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## Cedarburg Lions Community Blood Drive

2018 Recipient

The fact is...without blood, we die.

And even though...humans walked on the moon in 1969 and Steve Jobs introduced the first generation iPhone with all sorts of fancy stuff almost twelve years ago...no one...absolutely no one at all...has yet to discover the recipe for making human blood.

To keep our bodies running smoothly, each of us in this room, as well, everyone out there, needs at least 10 pints of blood flowing through their veins.

To keep things running smoothly in hospitals, nearly 36,000 units of red blood cells, 7,000 units of platelets, and 10,000 units of plasma are needed each day for surgeries, people with cancer and blood disorders, transplants and emergencies.

It's truly mind boggling to think that every 2 seconds, someone in the United States needs blood. And the only way to get this lifesaving elixir is from human donors.

On February 8, 2018, while most of us were attending to our day's responsibilities, a nameless someone, rolled up their sleeve, had a 16-gauge needle plunged into their arm, and in a few minutes...donated the 5000th pint of blood collected at the Cedarburg Community Blood Drive.

The Cedarburg Community Blood Drive began in 1981. Organized by various community groups and held at local churches, the drive attracted between 30 and 40 donors every eight or so weeks. Things were running smoothly for decades until one day in 2008, the organizers gave their notice to the Blood Center of Wisconsin.

Enter the Cedarburg Lions Club and Dennis Corrigan. Oh wait...Dennis was not at the meeting the day the Lions decided to accept the offer to host the Blood Drive. Dennis' hand, or should we say arm, was raised in absentia and since January 2009, the rest is history.

Under Dennis' leadership and with the help of a team of Lions, things changed. As donor numbers grew, the

Drive was moved to the Ozaukee Pavilion at Firemans Park. Turnout since the move has been in the triple digits topping 149 for a single drive in 2017.

So what's so fun about having a needle stuck in your arm? Most people give the obvious answer...the feeling they get from helping someone or someones in need. (One pint of blood can help up to 3 people.) The FUN part of the Cedarburg Drive comes after the needle, in the recovery area. First comes a comfortable seat and the offer of donated sandwiches, salads, sweets, and drinks. Then, Lions roaming from table to table, entertain guests with their own version of trivial pursuit. Do you want Cedarburg History, Lions Club Facts, or Blood trivia? The answers are pretty easy, especially for repeat donors - currently about fifty people who donate at all six drives. When a donor answers one or more questions correct, they can take a trip to the prize table and choose between Rivoli tickets, an oil change, Bucks or Admirals tickets, wine, tea, spices, restaurant certificates, and more.

As one of the busiest clubs in Wisconsin, Cedarburg Lions Club helps students with scholarships, collects eye glasses and hearing aids, transport corneas to eye banks, plays bingo with Lasata residents and hosts the tent at County Fair, raises thousands of dollars to give away, and of course oversees the Cedarburg Community Blood Drive.

Lion Dennis + Lions + the Blood Center of Wisconsin + Donors + Fun = human blood for saving lives.

Might we say that the Cedarburg Lions have found a recipe for "taking" blood. And for that very reason, and on behalf of the almost 13,000 people who have had their lives extended or saved because of the work of this team, we thank and honor you Dennis Corrigan and your team of Lions as Ordinary People, Extraordinary Citizens.

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**Craig Dousharm & Todd Lemke**  
Mercury Marine Cedar Creek Project

2018 Recipients

Where is away?

Although we shutter at the idea today, back in the 1950s and even before, away was down the floor drains. Floor drains that were connected to the underground storm sewers, and in the case of the Mercury Marine Plant 2 on St. John Avenue in Cedarburg, away emptied into Ruck Pond on Cedar Creek and flowed into the Milwaukee River. With a spray of a hose, hydraulic fluids and oils containing PCBs were swiftly and efficiently washed away to that away spot.

Back then, who knew that polychlorinated biphenyls, a.k.a. PCBs, were carcinogenic? This man-made miracle liquid was stable at high temperatures, had excellent electrical insulating and cooling properties, and was fire resistant. PCBs, used by industries worldwide, were even used to make carbonless paper.

By 1979, PCBs were banned and the arduous task of finding their away hiding places began. In 1992, the Wisconsin DNR issued a report finding PCBs in creek mill pond sediment at concentrations as high as 41,000 parts per million... which the agency suggested were the highest concentrations found in the state and among the worst in the nation. A 1994 Chicago Tribune article suggested Cedarburg's contamination site was the largest in the US.

After years of negotiations and planned remediations, including tearing down Plant #2 and scrubbing the storm sewers in 1994, Mercury Marine began preparations for clean-up along the most contaminated 5 mile section of Cedar Creek. This Herculean task fell to Mercury Marine's Craig Dousharm, Engineering Manager and Todd Lemke, Corporate Counsel Lawyer. Their mission? To remove 98 percent of the PCB material hiding away on the creek bottom and backfill it with a 6-inch layer of clean sand. The average sediment concentration target was 0.5 PPM at the completion of the work, and 0.25 PPM within 30 years.

In October 2016, a construction staging area was build on the outfield of Legion Memorial Park and sediment removal began. In January 2017, the project moved to Adlai Horn Park. There a 3-acre black mat was laid down which eventually held the bag field and a water treatment facility, which processed 4,000 gallons of water per minute (that's 1 million gallons per day).

Workers came from far and near. Those from La Crosse, Green Bay, and Rockford, Michigan rented apartments in the area so they'd be close to work. Craig and Todd commuted from Fond du Lac. And some drove in from Milwaukee.

Working 12 hours a day, six days a week, the hydraulic dredger, guided by GPS, sucked up the sediment layers containing pcbs and pumped the muck into tubes. The dewatering crew, who dressed like oompa loompas, used compactors and long sticks to beat the water out of the bags which accelerated the drying process.

Once completed, more than 84,000 ton of soil and sediment was removed from the creek, over 235 million gallons of water was treated, and 4,500 truck-loads of muck was hauled away for off-site disposal.

Environmental clean ups are not new. However, Cedarburg's was different said Craig. It took place, not in an industrial area miles away from people, but literally in people's backyards. Often loud equipment, smells, trucks, and disruption of a community activities are a cause for complaint from neighbors. Not so with this project. Both neighbors along the creek and City officials are quick to praise Craig, Todd, the J.F. Brennan Company, and other contractors. "They kept us informed, were polite, and made things right" was the conscientious.

The crews have now gone away and the park is quiet, except for the geese (that never really went away) and the beavers (who everyone wish would go away). Adlai Horn Park, which received a total makeover including new tennis and pickleball courts, a walking trail, baseball diamond, and restrooms, will be opening Spring 2019.

Thank You does not seem to be enough of the right words when looking back over the last 25 years, at the project that cost Mercury Marine an estimated \$50 Million. But thank you is all we have right now. Craig and Todd, thank you from the bottom of our hearts and the new sandy bottom of Cedar Creek - for all your efforts to clean up the creek, keep the neighbors happy during the process, and most importantly give the people of Cedarburg a brand new Adlai Horn Park.

Craig and Todd, we are all a bit sad to see you two go away. You are truly Extraordinary Citizens who represent an Extraordinary Company. Thank You.

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## Pocket Flag Project

Grafton American Legion Auxiliary

2018 Recipient

Fact: The Iraq and Afghanistan wars have developed into the longest sustained combat operations since the Vietnam War.

Fact: 2.77 million service members have served on 5.4 million deployments since 9/11.

Fact: A child, 17 years old or younger, has lived in a nation that has been continuously at war since they were born.

The sad truth: Fighting a war requires separation from friends, family, and home.

"We folded pocket flags once before," said Cathy Brunquell, President of the Rose Harms Post 355 American Legion Auxiliary in Grafton. Upon hearing that some Wisconsin troops might be deployed, Cathy organized a Pocket Flag folding party one Saturday morning last November. The goal? Fold 300 flags and ready them for sending to troops being deployed overseas.

Begun as a project for a Denver Cub Scout Pack in 2001, the Pocket Flag Project has become a national effort by Boy Scout Troops and Packs and many other volunteers across our country. Following project guidelines, participants purchase, fold, and package flags which are sent to U.S. Troops. Each individual flag packet includes a card with this message:

A flag for your pocket so you can always carry a little piece of home. We are praying for you and we are proud of you. Thank you for defending our country and our freedom.

"Pocket Flags are a reminder to our troops that they are in our thoughts and prayers and they are forever in our hearts and we will never forget

them," Cathy continued. "Having had family members who served, I know how much I miss them and visa versa, they miss family and home. I hope that sending a piece of home 'helps' shrink the miles between us."

Fueled by donuts and milk, the Troop, members of Cathy's family, and a few Auxiliary women, folded and packaged 300 flags in less than 2 1/2 hours.

"It's really pretty easy to fold the 11x7-inch flag into a neat little triangle, once you get the hang of it," Cathy confessed. "Us ladies were especially thankful to the Scouts for teaching us the 12-step process of folding an American flag...even though there are directions included, it was easier for us to be shown...and we think the Scouts had fun showing us a new skill," she concluded.

To date, over 2.5 million flags have been folded and sent to troops overseas through the Pocket Flag Project and groups in all 50 states as well as Germany, Japan, and Cuba who are committed to this project.

The American flag has come a long way since Betsy Ross threaded the first one in 1777. Like the country it represents, it has grown, changed, and developed. Nonetheless, it continues to be a visible symbol to much of the world of prosperity, hope, and all that is possible if a dream is given flight.

Cathy, Auxiliary Members, and Boy Scout Pack 840, it is both an honor and privilege to present you with this Ordinary People, Extraordinary Citizen recognition for your small acts of kindness that mean the world to those serving our country and protecting our freedoms.

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## Bruce & Shirley Krenzke

2018 Recipient

It must be magic...

- Lights get hung at the Cedarburg Art Museum's Beer Garden,
- A first annual rummage sale organized for Community United Methodist Church,
- Monthly financial reports prepared for Greater Cedarburg Foundation,
- A home garden freely opened for 300 plus people to stroll through over a 2-day weekend,
- Popcorn sold and the cash register attended at the Rivoli,
- Dinner parties held to raise funds for the Cedarburg Education Foundation,
- A Dance for Diabetes organized, and
- Market Day started to raise funds for Thorson School.

For over 30 years, magical things just keep happening around Cedarburg. And when one turns to offer a word of thanks...poof...there's no one there to thank.

Tonight we are going to clear up this mystery and reveal the magical team behind many magical feats of achievement happening in and around Cedarburg.

But first, let me to tell you something about this couple. They love Cedarburg. Moving here in 1984, they jumped right into volunteering at Thorson School. There were the PTA carnivals and Market Day. Then the Boy Scouts, Ice Dogs, Encore, Cedarburg Community Scholarship Fund, Cedarburg Womans Club, Cedarburg Art Museum, the Greater Cedarburg Foundation, the Cedarburg Festivals, the Cedarburg Cultural Center, and just plain old Cedarburg!

They love meeting people and getting to know them. They will try anything once...often being the people who initially get the ball rolling.

They, or I should say, one of them...just can't keep her mouth shut when there's volunteers needed.

They support the Cedarburg Community.

And, they like to have fun and did I mention... love Cedarburg?

Without further ado, I present you the magic behind many of Cedarburg's missions – Bruce Krenzke and his lovely assistant Shirley.

Times have changed a bit since college, suggests Bruce. Back then, Shirley was Bruce's assistant in his real life magic show. Now, Bruce is the quiet one...helping out behind the scene behind the scenes. "Shirley can't say no," he said. And Bruce is willing to follow wherever Shirley leads whether that be setting up a sound system, selling desserts, or bartending. They like to do things...and often do them together.

Ripping a page from the Krenzke calendar it is easy to see why Shirley can say with complete confidence, "we're gone all the time". In a short two week's time, they have ten meetings/events penned in. The last time I checked, there are only 14 days in two weeks. So yes, the numbers do work...they are "gone" 71.4% of the time.

"Volunteering our time and talents is good for the soul," said Shirley. "It keeps us happy and healthy, while meeting with people and making new friends," she concludes.

Shirley and Bruce, thank you for the magic you bring into this little community called Cedarburg.

Truly your extraordinary love and support for Cedarburg and the people who live here is at the heart of everything you do.

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**Jesse Daily**  
Thiensville Village Market

2018 Recipient

How many vegetables did you eat today? One cup? Two cups? Studies show only 10% of American adults meet the vegetable recommendations of 2 to 3 ½ cups per day. That means 90% of us don't.

When it comes to fruit...we do a little better scoring a whopping 12% who consume the recommended 1 1/2 to 2 cups of fruit per day.

Right now, I think, most of you are thinking... I didn't come here to get the "eat your fruits and vegetables... especially YOUR broccoli" mom lecture? Nor the... French Fries and "lettuce, cheese, pickles, onions, on a sesame seed bun" is not a well balanced diet lecture?

And you would be right. However, for the next few minutes, we will be talking about Wisconsin-grown fruits and vegetables plus gourmet bakery, flowers, coffees, artisanal goods, dairy products, annual and perennial plants, homemade baked and canned goods, honey, locally-raised meats, eggs, handmade crafts, and more.

Meet Jesse Daily. Jesse is one of those "really, really, really busy" people who just gets stuff done. And Jesse is the kind of guy who, when he gets it in his mind to do something, it just gets done AND done right.

Like most little communities, Thiensville offers a farmers market. Started in the 1980s, this market (like most) consisted of a few farmers selling fruits and vegetables out of the back of a truck or car trunk. Maybe a crafter or two would show up and once in a while a specialty cheese vendor would drop in. And sometimes a few people would show up to quickly buy and leave. Thiensville had one of those...the classic farmers market held on a blacktopped parking lot next to Walgreens.

Jesse being Jesse, said nope...Thiensville needs a much better market than that. So, in 2012, he approached the Thiensville Business Association, and told them, "if we were going to do this...we need to do it right." And they agreed.

First – move the market to a welcoming spot. That being the Thiensville Village Park on the Milwaukee River by the dam.

Second – make the market a destination and offer an experience. So, musicians were found, food vendors invited, and the library was asked to host storytime.

And lastly – attract sellers who offer quality, Wisconsin-made products and locally grown produce. So, a large net was cast resulting in attracting somewhere between 90 to 100 vendors with the average of 70 vendors filling each of the 10'x25' booths per market day.

In Jesse's own words, he wanted this farmers market to be the "Best Dam Market"! And, not surprisingly, it is so.

Unlike the Farmer's Market of old, the Thiensville Village Market now attracts over 2,500 visitors a day.

People who:

- Stay an average of over an hour.
- Leave their phones and devices in the car, including kids who now play with other kids in the park.
- SLOW DOWN. Buy lunch from a vendor or food trucks, sit down and eat, and enjoy the entertainment.
- Buy fresh and healthy foods while making connections with the growers and creators.
- Talk to each other...whether that be friends and neighbors they meet, growers, artisans, or other visitors! People are making connections and actually talking to each other.
- Are retired and have time to enjoy community.

The success of the Thiensville Village Market is beyond expectations (I think even Jesse's). It consistently is voted one of the top in the State and judging from the Market's Facebook followers (over 2,800) it has brought people together to talk about fruits and vegetables.

Truly bringing this Market back from the edges of despair has been remarkable. Jesse says, "there are many, many dedicated people who wanted to help make the Farmer's Market successful...it just need a little organization." And that is where Jesse excels.

Jesse and all of the Thiensville Village Market helpers, your efforts to bring people together around fruits and vegetables and provide a fun and safe place for making community happen is truly extraordinary. Thank You.

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## Ann Denk

FIRST Robotics Team 3197- Cedarburg HS

2018 Recipient

And the first shall be last!

The story of Ann Denk begins long before her involvement with the FIRST Robotics Team 3179 Hexhounds from Cedarburg High School.

First, let me set the stage with a few quick facts about Ann:

- Ann is a First Born child.
- Ann is the first woman in Wisconsin to earn her Gemologist/Appraiser certification.
- Ann is the first to raise her hand and the first to jump in with both feet to support the community.
- She's jumped into organizing:
  - The Cedarburg Merchants Organization (CMO)
  - The Cedarburg Festivals
- She's an advocate and security resource for the Cedarburg Fire and Police departments.
- She's an active listener at the Cedarburg Council meetings.
- She works tirelessly to keep Cedarburg quaint and welcoming.
- And she is celebrating 30 years of owning Wyndrose Fine Jewelry with her husband Greg.

Ann's first glimpse of the Cedarburg High School Robotics Team was not with intent.

Her son, Aaron, joined an after school club. Ann was chauffeur on duty when she decided to drop in and look around.

Expecting to find a bunch of kids goofing around, she saw kids working in groups, thinking together, writing code...far from goofing off.

Then the inevitable happened. The coach and lead parent mentor retired! Without them...there would be no next season. Ann confessed, "How could I look these kids in their eyes and tell them...there won't be a next season?"

So Ann...true to form...took on the task of pulling everything together. First, she secured the other parent and teacher mentors.

Then the team needed to find a coach. This proved to be a bit more difficult. But Ann had a plan.

During Webster School Summer Academy, Ann found the perfect coach - Dan Kniess, Project Lead the Way Teacher.

First she asked. The next day she brought him a donut and asked. It took a whole summer of asking AND donuts. Dan finally said yes in the first few weeks of the school year.

Looking back, Dan remembers, "I was a bit hesitant but agreed because I could see that Ann was dedicated to helping the team survive. If not for that initial and then constant push (and donuts) I don't think the Robotics Team would have survived."

Now four years later, Dan has no intention of leaving the kids and neither does Ann. "Ann works tirelessly (and sometimes puts her business and husband on the back burner) to make

sure the team is registered, funded, and prepared for the year. Without Ann the team would not have money to build robots, facilities reserved, transportation to get to events, or uniforms to wear. And I wouldn't be able to do what I do, which is help get the robot built," Dan added.

One of the more memorable moments came during the Wisconsin Regionals last season. Dan said, "Our team was performing at a very high level. Everything seemed to be going well. Our team had worked to be an alliance captain and compete in the regional finals. Before heading out to the field for our semi-final match, I knew we were in position to go to Worlds. I signaled for Ann to come down from the stands and quietly asked, 'What if we qualify for Worlds?'"

In a blink of an eye, the Hexhounds were going to FIRST World Championship Detroit. Other robotic teams, who are used to going to Worlds, make plans a year in advance. Not the Hexhounds. Dan and Ann celebrated with a hug and then, as Dan says, reality set in. They were going to Worlds. "We needed to raise an additional \$25,000, in two weeks not to mention finding hotels, transportation, mentors who could take off of work, and everything else that goes with taking kids on an outing."

Without hesitation, Ann made some calls and secured money for the team to go to the World Championships. Then she made a bunch more and finally got one hotel that fit all the kids. And after many nos, found transportation to Detroit, Michigan.

Just as a robot has many moving parts so does organizing and fund raising. To raise money, the team works a food booth at both Strawberry and Wine and Harvest festivals, hosts a pancake breakfast at Winter Fest, sells gift certificates to Groth's Country Gardens, is running a raffle for a car, and finds corporate sponsors.

Other moving parts include the feeding, housing, getting the team to competitions, and supporting and being with the kids...especially during the time they build the robot...when the kids may work through the night, often into the wee hours of the morning...1 AM...2 AM.

When asked, what keeps her going, Ann confidently said, "It's the kids. To see them grow and mature and pick a career path towards robotics, is my energy. When I receive a thank you note from a graduate now working in the field of robotics, I forget about the long hours and the challenges...all this is for helping them succeed in life."

"Ann is not comfortable being obvious and visible in her successes," said Ann's mom Karen, "she prefers to work behind the scenes and give others the opportunity to grow." Ann for FIRST giving others, especially the kids, an opportunity to grow, thank you. Your extraordinary efforts putting the Hexhounds first...is worthy of recognition.