Winter 2020 Newsletter

AYCC Alfond Youth & Community Center Founder's CLUB

Happy Thanksgiving

How do you celebrate and serve the community Thanksgiving Dinner in a pandemic? This year the AYCC will serve 750 fully cooked and delicious, individually packaged Thanksgiving Dinners via our parking lot, drive-thru style, on Saturday November 21st from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm.

In addition, we will deliver 170 Thanksgiving Dinners–In-a-Bag to our Afterschool Program Families, complete with frozen turkey and all the fixings!

Thank you all for making this possible, especially **Central Maine Motors Group,** Chris & Linanne Gaunce, Mike Runser, Peter Harris, Ann Mitchell, Dan Shea, and many anonymous donors!

Founder's Club Officers

Jerry Tipper, President
Brian Bernatchez, Vice President
Germaine Orloff, Secretary

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Tate Warden
Jamie Williams
Lore Wing
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Waterville Returns to the Ice!

Building upon **Harold Alfond** and **Doug Sukeforth's** legacies and the visions they had for this community, we are partnering with local groups to construct an arena that provides one season of community ice skating and three seasons turfed team sports practice and play.

This community-wide project is being made possible by the support of the City of Waterville, Colby College, who opened the door with their in-kind donation of equipment, and Doug & Rita Sukeforth, with their generous seed donation.

The facility will offer the community open public skating, adult and child learn-to-skate lessons, and figure skating lessons as well as practice in batting, golf and team sports. Additionally, a variety of private rental opportunities will be available, from birthday parties to evening skating parties.

Leading the way on this fundraising project are committee members: Doug Sukeforth, Erik Nadeau, James LaLiberty, Jamie Boulette, Bert Languet, Mike Roy, Dave Roy, Paul Boudreau and Patrick Guerette.

A Home Run for Unified Softball!

Our Unified Champion Club presented by the Maine Masonic Charitable Foundation had an incredibly successful, and fun inaugural softball season. The league welcomed over 50 participants, made up of Unified Athletes (individuals with intellectual disabilities) and Partners (community members without intellectual disabilities), making it our largest program to date.

Our Club played on Wednesday evenings under the lights of Purnell-Wrigley Field, giving our athletes that big game feeling! Unified Softball, as opposed to the Challenger Baseball program experienced by some of the Unified athletes creates a stronger sense of inclusion by playing athletes alongside partners on the field and in the lineup. An athlete may be playing first base, receiving a throw from the shortstop who is a partner. A partner may be standing on third base waiting to score, and be driven home on a hit by an athlete. There was fierce competition, laughter, cheering, learning and improvement, wins and losses…though no one really cared about their team's overall record. We played for fun, for bragging rights, and as Travis Lazarczyk said in his Morning Sentinel article, we played for love of the game.

Peter G. Alfond Pathway to Wellness

On October 16th the AYCC held its dedication ceremony to mark the completion of the Peter G. Alfond Pathway to Wellness that has been years in the making.

The endeavor included an expansion to the 126 North Street facility, funded by a $6.1 million gift from the Harold Alfond® Foundation and a $100,000 investment in the after school program from the Burger-Roy Family Charitable Trust. Mr. Brent Burger acted as Project Manager during the entire process.

The expansion, which broke ground in 2018, added more than 15,000 square feet to the original facility and created an adult wellness center with fitness equipment, new childcare space, health care partner space, indoor running track, improved welcome center, gathering areas, community gardens, teaching kitchen and 100 additional parking spaces.

An additional $8 million endowment from the Peter G. Alfond Foundation based on the AYCC partnership with MaineGeneral Health provides our community members with ongoing free Prevention & Healthy Living classes, nutritional education, cooking classes, sports medicine consultations and more!

In attendance for the dedication were Greg Powell, CEO and President of the Harold Alfond® Foundation, Mark Lee, Principal and Chief Executive Officer of Harriman Associates; Mitch Sammons, President of Sheridan Construction Corporation; Barbara Crowley, Executive Vice President of MaineGeneral Health; and Scott Jones, Board Chairperson of the Alfond Youth and Community Center.

Snow Pond Center for the Arts

helped Summer Enrichment youth create music, songs, and use their bodies as instruments thanks to a grant from the Onion Foundation!

Young Chefs at Work

Our Early Childcare program youth helped out in the Kid's Kitchen preparing the fabulous fruit kabob snacks served to guests at the Peter G. Alfond Pathway to Wellness dedication.

What AYCC Childcare Means to Area Schools

The Alfond Youth & Community Center Childcare Programs are successfully responding to the dynamic changes we all are experiencing due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Currently, we are offering free school day childcare for Waterville, Winslow, and MSAD49 school children on the days they are not in school. This is in addition to the Burger Roy Family After School Program (which serves these districts, plus RSU18). Our licensed accredited childcare program, the largest in the state, is well-recognized for our youth-centric activities and programming supervised well-trained, reliable staff from a variety of experiences and backgrounds.

Funded primarily through the CARES Act we are able to serve families from a wide range of economic backgrounds, thus removing the barrier of childcare costs for our families as they adapt to the emerging challenges presented by this COVID-19 pandemic.

Daytime care features homework assistance from AYCC counselors as well as virtual tutoring sessions from Colby College students who video chat with youth to assist in the completion of their online assignments. The Colby College tutors have been incredibly creative and flexible in providing assistance to these youth, from listening to students practice reading aloud on days when they don't have homework to complete to conducting mini impromptu lessons.

The day time childcare program also features guided fitness classes from certified personal trainers and instructors that include general youth fitness , boxing, and yoga. And don't forget the outdoor activities, art endeavors, cooking classes, and healthy breakfast, lunch and snacks served ever day!

Out of School Camp at Camp Tracy

Following CDC guidelines of social distancing and partnering with MaineGeneral staff to provide wellness screenings and health checks, we implemented a unique camp experience weekly for up to 100 youth that included fitness, swimming, the arts, STEM learning, outdoor activities, homework time and three meals and two snacks daily. We helped youth navigate their specific school systems' learning delivery systems to meet each child's educational needs during school closures.

Lights on Afterschool at the AYCC

Launched in October 2000, *Lights On Afterschool* is the only nationwide event celebrating the important role after school programs play in the lives of children, families and communities. The effort has become a hallmark of the afterschool movement and generates media coverage across the country each year.

The Afterschool Alliance organizes *Lights On Afterschool* to draw attention to the many ways afterschool programs support students by offering them opportunities to experience new things and discover new skills, like science, community service, robotics, Tae Kwon Do and poetry.

The events send a powerful message that millions more kids need quality afterschool program.

Mary Nash Beaupre Greenhouse celebrating Lights On

Welcome Newest Founders Members

Twin brothers **Josh and Jacob Doolan** attended the AYCC as youth members in the late 90s as 6-year olds being raised by their single mother. They participated in many youth sports, excelled in high school varsity sports, and received scholarships to Maine Maritime Academy due to their academic achievements.

Now, after graduating from MMA, both are succeeding in professional life and want to give back. Both have joined the Founders Club and are dedicated to building brighter futures for youth in Central Maine.

Jacob and Josh with Mother Andrea at the 2015 Annual Appeal Awards Dinner

Many of you know **Herb Joseph, Jr**. as a former Waterville Boys & Girls Club and YMCA youth member who now works at Central Maine Auto Group. As a new Founder's Club member Mr. Joseph's endowment efforts will be directed towards Camp Tracy Scholarships for kids who have medical challenges. Welcome back to the Club Herb!

Ken and Herb point to the Harold Alfond favorite sayings plaque.

James Walsh, brother of Ken Walsh, contributed a legacy gift in honor of their mother, Theresa M. "Tumminell" Walsh, to support the Kid's Kitchen. Theresa, who passed away in 2013. was a traditional Sicilian mother who taught many lessons around the kitchen table to her seven children. James' tribute to his mother will helps keep this vital program operating successfully for years to come.

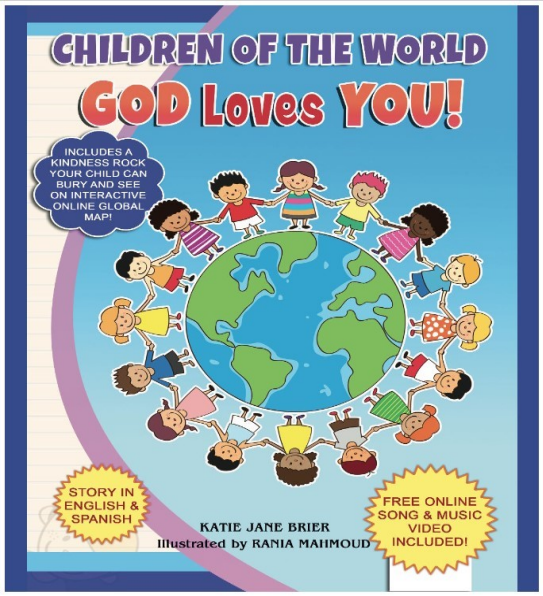
James Walsh, former Yankees Manager Stump Merrill and Fran Purnell at Purnell Wrigley Field in Waterville

Chris and Hope Green, owners of Mechanical Services, Inc. have developed an endowment to support financial aid scholarships to underserved youth applying to college in the field of engineering. The Mechanical Services, Inc. Scholarship Awards will be granted to an AYCC high school member who has interest in studying engineering.

MECHANICAL SERVICES, INC.
MAINE CONTROLS
mechanicalservices.com

Our Youngest Members Pay it Forward

Book Proceeds Benefit the AYCC



Katie Jane is a loyal Day Camp Tracy camper who wanted to help kids who could not afford the tuition to attend.

This interactive children's book, written by Katie Jane and published by her non-profit Katie Jane Rocks, Inc., is her latest project to fund Camp Tracy Scholarships.

Written in English and Spanish, the book features an interactive song and music video link/QR code whose lyrics match the pages of the book. For children ages 5-10, it lets them know that whoever they are, wherever they are, God loves them and will look over them.

100% of proceeds from the sale of each book comes directly to the AYCC as a contribution from Katie Jane Rocks, Inc.

Kids Helping Kids

Childcare Director Chrissy Johnson, Childcare Coordinator DJ Adams, Jacoby, and Shawn Forkey, Kitchen Manager

Jacoby, grandson of Mike Deroche, decided that he needed to help during this pandemic. His plan to hold a food drive paid off. With the help of his grandparents, football team and local Winslow residents, Jacoby was able to help fill over 50 afterschool weekend meals backpacks for AYCC families to take home for the weekend. Asked why he chose the AYCC as benefactor his reply was simple, “Because they care about kids and families.” Thank you, Jacoby!

Refer-A-Friend Program: GHM Donates $10 for every Referral!

When you send GHM Insurance a referral you help to Feed A Family in need. For each referral received, GHM will donate $10 to the AYCC Backpack Program. Based on the average quarterly donation made through this program, the AYCC is able to fill 156 backpacks. That’s enough to feed three families of four for an entire year. To help GHM and the AYCC feed a family have your friends and family call GHM at 1-800-244-9046 or email (info@ghmagency.com) for an insurance quote. There is no obligation to buy, and our most food insecure children get fed.

AYCC Alfond Youth & Community Center Founder's CLUB

The Founder's Club is an association of individuals who have demonstrated their commitment by including the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Waterville in their estate plan. It is through gifts of this nature that we can ensure our mission to inspire and enable all young people and their families to realize their full potential as healthy, productive, responsible and caring citizens.

Harold and Bibby Alfond
Andrew Armstrong
Barbara Atkins
Dr. and Mrs. George Averill
Chester Baker
Dr. Benjamin Barlock
Will Barlock
Carl Beck
Dr. Paul Berkner and Michaela Murphy
Brian and Amy Bernatchez
Joan Besse
Daniel and Jane Bickford
Reginald and Dollis Bizier
Majorie Bond
Alfred J. and Kay Boucher
William Bowden
Judith Brody
Scott and Trish Bullock
Brent and Michael Burger-Roy
Tony and Kelly Couture
Dr. Russell Dejong
Joanna Dennis
Daniel and Diane Dubord
Karl and Jane Dornish
John Ernst
Dr. Edmund and Hillary Ervin
David Eskelund
Donald Eskelund
Rick Eskelund
Dr. Kenneth and Mrs. Shirley Eskelund

Posthumous

Stanley Field Marr
Tom Fitzgerald Fund
Glenn E . And Barbara W. Fitzpatrick
Kim Fleming and Mark Bulmer
Chris and Linanne Gaunce
Michael Gallagher
Charlie Giguere
Drs. Michael and Margaret Griffin
Cliff and Dale Hannon
Everret B. and Cora Harris
Ray Haskell
Allen Hawes
Nancy Hill
Rudy Hikle
Dr. and Mrs. Jerald and Claritza Hurdle
The Isenberg Family
George and Beth Jabar
Joseph and Renee Jabar, Sr.
John P. and Margaret Jabar
John D. Jabar, III
Lester and Barbara Jolovitz
Lester T. Jolovitz Camp Tracy Scholar-ships
Kevin Joseph/ James Paul
Herb Joseph, Jr.
Brian and Jennifer Kelly
George Keller Scholarship Fund
Thomas Kopp Campership Fund
Michael and Debra Koziol
Bruce and Felicia Lambert

Posthumous

Bert and Sarah Languet
Michael and Debbie Levenseller
Dr. Thomas and Cynthia Longstaff
Peter and Paula Lunder
Dr. John and Holly Margolis
Ann Mitchell
Bill and Vicki Mitchell
Robert and Judy Mitchell
Janet Mitchell Kid's Kitchen Fund
Paul and Yvette Mitchell
Prinella Mitchell
Senator George Mitchell
Phillip Morse
Lawrence and Helen Murphy
Fred Murray
John & Lucinda Nale
Mark and Laurie Nale
Paul Orloff and Germaine Orloff Scholarships
John and Kath Osbourne
Charles Owen
Paul and Marilyn Paganucci Volunteer Award
Fran and Joyce Purnell
Joseph and Susan Reisert
Phil Roy
Michael Runser
Len and Shirley Saulter
Samuel Shapiro
Ted Shiro Basketball Scholarship Fund
Lillian Stanhope
Charles Stevens Estate

Posthumous

Doug and Rita Sukeforth
Robert Taylor
Jerry and Betsy Tipper
Evelyn Hanscom Towne
Basil Hanscom Scholarship Fund
Dr. John and Mrs. Connie Towne
The Tracy Family
John Trinward Basketball Scholarship
Ken and Suzanne Walsh
Theresa M. Walsh Memorial Fund
Dr. John Winkin Afterschool Program
Drs. Jim and Barbara Woodlee

Posthumous

The advantage of a planned gift is that it does not take effect until sometime in the future – after the donor's other needs have been addressed. Donors continues to maintain control of the asset, can change their mind if they want, and may end up making a far more significant gift than possible during their lifetime. If you would like more information on how you can become a member of this important group, please call me at 207-873-0684.

- Ken Walsh

COMMUNITY IMPACT

- 5,000 youth members
- Serving 191 towns
- Accredited licensed childcare program—largest in state
- 85,000 free meals served annually

OUR UNITS

- South End Teen Center
- Augusta Teen Center
- North End Public housing
- RSU 18 Club house
- Boys & Girls Club of Bangor

Alfond Youth & Community Center

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Waterville, Maine 04901

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Thank you for supporting community members' increasing need during this COVID-19 Crisis!

AYCC
Alfond Youth & Community Center