



PRESS RELEASE

CONTACT:
Cynthia Gorey, Executive Director
New Canaan Community Foundation
(203) 966-0231
cgorey@newcanaancf.org

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Spirit of New Canaan Luncheon is Tribute to Local Leaders



PHOTO Caption: Hud and Pat Stoddard, Kathy Giusti, and Dr. Thomas Flynn

Residents Thomas Flynn, MD, Kathy Giusti, and Pat and Hud Stoddard to be honored by the New Canaan Community Foundation at their April 29th benefit luncheon.

On April 29th, the New Canaan Community Foundation is hosting a benefit luncheon at Woodway Country Club to pay tribute to local leaders who embody the unique spirit and character of New Canaan. Dr. Thomas Flynn, Kathy Giusti, and Pat and Hud Stoddard will be honored for their tremendous compassion, dedication, and altruistic leadership.

These remarkable New Canaan residents identified a need and directed their energy and talents to making a difference, both in our community and well beyond our borders. Retired pediatrician Dr. Thomas Flynn recruits local volunteers and helped transform a small clinic in Haiti to a major teaching hospital caring for 50,000 patients annually. Kathy Giusti founded the Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation two years after her diagnosis with the rare blood

disease. Pat and Hud Stoddard have nurtured numerous local causes and, with several other New Canaan residents, founded Staying Put to help older residents age in place.

According to Community Foundation Executive Director Cynthia Gorey, “These individuals have made a profound and positive impact on many lives and serve as role models for all of us. The goal of this event is to celebrate their accomplishments, and to encourage other New Canaanites to step up and do something great. I can't imagine more inspirational examples than our honorees.” The luncheon is chaired by Julianne Grace and Tom Turrentine, and Bill Walbert will serve as the emcee for the proceedings. A committee of more than thirty dedicated local volunteers is coordinating the event, and proceeds will be added to the Spirit of New Canaan fund, which makes grants to support unique local initiatives.

The New Canaan Community Foundation is the modern equivalent of old-fashioned charity—neighbors lending a hand to help each other and to make our community a better place for everybody. In 2014, the Foundation awarded more than \$1.2 million to over 100 nonprofits and 70 local students. The Foundation is a professional resource for residents, helping them achieve their charitable goals, and assists nonprofit organizations in managing their endowment funds so that they can focus their expertise on community service.

For more information, or to receive an invitation please call the office at 203-966-0231 or visit the website www.newcanaancf.org .

Photo credit: Valerie Stryker