Words. What do we do with them? How do we use them?

We can give directions. Ask for help. Give an opinion. Build up. Tear down. Unite or divide. Words are a powerful tool.

Words shape the way we feel about things, our perceptions and reality. The words we use to describe people and our community. When you describe our community what words come to mind? When someone asks you about where you live, what do you say?

Inside this newsletter, you can read more about Celebrating Achievement, where we awarded our annual scholarships. That night I chose to describe our community in two ways relevant for that program. We have a generous community and this job allows me to see the depth of that generosity on a regular basis. Our community also values education. Not just through academic scholarships but also through programs like Get Ready! for young children and technical training.

More than just the adjectives we use to describe our community, the words we use in our interactions with others shape our community. Through the Night of Remembrance earlier this year we heard from Fred Gross about how even through the tragedy of the Holocaust, words of compassion, empathy and support were little lifelines for many. His words reminded us we have the power to create the community experience we want people to have here. May we always leave others feeling as they were treated honestly, respectfully, kind and fair through the words we chose.

Ky. Gives Day 2019 sets record

In record-breaking fashion, the region joined together to raise more than $155,000 to support nonprofit organizations on Ky. Gives Day, the most ever for our area.

With your help, the annual online giving day raised a total of $155,652 from 617 donors for 22 nonprofit organizations in our area. St. James Catholic School topped the state and local leaderboard, earning prize money from Ky. Gives Day host the Kentucky Nonprofit Network and Central Kentucky Community Foundation as the regional sponsor.

“Ky. Gives Day provides nonprofit organizations with the opportunity to bring exposure to the projects that make a difference in our communities and offers individuals a way to support those efforts,” said Jennifer Moran, director of mission advancement at St. James Catholic School. “We are thrilled to have exceeded our goal again this year. For two years now, our St. James family and friends have rallied around to make Ky. Gives Day a huge success.”

We bring this important opportunity to donors and nonprofit organizations in our area to raise money and awareness about the vital work and missions of our nonprofit organizations.

Of the top 10 organizations in the state, our region had half of them.

Iris LaRue, director of the Lincoln Museum in Hodgenville, felt the museum’s first year of participation exceeded her expectations.

“We are just so thrilled to have this kind of support and that we were in the mix with so many worthwhile organizations,” she said. “We are honored to have people from the local community as well as from great distances contribute.”

Other area winners earning prize money were Isaiah House Treatment Center in Willisburg; Feeding America, Kentucky’s Heartland headquartered in Elizabethtown and the Stephen Foster Story in Bardstown. To see a list of how all the regional nonprofit organizations fared, go to ckcf4people.org.
When Dailey Harris heard her name called at Celebrating Achievement, her mind immediately went back to her days in the halls of East Hardin Middle School. Dailey was awarded the Brent Wagoner Excellence in Education Scholarship, in memory of her principal at East Hardin. Dailey was one of 94 students who learned of their scholarship awards from CKCF at Celebrating Achievement.

“Brent was such an amazing man, and I can say that he made an impact on my life, as well as my classmates,” said Brent Wagoner Excellence in Education Scholarship recipient Dailey Harris of Central Hardin High School. “His legacy will forever be carried on and in my memory. I promise that with this scholarship, I will do great things and be involved in my community, just like he was. He and the family’s gift have impacted my life forever.”

Celebrating Achievement not only recognized recipients, but also the donors and other community supporters who make so many scholarships possible for our students. Dailey and her family had the chance to visit with Brent’s father over dinner, hearing about the scholarship and the meaning behind carrying Brent’s memory and legacy in education forward.

In 2019, CKCF awarded $286,000 in 113 scholarships to students throughout the region.

“I can’t express how thankful I am to receive this scholarship. I will always be proud to be the recipient of this scholarship and will do my best to be successful at ECTC and wherever else I may go,” said Harold and Cynthia Carter Memorial Scholarship recipient Michael Dahl. “This scholarship has made college a possibility and I will forever be thankful for people like Mr. and Mrs. Carter.”
Ensuring memories can be part of your legacy with Give Five

It’s summertime and our local parks are filled with people making memories. You go to the park to relax, exercise or walk the dog. You might take a child to play in a creek, fish for the first time or explore one of the local trails. While you walk, you connect with the people you love because, here, in this moment amongst the quiet of nature, the stress of life fades away.

Maybe the park is where you watch children build memories through athletics. You find your spot on the bleachers, a place where they can catch a glimpse of your cheers when they look to the stands. As they smile, you’re filled with a sense of gratitude.

These are the memories that resonate. This is life. These outdoor spaces of our community that allow us to connect with people and nature have made a lasting impact on you.

We are fortunate to live in a community where those that came before us valued these opportunities. They cared enough about it to invest their time and money to make sure we can have these experiences.

How can you ensure these opportunities forever remain a vital part of our community for your children, their children and future generations? How can you help future generations make memories like yours?

Our Give Five initiative can help your legacy reflect your personal experiences as part of your estate plan. By gifting 5% of your estate to causes you care about, your investment can enhance, expand and make a difference in the community you care about, the one that you call home.

Leave a legacy. To start your Give Five plan today, call us at 270-737-8393. Let’s Do Some Good Today!

Get Ready! Camp completes 8th successful year

Throughout the month of June, Get Ready! Camp hosted nearly 2,000 children, from birth to age 5, at four locations, including a new site at Wesley Hilltop House in Elizabethtown. “I think they’re having a great time,” Jennifer Keplinger said of her children who attended camp. “They’re not always around kids so this gives them an opportunity to meet others.”

www.ckcf4people.org
Construction on the Home of Philanthropy, the community’s newest home and amenity, is moving right along. We’ve had so many inquiries about when it will be open, when you can get a tour and when you can schedule your events, and we are so excited to share the Home of Philanthropy with you.

We anticipate a grand opening this fall. Right now, the contractors are hard at work to make that a reality. At the same time, we are hard at work to make the financial piece of it a reality. The foundation invested over half the project cost, leaving us a fundraising goal of $1.3 million. As the building takes shape, so does the capital campaign, which as of the end of June has topped $600,000 in gifts. We hope to cross the fundraising finish line before the keys to the community’s home are turned over to us. You can help us get there.

Join us as we construct a home built of more than brick and mortar. It is built with passion and built for impact in the community we love. To be a part of The Home of Philanthropy Capital Campaign, give us a call today at 270-737-8393 or email us at contact@ckcf4people.org.

We are looking forward to sharing the community’s new home with you at our grand opening. Stay tuned to our website, ckcf4people.org, and social media for updates.