

Community Financial runs this program in the communities it serves in south-east Michigan and northern Michigan.

"Our local schools are the backbone of strong communities here in Michigan and so we feel it is important to give back to the communities that have been so good to us," Community Financial marketing manager Sarah Cousineau said. "We know that funding for our



Community Financial runs student-run branches at area schools, including this one at Salem High School.

school districts is a constant challenge, so we're happy to help support educational needs

wherever we can." Community Financial worked with several school

community display of a historical research project conducted by Salem High School teacher Darrin Silvester and his students. The project focuses on the historical impact of Central Middle School and the graduates of the previously known Plymouth High School.

"When classroom work can be connected to the community, the better kids are prepared for their futures," Silvester

"We are excited to share what we have found. There has been great work done here for more than 150 years and we want to share it with the community."

Community Financial donated a total of \$25,500 for Community Shares in 2014. Eight school districts located in southeast and northern Michigan communities have benefited from the charitable program.

Little Stars concerts bring holiday cheer to seniors

The Little Stars Foundation, a nonprofit and charitable youth organization, concluded the 2014 holiday performance season recently with 10 concerts in eight nursing homes and senior centers.

It's the ninth consecutive year TLSF has toured nursing homes and senior centers, playing Christmas carols on their violins and passing out presents to residents.

This year, the foundation has performed at Hope Health Care Center in Westland, Four Season Nursing Center in Westland; Waltonwood at Cherry Hill Independent Living, Waltonwood at Cherry Hill Assisted Living and Memory Care, Waltonwood at Carriage Park Assisted Living and Waltonwood at Carriage Park Independent Living, all in Canton; Waltonwood at Twelve Oak II in Novi; and Independence Village of Plymouth.

TLSF members also brought 360 fleece blankets to the seniors as this year's



TLSF members Anna Sun, Amy Sun and Alan Sun show off 360 red blankets and some plush snowmen the foundation purchased to pass out to seniors as Christmas presents.

Christmas gifts. The members raised the funds through fundraiser activities.

The TLSF visits brought joy to hundreds of local sen-

iors during this holiday season. The performances were well-received, with many senior residents singing along to the holiday carols.



TLSF brought blankets and Christmas music to Waltonwood at Carriage Park Assisted Living in Canton.

The nursing home residents mentioned that they were "very happy to see the young visitors" and enjoyed the "talent" and "heart-warming performance and gifts" that the Little Stars brought along with

them. Many residents expressed their wishes for the young musicians to come back soon.

For more information, go to <http://www.thelittlestars.org> or email tlsf@thelittlestars.org.



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