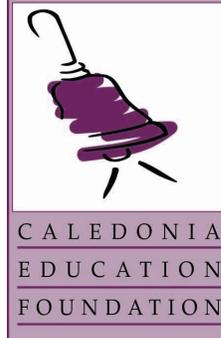


The Carillon

Fall 2016



Caledonia Robotics Grows with CEF Grant Funds

If you haven't already heard, the Caledonia Robotics program is rapidly growing in our district. The Caledonia Education Foundation (CEF) is thrilled to be a part of that growth. FIRST LEGO League (FLL) introduces students to science and technology, while teaching them important lessons in critical thinking, communication, teamwork, creativity and problem solving. Teams compete in the robot game, conquering various missions for points with autonomous robots, in addition to being judged in the areas of teamwork, technical robot design and project presentation.

In 2014, Caledonia launched one FLL team, comprised of eight Emmons Lake Elementary 5th graders, and one Kraft Meadows Middle School 7th grader. They had great success at their first tournament, placing 1st in research project presentation and 4th overall. This advanced them to the State tournament, where they placed 20th out of 49 teams. Interest quickly grew and plans were made to expand the program for the 2015-2016 season.

In 2015, Caledonia increased their roster to 10 teams, allowing nearly 70 students to participate in the program. These teams competed at regional tournaments last fall, bringing along projects that tackled the year's "Trash Trek" theme, encouraging students to take a closer look at the world of recycling. The CEF's 2015 grant totaling \$9250 allowed Caledonia Robotics to purchase the necessary start-up equipment to support two FLL teams at each of the district's five elementary schools. Student registration fees will cover the cost of registrations in future years, allowing teams to be 100% self-sustaining until upgrades in equipment are necessary.

Caledonia Robotics will be rolling out the VEX EDR Robotics program for the 6th-12th grade students this coming fall. They currently have 34 middle school students and 11 high school stu-

dents enrolled. The 2016 CEF grant (\$6600) financed the purchase of six VEX Robotic Super kits along with additional parts and kits necessary to build competitive robots for the upcoming season. Student registration fees will help cover the team registration fees, competition fees and miscellaneous supplies. Kiwanis of Caledonia covered the cost of the playing field and many local businesses have generously donated funds to help kick-off this valuable STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) program.



The Caledonia Robotics program is managed by the recently formed Caledonia EnrichED. This 501c3, non-profit organization partnered with Caledonia Community Schools in order to help maintain and enhance the quality of educational enrichment opportunities in our district. While raising and managing funds is the

main purpose, they are also set-up to provide structure to groups operating under their umbrella. At this time, only Caledonia Robotics falls under the organization, however in the future, it is possible that other competitive academic programs such as Odyssey of the Mind or Science or Math Olympiad could join.

Caledonia Robotics has plans to continue the growth. Jr. FLL, the predecessor to FLL, introduces students in grades 2 and 3 to STEM concepts, while using their love of LEGOS as a conduit. The program will be introduced district wide this fall with 10 teams.

"We are so thankful for the generous donations that the Caledonia Education Foundation has provided. Without them the Caledonia Robotics program would not be where it is today." *Stephanie Pearson, Caledonia EnrichED President*

Another goal is to upgrade the robotics program in the classroom. VEX IQ robotic kits will be used in the Smart Labs at both middle schools. Students will be exposed to robotics, coding, and design. This will allow students who may not be able to participate in an after-school program the chance to experience robotics as well. Lastly, Caledonia Robotics would love to add a FIRST Robotics Competition team to the district program, for students in grades 9th-12th. This will

require company sponsors and many volunteers, which they hope to continue to acquire as they grow in numbers and strength over the coming years.

For more information on Caledonia Robotics, email Caledonia EnrichED at enriched@calschools.org or visit www.calschools.org/enriched.

Caledonia Education Foundation

Creating Opportunities, Empowering Our Community, Funding Our Future

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Dr. David Mansky is a Board Certified Podiatrist in Foot Surgery who has been practicing Podiatry for the past 17 years. He is Board Certified in Foot Surgery but manages all types of foot and ankle problems. Dr. Mansky and his staff believe in the traditional 'old school' business basics of providing honest, quality care while providing a service that goes beyond the patients expectations. Dr. Mansky quotes, "We really try our best to put our patients at ease with simple communication and listening. The patients need to be comfortable with us in order for them to get better."

Dr. Mansky offers his personal cell phone number to his new and existing patients that may have any foot related questions or concerns. Call him at [1-248-884-6280](tel:1-248-884-6280).

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Honored Alumnus 2016
Dr. Ken Olivier, Class of 1986

Homecoming Parade

Duncan Lake Middle School Cafeteria

4:30—7:00 pm.

Purchase tickets in advance at all Caledonia Schools, and D & W or at the door.
Help raise funds for grant programs in the district.



Meet the 2016 CEF Honored Alumnus, Dr. Kenneth Olivier

Dr. Ken Olivier finds it hard to embellish on his accomplishments but he is working on it. He is the first to admit that he was not a stellar student at Caledonia High School but a series of challenges and interventions of God and close friends, helped him see himself as more capable than he believed he was.

Ken was born to Russ and Nancy Olivier in 1968 and was raised on 76th Street. He attended Caledonia Schools from kindergarten through his graduation in 1986. Ken lettered in football and tennis at CHS. He remembers Ralph Shefferly as his very intense and motivated coach. In addition, Ken sang in the school choirs and performed in school plays. He enjoyed growing up in a farming community and his first job was on a farm on 100th street. Biking past all of the farms from his house to his job made him appreciate the outdoors and open spaces.

Upon graduation, Ken attended Grand Rapids Junior College (now GRCC) before transferring to Hope College to major in Psychology and Business Administration. At GRCC he realized he could be a good student if he worked at it. Ken admits, "Part of that, honestly, was paying for school at GRCC myself. When I wrote that first check to them, and it represented virtually all my summer savings, I realized there was value in school and I should make the most of it. The best thing that happened to me academically was having a very bad calculus teacher. In my first year my teacher just read the chapter introductions and gave assignments to work on in class. I was getting a C at mid term and had to decide whether to continue or drop the class. I had never quit anything in my life so I couldn't imagine doing that. I sat down and taught myself the material. I finished the course with the 2nd best grade in the class and realized that sometimes you have to bring it yourself and not rely on someone else to bring it to you. That was an "aha" moment that motivated me to study."

Upon graduation, Ken landed a position at a PhD program for counseling and was working at Pine Rest when he realized he didn't have the temperament for counseling. This was a crossroads for Ken. He reiterates, "I had to sit down and decide what I was going to do next. Prayer and the advice of friends was a next step, but most of the time the answer comes from self—reflection and some determination." The general practice doctors at Pine Rest always seemed to enjoy their job so Ken shadowed them at Butterworth Hospital. He found the fit he was looking for so he enrolled at Grand Valley State University to study premed, and then attended medical school at Wayne State University. Ken comments, "I loved medical school and every aspect of it. I truly love medicine and taking care of cancer patients. I found my specialty very serendipitously and it blended my interest in physics with my passion for medicine." Ken goes on to say, "You won't know if you can do it until you try. What would have happened if I had given up in that process? I would have missed out on so many good things."

After finishing his doctorate in 1997, he completed research and a residency at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. It was during this time that Ken met his wife Gloria. She was doing research at Mayo

while Ken was training in Radiation Oncology. Gloria is from Chile and came to the United States to study for her doctorate. They have been married for 16 years and have two boys who are bilingual as they have spent a lot of time in Chile.

Ken's next step in his career brought him to teach at the University of Florida. After 5 years there, he longed for the dedication to excellence that he found at the Mayo Clinic. He returned in 2008 to join a staff that cared for patients first and revenue second.

His current position is Associate Professor and Education Chair of his department.

Ken is a recognized expert in the fields of lung cancer and stereotactic radiotherapy. He has published more than 60 articles and has lectured at both national and international venues. Ken helps create exams for

his medical specialty as well. He also led a team that redesigned their practice model in Radiation Oncology. The new model made the faculty and staff more efficient and happier and saved patient's time.

Ken admits being a "cancer doctor" can be hard but it's important relevant work that he is excited to do day after day. Most all of his patients pass away from cancer, but Ken has been able to help people along their cancer journeys while making some great friends. His rewards are welcomed hugs from patients. Ken relays, "Sometimes people just need that 'what's it all mean' talk or to hear from me, 'I'm going to help you with your pain TODAY.'"

Currently, Ken is involved in many innovative things for cancer patients. Mayo has the most advanced Proton Center in the world that has opened up new options for patients. Proton therapy is a type of radiation therapy that uses high energy beams to treat tumors. Leading edge treatments allow Ken to tell patients that there IS something that can be done for them when everyone else has exhausted the options.

Ken views teaching as giving back to the community and investing in the next generation of doctors. His goal is to teach not only what is relevant right now but how to learn and the principles behind what they do. Everything has completely changed for the better since his days of residency 15 years ago. "Doctors have to

think about their training as a first step in a long process of life long learning. We should all look at work and learning that way.... keep ourselves growing," Ken comments. He is working on becoming a full professor while training a successor to take over the residency program.

Outside of Ken's career, he is dedicated to his family and raising his two sons. It is important to him to mentor them in finding successful careers and happy marriages. They spend time playing Xbox together and watch and play soccer. Visiting their cabin in northern Wisconsin gives the family time to fish, boat, and water ski. The family is involved in their church and supports cancer related charities as well.



Ken with wife, Gloria, and sons, Sam and Nathan

Ken's Advice to Young People:

Define yourself. Don't let others define you.

In high school, one of my worst grades was in physics. I wasn't applying myself to the problem, but I was capable when I did apply myself. The vast majority of life is defined by hard work and being optimistic about your own potential.

Don't make excuses. Making an excuse robs you of the ability to be in control of your life or problem. I could have made the excuse that my terrible college calculus teacher led to my bad mid term grade. It was true but it gave me the opportunity to teach myself how to do calculus, and more broadly, that I could teach myself almost anything if I put in the effort.

Think big thoughts about yourself. Think optimistically about what you're capable of and be practical about reaching your goals. I get to talk to a lot of students as part of my job and I hear a lot of "Oh I could never do that." The first questions I ask is "Why?" Many times those negative self-perceptions get in the way of progress. MOST of the time there's a way across that gap or maybe a better destination than you had previously considered.

Meet Dr. Olivier at Foundation Fest on Sept 30th.

2016 CEF Scholarships

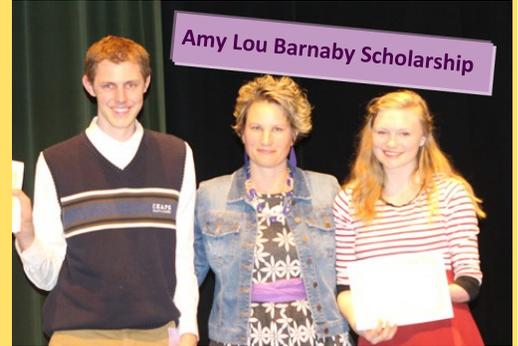
Congratulations to Caledonia High School graduates who were awarded CEF Scholarships. Erika Bork, CEF Board President, presented the certificates at the Spring Awards Night.

Carl E. Workman Scholarship



**CLASS OF
2016**

Amy Lou Barnaby Scholarship



Lauren Donkin (left) will be studying aerospace engineering at the University of Texas at Austin. Her goal is to become a propulsion engineer at NASA.

Connor Zondervan (left) plans to study engineering and theater arts at Grand Rapids Community College. He is interested in pursuing three dimensional design.

Daniel Kumapayi (right) will be studying music at the University of Michigan and dreams of becoming a professional musician.

Paula Weller Scholarship



Mallory Waayenberg (right) plans to study psychology at Cedarville University in hopes of working as a counselor for children.

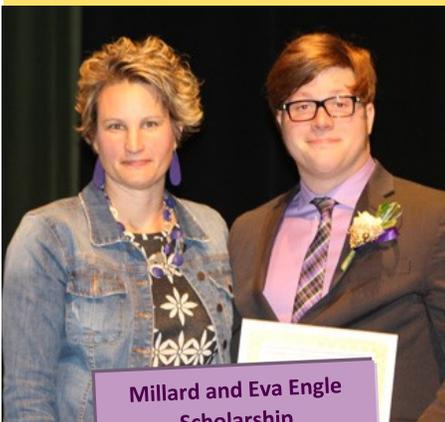
Caledonia Women's Club Heritage Scholarship



Taylor Kooy (left) will attend Grand Rapids Community College this fall and is undecided on a career path but is interested in a field that uses statistics.

Corey Robinson (right) will be attending Grand Rapids Community College in the fall to pursue a degree in mechanical engineering and welding.

Millard and Eva Engle Scholarship



Adam McVay will attend Alma College this fall to pursue a degree in music education. He would like to teach music at the middle or high school level.

**Best wishes in your
college careers!**

Delona Davis plans to study education at Grand Valley State University in hopes of becoming an elementary school teacher.

Visit Caledoniacef.org for more information about applying for the 2017 scholarships.

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As the cost of printing and postage increase, we want to do better at communicating with you using more cost effective methods such as email and facebook. If you are not on our email list, please sign up via our website.

Like our facebook page to keep up with the latest grants and fundraising efforts.

www.caledoniacef.org



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2015-2016 CEF Grants Awarded

\$30,340 in CEF grant funds were able to support many programs throughout the district.

Speech Buddies - Speech Buddies Articulation Tools are being used by the district Speech-Language Pathologists to help students overcome the most common sound errors. The Speech Buddy helps train the tongue to make the correct shape by providing targets that the student can feel. This often results in overcoming speech disorders in less time.

Duncan Lake Middle School Book Club - Books were purchased to expand the library for the 8th grade book club and the 8th grade English Department. The novels that are chosen are of high interest for all students and will increase students' lexile and reading levels.

Pinewood Derby Track - A used pinewood derby track was purchased for the Cub Scout Pack 3210 of Paris Ridge Elementary. Scouts design and build their own pinewood derby car from a kit and then race them at an annual event. The track is available for other cub scout or boy scout organizations to use also.

English Year Long Classes - An additional trimester of English Language Arts caters to a student's individual and specific learning needs at a slower pace. Additional books were needed to establish a foundational library of appealing texts for students at appropriate reading levels that satisfy grade level core requirements.

Sensory Lending Library - Various sensory items such as pressure vests, weighted items, wiggle seats, a swing and a streamroller will be part of a library that will be available to students to use at the Early Childhood Center. This sensory equipment helps students calm themselves, increases their attention, and promotes kindergarten readiness.

Auditorium Sound Upgrade - A new sound board and digital microphones were purchased to increase the quality of sound and number of inputs for microphones for the district auditoriums. This will enhance school productions as well as benefit the community groups that use the facilities as well.

Elementary Orchestra Basses - Three beginner-sized String Basses were purchased to expand the 4th and 5th grade orchestra offerings. Students wishing to play the bass will now have access to use these, providing a successful foundation for those that will go on to perform with the orchestras and jazz bands.

Duncan Lake Middle School Construction 101 Class - Materials were needed to begin this Encore class that will expose 8th grade students to designing, drafting, cost estimating, and building construction models relating to basic home maintenance projects such as plumbing, electrical, framing, and floor planning.

Creating Life-Long Readers - Funds were used to build the High School English Language Arts (ELA) Classroom Libraries with a wide variety of books to reach all students' interests. Students in each ELA class will be reading twenty minutes in class and at home with a goal of increasing literacy skills through independent, choice reading.

Caledonia VEX EDR Robotics - Money was awarded to purchase starter robotic kits to be used by students in grades 6-12 in an after school enrichment program. The VEX program helps students design and build robots that compete in sport-like games. This is the next step for Caledonia Robotics as it builds on the FIRST LEGO League teams that have rapidly grown in the district.

Caledonia Odyssey of the Minds—Funds were given to help cover registration costs for the Kraft Meadow Middle School and Emmons Lake Elementary teams that were privileged to go to the Odyssey of the Mind World Finals.

Become a CEF Partner in Education

The Caledonia Education Foundation relies on the generous support of its donors to fulfill its mission of "Creating opportunities, Empowering our community and Funding our Future." Our donors are Caledonia parents, grandparents, alumni, district staff, business owners and community members who join together to fill the gaps left by dwindling state education budgets and provide funding for the innovative equipment and programs that set Caledonia Community Schools apart. **Please support the CEF by donating today.** Give through one of our programs. Use the form on the back of this newsletter or give online at

www.caledoniacef.org. Thank-you!

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Kyle Wellfare—Caledonia High School
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Kelly Conlin—Paris Ridge Elementary
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Jennifer French—Kettle Lake Elementary
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Summer and Lily Klein
Kathryn Lemon
Evyn Moreau
Colin Pearson
Alexa Pearson
Nola Pearson
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Bradyn Snow
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Hunter Soyka

Brick Pavers

In Honor of...

Don Babcock, Caledonia Teacher, 1958-1985, He loved his students
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