

Legacy Society Founding Members

Pat & Jack Anson	Robert & Catherine Janson
Barbara Bissot*	John & Ann Jensen
John & Sue Bradac	L.A. & Marilyn Johns
Mary Ellen Brandell	Steven & Deborah Martineau
Howard & Mary Ann Breuer	Jane McNamara*
W. Larry Collins	Richard Miller
Timothy & Mary Elizabeth Curtiss	Mike & Dianne Morey
Mark & Patricia Cwiek	Bill & Eileen Rush
G.R. (Rollie)* & Olga Denison*	Donald Schuster
George & Barbara Dunn	Kay Smith*
J. Dean Eckersley	Mark & Shelly Smith
James & Deborah Goodrich	Dr. Martha Smith
Cindy Hales	Nolan Stilgenbauer
Jack & Connie* Harkins	William & Janet Maar Strickler
I.W. (Bucky)* & Velma Hartman*	E. Diane Tope
Idonea Hersee*	Charles Walmsley
James* & Sally Hodgins*	Sally & Jack Weisenburger
Ronald Hodgson	Louise Williams*
	Jim & Carol Wojcik
	*deceased

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The Power of Grantmaking through the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation
Grant Spotlights

In fall 2009, the Women’s Initiative gave a grant to The Pardee Cancer Treatment Fund of Isabella County. The Pardee Fund used the grant money to pay for cancer treatments for women of Isabella County who demonstrated financial need.

In fall 2009, the Mt. Pleasant Discovery Museum created a magnetic field exhibit with the support of a grant from the Kellogg Youth Fund. The interactive exhibit on magnetism is for children and families in the community, and specifically serves as a STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) education resource to complement formal education programs.

In spring 2010, Central Michigan Pregnancy Services received a grant from the Kellogg Youth Fund. The grant paid to bring motivational speaker Brian Pruitt to 11 local middle and high schools. Pruitt was a 1994 All-American Running Back for Central Michigan University. He came from four generations of abusive fathers and, in spite of a difficult childhood, overcame many obstacles to have a successful college football career and current success as a motivational speaker. Pruitt encourages young adults who face many of the same challenges he did growing up. His speech fosters critical thinking among teens with regard to sexual activity, bullying, suicide, drug and alcohol abuse.

Steve & Deb Martineau
Lon Morey
Jan & Bill Strickler

Planned Giving
Newsletter 2010

From the Executive Director...

Dear Community Members,

This Planned Giving Newsletter showcases the many ways one can provide for the Community Foundation through a planned gift. It is designed to provide information about financial and estate planning, as well as thoughtful charitable gift arrangements. We have taken this opportunity to showcase a few families who have already provided for the Community Foundation in their estate planning, and to highlight the many options available to those who would like to leave a planned gift.

If you are considering a planned gift, we applaud your generosity and foresight. The Community Foundation staff and Board of Trustees will be happy to plan with you to make sure your gift achieves your philanthropic goals, as well as your tax and financial objectives.

We look forward to working with you in continued service to the Isabella County community,

Amanda A. Schafer



Joining the Denison Legacy Society...
Meet the Smiths



Mark and Shelly Smith with their sons, Alec, Sam, and Hayden, and the family dog, Gowdy

Throughout all of the craziness that raising three young boys can bring, Mark and Shelly Smith made time to invest in the future of the Mt. Pleasant community. The Smith’s made a timeless expression of their dedication to our community by joining the Denison Legacy Society. Earlier this year, the Smiths decided to name the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation as a beneficiary of their life insurance policy. “It was an affordable way to make a significant contribution to the foundation, and we’re really proud of it,” said Mark Smith.

The foundation has always been very important to the Smith Family. Mark’s mother, Kay Kraphol Smith, was extremely involved with many things through the foundation and was the co-founder of the Women’s Initiative. “The foundation was so important to her, and is to us,” Mark said.

“Consider what this community has done for its members; joining the Legacy Society means that we’ve helped ensure these great things for future generations,” Shelly added. “As a young couple, we were very excited to find an affordable way to make a meaningful gift to the foundation.”

More about the Legacy Society



G. R. “Rollie” and Olga J. Denison

The Denison Legacy Society recognizes people who have named the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation as the beneficiary of any type of planned or deferred gift. Those who choose to join the Denison Legacy Society in 2010 will be considered Founding Members.

You can join the Denison Legacy Society by listing the Foundation as a beneficiary of a bequest through your Will or Trust, or list the Foundation as a beneficiary in an IRA or 401K-retirement plan. You can also list the Foundation as a beneficiary or owner of a Life Insurance Policy. Other options include listing the Foundation as a beneficiary of a Charitable Gift Annuity, Charitable Remainder Trust, or other planned gift.

After you arrange your estate to leave a gift to the Foundation, you should notify the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation that you have made the necessary arrangements. This can be done by filling out an informational sheet that can be found online at www.mpacf.org or by coming into the Foundation.

Gifts to the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation are endowed and professionally managed. If you have any questions about the Denison Legacy Society, or about leaving a permanent legacy in our community, please contact us at (989) 773-7322.

Why Choose MPACF?

The Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation (MPACF) is a tax-exempt public charity that serves as the center of philanthropy in Isabella County. The Foundation gives people and businesses in the community the opportunity to make contributions to various funds and causes. The Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation allows you to target your gift to support any of our community's charitable organizations. Your gift will be permanently endowed and will continue to support your chosen organization or cause forever. All charitable gifts are deductible for federal income tax purposes. Current legislation also provides a Michigan tax credit which may reduce your income tax liability by one-half of the amount of your donation for permanent endowment in any fund, subject to limits based on filing status. Visit www.mpacf.org to estimate tax savings using the online calculator.

What Can I Give?

The Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation encourages a variety of giving instruments tailored to your unique situation.

OUTRIGHT GIFT

You can make a gift of cash, stocks, bonds, real estate or other assets. Most gifts qualify for the highest combination of Federal and State tax incentives.

BEQUEST BY WILL

You can designate a gift or portion of your estate to be placed in a charitable fund that you have selected or created at the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation and, in some cases, receive a substantial reduction in federal gift and estate taxes. Visit www.mpacf.org to browse through a list of existing funds, or consider creating a new fund.

For Good, For Ever...

The Hersee House



William and Idonea Hersee in the backyard with their dog, Taffy.



The Hersee House at 306 S. University

While Idonea “Dony” Hersee was living, she chose to leave her legacy through the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation by giving the gift of real estate. Mrs. Hersee created a trust with the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation called a Reserve Life Estate. The agreement was that Mrs. Hersee would remain living in her home and upon her passing the home would then become property of the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation. The Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation chose to use the home as the new administrative offices of the foundation.

Giving the gift of real estate creates the potential to make bigger charitable gifts than one may have thought possible. Giving the gift of real estate may help you avoid estate taxes. You do not necessarily need to donate your personal residence, you have the option of a vacation home, rental property, farmland or commercially developed land.

With a gift of real estate there is the option of choosing to have an immediate tax deduction, or you may convert the real estate into a Charitable Remainder Trust and create a stream of income for the rest of your life.

CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUST

Placing cash or property in a Charitable Remainder Trust will pay an annual income to you, or another named beneficiary, for life. After your death, you can arrange to have the remainder of your trust transferred to the Foundation and placed in a charitable fund you have selected or created.

CHARITABLE LEAD TRUST

A Charitable Lead Trust will pay an annual income to a charitable fund that you have selected or established with the Foundation. After your death, or a set period of time, the remainder of your trust will be transferred to you or another named beneficiary.

CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY

A Charitable Gift Annuity is a way to make a generous gift to your community while providing yourself with a new income source. After the trust is established, a fixed amount will be paid back to you in monthly, quarterly, or yearly increments. You will continue to receive those fixed

The Hodgins Memorial Scholarship

Jim and Sally Hodgins loved to read, to learn, and to teach. Over several decades, thousands of students passed through their classrooms and learned the joy of reading classic English literature. Their passion for education was a large contributing factor as to why they chose to leave their legacy through the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation. The Hodgins named the Community Foundation as beneficiary of a Charitable Lead Unitrust; the money in the trust is designated to an endowed scholarship fund within the Foundation.



James and Sally Hodgins

A Charitable Lead Unitrust is a custom designed and individually managed trust that may provide an annual amount to a qualified charity, such as the Community Foundation, for a fixed term of years. Upon conclusion of the term, the trust is usually left to one or more individuals that have been specified. This has the advantage of lowering or eliminating potential estate and gift taxes because individual beneficiaries must wait to receive distributions from the trust until after the end of the term. The Hodgins' Charitable Lead Unitrust will make payments to the Community Foundation for several years, and the James R. Hodgins Memorial Scholarship fund will grow, annually awarding scholarships.

After their passing, the Hodgins' Unitrust was left in the hands of their niece Barbara Ingram, who founded the endowed scholarship fund. “The Hodgins Scholarship was created to help deserving students continue their education and serves as a legacy to Jim and Sally Hodgins and their love of learning,” Barbara said.

payments, regardless of market condition. An immediate tax deduction for the charitable portion of your gift could be earned, also. Upon your death, a fund is set up in your name, in the name of your family or business, or in honor of any person or organization you may choose.

HOW MUCH IS REQUIRED TO GIVE?

Contributing to an Existing Fund

Gifts in any amount are accepted for the Foundation's existing funds, and are eligible to receive federal and state tax benefits. Contributions given are never spent, but combined with other donations to provide grants by using the return on the investments. Finding a fund you are passionate about is a great way to give back to your local community.

Creating Your Own Fund

Creating your own personalized fund requires a minimum starting contribution of \$500, with a plan to reach \$10,000 within ten years. When your fund matures to \$10,000, it will then be eligible to make grants.

Suggested Ways to Arrange Your Estate

List the community foundation as a...

- Beneficiary of a bequest through your Will or Trust
- Beneficiary in an IRA or 401K Retirement Plan
- Beneficiary or owner of a Life Insurance Policy
- Beneficiary of a Charitable Gift Annuity, Charitable Remainder Trust, or other planned gift

For more detailed information regarding ways to give, please visit www.MPACF.org.

Neither the author, nor the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation is engaged in rendering legal or tax advisory service. For advice and assistance in specific cases the service of an attorney or other professional advisors should be obtained. The purpose of this publication is to provide accurate and authoritative information of a general character only. Watch for tax revisions. State laws govern wills, trusts, and charitable gifts made in a contractual agreement. Advice from legal counsel should be sought when considering these types of contracts.

Mt. Pleasant Area
community foundation