

Washington Oak Land Donors Recognized with Plaque

12 years later, the two donors were recognized at a small ceremony.

By [Lauren Costa](#) | August 1, 2012



On Tuesday afternoon, a small group of family members along with Superintendent Michael Convery and School Committee member Frank Hyde gathered in the foyer of [Washington Oak Elementary School](#) to honor Brian Bamford and the late Michael Picozzi for their October 2000 donation of 28 acres of land on which the school currently stands.

The ceremony took place on the fourth anniversary of Picozzi's passing, and the need for it was recently brought to Convery's attention by Hyde.

"When the land was donated, a promise to honor the donation was made," said Convery. "There were different administrators and other things came up and unfortunately somewhere along the line, that promise was forgotten. So this is definitely long overdue."

"It was our pleasure to be involved and we were happy to contribute to the town," said Bamford, a lifetime Coventry resident and former school department employee who has had three children in the

Coventry school system and one grandson entering Washington Oak soon. "It was our way of saying thank you to all of the dedicated, hard-working people in the schools."

"Michael was a big man with an even bigger heart," said Hyde of Picozzi. "He did a lot of things to help people and this is one of them and it is a way for him never to be forgotten."

The plaque will soon be mounted on a wooden base and displayed in the front foyer of the school for all students, faculty and visitors to see.

