Donor’s Dream Comes True

When the Mithoefer Foundation sought a way to provide dollar-for-dollar matching funds to the Tippecanoe County Imagination Library, an early literacy and parent engagement program, The Community Foundation identified and facilitated the best avenue.

In the program, families from Tippecanoe County enroll children up to age 5 to receive an age-appropriate book and parent guide by mail once a month.

“Focusing on preschool literacy prepares children for kindergarten, increases the percentage who read at level by 3rd grade, and even improves high school graduation rates, we have learned,” says Stan Mithoefer. “The cost-effectiveness of this is unbelievable, and we believe it will positively impact our community.”

“Our goal is to take full advantage of this generous opportunity,” says Marilyn Redmon, Right Steps executive director. “It makes a difference.”

“The program is fulfilling a donor’s dream,” says Marianne Rose, Community Foundation president and CEO. “We are here to help others, too, choose the best way to fulfill a passion to give.”

Men Who Give Respond to Needs

Four one-hour quarterly meetings to choose a recipient and a promise to contribute $520 over the year are all it takes to join Men Who Give, which convened in February. Of that, $100 goes to a Men Who Give Endowment, $20 for program support, and $100 at each meeting for the charity chosen.

When they gather, members drop their nominated nonprofit’s name in a basket. Three are drawn for five-minute pitches; and one is chosen.

“We get together, learn something, make a decision, and we’re done,” says co-chair David McGaughey. “It’s high-speed philanthropy.”

Co-chair Gerard Benner adds, “It’s a way to learn about organizations and make an impact with a modest commitment of time and money.”

The first meeting, in February, garnered a $6,600 grant, paid to Lafayette School Corporation to support the World Foods and Cultures program at the Learning Center, operated by Greater Lafayette Area Special Services, a program of the three public school corporations, and Wabash Valley Alliance.

In the program, students gain numerous skills—cooking, safety, budgeting, listening, and customer service—preparing them for independent living and employment.
Scholars, Donors Gather for Reception

Recipients of 2016 scholarships and donors who have established funds to support them gathered April 19 at the Lafayette Country Club. In all, 31 scholars were selected this year:

**George Balfe Scholarship**
Juan Lopez - Jefferson High School

**Roger Blalock Scholarship**
Sierra Powell - Purdue University

**Samuel C. Curtis Scholarship**
Lillian Pressler - Jefferson High School

**Max and Elsie Goken Scholarship**
Emily Fletcher - Jefferson High School

**Robert and Dorothy Hughes Community Scholarship**
Micayla Zeger - University of Southern Indiana

**Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship**
John Colston - Jefferson High School

**Elizabeth Mackay Scholarship**
Brace Dudley - West Lafayette High School

**Shirley and Mick McTague Scholarship Fund**
Caroline Sherlow - Purdue University

**Harlan W. and Dorothy W. Parr Scholarship**
Abby Coy - Purdue University
Elise Lofgren - Purdue University
Kelsey Sajdera - Purdue University

**Roland G. Parrish – Black Cultural Center Scholarship**
Aisha Erby - Purdue University

**Price Family Scholarship in Memory of Thomas M. Price**
Zack Crampton - Jefferson High School

**Presidential Leadership Scholarships in Honor of Tarrus Richardson**
Kenneth Hornbuckle – Purdue University

**David Smyser Scholarship**
Tyler Cox - Jefferson High School

**Betty M. Suddarth Scholarship**
Ernesto Munoz, Jr. - Harrison High School

**Katie Traynor RN Scholarship**
Suzanne Barry - Purdue University

**West Lafayette High School Golden Scholarships**
Abby Martin - West Lafayette High School
Dylan Williams - West Lafayette High School

**Robert and Marilyn Whit.sel Scholarship**
Hannah Carithers - McCutcheon High School
Brooke Cederquist - Harrison High School

**Jacob E. and Mary Ann Wiebers Scholarship**
Hannah Byrn - Faith Christian School
Carolyn Wetzel - Faith Christian School

Thirty-one students received scholarships this year.

Neudecks Thank Community with Endowment

Hailing from the vast, scenic states of North Dakota and Montana—growing up just 40 miles away from each other, Gerry and Mariellen Neudeck weren’t sure what to expect when they arrived in West Lafayette in 1964.

What they found here was a life—one rich with family, professions, and volunteering.

It began with a stunning first impression, Mariellen says. “We were struck by the lush, green prairie and the history here, and a place so interesting and stimulating because people were so welcoming.”

**HE CAME, STAYED BECAUSE OF PURDUE**

They had been married just two years, had a six-month-old son, Philip, and Gerry was set to study for his Ph.D. at Purdue that day 52 years ago. They soon welcomed another son, Alexander.

A University of North Dakota graduate, Gerry’s doctorate led to a Purdue post as an electrical engineering professor; international recognition; and numerous teaching, research, and industry awards. His achievements spanned four decades and included 15...
Gerry and Mariellen Neudeck began calling West Lafayette home 52 years ago.

North Dakota. She then spent 17 years in local hospital administration, including serving as executive vice president of Greater Lafayette Health Services, Inc.

She retired in 2001 when Gerry began teaching one semester instead of two so they could travel. “We sure had a fun time doing that,” she says.

**BOTH GAVE TO THE COMMUNITY**

Throughout, both served numerous volunteer posts.

Gerry gave time to NICHES, Parlor Club, and the CityBus board.

Mariellen’s past involvements include The Community Foundation, Greater Lafayette Commerce, Lafayette Symphony Guild, League of Women Voters, SCORE, Tippecanoe County Historical Association, and West Lafayette Community Schools. She also served many years on the board of Lafayette Savings Bank.

Currently, she is active in Rotary and on the boards of Community Cancer Network, NCHS, and West Lafayette History and Research Center. She enjoys tennis, walks, and books.

“We both had opportunities to be part of this community’s fabric, and it enriched our lives,” she says.

That was her inspiration in recently establishing the Mariellen and Gerry Neudeck Endowment, a discretionary fund that allows The Foundation to allocate proceeds for community grants where most needed.

“I chose The Community Foundation because it covers the whole spectrum of the community and the things we were involved in,” Mariellen says. “We got a great deal here. More than we could ever give back.”

**SHE WORKED IN HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATION**

After arriving in Indiana, Mariellen added an Indiana University master’s in health administration to her undergraduate degree from the University of Minnesota and master’s in history from the University of North Dakota. She then spent 17 years in local hospital administration, including serving as executive vice president of Greater Lafayette Health Services, Inc.

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**IN HONOR OF**

Sam Biederstedt
Connie Watson
Our sincere apology; this was incorrect in the last newsletter
Roger Carnes
Linda Cohen
Betty Nelson
Joanne Troutner

**ONLINE GIVING**

Gifts to The Community Foundation may be made online at www.cflaf.org.
Five Nonprofits Receive Grants

The Community Foundation recently awarded $100,000 in Tier 1 grants, shared by:

**Almost Home Humane Society**
Renovate kennels with gates and side panels, $24,804

**Art Museum of Greater Lafayette**
Replace roof and door, $24,720

**Habitat for Humanity**
Fund work truck, $18,000

**Right Steps Child Development Centers**
Purchase computers for administrative and technology upgrade, $10,700

**Robert and Ellen Haan Museum of Indiana Art**
Install stone path for sculpture garden, $21,776

**APPLICATION DEADLINES**

**June 1 • noon**
**FIELD-OF-INTEREST GRANTS**

**September 1 • noon**
**TIER 2 GRANTS** $7,500 to $15,000

Through December 1, 2016 • noon
**TIER 3 GRANTS** less than $7,500

More information at www.cfglaf.org

Habitat Eyes the Future

Immediate needs make investing for the future a challenge, yet it’s also important. That’s why Habitat for Humanity, which has built 280 homes locally, established an endowment with The Community Foundation in 2011.

“We recognize the need for a place to invest large estate gifts and other contributions,” says Cindy Taylor, director of development. “The Community Foundation is a good fit because we need its experience in endowment dynamics, from management to promotion.”

Long-term, she says, “We hope to use endowment earnings to pay our overhead expenses. That’s the dream!”

Please visit www.cfglaf.org for more information on the Community Foundation of Greater Lafayette.