

# NEWSLETTER



Valley United Way  
Serving Ansonia, Derby, Oxford, Seymour and Shelton

**LIVE UNITED**

Fall 2009

[www.valleyunitedway.org](http://www.valleyunitedway.org)

## Griffin Hospital to Host Annual Valley United Way Community Campaign Kickoff



Fred Ortoli  
Campaign Chairman

### Valley United Way

Cordially invites you to attend the  
2009-2010 Community Campaign Kickoff

Wednesday, September 30, 2009  
5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

The Center for Cancer Care  
Griffin Hospital  
350 Seymour Ave.  
Derby, CT 06418

*Celebrating Griffin Hospital's 100th Birthday*



Valley United Way is pleased to announce that Griffin Hospital will serve as the host for this year's Annual Community Campaign Kickoff reception on Wednesday, September 30 at The Center for Cancer Care in Derby. In making the announcement, Fred Ortoli, Chairman of this year's campaign, said, "We are thrilled that Griffin Hospital is hosting this year's event. As the center of health care in the Valley, they have an incredible record of giving back to the community and to have this event there during their 100th anniversary is especially fitting." He pointed out the incredible job that Griffin did with a food drive earlier this year as a prime example of the caring of Griffin and its employees that extends well beyond their job responsibilities.

"The theme of Griffin Hospital's 100th Anniversary Commemoration is 'A Century of Caring for our Community.' We are honored to host the Valley United Way's annual campaign kickoff as part of our centennial celebration. Griffin and its employees proudly support the efforts of the Valley United

Way and its twenty-four funded community agencies that touch and benefit the lives of countless community residents each year," said Patrick Charmel, Griffin President.

The Center for Cancer Care, a state-of-the-art facility for cancer treatment that opened last fall, will be the site for the kickoff. In addition to the

great food prepared by the culinary department at Griffin, the day's events will include tours of the facility, free blood pressure screenings and a brief speaking program.

Reservations can be made electronically at [www.valleyunitedway.org](http://www.valleyunitedway.org) or by returning the mailed hard-copy invitation.



Griffin Hospital's Center for Cancer Care

# Be Part of the Change

## Fred Ortolini Appointed 2009-10 Campaign Chair



Fred Ortolini's photographs of the Valley are well known, as are his volunteer activities. He's the guy who makes everyone else look great in many different ways. Though many already recognize his photographic skills which have made him the Valley's "Community Photographer,"

Fred is also a person who has rolled up his sleeves and provided his leadership skills to many of the Valley's nonprofit agencies. Valley United Way Board Chairman Mike Marcinek has announced that Fred is assuming the leadership of this year's Annual Community Campaign.

Marcinek states, "We couldn't be more pleased with Fred's acceptance of this position. Fred has a unique perspective of the Valley because he has been an active participant for so many years. On top of that, he has personally had the

opportunity to see and photograph just about every aspect of life in our Valley. He has a real grasp for the importance of campaign in meeting the needs of our community and we are thrilled that he will be leading this year's effort."

Fred was the 2009 recipient of the Charles H. Flynn Humanitarian Award and is a 2003 recipient of the Valley Chamber of Commerce Gold Seal Award, presented for outstanding service through dedicated and effective leadership.

## DeGray, Kirby & Katz to Chair Campaign Cabinet Divisions



John DeGray

Carol Kirby

Dr. David Katz

by maintaining relations with existing and acquiring additional companies that donate corporate gifts at or above the \$5,000 benchmark. He will also recruit volunteers to assist with the Cornerstone Division and personally contact local CEO's to gain company participation.

Dr. David Katz, Director and founder of the Yale Griffin Prevention Research Center based at Griffin Hospital, will chair the Professional Division of this year's Campaign.

Valley United Way President and C.O.O. Jack Walsh said, "I have had the pleasure of working with Dr. Katz since the Prevention Research Center was first started and the work he is doing in health promotion and disease prevention is cutting edge. It is especially fitting as Griffin celebrates their 100th birthday to have David involved in this year's Community Campaign."

Campaign Chair Fred Ortolini announced John DeGray, President of The Kerite Company, will chair the Cornerstone Division of this year's Community Campaign. Kerite is a member of the Marmon Group, a Berkshire Hathaway Company and is one of the oldest businesses in the Valley. In this position, DeGray will assist Ortolini

Ortolini has also added Carol Kirby, Executive Director of the Valley Chapter of the American Red Cross, to this year's campaign as Chair of the Public Service Division. In her campaign position, she will be responsible for coordinating campaign efforts with the Valley's nonprofit and public service areas including municipal campaigns.

## Leadership Greater Valley Begins in September



Valley United Way, The Valley Council for Health & Human Services and the Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce are looking for individuals who want to be leaders in the Valley –

and we've got a great opportunity for those who are interested. Leadership Greater Valley will kick off its eight week program on Thursday, September 17 with a historic bus tour of the Valley. The tour will provide participants with a unique perspective of the Valley's rich heritage. After that, it's a whirlwind of activity with weekly sessions on such topics as leadership, ethics, economic development, government, health &

human services and much more featuring many current Valley leaders. This is a very special program and many of the graduates have already assumed leadership positions throughout the Valley.

For more information and application visit [www.valleyunitedway.org](http://www.valleyunitedway.org) or call the Chamber (203) 925-4981 to register, but hurry, enrollment is limited.

# GIVE.

## Corporate Volunteer Council Clothed 212 Derby Children



Members of the CVC drop off their bins of supplies



### Special Thanks to the Following:

Altair Global Relocation  
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Seymour Congregational Church  
Sikorsky  
TD Bank  
The McIntyre Group  
The United Illuminating Company  
Wal\*Mart/Derby  
William Raveis Real Estate

It was a very festive afternoon at Irving School in Derby as members of the Corporate Volunteer Council (CVC) brightened the day and the new school year for 212 children who will now return to school with new clothing, backpacks and school supplies. CVC members spent the summer shopping for students and on Thursday, August 27th, they had the opportunity to meet the children and present them with festive boxes full of clothing and encouragement for a bright year ahead.

Each student received two complete clothing outfits, a pair of sneakers, a winter coat and a backpack full of school supplies. Just as important, they received encouragement to start a new school year from the employees of participating companies.

There was a brief speaking program that included Mayor Anthony Staffieri, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Stephen Tracy, Principals Fran Gallo and Linda Coppola, as well as United Way representatives Mike Marcinek, Jack Walsh and Pat Tarasovic. Attendees were also treated to cookies and lemonade courtesy of David M. Grant Caterers and

ice cream thanks to Pitney Bowes. Everyone was presented with a special treat as Fran Scarpa and her students from Center Stage in Shelton entertained the audience with several Broadway show tunes.

In total 42 companies provided an estimated value of over \$42,000 in supplies. Valley United Way would like to thank the real stars of the day - the 42 organizations that purchased the clothing. Pitney Bowes sponsored 35 children, followed by Prudential at 25 and Sikorsky at 23.

The Corporate Volunteer Council chose Irving and Bradley Elementary schools in Derby to be the recipients of this year's Back to School Clothes for Kids program. This is the 14th year for the program, which partners area business in helping to clothe needy children for a new school year. In making the announcement, Volunteer Center Director, Pat Tarasovic, noted that this would be the fourth time that the program has been offered at Irving School. The very first program in 1996 clothed 112 children at Irving, an additional 104 were clothed in 2001, and in 2005 the total shot up to 174.

### **CAMPAIGN UNDERWRITERS**

Coordinated Transportation Solutions, Inc. · Dworken, Hillman, LaMorte & Sterczala, P.C. · Falcioni Painting Co. · Fletcher Thompson · Fred Ortolí Photography · Gexpro · Inform Printing · Iroquois Gas Transmission System, L.P. · The Kerite Company · Riverview & Edward F. Adzima Funeral Homes · Venman & Co., LLC · The W.E. Bassett Company · Webster Bank



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## Harvest House III - Pitney Bowes Marquis Supporter



Valley United Way's Corporate Volunteer Council (CVC) is excited to announce its plans to build Harvest House III on the grounds of Shelton's Riverwalk on Saturday, September 26, as their 2009 Week of Caring Project. Similar to previous Harvest Houses built by the council in 2005 and 2007, Harvest House III will be a 400 square foot house constructed from more than 100,000 donated nonperishable food items.

The project is a way to raise awareness of the large number of hungry in our community and to encourage food donations to the Valley United Way agencies that strive to feed them.

The CVC invites Valley businesses, civic organizations, schools, church groups, and the community at large to join the effort by running food drives in their organizations and bringing the food to the Shelton Riverwalk on Saturday, September 26 to fill the walls of Harvest House. The food that is collected will be distributed to the needy through the following agencies: Area Congregations Together/Spooner House, Father McKenna St. Vincent DePaul Society, Valley YMCA, The Umbrella Program of Birmingham Group Health Services, The Salvation Army, The Valley Chapter of the American Red Cross, The Parent-Child Resource Center and The Safe Home.

"I am confident that the Valley community will once again reach out by donating food and joining hands to 'build' this one-of-a-kind Harvest House," said Patricia Tarasovic, Director of the Valley United Way's Volunteer Center. "Many people are struggling to feed their families and it's important to help our neighbors in need. The Valley has proven time and again that we are an All American City and Harvest House is another example of how we LIVE UNITED."

For more information contact Patricia Tarasovic at (203) 926-9478 or at [patricia.tarasovic@valleyunitedway.org](mailto:patricia.tarasovic@valleyunitedway.org).

NEED HELP? Call

**2-1-1**

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Funded in part by Valley United Way