



Outer Banks
Community
Foundation

2023



ANNUAL REPORT

Greetings!

Dear friends,

Looking back at our history with the Outer Banks Community Foundation, we see a journey that started with a commitment to traditional grantmaking and endowment building. This approach allowed us to grow rapidly and support hundreds of nonprofit projects, playing a crucial role in shaping the fabric of our community.

However, the past decade has brought about significant shifts in the needs of our community, compelling us to innovate and adapt. Facing the challenges presented by Hurricane Dorian and the global pandemic, we recognized the necessity for a more responsive approach. This led us to embrace rapid response grantmaking, addressing urgent needs with agility and effectiveness.

Another pivotal moment in our evolution came in 2021 with the approval of a multi-year grant to the Cowell Cancer Center. This marked a substantial leap forward in our capacity to make large capital grants, enabling us to contribute to transformative projects with far-reaching impacts on community well-being.

In response to the dynamic nature of our community's needs, we have recently introduced new ways for donors to make an immediate impact with pass-through gifts and funds. This flexibility acknowledges the importance of responsive philanthropy in navigating the ever-changing landscape of challenges faced by our community.

Our most recent innovation is shown on the cover of this report — the Outer Banks Center for Nonprofits. The Center will provide new ways to engage with nonprofits and donors, fostering collaboration and sparking new ideas to fortify the resilience of our community.

We extend an open invitation to visit us and learn more about how philanthropy can positively impact the emerging challenges our community faces. Your continued support remains integral to our ability to address these challenges and ensure the ongoing health and well-being of the Outer Banks.

In the spirit of collective progress, we express our deepest gratitude to you — our donors, civic leaders, nonprofit professionals, and volunteers. Your unwavering commitment to the philanthropic journey that began four decades ago has made all the difference. Together, we stand prepared to face the future, armed with innovation, collaboration, and the enduring support of our community.

Thank you for your continued dedication to strengthening and sustaining the Outer Banks.

Warm regards,



Chris Sawin
President and CEO



Jean-Louise Dixon
2025 Board Chair

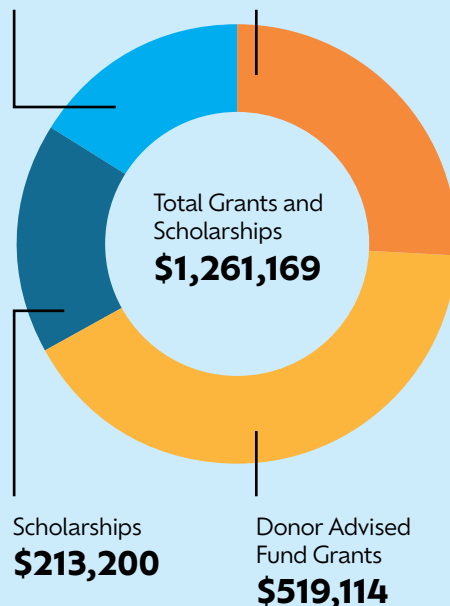
About the cover: The Outer Banks Community Foundation celebrated the opening of the Outer Banks Center for Nonprofits at a ribbon-cutting ceremony on February 12, 2024. Photo by Biff Jennings.

FISCAL 2023 AT A GLANCE

2023 Incoming Donor Gifts
\$1,359,372

Designated and
Organizational
\$201,586

Community
Enrichment Grants
\$327,269



GRANTS into and for the benefit of the community

NONPROFITS through Designated and Organizational funds

SCHOLARSHIPS awarded to 81 students from 97 funds

2023 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Unaudited assets as of December 31, 2023

Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$1,026,487
Investments, Net	\$24,026,946
Property, Net	\$697,970
Other Assets	\$27,813
Total Assets	\$25,779,216

Strategic Plan • 2024-2026

In 2023, the Outer Banks Community Foundation's board and staff crafted a strategic plan for community enhancement. Prioritizing proactive, collaborative philanthropy, we aim to be a trusted and responsive partner, ensuring all voices are heard. Our vision is a united community with expanded opportunities, fostering a shared sense of purpose.

GOALS

OBJECTIVES

INSPIRE GIVING

By listening to and understanding the aspirations of donors from every walk of life, the Community Foundation is a shared resource that brings together generous people who care deeply about the Outer Banks to address unmet needs and promising opportunities.

Foster a culture of philanthropy on the Outer Banks.

Make a greater tangible impact on the needs of the community by growing our assets and grantmaking.

Create open, flexible options for people to give at any level.

Engage donors who can make a significant impact through major gifts and fund creation.

Prioritize planned giving as an essential part of growing our endowment.

INSPIRE ACTION

We are guided by the strategic goal of proactively engaging our community and providing leadership that leads to action on critical issues, through grantmaking and stewardship.

Engage community leaders to identify and learn about significant community needs.

Convene and build coalitions to address important community issues.

Nurture existing and develop new partnerships, collaborations, and alliances.

Develop new, innovative ways of advancing positive change.

Provide training and educational programs for nonprofit partners to enhance their effectiveness.

INSPIRE TRUST

For more than forty years, the Community Foundation has attracted civic leaders who have helped build a vibrant, responsive organization. The Community Foundation will consistently introduce the best practices in philanthropy and nonprofit management to the work of our nonprofit sector.

Enhance the foundation's reputation through stewardship of donors' philanthropic resources.

Measure and publicize the impact of our programs.

Maintain excellence in our core programs: grantmaking, scholarships, and disaster relief.

Exemplify inclusivity in everything we do.

Demonstrate exceptional governance.



Susan Smith, photo by OBCF

New Smith-Cooper Scholarship emphasizes more than academic achievement

By Kip Tabb

The Smith-Cooper Scholarship is a new four-year scholarship for Dare County students. It is, for Susan Smith, a way to honor her late husband, Fred Smith's legacy, and his belief that a strong work ethic and a college education are key ingredients for success.

Susan is hopeful that the creation of the Smith-Cooper Scholarship will give students the opportunity to experience college. "Going to college just opens up so much for young people," said Susan. "It is that college experience, the opportunity to meet new people, to encounter new ideas, and to have thoughts and beliefs challenged, that contributes to becoming a well-rounded person."

The scholarship is also a tribute to the power of mentoring and belief in others. Fred Smith grew up in Trenton, New Jersey, and no one in his immediate family had ever gone to college. It was his Aunt Mabel Cooper who insisted that Fred had the drive and intelligence to do something his parents were unable to do: Fred was going to college!

Susan recounts a story Fred told of being very young when his aunt took him to the nearby town of Princeton, put him up on the wall in front of the university and told him, "That's where you're going to college."

Aunt Mabel was a teacher, but her training in education came at a time when teacher training was done at a Normal School — two-year training institutes that taught the skills needed for teaching, awarding certificates of competency, but not a bachelor's degree.

Mabel's mentoring, support, and encouragement had a significant impact on him. Fred fulfilled her dream of going to college — he even went to an Ivy League school, but it was Cornell, not Princeton.

After graduating from Cornell, Fred went on to study at Columbia University where he earned his MBA.

Fred started working in his neighborhood at an early age. At 12 years old, Fred started delivering papers for the *Trenton Times*, and he delivered papers all the way through high school. He continued to hold jobs while at Cornell to help cover the expenses that were not included in his full academic scholarship.

His career began at Prudential in Newark, NJ, but for most of his professional life, the Smiths lived in Atlanta, GA, with Fred working in finance and Susan as a career educator.

The couple first came to the Outer Banks in the late 1970s. "We were on the other side of Jockey Ridge," Susan remembered. "We could walk right out onto Jockey's Ridge. The moon was full, lighting the rolling dunes. It felt as though we were on another planet."

Their love for the area never waned and when Fred retired in 2003, the Smiths made the Outer Banks their home.

Although retired, Fred felt it was important to give back to his adopted community. He was invited to join Dare Education Foundation's Board of Directors, where he served as treasurer and then president. He also served on the boards of the Outer Banks Presbyterian Church and the Martin's Point Homeowners Association as Treasurer.

Educational opportunity was something that Fred and Susan felt was important in creating a healthy community. An important part of that was helping students who wanted to go to college to achieve their goals.

In 2006 he and Susan, with the help of the Community Foundation, created the Mabel Cooper Scholarship, a precursor to the Smith-Cooper Scholarship.

The scholarship awards academic achievement, but an important feature of the scholarship is that the student must also have a job outside of school.

"Fred always said that holding a job at an early age was important for developing management skills and people skills," Susan said.

The Smith-Cooper Scholarship is patterned after that model, in that the student understands the value of work and academics. "We're looking for someone who is well-rounded, has a good work ethic, and is serious about academics," Susan said.

Susan Smith's planned gift is a hybrid, as she not only initiated a new charitable scholarship fund, but also ensured its enduring presence in her estate planning.



For the love of Teddy! A new fund for Outer Banks students studying veterinary science

By MaryAnn Toboz

Carole Garrett has lived a life of service to the animals around her, and she has adopted, fostered, loved, and cared for more pets than she can count. She feels so strongly about the benefits of animal companionship that she's made it her mission to help pet owners and their pets stay together when times are tough.

One day in 2007, Carole and her friend Bunny were waiting at a Suffolk vet's office with her miniature pinscher Savannah, when an older man walked in with his sick dog. The dog had swallowed something and the man was inquiring about the cost to have his pet treated. When he heard how expensive it was going to be, his anguish was apparent. He then asked about the cost to euthanize his pet, because he couldn't afford care. Carole looked at Bunny and quietly said, "This can't happen."

That was all the inspiration that Carole needed. She paid the man's vet bill, went home, and started on her new path to establish Savannah's Angels, a nonprofit with a mission to offer financial assistance to pet owners so that pets can receive necessary medical care. Savannah's Angels has helped dozens of animals, including three horses and one lamb, and their families.

"It's such a personal thing, to help someone with their vet bills," says Carole. "People still send me Christmas cards as a result of help they received long ago."

Animals were part of Carole's family from her earliest memories. "My grandparents ran a dairy farm. In addition to enjoying and learning from all of the farm animals, we each could adopt and name our own calf," says Carole. "My other grandmother lived in an apartment, and she adored little mice and often carried one in her apron pocket."

As a teenager, she found a sad-looking dog at the Greyhound bus station near her aunt's home. She lassoed the dog, took him to her aunt's house and bathed him in the family tub to get rid of his fleas. Carole took the dog home with her, and they became fast friends. Over the



Teddy and Carole Garrett, photo by OBCF

years, she's gotten many pets from the pound, while others are strays she's adopted or pets that needed a new home.

Carole adopted Savannah later in life, and she proved to be an extraordinarily sweet and gentle companion who was loved by many, including older adults who she met when Carole took her on visits to nursing homes.

In addition to creating Savannah's Angels, Carole has been active in local animal groups, serving on the board of directors for both Feline Hope and Friends of Pooh. She has been a dedicated fundraiser for animal welfare nonprofits on the Outer Banks for over 20 years, including serving on the organizing committee for the Wags and Whiskers events.

In 2023, Carole created the Teddy and Savory Garrett Veterinary Medicine Scholarship Fund at the Outer Banks Community Foundation to help local students who want to become veterinarians. And she has made a provision in her will for both the fund she established and to the Outer Banks Community Foundation to benefit Outer Banks people and causes. Her generosity toward the Community Foundation will ensure that the nonprofit will continue to fulfill its mission, far into the future.



Academic scholarship puts local student on the fast track to cutting edge research

By Maggie Miles

Siena Nason has always known she loved math and science but getting to work on cutting-edge cancer research at the University of Pennsylvania, one of the most prestigious universities in the country, was both unexpected and exciting.

From Southern Shores, Nason's love of science and math took her to The North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics for her junior and senior years of high school. It was there that her passion in the fields was solidified.

"I took biochemistry and it was really fun. We got to extract mushrooms and I thought, wow, I really like this! When I went to college, I decided to keep pursuing it," says Nason.

Her love of biology led her to the groundbreaking work at Ruella Lab at the Perelman School of Medicine, which specializes in next-generation CAR-T for Lymphoma and Leukemia, a type of immunotherapy that uses genetically modified T cells to fight cancer. Nason is now a junior at Penn majoring in biology with a minor in chemistry and design. She is in a dual biology master's program with plans for a Ph.D.

Nason's work is focused on immunotherapy. She and her team use the innovative approach of harnessing a patient's white blood cells and modifying them with a virus to express receptors that target cancer cells.

In her specific project, she focuses on a mutation prevalent in numerous patients, identified through samples provided by the Penn Lymphoma Society. They explore the potential of combining an FDA-approved drug with their immunotherapy technique, known as CAR-T cell therapy. This therapy involves modifying T cells with chimeric antigen receptors, designed to enhance their cancer-targeting abilities.

"Theoretically, this is for patients who have had really aggressive forms of cancer. In the past, they've shown that it cures about 50% of them. It reprograms your T cells, so it has a big impact. Essentially, if you are cured of the cancer, it's hard for it to come back," says Nason.



Siena Nason, photo by Denise Zheng

Though Nason didn't know she would be a cancer researcher, she knew she was interested in doing things beyond the Outer Banks. However, making the jump to an Ivy League school is a financial challenge. To support her education, Siena was awarded the Milton A. Jewell Academic Scholarship, the most prestigious scholarship at the Outer Banks Community Foundation.

"The scholarship was extremely important, especially going to an out-of-state school like the University of Pennsylvania," says Nason.

Nason also dedicates significant time to empowering young women in STEM fields. As co-president of Girl STEMpowerment, a non-profit organization, she spearheads interactive workshops aimed at inspiring elementary and middle school girls.

"One of the great things about working with kids is that they interact with things that you've kind of taken for granted. You see an activity again through their eyes and watch them get excited about it," says Nason. "Just

being able to foster that love for science to these younger generations is really great."

In between classes, lab work, and volunteering, she belongs to a neuroscience journal club that gets together to discuss papers in neuroscience. A lover of food and restaurants, she's also been active as a content writer for *Penn Appetite*, a Philadelphia-based food magazine. In between work, clubs, and volunteering, she loves going to restaurants with friends, and running, and has a goal of reading three books a month this year.

Her favorite thing about science? That it's not what everyone thinks it is.

"I've always been a really rational person who is interested in figuring out the truth. In research, a lot of that is trying to understand what is happening, and it requires a lot of reading and a lot of investigating," says Nason. "The coolest thing about science that people don't realize is that there's a lot of creativity to it. And there's a lot of failure. Persistence is one of the things that I've learned working in the lab, because if you can't handle a little bit of failure, then you can't be a scientist. I feel like, you just have to keep going."



New program seeks to expand mental health care in Dare County

By Kip Tabb

Reprinted with permission from The Outer Banks Voice

Sound Minds collaborators Patty McKenna, Executive Director of Outer Banks Relief Foundation, Jenniffer Albanese, Executive Director of Interfaith Community Outreach, Dr. Sheila Davies, Dare County Director of Health and Human Services, and Leigh Brinkley, Dare County Department of Health and Human Services Family Services Coordinator.
Photo by Kip Tabb.

“Life is tough for a lot of people,” said Sheila Davies, Dare County Director of Health and Human Services (DHHS), explaining why Sound Minds, a new mental health collaborative program between Dare County Health and Human Services, Interfaith Community Outreach and the Outer Banks Relief Foundation is so important. “You’ve got chronic issues and then you have acute issues that you’re dealing with. It’s significant.”

To highlight its 40th anniversary, the Outer Banks Community Foundation announced in March that it would award a \$40,000 special impact grant to address mental health and substance abuse issues on the Outer Banks.

“[We] did a series of meetings with community leaders...and asked them, ‘What are the biggest community needs?’” said Chris Sawin, President of the Community Foundation. “Mental health was on everybody’s list.” And that \$40,000 grant went to Sound Minds.

Sound Minds brings together three organizations, the DHHS, Interfaith Community Outreach (ICO) and the Outer Banks Relief Foundation (OBRF) that have been working together for some time.

“It’s something that’s been happening organically already,” said Patty McKenna, Executive Director of the OBRF. “I think that besides the infusion of more resources, it’s a chance to message to the community that there are places to turn if you would like some assistance.”

Those funds will be critical for providing the help people need. McKenna and her counterpart at ICO, Executive Director Jenniffer Albanese, emphasized that their organizations will do everything they can to support clients who need mental health services.

“We have a client at ICO that we’ve paid for mental health. She has no mental health capacity” in her health insurance, Albanese

explained. “And we have spent \$3,000 already on that mental health. We’re at our limit. I don’t have unlimited funds. And she needs a little bit more.”

Paying for the mental health services is at the heart of the Sound Minds mission and that is something the nonprofits have struggled to provide.

“There are multiple times a year when [Dare County] Social Services is helping a family,” McKenna said. “They identify a need for counseling. They even identify a counselor who has an opening and is ready to help. And the missing piece sometimes is paying the bill.”

The OBCF and ICO have contributed an additional \$5,000 to the fund, so the program is starting with \$50,000.

The partner organizations recognize the \$40,000 or \$50,000 is a good first step, but Albanese and McKenna are aware that there is a limit to how many people they can reach.

“If we can impact forty people, that’s a huge difference,” Albanese said.*

The issues confronting Sound Minds, however, are more than financial. There is a shortage of mental health providers in the area, and they haven’t been taking new patients. That has improved recently, Davies noted.

“It’s opened up a little bit [in the] last month. A number of them said, ‘Yes, we can start accepting new patients,’” she said.

There is also a perception that there is shame or personal failure in asking for help during emotionally difficult times, Davies notes. But the hope is that as the process of seeking help becomes easier and more accepted, those perceptions will change.

“It’s okay to need mental health treatment,” Albanese said.

Donor Advised Funds

Scan to see a full list of our 2023
Donor Advised Fund grant awards



Maureen Lewis,
Rev. Dr. Michelle
Lewis, and Ed
Jones. Photo
by Summer
Stevens.

Partnering together to sponsor the Outer Banks Environmental Film Festival

By Summer Stevens
*Reprinted with permission from
The Coastland Times*

When Edward Jones Jr. was diagnosed with lymphoma cancer three and a half years ago, he had a change of perspective.

"Going through chemo, and the process of fighting that battle, I came to understand that life is short. I thought about when my parents had passed away and their age; and I calculated my parents' age and I thought, 'If God is good and if He allows me the same amount of time, you've got about 17 years of life left.'"

"What do I want to do if I only have 17 years left?" he asked himself.

Ed and his wife Maureen Lewis have had a second home in Southern Shores since 2001. They have fond memories of summers spent with their grandkids, now aged 20 and 18. They wanted to find some way to give back to the community they love.

With a background in broadcasting, both

Ed and Maureen have a unique appreciation not only for clear communication but with an emphasis on the environment. Ed is the manager of the education cable station for the University of the District of Columbia and for the past 15 years he has been producing a weekly show about the environment, with an emphasis on urban sustainability.

"In these 15 years I have learned to appreciate God's creation - not only how to appreciate it but what I need to do as an individual to sustain it," he added.

When Ed and Maureen learned about the Outer Banks Community Foundation, they reached out to president and CEO Chris Sawin about creating a fund that could combine Maureen's love for films and their shared appreciation for the environment.

Meanwhile, Peace Garden Project founder Michelle Lewis had been, separately, on a similar journey of creating a weekend dedicated to showcasing environmental films.

The Peace Garden Project was started in New York in 2016 with a stated mission: "We don't just grow food; we grow a healthy community. Our work focuses on Environmental Justice, Food Justice and engages the intersectionality of the justice issues present in our society."

Michelle planted her first garden in the Outer Banks in 2019 when she moved back home.

"A film festival is in keeping with our work of environmental education by reaching out to people that might not ever come out to garden with us... This is just another

avenue that we're offering for people to get some exposure to environmental issues and concerns that are happening not just here in North Carolina but around the world," Michelle said.

Since January, Michelle had been putting the pieces together to create the festival, including forming a steering committee to select films and securing locations to host screenings.

When Ed and Maureen mentioned their vision to Chris Sawin, he put them in touch with Michelle and the three quickly realized that they could collaborate to accomplish their shared goals. They also share a spiritual connection. (Ed was a Baptist pastor for 25 years, and Michelle has a master's degree in divinity as well as a ministry background).

"God put all the pieces together," Ed said. "And as the verse says, 'He works all things together for those who love him,' and indeed He brought all of this together."

A donation of \$10,000 created the Jones | Lewis Fund, with \$3,000 dedicated to the 2023 inaugural Outer Banks Environmental Film Festival. They have hopes for the future of the fund.

"We want this to grow and become a fund that is here long after we're gone. [We want it to supply] the necessary financial resources for the artists and content creators that are passionate about the environment - preserving it and educating the public about the environment here in the Outer Banks. This is just a beautiful area and we want to do our part, as long as we're walking planet earth, to educate and to preserve this place," said Ed.

Community Enrichment Grant Highlights

Scan to see a full list of our
2023 Community Enrichment
grant awards



Cape Hatteras United Methodist Men was awarded a grant to install more outside electric wheelchair lifts on raised island homes for residents who are unable to use their stairs. These lifts make it possible for residents to leave their homes to shop, visit with doctors, and engage with the community, nature, and society.



Roanoke Island Historical Association (RIHA) was awarded a \$30,000 grant for a new sound array for their annual production of *The Lost Colony*. "There is more music in our production than ever before," said RIHA Executive Director Chuck Still. "The Community Foundation grant means we will have clear, vibrant sound quality for patrons during our next decade of outdoor performances."

Community Care Clinic of Dare received funding to support the construction of a brand new, safety-net dental clinic. Community Care Clinic of Dare's dental clinic will contribute to better overall health and reduce healthcare costs by providing regular dental care for uninsured and under-insured Dare County residents of all ages and backgrounds.



Dare Education Foundation was awarded a grant to enter the engineering phase of their affordable housing expansion project at Run Hill Ridge. Once complete, the addition will provide much-needed housing for Dare County teachers.



Carolina Cross Connection received a grant for \$3,000 for materials needed for four Safe Access construction projects in Dare County. The group brought 50 youth volunteers and their support staff to Dare County for three weeks last summer. They completed 20 different construction projects during their time on the Outer Banks.

Clockwise from top left: photos courtesy of Cape Hatteras United Methodist Men, Biff Jennings, Dare Education Foundation, MaryAnn Toboz, and Roanoke Island Historical Association (by Cory Godwin).



Upholding close friend's lasting legacy, couple creates fund to support individuals with disabilities

By Maggie McNinch

After meeting in 1976 through a postdoctoral program that spurred their careers in disability education, Mike Norman, Patti Bourexis, and David Rostetter created a lasting friendship that withstood long distances and contributed to their collective success in making a positive impact on the lives of many.

To honor David's passing last spring, Mike and Patti established the Dr. David Rostetter Memorial Fund for Self-Advocacy and Inclusion with the Outer Banks Community Foundation.

"I think it would be almost impossible to quantify how many children's lives and parents' lives David has influenced for the better," Patti said.

David advocated for the rights of children with disabilities by providing expert support to families, schools, state agencies, federal agencies, and public interest organizations. David was also one of the primary people responsible for designing the federal government's monitoring system of state programs for youth with disabilities.

"David, in my opinion, was the fiercest advocate for individuals with disabilities and their parents, of anybody that I've ever known," Mike said. "He was literally fearless in his approach."

Inspired by the unwavering spirit of their close friend, Mike and Patti wanted to uphold David's legacy through their field of interest fund, hoping that it will grow as more people become interested.

Mike and Patti are Principal Researchers for The Study Group Inc., an educational research firm that focuses on planning programs for infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities that meet state-of-the-art practices.

"We feel very strongly about parents being totally informed of their rights, allowing them to be knowledgeable advocates for their children," Patti said.

Mike, David, and Patti worked collaboratively on a variety of projects for over 45 years.

"One of the interesting things about our relationship was that we might go two or three years without seeing each other, but we talked frequently because we were always asking each other for advice about pieces of work that we were doing," Mike said. "It was just one of those kinds of friendships that even though you didn't see each other for a long time, when you did it just picked up right where it left off."

"David was Mike's best friend for many decades," Patti echoed.



Mike Norman and Patti Bourexis,
photo by OBCF.

"David called Mike, Mikey, and so David would call and say, 'Is Mikey around?' It was just a dear, dear friendship."

David was legally blind from the age of 12, after a house fire in which their German Shepherd saved the family.

"From a young age, he was doing all of this work with a significant visual impairment," Patti said. "So, as a person, he really embodied commitment to people with disabilities."

Patti and Mike's history with the Outer Banks goes back to when they both individually visited as kids, in the 1950s. They often tell people they have wonderful, similar memories of the Outer Banks — they just made a lot of them separately.

Patti leads the Coastal Humane Society and became familiar with the Community Foundation through grant work. She noted that she was most impressed by the Foundation's response to a couple of the major storms as well as the pandemic.

"If there's a community-wide tragedy of any kind or a community need, the Community Foundation just moves instantly and looks at how they best can help," Patti said. "In some ways, it's like they're holding the entire community in their hands."

As for the memorial fund, "It made sense to put his name on it," Patti said. "He would be very happy, and he would be saying, 'Patti and Mikey, I really love what you're doing here.'"

New Fund Spotlight

The Westervelt family creates fund for Ocracoke students

By Summer Stevens

For over 60 years, the community in Ocracoke was a respite for the Westervelt family. Beginning in 1960, Dr. Frederic Westervelt would travel with his family from Virginia for a few days or weeks away from the rigors of his duties as part of the faculty at UVA medical school. The kindness of the people, the quiet pace of life, and the beauty of the ocean continued to draw the Westervelt family to the small island year after year. At Fred's retirement in 2000, they moved full time down to Ocracoke.

Prior to Fred's passing in April of 2023, the Westervelt family had discussed what kind of gift they could offer to the little village that has meant so much to them.

Though Fred, his wife Ernestine (Ernie), and children Kari and Ric considered various contributions to the community, the Westervelts wanted to choose a donation that would make a lasting impact.

Through the Outer Banks Community Foundation, the family established the Dr. Frederic B. Jr. and Ernestine H. Westervelt

Scholarship Fund, a significant renewable scholarship that will support the education of eligible Ocracoke students to accredited institutions such as college, universities, trade schools, and community colleges.

Fred was always very interested in learning, Ernie said, and he was also attached to Ocracoke. The family combined these things into a scholarship that could make a difference for a wide range of students. Students must live in Ocracoke but can come from the public school, home school, or early college/dual enrollment program through COA. The GPA requirement is a lenient 2.7 average, with the hope that it will encourage many students to apply.

"We wanted to do something that would be worthwhile and would help the community," Ernie said, "because we loved living there."

When the family would retreat to Ocracoke, many people didn't even know Fred was a physician. Described by his family as a kind and ethical man who chose his words carefully, Fred was deeply

Dr. Frederic Westervelt, daughter Kari Styron, and Ernestine Westervelt. Photo courtesy of the Westervelt family.

appreciative of the remote island that allowed him to rest from the chaos of his regular life.

Fred worked at the UVA for almost 30 years in the field of nephrology, developing one of the first in-house and outpatient dialysis programs. He was nationally active in establishing organizations for nephrology, dialysis, and organ sharing. After leaving the UVA, he opened his own dialysis clinic and ran that for another ten years.

"During the day, he was using his brain," said daughter Kari Styron, "and when he came home, he was using his hands."

Fred enjoyed restoring old cars and working on his 60-acre farm in Charlottesville, Virginia. He and Ernie had goats, chickens, cows, and horses. She took care of the children and the bulk of the farm responsibilities, allowing him to devote his time and attention to his work.

"I was his support," she said with pride. "He could not have done what he did—worked the hours he did or did what he did if he did not have me at home. I took care of the things of living. Somebody has to do it."

After retiring full time to Ocracoke in 2005, the couple bought Cove Bed & Breakfast, which Ernie managed for 18 years.

"He just loved being there," his wife of almost 63 years said.

One of the reasons he loved it was because of the way the people cared for each other. The Westervelt family feels grateful for the kindness they have received through the years, and are so pleased to reciprocate this kindness through the Dr. Frederic B. Jr. and Ernestine H. Westervelt Scholarship Fund.

New Funds for 2023

Aging with Dignity Fund
The Baum-Meekins Perpetual Cemetery Trust Fund
Dare and Currituck Foster Children's Fund
Directors Fund
Dr. David Rostetter Memorial Fund for Self-Advocacy and Inclusion

Dr. Frederic B. Jr. and Ernestine H. Westervelt Scholarship Fund
Greater Outer Banks Fund
Jones | Lewis Fund
Karen Willis Memorial Scholarship
Mary Anne McKay Memorial Scholarship Fund

Monday Night Alive Fund
Smith-Cooper Scholarship Fund
Tawan Endowment for the Outer Banks
Teddy and Savory Garrett Veterinary Medicine Scholarship Fund
Wolfinger-Jones Family Fund

The David Stick Legacy Society

The David Stick Legacy Society recognizes those individuals and families who have named the Outer Banks Community Foundation in a will, trust, insurance policy, retirement account, or other type of deferred or planned gift. Through our endowments, these gifts will become permanent sources of support for all future generations here. We gratefully recognize these members.

Anonymous (13)	Avery Harrison	Helen B. Van Cleef Petty*
Jack L. Adams	Diane D. Henderson*	Bonnie Pfennighaus
Nancey H. Atkinson	Nelson H. Henderson*	Mary Anna Portner
Louise Baraw	Charles E. Hill*	Elaine Reed
Alyson Belvin	Richard H. Hines III	Gary E. Reed
Barbara A. Bingham	Marilyn Hinson*	Frances K. Reeves
James B. Birindelli	Reid Hinson	Michael C. Reeves
Nancy B. Birindelli	Eden E. Honeycutt	Jean Reichmann*
Patti Bourexis	Greg A. Honeycutt	Tina J. Richardson
Marcy Brenner	David Huff	Sherry Rollason
Allison Brown	Suzanne Huff	Dr. Burt H. Rubin
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Kelli Harmon	Monica Parker	
Bobby Harrell	Robert Parker	
Deloris Harrell	Gloria Perry	

*Deceased

Outer Banks Community Foundation co-founder William Raymond White, known to his friends as Ray, passed away on February 18, 2024, at the age of 79.

Ray was a man of unwavering passion, breathed life into the Outer Banks like no other. His love for this coastal haven ran deep, shaping its evolution from humble fishing villages to the bustling tourist destination it is today.

In 2022, Ray's decades of service were recognized with the prestigious NC Order of the Long Leaf Pine award, a fitting tribute to a man whose impact was undeniable. His calm demeanor, sound judgment, and boundless compassion endeared him to all who had the privilege of knowing him.

As we bid farewell to Ray White, we take solace in knowing that his spirit will forever reside in the heart of the Outer Banks. May his legacy serve as a guiding light for future generations, inspiring us to cherish and preserve this beloved community he held so dear.



Noel Preston, Jim Perry, Ray White, and John Hughes. Photo courtesy of Noel Preston.

Community Enrichment Grants

Cape Hatteras United Methodist Men

Life-Changing Lifts for House-Bound Seniors and the Disabled \$12,000

Carolina Cross Connection

Safe-Access for Dare County \$3,000

Children & Youth Partnership for Dare County

State of the Child Conference \$9,500

Community Care Clinic of Dare

Something to SMILE About - Integrated Dental-Medical-Pharmacy \$42,152

Dare County Youth Orchestra

Cellos, Violas and Basses OH MY!!!! \$9,984

Dare Education Foundation

Building Dreams - The Engineering Phase of Teacher Housing Expansion \$20,625

Don & Catharine Bryan Cultural Series

Bringing The Symphony To Remote Schools \$15,000

Hatteras Island Community Emergency Response Team

Hatteras Island Emergency Communications System \$26,900

Hukilau Surf Camp

Let's go surfing now. \$4,695

Interfaith Community Outreach

40th Anniversary Impact Grant \$50,000

Interfaith Community Outreach

Enhancing Workplace Efficiency \$2,640

Kitty Hawk Rotary

Youth Development at 2023 BSA Summer Camp \$3,000

Manteo First Assembly of God

Daycare Kitchen Improvements and Special Need Student Educational / Sensory Equipment with Software \$17,500

Manteo Rotary Club

Dare to C.A.R.E. OBX Heart Health \$7,549

North Carolina Lions Visually Impaired Persons Fishing Tournament, Inc.

Help Us Fix Our Warehouse Woes \$8,500

Outer Banks Chamber of Commerce

Leadership OBX Scholarships \$1,000

Outer Banks Dementia Friendly Coalition

The Longest Day \$900

Outer Banks Family YMCA

Safe Summer Programming for Youth & Teens \$14,000

Outer Banks Forum for the Lively Arts

A Tribute to the Legendary Ladies of Soul \$9,500



Coastal Humane Society's Project "Help A Dog's Heart" is continuing to prevent heartworm disease and save pet's lives.

Outer Banks Hotline

Pets and Pals for a Safe and Compassionate Community \$10,000

Outer Banks SPCA

Dog Enrichment Center \$8,000

Roanoke Island Historical Association/The Lost Colony

Sound For The Decade To Come or Arrayed Like None Other \$30,000

Saving Lives Task Force

Life Skills for Recovery Workshop Series \$4,824

Surf Pediatric Foundation

Everyone's Playground \$10,000

The OBX Way

Jockey's Trail - Community Paths \$6,000

Funds Contributing to Community Enrichment Grants:

Adams Family Fund
Adams/Brown Fund for Animals
All God's Creatures Fund
Annual Advice 5K Turkey Trot Fund
Astrid Franz and Kurt M. Loos Family Fund for Children and Education
Aviation Education Fund of America
Aycock Brown Memorial Fund
Banxblock Beach Fund
Benevolent Fund
Bob Parker Memorial Fund
Charles H. & Dorothy S. Luedemann Arts Fund
Children & Youth Fund
Christina Nicole Jones Memorial Fund for Substance Abuse Education, Counseling, Prevention, and Treatment
Coastal Campership Fund
Community Fund
Cookie Jar for Good Deeds

Cowell Gratitude Grant-Making Fund
D. Victor & Catherine D. Meekins Memorial Fund
David Aycock Loy Memorial Fund
Diane and Nelson Henderson Endowment Fund
Disaster Relief Fund
Disaster Response Endowment Fund
Dr. David Rostetter Memorial Fund for Self-Advocacy and Inclusion
Environment Fund
Founders Fund
Franklin Y. Hundley Education Fund
Greater Outer Banks Fund
Hatteras Fund
Helping People Help Animals
Hunting Family Fund for Health and Wellness
Little, Owens, & BB&T Fund
Lois Nelms Unmet Needs Fund

Martin Kellogg Memorial Fund
Milton A. Jewell Grant Fund
Moncie L. Daniels & Belva Midgett Daniels Memorial Fund
Ocracoke Fund
Outer Banks Road to Recovery Fund
Pauline Wright Endowment for Dare County Individuals with Special Needs
Pauline Wright Endowment for Educational and Developmental Needs in Currituck
Ruth Pitt Performing Arts Fund
Schiffman Fund for Animals
Serbousek Family Fund
Shirley & David Doran Memorial Fund
Thomas and Annie Baum Memorial Fund
Wiegel Disaster Relief Fund
William Walter Reams Memorial Fund

Scholarship Awards

Barbara Barnes Sherman Scholarship Fund

Kate Hamilton \$1,000

Best Family Scholarship Fund

Maggie Miller \$1,000

Bill Jones Memorial Scholarship Fund

Ivy Godwin \$1,000
Jeni Hooper \$1,000
Chloe Clark \$1,000
Kate Hamilton \$1,000

Catherine Carrington Clawson Scholarship Fund

Jordan Holcomb \$2,000

Charles H. & Dorothy S. Luedemann Art Scholarship Fund

Aiden Beard \$3,500
Tommy May \$3,500
Fernanda Perez-Chavarria \$3,500
Loxley Wayland \$3,500

Courtney M. Burgess Memorial Scholarship Fund

Kayla Hallac \$1,500
Chloe Wienert \$1,500

Curtis Creech Memorial Scholarship

Alonah Austin \$1,700

Dare County Association of Fire Officers Scholarship Fund in Memory of Douglas A. Remaley

Mackenzie Edwards \$2,000
Rachel Oesting \$2,000
Trent Sylvia \$2,000
Gavin Thompson \$2,000

Duck Woods Ladies Golf Founders Scholarship

Blake Austin \$2,000

"The Jerry and Arlene Davis Scholarship helped give me the opportunity to receive a higher education as a first-generation college student and that is something I will forever be grateful for. They have not only helped me, but so many others, and it truly has changed my life. Because of this scholarship, I have had the opportunity to not only go to college but make connections that will help me with the future career path I want to take."

From Sara-Rae Midgett, East Carolina University Class of 2024. Recipient of the Jerry and Arlene Davis Scholarship (FFHS Class of 2020)

Duck Woods Ladies' Tennis Association Scholarship

Olivia Sugg \$1,500

Elizabeth and Wayne Evans Scholarship Fund

Laya Barley \$5,000
Daisy Morales Bravo \$5,000
Ana Karen Alvarez-Isidoro \$5,000
Mya Salch \$5,000

Frank M. Cahoon Memorial Scholarship

Carlee Paramore \$1,600

Gayle Grinstead Memorial Scholarship Fund

Anita Lin \$2,500

George W. Neighbors Memorial Fund

Maximilian Janesik \$1,300

Glenn & Pat Eure Endowment Fund for Arts Education

Savannah Sawin \$1,400

Greg & Eden Honeycutt Scholarship Fund

Mason Fuller \$3,000
Alan Garcia Velazquez \$1,000

Hanft McDevitt Family Scholarship Fund

Andrew Austin \$2,200

Howell Revier Shearouse Jr Scholarship

Jeni Hooper \$5,000

Inez Daniel Austin Scholarship Fund

Maleia Quidley \$3,500

Irene Nolan Memorial Scholarship Fund

Grace Shoemaker \$1,000

Jeannette U. McOwen Memorial Scholarship

Jordan Haywood \$1,000
Amanda Hernley \$1,000

Jerry & Arlene Davis Scholarship Fund

Versailles Dalesio \$6,000
Sara-Rae Midgett \$6,000
Ebony Orgsbon \$6,000
Ivanna Gonzalez-Sanchez \$6,000

John T. Daniels, Lois Pearce Smith, and J. Bryan Smith Scholarship Fund

Kate Hamilton \$1,000

Josephine A. Oden Scholarship Fund

Eliza Quidley \$5,000

Lillian W. Riddick Scholarship for Nurses

Casia Ensenat \$2,000

Lucian Griffin Scholarship Fund

Colleen Dongarra \$750
Regan Parker \$750

Mabel O. Cooper Scholarship Fund

Camden Crook \$1,500
Kyla Mallory \$1,000

Milton A. Jewell Scholarship Fund

Maggie McNinch \$6,000
Siena Nason \$6,000
Colson Walker \$6,000
Judith Williams \$6,000

NCPC Bettye Neff Merit Award in Communications Fund

Jackson Strange \$700



"Thank you. Words cannot express how thankful I am for this opportunity! I truly appreciate the time and consideration put into awarding this scholarship, and even more grateful to be its recipient this year. It is truly a privilege to receive the Gayle Grinstead Memorial Scholarship and to honor Mrs. Gayle's legacy."

As a first-generation immigrant and college-goer, this distinction will help me more than you will ever know. I promise you, I'll work harder than ever - this opportunity is an immense privilege to have. Thank you for being my support system. I hope my educational pursuits reach unimaginable heights and make you proud; you won't regret your decision." From Anita Lin, Columbia University Class of 2027. Recipient of the Gayle Grinstead Memorial Scholarship (J.P. Knapp Class of 2023)

Scholarship Awards



2023 FFHS Awardees and presenters, students awarded: Blake Austin, Emily Benton, Gwendalyn Botson, Tatum Dermatas, McKenzie Edwards, Charlotte Ernst, Thomas May, Daisy Morales Bravo, Trent Sylvia, Dylan Talley, Olivia Wade, Chloe Wienert, and Rylee Young.



Cape Hatteras Secondary School graduating senior, Alexis Zavala-Roldan, recipient of the Scott Day Family Scholarship, is pictured alongside Chris Sawin and Dare County Schools Superintendent Steve Basnight.

OBX Scholars Fund

Ana Karen Alvarez-Isidoro	\$4,000
Charlotte Ernst	\$4,000
Ivanna Gonzalez-Sanchez	\$4,000
John Cook	\$2,000

OBX Scholars After Prom

Fernanda Perez-Chavarria	\$1,000
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Osborne Scholarship Fund

Dylan Gray	\$1,000
Eliza Quidley	\$1,000
Mya Salch	\$1,000
Kiana Willis	\$1,000

Outer Banks Association of Realtors Scholarship

Tyler Babcock	\$1,500
Tatum Dermatas	\$1,500
Ella Gardiner	\$1,500
Briana Lee	\$1,500
Dylan Talley	\$1,500
Rylee Young	\$1,500
Jeni Hooper	\$1,500
Gavin Thompson	\$1,500

R. Stewart Couch Hatteras Island Scholarship

Alan Garcia Velazquez	\$8,000
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R. Wayne Gray Memorial Scholarship Fund

Lane Stevenson	\$1,100
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Ralph & Ida Lee Saunders Scholarship

Joshua Royals	\$1,000
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Rex Sample Scholarship for Courage and Determination

Gwendalyn Botson	\$1,000
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Robert E. Rollason, Jr. Memorial Scholarship

Chloe Wienert	\$1,500
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SAGA Community Focus Scholarship Fund

Kevin Gonzalez-Herrera	\$1,000
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Sawyer Scholarship Endowment Fund

Ethan Thorn	\$5,000
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Scott Day Family Scholarship Fund

Jobell Porter	\$1,000
Alexis Zavala-Roldan	\$1,000

Wallace H. McCown Memorial Scholarship

Emily Benton	\$1,000
Lilian Ratliff	\$1,000
Peyton Turner	\$1,000

Warren and Jane Davis Memorial Dare Math/Science Scholarship Fund

Isaac Drummond	\$1,800
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PARTNER SCHOLARSHIPS

Managed by The College of Albemarle Workforce Development and Career Readiness Department (Continuing Education):

Billy G. Roughton Memorial Scholarship for Tourism and Hospitality

Joe Riddick Trade & Technical Scholarship

Milton A. Jewell Trade & Technical Scholarship

Milton A. Jewell Trade & Technical Scholarship for Hospitality

Vocational Opportunity Scholarship

Mikalee Gibbs

Managed by The College of Albemarle Foundation:

Billy G. Roughton Memorial Scholarship for Medical Professions

Lauren Bolton

College of The Albemarle Scholarship

Danielle Kimball

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Austin Thompson
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ECB Land of Beginnings Living Legend Scholarship

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Austin Thompson

First Flight Rotary Lacy J. McNeill Memorial Scholarship

Helping Hand Cookie Jar Scholarship

Linda Porter's Shear Genius Scholarship

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North Banks Rotary Scholarship

Kaylie Grooms
Trevor Bruce

Peggy O'Brien Scholarship

Sgt. Earl Murray Scholarship

Leah Zeman

Tom O'Brien Scholarship

Managed by the Manteo Rotary:

Kellogg Cuthrell Manteo Rotary Scholarship

Colson Walker

Manteo Rotary Club Scholarship

Colson Walker

Manteo Rotary Club Sonny Albarty Memorial Scholarship Fund

Liam Ryan

Manteo Rotary Meekins Scholarship

Adam Reed

Managed by Mount Olivet United Methodist Church:

Karen Phillips Memorial Scholarship

Genesis Gregory
Elizabeth Hopkins

Loyalty Donors

The Outer Banks Community Foundation depends on the ongoing generosity of loyal donors who have consistently supported us year after year. Their commitment to enhancing the resilience of the Outer Banks is truly commendable. Below are some of the donors who have made annual gifts consistently, and we sincerely appreciate their continued support.

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*Deceased

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*Deceased

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Melvin's Studios

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Ron and Tiney Curtis

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Lynn L. Bergeson Esq.
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Dougie Craun
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Outer Banks Dementia Friendly Coalition Executive Director Dianne Denny during their "Longest Day" event.

Monday Night Alive Fund

Betty G. Selby

NC Lions Visually Impaired Persons Fishing Tournament Endowment Fund

Just for Today & Tomorrow Endowment Fund, in Memory of Dorman N. Douth & Florence B. Satterwhite

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Sheppe Latimer

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Sheppe Latimer

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Melo
Tim and Trisha Midgett
NC 12 Realty
Matthew and Rachel Neal
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OBX Homes Team
Outer Banks Association of Realtors

Outer Banks Orthodontics Scholarship Fund

Anonymous
Outer Banks Orthodontics

Outer Banks Realtors Disaster Relief Fund

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Holly Britt
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Daniel and Danielle Fenyak
Steve Gillis
Gregory Green
Willo Kelly
John Leatherwood
Malarney & McCown
Melo
Tim and Trisha Midgett
NC 12 Realty
Matthew and Rachel Neal
Brian Hedrick and Kathryn Nesbitt
OBX Homes Team
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\$5,000 - \$9,999

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2023 CHSS Awardees and presenters, left to right: Natalie Painter (OBAR), Jean-Louise Dixon (OBCF), Gavin Thompson, Lilian Ratliff, Maleia Quidley, Alexis Zavala-Roldan, Alan Garcia Velasquez, Grace Shoemaker, and Chris Sawin (OBCF).

Gifts to the Community



Billy Best presenting at Manteo High School scholarship award night in April 2023. The Best Family Scholarship Fund was established in 2022 to award renewable scholarships to graduating Dare County high school seniors, with a preference for seniors residing in mainland Dare County.

\$250 - \$499

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2023 Currituck High School senior, Joshua Royals, recipient of the Ralph and Ida Lee Saunders Scholarship, pictured with fund establisher, Penny Leary Smith.

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OBX Room In The Inn
Outer Banks Dementia Friendly Coalition
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Outer Banks Dementia Friendly Coalition

SAGA Endowment Fund

Interfaith Community Outreach

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Beach Food Pantry
Community Care Clinic of Dare
Don & Catharine Bryan Cultural Series

Spencer Family Fund

Spencer Non-Endowed Fund

William & JoAnn Small Family Fund

Southern Documentary Fund



Surf Pediatrics Foundation was awarded a grant to support their "Everyone's Playground" project at Kitty Hawk Elementary School. Surf Pediatrics Foundation is raising \$800,000 for this project. Visitors and residents of all ages and abilities will have public access to a new universal-design playground when school is not in session, including during the summer months.

Contributions in Name

Book of Honor

The Outer Banks Community Foundation gratefully acknowledges contributions and grants made in honor of:

Denise Adams
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Book of Memory

The Outer Banks Community Foundation gratefully acknowledges contributions and grants made in memory of:

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Friends of Jockey's Ridge \$638

Dare County Arts Council Endowment Fund

Dare Arts \$2,167

Dare County Library Fund

Dare County Library \$2,022

Don & Catharine Bryan Cultural Series Endowment Fund

Don & Catharine Bryan Cultural Series \$78,118

First Flight Society Fund

First Flight Society \$3,582

Flat Top Preservation Fund

Outer Banks Community Foundation \$15,000

Frank Stick Memorial Fund

Friends of the Outer Banks History Center \$14,828

Fred Murray Memorial Fund

Outer Banks Relief Foundation \$2,238

Helen Britt Van Cleef Petty Fund

Mount Olivet United Methodist Church \$22,823

Jim Wood Endowment for Children's Arts

Dare Arts \$335

Love in Action Fund

Liberty Christian Fellowship \$17,768

Moncie L. Daniels & Belva Midgett Daniels Memorial Fund for Bethany Methodist Church

Bethany United Methodist Church \$2,806

Moncie L. Daniels & Belva Midgett Daniels Memorial Fund for Gideons International

Gideons International \$2,749

Moncie L. Daniels Jr. and Muriel Green Daniels Memorial Fund for Bethany Methodist Church

Bethany United Methodist Church \$2,245



Bassoon player Wenmin Zhang from the NC Symphony playing for Cape Hatteras Elementary School students, courtesy of the Don & Catharine Bryan Cultural Series.

Moncie L. Daniels Jr. and Muriel Green Daniels Memorial Fund for First Assembly of God

Manteo First Assembly of God \$2,753

Moncie L. Daniels Jr. and Muriel Green Daniels Memorial Fund for Manteo Baptist Church

Manteo Baptist Church \$2,310

Moncie L. Daniels Jr. and Muriel Green Daniels Memorial Fund for Wanchese Assembly of God

Wanchese Assembly of God \$2,718

Monument to a Century of Flight Fund

Monument to a Century of Flight \$4,050

Outer Banks Family YMCA Fund

YMCA of South Hampton Roads \$371

Outer Banks SPCA Fund

Outer Banks SPCA \$3,450

Pauline Wright Endowment for the Currituck Public Libraries

Currituck County Library Foundation \$2,941

Pauline Wright Endowment for the Dare County Arts Council

Dare Arts \$5,122

Sergeant Joshua Rimer Memorial Fund for Veterans

Interfaith Community Outreach \$7,042

Thomas and Rachel McLaurin Endowment

Heritage Bible College \$670

Warren Cameron Judge III Endowment Fund for the Outer Banks Relief Foundation

Outer Banks Relief Foundation \$3,208



**Connecting people
who care with
causes that matter.**

2023

Dare County Youth Orchestra was awarded a grant to accommodate its growing strings program. This is a continuation of a previous award from 2022, which allowed more students than ever to get involved in the arts and learn an instrument. Since then, Dare County elementary and middle school student participation has tripled. Photo by OBCF.