September 19, at Grassy Hill Country Club in Orange, CT. Registration and lunch start at 11:00 a.m., followed by a 12:30 tee off-shotgun start and 5:30 buffet dinner with awards and raffles. \$175 buys you a round of golf, golf cart, foursome photo, lunch, refreshments, gift bag, and awards dinner – so hurry and find your four-some! Sponsorship opportunities are also available. To register or become a sponsor contact the United Way at (203) 874-6791.




**Making Music in Milford**

Save the Date! **October 17, 2014**  
We are packing the Parson's Auditorium for an event that will leave the city smiling, tapping their feet and dancing in the aisles! Stay tuned for the official announcement....

**July is United Way Month at ShopRite of Milford!** Beginning Tuesday July 1, hotdogs and cold sodas will be on sale every Tuesday, Saturday, and Sunday during the month of July with 100% of the proceeds to benefit the United Way of Milford. Volunteers from the United Way and the United Way's partner agencies will be on hand to answer questions and promote their organizations. Come on by!



**REACH OUT A HAND  
TO ONE AND  
INFLUENCE  
THE CONDITION OF ALL.**



**Light up the Harbor** will be held June 7, 2014 at the Milford Yacht Club. This spring gala is a primary source of income for the Center. Tickets are \$100 per person and include music, entertainment and both live and silent auctions. To reserve your space today, call 203-876-0747.

Congratulations to United Way partner agency The Boys and Girls Club of Milford on the opening of their new space at the former Simon Lake School. This center will allow the Club to expand its programs and services to allow more Milford youth a safe and fun place to be a kid. The original Center at the West Shore Rec Center will now be dedicated to teens, while the new facility will be geared toward elementary and middle school populations. For more information , including news about summer programs at the Boys and Girls Club, please call 203-713-8055.



**2014 neon nightrun**  
a 5 K run/walk for literacy under the stars

Date: Saturday, July 12, 2014  
Time: 7 - 8 PM (for registration)  
8:15 PM is GO!  
Place: Rotary Pavilion in Downtown Milford  
Fee: \$25 registration  
(FREE T-shirts for the first 150 people to register!)

Run or walk, and catch a rising star for literacy at The Literacy Center of Milford's first-ever 5 k **2014 neon nightrun** to be held on July 12.

This luminescent neon night will convene at the Rotary Pavilion in Downtown Milford at 7 - 8 for registration. 8:15 PM is a GO!

Runners and walkers will each be given a glow necklace and fluorescent T-shirt (for safety) as they run, walk, and help raise funds in support of the Center's vital literacy programs for hundreds of local adults and children in need of our educational services. Additional glow items will be for sale.

Under a canopy of stars, our 3.1-mile challenge will begin and end at the Rotary Pavilion in a grand finale filled with awards for runners and walkers for fastest/best costumes/most enthusiastic, and many more. Power bars and other power foods will be available (which includes dark chocolate!). Register at [www.literacycenterofmilford.com](http://www.literacycenterofmilford.com) or call at 203-878-4800.

After -party dancing and glow drink specials will follow at INDIGO RESTAURANT for participants 21 years and older. Let the neon stars of literacy be your guide.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Did you know that the **Ahrens Program** at the **Milford Senior Center** provides a supervised environment for older adults with cognitive impairments? The program is also designed to give family members a few hours of respite while their loved one is supervised and provided meals and recreational activities. The program is available Monday through Friday, 9 am—2:30 pm and transportation is available. A light breakfast is served in the morning and lunch is provided in the café for a donation of \$3.00. Besides educational and recreational activities, occasional outings and musical entertainment are also provided. Participants must be Milford residents and a member of the Milford Senior Center. The program is funded by the City of Milford and the United Way of Milford. For additional information call (203) 877-5131 ext. 2139 or visit [www.milfordctseniorcenter.com](http://www.milfordctseniorcenter.com).

**Lifetime Achievement Award — Barry Kasdan**



Gary Johnson, United Way of Milford President; Barry Kasdan, Bridges; and Scott Stokes, BIC Corp. and United Way of Milford Board Chairman. (l-r)



In a very moving speech, Barry Kasdan accepted the United Way of Milford’s Lifetime Achievement Award for the thirty years that he has dedicated himself to the growth of Bridges. He is a champion of mental health care issues and a pillar of the Milford community. The Board of Directors recently announced that Barbara DiMauro, who has been with Bridges since 2006, is their new CEO and President. Barry has left big shoes to fill and we look forward to working closely with Barbara as the latest chapter unfolds.



Gary Johnson, United Way of Milford President; Joan Wolf, John Rigely Food Pantry; and Scott Stokes, BIC Corp. and United Way of Milford Board Chairman. (l-r)



Julie Smillie (United Way of Milford) & Diane Candido (Campaign Chair)

**The voice of our future — 2014 Youth Leadership Award Recipient Matthew Montano, in his own words...**

I'd like to start off by thanking United Way for honoring me with the Youth Leadership Award. Also, for the privilege of being a community builder. I truly appreciate this award, and I am also very thankful to have been chosen. I have done most of my community service at the Kid's Closet at St. Mary's right here in Milford . The main goal of the kids closet is to provide children's clothes, toys, and other necessities for any families who need it. While working there, I have met many wonderful volunteers who all share the desire to make Milford a better place. If there's one thing I've learned from my experiences volunteering, it's that sometimes it takes more than in individual effort to make something great. The amount of success the kids closet has had would not have been possible without the strong will and hard work of all the volunteers. Together, we have made many families happy, and will continue to help the Milford community. Thank you.