

# UNITED WAY OF MILFORD

20 Evergreen Avenue  
Milford, CT 06460

# United Way



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Volume 1, Issue 2

February 2011

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

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## WOMEN WITH UNITED VISION HOST OPEN HOUSE

On February 16, 2011 the Women with United Vision, affectionately known as WUV, hosted an Open House at the Milford Fine Arts Council where they took the opportunity to discuss their 2011 theme

**LIVE SMART\*LIVE WELL**. The evening also included tabletop events that spoke to the theme and a *Smart*

*Heart* talk by Diane Frankel-Gramelis. The event had over 100 attendees.

Find Women with United Vision on Facebook for more photos of the event..



## KUDOS TO WOMEN WITH UNITED VISION

Why?

They **GIVE**. The Women with United Vision realize that if they are to succeed in their mission to strengthen our community they need vital resources as well.

They **ADVOCATE**. The Women with United Vision stand strong to support programs that improve the lives of women, children, and our community.

They **VOLUNTEER**. The Women with United Vision are involved, not only with WUV, but with other groups too!

You can LIVE UNITED by helping us spread the word. Imagine how many people we could reach if everyone forwards this to five people.



United Way envisions a world where all individuals and families achieve their human potential through education, income stability and healthy lives.



## From the Desk of the President...

Gary Johnson

February is over and Punxsutawney Phil forecasted an early spring for us—hard to believe when we are still looking at a half a foot of snow on the ground, but spring is coming. It brings with its arrival ideas of hope and a season of new beginnings. Our hope is that you will continue to support us as we wrap up our campaign. The annual campaign is a reflection of the principles of our community. It defines what the community deems is vital to us from a human services viewpoint. This year’s campaign was an exercise in resolve. It is inspiring to know how much members of our community care about others. Hope springs eternal. This year our hope is that we will continue to have the resources to meet critical needs. Spring is a comin’.



## UNITED WAY OF MILFORD UPCOMING EVENTS

**SAVE THE DATE**

### **Community Builders Celebration**

**April 27, 2011**

#### **Costa Azzurra**

Please join us as we celebrate those individuals whose work and service strengthen our community and our campaign supporters whose investments in United Way help make long lasting change in our community.

### **Bocce Tourney**

**May 21/22**

#### **Walnut Beach Pavilion**

Love Bocce, then this is the tourney to join—friends, fun, and trophies size up the weekend. Registration will begin soon. Call United Way to get on the mailing list.

## **Partner Agency Happenings**

### **Beth El Center**

May 7, Milford Coastal Classics  
Tour of 5 homes  
\$30 in advance, \$40 at door  
Call 203-876-0747 for info

### **Milford Senior Center**

Free Tax Preparation  
Tuesday and Thursday  
through April 14, 9am-12pm  
Registration is necessary.  
Call 203 877-5131

### MOVIE

March 14, 1:15 pm; “Mall Cop”  
March 25, 1:15 pm; “Secretariat”  
Ice Cream Social

### SUPER BINGO

March 14, 1am-4pm  
Lunch Break 12pm-1pm

### GUEST SPEAKER

March 14, 1:30pm, Pat Secchiaroli,  
Banker’s Life, to speak on finding ways  
to stay at home longer and safer.

### ST. PATRICK’S DAY DANCE

March 17, 1pm-3:30pm, \$15.00

### PANCAKE BREAKFAST

March 27, 9am-12pm, \$4.00  
Proceeds will benefit the Senior Center.

### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SPEAKER

March 29, 1pm, Club C

Concert, March 30, 1:15pm

“Sing Along With George and Cole,”

### **Rape Crisis Center**

April 10, 2011  
Walk A Mile Fundraiser  
Call 203-874-8712

### **Woodruff Family YMCA**

YMCA Sprint Triathlon  
May 22, 2011  
Call 203-878-6501

### **The Kennedy Center**

March 26, 7pm–11:30pm  
5th Annual Magic Moments Event for  
Autism

April 28, 3pm-9:30pm  
Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner

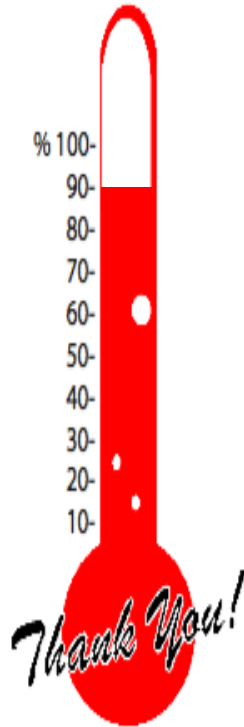
Call 203-365-8522, ext 216 for more  
information

INVEST  
IN  
YOUR  
COMMUNITY

CHAMPION  
THE  
CAUSE

GIVE  
YOUR  
TIME

## UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN CLOSE TO GOAL



United Way of Milford is close to reaching its goal. Currently the campaign is at 90% of its campaign goal of \$1million dollars. The campaign closes March 31. Those wishing to join United Way in our efforts to meet critical needs in our community can still make a contribution. Your dollars help support 21 partner agencies and over 30 programs.

At United Way spring sees our annual campaign wrap up and the Community Investment process beginning. We know that our donors have choices, and we take our responsibility for stewardship of your investment very seriously. The process ensures that your dollars are allocated to priority issues in our community. Programs that receive funding are held to high standards of accountability and results.

### JOB SHADOWING DAY at UNITED WAY!



Molly Taylor, Foran High Senior, spent Wednesday, February 9, shadowing our own Gary Johnson as she learned about non-profits and United Way. This was part of the Milford Rotary program coordinated by Dr. David Esposito, a Rotarian and member of the United Way board. Students pick a business and spend a day shadowing the business CEO. This is one of the best ways for young people to explore the work-force and have an adventure all in one day. Molly had her hands full as Gary not only had her shadowing him, but he put her to work. She responded with enthusiasm and said that she was glad for the opportunity to learn about non-profits and how United Way helps our community.



**UNITED  
WAY  
DOLLARS  
MAKE  
A  
DIFFERENCE!**

## **THE KENNEDY CENTER— A STORY of LOVE!**



On an unseasonably warm winter's day in February, Patricia McHugh had just finished her swim class at the Milford YMCA with Kathy Cepetelli, Therapeutic Recreation Manager for The Kennedy Center, Inc. Milford's YMCA is an excellent facility with a large Olympic size pool, enclosed in large glass pane windows that gives one the impression of being outside. Although the visual remnants of the snow that surrounded them belied the fact, it felt and sounded like summer. Seniors, children and families could be heard laughing and splashing as they enjoyed quality time together.

Patricia is a strikingly beautiful 50-year-old woman with an infectious smile that lights up the room. You would never guess that she has had a learning disability since birth. Like many people with invisible disabilities, one of Patricia's greatest challenges has been making friends and finding opportunities to socialize. Patricia first attended The Kennedy Center at the age of five when the fledgling organization was on Virginia Avenue in Bridgeport. According to Patricia's mother, Genevieve McHugh, Patricia began to speak for the first time only after a few weeks of working with the phenomenal Kennedy Center staff. While Patricia only attended The Kennedy Center for two years before the family moved away, her mother expressed genuine gratitude for all the support her daughter had received in her formative years. Patricia returned to The Kennedy Center when the family returned to the Milford community five years ago. "The staff of The Kennedy Center are incredible," explains Genevieve. "They go the extra mile to ensure Patricia's days are occupied and she has a full life!" Patricia receives individualized supports from The Kennedy Center's Life Skills program that is generously supported by the United Way of Milford.

Patricia receives individualized supports that allows her to attend the YMCA Aqua size program three times a week. After swimming classes Kathie accompanies Patricia to Milford area restaurants, window-shopping, or goes for nice walks on The Green. Occasionally they go on special day trips or to other events with Kennedy Center staff. "I would feel bad if The Kennedy Center didn't come and get me out of the house." Patricia explained. Patricia is very proud of the fact that she has lost weight. She also expressed genuine happiness now that she gets to meet others and make friends.

Patricia is a strong individual whose physical strength and confidence has improved immeasurably in the last year. According to Kathie Cepetelli, Patricia also has lupus, diabetes and is a recent breast cancer survivor. The Kennedy Center's Life Skills program has increased Patricia's stamina, range of motion and coordination that all contribute to her overall health. "We see more rapid change towards genuine holistic health when we work one-on-one with individuals with disabilities. That's why we appreciate the support of United Way of Milford and all of the wonderful Milford community resources," states Kathie. Today, Patricia has learned better health choices and is no longer isolated from her community. It is good to know that Patricia's glorious smile will continue, thanks to Milford's United Way.

Submitted by The Kennedy Center

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

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**MEET the NEWEST MEMBERS of the  
UNITED WAY BOARD**  
(each one was asked how they LIVE UNITED)



**AUDRA WILDER, GE CREDIT UNION**

*I LIVE UNITED by being part of the community I live and work in and teaching my children the importance of caring and helping others!*



**BOB MACKLIN, THE MILFORD BANK**

*I've learned through my work with the Bank that as our community gets stronger, the Bank benefits also. As a resident of Milford I see it the same way: Whatever makes the community stronger, benefits me and my family. The United Way is one of the key organizations to help our community get stronger and healthier.*



**ERIKA FONCK, RESIDENT**

*To live united for me is simple.....coming together with others in the community to help families and children. One person makes a difference.*

**KEN FELLEBAUM, THE VILLAGE CHURCH**

*In these challenging economic times, United Way especially makes sense because your one gift helps twenty-one Milford agencies who assist our neighbors*



**Missing from the group is Ed Woodhead  
of Covenant Mortgage**



## FREE Prescription Drug Discount Cards Save 30% or more

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Average Discount = 30% or more - \$20 per prescription.
- Accepted at most pharmacies nationwide, including all major chains.
- Covers all prescription drugs.
- Covers everyone with no health insurance or prescription coverage.
- All cards are bi-lingual, in English and Spanish.
- Covers all medicine not covered by insurance, Medicaid, Medicare or other benefit plans
- No age, income or residency restrictions. Anyone can use it.
- No registration, activation, paperwork or enrollment. No personal information is collected.
- No cost to the United Way, your organization or people using the cards.

### HOW IT'S FUNDED

The savings on the cost of the medicine is provided by the pharmacies. They have agreed to accept prices for medications that are close to the prices they make available to large insurance companies and employers. All other program costs are provided by in-kind donations from the program sponsors and by part of the processing fee included in the cost of the medicine. For more information, please visit [www.FamilyWize.org](http://www.FamilyWize.org).

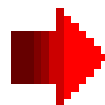
### ABOUT FAMILYWIZE

40% of people in the United States in the last two years have either skipped filling a prescription or reduced doses because the medicine was too expensive. To address this, more than 900 United Way agencies and America's Promise Alliance Partners, in all 50 states, have come together in this FamilyWize community service partnership to organize and coordinate community-wide distribution of these free prescription drug discount cards. The goal is to reduce the cost of medicine for people in need by at least \$100 million.

But we need your help! Please take a moment now to call for a supply of cards to display and hand out.

COME BY UNITED WAY AND GET  
YOUR CARD TODAY!

3, 565 people have used this card  
since July 2010 for a total savings in  
our community of



SAVE UP TO 30% OR MORE!

familywize

United Way of Milford United Way

Free Prescription Discount Card

Savings in Our Community

\$113,494.49

Savings Nationwide

\$176,664,274.98

UNITED  
WAY  
PARTNERING  
TO  
HELP  
MEET  
CRITICAL  
NEEDS