

GOODnews



THE DAYTON
FOUNDATION

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New Board Chair Judy McCormick

Vital work for a remarkable community

When you ask Judy McCormick what's most important to her, her answer is unequivocal: "People."

That response says volumes about Judy McCormick, new chair of The Dayton Foundation Governing Board and former educator and longtime community volunteer. Her reply also may be particularly fitting, since, in the final analysis, people are the ultimate beneficiaries of Foundation donor grants that work to strengthen nonprofit organizations and create a better community.

She also is passionate about the Miami Valley community and its not-for-profits and sees the road ahead for our region filled with both opportunities and challenges. Chief among the challenges are that of community leadership and the need for philanthropic resources, both of which The Dayton Foundation is uniquely positioned to affect.

In her five years as a member of the Foundation Board and her



Judy D. McCormick

"WHAT EXCITES ME IS THE MAGIC OF MANY MINDS...AND WHAT COMES TO FRUITION WHEN COMMITTED INDIVIDUALS GATHER TO TACKLE 'THE IMPOSSIBLE.'"

— Judy McCormick

decades of leadership experience with numerous nonprofit boards and institutions (see story on p. 2), she has come to appreciate the special position that the Foundation holds in the region and its potential for making an increasing difference.

The Dayton Foundation, she notes, possesses a rare impartiality, in that it is the local organization that represents no single sector, viewpoint or interest, "except for the community as a whole," she says. "This gives the Foundation an unusual position to be able to

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John E. "Jack" and Elizabeth A. Purdy

WWII flying ace and wife leave legacy of love for Dayton

Dayton Foundation legacy donors Elizabeth and John "Jack" Purdy had a love that spanned a lifetime and survived one of the deadliest wars in history.

In 1943 Jack Purdy was in his final months of Air Force training before joining the 475th Fighter Group in the Southwest Pacific to fight in the Second World War.

"My brother was killed in a training accident, and Jack was assigned to accompany his body back home to Dayton," recalled Elizabeth Purdy. "After just 10 days, he proposed to me, but I thought it was a joke. I firmly



Left to right: Vanessa, Jack and Elizabeth Purdy alongside a WWII Lockheed Lightning P-38, restored and adorned with his personal markings, in his honor, in the early 1990s

told him, 'I know all about you fly boys. Forget it.'"

Instead of flying home to

Michigan after the war, he returned to Dayton to propose again. "Three months later, we

were married," she said.

"My mom truly was the woman behind the man. Together they were such a team," Vanessa Purdy said about her mother, a homemaker and community volunteer, and her father, a decorated World War II flying ace. This was true of their work, their marriage of nearly 58 years and their charitable giving.

The Purdys first became interested in The Dayton Foundation after Mrs. Purdy made a \$25 gift to a Foundation fund in 1988. "We started receiving the

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New Board Chair

continued

convene diverse parties around issues vital to the community.”

This convening role is one that will have increasing importance in the Foundation’s work. “Collaboration also will gain in importance,” she notes, “as partnerships will form to address community issues.

“When you look at the diversity and resources of people and organizations, which include donors, businesses, other foundations, a host of vibrant nonprofits, including colleges and universities, you have the potential for a particularly rich collaboration of minds, experience and financial resources that can have a substantive impact on our community. What excites me is the magic of many minds, when you start with a dream or a problem, and what comes to fruition when committed individuals gather to tackle ‘the impossible.’”

She is a strong advocate for the Greater Miami Valley and believes it is one of the country’s best communities in which to live. “This region has so many advantages, the most important of which may be its quality of life. Whether you look at cost of living, geographic location, the warmth of the people who live here and a person’s ability to have an impact, the Dayton area is a very desirable place to live.

“I hear from people who have lived elsewhere, as I did, how extraordinary the welcoming culture of our community is. In Dayton, when people



Foundation President Michael M. Parks and Governing Board Chair Judy D. McCormick

volunteer, for instance, there isn’t an old-guard mentality. Everyone is welcome, and everyone can have an influence. That makes for a very unusual community that continues to amaze me in the way people ‘pull out the stops’ when they see a compelling need.”

She and her husband, Bill, are donors of The Dayton Foundation, having an endowment fund, a Charitable Check-

“OUR CHALLENGE IS TO HELP MORE PEOPLE TO UNDERSTAND WHAT THIS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OFFERS THEM AND TO GET MORE PEOPLE INVOLVED.”

– Judy McCormick

ing Account and a Family Foundation *Plus* Fund (the Foundation’s newest donor service) through which to exercise their philanthropic commitment to the Dayton area. “The Foundation has so many ways to help people who wish to give to charity. Our challenge is to help people to understand what this community foundation offers them and to get more people involved. It’s about building resources for our community’s future. Ultimately it’s about the community taking care of the community.”

She believes in the importance of a diverse Governing Board. The Foundation’s Board and committees are as strong as they have ever been, she says, “bringing commitment and a breadth of background and expertise” to their decision making. She calls the

staff “equally talented and committed to the community,” bringing an alignment to the Board, committees and staff that positions the Foundation as a responsive and effective organization, with the best interests of the region at heart.

“Many of the people with Dayton’s known, ancestral names are no longer here,” she notes. “We will need more people at the table to develop the necessary philanthropic leadership. The Dayton Foundation is situated well to help accomplish this.”

The Foundation’s message, she believes, is one of the importance of giving back. “No one exhibits that better than Bing Davis. I remember hearing Bing tell me the story of when he was teaching at DePauw University. He and his family had a comfortable life there. He was out walking one day. When he came home, he said to his wife, ‘It’s time to go back to Dayton and begin to give back.’ I like to think that most people have that spirit in them – the desire to contribute and find meaning by helping others.”

The message also is about “working together with a sense of concern about what’s best for the region. This means looking at the big picture and what is best for *all*, not just for the few,” she says. “This includes valuing all nonprofits and understanding that they survive through people’s time, concern, expertise and resources. It’s how a community thrives.”



About Judy D. McCormick



Judy D. McCormick

Judy D. McCormick, who succeeds Robert S. Neff as chair of The Dayton Foundation Governing Board, has served as Foundation Governing Board vice chair since 2001 and as Board member since 1999. Over the past several years, she has served in prominent leadership positions

throughout the Greater Dayton community, as well as on national and statewide boards.

She holds a number of other current leadership positions, including serving as chairman of the Ohio Presbyterian Retirement Services Board Foundation, member of the Ohio Citizens for the Arts, Presidents Advisory Council, and a member of the executive

committee of The Human Race Theatre Company Board. Past positions include the presidency of the National Kidney Foundation Board, the Dayton Philharmonic Volunteer Association Board and the Children’s Medical Center Women’s Board and Executive Committee. She has worked for the 2003 Culture Works Campaign with Leadership Gifts, on the Second and Main Campaign Committee, on the Riverscape Campaign Council, with the Aullwood Audubon Center & Farm Capital Campaign and on the Twin Signals (Dayton and Yellow Springs Public Radio) Capital Campaign Cabinet.

She is a former classroom teacher and past board and executive committee member of a number of Miami Valley organizations, including Victoria Theatre Association, CITYFOLK, Dayton Visual

“THE FOUNDATION’S MESSAGE NEEDS TO BE ONE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF GIVING BACK... I LIKE TO THINK THAT MOST PEOPLE HAVE THAT SPIRIT IN THEM....”

– Judy McCormick

Arts Center, Camp Fire, Inc., and the Dayton and Piqua YWCAs. She has been a member of the Children’s Medical Center Board of Trustees, Dayton Art Institute Associate Board, the Oakwood Schools Foundation Board and the Visiting Nurses Board, an American Symphony Orchestra League delegate, and elder and evangelism chairman of the Westminster Presbyterian Church, among her affiliations.



Jack & Elizabeth Purdy

continued

Foundation's newsletter, and we liked what we read about them," recalled Mrs. Purdy.

In 1987 Mr. Purdy, founder and CEO of Dayton Showcase Company, a multi-million dollar store fixtures manufacturer, turned over his company to his 250 employees through a stock ownership plan.

"HE [JACK] LOVED THIS COMMUNITY AND ALL THAT IT OFFERED HIM.... JACK THOUGHT LONG AND HARD ABOUT WHAT WE COULD DO WITH OUR MONEY THAT WOULD DO SOME GOOD FOR DAYTON."

– Elizabeth A. Purdy, legacy donor

"Jack thought long and hard about what we could do with our money that would do some good for Dayton," she said. "He wanted to be sure that I always would be well



Elizabeth A. and Jack E. Purdy in their official wedding portrait

cared for – and we also wanted to do something for our community, which had been so good to us. We both felt that The Dayton Foundation was doing a wonderful job and would be the ones to help us."

To fulfill their goals, the Purdys chose two types of life income plans – a Charitable Remainder Trust and a Pooled Income Fund. Both of these gift-giving vehicles enabled them to receive income from their gifts, provide added income for their grandson for a designated time period, as well as receive favorable charitable tax benefits.

Eventually the remaining funds will be sizable and will be used to establish an unrestricted fund in their name at the Foundation. By placing no restrictions on how the fund's income would be used, the Purdys knew that their gift would help The Dayton

Foundation respond to the community's most pressing needs into the future.

Although Jack Purdy passed away in September 2003, his legacy – and Elizabeth Purdy's – will live on through their charitable fund. "Jack often said coming back to Dayton was the best thing he'd ever done. He loved this community and all that it offered him. It's only fitting that we leave something behind for its continued well-being."



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT LIFE-INCOME PLANS, VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT WWW.DAYTONFOUNDATION.ORG/LIFEINPD.HTML

About Captain Jack Purdy

A World War II flying ace, John "Jack" Purdy spent three-and-a-half years in the United States Air Force, 20 months of which he served overseas in the Southwest Pacific Theatre, 475th Fighter Group in New Guinea. During this time, he flew 194 combat missions – several of which were alongside Charles Lindbergh – and survived five crash landings, including one behind enemy lines in the Philippines.

"I spent 16 days with one of the top guerrilla outfits," said Captain Purdy in an interview for the 475th Fighter Group museum archives. "They treated me like royalty."

Captain Purdy flew a Lockheed Lighting P-38 with "Wyandotte, Michigan," his hometown, inscribed on the nose fuselage along with "Lizzie," in honor of what was then to be his future wife. Each time he was shot down, he would repaint these same loving reminders of home on his new plane.

To honor Captain Purdy for his work for both the Champlin Fighter Museum in Arizona and the Fighter Aces Association, the museum staff restored and adorned a WWII



Captain Purdy flew alongside Charles Lindbergh and survived five crash landings, including one behind enemy lines, in the 1940s.

P-38 fighter with his personal markings in the early 1990s.

Captain Purdy's military efforts earned him numerous decorations, including the Distinguished Flying Cross with two oak leaf clusters, the Air Medal with six oak leaf clusters, the Purple Heart, the Unit Citation Ribbon, the Asiatic Pacific Theatre Campaign Ribbon with four bronze stars and the Philippine Liberations Ribbon with one bronze star.



FOR MORE ABOUT CAPTAIN PURDY, VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT WWW.DAYTONFOUNDATION.ORG/DSTORIES/PURDY.HTML

The Dayton Foundation names Three New Governing Board Members

Community leaders Gary L. LeRoy, M.D., Richard W. Schwartz and Jerome F. Tatar have been appointed to five-year terms on The Dayton Foundation Governing Board.

Gary L. LeRoy, M.D., is medical director of East Dayton Health Center and associate professor of Family Medicine at Wright State University School of Medicine. At Wright State he has served as chairman of the Ethical Standards Committee of the School of Medicine and currently is president of the Board of Directors of the WSU Alumni Association. He holds positions on the boards of the American Red Cross, Dayton Chapter; Mary Scott Nursing Center; Miami Valley Hospital; and Reach Out of Montgomery County. Dr. LeRoy also is chief medical consultant for Dayton



Gary L. LeRoy, M.D.

Public Schools, vice chair of the Board of Directors of Hospice of Dayton and president-elect of Ohio Academy of Family Physicians.

Richard W. Schwartz is president of the tenth largest privately held company in the state of Ohio and Montgomery County's top private company. Primus, Inc., has nearly 3,500 associates nationwide and offers unique entrepreneurial opportunities in an industry supporting the growing resi-



Richard W. Schwartz


dential and commercial construction markets. Mr. Schwartz serves on the boards of the American Supply Association, Fifth Third Bank of Western Ohio and the Victoria Theatre Association, and recently as a board member of the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce. He also is actively involved in the National Association of Wholesaler-Distributors and is a member of the Fairmont



Jerome F. Tatar

Presbyterian Church in Kettering. Mr. Schwartz also is a retired lieutenant colonel with the U.S. Air Force Reserves and is a graduate of the University of Akron.

Jerome F. Tatar is the retired chairman of MeadWestvaco Corporation and former chairman, CEO and president of Mead Corporation. Currently he serves as the chairman of the Board of Trustees of Sinclair Community College and as a director of National City

Corporation and Robbins & Myers Corporation. He also serves as a trustee for the Cancer Prevention Institute (formerly Hippel Cancer Research Center), the Nature Conservancy of Ohio and the Ohio Foundation of Independent Colleges. He is a member of the Business Advisory Board of Proudfoot Consulting, Inc., and the Governor's Commission for Higher Education and the Economy. Mr. Tatar received his M.B.A. from the University of Pittsburgh and his B.S. degree from Carnegie-Mellon University. 

GO ONLINE AT WWW.DAYTONFOUNDATION.ORG/GOVBOARD.HTML FOR A COMPLETE LISTING OF FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBERS.

The Miracle Worker

Foundation grant gives help, hope to poor men with addictions

Willa Fletcher sadly has had to turn away hundreds of men from her Holt Street Miracle Center over the last decade – men who desperately needed help with substance abuse – because they couldn't pay for treatment.

She accepted hundreds of others, digging ever deeper into her own pocket. "I'd buy them food, clothes and shoes, and keep them here for a while to help them with their addiction," said the Center's founder and chairwoman, a General Motors retiree who depends on her pension. "But I could only afford to do so much. I believed that surely, somebody would help me."



Holt Street Miracle Center

Thanks to a \$12,500 grant from The Dayton Foundation, two of the nonprofit Center's six beds are now reserved for indigent men who cannot afford the inpatient recovery program fee, which covers only part of the cost for room

and board, treatment and staff services, and case management. The other four beds are for working men who can pay the fee.

Recently Mrs. Fletcher admitted 33-year-old Ben, who was out of jail, out of work, homeless, penniless and addicted to drugs. "Ben is healthy, intelligent and bright, but his addiction caused him to lose everything," she said. "I want to help him get back into the mainstream."

The Foundation grant is letting Mrs. Fletcher serve an average of two indigent men a month at Holt Street, the only facility of its kind in west Dayton. "This is a community problem," said Mrs. Fletcher, who's spent 20 years working with the homeless. "There aren't enough resources to help the poorest of the poor with their addictions, so they'll stay off the streets and out of jail."

All residents attend a 12-step recovery program, either Narcotics Anonymous or Alcoholics Anonymous, and other chemical dependency classes. The men participate in life skills, spiritual and counseling sessions; do chores; and focus on getting well and finding a job. Transitional housing is offered to men who complete the program.

"Mrs. Fletcher cares that I 'stay clean,'" said Ben, an aspiring restaurateur who is one course away from a culinary arts degree. "I finally have



Willa Fletcher

"MRS. FLETCHER CARES THAT I 'STAY CLEAN.' I FINALLY HAVE SOME HOPE THAT I'M GOING TO BEAT THIS."

– Ben, a current resident

some hope that I'm going to beat this."

Mrs. Fletcher, a recovered alcoholic for 35 years, believes God has given her a gift. "There's a way you talk to people," she said. "You let them know you care about them, you're concerned about them, and you want what's best for them. But most of all, you love them."

Mrs. Fletcher accepts no salary and pays for counseling services with her own money. Her staff, all former addicts or

"I DIDN'T KNOW ANYBODY ELSE WHO WAS WILLING TO HELP THESE MEN IN THE TRENCHES, WHO ARE HURTING SO MUCH. THE FOUNDATION HAS BROUGHT SO MUCH JOY INTO THEIR LIVES."

– Willa Fletcher, Holt Street Miracle Center

alcoholics, get paid little or nothing. The staff-to-client ratio is 1:1.

"We work with these men hands-on, every day, to give them structure in their lives, so they can get a job, go home to their families and help raise their children," she said.

Holt Street offers a home environment and is often a last resort for many of the men, who've floundered in institutional-type treatment programs. Mrs. Fletcher estimates that 40 percent of the residents recover fully. A case manager follows up to ensure graduates remain sober and continue attending NA or AA meetings.

"I just thank God for The Dayton Foundation," said a teary-eyed Mrs. Fletcher. "I didn't know anybody else who was willing to help these men in the trenches, who are hurting so much. The Foundation has brought so much joy into their lives. I have a lot of gratitude."



The Dayton Foundation News

Foundation Wins Three National Awards for Outstanding Communications

The Dayton Foundation has been named a Gold and Silver Award winner for excellence in communications by the national 2004 Wilmer Shields Rich Awards Program. The Dayton Foundation received a total of three awards, making The Dayton Foundation number two in the nation – of all community foundations who entered the competition – in the number of awards received. The awards were

presented April 27 at the 55th Annual Conference of the Council on Foundations in Toronto, Canada.

Sponsored by the Council on Foundations, the premiere professional organization for all foundations in

the U.S. and abroad, and the Communications Network, the national awards program recognizes excellence in effective communications efforts to

increase public awareness of foundations and corporate giving programs.

Competing against both community and public foundations, The Dayton Foundation received two Gold (first place) Awards – one for *Futures*, the Foundation's publication for financial and estate planning advisors, and one for the organization's web site (www.daytonfoundation.org). The third award was Silver – for

this publication, *Good News*, the Foundation's general newsletter.



On the Web

Visit The Dayton Foundation's web site for these recently added features:

Connections, a new donor service that details grant-making opportunities with local charities that have applied recently for grants from The Dayton Foundation: www.daytonfoundation.org/connectn.html

GiftLaw, a web-based gift-planning tool for attorneys, accountants and other professional advisors: www.daytonfoundation.org/gl4adv.html



New Endowment Funds

Establishing a strong foundation for our community's future is a vision shared by donors who have endowment funds at The Dayton Foundation. Donors have started 10 new endowment funds recently to support our region and their special charitable causes, now and in the future.

The Dayton Public Radio Endowment Fund will help fulfill the operations of Dayton's fine- and performing-arts radio station by generating unrestricted revenue.

Sharon Lee Frisby Scholarship Fund was established through the estate of this longtime Paul Laurence Dunbar High School Spanish teacher to award college scholarships to deserving graduates of this school.



Hair for Kids Fund

The Hair for Kids Fund will make possible the purchase of hair prostheses for children who suffer hair loss as a result of a medical condition or treatment for an illness. Hair for Kids was founded by Becca Sanford, a local beautician, to help Miami Valley children look their best, even if they don't feel their best.

The Charles, Ronald and Reginald Hall Fund will furnish annual unrestricted operating revenue for Bethel Missionary Baptist Church in Dayton. Charles Hall and his sons, Ronald and Reginald, are trustees of the church and 33rd Degree Masons.



Mary and David Mathews

The Mary Chapman Mathews Fund was established by Carillon Historical Park to honor the numerous contributions made by Mary Chapman Mathews, who served as the executive director of the park from 1985 to 2003. Income will be used to support projects within the park, as advised by Mary Mathews.

The Miamisburg Firemen's Association Scholarship Fund was established by current and retired employees of the Miamisburg Fire Department and the Reserve Firefighters, as well as the Firefighters' Union Local 3115. The fund will award scholarships to children of active-duty Miamisburg firefighters.

Miami Valley Child Development Centers, Inc., Fund will help fund Head Start services for low-income families in Clark, Madison and

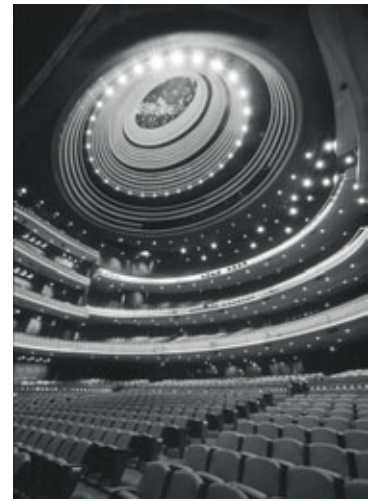
Montgomery Counties. Head Start works holistically through a balance of parent involvement, health, nutrition, social competency and literacy development.

The Miami Valley Metal Working Museum Fund was established by the Dayton Tooling & Machining Association. The fund will celebrate the history of the Miami Valley's metal fabrication industry by creating an exhibit at Carillon Historical Park.

The Miami Valley School Endowment Fund will support the general operations of the Miami Valley School. The School was established in 1964 and is Dayton's only independent, nonsectarian, college-preparatory school.

Public Education Fund will enhance Dayton Public Schools' ability to communicate important educational issues to the general public.

Schuster Performing Arts Center Endowment Fund was established by The Arts Center Foundation to help subsidize the construction, operation, maintenance and preservation of the Benjamin and Marian Schuster Performing Arts Center, downtown Dayton's premiere performing arts facility.



Schuster Performing Arts Center

The Simms Family Fund for Habitat for Humanity was established by Charles V. Simms, his son Charles H. Simms and his brother William A. Simms, Jr., and their respective companies, to raise awareness and funds for the Dayton, Ohio, Habitat for Humanity.



Left to right: William A. Simms, Jr., Charles V. Simms and Charles H. Simms

The Mary Ann Walsh Fund was established by the friends and family of Mary Ann Walsh to further her charitable work with underprivileged pregnant teens through the Greater Dayton Pro-Life Education Foundation. The fund's income will aid the Foundation in educating and supporting young parents to help them create healthy families.



Miamisburg Firemen's Association



The Miami Valley School



William H. Zwiesler

The Donor Next Door

William Henry Zwiesler, a photoengraver for more than 50 years, was a patient, quiet and religious man. He had a deep love for children and actively volunteered for organizations that served the needs of children.

With no wife or children of his own, Mr. Zwiesler was determined that he wanted his estate to benefit children. In 1967 he established the Children's Charitable and

Educational Trust Fund at The Dayton Foundation. As a field-of-interest fund, Mr. Zwiesler was assured that the Foundation would use its knowledge of community needs to award grants to programs or organizations that benefit children.

Upon establishing the fund, he wrote, "It is with a sense of gratitude that I receive from you the opportunity you have created and the privilege you have granted, to be of moderate, though helpful service to the children and youth of the future...."

Although he passed away in 1983, his legacy lives on through his fund. It has produced gifts of more than \$84,000 to organizations that benefit children, including the Dayton Boys and Girls Club, Boonshoft Museum of Discovery, Dayton Urban League and the Out-of-School-Youth initiative, among others.

Ask us

If you have a question that you would like answered in a future issue of *Good News*, please contact Chris Smith at (937) 225-9958 or by e-mail at Csmith@daytonfoundation.org

Tips on Charitable Giving:

Celebrating life through a memorial fund



By Joe Baldasare, vice president, Development

Try to imagine anything in life more heart-wrenching than the loss of a loved one, such as a spouse, parent, sibling or child. Unfortunately some families don't have to imagine it. For them, it is a reality.

But thanks to The Dayton Foundation, many families are coping with their loss by doing

something that commemorates their loved one's life. They have created an everlasting memorial by establishing a named, long-term endowed fund through the Foundation. We offer a variety of funds with the level of involvement that the family wishes, as well as options to fulfill their specific philanthropic intent.

Some families have created scholarship funds at the Foundation that make awards annually to students in a particular field of study or who are attending a specific educational institution or high school. We can work with the family to establish the criteria and the distribution process that fit their needs. Presently a \$50,000 scholarship fund generates an annual distribution of \$2,000, which can be awarded as a single or as multiple scholarship(s) in

amounts of at least \$750.

While scholarship funds are the most common type of fund used to memorialize an individual, other opportunities can prove equally gratifying. Donor-designated funds, for example, allow families to select any not-for-profit organizations, such as churches, schools, arts or health/human service organizations, to receive gifts in the name of their loved ones.

For families who want to keep the memories of their loved ones alive, but don't want to be bothered with the hassle of selecting and awarding grant recipients, the Foundation offers a couple of solutions.

With a discretionary fund, the Foundation awards grants from the fund to address emerging and current issues in the Greater Miami Valley. All grant requests are evaluated

thoroughly by the Foundation's Grants Committee, with final approval made by the Foundation's Governing Board. With this type of a fund, the family benefits the most from the Foundation's community knowledge and charitable giving expertise.

Field-of-interest funds are similar to discretionary funds, yet have a narrower purpose. Grants are awarded in the family's selected area of interest, such as arts, youth, the elderly, education, etc., in memory of their deceased loved one.

Alternatively, some families choose to remember their loved one by establishing a committee-advised fund. Rather than designating a particular organization or an area of interest, the family meets annually to determine which not-for-profit organizations will receive grants. This allows the family

to jointly make decisions about charitable giving, relative to what issues and organizations are important to them at a particular time. It also provides an opportunity each year to joyfully remember their loved one.

These are just some of the ways that The Dayton Foundation can help individuals turn a tragic event into something positive, both for themselves and for their community. The Foundation's Development Department staff is available to talk to individuals or organizations about establishing these or other charitable gift-giving funds.

For more information about memorial funds, contact me, Joe Baldasare, at (937) 225-9954, or at jbaldasare@daytonfoundation.org.

Scholarship fund Turns Tragedy into Hope



Kathy Huston Clemens

Kathy Huston Clemens adored children. Whenever family would gather for a celebration, she'd always be surrounded by children laughing and playing, recalls her sister Carolyn Huston Gray.

"She was so energetic," said Ms. Gray, "and had such love

and understanding of kids. It's fitting that she became a teacher."

A 1971 Butler High School graduate, Kathy Clemens moved to Texas in the late 1980s to be closer to her husband's family. There she developed a distinguished teaching career as a third-grade teacher at Holmsley Elementary School in Houston and had been voted Teacher of the Year in 1995. It also was in Texas that her life came to a tragic end on May 18, 2000, when she stood in the way of five drug dealers after they broke into her son's apartment.

To help her family and friends cope with their devastating loss and to carry on her memory, those who knew and loved Ms. Clemens established a fund in 2000 through the Vandalia-Butler Foundation,

a component fund group of The Dayton Foundation. The Kathy Huston Clemens Memorial Scholarship Fund today awards scholarships to Vandalia-Butler High School graduates who are pursuing a degree in education. Two scholarships totaling \$1,500 have been awarded to date.

"It's such a wonderful way to remember Kathy and all that she represented and believed in. Hopefully we can give students with the same spirit and passion as Kathy, a chance to follow their dream," said Ms. Gray. "Teachers can make a big difference in the lives of children. That was Kathy."

She recalls one story about a young student who had a reputation for being a troublemaker. "Once he got to Kathy's

"I'M VERY SORRY THAT YOUR WONDERFUL AND BEAUTIFUL LIFE HAD TO END IN PAIN. I GUESS GOD COULDN'T WAIT TO GET YOU IN HIS ARMS. MAYBE HE WANTS TO START A SCHOOL UP IN HEAVEN FOR THE YOUNGER ANGELS, AND HE KNEW YOU WOULD BE THE BEST."

— Leslie, one of Kathy Huston Clemens's students, in a letter after Ms. Clemens's death

Kathy Huston Clemens (right) with her sister Carolyn Huston Gray (center) and their sister-in-law Becky Huston



"WE FIND COMFORT IN KNOWING THAT THROUGH HER SCHOLARSHIP FUND, SOMEONE WILL BENEFIT FROM KATHY'S MEMORY."

— Carolyn Huston Gray

class, she gave him the job of sharpening pencils to help him feel important," Ms. Gray said. "After that his visits to the principal's office ended. I can imagine Kathy staying late after school breaking pencil points, just so he'd have a job to do the next day. That's how much she cared."

With the assistance of her husband and her brother, Carolyn Gray has raised over \$15,800 for her sister's fund from an annual road rally held around Ms. Clemens's birthday in late October. Local businesses donate both cash and prizes to help make the event a success.

She hopes that more advertising and word-of-mouth promotion will generate further interest in the event and, in turn, help to grow the fund so they can award multiple scholarships each year.

"We're really appreciative of The Dayton Foundation for assisting us with our scholarship fund," she said. "It has allowed us to make some sense out of Kathy's senseless death. We find comfort in knowing that, through the scholarship, someone will benefit from Kathy's memory."

How Green Is Our Valley

Foundation funds help ensure the region's beauty

Every day we drive, ride or walk past parks, gardens, orchards or greenways. And we enjoy them. In fact, you might even say we take them for granted.

"We have an outstanding infrastructure of parks and natural areas, and we are blessed with wonderful soil, water, growing climate and agricultural expertise," said Robert Jurick, president of the B-W Greenway Community Land Trust Fund, which generates operating income for the greenway connecting the Beaver Creek and Wenrick Wetlands.

"The Dayton community has been generous in funding both our park systems and our environmental organizations over the years," he said. However, as Mr. Jurick is quick to point out, our area also is noted nationwide for the amount of land consumed by urban sprawl.

And there's the rub. What environmentalists refer to as green space seldom disappears in huge chunks. Rather, construction and development, unchecked or otherwise, encroach on available green space slowly, almost imperceptibly.



Aullwood's educational center and farm offer visitors many opportunities to experience nature and wildlife.

To hold off these forces and preserve both natural areas and farmland for future generations, concerned individuals and not-for-profit organizations have established more than 25 environmental funds through The Dayton Foundation since 1979. Together, these funds

More than 220 bird species have been documented along the Little Miami Scenic River.



Several Foundation funds help sustain the region's river corridors.

have awarded to date more than \$3.2 million in grants to support these efforts.

"Natural conservation is an important activity that has a tremendous impact on our quality of life," noted Irvin Bieser, who is associated with several of these funds. "It has a strong economic impact in making the Miami Valley a more attractive place in which to live, improves the quality of our air and the beauty of our surroundings, and creates some refuges of sanity in an otherwise crazy world."

The Green Downtown Dayton Fund recently was established, resulting from the transfer of the balance of funds from the Green Downtown Dayton organization. Active in

"THESE FUNDS PROVIDE A VITAL OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO TEACH CHILDREN OF ALL AGES ABOUT NATURE AND FARMING."

— Charity Krueger, executive director, Aullwood Audubon Center and Farm

the 1980s, Green Downtown Dayton was a street tree-planting organization.

"Green Downtown Dayton had dollars left in its treasury after it went out of business," Mr. Bieser noted, "and thought it was good idea to transfer them into The Dayton Foundation as a fund to match contributions and efforts by others with the goal of improving the downtown streetscape."

Aullwood Audubon Center and Farm has nine funds under management at the Foundation, generating more than \$2.8 million in grants since 1991, to support its operations and maintenance.

"These funds provide a vital opportunity for us to teach children of all ages about nature and farming," remarks Charity Krueger, executive director of the Center. "The children who came to the Center's opening in 1957, today are returning with their grandchildren."

The Upper River Fund, established by Glenn Thompson, former editor of the *Dayton Journal Herald*, and his wife, Margaret, provides unrestricted income for the organization's operations, which, in addition to purchasing land, has gotten

individuals to donate land as gift easements for 30 nature preserves. Over 45 percent of the riverfront is now under protection by Little Miami, Inc., and by numerous public and private agencies.

"That's double from just 20 years ago," said Eric B. Partee, executive director of Little Miami, Inc.

"The monies in the Upper River Fund someday will translate into the protection of one of the most magnificent, scenic rivers in the country," added Mr. Bieser, who's a member of its advisory committee. "Every year, more chunks of the river are protected. Future generations will be able to enjoy the river, the activities and the respite it provides."

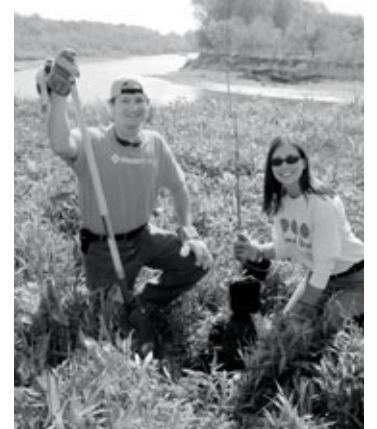
David Coffey, a board trustee for the Waldruhe Park Fund, said that more than \$156,000 in grants have been awarded from their endowment since 1991 to help in the park's ongoing maintenance. "People can retreat to a tranquil, clean and peaceful environment," he said. "The park always will be there, regardless of the development that surrounds it."

"Trees add to the beautification of our rivers," noted

"THE MONIES IN THE UPPER RIVER FUND SOMEDAY WILL TRANSLATE INTO THE PROTECTION OF ONE OF THE MOST MAGNIFICENT, SCENIC RIVERS IN THE COUNTRY."


— Irvin Bieser, advisory committee member for the Upper River Fund

Tony Huffman, whose parents founded the Jane B. and Horace M. Huffman, Jr., Trees for the Rivers Endowment Fund. Since its establishment in 1992, the fund has awarded more than \$66,000 in grants to Five Rivers MetroParks to promote tree planting along the river corridor. Additionally, the fund has helped to present an annual tree symposium to improve the public's and horticultural industry's sensitivity to the care of trees. "We're creating a legacy of green in the urban area," he points out.



Members of Little Miami, Inc., tree-planting crew work along Horseshoe Bend.

Marvin Olinsky, former executive director for Five Rivers MetroParks and representative for the Sylvia L. Koons Endowment Fund, which helps to sustain the beauty of the MetroParks by purchasing trees and other plants, agreed.

"Being a good citizen means you help to create a legacy for current and future generations, perpetuating the quality of life for the community, just as Sylvia Koons and many other Miami Valley citizens have done," he said. "Thanks to their foresight and generosity, many of our community's natural gems will be preserved for generations to come." 

VISIT THE FOUNDATION'S WEBSITE AT WWW.DAYTONFOUNDATION.ORG/GREEN.HTML FOR MORE ABOUT THESE FUNDS.





The Regional Community Foundation

2300 Kettering Tower
Dayton, Ohio 45423
Phone (937) 222-0410
Fax (937) 222-0636
Web www.daytonfoundation.org
E-mail info@daytonfoundation.org

President: Michael M. Parks. **Governing Board:** Judy D. McCormick, chair, Thomas G. Breitenbach, Franz J. Hoge, Charles A. Jones, Helen Jones-Kelley, Jamie King, Leo E. Knight, Jr., Gary L. LeRoy, Paula J. MacIlwaine, Laura B. Pannier, Douglas C. Scholz, Richard W. Schwartz, Fred C. Setzer, Jr., Jerome F. Tatar, Fred E. Weber. **Financial Managers:** Adams Financial Group; American Express Financial Advisors, Inc.; Baird Investments; Bank One Ohio Trust Company, NA; Bartlett & Co.; Behnken and Associates, Inc.; Buckingham Financial Group; C.H. Dean and Associates; Dover Partners; Eaton National Bank; A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc.; Eubel, Brady & Suttman Asset Management; Fifth Third Bank; Financial Counseling Incorporated; First Alliance Asset Management Access Financial Group; Gradison-McDonald; The Huntington; Ingalls & Snyder; Investment Management and Research; James Investment Research, Inc.; Key Bank, NA; K H B Corporation, Inc./Bear Stearns & Co., Inc.; Legg Mason Wood Walker, Inc.; Liberty Savings Bank, FSB; Linsco/Private Ledger Financial Services; McDonald Investments, Inc.; Mead, Adam & Co., Inc.; Merrill Lynch and Company; Michael J. Monaghan & Associates; Morgan Stanley; National City Bank; Northwestern Mutual Fund Services; Oxford Financial Advisors Corp.; PNC Bank, Ohio, NA; UBS PaineWebber, Inc.; Parker Carlson & Johnson; Prudential Preferred Financial Services; Sagemark Consulting, Inc.; Smith Barney; Spears, Grisanti & Brown, LLC; Transamerica Investment Management, LLC; US Bank; Wachovia Securities; Westminster Financial Securities; A.T. Whitehead.

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Grants in Action

Grants in Action recognizes the results of notable grant awards, whether large or small, and the significant impact they have on strengthening the Greater Miami Valley community.

Program Helps Kids Enjoy the Fruits of Their Labor

Playing in the dirt means more than kids getting dirty hands for those participating in the Learning Tree Farm's Hands in the Garden program.

"They're learning where our food comes from, not prepackaged from a grocery store," said Sally Keyes, co-director of the Farm. "The program also



Learning Tree Farm's programs help children develop an appreciation for living things and give them a sense of accomplishment.

teaches them that dirt is good. Growing your own food is good, dirty fun."

Thanks to a \$10,000 grant from The Dayton Foundation in 2001, the Farm initiated this hands-on gardening program in response to needs expressed by teachers who say that very few students have the opportunity to participate in the growth of plants.

"Many urban areas lack gardening space, and modern supermarkets have replaced the necessity of growing our own food," she said. "We're helping to make a difference in how children view our natural environment. The simple act of pulling a carrot out of the ground is thrilling to them."

Foundation Grants Help Preserve Individuals' Dignity, Independence

For individuals with visual impairments, the simple task of reading a prescription bottle or telling the difference between a can of peas and a can of soup is impossible.

Thanks to the Committee to Aid the Blind, many Greater Miami Valley residents are getting the assistance they need to live more independently – magnification devices, screen reader software, computers and equipment, and reading aids. To assist the Committee, The Dayton Foundation has awarded more than \$157,600

in grants in the last decade, thanks to the James M. Hewitt Fund for the Blind, established at the Foundation in 1989.

"This assistance has made a real difference in their lives," said Kevin Leonard, coordinator for Easter Seals Technology Resource Center, fiscal agent for the Committee. "As one grateful family member of a visually-impaired person stated, 'No one knows how bad it is to lose their sight. Your assistance leaves people with their dignity and their independence.'"

Wildlife Rehabilitation Center Spreads Its Wings, Thanks to Foundation Grant

Each year hundreds of thousands of wild animals are injured or orphaned throughout America. While many of them don't survive, many others are being treated and released back into their natural environments, thanks to the staff and volunteers of wildlife rehabilitation centers.

In 1999 The Dayton Foundation awarded a \$5,000 grant to Brukner Nature Center to help build a wildlife rehabilitation facility, which today cares for an average of 1,500 animals

per year. Animals that cannot be released are kept as permanent residents at the facility to assist with educational programs.

"There are a lot of misconceptions about wildlife," said Debbie Brill, administrative director for the Center. "The



Brukner Nature Center aids injured wildlife from throughout Ohio, as well as from Kentucky and Indiana.

facility helps us to teach children and adults how to live in harmony with nature and co-exist with wildlife. We couldn't do what we're doing without the support of organizations like The Dayton Foundation."

