



# The Power of Community

2016 ANNUAL REPORT

*Serving Greater Waterbury and the Litchfield Hills*



*The Palace Theater, Waterbury's premier performing arts center, raised essential dollars through Give Local Greater Waterbury and Litchfield Hills, hosted by the Foundation.*





# A shared commitment to tackling local challenges together

Throughout our 93-year history, donors, nonprofit organizations and neighbors have worked side-by-side with us to build stronger, more vibrant communities in our region. Thanks to people like you, we haven't stopped.

In 2016, with extraordinary political and social change across the country as a backdrop, our shared

commitment to tackling local challenges together has been a unifying force and a catalyst for community triumphs.

In these pages, we celebrate your giving, your creative energies and your spirit of collaboration—the lifeblood of thriving communities—that benefit us all.

Your unifying efforts serve as a beacon toward the future.

471  
GRANTS TOTALING  
\$2.4 MILLION  
AWARDED TO  
282  
NONPROFIT  
ORGANIZATIONS

400+  
COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS  
TOTALING  
\$923,000

**GIVE LOCAL**  
*Greater Waterbury and Litchfield Hills*  
RAISED \$1,230,000  
for 215 NONPROFIT  
ORGANIZATIONS  
IN OUR REGION

# For Greater Waterbury Kids, A Doctor's Visit is an Open Book

"Will I get a book today?"

That's a question often heard by pediatricians in bustling clinics throughout Greater Waterbury as they greet young children for their checkups.

Much to the delight of children, the answer is nearly always "YES!" thanks in part to Connecticut Community Foundation's grant to Reach Out and Read, which gave 2,300 books to more than 1,150 children in Greater Waterbury through their medical providers in 2016. The brand-new, high-quality books are often classics, such as *How Do Dinosaurs Say Goodnight?*

Since many families served by Reach Out and Read can't get to a library or afford books, often books received from their medical providers are the only ones children have.

"The research is clear," says Christine Garber, director of development for Reach Out and Read of Connecticut and Massachusetts,

"that, on average, the language skills of children from low-income families are 12-14 months behind by the time they get to kindergarten."

Reach Out and Read aims to change that through a proven approach that taps into the trusted relationship among children, parents and their medical providers and reinforces the idea that reading aloud to young children 15-20 minutes per day is the best way to foster early literacy skills.

They train medical providers in the region who treat under-insured families and provide books for them to give to children while educating parents on the importance of reading aloud daily to their children.

It's working.

"This is an invaluable 'win-win' opportunity to encourage the family to read to their child, to discuss a child's development and to create a home library for the child as he or she

grows," said Dr. Linda Matthew of Alliance Medical Group in Waterbury.

Angela Barrows, a physician's assistant at St. Mary's Hospital in Waterbury, concludes, "When hardly a day goes by without a child asking for a book, you know you have reached some level of success."

Yes, they have.



Reach Out and Read  
Connecticut Community Foundation  
United Way of Greater Waterbury  
Bridge to Success of Greater Waterbury  
Greater Waterbury medical providers







# A Warm Welcome at New Community Health Center in Naugatuck

"We are only five miles from Waterbury, but it might as well have been 50 miles for some people. It was still a barrier, not having a medical provider close by."

Janet Ciarlegio, office manager at StayWell Health Care's new community health center in Naugatuck continued, "Now people can walk here!"

The new clinic is giving local residents access to much-needed health care.

After renovating a storefront church at 30 Church Street in the center of Naugatuck, StayWell opened the gleaming clinic in August 2016 and it has rapidly become a health care hub. In the first full year of operation, StayWell projects that 2,456 people will receive 7,900 medical, dental and behavioral health visits.

Why Naugatuck? It's a community with growing health care needs. The prevalence of cardiovascular disease, diabetes, colorectal cancer mortality and pediatric asthma are higher than the national average. Opioid addiction is on the rise, too. And, many

residents have to endure burdensome travel to another city or town for care since many local doctors don't accept state insurance.

Seeing the need, many community partners—led by StayWell and the federal government—rolled up their sleeves, and Connecticut Community Foundation pitched in with a \$49,000 grant from its Saunders Fund that equipped four of the clinic's medical exam rooms and a dental suite. Necessary exam tables, digital scales, autoclaves, thermometers, vital sign monitors, a blood analyzer, a 360-degree dental x-ray machine and more now enhance the rooms.

The new health center provides "one stop shopping"—medical, dental and behavioral health services in one location, including prenatal and gynecological care and psychotherapy. Need blood drawn? There's a phlebotomy lab on-site.

Don Thompson, StayWell's CEO, said, "We were intentional about creating a clinic where all services are integrated. For example, if a child comes for a physical,

we can screen for depression, and right there our medical doctor just walks across the hall and personally introduces the patient to the behavioral health team. We call it a 'warm handoff.'"

Ciarlegio added "We treat people as whole people, and serve people from all walks of life who can't qualify for any kind of health insurance—undocumented, transgender, workers in their 40s and 50s, people with disabilities and many older adults. One person hadn't had her teeth cleaned in 20 years! She was so grateful."



StayWell Health Care

Saunders Fund at Connecticut  
Community Foundation

U.S. Department of Health and  
Human Services

Ion Bank Foundation

Wellmore Behavioral Health

# From Waterbury to Argentina, Empowering Latinas to Take Charge of Their Health

Quite by accident, they met in church.

One, a tenacious breast cancer survivor, determined never to let other women stay in the dark about their own health. The other a forthright Latina, all too familiar with outdated cultural norms that encourage women to put themselves second.

With grants from Connecticut Community Foundation, Nancy M. Cappello, Ph.D., founder and director of Are You Dense in Woodbury, and Yoellie Iglesias, director of Madre Latina in Waterbury, developed an education campaign aimed at Latinas, urging them to speak up, ask questions and assertively take charge of their own breast health.

They produced an educational video in English and Spanish that is now being viewed all over Greater Waterbury and by audiences as far away as Puerto Rico and Buenos Aires. Featuring breast cancer survivors and physicians, it empowers women, in Iglesias's words, "to be aware, to ask questions and be smart" about their health.

Breast cancer is the leading cause of death for Latinas in the United States. And, compared to white women, Latinas are more likely to be diagnosed with breast cancer at a later stage—when treatment is less effective.

Iglesias explains, "In our culture, asking questions sometimes means you are rude. They don't teach Latinas to ask questions. Many Latinas put all their energies into children. They are always the last people on the list. So one of the things Madre Latina tells them is that if you love your children and your family, you need to be the first person on the list."

Cappello founded Are You Dense, a nonprofit breast health organization, after her late stage cancer was diagnosed. She later learned that her dense breast tissue, which had reduced the reliability of regular mammograms, gave her a higher likelihood to have a missed, delayed and advanced stage breast cancer. She focused her energies on educating other women, and when her

pastor asked her to speak in her church about breast health, Iglesias was there.

The Foundation's grants gave Madre Latina and Are You Dense the tools to develop and publicize the video at workshops and medical offices and through community partners with websites, brochures, social media and national media in English and Spanish.

Said Iglesias, "We teach mothers, you have the key to your own life. If you ask for help, you can get it."

*View the video at <http://bit.ly/2p2qwt7>*



**Madre Latina**

**Are You Dense**

**Connecticut Community Foundation**

**Harold Leever Regional Cancer Center**

**Hispanic Coalition of Greater Waterbury**

**Yale School of Public Health**





Claudia Grogan, M.D.  
Specialista en Women's Health  
Especialista en salud femenina





# Confronting Fears, Finding Balance and Improving Health

"Jane" was once a master gardener.

But outside her window, fabulous blooms had become an area choked with weeds.

As she aged, weight gain and a more sedentary routine kept her inside, and the situation had chipped away at her self-esteem. Fear, in part, had held her back.

Eight weeks of classes through Pomperaug District Department of Health's (PDDH) Matter of Balance program changed all that.

After the classes, while she could not do everything that she used to, she went back to gardening using containers and now invites houseguests to view her attractive flowers.

Said Robin Lucas, grants manager and trainer for the program, "The group helped her to turn her thinking around."

According to Lucas, falling is the most common reason that older people end up hospitalized, and many don't realize that they are becoming isolated and staying home due to a fear of falling. That fear can pose a barrier to activities as simple as gardening.

Changing simple behaviors, setting achievable goals and exercising in groups empower participants to take charge of their own health and manage their chronic conditions. These are the keys to PDDH's successful diabetes control, arthritis management and fall-prevention classes. A circle of supportive peers sharing tips and checking on progress adds motivation and accountability.

Funding by Connecticut Community Foundation for the last six years has allowed hundreds of older adults in Woodbury, Oxford and at Heritage Village retirement community in Southbury to take part in the free classes "with great success" said Neal Lustig, director of health at PDDH. Health benefits have included weight loss, better pain and diabetes control and more active self-management of health conditions.

Continuing funding by the Foundation is now allowing PDDH to train coaches in Naugatuck, Woodbury, Oxford, Waterbury, Cheshire, New Milford, Wolcott and Roxbury

to run fall-prevention programs for older people in those towns.

Of the value of these prevention efforts, Lustig said, "If you help people manage their disease before it gets to a serious state, you've improved their outcomes and positively affected their quality of life, reduced costs on the health care system and helped them stay at home."



**Pomperaug District Department of Health  
Connecticut Community Foundation**

**Heritage Village**

**Medical Reserve Corps and Community  
Emergency Response Team Volunteers**

**Naugatuck Valley Health District**

**Newtown Health Department**

**Chesprocott Health District**

**New Milford Visiting Nurses Association**

**Western Connecticut Area Agency on Aging**

# More Than a Century of Giving Unites Westover School's Junior Class

It began in the early 1900s, when students at Westover School knitted socks and sweaters and donated them to nearby orphanages because the headmistress thought it was important to give back to the local community.

The tradition of giving has lasted over a century for the junior class at Westover, an all-girls school in Middlebury, which fundraises each year through the Dorcas Fund at Connecticut Community Foundation to raise money for the charities of their choice.

"It's something that unites the whole class," said Maggie Nuñez-Fernandez, chemistry teacher at Westover and advisor to the project.

At the beginning of the school year, the planning begins: bake sales, jeans days and pizza sales on "frugal lunch days" raise money. "Dorcas Heads" are elected to lead and decide the theme for the largest and most exciting fundraiser of the year, the Dorcas Fair, held yearly in January. Leading

up to the fair, the juniors plan games and carnival activities, and make crafts, food and t-shirts to sell while soliciting alumni, parents and businesses for donations for a huge silent auction during the three-hour event.

Dorcas Heads Fiona Boyle, Yoo Jin Chi and Gracey Greco chose Peter Pan as the 2016 theme, and the fair raised over \$10,500.

Said Nuñez-Fernandez, "The entire class is invested in giving back. Regardless of how much money they raise, the spirit is the same: The whole aim is to help."

After the fair, groups of students research various charities and present the information to the entire class for a vote so they can make an informed, collective decision about their philanthropy.

In 2016, the class decided to give locally while helping causes that resonate more broadly. They selected five organizations to receive their fundraising dollars, including two that received grants from the Dorcas Fund at Connecticut Community Foundation: New Haven-based Integrated Refugee and

Immigrant Services and Gift of Adoption, Connecticut Chapter.

"We wanted to make an impact in our community," said Boyle.

Nuñez-Fernandez said that fundraising and making grants through the Dorcas Fund often propel Westover graduates to philanthropic endeavors after graduation, from Waterbury (where Boyle and Greco have joined the grantmaking committee of the Foundation's Women's Fund) to Rwanda (where Westover alumni have helped to lift women out of poverty through baking).

Indeed, Westover's tradition of giving back is lasting—and boundless.



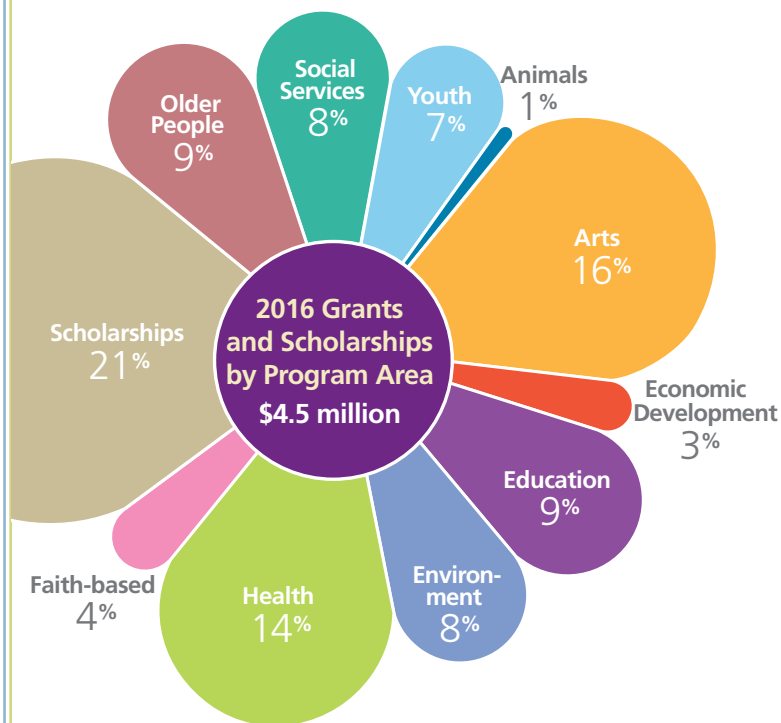
Westover School Junior Class  
Connecticut Community Foundation





# Community Investments

Connecticut Community Foundation serves donors and nonprofits through sound financial management that aims to build the charitable resources available to the community. In 2016, the Foundation's investments realized an 8.04% net investment return—exceeding the benchmark—and the Foundation's net assets grew to more than \$95 million.



For a copy of Connecticut Community Foundation's 2016 audited financial report and tax return (IRS Form 990) visit [www.conncf.org](http://www.conncf.org) or contact the Finance Department at 203.753.1315.

2016

## Assets

Investments	\$97,694,393
Other Assets	519,838
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$98,214,231</b>

## Liabilities and Net Assets

Accounts Payable	\$ 48,776
Grants Payable	5,812
Liabilities Under Split-interest Agreements	134,796
Funds Held as Agency Endowments	2,857,380
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>95,167,467</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$98,214,231</b>

## Revenue

Contributions	\$ 3,151,469
Investment Return	7,016,695
Other Revenue	58,092
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$10,226,256</b>

## Grants and Expenses

Grants and Scholarships	\$ 4,469,993
Program Support	1,175,350
Supporting Services	646,049
<b>Total Grants and Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 6,291,392</b>

## Net Assets

Beginning of Year	\$91,232,603
End of Year	\$95,167,467



## THE GENEROSITY OF MANY

Our donors are our inspiration. We are grateful for your generosity and for the example you set. You care, you act and you remind us of the power of giving to change lives.

### Gifts of \$500,000+

Estate of Anne Melgers

### Gifts of \$100,000-\$499,999

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### Gifts of \$75,000-\$99,999

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The Leever Foundation  
Friends of the Woodbury Library

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Ellen Gaddis  
Naugatuck Historical Society

### Gifts of \$25,000-\$49,999

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### Gifts of \$2,500-\$4,999

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Marcea Morgan  
New Milford High School Reunion  
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Kyungsook Petrahai  
Janet Taylor  
Westover School Junior Class

### Gifts of \$1,500-\$2,499

Burton and Sylvia Albert  
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Louis Brown  
Ralph and Sheila Carpinella  
William Cohen  
Michael Conway



*Unveiled in July 2016, the 800-foot “Greetings from Waterbury” mural reflects the city’s history and culture and works to attract residents and tourists alike. Spearheaded by Waterbury’s Public Arts Committee and funded in part by Connecticut Community Foundation, the artwork greets motorists on busy I-84 as they enter the Brass City.*

Lisa Frantzis  
Marion and Robert Garthwait, Sr.  
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#### **Gifts of \$1,000-\$1,499**

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Kirsten Peckerman



PHOTO BY DORIAN MODE PHOTOGRAPHY

*The Foundation's grant to Pilobolus, an internationally acclaimed dance collective in Washington, Connecticut, gave older adults movement and dance classes that enhanced balance, strength, connection with others and creative self-expression.*

Robert Pedemonti  
R.A.M. Unlimited  
Edith Reynolds and Dan Gaeta  
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 Geeta and Vidya Trivedi  
 Walnut Hill Community Church  
 Webster Bank  
 Jack Zazzaro and Monique Marchetti

#### **In-kind Gifts**

Kathy Bower  
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 visit the annual report page on our  
 website at [www.conncf.org](http://www.conncf.org).**

With a gift to the Foundation made in honor or memory of someone you care about, you can recognize the best in a special person, and reflect what that person means to you and to their community.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GREATER WATERBURY YMCA

*Greater Waterbury YMCA's Livestrong program, funded in part by the Margaret M. Hallden Fund at Connecticut Community Foundation, empowers cancer survivors to live life fully.*



## 1923 SOCIETY

What do you care most about in your community? Would you like to make a difference not just today, but for generations to come?

Members of our 1923 Society have done just that by including Connecticut Community Foundation in their estate plans. From arts to health care to education, they are making the community stronger—now and forever.

Members of the 1923 Society include:

Anonymous (7)	David DeNicolò	Stephen Kenney*	Marcea Morgan
Doris Abramson	Bart DePetrillo	Stephen Ketterer	Dorothy Murnane
Joel Abramson	Barbara DeRosa*	Augusta Kramer*	Joann Narkis
Eleanor Akers	Frank Devorken*	Marie Kunkel*	Robert Narkis
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Craig Carragan Jr.	Janet Hansen	Jeanette Matzkin*	Ella Emery Rutledge*
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Helen Chadakoff	Jane Wynn Hay*	Wayne McCormack	DeBare Saunders
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Leslie White\*

Edmund White  
Zemma White  
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\* DECEASED



PHOTO COURTESY OF ASAP!

*Our grant to ASAP! (After School Arts Program) in Washington, Connecticut bridged art and the environment for students at Children's Community School in Waterbury, giving them a deeper understanding of the natural world through field trips to nature centers.*

## NEW FUNDS

By creating funds through Connecticut Community Foundation, donors can address community needs that concern them, support specific organizations and projects and build charitable assets that will benefit the community today and for years to come. We are grateful to donors who created the following new funds in 2016.

### **Marian Svetlik Andrews Endowment Fund for Youth and Adoption**

Established through the estate of Marian Svetlik Andrews to support organizations and programs that promote positive development for children and youth and/or support the adoption of children and youth, giving them a permanent family and enabling them to thrive.

### **The Benedictus Fund**

Donor-advised fund established by anonymous donors.

### **Isabelle V. Curtiss Education Fund**

Scholarship fund to benefit well-rounded graduates of Oxford High School whose academic performance has placed them in the top 10 percent of their graduating class.

### **Valerie Friedman Fund**

Unrestricted fund to be funded by bequest.

### **Valerie Friedman Fund for the Environment**

Field of interest fund to support organizations and programs that benefit the environment, land conservation, and wildlife. To be funded by bequest.

### **Naugatuck Education Foundation Advised Fund**

Advised fund to support the Naugatuck Education Foundation.

### **Naugatuck Historical Society Advised Fund**

Advised fund to support the Naugatuck Historical Society.

### **Naugatuck Historical Society Endowment Fund**

Endowment fund established to benefit the Naugatuck Historical Society.

### **Oxford Historical Society Advised Fund**

Advised fund to support the Oxford Historical Society.

### **The Clarice E. Sullivan and John L. Sullivan III Scholarship Fund**

Scholarship fund to support graduates of Waterbury public high schools. To be funded by bequest.

*Right: Paddlers “raft up” for a salute during a 149-mile paddle trip from the Berkshires to Long Island Sound, organized by the Housatonic Valley Association (HVA). Funded in part by Connecticut Community Foundation, the trip raised awareness of the need to protect the Housatonic River and its wildlife inhabitants. Photo courtesy of HVA.*

*27 leaders completed  
our Western Connecticut  
Leadership program in 2016.*



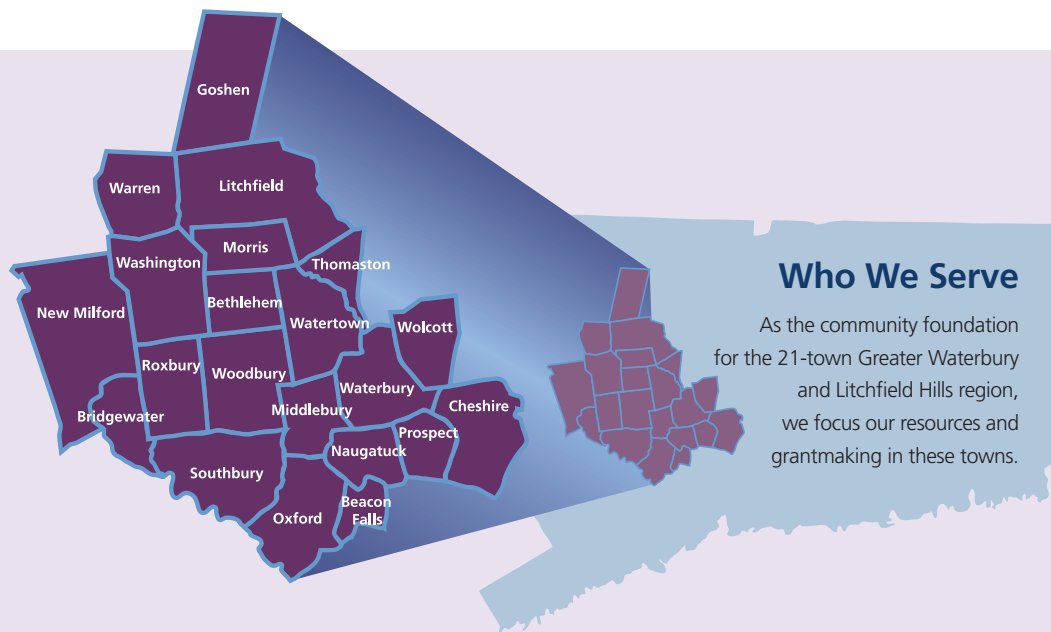
PHOTO BY RICH POMERANTZ

**166** NONPROFIT  
LEADERS  
TRAINED  
in organizational  
development skills  
THROUGH OUR  
NONPROFIT ADVISORY INSTITUTE





43 Field Street  
Waterbury, Connecticut 06702



## OUR MISSION

Fostering creative partnerships that build rewarding lives and thriving communities.

## OUR VISION

Communities alive with partnerships that demonstrate the power of giving.

Connecticut Community Foundation  
43 Field Street  
Waterbury, CT 06702  
203.753.1315

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



## WHO WE ARE

Established in 1923, Connecticut Community Foundation was created by and for the people of Greater Waterbury and the Litchfield Hills. Serving a 21-town region, the Foundation provides leadership in addressing the community's critical issues, strengthens local nonprofit organizations through grants and technical assistance programs, and works with individuals, families and corporations to steward charitable and scholarship funds.

IN 2016  
778 DONORS  
GAVE  
1,057 GIFTS  
TOTALING  
\$3.2 MILLION  
TO CHARITABLE FUNDS  
AT THE FOUNDATION

>200 volunteers  
*helped their neighbors and  
supported their community by  
serving on our committees.*

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COVER PHOTO BY LARAIN WESCHLER, REPUBLICAN-AMERICAN