**13856, Bruce Miccile – 3 minutes**

Good Evening Ladies and Gentlemen,

Tonight I am honored to stand before you to receive this award from the Middlesex Savings Bank’s Charitable Foundation. As a member of its board I have helped oversee and guide the projects and decisions of the foundation and I am overjoyed at the difference we’ve been able to make as an organization. It seems like only yesterday when the bank presented the organization with the grant of $10,000 in 1998. But, here we are 16 years later celebrating just some of what has been done with that money. The President of the foundation, Dana Neshe, has a heart of gold and guides the foundation through helping countless people through its different programs. Over the years this organization has provided more than $8.5 million annually in donated goods and services to families in need.

The work of the foundation is wide spread through all its programs. Its Keep a Family Warm program helps families by accepting and distributing donations of warm coats, hats, gloves and blankets in the winter time. Its Back to School program accepts and distributes donations of backpacks filled with school supplies that many families couldn’t afford otherwise. Its Domestic Abuse Assistance program aids survivors of family abuse stand on their own two feet with dignity and regain of life of peace and purpose. The Hopkins Food pantry distributes staples to families in need on a monthly basis. The Holiday program distributes warm blankets, books and toys to more than 15,000 children annually. The Cancer Care Packages program provides packages to help patients through treatment and recovery.

No one program is given more importance than another. Instead the generosity of Ms. Neshe and other leaders is spread out so that as many people as possible can receive assistance. I am proud to be a board member and pleased to receive this award tonight.

Thank you.