

PATHWAYS to Giving

winter 2014



The Great Miami Valley River Recreation Trail

Dashed black line shows new section of trail funded by HCF.

Multiple use trails are Ohioans' favorite outdoor recreation facilities. Ohioans want more trails close to home and they want those trails to be connected, according to an Ohio Department of Natural Resources study.

Hamiltonians will soon have more trail space to enjoy! Work started this fall on a new, two mile trail which will connect two existing trails. When this connector trail is finished in spring 2015, runners, walkers, bicyclists and rollerbladers will be able to travel from Rentschler Forest MetroPark to downtown Hamilton and continue south along the Great Miami all the way to Waterworks Park in Fairfield!

The connector trail is Phase II of a two part project. Phase I, the two mile stretch from Rentschler Forest MetroPark to Allison Avenue, was dedicated in June 2012.

It is all part of the Great Miami Valley River Recreation Trail, the nation's largest network of paved, off street trails, encompassing more than 300 miles of trails connecting ten counties.

This local part of the trail is an initiative of the Hamilton Community Foundation and has also received funding from the City of Hamilton and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources' Clean Ohio Fund. "The Hamilton Community Foundation is committed to the completion of the recreational bikeway from downtown Hamilton to Rentschler Forest MetroPark," says John Guidugli, president/CEO of the Hamilton Community Foundation.



"Besides increased transportation and recreational opportunities, the trail offers a social element and way to enjoy nature," says Hans Landefeld, a trail consultant who has worked on the project from its inception.

"The bikepath offers a variety of scenes," adds Dave Belew, the path's original visionary. When it is complete, those traveling the path can see Waterworks Park, Joyce Park, the dam overlook at Kevin Lodder Park, Fitton Center, the historic cabin, the Sailors and Pioneers Monument in downtown Hamilton and Rentschler Forest MetroPark. Belew said that those traveling the path by the Riverside Natural Area toward Joyce Park may spy turtles, egrets, white herons and other birds and small animals.

The two foot wide asphalt trail conforms to ADA standards, with no elevation greater than 5 percent. "Trails are for everybody," says Landefeld. "You can go as fast or as slow as you want to. Besides the recreation, there's the contact with nature. It's a facility for everybody."

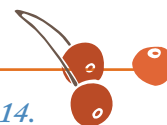
The Foundation celebrated its Golden Anniversary by providing a series of Legacy Gifts to the community. These significant gifts for the public were given to demonstrate the Foundation's commitment to improving the quality of life in the community. The gifts included the Michael J. Colligan Lodge at Veterans Park, Foundation Field, Lentil Park and the entrance sign and landscaping along Route 129. The local expansion of the Great Miami Valley River Recreation Trail is the final Golden Anniversary project to be completed.



For more information:
OKI Bike Route Guides
www.oki.org/mapsdata

SR 50

Women's Fund Grants



The Women's Fund of the Hamilton Community Foundation has made a total of \$17,600 in grants in 2014.



Girls on the Run participants

The Women's Fund also granted \$13,000 to the Center for Family Solutions for its programs and services. The Center's mission is to respond to, prevent and treat child abuse/ domestic violence.

Grantees include Parachute CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), who was awarded \$3,100 for training of two volunteer advocates, as well as the Girls on the Run program at both Linden and Highland Elementary schools. Each school was awarded \$750 for this positive youth development program that teaches life skills for girls ages 8 to 13.

"This Fund presents a unique opportunity for women in our community to step into the role of philanthropist," says Joan Witt, Women's Fund Committee Chair. "It is a chance for women to help other women, building stronger individuals and a better community."

The Women's Fund of the Hamilton Community Foundation is committed to making grants that have a positive impact on women and girls in our community. Its mission is to promote philanthropy among women by establishing a local, permanent, expanding endowment dedicated to the needs of women and girls. The Fund is made possible by donors who have contributed to the fund since its inception in 1997.

The next deadline for application for grant from The Women's Fund is May 22, 2015. To learn more about grant process and projects supported, visit the Foundation's website at www.hamiltonfoundation.org.

Fund Spotlight



The Friends of Chrisholm Historic Farmstead Fund

Preserving History

The Friends of Chrisholm Historic Farmstead has established an endowment fund at the Foundation. The fund was started in conjunction with the 20th Anniversary of the founding of the Friends of Chrisholm Historic Farmstead nonprofit organization and the 200th Anniversary of the arrival of the Amish to Butler County.

Located south of Trenton on Woodsdale Road, the Chrisholm Farmstead is owned by Butler County MetroParks. The home was originally owned by Samuel Augspurger, the second generation of a family who came here in the early 1800's from Alsace, Germany. Fire destroyed the original home but it was rebuilt right over the first foundation. Samuel and his wife raised five children in the house and farmed the land, also opening the home to welcome later settlers here from Germany.



Chrisholm Farmstead

"We established the fund at the Hamilton Community Foundation to ensure the future success of our mission," says Anne Jantzen of the Friends board. She said the board had been discussing establishing such a fund for several years. They see themselves as stewards of the historical site with a responsibility for its future financial security. As the endowment grows, she says, its earnings can be used for restoring, preserving, and gifting the Chrisholm Historic Farmstead to the families of Southwest Ohio and future generations.

The Chrisholm Farmstead stands as living reminder of our rich Amish Mennonite and agricultural heritage, Jantzen added. The hope is that future generations will be even more fascinated with the stories told at the Chrisholm Farm, the Augspurgers and other immigrant families, and the Amish Mennonite community. The grounds on the property are open to the public daily from sunrise to sunset.

Welcome to New Funds

Legacy Profile

Betty Terry

Business and family are the two most important forces in the life of Betty Terry.

Earlier this year, Betty joined the Hamilton Community Foundation's Legacy Society. Her gift will make possible the Ray and Betty Terry Scholarship, an annual award for a student planning to major in music in college.



Betty and her husband, Ray, who passed away in 1995, were partners in Terry Industries. Together they raised five sons, and she now has 11 grandchildren and one great grandchild. She is a past board member of the Fitton Center for Creative Arts and the Hamilton Fairfield Symphony Orchestra, and is an accomplished pianist.

Betty believes in investing in the future of young people. Through this legacy gift, she is combining her passion for music with the establishing of a permanent scholarship, so that the music lives on.

NEW LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBERS*

Donna Barich

**W. Otis and Virginia Briggs, Jr.*

*Dr. James and *Anne B. Carr*

Cora and Robert Fiehrer

Rick Flick

**Joe and *Lois Koefler*

**John and Lori Rehm*

Marcia Reist

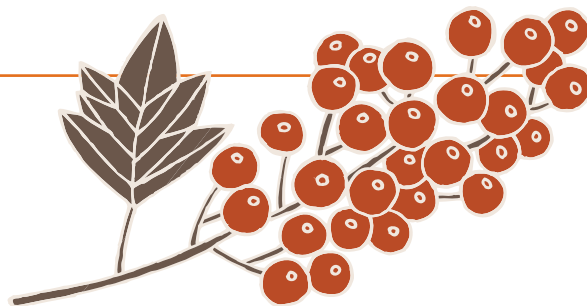
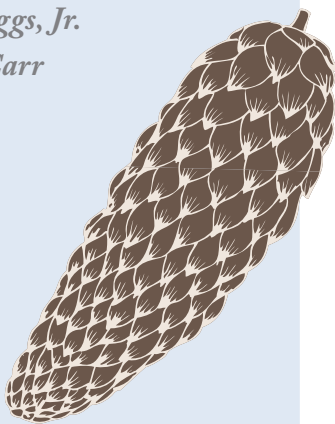
John and Ellen Reister

Mae K. Prentice

Betty J. Terry

(New members May 2014 to present)

*indicates deceased



Legacy Profile

Joe and Lois Koefler Fund

During Joseph and Lois Koefler's 45 years of marriage, they enjoyed their respective careers in business, and in their free time, dance lessons and world travel. Joe especially loved reading and visiting the Lane Library.

They had no children together and, so when Joe passed away in 2013, Lois decided to bequeath their estate, including their condominium, to the Hamilton Community Foundation for a permanent fund benefitting the Lane Public Libraries. Her wish was for the fund to serve library patrons directly, with new books, programming and enhancing library services as needed.

Lois passed away earlier this year, and The Joe and Lois Koefler Fund Lane Library Fund is now endowed at the Hamilton Community Foundation.

Lane Libraries Director Joseph Greenward is very appreciative of the new fund. "Our state funding has decreased dramatically over the last decade, so we've had to look at alternative sources of funding including private donations," he said.

A bequest, one of numerous charitable giving vehicles, is a simple, easy and effective way for donors to leave a legacy and to make a difference in the lives of others for generations to come. "To know that the library was such an important part of this gentleman's life makes us feel good about what we're doing. Through this gift he is making it possible for others to enjoy the library too," adds Greenward.





Joe Marcum

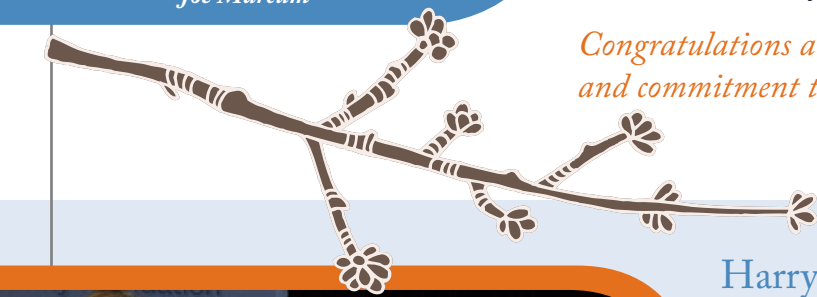
2014 David L. Belew Legacy Award *Joseph L. Marcum*

The Hamilton Community Foundation proudly announced Joe Marcum as the 2014 David L. Belew Award recipient at its annual meeting on November 4. This award honors those who've made significant contributions of time, talent and resources to the Foundation and/or the community.

A Hamilton native, Joe attended Hamilton schools and raised his family here. Joe joined the insurance company Ohio Casualty Corporation as an underwriting trainee in 1947. Through the years he served the firm as secretary, vice president and executive vice president, playing a key role in the firm's development of its life insurance business. He was named president in 1978, chairman and CEO in 1988 and retired as CEO at the end of 1993.

Joe and his wife, Sarah, have been very involved in the greater Hamilton Community. He served on the Hamilton Community Foundation Board from 1985 to 1994. He was a founding member of the Boy's Club (now Boys and Girls Club) and of Senior Citizens, Inc. (now Partners in Prime). Joe has also been active with the Rotary Club of Hamilton, the Hamilton Bicentennial Commission, Fort Hamilton Hospital, Lane Public Library, New London Swim Club and United Way of Butler County and TV Hamilton.

Congratulations and special thanks to Joe for his leadership, vision and commitment to improving the quality of life in our community.



Nanci Lanni, Carol Christian, Nick Lanni

Harry T. Wilks Hamilton Celebrates Education Event Honors Teachers

"Teaching creates all other professions" Author Unknown

The 12th Hamilton Celebrates Education event in October was a celebration of educators and provided an opportunity to reflect on the life of Harry T. Wilks, who passed away in March. The audience viewed a special video paying tribute to Wilks' lifetime of philanthropy and support of educators.

Thirteen teachers were nominated for the Educator of the Year award, and each was recognized at the event. A highlight of the evening was the announcement of Carol Christian as Educator of the Year. The Hamilton native has been an educator for 30 years and now teaches math and social studies at Riverview Elementary. "The real honor is truly being nominated," said Christian as she received the award.

As a special honor to Harry Wilks, the Hamilton Community Foundation matched the number of grants regularly funded by the generosity of the Harry T. Wilks fund. Sixteen classroom grants were given for creative projects in areas ranging from rocket flight to wildlife. A complete listing of the innovative classroom projects may be found on the Foundation's website hamiltonfoundation.org.

Annual Meeting 2014 – Celebrating Another Successful Year at HCF



Board Chair Sandy Sanders, Dave Belw and Steve Marcum surround the David L. Belw Legacy Award. Steve Marcum accepted the award on behalf of his father, Joe Marcum.

In early November, donors and friends of the Hamilton Community Foundation gathered to hear the latest news on impactful projects, fund and asset growth and progress on the Foundation's five strategic objectives.

Education Committee Chair Kathleen Klink reported on the Hamilton StartReady program, Youth Exploring Success Advocate Lindsey Lassiter gave an update on the YES program at Hamilton High School and attorney Nathan Lampley discussed the long term impact that earning a Foundation scholarship has on the success in his life.

There was also time for greeting and conversing with friends both old and new. (All individuals in photos identified from left to right).



Mary Fritsch, Joe Belw and Bill Phelps visit



Woody Fitton, Tom Koehler, Vera Koehler and Diane Fitton catch up



Karen Whalen, Jack Moser, Shirley Moser and Ingrid Sanders converse

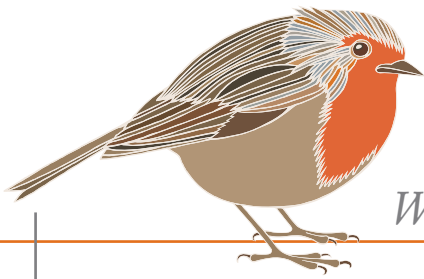


George Schmidt talks with Kenny Craig and John Lewis



Austin and Lois Gleason enjoy the company of Athalene and Buddy Wallin





Welcome New Board Members



John Kirsch

John Kirsch, CPA, a member of the Foundation's investment committee, has been appointed to a three year term on the Board. John has been at Kirsch CPA Group, LLC, for 22 years, where he is Managing Director.



Cindy Parrish

Cindy Parrish has been appointed to a three-year term on the Foundation board. She served as the Foundation's executive director for more than 30 years. Parrish's entire family has been active with the Foundation, and her father, Huntington V. Parrish, was one of its founders in 1951.



At the Foundation's Annual Meeting in November, board chair Kathleen Klink expressed thanks to outgoing board member **Mike Dingeldein**, who recently finished nine years on the board. At the Annual Meeting there was also a moment of silence in memory of former board member **Butch Hubble**, who died in October.

In Memoriam

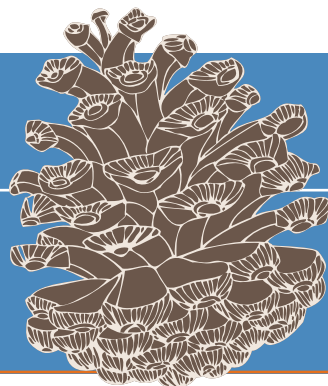


Butch Hubble

Butch Hubble served on the Hamilton Community Foundation board for seven years. The Hamilton native was the executive director of the Booker T. Washington Community Center. Hubble founded the Hamilton Community Council, a grass roots group of individuals with the mission of serving and bettering the community. He served on many boards, including Supports to Encourage Low Income Families (SELF), Hospice of Hamilton and Rotary. He was a U.S. Navy Veteran and retired police officer. Butch will be missed tremendously but the impact of his life's work of selflessness and service lives on.

FOUNDATION MISSION STATEMENT

"Building a better community through creative philanthropy, vision and leadership."



FOUNDATION VISION STATEMENT

"Continue to be the trusted resource for growing philanthropy and leading change to improve our community."

'Tis the Season

Planned giving allows you to look to future and ensure that you and your family are secure now – while supporting the causes which are important to you. Giving through your estate – or planned giving – is a way to make a difference in your community for future generations. The end of the year is a perfect time look ahead. Here are three ways!



A Gift In Your Will

A gift to the Hamilton Community Foundation in your will or revocable living trust allows you to feel good about your contribution now. This type of gift allows:



- **Flexibility**, since you are not actually making the gift now; so you can change your mind at any time;
- **Versatility**, to structure the bequest to leave a certain item or amount of money make the gift contingent on certain events, or to leave a percentage of your estate to us;
- **Tax Relief**, as your estate will be entitled to an estate tax charitable deduction for the gift's fair market value.

To ensure that your heirs are taken care of financially first, and to allow for emergencies, consider making a bequest that is a percentage of your estate. This will ensure that your gift remains proportionate no matter how your estate's value fluctuates over the years.

A Gift Through Your Retirement Plan Assets

When you name the Hamilton Community Foundation, or your fund at the Hamilton Community Foundation, as a beneficiary of all or part of your retirement plan assets, such as a 401k, you do not part with a single penny today, and you protect your beneficiary from taxes later. If a charitable organization such as the Hamilton Community Foundation receives your retirement funds, income taxes on that money is eliminated. If you leave those same assets to family, up to 35 percent of their value is taxable. In this case, instead of supporting your community, you are "donating" to the IRS!

A Gift Through Your Life Insurance Policy

Your life insurance policy can become a charitable asset when you name the Hamilton Community Foundation (or your charitable fund at the Foundation), as the beneficiary (or one of the beneficiaries) of your policy's death benefit. It is a simple and generous option for a policy you no longer need.

Consider adding the Hamilton Community Foundation to your estate plan! It is a great way to support the causes you care about while still taking care of your family and their future needs. To learn how, contact us at (513) 863-1717. You may also visit our website, hamiltonfoundation.org to learn more about the Legacy Society and the many individuals who have begun shaping the future with their gifts today.



Your 2014 year-end giving

Now is the time to make sure you have accomplished your charitable goals for 2014. You still have time to made decisions that will result in tax savings, other financial benefits and the satisfaction of maximizing your gifts. To discuss your year-end gifts, contact us at (513) 863-1717.



319 North Third Street
Hamilton, Ohio 45011

NON PROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT 770
CINCINNATI, OH

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Stay Connected!

www.hamiltonfoundation.org

513-863-1717

Like us on

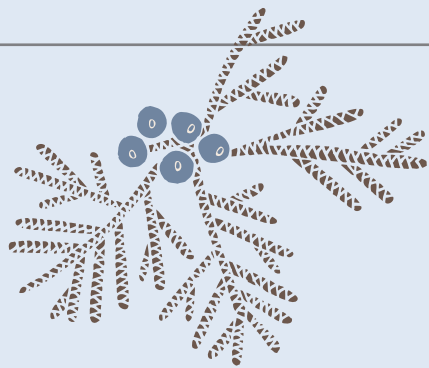


Check out our
donor stories on



Confirmed in compliance with National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations.

UP & coming in 2015



*From Our House to Yours,
Wishing You Happy Holidays*

Ice Fest

“Hamilton Goes Hollywood” is the theme for the 2015 Ice Fest in downtown Hamilton.

**Friday, January 16 and
Saturday, January 17 in downtown Hamilton**

Scholarship Awards

Go to hamiltonfoundation.org after January 1 to apply for Hamilton Community Foundation’s scholarships for graduating high school seniors. Online application deadline:

Friday, February 6



Please remember us in your year end giving