A Note from Davette

At the park one Sunday afternoon with my daughter, she was quickly mesmerized by a small fountain and pond that contained lots of coins. Her first question, “Why would people throw their money in there?” This from a girl currently sneaking every coin she can snatch from my purse to put in her vacation spending jar.

I explained the idea of wishing ponds and wishing wells. But nearly as quickly as I got that explanation out, her interest turned to throwing coins in the water herself. Of course, she wanted my coins for that, not hers. So I handed over a few coins. I stood there while she thought about her wish. I didn’t ask. Some things are personal even to a five year old. She tossed her coins in the water.

As we stood there looking at the water and all of the coins, I couldn’t help but think about all of those wishes. What were they? Who made those wishes? How many wishes came true? Did any of them come true?

We blow out candles, toss pennies in fountains, search for four leaf clovers, look for shooting stars. All for a wish to come true, for good luck. What are you wishful for?

Imagine if we put action and effort into those dreams. What could we accomplish?

Or is that wishful thinking?

$115,000 Awarded in Scholarships

The 2017 scholarship winners have been announced, and Central Kentucky Community Foundation has awarded ninety-eight scholarships, totaling nearly $115,000. Eighty-one students from eight high schools and two colleges in the region benefited from these scholarships.

We had many bright, motivated students apply. While it makes for a tough decision for our selection committees, it’s wonderful to see such great initiative from local traditional and non-traditional students.

Central Kentucky Community Foundation has been awarding scholarships for fifty years to local students from the generosity of people who want to make educational opportunities available to more people. We are the largest awarder of scholarship funds in the region and are thankful to those donors who help students further their education. If you would like to learn more about our scholarships or how to create a scholarship fund, contact us at (270) 737-8393 or info@ckcf4people.org.

Noppadon Onnoy received the 2017 Gourmands International Culinary Scholarship. Pictured in the scholarship presentation are: Carl Swope, Dr. William Nash, Tony Abang, Jeff Richardson, Onnoy, Arnold Myers, Carl Stoltzfus and Jeff Noel.
Dow Corning funds Vex Robotics Team

The Dow Corning Fund of Central Kentucky Community Foundation awarded $5,000 to the EC3 Vex Robotics Team. Pictured are some of the 61 students who participate along with Jason Neagle, Robotics teacher, Nancy McCoy, Corey Bryant and Ken Bybee of Dow Corning. The Vex Robotics Team encompasses students from all Hardin County District high schools. Neagle described the program as one that “seeks to increase student interest and involvement in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) by engaging students in hands-on sustainable and affordable curriculum-based robotics engineering programs across the U.S. and internationally.”

The Dow Corning Fund was established as a way to support the local communities where they have operations. One area of focus is to help schools enhance their STEM education programs.

Get Ready! Camp

We had another successful year of Get Ready! Camp. The camp provides unique learning opportunities for children ages birth to five. It enables parents to discover ways to facilitate learning at home as well as increases the awareness of the importance of early learning. The camp was held at North Park Elementary, Panther Academy and Heartland Elementary for four weeks during the summer.

“Get Ready! Camp is important for parents and children alike,” said Davette B. Swiney, CKCF President/CEO. “We are glad to continue our investment in this program that provides a foundation for lifelong learning and success.”

This year, there was an 11% increase in total attendance of parents and children, and 667 unique children attended. Our parents also had some great things to say about Get Ready! Camp.

“It is obvious a lot of thought and prep went into the lessons. What a great way to spend two hours with my kiddos.”

“This program is wonderful, and the instructors are great!”

Upcoming Dates

August 1
Heels Together
Applications due

September 21
Celebrating Community Philanthropy

October 26
Heels Together Banquet

November 15
National Philanthropy Day