A Newsletter for the Friends of the Cedarburg Foundation



"All Aboard – Cedarburg!" 2024 Gala Raises \$70,000

More than 150 guests gathered on October 5 for the Greater Cedarburg Foundation's 18th annual Community Gala, and it was a great success, raising \$70,000 to fund projects that will benefit the greater Cedarburg community.

This year's gala took place at the Ozaukee County Pioneer Village on a blustery and beautiful fall evening. Guests toured the grounds of Pioneer Village, a collection of over 24 restored buildings and structures dating from the 1840s to the early 1900s. During cocktail hour, guests visited blacksmith Sam Laturi of StormCloak Forge as he demonstrated the basics of blacksmithing, a jazz quartet provided outdoor entertainment, and patrons observed restoration progress on the 1940's Milwaukee Road Caboose. Appetizers were served inside the recently restored Cedarburg Train Depot.

"The restored Cedarburg Train Depot reminds us of Cedarburg's storied history, bright future, and the importance of actively preserving our unique home," said GCF President Katie Pipkorn.

Dinner by From Scratch Catering was held in the Pioneer Village Welcome Center. Gala Co-Chair Joe Rintelman welcomed guests, saying "We are fortunate to have a great mix of both long-term supporters and first-time attendees. Thank you for your support – it is truly the lifeblood of our organization." Katie Pipkorn thanked guests for leaving a legacy through their continued support of the Greater Cedarburg Foundation.

Popular silent auction items this year included Handen Distillery packages,

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Forty-fourth Edition — Winter 2024

Celebrating 25 years in 2025

The Greater Cedarburg Foundation marks its 25th anniversary in 2025, and we have some special celebrations planned for GCF founders, former board members, Legacy Society members, and the Cedarburg community as a whole!

Save these dates in your 2025 calendar:

- GCF Civic Award Event May 21, 2025. We will celebrate the first quarter century of GCF's contributions to our community by honoring GCF's founders, past board members, and Legacy Society members. Without the commitment of these folks starting in 1999, we would not be here today, having made nearly \$1.9 million in grants in support of projects and programs that enhance the quality of life in the greater Cedarburg community.
- GCF 25th Anniversary Community Celebration – September 27, 2025. GCF is hosting a free community-wide celebration in front of City Hall from 12 to 4 p.m. to celebrate our amazing community. The afternoon will include entertainment and other activities. Stay tuned for more details!

Thanks to the generous support of friends like you, GCF has been able to make a difference in our community over the past 25 years. As we move forward into the next quarter century, we will need your continued support.

"Cedarburg is so many things – it's a place where you feel an overwhelming sense of home, a sense of belonging, and a community that comes alongside its neighbors to lift them up. Please consider a year-end donation to help GCF support organizations and projects that enhance our home," said GCF Board President Katie Pipkorn.

For more information, please see the enclosed letter or visit cedarburgfoundation.com.

2024 Gala Raises \$70,000 (from pg. 1)

collections of fine wines, tequila and bourbon, "Love Has Many Facets" competition-winning jewelry, a Pyramid Gas Heater, professional sporting event tickets, and an Anvil bourbon tasting. For the second year in a row, auction items included eight "Trips of a Lifetime" offered in partnership with AmFund (the American Fundraising Foundation). And the live auction featured a holiday cocktail party hosted by Amy Argall at "The Christmas House" in Cedarburg's countryside.

"Fulfilling the Greater Cedarburg Foundation's mission to enhance the quality of life in our community is only possible through generous donations from individuals, families, and businesses. We are grateful for the community's support," said Katie.

We will take a one-year break from the annual Community Gala next year to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Greater Cedarburg Foundation with a community-wide event on September 27, 2025. Save the date...we hope to see you there.



Ozaukee County Historical Society President Mary Ann Velnetske (left) and guests Mal Hepburn (center) and Jack Hale
Photo credit: Mark Justesen, News Graphic



Guests at the PWSB and HSA sponsor tables *Photo credit: Lauren McMillen*

Many thanks to the following sponsors of the GCF 18th Annual Community Gala:

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Angela and GCF Vice President Vince Cameranesi *Photo credit: Mark Justesen, News Graphic*



Guests mingle outside the restored Historical Society's Train Depot *Photo credit: Mark Justesen, News Graphic*

Feeding the Hungry in Ozaukee County



The Ozaukee Food Alliance Ozaukee is a non-profit organization providing meals, groceries, is a non-profit organization school supplies, and support

to families in need in Ozaukee County. Since opening its doors in 2012, the Ozaukee Food Alliance has grown tremendously and now serves more than 400 families a month. The Food Alliance has created a shopping experience for families to allow them to choose the nutritious foods they prefer. In addition, the Food Alliance offers a free meal site, home-delivery programs for home-bound seniors, holiday meal boxes, and mobile food pantries.

A grant from the Greater Cedarburg Foundation purchased a larger walk-in refrigerator/freezer. This increase in capacity will provide more frozen foods storage and refrigeration for healthy fruits, vegetables, and proteins. Healthy frozen proteins are

especially essential to the diets of children and seniors.

Executive Director Mark Gierach stated, "The Greater Cedarburg Foundation has been an amazing partner and resource for the food pantry. The foundation's aid with our walk-in refrigerator



New walk-in freezer (right) for frozen food and meats and walk-in cooler (left) for fresh produce and dairy products

conversion came at a vital time. It allows us to increase the number of people we can serve but also allows us to take in more fresh food items to distribute to families. We can't thank the GCF enough for this incredible grant for our new space."

Supporting Non-Profit Partners



The Ozaukee Nonprofit Center (ONC) stands as a unique and vital hub for our community, providing a home for 13

nonprofit organizations and extending support to all nonprofits in the region through collaborative events, educational opportunities, and volunteer cultivation. The ONC is more than just a building—it is a shared space where mission-driven groups work side-by-side, fostering partnerships that amplify their collective impact and benefit the entire community.

A grant from the Greater Cedarburg Foundation will significantly enhance ONC's ongoing commitment to safety and security. Funds will be used to install high-definition cameras and a state-of-the-art digital video recorder, ensuring that entrances and common areas are under reliable surveillance.

According to Martha Putnam, Executive Director, "At ONC, we believe that feeling secure is essential to fostering a welcoming environment where nonprofits and community members can thrive. These improvements symbolize our deep commitment to cultivating trust and promoting the well-being of everyone who steps through our doors. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Greater Cedarburg Foundation for making these essential security upgrades possible. Your support empowers ONC to continue its mission of being a steadfast partner to nonprofit organizations and a beacon of collaboration in Ozaukee County."

Telling the Stories of Textile Artists



The Wisconsin Museum of Quilts & Fiber Arts (WMQFA) is dedicated to educating the public about the artistic, cultural, historic, and social importance of quilts and fiber arts. They also seek to increase the awareness of historic structure preservation. Their repurposed

1850s farmstead is used to host exhibits of artists, provide educational opportunities for children and adults, preserve quilts and other fiber arts items, and maintain a library for researchers interested in exploring how quilts and other fiber arts have changed over time.

The Greater Cedarburg Foundation awarded WMQFA a grant to launch The Listening Project and Textile Library. This initiative will be a podcast and browsable resource library that will tell the stories of textile artists, nearly half hailing from Wisconsin. It will spotlight the work of distinguished artists, demonstrate the diversity of the textile and fiber arts field, and engage visitors digitally and in person. The Listening Station and Textile Library will be open and free of charge to the public during museum hours.

"We are excited to launch The Listening Project and Textile Library thanks to the support of the Greater Cedarburg Foundation," said Executive Director Melissa Wraalstad. "It will provide additional resources for anyone interested in learning more about textiles. Making the library accessible is a part of our mission, and the podcast expands the library's footprint into the digital world. We appreciate GCF's assistance in helping us get the project underway!"



Legacy Society Members

Listed below are members of the Legacy Society – a group of individuals sharing a commitment to support and sustain the many programs and projects that enhance the greater Cedarburg area. If you want to join this club, please print out and complete the Legacy Society membership form found at www.cedarburgfoundation.com and mail to: Greater Cedarburg Foundation, P.O. Box 711, Cedarburg WI 53012. For more info on becoming a Legacy Society member, leave a message with the Greater Cedarburg Foundation at 262-377-7338.

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The Greater Cedarburg Foundation is a community trust that establishes endowments and administers the income thereon for the betterment of the greater Cedarburg area. The Greater Cedarburg Foundation works closely with the Greater Milwaukee Foundation, where it maintains an affiliation. Gifts to the Greater Cedarburg Foundation are tax deductible to the extent applicable under relevant tax law.



www.cedarburgfoundation.com