

May 2009

Community Foundation Lighthouse Fund to Host “Taste of the Tri-Town” To Benefit Old Rochester Public Education

The Old Rochester Tri-Town Education Foundation, a fund of the Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts (CFSEMA), will host a “Taste of the Tri-Town” on June 12 to support local public education.

The evening will feature a wine-tasting by Spirits of Marion, and samplings of the best of tri-town restaurants and purveyors of fine food. A “Taste of the Tri-Town” will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Mattapoisett YMCA, 38 Reservation Road, Mattapoisett. Student and alumni musicians from the tri-town public schools will perform.

Participating tri-town restaurants/food vendors include the Ansel Gurney House, the Artisan Kitchen; The Bay Club, Matt’s Blackboard, the Frigate, Gail’s Goodies, Harriet’s, How On Earth, Kinsale Inn, Lees Market, Mattapoisett Chowder House, Nick’s Homemade Pizza, On the Go, Oxford Creamery, Rochester Café, Rose & Vicki’s, Sippican Café, Shipyard Galley, Turk’s Seafood, and Uncle Jon’s.

Also known as the “Lighthouse Fund” – lighting the way for education - the Foundation was officially established in November 2006 with the election of a 17-member Board of Directors and a slate of officers. These 17 concerned board members, knowing that an excellent education is expensive, decided to take a page from private educational organizations who have raised endowment funds for many years to support their schools.

The Foundation is managed by CFSEMA, and is working toward creating a significant endowment from private donations and grants to enhance and enrich the educational experience of students at tri-town public schools. As an endowment involves spending only interest earned on the fund and not capital, the Foundation is likely to benefit the school system for generations to come.

More than \$100,000 has been raised to date. The interest on the fund paid for three grants last year. One of these was a grant to the ORR Junior High to study the Shakelton adventure. At the June 12th event, all of the grant recipients will be providing information on what these grants have accomplished during this school year.

Tickets to “Taste of the Tri-Town” are \$30. For tickets or more information, call Sue Grosart at 508-748-0180. All proceeds benefit The Lighthouse Fund/Old Rochester Tri-Town Educational Foundation.

About the Community Foundation

Since 1995, area residents have been turning to the Community Foundation to make their philanthropic giving as effective as possible. CFSEMA is a public charity serving thousands of people who share a common concern – improving the quality of life in Southeastern Massachusetts.

While the Foundation’s primary grantmaking focus is on the SouthCoast communities of Greater New Bedford, Greater Fall River, and Greater Plymouth County, CFSEMA is a regional foundation serving 41 cities and towns. To date, the Community Foundation has distributed more than \$7 million from 110 funds to humanitarian, educational and cultural organizations in the region.

To learn more about the Foundation, visit www.cfsema.org.

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