“Providing effective and rewarding ways for donors to fulfill their philanthropic objectives.”

Serving Charitable Donors Since 1948
HISTORY OF THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF THE FOX RIVER VALLEY

In 1943, Charles Hoefer, then publisher of the Aurora Beacon-News, convened a group of community leaders to study post-war plans for a better Aurora. Weekly luncheon meetings were held “at the round table” in the Elks Club in downtown Aurora.

The war years were inflationary. Manufacturing plants were operating at full capacity and were extremely profitable. Corporate income taxes were excessively high and business leaders were seeking ways to redirect their profits from onerous taxation to the service of local needs.

Conditions thus were favorable for the formation of a philanthropic vehicle—a community foundation—which would allow for the accumulation of tax-deductible contributions when convenient for the donors. Assets so accumulated would be retained for later distribution to charitable causes as suggested by the donors. These reservoirs of charitable gifts, known as Advisory Funds, could be named after the companies and individuals contributing the gifts.

In June 1948, formal structure was given to this concept through the establishment of The Aurora Foundation. Aurora industrialist William B. Greene was elected president, a position he held for thirteen years. Attorney Frank R. Reid, Jr. served as the Foundation’s first secretary and legal counsel.

Since 1948, the Foundation has grown from 1 charitable fund with assets of $5,000 to 467 charitable funds with assets of over $71 million. Although Advisory Funds remain an attractive vehicle for charitable donors, other types of funds have become important to the Foundation and its role within the community.

Scholarship funds have distributed over $13 million to local students. Funds also have been created to benefit social service agencies, educational and healthcare organizations, the arts and culture, religious institutions and the environment. Grants and scholarships awarded by the Foundation since its founding total $60.6 million.

In 2006, the Foundation adopted a new name to more accurately reflect the communities it has always served. The Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley continues the proud tradition of The Aurora Foundation by reaching out to citizens of the Greater Aurora Area, the TriCities and Kendall County.


The Foundation’s current board of directors invites the participation of all who wish to be a part of our continuing development as a charitable resource for area citizens.


FINANCIAL INFORMATION

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL TRANSACTIONS
(Unaudited)
FOR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015

Net Assets — January 1, 2015 $ 75,414,314

Additions:
Gifts $ 4,035,085
Other Income 355,443
Interest and Dividends 1,835,969
Net Realized and Unrealized Gains on Investments (3,052,281) 3,174,216
$ 78,588,530

Deductions:
Grants $ 4,903,366
Scholarships 984,989
Investment Management Fees 382,701
Professional Fees 15,119
Administrative and Other Expenses 832,270 7,118,445

Net Assets — December 31, 2015 $ 71,470,085

Please note: The Community Foundation’s Audit Report and Internal Revenue Service 990 will be available for review at the Foundation office after May 2016. In addition, a schedule of administrative and investment fees is available by contacting the Foundation office.

WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUR CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTION

All contributions to the Community Foundation fulfill charitable purposes. No gift is used to defray the operating expenses of our organization unless a donor designates his or her gift for placement in our Administrative Endowment Fund. And then, only the income earned by the investment of gifts placed in that fund supports administrative expenses.

Any administrative fee charged to a Foundationfund is deducted from the income earned by that fund. Thus, the original value of each contribution to our organization is safeguarded for charitable needs.

INVESTMENT OF FUNDS

The following local financial institutions, acting as agents, manage the funds of the Foundation as the Foundation Board directs. These institutions also invest each fund under the supervision of the Foundation’s Finance Committee.

- BMO Harris Bank N.A.
- Clear Perspective Advisors
- First National Bank
- Old Second Wealth Management Trust Company of Illinois
Our President Retires—A New Era Begins

Sharon Stredde, our president and chief executive officer, retired in 2015 after serving the Community Foundation for thirty years. During her tenure, the Foundation grew by more than $70 million, received gifts of $77 million and awarded nearly $51 million in grants and scholarships.

Since 1990, the number of non-profit organizations maintaining endowment funds within the Community Foundation grew to forty-six. This was the result of a challenge grant program that Stredde launched in 1990 and again in 2014.

In 2015, the Foundation expanded its outreach through the opening of a second office in Geneva. This has greatly increased the visibility of the Foundation in the TriCities area.

Finally, it was Stredde who envisioned the project to produce videos on the lives of our endowment fund donors and on the history of community organizations. Under her direction, twenty-four videos have been produced. In her retirement, she will continue to research, write scripts and oversee the production of new videos for the Foundation as our new president emeritus.

Mark Truemper, chairman of the board, paid tribute to Stredde upon her retirement. “Sharon’s talent and dedication to the Foundation have been unsurpassed. She has taken us in new directions and has overseen our dramatic growth in ways we never thought possible. She truly will be missed.”

Jeffrey Hartman was named the Community Foundation’s new president and chief executive officer. He assumed his duties on December 1, 2015. Hartman has been with our Foundation since February 2013, first as director of development and then as executive vice-president.

From 2009-2013 Hartman was the director of development at the DuPage Community Foundation. Since he joined our Foundation, he has significantly raised the visibility of our organization throughout our service area by focusing on increasing the Foundation’s relationship with local professional advisors and the business community.

Chairman Truemper made the following comments in announcing Hartman’s appointment. “We are so pleased to have Jeff with us. Over the past two and a half years, he has proven to be a successful and effective leader. We look forward to expanding our presence under his direction.”

Sharon Stredde  
President Emeritus

Mark E. Truemper  
Chairman of the Board

Jeffrey Hartman  
President & CEO
COMPANY FOUNDATION

OUR MISSION
To provide effective and rewarding ways for donors to fulfill their philanthropic objectives.

OUR PURPOSE
The Community Foundation is a non-profit, tax-exempt, philanthropic organization that administers individual charitable funds from which grants and scholarships are distributed to benefit the citizens of the Greater Aurora Area, the TriCities and Kendall County, Illinois.

Founded in 1948, the Foundation provides a simple and powerful approach to charitable giving. Individuals, families, businesses and organizations have the opportunity to custom-design their own named funds that reflect their charitable goals and interests.

Funds may be created on a permanent basis or they may serve a more limited purpose. Donors establishing permanent funds have the assurance that their charitable objectives will be fulfilled in perpetuity.

OUR VISION
The Community Foundation’s vision is to be recognized as a trusted philanthropic leader in the communities it serves through the delivery of the highest quality donor services, customized and unique grant and scholarship programs, and bold initiatives to address community needs.

BOARD GOVERNANCE
The Community Foundation is governed by an independent, volunteer board of directors that is representative of the communities within its service area. Members of the board are responsible for the mission, strategic direction and policies of our organization.
Publication of this Annual Report was underwritten by the earnings received through the investment of the Community Foundation’s Administrative Endowment Fund.
The Community Foundation continues to seek new and innovative ways to meet the needs of charitable donors. As the community’s permanent “Charitable Investment Firm,” our primary purpose is to work with donors who wish to return a portion of their resources to the community. Many donors choose to give through the Foundation because of the advantages a community foundation offers.

**Permanent Guardianship Of Gifts**
A gift to the Foundation may establish, or be added to, an endowment fund. Endowment funds are structured to serve their charitable purpose(s) in perpetuity. The amount available for distribution is carefully established by the Foundation to ensure the preservation and long-term growth of each endowment fund. Donors appreciate knowing that their contributions will extend beyond their lifetimes and will be carefully safeguarded to serve the community as originally intended.

**Maximum Tax Deductibility**
The Community Foundation is classified as a public charity under Section 501(c)(3) and Section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) of the Internal Revenue Code. This status affords donors tax deductions for income and estate tax purposes to the maximum extent permissible under current tax law.

**Special Tax Benefits**
Donors contributing appreciated assets to the Foundation receive the following benefits: (1) capital gains taxes will not be levied on the donated property, and (2) an income tax deduction can be taken on the full, fair market value of the gift. These advantages apply if the assets have been owned for the requisite period of time (currently for at least one year and a day).

**Tax-Sheltered Growth Of Funds**
Contributions to charitable funds within the Foundation grow tax free. This means that donors are able to build charitable reserves in their names without incurring additional taxes.

**Choice Of Charitable Beneficiaries**
Donors are able to realize most charitable intents by designating the organizations or the philanthropic purposes to be served by their fund. Through the Foundation, donors have the freedom to structure funds to accomplish their charitable objectives.

**Economies Of Scale**
We strive to offer a better investment return to each participating fund within the Foundation through: (1) the pooling of assets, (2) the diversification of investments and (3) the reduction of costs to any one fund through shared expenses.

**Recognition**
Funds may be established in the name of the donor, the donor’s family, a friend, a business, a charitable purpose, or another organization. Those establishing endowment funds are guaranteed perpetual recognition through publications and through the annual distributions of grants in the name of the fund. Conversely, the Foundation understands and respects a donor’s wish for anonymity and will administer such gifts accordingly.

**Flexibility**
The Foundation carefully adheres to the terms of all gifts entrusted to its care. If the original purposes of a fund become obsolete or incapable of fulfillment, the Foundation has the responsibility to redirect the fund to other related purposes. That power is used sparingly and donors may rest assured that the spirit of their charitable objectives will be represented in perpetuity.

**Accountability**
Annual reviews through an independent audit, filing of tax returns, public disclosure of all grant activity, and careful selection of board members ensure continued use of funds in the public interest.

**Foundation Within A Foundation**
Affiliation with the Foundation offers the advantages of a private foundation without the attendant expense and time commitment. We relieve donors of the complications of administering their own foundations by assuming full responsibility for the efficient, prudent management of each fund entrusted to our care.
Donors can realize nearly any charitable intent by choosing from the variety of fund types offered by the Foundation. These fund types can be created as (1) “endowment funds” which are structured to serve their charitable purpose(s) in perpetuity or as (2) “pass-thru funds” which are temporary charitable vehicles that close upon the fulfillment of their purposes.

Unrestricted Funds
Unrestricted Funds permit the Foundation the greatest flexibility in responding to present and future charitable needs within the Foundation’s service area. Donors establishing Unrestricted Funds rely on the expertise of the Foundation board and staff to identify and evaluate the most effective uses for the fund.

Field Of Interest Funds
These types of funds enable donors to choose a particular field of interest, such as youth, education, senior citizen needs, the arts, etc. The Foundation evaluates needs within the specified field and responds to those needs in the name of the fund.

Donor Advised Funds
Donor Advised Funds allow donors to make suggestions for distributions to meet current needs. Although Internal Revenue Service regulations require these suggestions to be nonbinding, each suggestion receives serious consideration by the Foundation’s Board of Directors.

Restricted Funds
These funds are designed to benefit specific charitable organizations such as a non-profit agency, a civic institution or a religious house of worship. If a specific beneficiary of a fund ceases to exist, the Foundation will follow the original intentions of the donor by identifying organizations of similar purpose. Thus, donors have the assurance that their charitable objectives will continue to be fulfilled.

Scholarship Program Funds
The Community Foundation is well known for its extensive scholarship program. Many donors create Scholarship Funds as memorials to loved ones and friends. Donors have the option to define the criteria of their funds (e.g., to serve students entering a particular field of study or graduating from a specific high school, etc.). Scholarship Funds can be structured to reflect most charitable objectives or can be left “open-ended” to give the Foundation latitude in the selection of deserving students.

Grantmaking Program Funds
The Community Foundation is able to award charitable grants to the community due to the thoughtfulness of donors who have contributed to one of our unrestricted funds and also through the generosity of individuals who have created their own charitable funds which support our discretionary grantmaking program.

Agency & Institutional Endowment Funds
The Community Foundation manages the endowments of many organizations. These funds are structured to serve their intended charitable purpose(s) in perpetuity. The amount available for distribution is carefully established by the Foundation to ensure the preservation and long-term growth of each endowment fund. Through affiliation with our organization, the agency is relieved of the accounting and reporting requirements which accompany the management of an endowment. Finally, since the assets of the Foundation are pooled for investment purposes, each endowment is able to benefit from a more diverse investment portfolio.

Administrative Funds
Funds assisting the Foundation in its work enable our organization to maintain modest levels of fees for services to the community. Your Administrative Endowment Fund will receive ongoing recognition in the Foundation’s Annual Report and will ensure our ability to maximize grant payouts to the community.

Combination Of Charitable Purposes
If you wish to support several charitable causes, it is possible to design a fund which will distribute a combination of charitable grants each year. For example, a percentage of your fund’s annual income can be distributed to a specific charity and the balance can be reserved for scholarships. Or, set percentages can be awarded to specific charities with the balance earmarked for a particular field of interest, such as senior citizen needs or the environment. We welcome your participation and creativity in the design of your charitable fund.
Gifts of any amount to an existing Foundation fund are always welcomed and valued. Or, donors may wish to establish their own fund. A minimum gift of $500 will enable you to open a new fund. Once your fund reaches $10,000, it can be established as an endowment to serve the community in your name on a permanent basis. Funds with balances of less than $10,000 are commingled within our Consolidated Fund. No administrative fees are charged against these funds and the income earned by the Consolidated Fund assists the Foundation with its expenses. Funds which retain balances of at least $10,000 may accrue their own income. A modest administrative fee is charged for the services provided to these funds. Your gift may be made in one or more of the following ways.

Cash
A gift of cash is the simplest and most convenient way of giving to the Foundation. Cash can be given in the form of currency, checks, or money orders. Checks or money orders may be made payable to the Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley or to the fund designated to receive the gift.

Securities
Gifts of appreciated securities provide considerable advantages to donors. When securities have been held for the required period of time, a donor can deduct the full fair market value of the gift and avoid a capital gains tax on the appreciated amount of the securities.

IRA Charitable Rollover
Individuals age 70½ and older are able to gift up to $100,000 to the Community Foundation from their IRAs without incurring tax on the withdrawal. These gifts can be made to any Foundation fund except advisory funds.

Bequests
Many donors have created funds within the Foundation through a bequest. Bequests to the Foundation are not subject to estate or inheritance taxes, thus ensuring the maximum benefit to your charitable fund.

Life Insurance
Gifts of life insurance allow donors to make sizeable gifts at relatively low cost. By assigning ownership of a life insurance policy to the Foundation, you receive an immediate tax deduction and eliminate the proceeds of the policy from your estate. All premium payments made by you thereafter will also be tax deductible, subject to Internal Revenue Service limitations.

Charitable Remainder Trusts
Charitable Remainder Trusts enable donors to transfer assets to a trustee to be held on behalf of specified beneficiaries during the trust’s lifetime. You receive an immediate federal tax deduction for the year the trust is established, subject to Internal Revenue Service limitations. Distributions of income from the trust will be made to you and/or to other beneficiaries for the life of the trust. When the trust terminates, the proceeds will be used to create a charitable fund in your name or in any other name as designated in the original trust agreement.

Charitable Lead Trusts
A Charitable Lead Trust is the reverse of a Charitable Remainder Trust. This type of trust allows for payments to your charitable fund within the Foundation for a specified number of years. Upon termination of the trust, the principal is paid to you or any other non-charitable beneficiary you select. This vehicle is especially useful for property that has the potential to significantly appreciate.

Charitable Gift Annuities
The Foundation administers a Charitable Gift Annuity program that provides lifetime payments to donors participating in the program. Upon termination of the annuity, the remainder is placed in an existing charitable fund within the Community Foundation, as designated by the donor. The remainder also may be used to create a new charitable fund in the name of the donor or the donor’s family.

Transfer Of Charitable Trusts
The Foundation provides for the efficient and cost-effective management of charitable trusts. Such arrangements enable a maximum flow of charitable dollars to the community.

Private Foundation Transfers
Maintaining a private foundation can be burdensome and costly. By transferring the assets of a private foundation to the Community Foundation, you can benefit from tax and administrative benefits while retaining the original purpose and identification of your foundation.

Corporate Giving
Corporations can ease the administrative work required to manage their charitable giving program by creating a fund within the Foundation. All paperwork, acknowledgments, filing of government forms, and audits are handled by the Foundation. Corporations continue to receive recognition of their philanthropic generosity, unless anonymity is requested.

Other
Contributions of Real Estate, Tangible Personal Property, Closely Held Stock, Patents and Copyrights, Surplus Business Inventory, etc. are other ways of creating a fund within the Foundation.
If an individual would like to create a charitable fund within the Foundation yet believes that such generosity must be tempered by current financial responsibilities to loved ones, he or she may wish to consider a charitable bequest. The fund will be established upon receipt of the donor’s bequest and in accordance with the donor’s direction. Bequests also may be made for placement in existing Foundation funds. The following suggested language may be used in the wording of a bequest to the Foundation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Bequest Message</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I. UNRESTRICTED BEQUEST</td>
<td>&quot;I give, devise and bequeath (describe assets which are the subject of the bequest such as a stated sum, specific property, a percentage of the estate, or the residue of the estate) to the Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley, an Illinois Not For Profit Corporation of Aurora, Illinois. The net income and, in the Foundation’s discretion, the principal of this gift shall be devoted to the general purposes of the Foundation.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. UNRESTRICTED BEQUEST (ENDOWMENT)</td>
<td>In those cases where the donor prefers that the principal of the gift remain intact, the following language may be substituted for the last sentence in the previous example. &quot;The net income only of this gift shall be devoted to the general purpose of the Foundation and the principal shall remain intact.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III. RESTRICTED BEQUEST</td>
<td>&quot;I give, devise and bequeath (describe assets which are the subject of the bequest such as a stated sum, specific property, a percentage of the estate, or the residue of the estate) to the Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley, an Illinois Not For Profit Corporation of Aurora, Illinois. The net income and, in the Foundation’s discretion, the principal of this gift shall be devoted to the support of (a designated agency, institution, field of interest, charitable purpose such as scholarships, or a combination thereof). This gift shall be added to an existing Community Foundation fund (or specify the name of the fund) which serves (the stated purpose or purposes).&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV. RESTRICTED BEQUEST (ENDOWMENT)</td>
<td>In those cases where the donor prefers that the principal of the gift remain intact, the following language may be substituted for the last two sentences in the previous example. &quot;The net income only of this gift shall be devoted to the support of (a designated agency, institution, field of interest, charitable purpose such as scholarships, or a combination thereof) and the principal shall remain intact. This gift shall be added to an existing Foundation endowment fund (or specify the name of the endowment fund) which serves (the stated purpose or purposes).&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V. BEQUEST FOR NEW NAMED FUND</td>
<td>If a gift is substantial and contemplates a separate named fund for the donor or some other person, the following language may be used. &quot;I give, devise and bequeath (describe assets which are the subject of the bequest such as a stated sum, specific property, a percentage of the estate, or the residue of the estate) to the Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley, an Illinois Not For Project Corporation of Aurora, Illinois. This gift shall be known as the ‘_____Fund’. The net income and, in the Foundation’s discretion, the principal of this fund shall be devoted to the support of (the general purposes of the Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley, a designated agency, institution, field of interest, charitable purpose such as scholarships, or a combination thereof).&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VI. BEQUEST FOR NEW NAMED FUND (ENDOWMENT)</td>
<td>In those cases where the donor prefers that the principal of the gift remain intact, the following language may be substituted for the last two sentences in the previous example. &quot;This gift shall be known as the ‘_____Endowment Fund.’ The net income only of this fund shall be devoted to the support of (the general purposes of the Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley, a designated agency, institution, field of interest, charitable purpose such as scholarships, or a combination thereof) and the principal shall remain intact.&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This language is meant to serve as a general guide for both endowment and pass-thru gifts. Alternate or more specific language may be appropriate in certain cases. Donors are encouraged to consult their legal advisors for professional assistance regarding any proposed bequest to the Foundation.
Many donors who wish to maintain an enduring presence within the community establish endowment funds. Endowment funds are permanent resources that are structured to serve their intended charitable purpose(s) in perpetuity. The amount available for distribution from an endowment fund is carefully established by the Foundation to ensure the preservation and long-term growth of each fund. Donors creating endowments enable the Foundation to build permanent reserves for the future. By providing a portion of their resources for the ongoing benefit of others, these permanent community benefactors are accorded a lasting place in the philanthropic history of our community. All funds of the Foundation are “open” and may receive contributions at any time. Following are brief profiles of our endowment fund donors. Please note that biographical information and photos of all of our fund donors (those who maintain endowment funds and those who maintain pass-thru funds) are featured on our website. You may access these profiles as follows:

www.CommunityFoundationFRV.org
Foundation Funds—See All Funds

ALEXANDER FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1988)

This fund provides scholarships to students graduating from Hinckley-Big Rock, Kaneland or West Aurora High School who have demonstrated high academic achievement and leadership potential. The fund was established at the time of George H. Alexander’s death by the Alexander Family. Mr. Alexander (1911-1988) was a director of the Community Foundation for thirty-two years, serving as chairman for four of those years. He also served as a senior or emeritus director for two years prior to his death. The Alexander Family has been engaged in the lumber business in Aurora for over one hundred years.

CLAUDE L. & ALICE E. ALLEN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1998)

This fund, which provides scholarships to graduates of East Aurora High School, was established in 1998 by Alice Allen as a memorial to her husband. Claude Allen (1916-1997) was in the retail grocery store business for over fifty years. After graduating from North Central College in 1939 with a degree in business administration, Mr. Allen opened his first grocery store on Marion Avenue in Aurora. In 1957, he moved to a larger location on Hinman and Fifth Avenue. Mr. Allen was the quintessential friendly, local grocer. He was a confidant, mentor and banker to the neighborhood families he served. Alice Allen (1918-2012) was born in Aurora, Illinois and lived in the city for eighty years. She attended North Central College. In 1940, she married Claude Allen. After raising their three sons, Mrs. Allen joined her husband at Allen’s Food Market. Her interests included attending the opera, refinishing furniture and writing beautiful handwritten letters. Like her husband, Alice Allen touched the lives of others in a meaningful and lasting way.

CRISTINA & THOMAS S. ANDERSON ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2000)

This fund was created by Cris and Tom Anderson of St. Charles to support the Community Foundation’s discretionary grantmaking program. Established in 2000, it became an endowment in 2009. Cris Anderson was born and raised in Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil. She obtained a bachelor of arts degree in physical education from Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul and a master of science degree in physical education from Brigham Young University. Mrs. Anderson coached high school volleyball in Brazil and Utah, and taught physical education for five years. She also served as an interpreter for McDonald’s Hamburger University in Oakbrook and the Food Marketing Institute National Convention in Chicago. Currently, Mrs. Anderson is a director of the Community Foundation and a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Tom Anderson has been a partner and owner of Colonial Ice Cream since 1964. He attended St. Charles schools and is a graduate of St. Charles High School. He earned a degree in business administration from Augustana College and is a member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have served as directors of numerous local civic and charitable organizations, and have received special honors from many of those organizations.
STEVEN J. & BETTY I. ANDRAS ENDOWMENT FUND FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED (EST. 2009)

This fund was created upon receipt of a bequest from the estate of Stephen J. Andras. Distributions from the fund are made to organizations dedicated to providing job training and/or placement for the visually impaired. Stephen Andras (1923-2009) was born in Temple, Pennsylvania. He served in the first division of the United States Marine Corps during World War II in the Pacific Islands. After being wounded in the line of duty, he was awarded the Purple Heart. Mr. Andras retired as president of Strathmore Printing Company in 1985 after thirty-five years of service. He then owned and operated Cogan Productions, a supplier of Catholic catechisms to ministries worldwide. As a civic leader, Mr. Andras was a member of the Aurora Kiwanis Club, Rush-Copley Hospital, Serra Club, Toastmasters and Holy Angels Church. He served as a board member of the Community Foundation from 1976 to 1988. Betty Andras (1924-1999) was born in Reading, Pennsylvania. She was united in marriage to Stephen Andras in 1948 and was an active member of Advent Christian Church.

ARMBRUSTER-DIETERICH-WAGNER FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2000)

This fund was created to honor the Armbruster-Dieterich-Wagner Families for their contributions to the Aurora community. The Armbruster Family has been influential in Aurora musical organizations and the East Aurora Education System. Elsie Ruth Armbruster Dieterich Wagner (1912-2015) graduated from East Aurora High School in 1930. She served on numerous boards of directors including the Aurora Historical Society, Bardwell School PTA, DD Chapter of PEO Sisterhood, Family Counseling Service, First Presbyterian Church, Jennings Terrace, United Way, Wayside Cross Ministries and YWCA Aurora. Ruth Wagner married banker Leslie Thomas Dieterich in 1932. He passed away in 1977. Her second husband Albert Wagner (1911-2005) was an employee of the Armour-Dial Corporation for fifty years. A video of the life of Ruth Wagner is available on the Community Foundation website.

EDWARD & GLADYS (STODDARD) ARENKILL NURSING & MEDICAL EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2007)

This fund was created to assist students pursuing a pre-medical course of study or a degree in the field of nursing. Edward Arenkill (1922-2007) was a lifelong Aurora resident. He graduated from Aurora East High School and was a medical corpsman in the United States Navy during World War II. His four years of active duty included both Normandy and Okinawa. Mr. Arenkill studied pre-medicine at Northwestern University, and later joined his father and brother in their Aurora family business. Gladys Stoddard Arenkill (1923-2004) was born in Nebraska. She was a graduate of the Copley School of Nursing in Aurora. She was a nurse at Copley Memorial Hospital and a private duty nurse providing care for iron lung patients. Following her career, she contributed over 3,000 hours of volunteer service at Copley Memorial Hospital. Mr. and Mrs. Arenkill were members of Fourth Street Methodist Church. This fund, which was established in 2007, became an endowment in 2008.

AURORA FIREFIGHTERS SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND IN MEMORY OF TONY SCHOEN (EST. 1991)

The Aurora Firefighters created a scholarship fund in 1991 to honor the memory of fellow firefighter Tony Schoen. The fund was established as an endowment in 2003. Tony Schoen (1962-1991) was an Aurora firefighter from 1985 until his death in 1991. He was a graduate of Yorkville High School. During his high school years he took an active role in the formation of the Emergency Medical Service of Yorkville. He earned a certificate as an emergency medical technician and later worked with the Bristol-Kendall Emergency Medical Service. His other interests included aviation and carpentry. He also obtained a private pilot license and operated an excavating business.
AURORA FOUNDATION PERMANENT ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1984)

This fund was created to build a permanent resource for the general grantmaking program of the Foundation. Through the years, significant grants have been awarded from the fund to non-profit organizations located throughout the Fox Valley. In 2006, The Aurora Foundation’s name was changed to the Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley. Although the name of this fund also changed, the members of the board directed that each future annual report include a tribute to the original name and to the generosity of those whose gifts resulted in this lasting charitable reserve. A video of the history of The Aurora Foundation/Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley is available on the Community Foundation website.

NORMAN P. & ALMA L. BACHERT MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1998)

This fund was created upon receipt of an unrestricted bequest from the estate of Alma L. Bachert. Alma Bachert (1915-1998) was a member of St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Women’s Missionary League, Young at Heart, the Aurora Woman’s Club and Gateway Gardening. Norman Bachert (1910-1988) was president and chairman of the board of Aurora National Bank. He was a former director of the Community Foundation and was involved in numerous local organizations including the Aurora Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis Club, Aurora College Advisory Board, the Visiting Nurse Association and St. Paul’s Lutheran Church.

GEORGE & MARILYN BALL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2000)

This fund was established by Marilyn Ball as a memorial to her husband George Ball and her sister Lucile Potter. Scholarships from the fund are available to students graduating from West Aurora High School who are pursuing a degree in elementary or pre-school education. George Ball (1926-1990) was a graduate of Valparaiso University. From 1951-1959, he was a teacher and coach at Freeman Elementary School. In 1960, he was appointed principal of the new Hall Elementary School and continued in that position until his retirement in 1981. He then became a homebound counselor at the Association for Individual Development and later served in the Assessment Office at Waubonsee Community College. Marilyn Ball (1925-2008) was a graduate of Valparaiso University. Upon graduation, she taught for two years at Mooseheart. In 1969, she began a twenty-five year teaching career at Wesley United Methodist Church Nursery School.

DR. CARL H.H. & ANNE M. BAUMANN ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2002)

This fund, established to administer bequests received from the estates of Carl and Anne Baumann, provides grants to Mutual Ground, Inc. in Aurora and also for the Community Foundation’s discretionary grantmaking program. Carl Baumann (1921-2002) was born in Scranton, Pennsylvania. He received his medical degree from the University of Chicago and was a neurosurgeon in the Fox Valley area for most of his career. During World War II, he was a topographer for the United States Army in France and North Africa. He was a member of the Kane County Medical Society, Illinois Medical Society, American Medical Association and the American Association of Neurological Surgeons. Anne Baumann (1927-2002) was born in Aurora where she was a dedicated civic leader. She was an alderman for the City of Aurora, instructor at Waubonsee Community College and field representative for the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation in Washington, D.C. She also produced and appeared weekly in Community Forum on Cable 12 TV. Mrs. Baumann served on the boards of directors of the League of Women Voters, United Way of the Aurora Area, Family Counseling Service and People for Child Care.

ROBERT A. BECKER MEMORIAL ADVISORY ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1998)

This fund was created as a memorial to Robert A. Becker by his family and friends. Mr. Becker (1940-1997) was president, chief executive officer and director of the Pinnacle Bank of Batavia for thirteen years. In addition to his affiliation with numerous civic activities in Batavia, he also served as trustee of the Community Hospital in Geneva, director of the Batavia Foundation for Educational Excellence, board member of the Furnas Foundation and alder-
man for the City of Batavia. The Robert A. Becker Memorial Advisory Endowment Fund provides income for grants to Batavia area non-profit organizations.

**GENEVIEVE & DALE T. BERG SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2011)**

This fund was created by Genevieve Berg as a memorial to her husband Dale. Scholarships from the fund are available to graduates of East Aurora or West Aurora High School who are pursuing a career in electrical engineering, electronic engineering technology, computer engineering, computer electronics or similar fields of study. Dale Berg (1923-2010) was born in Shabbona, Illinois and was a graduate of Hinckley High School. After high school, he took a job as a dairy tester. His dream was to become a dairy farmer. He enlisted in the United States Navy in November 1942 and served his country during WWII in the Pacific. During the war, he became proficient at repairing aircraft radios. In 1948, he married Genevieve Olson, also of Shabbona. Mr. Berg received further training in radio electronics at Capital Engineering Institute in Washington D.C. from which he graduated in 1948. Shortly thereafter, the couple moved to Aurora. Mr. Berg's first job out of school was with May Appliance in Aurora where he repaired radios, televisions and appliances. Soon after, he took a job as a technical writer with Halicrafters, a manufacturer of radio equipment. Eventually, he became an electrical contractor and ran a successful business, Berg Electric, in Batavia with his partner and brother Richard Berg. In 1988, he received a Lifetime Membership from the Northern Illinois Chapter of the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA). Mr. Berg was a dedicated member of Our Savior Lutheran Church in Aurora where he served as a deacon, trustee, usher and coordinator of the Radio Ministries for fifty years.

**DR. WILLIAM H. BLACKBURN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1985)**

Dr. William H. Blackburn (1917-1985) practiced medicine at Dreyer Medical Clinic from 1942 until 1985. He was president of the clinic and also served as Chief of Staff at Copley Memorial Hospital and St. Joseph Mercy Hospital. He maintained memberships in numerous professional and civic organizations. He was president of the Greater Aurora Chamber of Commerce, a director of the Illinois State Chamber of Commerce, and founding board member of the First American Bank and the Bank of Boulder Hill. Scholarships from Dr. Blackburn’s fund are reserved for graduate level students studying in the field of medicine. The fund was created in 1985 and established as an endowment in 1998.

**WILLIAM W. BODEN ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2001)**

This fund, created upon receipt of a bequest from the estate of William W. Boden, provides support to the Fox Valley Animal Welfare League of Aurora. William Boden (1930-2001) was born in Wheaton, Illinois. In his early years, he lived in Florida and later moved to Aurora where he resided for forty-five years. Mr. Boden worked in the home building industry until 1974. He then opened The Gun Lodge in Aurora, which he owned and operated until his retirement in the mid-1980s. Mr. Boden was devoted to the welfare of animals and has provided for their care through his thoughtful bequest to the Foundation.

**MARY J. BOLAND ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2003)**

This fund was created upon receipt of an unrestricted bequest from the estate of Mary Boland. Miss Boland (1906-2002) and her three sisters and brother were raised on a farm in Fairfax, Iowa. They often were the only students attending the local country school. She received her teaching certificate from Coe College in Cedar Rapids, a degree in music from Cedar Falls Teachers College and a graduate degree from Northwestern University. In 1931, Miss Boland moved to Aurora to begin a teaching career in the East Aurora Schools. She taught at Brady, Beaupre and Oak Park Schools. Later she was appointed supervisor of the music program at all eleven elementary schools. She retired in 1971 after nearly forty years of service.
DOROTHY MAE BONNER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2004)

The Dorothy Mae Bonner Memorial Scholarship Fund was created to honor the life of Dorothy Mae “Mother” Bonner. Mrs. Bonner (1921-2004) was born in Alexandria, Louisiana. She was a graduate of Wendell Phillips High School in Chicago where she was a member of the National Honor Society. In 1942, she married Bishop William Bonner, pastor of the Greater Mount Olive Church of God In Christ in Aurora. As the First Lady of her church and of the Sixth Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of Illinois, Mrs. Bonner influenced the lives of others through her gift of an understanding heart. According to friends, Mrs. Bonner was known as Mother Bonner for her skills as a master caregiver to those with whom she came into contact. She assumed a quiet profile in life, preferring to encourage the success of others. Her many acts of kindness will now be publicly recognized through the awarding of scholarships that carry her name. Mrs. Bonner was survived by her husband and her three children Enyess Allen, Willie Etta Wright and Dorothy Jones. She was preceded in death by her son Charles. Created in 2004, this fund became an endowment in 2012.

CONRAD & DORIS BRASSINE CHARITABLE TRUST (EST. 2008)

This fund was created upon receipt of the Conrad and Doris Brassine Charitable Trust, which was administered by the Trust Company of Illinois in Downers Grove. The income of the fund supports non-profit organizations located within the Community Foundation’s service area. The Trust Company of Illinois serves as an advisor to the fund by working with the Community Foundation to identify charitable beneficiaries of the income. Conrad Brassine (1907-1998) was born in Columbus, Ohio. He was a tool and die worker. He also was an active member of the Academy of Model Aeronautics, which met at 87th and Western Avenue in Chicago. Doris Brassine (1910-2003) was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She had been an executive secretary at Merrill Lynch in her youth. She also was an amateur sharpshooter aspiring to be in the Olympics. Mr. and Mrs. Brassine were residents of Chicago.

JOHN A. BRENNEMECKE SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1968)

This fund for graduate level medical students was created to administer a bequest from the estate of John A. Brennecke (1903-1967). Mr. Brennecke was secretary of the Alexander Lumber Company and served as an officer of several other companies in the Alexander Firm. In 1982, the Foundation received a bequest from his sister Margaret Brennecke for placement in the fund. Margaret Brennecke’s bequest was given in honor of their father Dr. Herman A. Brennecke, who also is pictured here.

ALICEMAE BROWN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND IN MEMORY OF NATALIE ANN BROWN (EST. 2002)

This fund was created upon receipt of a bequest from the estate of Alicemae Brown as a memorial to her granddaughter Natalie Ann Brown (pictured here). Alicemae Brown (1927-2001) of Aurora was married to Dr. Edwin C. Brown D.D.S. and assisted him in his practice for twenty years. Dr. Brown died in 1981. Their granddaughter Natalie Ann Brown (1977-1994) was born in Tennessee. At the time of her passing, Natalie lived in Yorkville with her family. She had just completed her junior year at Yorkville High School where she was actively involved in basketball and poms. Natalie held several part-time jobs while modeling for Fine Image Photography and was a runner-up in the Glamour Models competition sponsored by the publication.

F. KEITH BROWN FAMILY ADVISORY ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2015)

This fund provides support to charitable organizations at the suggestion of F. Keith Brown. Judge Brown has served as an attorney and judge for thirty-three years. He was a staff attorney for the Illinois Industrial Commission, hearing referee for the Illinois Department of Labor, litigator at Miller, Feda and Brown, criminal conflict attorney in Kane County and presiding judge of several divisions of the court system.
He served as judge in the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Court (1996-2008), chief judge in the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Court (2008-2011) and presiding judge of the Civil Division (2012-2014). Judge Brown has received numerous awards during his outstanding career—Benjamin K. Miller Recognition Award for the Prevention of Family Violence, Aurora's African-American Heritage Board Person of the Year and the Elgin Community Crisis Center Partners in Peace Award. He has now returned to private practice and became a director of the Community Foundation in 2015.

**DON & BETTY BROWNSON ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2013)**

This fund supports the A+ Foundation for West Aurora Schools and the Aurora East Educational Foundation. Don Brownson was born in Roselle, Illinois. He is a graduate of East Aurora High School and the Northwestern University School of Commerce. Betty Brownson was born in Plattville, Illinois. She is a graduate of Newark High School and National Louis University. Mr. and Mrs. Brownson were married in 1950. They then started a wholesale lumber business in Aurora. Later, they purchased two retail lumber yards in Colorado (Breckenridge Building Center in 1970 and Edwards Building Center in 1978). Mr. Brownson continues to be active in both businesses. In 1962, the Brownsons built a home at 1211 West Downer Place, which remains their primary residence. They are active members of New England Congregational Church in Aurora and First United Methodist Church in Naples, Florida. Mr. Brownson volunteers for Habitat for Humanity in Naples. Mrs. Brownson has been a member of the board of directors at Sunnymere in Aurora for twenty-seven years. She also has served as a board member of the Child Welfare Society and is an active member of PEO in Aurora and Naples. The couple has three children and seven grandchildren.

**LORRAINE B. BRYANT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2004)**

This fund was created upon receipt of a bequest from Lorraine Bryant. Mrs. Bryant (1904-2002) was a member of St. John A.M.E. Church where she served as a nurse’s aide. She also was involved in the missionary work of the church. Mrs. Bryant had no children of her own, but she was called “Mother” by those she knew. She enjoyed the simple pleasures of life—feeding the birds, watching over her flowers and sharing interesting stories with friends. Her life was filled with prayer and with the singing of hymns. According to friends, Mrs. Bryant had a deep respect for higher education and had often expressed her personal wish for that opportunity. Her bequest to the Foundation was her way of providing to future generations the one dream that had eluded her in life. Mrs. Bryant was preceded in death by her husband Gilbert Bryant.

**BARBARA BURGIN & EDWIN & CAROL EHRHART SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2005)**

This fund was created to provide scholarships to students pursuing careers that will positively impact the environment and its inhabitants. Barbara Burgin (1907-1993) was born on a farm near Wheaton, Illinois. She later moved to Aurora, where she lived most of her life. During World War II, Mrs. Burgin was a butcherette at the Kroger Grocery Store in downtown Aurora. When the men returned from the war and assumed those positions, she became manager of several departments at Krogers. Her daughter Carol Ehrhart was born in Aurora. A graduate of East Aurora High School, Mrs. Ehrhart was employed at Lyon Metal in Aurora. In 2008, she received an award from the City of Aurora as one of the city’s Volunteers of the Year. Mrs. Ehrhart most recently volunteered for the Aurora Public Library and the Friendly Center Club at the Fox Valley Park District. She is a member of Our Savior Lutheran Church. Her husband Edwin Ehrhart (1910-1984) was born on a farm in Naperville. He attended the Naperville schools and also worked at Lyon Metal. Mr. Ehrhart was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church. This fund, which was created in 2005, became an endowment in 2007. Mrs. Ehrhart established the fund to encourage local students to further their educations. As she stated, “Education is essential to our survival and it is my hope that these scholarships will make a difference in the lives of future generations.”
**CABE ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2001)**

The CABE Endowment Fund provides annual distributions of income to St. Joseph Catholic Church and Our Savior Lutheran Church. The fund was established by a generous donor who wishes to remain anonymous. St. Joseph Catholic Church was formed in 1898 by several members of St. Nicholas Catholic Church who were seeking to build a church closer to their homes. The first Mass was celebrated in the new structure in October 1899. In November 1899, St. Joseph School opened on the first floor of the church. As the parish grew, plans were made for the construction of a new church. The first Mass in the present church was held in March 1956. The church is located on High Street in Aurora. Our Savior Lutheran Church was organized in 1935 by several families from St. Paul’s Lutheran Church who recognized the need for a Lutheran Church on the west side of Aurora. Services were held at the Healy Chapel on Downer Place until a new church building was constructed. Groundbreaking for the church was held on Easter Sunday in 1942. The structure was completed in November 1942. The sanctuary was expanded in 1959 to accommodate the increased membership. The church is located on West Downer Place in Aurora.

**CHARLES & JOSIEDELL CARNES ENDOWMENT FUNDS (EST. 1980)**

Two endowment funds were created by the board of directors of the Community Foundation to administer an unrestricted bequest received from the estate of Josiedell Carnes in 1980. The Josiedell Carnes Endowment Fund provides income for the Community Foundation’s discretionary grantmaking program. It was established as an endowment in 1995. The Charles & Josiedell Carnes Endowment Fund supports student scholarships. It was established as an endowment in 1989. Charles Carnes (1873-1959) was vice-president of Fowler-Carnes Clothing Specialties (pictured in this profile in the early 1900’s). In 1914, he and his wife Josiedell (1884-1958) founded their own garment manufacturing company, the Charles Carnes Company, on South LaSalle Street in Aurora. The company moved to Benton Street in 1931 and promoted itself as a manufacturer of men’s clothing specialties. The company closed in 1956. Mr. and Mrs. Carnes had no children of their own, yet were devoted to causes fostering the education and development of youth.

**MARY R. CHAPMAN ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2008)**

This fund was created through the receipt of an unrestricted bequest from the estate of Mary R. Chapman. Although her parents lived in Canada, Mary Chapman (1916-2007) was born in Wishaw, Scotland. During World War I, her mother took a trip back to her birthplace in Scotland prior to the impending birth of her daughter. Since passenger ships were unable to leave the country, Mary Chapman was born in Scotland. She and her parents later moved from Canada to Michigan where she attended and graduated from Ecourse High School. When she was in her forties, she became a proud citizen of the United States. Her first husband John G. Neill died in 1963. She then worked for the Aurora Country Club. It was there that she met her second husband Josef W. Chapman. They were married for nineteen years until his death. Mrs. Chapman was a member of St. Anne’s Catholic Church and the Aurora Country Club. She was an avid golfer and bowler. She also volunteered for the Red Cross, Mercy Center Auxiliary and the American Heart Association. Although her bequest was unrestricted, Mrs. Chapman was a great admirer of the nursing profession and her family requested that scholarships be awarded from her fund to students entering this life-affirming vocation.

**HOWARD E. CHARLES, JR. ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2006)**

This fund was created to administer a bequest from the estate of Howard E. Charles, Sr. as a memorial to his son Howard E. Charles, Jr. The income earned by the fund provides scholarships to students pursuing a career in the field of health care. Eligibility is restricted to students whose primary residence is within St. Charles Community Unit School District 303. Howard E. Charles, Jr. (1928-1963) was born in Terre Haute, Indiana. He was the son of Howard E. Charles, Sr. and Elizabeth Charles. His family later moved to St. Charles, Illinois where his father became a partner.
in the Burger Drug Store on Main Street. He was a graduate of St. Charles High School and the University of Wyoming. He then served in the United States Air Force for four years. Mr. Charles married and settled in Denver, Colorado, where he was a personnel director in the missile industry. He died in 1963 after a courageous battle with Hodgkin’s disease.

DR. BERNARD J. CIGRAND MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2003)

This fund provides scholarships to students of Luxembourg descent or to students who were active in the Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts. The fund was created in 2003 by a local Boy Scout, Galen Norman of Aurora, with the proceeds of an Eagle Scout project he undertook to honor Dr. Cigrand. In 2007, the fund reached endowment status through additional contributions of local citizens. Dr. Cigrand (1866-1932) was a well-known dentist who lived and practiced his profession in Chicago, Batavia and then Aurora. He also was a patriot. Throughout his dental career, he campaigned tirelessly to have June 14 declared as a special day of observance to honor the United States flag. Finally in 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation that June 14 would become a national day to celebrate the birth of our flag. From that time forward, Dr. Bernard Cigrand became known as the “Father of Flag Day.” A video of the life of Dr. Cigrand is available on the Community Foundation website.

GLENN & LEOLA COMMONS ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1990)

This fund was created to administer an unrestricted bequest from the estate of Leola Commons. Glenn Commons (1909-1985) was owner and manager of the Commons Insurance Agency in Aurora. He also was regional manager for Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company. Mrs. Commons (1905-1990) shared many of her husband’s interests in the community. Both were charter members of Westminster Presbyterian Church in Aurora.


Two endowment funds were established within the Foundation to honor the lives of Percy and Grace Council. The first fund provides income for the Community Foundation’s discretionary grantmaking program. The second is an advisory fund that was created upon the transfer of the Percy R. and Grace M. Council Foundation to the Community Foundation. Percy Council (1893-1982) was a building contractor and realtor in Aurora. He was instrumental in developing the Cherry Hill Estates in West Aurora. Mr. Council was a star basketball player at Lincoln College. He also served in the United States Navy during World War I. Grace Council (1901-1997) taught high school French and Latin in Rhinelander, Wisconsin. She later joined the faculty at Aurora College where she became chair of the Department of Education. Mr. and Mrs. Council were active community leaders serving on numerous charitable boards of directors.

ARTHUR D. & MARY ANN COURT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1985)

This fund was created at the time of Arthur Court’s death by his family and friends to honor this well-known and respected Aurora educator. The fund was established as an endowment in 1990. Mr. Court (1911-1985) was a teacher in the East Aurora School System for thirty-six years. He also served as the high school football and track coach. Mary Ann Court McGray (1917-2012) was born in Aurora, Illinois to Peter and Marie Jungels. She was the last surviving member of an Aurora pioneer family. Mrs. Court was the bookkeeper for the Kane County Recorders Office for many years and won awards for her rapid stenography and typing skills. She also was a gifted pianist, knitter of intricate patterns, painter and seamstress, as well as an avid bridge and pinochle player. Mr. and Mrs. Court had four children. Several years after her husband died, Mrs. Court married Paul McGray. Mr. McGray died in August 2012. Scholarships from this fund are awarded to outstanding graduates of high schools located in the City of Aurora. Mr. and Mrs. Court’s steadfast commitment to the ideals of high moral character and sportsmanship is the basis for the awarding of these scholarships.
ROY E. DAVIS SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1979)

A bequest from the estate of Roy E. Davis was received in 1979 for scholarships to graduates of East Aurora High School. In 2001, the Foundation established the fund as an endowment to ensure ongoing recognition of his generosity. Roy Davis (1889-1979) was the athletic director and coach of East Aurora High School for forty-three years. He joined East Aurora in 1913 as a science teacher and later co-authored a high school biology textbook with his brother Ira. Mr. Davis served on the boards of the Edna Smith Home and the American Red Cross. He also was a member of the Community Foundation’s Scholarship Committee for over fifteen years. The athletic field at East Aurora High School was named in his honor.

VIRGINIA A. DEISHER FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM C. DEISHER, SR., WILLIAM C. DEISHER, JR. AND SAMANTHA ANNE DEISHER (EST. 2001)

This fund was originally established in 2001 as a memorial to William C. Deisher, Jr. and his daughter, Samantha Anne Deisher. In 2011, Virginia Deisher, wife of William C. Deisher, Sr., renamed the fund to honor his life as well as the lives of their son and granddaughter. Currently an advisory fund, the endowment will eventually support Calvary Episcopal Church in Batavia, Illinois and Suicide Prevention Services in Batavia, Illinois. William C. Deisher, Sr., a former director of the Community Foundation, passed away on June 4, 2009. Mr. Deisher (1925-2009) served from 1984-1990 on our board of directors and played a significant role in our development. Upon graduation from East Aurora High School, he joined the United States Navy and served in the Pacific during World War II. In 1950, Mr. Deisher graduated from Aurora College. He then started his career at Dietz Industrial Supply Company. He ultimately achieved the position of president and chief executive officer at Aurora Federal Savings and Loan in Aurora, retiring in 1989. Mr. Deisher was survived by his wife Virginia, a son David Deisher, and daughter Martha Michniewicz. He was preceded in death by his son William C. Deisher, Jr. and his granddaughter Samantha Anne Deisher.

WALTER E. DEUCHLER SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1968)

This fund awards scholarships each year to outstanding graduates of East Aurora and West Aurora High Schools. The fund was created in 1968 and established as an endowment in 1989. A lifelong Auroran, Mr. Deuchler (1889-1978) founded Walter E. Deuchler Associates, Inc., an engineering firm in Aurora. He also was city engineer of Aurora for sixteen years. Mr. Deuchler was a director of numerous civic organizations. He served as a director of the Community Foundation for sixteen years and as a senior or emeritus director for three years prior to his death. As the Foundation’s scholarship chairman, Mr. Deuchler developed a strong interest in recognizing academically talented students who do not necessarily have financial need. A video of the life of Walter Deuchler is available on the Community Foundation website.

DANIEL C. DEUFEL VOCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1977)

Scholarships from this fund are available to students entering a vocational field of study at a trade school or college. Created in 1977, the fund became an endowment in 2014. Daniel Deufel was born in Chicago, Illinois. He was a graduate of Morgan Park High School where he won the Chicago City Championship in swimming. Mr. Deufel received a degree in Industrial Management from Purdue University. Upon graduation, he worked in the automobile industry. In 1970, he moved to Aurora after purchasing the Magill Beverage Company. He renamed the company, Superior Beverage Inc., in honor of his mother and father to whom he attributes his good fortune. To this day, he continues to oversee the company. Mr. Deufel has four children (two boys and two girls) who also are graduates of Purdue University. His two sons are employed in the family business. In addition to his affiliation with the Community Foundation, Mr. Deufel also is a supporter of several charitable organizations.
ARCH J. DEWEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1988)

Scholarships from this fund are awarded to students entering the field of aviation. Arch J. Dewey (1912-1988) was a well-known Aurora aviator who served in both the Royal Canadian Air Force and the United States Air Force. He piloted the City of Aurora B-17 Bomber during World War II. The bomber was so named to honor Aurora residents who purchased war bonds to finance the plane. In remembrance of his love of aviation, his wife Jane created this scholarship to encourage and assist future students entering this field of study. The fund was created in 1988 and established as an endowment in 1989.

MAUDE A. DEWEY & VIVIAN DEWEY WATSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1996)

This fund was created to honor the lives of Maude Dewey and her daughter Vivian Dewey Watson. Maude Dewey taught music for many years in area country schools and gave private lessons in piano and voice. She died in 1968. Vivian Watson, who died in 1979, also gave private lessons in voice, piano and organ. Scholarships from the fund are awarded to students entering the field of music.

CHUCK & DOROTHY DHOM ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2013)

This fund provides income for the Community Foundation’s discretionary grantmaking program. Charles Dhom is a graduate of Robinson High School in Robinson, Illinois. He is a lifetime member of Aurora Local 319 (501) Plumbers, Fitters and Welders. He worked on projects for several local companies and organizations, including Caterpillar, Armour Dial, East Aurora High School, All-Steel, Aurora YMCA and the Mooseheart Stadium. Mr. Dhom is a member of Our Savior Lutheran Church where he has served as a deacon and trustee. He also was a member of the Finance Committee. After retiring in 1992, he worked at the church for several years by helping with facility maintenance and upkeep. In addition, Mr. Dhom volunteered for Presence Fox Knoll in Aurora. Dorothy Dhom was raised in Chicago. She is a graduate of Gage Park High School and Wilson Junior College. Mrs. Dhom was employed at Western Electric (Hawthorne Plant) and later for the West Aurora School District. She is an active member of Our Savior Lutheran Church. She sings in the chancel choir and was a Sunday School teacher and member of the Women’s Guild. Mr. and Mrs. Dhom have three children and seven grandchildren.

DICKES FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP PERMANENT ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2001)

This fund was established upon receipt of a bequest from the estate of Herman A. Dickes. Mr. Dickes (1905-2000) was born in Aurora and graduated from East Aurora High School. Prior to his retirement, he had been employed by the Burlington Railroad. His wife May Dickes (1907-1989) was born in Chicago. She was an enthusiastic volunteer for numerous community projects and served as the first chairperson of the Mercy Ball. Mr. and Mrs. Dickes were involved in many youth activities and charitable organizations in Aurora. Holy Angels Catholic Church, Mercy Center, Knights of Columbus, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and the Elks Club were a few of the many special places which felt their love. In keeping with their belief in the importance and accessibility of education for all youth, the couple established an endowed scholarship for students with financial need who are graduating from a high school located within the City of Aurora or from Marmion Academy.

HARVEY & FLORENCE DIVEKEY MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1997)

The income from this fund is awarded annually to Trinity Episcopal Church of Aurora in remembrance of Harvey and Florence Divekey. Each distribution is made in honor of the October 19, 1909 anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Divekey’s marriage. Harvey Divekey
(1877-1952) was a lifelong resident of Aurora. He and his brother John Divekey founded Illinois Supply Company. Florence Divekey (1884-1969), also a lifelong Auroran, was a graduate of the University of Wisconsin. The Divekeys were members of Trinity Episcopal Church and were active in many civic and charitable organizations in the Aurora area.

DANIEL D. DOLAN FAMILY ADVISORY ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1998)

Daniel D. Dolan created this fund as a permanent resource for his family’s philanthropic interests. Mr. Dolan is a lifelong resident of Aurora. In 1965, he and James O. Murphy established the first real estate firm in the Fox River Valley specializing in commercial, industrial and investment properties. The firm played an important role in formulating the City of Aurora’s Zoning Ordinance and Comprehensive Plan in the 1960’s. Mr. Murphy passed away shortly thereafter. Mr. Dolan’s sons Daniel, Brian and Ryan have joined their father in the family firm and have been an integral part of Dolan & Murphy for many years. The Dolans have made a strong commitment to the charitable needs of the Aurora area through their endowment fund within the Foundation.

JAMES DORION ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1977)

An unrestricted bequest was received in 1977 from the estate of James Dorion. In 2002, the Foundation reestablished the fund as an endowment to ensure ongoing recognition of his generosity. James Dorion (1903-1976) was born in Batavia, Illinois. He and his wife Mary Dorion lived in Aurora. Mrs. Dorion was a patternmaker at the Cribben & Sexton Company in Chicago. She passed away in 1964. Mr. Dorion was employed by the Stove Works and Lyon Metal in Aurora. The couple had no children.

DUGAN FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2002)

The Dugan Family Scholarship was created by William and Michelle Dugan to give recognition to the quality of education at West Aurora High School and to honor the academic achievements of both Dugan children. These scholarships are awarded to students from West Aurora High School who have achieved the rank of 16 at the end of their 7th semester. Two Dugan children graduated from West Aurora High School with over a 4.0 G.P.A. and both were ranked 16 at the end of the 7th semester. They went on to graduate from college with honors. The intent of these scholarships is to assist other students with the same opportunity to achieve success in college and in their lives. Education is a priority in the Dugan family and they understand the need for scholarship support in view of the rising educational expenses. The funding for the creation of these scholarships was made possible through the Estate of Eleanor E. Ayers, the Estate of Robert and Betty Harris and the Dugan Family. Created in 2002, the fund became an endowment in 2014.

JOHN S. DUNHAM ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1987)

This fund supports scholarships for students attending Aurora Christian School and provides funds for capital improvements and equipment for the school. The fund was created upon receipt of a generous bequest from the estate of John S. Dunham (1931-1979). Mr. Dunham attended East Aurora High School and was a graduate of North Central College in Naperville. He served as president of Equipto Manufacturing Company of Aurora until his death in 1979. The John S. Dunham Endowment Fund fulfills Mr. Dunham’s vision of providing a lasting resource for the benefit of Aurora Christian School. The fund was created in 1987 and established as an endowment in 1989. A video of the lives of the Dunham Family is available on the Community Foundation website.

EAGLE SCOUT SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1992)

This fund was created by a local citizen to support scholarships for young men in their junior or senior year in college. Eligible students must have attended a high school in the Foundation’s service area and earned the rank of Eagle Scout from the Boy Scouts of America. This scholarship was established to honor those who have achieved the Eagle Scout Award and to encourage the progress of younger students aspiring to earn this prestigious scouting award.
**HOWARD & SHERRY EAGLE SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2006)**

This fund provides scholarships to students graduating from West Aurora High School for attendance at Aurora University. Howard Eagle (1946-2006) was born in Chicago, Illinois. He began his career as a small business owner and later became an educator at the Aurora Community School. He was an inspiring teacher who challenged his students to reach for a future that would bring hope and promise to their lives. Sherry Eagle is currently the executive director of the Institute for Collaboration at Aurora University. She served as superintendent of West Aurora School District 129 for twelve years. Howard and Sherry Eagle encouraged students to find their place in the world by believing in themselves. It is in this spirit that scholarships from their fund are awarded.

**DR. SHERRY R. EAGLE EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2005)**

This fund provides grants for educational programs and projects that benefit the students of the West Aurora Schools. The fund was created by the Foundation for the West Aurora Schools and by Dr. Sherry Eagle's colleagues and friends in recognition of her exemplary service as superintendent of West Aurora School District 129. Sherry Eagle began her career as a third grade teacher in Calumet City, Illinois. She then served as a reading specialist and later assistant principal for curriculum and special education at Thornwood High School in South Holland, Illinois. In 1989, she joined the West Aurora Schools as assistant superintendent for curriculum. She was named superintendent of the West Aurora Schools in 1993, serving the district until her retirement in 2005.

**EILERT FAMILY ADVISORY ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1996)**

Geraldine D. Eilert (1911-2002) established an endowment fund as a memorial to her parents Harvey and Florence (Lackner) Divekey and to the Dr. William G. Eilert Family. Mrs. Eilert, a lifelong resident of Aurora, graduated from East Aurora High School and received a bachelor of arts degree in history from the University of Wisconsin. She attended the New York School of Fine and Applied Arts (Parsons) and was an interior decorator in the Aurora area for many years. She served on numerous charitable boards of directors and was the first president of the Child Welfare Society. The Eilert Family Advisory Endowment Fund distributes grants to the community at the suggestion of the Eilert Family.

**DR. W.G. EILERT ADVISORY ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1998)**

This fund was created by the Eilert Family as a memorial to Dr. William G. Eilert, M.D. Dr. Eilert (1906-1976) practiced medicine in the Aurora area for over forty years. He received his medical degree from Northwestern University. After serving as a lieutenant colonel in the Pacific Theater during World War II, he resumed his medical practice in Aurora. He was medical director of Copley Memorial Hospital and president of the Kane County Medical Association. Dr. Eilert also directed several programs for the Visiting Nurse Association and was an active supporter of the Aurora Family YMCA and the Boy Scouts of America.

**PHILIP B. ELFSTROM & PEG BOND SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2000)**

Philip Elfstrom established this fund to provide scholarships to students who are residents of Batavia, Illinois. Mr. Elfstrom, a Batavia businessman, was named Batavia Citizen of the Year in 1982. He served as chairman of the Kane County Board from 1971 until 1982, after which he served as president of the Forest Preserve Commission until 1990. Mr. Elfstrom was instrumental in acquiring many miles of Fox River shoreline for public use and in
building the Kane County Trail System. He also brought Minor League Baseball to the Chicago Area. Peg Bond (1914-1995) was an associate professor of arts. She was named Batavia Citizen of the Year in 1971. Her civic involvement included the Batavia School Board, Batavia Planning Commission, Kane County Zoning Board and the Illinois Arts Council. Her primary passion was teaching, through which she shared her talents and zest for learning with generations of students from Batavia Schools and Northern Illinois University. The Peg Bond Center in Batavia was named in her honor.

**BARBARA K. ENGELBRACHT SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2000)**

This fund was created through a generous bequest from the estate of Barbara Engelbracht. Miss Engelbracht (1916-1998), a lifelong Auroran, was employed at Northern Illinois Gas Company for many years. She enjoyed music and had participated in a vocal group in her youth. She also was a lifetime member of St. Nicholas Catholic Church. Her mother's family owned and operated Olinger Dry Goods Store in downtown Aurora in the early 1900's. Miss Engelbracht is pictured here (on the right) with her sister (Evelyn) and brother (John) in this photo from the 1940's.

**ERLENBORN FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1983)**

A bequest was received in 1983 from the estate of Viola Erlenborn (1900-1983) to provide scholarships to local students in memory of her husband and son. In 2002, the Foundation reestablished the fund as an endowment to ensure ongoing recognition of her generosity. Her husband (photo above) Alan Erlenborn (1895-1962) served as a first lieutenant in the United States Army during World War I. After the war, he joined his father Albert J. Erlenborn in the family business on River Street in Aurora. Albert Erlenborn founded the firm in 1889 as a seed, fertilizer and paper supply company. Alan Erlenborn later became president and owner of the company, which was renamed Erlenborn Office Supplies. Alan Erlenborn, Jr., (1921-1944), who also is pictured in this profile, served in the United States Marine Corps during World War II and was assigned to the South Pacific in April 1944. He died in July of that year during active duty in Guam. He received the Purple Heart Medal and is buried in Honolulu, Hawaii. According to the newspaper account of his death, “the war department telegram came as a distinct shock to his parents” as their son had never hinted that he expected to go into action at that time. Alan Erlenborn, Jr. was the couple's only child.

**BRIAN FARNHAM MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1995)**

This fund, created in 1995 to honor the life of Brian Farnham, was established as an endowment in 2005. Brian Farnham (1977-1993) attended Our Lady of Good Counsel School until the eighth grade. He participated in Cub Scouts at the school and was an avid basketball and football player. He then attended Newark High School and represented the school at a downstate academic contest as a member of the JET’s Team. He was named an All-American Scholar and was admitted into membership in the Who’s Who of American High School Scholars. Brian died on June 5, 1993 in an automobile accident. This fund provides scholarships to students entering "people-oriented" vocations such as the social sciences, health science, medicine, engineering, music and theology.

**EDWARD & FRANCES FAUTH ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2015)**

This fund, which was created upon receipt of a bequest from the estates of Edward and Frances Fauth, provides income for the Community Foundation’s discretionary grantmaking program. Edward Fauth (1922-2009) was born in Aurora, Illinois. After graduating from East Aurora High School, he began working for the Barber-Greene Company. He then served with the 477th Railroad Battalion of the United States Army in World War II which was involved in the Battle of the Bulge. After the war, Mr. Fauth returned to Barber-Greene and continued his employment with the company for thirty-one years. During this time, he received degrees in mechanical engineering from Michigan State University and the Illinois Institute of Technology. He then became Dean of Community Services with Waubonsee Community College. While at the college,
he earned his doctorate in education. He retired from the college in 1987. Several of the many organizations Mr. Fauth served include the Aurora East School District Board of Education, Aurora Family YMCA, Aurora Economic Development Commission, Aurora Urban League, Hesed House, Kane Kendall County Mental Health Center, United Way and the Rotary Club of Aurora. He was the first district governor of Rotary from the Aurora Noon Rotary Club. He also was active in the local and national societies of professional engineers. Frances Fauth (1925-2012) was born in Aurora, Illinois. She was a graduate of East Aurora High School and earned her Registered Nursing Degree from St. Luke's Presbyterian Hospital in Chicago. Mrs. Fauth worked as a nurse for Dr. Charles Wunsch for many years. She then trained to be a dental assistant and worked for her son in his dental practice until her retirement. As a community leader, Mrs. Fauth served on the boards of directors of Plum Landing, P.E.O. Chapter DD and the YWCA of Aurora. She also volunteered for the Waubonsee Community College Literacy Program. Mr. and Mrs. Fauth were members of the New England Congregational Church in Aurora.

WESLEY F. FISHER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND
(EST. 2001)

This fund provides scholarships to students pursuing a course of study in the School of Commerce and Business Administration at the University of Illinois. Wesley Fisher (1908-2000) was born in Elgin, Illinois. He was the valedictorian and president of the Class of 1925 at Elgin High School. In 1929, he received a degree in Business Administration from the University of Illinois, where he was a member of the Beta Gamma Sigma Business Honor Society. Mr. Fisher joined Illinois Bell Telephone Company after graduation and worked there for forty years until his retirement in 1969. He and his wife Bernice were members of New England Congregational Church in Aurora. Mr. Fisher was preceded in death by his wife in 1993 and by his daughter Lynne in 1976. He was survived by his son Thomas Fisher who retired as chairman and chief executive officer of Nicor in 2005.

JAMES H. & IONE P. FITZGERALD SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND
(EST. 2007)

James and Ione Fitzgerald bequeathed a portion of their estate to provide scholarships for students graduating from high schools located within the City of Aurora. James Fitzgerald (1907-1995) was born in Oswego. He attained the rank of lieutenant with the Illinois State Police. Later, he served as the treasurer of Kane County. He was a member of A. F. & A. M. Masonic Lodge #90, Aurora Moose Lodge #400, the Aurora Elks Club, Phoenix Club and the Elburn Lions Club. Ione Fitzgerald (1914-2006) was born in Chicago. She was a graduate of East Aurora High School. From 1939-1944, she was secretary to the director of Mooseheart. She later moved to Elgin where she was a buyer for Ackemann’s Department Store. Mrs. Fitzgerald was the president of the Elgin Girl Scouts and a member of the Lady Elks. After the death of their former spouses, James and Ione Fitzgerald were married in 1980.

MARILYN A. & WILLIAM J. FOOTE SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND
(EST. 2006)

Marilyn and William Foote are lifelong residents of Aurora. They are members of Holy Angels Church where Mrs. Foote has been a member and officer in the St. Anne’s Society and Mr. Foote has been a lecturer and Eucharist Minister. Mrs. Foote graduated from Madonna High School and St. Mary-of-the-Woods College. Since 1985, she has been employed by Bank of America as a consultant and grant analyst for the Bersted Foundation. She has served as president of many non-profit organizations, locally and statewide. She was a board member of the Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley. In 2006, she was presented with the Lyle E. Oncken Community Service Award and also was the statewide recipient of the Charles A. Bane Award for Volunteer Excellence in Illinois. Mr. Foote graduated from West Aurora High School, Harvard College and Harvard Law School. He was the co-founder of the Aurora law firm, Dreyer, Foote, Streit, Furgason and Slocum where he continues to practice law. He is a member of the Kane County and Illinois Bar Associations. He was president of the West Aurora High School Alumni Association from 2005-2007.
PHILIP BENNETT FOXGROVER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND  
(EST. 2002)  
This fund awards annual scholarships to graduating high school seniors of Kaukauna Wisconsin High School who have excellence in high school music activities and who will continue such activities in college. Philip Foxgrover (1949-2001) was a 1967 graduate of Kaukauna High School where he participated in choral groups and musicals. He ministered to others for many years as a soloist at weddings and funerals. After graduation, he attended Carroll College in Waukesha, Wisconsin. He then began a career in mortgage banking at the Green Bay, Wisconsin branch of North Shore Bank of Milwaukee. Mr. Foxgrover was a conscientious employee who was highly regarded by those whom he supervised. He also dedicated himself to the care of his parents and other family members.

RUBY M. FRANK SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND  
(EST. 1994)  
This fund provides one-time scholarships to graduating high school seniors whose permanent residence is within the City of St. Charles. Students must attend Aurora University or a Lutheran affiliated college or university. Ruby M. Frank (1920-2009) was past chairman of the Community Foundation and the St. Charles Chamber of Commerce. She also served on the boards of directors of Aurora University, Delnor-Community Health System and the Baker Hotel Living Center. In 1957, Mrs. Frank founded Frank’s Employment, Inc. of St. Charles. She worked in the family business for forty-six years before her retirement in 2003. She received St. Charles’ highest award, The Charlemagne, in 1980. She also was voted one of the top five persons for service to the community of St. Charles in the 20th Century.

DR. & MRS. C.L. GARDNER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND  
(EST. 1991)  
This memorial fund was created by the family and friends of Dr. C.L Gardner (1908-1991) to honor the life of this remarkable Aurora physician. Dr. Gardner practiced medicine for over fifty years before his retirement in 1983. He served as president of Dreyer Medical Clinic and the Kane County Medical Society. He also was senior staff physician at Copley Memorial Hospital and Mercy Center Hospital in Aurora. In 1996, the fund was renamed to include his wife Phyllis H. Gardner who passed away in January of that year. Mrs. Gardner (1911-1996) received a degree in English Composition and Literature from the University of Rochester. A devoted student of literature, she became an accomplished writer. Mrs. Gardner was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, P.E.O. Chapter DD and the Child Welfare Society.

FRANCIS A. GEIB MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND  
(EST. 1990)  
This fund, which was created upon receipt of a bequest in 1990 from the estate of Francis A. Geib, was established as an endowment in 2010. Francis Geib (1916-1989) was born in Aurora. His parents were German immigrants who settled in the Aurora/Naperville area. He was a graduate of Fox Valley Catholic High School (which later combined with Jasper Academy of Jasper, Indiana to become Marmion Academy). A World War II veteran, Mr. Geib worked at the Brennan Coal Company his entire working career. He later purchased the company and also Aucutts Building Materials. He was a life member of the Aurora Turners Club and served on the Illinois Fuel Merchants Board. Mr. Geib and his wife Betty Arleen Anderson had four children.
GENEVA CONSTRUCTION COMPANY ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1961)

This fund was created by the Geneva Construction Company to provide income for the Community Foundation’s discretionary grantmaking program. Originally created in 1961, the fund was established as an endowment in 2015. Geneva Construction Company was founded in 1926 in Geneva, Illinois by the McCarthy Improvement Company of Davenport, Iowa which at the time was building many of the early residential streets in the Fox Valley. The McCarthy Improvement Company named Gilbert N. Bryan as the first president of the Geneva Construction Company. In 1935 the company relocated to Aurora, Illinois. Its offices were in the Old Second National Bank Building until it moved in 1967 to its current site on the Fox River at Indian Trail. The company’s asphalt plant was located at the Indian Trail location until 1970 when it was moved to its current location on Butterfield Road in North Aurora. The company was purchased by the Bryan Family in 1978. Upon the retirement of John G. Bryan as president in 1997, the company has been under the direction of his two sons John and Mike to continue the tradition of providing quality pavements. Since its inception in 1926, Geneva Construction Company has produced and laid over 10 million tons of asphalt which equates to over 9,000 miles of two lane roadways. Geneva Construction Company has been named outstanding bituminous contractor of the year by the Illinois Department of Transportation and has received five quality pavement awards from the National Asphalt Pavement Association. Currently, the North Aurora asphalt plant has received Diamond Achievement Commendation from NAPA for its dedication to excellence in plant/site operations and for involvement within the community.

HOWARD E. GILLETTE SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2008)

This fund was created by the family and friends of Dr. Gillette at the time of his passing. It became an endowment in 2009 upon receipt of a bequest from his estate. Dr. Howard Gillette (1915-2008) was born in Lincoln, Nebraska. He was a graduate of East Aurora High School, North Central College and the University of Illinois College of Dentistry. After completing his residency in Oral Surgery at Cook County Hospital in Chicago, he spent three years in the United States Air Force. In 1947, he started his Oral Surgery practice in Aurora. He retired in 1982. Dr. Gillette also taught at the University of Illinois College of Dentistry and Loyola College of Dentistry. In addition to his memberships in professional associations, he served on numerous boards of community and civic organizations, including the West Aurora School District 129 Board of Education, American Red Cross – Aurora Chapter, American Cancer Society, Aurora Chamber of Commerce and Aurora National Bank. Dr. Gillette was a member of the board of directors of the Community Foundation for twenty-two years. He also served as a senior or emeritus director for seven years. Scholarships from Dr. Gillette’s fund are available to graduates of East Aurora and West Aurora High School for attendance at North Central College. A video of the life of Howard Gillette is available on the Community Foundation website.

COLONEL SIDNEY GINSBERG SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1953)

This fund was established upon receipt of a bequest from the estate of Colonel Sidney Ginsberg. The fund supports scholarships for students graduating from East Aurora or West Aurora High School for attendance at a state-supported college or university located in Illinois. Colonel Ginsberg (1899-1951) served in the United States Army following his graduation from West Point Academy. After World War II, he returned to Aurora to manage the Ginsberg Store which was founded by his father Isaac Ginsberg. In his bequest, Colonel Ginsberg included the following words. “The citizens of Aurora have been extremely good to me and to my business operations. The monies spent in my store (Ginsberg Store) by such citizens enable me to establish a trust and I hope by this method to repay them in some small manner.” Colonel Ginsberg’s bequest was the first to be received by the Foundation. Created in 1953, Mr. Ginsberg's fund was established as an endowment in 1989.
H. MARSHALL GLENN SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2012)

The H. Marshall Glenn Scholarship Endowment Fund was established through the receipt of a bequest from the estate of his wife Margaret F. Glenn (1916-2006). Mrs. Glenn was born in Ashton, Illinois and moved to Aurora when she was six. She was a graduate of Madonna High School. In 1953, she married H. Marshall Glenn (1906-1996). Mr. Glenn was born in Plainfield, Indiana. He owned the Marshall Glenn Insurance Agency from 1949 until his retirement in 1993. The business was located at 33 South Fourth Street in Aurora. Mr. Glenn had formerly been employed by the Chrysler Corporation in Detroit, Michigan, King Seeley Corporation in Ann Arbor, Michigan, Travelers Insurance Company and American Auto Insurance Company. Scholarships from his fund will be available to residents of the Fox Valley area who are furthering their educations at a two-year college, a four-year college or university, or a trade or vocational school. According to his granddaughter Stacy Zagar, Mr. Glenn’s favorite saying was, “Never mind what has been. Bigger folks than you have made bigger mistakes. Press on to what lies ahead.”

WILLIAM C. & MARJORIE W. GLENN ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2012)

This fund provides income for the Community Foundation’s discretionary grantmaking program. William Charles and Marjorie Willett Glenn were both born at Copley Memorial Hospital (now Rush-Copley Medical Center) in Aurora. Mr. Glenn is a graduate of East Aurora High School. He attended Dartmouth College where he earned his bachelor of arts degree in history and an MBA from the Tuck School of Business. Marjorie (Mardi) Glenn is a graduate of West Aurora High School and attended DePauw University where she earned her bachelor of arts degree in music education. During their careers, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn worked together to grow and further establish Olsson Roofing Company as an ongoing professional leader in the commercial roofing industry. Olsson Roofing Company celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2014. In 1987, the Glens created the Olsson Roofing Company Scholarship Fund with the Community Foundation to encourage the opportunity for college level education within the ranks of construction families. In addition to their dedication to Olsson Roofing Company and raising their three children, both Mr. and Mrs. Glenn served on numerous community and charitable boards. Although the Glens no longer reside in Aurora, they wish to recognize the city, its history, the cultural and educational opportunities as well as the people of the community for enriching their lives. It is their desire that their gift benefit the lives of those residing in the Fox Valley area now and in the future.

ROBERT H. & JEAN A. GOEHLEN ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1998)

This fund was created by the family and friends of Robert H. Goehlen to honor his lifetime of service to the community. Mr. Goehlen (1929-1998) administered several offices for IBM prior to his retirement and he was awarded the Chicago North 1980 Office of the Year Award. He attended the University of Wisconsin and served in the United States Army. Mr. Goehlen was a founding member of the Bank of Montgomery and chairman of the board for many years. He belonged to the Aurora Bowling Association, Aurora Country Club, Aurora Elks Club, IBM’s Quarter Century Club, Review Association, Southwest Suburban Senior Golf League and the United States Trotting Association. Jean Goehlen was born in Aurora, but grew up in the first brick house in Kane County (Sugar Grove). She graduated from West Aurora High School (1958) and Lake Forest College (1963). She then taught school in the primary grades for a number of years in Aurora, Ohio and Indiana. While in Indiana, she organized and directed a Meals on Wheels program. Mrs. Goehlen has been a member of the Tuesday Garden Club of Aurora for thirty-seven years, Early American Pressed Glass Club for forty years, Child Welfare Society for forty-two years, the United States Trotting Association, Aurora Women’s Bowling Association, and the Harness Racing Museum and Hall of Fame. This fund, created in 1998, was established as an endowment in 2001. It is a field-of-interest fund devoted to the needs of children.
MELVIN & IRENE GOLDMAN ENDOWMENT FUND FOR THE ARTS (EST. 1982)

Melvin and Irene Goldman created this fund to provide grants to organizations located in Aurora, Illinois that are devoted to the arts. Mr. and Mrs. Goldman owned and operated Globe Lumber Company in Aurora for many years. Melvin Goldman (1917-2008) was a member of the Aurora Country Club, Temple B’nai Israel and the YMCA. During WWII, he was a research physicist on Navy projects at Armour Research. Irene Goldman (1919-2008) served as a Community Foundation director from 1985-1995. She lived her entire life in Aurora until moving to Chicago with her husband in the 1990’s. Mrs. Goldman was an accomplished classical pianist in high school. Her devotion to the arts continued through her affiliation with the Lyric Opera of Chicago, Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the Art Institute. After her children were raised, she took up bridge and became a life master. Mrs. Goldman was an active member of Temple B’nai Israel in Aurora of which her mother and father were founding members.

GOLDSMITH FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2001)

The Goldsmith Family Endowment Fund provides scholarships to minority students who are graduates of East Aurora High School or West Aurora High School. This fund, which was created in 2001, became an endowment in 2012. The Goldsmith family has lived in Aurora for more than 100 years. Zalmon Goldsmith, a long-time Aurora attorney, and Anne Goldsmith, his wife, were involved in numerous community activities throughout their lives. Mr. Goldsmith served as a member and chairman of the board of Mercy Hospital and of the Heartland Blood Centers. He was also on the board of Sunnymere. Mrs. Goldsmith was one of the founders of the Paramount Arts Centre Endowment and also served on the boards of the United Way and the Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley, among others. Mr. and Mrs. Goldsmith’s son Bruce has practiced law in Aurora for more than thirty years. Bruce’s wife Margot, a freelance editor, has served on the Aurora Public Library Board of Directors.

HERMANN & RITA GOLTER SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2003)

This fund was established to provide scholarships to graduates of West Aurora High School who are studying in the field of International Business, International Relations or International Studies and who are fluent in a foreign language. Created in 2003, the fund became an endowment in 2013. Hermann Golter (1918-2003) and Rita Golter came to America from Germany in the 1950s. Mr. Golter arrived in 1955 and Mrs. Golter in 1959. Hermann Golter was born in Hoeheinoed, Germany. He was a German veteran of World War II and spent over five years as a prisoner of war in a Russian prison camp. In 1955, he immigrated to the United States and worked for several businesses in the Aurora, Illinois area. He was best known as the gentleman who worked at Robert Hall, a men’s clothing store, and later at Baskin Clothing from where he retired. Mr. Golter was ever proud of his United States citizenship and expressed his appreciation through his sincere and moving testimonials. Rita Golter lived in Glencoe, Illinois after arriving in the United States. In 1961, she married Hermann Golter and took up permanent residence in Aurora. Mrs. Golter worked for the West Aurora School District in the Special Education Department until her retirement. For Mr. and Mrs. Golter, America was a dream come true. By establishing a charitable fund within the Community Foundation – originally in Hermann Golter’s name and now representing Rita Golter as well – their goal was to give back to the community and remain involved in the Community Foundation family. As immigrants to this country, education was always of paramount importance to the Golters. This scholarship reflects their belief in the importance of international goodwill and understanding. A video of the lives of Hermann and Rita Golter is available on the Community Foundation website.
ROBERT L. & JOYCE A. GOLZ SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2009)

This fund was created to support scholarships for graduates of high schools located in the City of Aurora or the City of Oswego. Robert Golz (1934-2003) was born and raised in Aurora. He was the son of the late Herbert Golz, the founder of Equipto Electronics in Aurora. Mr. Golz joined the company in 1960 as vice president of manufacturing. From 1979 to 1999, he served as the chief executive officer and later became the firm’s chairman of the board. According to Joyce Golz, her husband placed a high value on the lives of his employees. He often changed company policies to accommodate the schedules of working mothers. He also limited the number of business trips in a year so that salespeople could spend more time with their families. Joyce Golz joined Equipto Electronics in 1960. As the company grew, she became the sales supervisor and assistant to the sales manager. She retired in 1999. Mrs. Golz established this fund to honor her husband and the strong principles by which he lived his life.

ROBERT C. & MAUREEN A. GRANGER SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2015)

The Robert C. and Maureen A. Granger Scholarship Endowment Fund was created to assist graduates of East Aurora High School or West Aurora High School who are furthering their studies in a four-year college or university, seeking a degree in chemistry or chemical engineering. This scholarship fund was established by Maureen Granger to help aspiring chemists earn a degree in the profession that her husband loved. Robert (Bob) Granger was a graduate of East Aurora High School where he developed a lifelong interest in chemistry. He graduated from Northwestern University with a degree in chemistry. He worked for the Burlington Railroad as a chemist/chief chemist for fourteen years. He then took a position with Sears Roebuck in Chicago as a chemist/product engineer until he passed away in 1990 at the age of sixty-one. He and his wife Maureen were married for forty-one years before his passing. They raised their four children in Aurora. Mr. Granger was a member of the American Chemical Society. The couple were members of Trinity Episcopal Church in Aurora. Maureen (Avery) Granger was a graduate of West Aurora High School. She earned degrees in education and educational administration from Northern Illinois University. She taught for twelve years for the West Aurora School District and was principal of McCleery Elementary School (West Aurora) for sixteen years. Mrs. Granger served as a board member of several Aurora organizations. She is a member of Aurora Area Retired Teachers Association, Aurora Kiwanis Club, Batavia Woman’s Club, West Aurora Reading Circle and Calvary Episcopal Church in Batavia. She also is a trustee of the West Aurora Cemetery Association. The intent of this scholarship fund is to assist East Aurora and West Aurora High School graduates pursue a professional career in the field of chemistry.

WILLIAM ALEXANDER & MARJORY MATHER GREENE ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2005)

This fund was created to provide income for the Community Foundation’s discretionary grantmaking and scholarship programs. Alex Greene was born in Aurora and has lived most of his life in his hometown. He is a graduate of the University of Illinois and the University of Chicago Business School. Mr. Greene was associated with the Barber-Greene Company for thirty-six years, retiring as vice-president of administration and secretary. He also was a director of the firm. He has served on numerous boards of directors including Aurora University, Aurora Family YMCA, Greater Aurora Chamber of Commerce and the Rotary Club of Aurora. His father William B. Greene was co-founder of the Barber-Greene Company and also was one of the founding members of the Community Foundation. Marjory Greene (1926-2014) was born and raised in Chicago. She was a graduate of the University of Chicago and was active in community and school-related organizations. Mrs. Greene was a longtime member of New England Congregational Church of which Alex is still a member.

GREENE FAMILY FOREST PRESERVE ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1971)

This fund supports the repair and maintenance of the Greene Farmstead buildings which are under the management of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County. The fund, which was created in 1971, was established as an endowment in 1989. William B. Greene (1886-1982) donated ten acres of the family’s homestead property to the
Foundation. The proceeds from the sale of the property to the Forest Preserve were placed in a designated fund the following year to ensure the perpetual guardianship of the Greene Homestead. William Greene was born in Lisle, Illinois. He graduated from the University of Illinois in 1908 with a degree in mechanical engineering. In 1916, he was advertising manager and Harry H. Barber was an engineer for Stephens-Adamson Manufacturing Company in Aurora. They saw a future in standardized material handling machines and decided to form the Barber-Greene Company. William Greene continued his active management of the company until 1966 when he retired as chairman of the board. He was a charter member of the Aurora Kiwanis Club, a member of the Union League Clubs of Aurora and Chicago, Illinois State Chamber of Commerce, Aurora Chamber of Commerce and Phi Gamma Delta fraternity. He served as president of the Construction Industry Manufactures Association, Aurora College, the American Road Builders Association and the International Road Federation. Mr. Greene was a charter member of the Community Foundation and served as president for thirteen years. A video of the life of W.B. Greene is available on the Community Foundation website.

VERNON H. HAASE MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1976)

This fund, created through the transfer of the Vernon Haase Advisory Fund, became an endowment in 1999. It received further funding from the receipt of an unrestricted bequest from Mr. Haase’s estate in 2000. Vernon Haase (1918-1999) was chairman of the board of the Henry Pratt Company until his retirement in 1979. Mr. Haase was active in numerous civic and business organizations including memberships on the boards of directors of Aurora University, Mercy Center for Health Care Services, the Old Second National Bank, Sheer-Korman Associates of New York, Applied Management Research, Inc., Geneva Anadite Inc. and Republic Packaging Corporation of Chicago. Vernon Haase was a director of the Community Foundation for twenty-five years, serving as chairman for two of those years. He also served as a senior or emeritus director for two years.

STEN & LUCILLE HALFVARSON ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2010)

This fund was created in 2010 at the time of Lucille R. Halfvarson’s passing. It became an endowment in 2011 through the gifts of many grateful friends and colleagues, and also through a generous grant from the A+ Foundation for West Aurora Schools. The purpose of the endowment is to strengthen the vocal arts in West Aurora School District 129 in the areas of professional development, community initiatives and general programmatic improvements. Sten G. Halfvarson (1915-2003) was born in Wilkinsburg, Pennsylvania. He received a bachelor’s and master’s degree from Northwestern University. He also served in the United States Army Air Force as a B17 gunnery instructor. Mr. Halfvarson taught at West Aurora High School from 1938 until 1979. At West, he developed the choral arts program into one of the most respected in the state. Lucille R. Halfvarson (1919-2010) was born in Petersburg, Illinois. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois. She taught music and speech at Freeman Elementary School in Aurora from 1941-1944. It was during that time that she met her future husband Sten Halfvarson. The couple married in 1946 and raised their family in Aurora. Mrs. Halfvarson began teaching private voice lessons in the family living room and directed church choirs. In 1969 she received a master’s degree in music. She was an instructor of music and director of choral groups for Waubonsee Community College. She established the Waubonsee District Chorus, which became known for its annual performance of The Messiah, held at the Paramount Arts Centre. Under her direction, these concerts became a community tradition, which lasted from 1968-1992. In 2000, the couple was awarded honorary doctoral degrees at Aurora University, the academic highlight of this fruitful and gifted partnership.

RICHARD C. HAMPER MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1996)

Richard C. Hamper (1905-1995) was born in Aurora. He was a graduate of the University of Michigan and Northwestern Law School. He served in the United States Army during World War II as a special agent in intelligence. Mr. Hamper was associated in the practice of law with Charles H. Atwell, Sr. in the firm of Atwell and Hamper. In the 1940’s, he served...
as the Kane County States Attorney. Attorney Hamper practiced law for over sixty years and was the oldest practicing attorney in Aurora at the time of his death. He was a member of the Union League Club in Aurora, the American Bar Association and the Kane County Bar Association. His wife Ruth Hamper (1917-2013) created this unrestricted fund as a memorial to her husband in 1996. It was established as an endowment in 2003.

JOSEPHINE M. HANCOCK ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2002)

This fund was created to administer an unrestricted bequest received from the estate of Josephine Hancock as a memorial to her family. Josephine Hancock (1902-2001) was born in Aurora and operated the Millinery Department of the Virginia Shop. She also was a volunteer at Hines Veteran’s Hospital and was a member of the American Red Cross, Beta Sigma Phi Sorority and St. Rita of Cascia Church. Miss Hancock is pictured here (in the center) with her brother John Hancock and her sister Margaret Benniges. John Hancock, who passed away in 1994, was associated with the newspaper business. Mrs. Benniges, who passed away in 1996, was married to a Russian Count who immigrated to the United States during the Russian Revolution. Miss Hancock was also preceded in death by her brother Walter Hancock and her sister Theresa Hancock.

JILL HANSES SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2015)

This fund was created to provide scholarships to local students pursuing a career in veterinary science or a related field. Passionate, dedicated, driven – these are just a few of the terms used to describe Jill C. Hanses who lived in St. Charles, Illinois. Born on Valentine’s Day 1962 in Elgin, Illinois, Mrs. Hanses spent most of her life in the Fox Valley area. An incredible business woman and generous philanthropist, she supported a number of local charitable causes with both her time and her resources. She was a longtime board member, treasurer, president and volunteer for Anderson Animal Shelter in South Elgin. She also was active in Kiwanis Club of St. Charles, and was a supporter of Elderday Senior Services in Batavia and CASA Kane County in Geneva. Mrs. Hanses passed away in January 2015, but her life and legacy in the Fox Valley area will continue thanks to her husband Andy. Through this scholarship fund, Mr. Hanses hopes to meld two of his wife’s charitable passions – animal welfare and children’s causes. As he explained, “If we can inspire the young and assist them, if they choose to follow our similar passions, then we can continue this legacy from generation to generation. This is what Jill would have wanted and I am grateful to be able to honor her passions.”

ROBERT D. & BETTY HOSLER HARRIS ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2014)

This fund was established to honor the lives of Aurora residents Bob and Betty Harris by their daughter Joanne. Created in 2014, it became an endowment in 2015. The fund recognizes Mr. and Mrs. Harris’ belief in the importance of early childhood education and parental involvement in their children’s education. Grants from the fund support the A+ Foundation for West Aurora Schools in its efforts to identify effective programs that enhance the opportunities for early childhood education and encourage the involvement of parents. Grants also support programs that assist struggling students. Robert Harris was born and raised in Galesburg, Illinois. Mrs. Harris was born in Aurora, Illinois. Both were raised by parents who shaped their core values of hard work, self-sufficiency, and responsibility to family and community. The Great Depression, which occurred when they were in high school, greatly impacted both families. Formal education beyond high school was not an option for either of them. After graduation, Mr. Harris spent a year in the Merchant Marine. He then moved to the Aurora area where he found work at a local factory. It was during this time that he met his future wife Betty. Shortly after Pearl Harbor, he enlisted in the Navy where he trained at Iowa State College to be an electrician. He served as chief electrician’s mate in the South Pacific through World War II. After the war, Mr. Harris worked as an electrician for Rheem Electrical in St. Charles while attending Coyne Technical School in Chicago. In the early 1950’s, he worked in the Research and Development Department for DuKane Corporation in St. Charles. Later he became plant engineer for the company, a position he held until his retirement in the late 1970’s. Betty Harris graduated from West Aurora High School in 1940 and worked as a bookkeeper from graduation well into her 80’s. Her first job was with the Chicago Motor Club, where she met Bob Harris when he came to the office to file insurance paperwork after a small “fender bender.” They were married before Bob was sent overseas.
During the war years, Mrs. Harris moved from coast to coast whenever and wherever her husband’s ship was in a home port. After Mr. Harris’ discharge, they settled in Aurora. Throughout her career, Mrs. Harris worked for several Aurora area businesses, including the Nash automobile dealership, Inland Electronics, and Plaza Designs. Bob and Betty Harris made their home in Aurora, where they raised their daughter and supported the community. They were among the first members of Westminster Presbyterian Church. Mr. Harris served for many years as facility manager. Mrs. Harris served as deacon and as church treasurer. Family and friends knew they could count on the couple without reservation. Whether it was finding housing for a displaced family, caring for an elderly family member, remodeling a home for someone in need, helping victims recover from a flood, or listening to those facing a crisis, Bob and Betty Harris were the first to lend a helping hand. They were the ones family, friends, church and community turned to when there was a project to be tackled or a difficult problem to be solved. They were the ones who were always there.

AHMAD AKIM HART MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1998)

Ahmad Akim Hart (1981-1998) was born in Aurora, Illinois. He was diagnosed with cerebral palsy and his doctors predicted a life expectancy of two years. His mother, longtime Aurora Alderman Scheketa Hart-Burns, dedicated her life to caring for her son at home. Through her love and devotion, Ahmad learned how to communicate with a computer and cue cards. Ahmad attended Keeler, Goodwin and Hope Wall Schools. At the time of his passing at the age of seventeen, his family and friends created a scholarship fund to honor his life. The fund, which was created in 1998, became an endowment in 2008.

JERRY HART MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2010)

This fund was established in honor of educator Gerald E. Hart, Jr. to provide scholarships to graduating seniors from East Aurora High School who had previously been enrolled at Waldo Middle School. To be eligible for these scholarships, students must be pursuing a science-related course of study. Jerry Hart (1943-1994) was born in Aurora, Illinois. He was a graduate of Aurora University and earned a masters degree from Northern Illinois University. Mr. Hart was a member of First Presbyterian Church where he served as an elder. He also was a member of the American Federation of Teachers. Mr. Hart was a dedicated and well-respected science teacher at Waldo Middle School. At the time of his death, a scholarship fund was created within the East Aurora Schools to honor his commitment to the students at Waldo Middle School. The fund became an endowment in 2011.

DON AND SHIRLEY HARTLAUB MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2009)

This fund, created in 2009 by the children of Donald G. & Shirley W. Hartlaub, became an endowment in 2010. Annual grants are awarded from the fund to Aurora Central Catholic High School. Donald Hartlaub, Sr. (1921-2009) was born in Cincinnati, Ohio. He was raised in Chicago and was a graduate of St. Patrick High School. Mr. Hartlaub earned the rank of lieutenant while serving in the United States Navy and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medal. For thirty-five years, Mr. Hartlaub owned and operated Don’s Service Station & U-Haul at the corner of Illinois and Broadway in Aurora. Shirley Hartlaub (1928-2009) was born in Wheaton, Illinois, and moved to Aurora early in her life. She was a graduate of East Aurora High School and the Oak Park School of Nursing. She worked at Oak Park Hospital and for Dr. H.M. DeBartolo, Sr. in Aurora. Mrs. Hartlaub volunteered at many charitable organizations including the Girl Scouts. She and her husband were members of Annunciation Church of Aurora for over fifty years and served the parish in many capacities. Mr. and Mrs. Hartlaub will be remembered for their strong support of Catholic education. It is in this spirit that this fund has been established.

BRIAN A. HARTY MEMORIAL ADVISORY ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2003)

This fund was created from the proceeds of the estate of Brian Alexander Harty by his parents and sister to honor his memory. Brian Harty (1975-2002) was a 1997 graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He had worked in radio production for stations in Chicago and Raleigh. Brian was an avid runner, twice completing the Chicago Marathon. He also was an amateur oil painter and a fan of many different genres of music. This fund supports research and education in the areas of depression and suicide prevention.
JACK & NAOMI HASTERT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1998)

This fund was created in 1998 by former Congressman and Speaker of the House J. Dennis Hastert as a memorial to his parents Jack and Naomi Hastert. The fund, which provides scholarships to students in Kendall County, Illinois, became an endowment in 2010. Jack Hastert (1913-1998) was born in Joliet, Illinois of second generation Luxembourg and Norwegian immigrants. He was a graduate of Joliet Township High School and the Worsham College of Mortuary Science. He worked for the George Boyle Funeral Home of Aurora and the Fred Dames Funeral Home of Joliet. From 1940 to 1960, Mr. Hastert was the proprietor of Hastert Farm Supply of Aurora and rural Oswego. From 1960 through his retirement, he owned and operated the Clock Tower Restaurant in Plainfield and was Food Services Director at St. Joseph's Hospital in Joliet. Naomi Hastert (1914-1994) was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania of second generation German immigrants. She had to quit high school (Joliet Township) at the height of the depression to support her family (mother, father and three younger brothers and sisters). She was the sole supporter of her family through most of the depression. Mrs. Hastert was a straight A student when she left high school and always valued education. She worked hard throughout her life to make sure her children and grandchildren received the education she had not been able to receive. Her sons were the first in their family to earn college degrees. Mr. and Mrs. Hastert were married in 1940 and had three sons—Chris, David and J. Dennis Hastert.

ARThUR & DAPHNE HEINZ MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1996)

This fund was created to administer a bequest from the estate of Donald A. Heinz of Aurora. Donald Heinz (1929-1995) was a member of Holy Angels Church where he volunteered at the church’s food pantry. He served with the United States Army during the Korean War. Mr. Heinz bequeathed a portion of his estate as a memorial to his parents Arthur and Daphne Heinz (pictured here). In 1926, Arthur W. Heinz (1895-1981) founded the A.W. Heinz Insurance Agency in Aurora. In 1961, he assumed a brokerage position with the Konen Insurance Agency. Mr. Heinz was chairman of the Aurora Police and Fire Commission from 1949 to 1953 and served with the United States Army during World War I. Daphne B. Heinz (1902-1981), a homemaker, was born in Chicago and shared her family’s many interests.

JAMES L. & BARBARA H. HENNING ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1997)

This fund provides grants to Wesley United Methodist Church of Aurora and also for the Community Foundation’s discretionary grantmaking program. James Henning (1913-1979) was a graduate of the University of Chicago and the University of Chicago Law School. He practiced law in Chicago and later became president of Plano Molding Company. Mr. Henning also served in the United States Navy from 1942-1945. Barbara Henning (1916-2002) was a graduate of Wellesley College and Blackburn College. She was an active member of the Child Welfare Society, Tuesday Garden Club, PEO Chapter BT, and the Waubonsee Literacy Program. Mrs. Henning also served as a director of the Community Foundation for twelve years.

LORAINE HERIAUD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2002)

This fund was created to honor the life of Loraine Heriaud (1915-2003). Mrs. Heriaud was born in Toronto, Canada. She was a graduate of East Aurora High School and was employed for thirteen years by Provena Mercy Center as a C.N.A. in the Pediatrics Unit. She was the mother of fourteen children. Her son Frederick was the Aurora Area’s first soldier to be killed in action during the Vietnam War. Her husband Earl passed away in 1969. This fund, created in 2002, was established as an endowment in 2003 to provide scholarships for students entering the field of nursing.
GEORGE & ELAINE HETTRICH SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2007)

Scholarships from this fund are awarded to students graduating from high schools located in Oswego School District 308. These scholarships support students pursuing a bachelor’s degree in nursing and also students studying in a field of their own choosing. George Hettrich is a lifetime resident and farmer in Oswego Township. After graduation from Oswego High School, he attended Northwestern University and the Chicago Board of Trade Grain and its Marketing School. Mr. Hettrich was elected and has served in several Oswego Township and Kendall County offices. Elaine Hettrich is a graduate of Oswego High School. She received her R.N. from Copley Hospital School of Nursing and a bachelor of arts degree from Aurora University. She was employed by Copley Hospital and later served twenty-five years as a nurse for the Oswego School District until her retirement in 1994. Mrs. Hettrich is a member of several professional organizations and P.E.O. Chapter B’t in Aurora. Mr. and Mrs. Hettrich are members of the Oswego Presbyterian Church.

MR. & MRS. WILLIAM P. HILGEN SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1982)

Created by lifelong Aurorans William and Ruth Hilgen, this fund provides scholarships to students graduating from Marmion Academy or Rosary High School. William Hilgen (1899-1993) founded and operated Bill’s Hat Shop in Aurora from 1923 until his retirement in 1972. He was a charter member of St. Rita of Cascia Church, a life member of the Knights of Columbus and the Elks Club, and a member of the Loyal Order of Moose #400. Ruth Hilgen (1912-1995) was a graduate of West Aurora High School and Burnham Beauty School in Chicago. She was employed at the Pollywise Beauty Shop in the Fox Promenade in Aurora and also the Leland Hotel Beauty Shop. She was a member of New England Congregational Church. This fund was created in 1982 and established as an endowment in 1994.

URBAN & MARGARET HIPP FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1964)

Urban Hipp (1913-2011) was born in Aurora, Illinois. He was a graduate of East Aurora High School and the University of Illinois (Class of 1936). In 1939, he began his career at the Barber Greene Company where he served as vice president of finance and a director prior to his retirement in 1978. Mr. Hipp also was a director of the Old Second National Bank, Mercy Center Hospital and the Illinois State Chamber of Commerce. Margaret Barber Hipp (1915-1999) was born in Aurora, Illinois. She was the daughter of Harry H. Barber (co-founder of the Barber Greene Company) and Blanche Capron Barber. Mrs. Hipp graduated from the University of Illinois in 1937 where she was a member of the Pi Beta Phi Sorority. She was active in many community activities including the Child Welfare Society and the Tuesday Garden Club. This fund was created in 1964 as an advisory fund. It became an endowment fund in 2009 to support scholarships for local students. A video of the lives of Urban and Margaret Hipp is available on the Community Foundation website.

ERWIN & ELLA HOFFMAN SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1980)

This endowment provides scholarships for students graduating from East Aurora or West Aurora High School for attendance at a Lutheran affiliated college or university. The fund was established by a bequest received from the estate of Mrs. Hoffman who died in 1979, a year after her husband’s death. The couple owned and operated a farm in North Aurora for most of their lives. They were members of Our Savior Lutheran Church in Aurora.
JOHN L. & ALICE M. HOLDEN EDUCATION ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1997)

John Holden (1854-1943) and Alice Holden (1863-1942) were brother and sister who resided in Aurora. John Holden was a conductor for the CB&Q Railroad from 1890 until his retirement in the early 1930’s. Alice Holden was a teacher and later principal of Young School on Fifth Street in Aurora. Her teaching career began in 1882 and concluded with her retirement in 1932. She also was a highly respected government weather observer, an unlikely avocation for a woman of that time. The Holden Endowment Fund was established in 1997 upon the transfer of three trusts administered by Merchants National Bank of Aurora in the name of the couple. The resulting fund provides income for the educational needs of Aurora students. Alice Holden is pictured in this profile (in the center of the top row) during the 1889-1890 school year.

W. CHARLIE HOOPER & SHIRLEY LINDER HOOPER SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2003)

This fund was created upon receipt of a bequest from the estates of W. Charlie and Shirley Hooper. W. Charlie Hooper (1909-1995) was born in Hillsboro, Texas. He was an accountant with Podolak, Hooper and Kerr in Aurora. Mr. Hooper also was a charter member of the Aurora Optimist Club and a member of the B.P.O. Elks Lodge of Aurora and New England Congregational Church. Shirley Hooper (1911-2003) was born in Grand Junction, Colorado. She also was a member of New England Congregational Church. During the last years of the couple’s life, they resided in Venice, Florida. Scholarships from this fund are available to residents of the Foundation’s service area.

MARY VIRGINIA HUGHES SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2001)

This fund was created upon receipt of a bequest from the estate of Mary Virginia Hughes. Miss Hughes (1928-2000) was born in Newark, Illinois. Her parents, Wayne and Sadie Hughes, owned and operated a farm in Newark. Mary Hughes lived and worked on the family farm her entire life. She was a member of the Millbrook United Methodist Church. She was survived by her brother Wesley Hughes. Scholarships from this fund are available to students graduating from a high school located in Kendall County for attendance at an accredited college or university. These awards are reserved for students pursuing a major in the field of agriculture.

ELEANOR C. HUNGAR SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2006)

This fund was established to administer a bequest from the estate of Eleanor Hungar. Miss Hungar (1905-2005) attended Greenman Elementary School. She was a graduate of West Aurora High School and Illinois State University at Normal. In 1929, she began a teaching career in Westmont, Illinois. A few years later, she transferred to the West Aurora School System where she served as an elementary teacher at Todd and Freeman Schools. Before retiring in 1970, Miss Hungar authored several stories, including “We Study Space” and “Christmas and the Nutcracker Suite.” Miss Hungar was a beloved and greatly admired teacher. She had a profound influence on the children whose lives she touched. To this day, former students fondly recall her extraordinary kindness to those who had the good fortune to learn at her side. In keeping with her lifelong devotion to children, she bequeathed a portion of her estate to provide scholarships for students entering the field of elementary education.
SHIRLEY M. HURD EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP FUND (EST. 2010)

This fund was created upon receipt of a bequest from the estate of Shirley Miller Hurd. The fund supports college scholarships for local students. In the awarding of these scholarships, preference is given to students attending Northwestern University. Shirley Miller Hurd (1922-2010) was born in Aurora, Illinois. She was a graduate of Holy Angels School and Madonna High School. At the age of seventeen, she began working at Stephens-Adamson Company where she remained for thirty-one years. Mrs. Hurd met her future husband, Charles B. Hurd, at the company. They were married in 1970. Mr. Hurd organized and was president of the world famous Sealmaster Softball team. He and his wife traveled throughout the country with the team, which eventually achieved championship status. Mrs. Hurd was a member of St. Peter Catholic Church, where she established a scholarship for students attending St. Peter Catholic School.

JANET KIRCHER ISLER ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2011)

In November 2011, the A+ Foundation for West Aurora Schools received a generous bequest from the estate of Janet Isler and directed that an endowed fund be established within the Community Foundation for the perpetual recognition of their benefactor. The Janet Kircher Isler Endowment Fund provides income for the charitable purposes of the A+ Foundation, which is responsible for the support, endorsement, and grant management of this fund. Janet Isler was born in 1918 in La Crosse, Wisconsin. She attended Washington Grade School in La Crosse where her father was the principal. She was a 1936 graduate of Central High School and then studied at the State Teacher’s College in La Crosse where she earned a degree in education in 1939. Later that year, she began her teaching career in Baraboo, Wisconsin. Ms. Isler then moved to Wauwatosa, Wisconsin where she taught for one year. In the fall of 1942, she began teaching for the West Aurora Schools at Greenman Elementary School. She also taught at Lincoln, Freeman and Smith Elementary Schools and served as president of Lincoln School’s PTA in 1953. After teaching for over a quarter of a century, Ms. Isler retired from the school district in 1968. She was active in sports and was a bowler on several championship teams in Aurora. She also enjoyed music and sang in the choir at New England Congregational Church in Aurora. Janet Isler died in La Crosse on December 6, 2010 at the age of 92.

THE ITALIAN-AMERICAN MUTUAL AID SOCIETY OF AURORA, ILLINOIS SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1995)

Since 1932, The Italian-American Mutual Aid Society of Aurora has maintained a strong commitment to the Aurora community through the support of numerous civic projects. In 1995, the organization created a scholarship fund to benefit area students studying at the college or university level. In the awarding of scholarships from this fund, preference is given to applicants of Italian descent. Pictured here are representatives of the Italian-American Mutual Aid Society who met in 1995 with the then president of the Foundation Albert D. McCoy (standing at far right) to finalize the terms of the scholarship. Seated (from left) Lou Bacino, Tony L. Cosentino, Daniel Corsolini and Tony Ferrelli. Standing (from left) are John Giartonia, Rich Ruffalo, Larry Amoni and Al McCoy.

PEG JACKSON MEMORIAL LITERARY ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2000)

This fund honors the memory of Peg Tyndal Jackson, a noted author of children’s stories. Peg Jackson (1917-1996) was a resident of Batavia, Illinois. Upon graduation from Beloit High School, she majored in journalism at the University of Wisconsin in Madison. She began writing stories to amuse her daughter and eventually became an accomplished author. Mrs. Jackson published twenty-nine stories, many of which appeared in Jack and Jill, Calling All Girls and Highlights for Children. She also wrote for the Rockford Register Star newspaper. In Batavia, she was known as the “story lady” who visited elementary schools and read mystery stories to the children. Mrs. Jackson’s daughter Susan Jackson Goodhue established this endowment in her mother’s name to encourage the discipline of creative writing among the students of the Batavia School System.
This fund was created upon the termination of the Justus L. Johnson Trust in 1994. Income from the fund is available for the unrestricted use of the Foundation. Mr. Johnson (1879-1956) was the Foundation’s first vice-president. He served as editor of the Aurora Beacon in the early 1900’s, and later was elected clerk of the Circuit Court of Kane County and the Appellate Court for the Second District of Illinois. In 1965, the Foundation received a generous bequest from Grace Hobbs Johnson (1878-1958). Mrs. Johnson studied at the Art Institute of Chicago, founded the Mid-West Early American Pressed Glass Club, and maintained memberships in the Hawthorne Club and the Tuesday Garden Club.

The family of Malcolm and Lydia Jones created an endowment fund to support need-based scholarships for children attending the Lydia J. & Malcolm L. Jones Child Care Center operated by the YWCA Aurora. In 2010, the YWCA sold its building to the City of Aurora. The facility was subsequently torn down. The Jones Child Care Center now supports other local child care centers in the name of Lydia and Malcolm Jones. Lydia Jones (1911-1986) was a longtime supporter of the YWCA, serving on the organization’s board of directors for thirty-nine years and also as its president. Malcolm Jones (1904-1998) was a trustee of the YWCA for many years.

Lee W. Jordan (1926-1984) and Rosemary A. Jordan, lifelong residents of Aurora, attended East Aurora High School. Mr. Jordan was employed by Railway Express Agency and was in the trucking business until his death. Mrs. Jordan was employed as a secretary at C.M. Bardwell School in Aurora for many years. The Jordans were active members of St. John United Church of Christ. This fund was created in 1983 by the couple’s seven children in loving honor of their parents. It was established as an endowment in 1990.

This fund, created in 1964, was established as an endowment in 1990 to provide income for the Community Foundation’s discretionary grantmaking program. Malcolm Jones (1904-1998), a lifelong Auroran, was a graduate of Dartmouth College. He was vice president of Richards-Wilcox Manufacturing Company in Aurora. He also was an active civic leader and served on numerous boards including Aurora University, Aurora Family YMCA, First American Bank, Home Savings and Loan Association, Rotary Club of Aurora and YWCA Aurora. Mr. Jones was a director of the Community Foundation for fifteen years, serving as chairman for two of those years. He also served as a senior or emeritus director for eighteen years. Lydia Jones (1911-1986) was a graduate of Northwestern University. She held leadership positions with many charitable organizations including the American Association of University Women, Child Welfare Society, United Way, Woman’s Club of Aurora and YWCA Aurora. Malcolm and Lydia Jones were devoted members of New England Congregational Church, joining in 1920 and 1933 respectively.

Lee W. & Rosemary A. Jordan Scholarship Endowment Fund (Est. 1983)
WARREN A. & BETTY M. KAHLE MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2006)

This fund was created upon the receipt of a bequest from the estate of Betty Kahle. The fund provides grants to the First Presbyterian Church of Aurora for the Sunday School and Christian Education Programs. Warren Kahle (1921-1996) was a graduate of North Central College. He served in the United States Navy during World War II and was stationed in England and Ireland. He was an assistant purchasing agent at Barber-Greene Company until his retirement in 1982. Betty Kahle (1919-2005) was a graduate of East Aurora High School. She was employed for over forty years at the Child City of Mooseheart. She served as executive assistant to five successive directors, including the period of the promotion and completion of the Mooseheart House of God. Mr. and Mrs. Kahle were members of the First Presbyterian Church of Aurora.

KENDALL COUNTY ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2007)

This fund is an unrestricted fund that provides grants to non-profit organizations that are located within Kendall County or that provide significant support to the residents of Kendall County. The fund was originally administered by the Kendall County Foundation. In 2007, the Kendall County Foundation transferred its assets to the Community Foundation. The Kendall County Endowment Fund was established as a permanent resource to honor the citizens of Kendall County. Pictured here is the historic Kendall County Courthouse. Built in 1864, it served the residents of Kendall County until 1998.

CONSTANCE K. & ALLEN J. KENT SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2007)

This fund was established to provide scholarships for students graduating from public or private high schools within the boundaries of Aurora School District 129 or 131 and also Marmion Academy. Constance Kent, a native Auroran, graduated from Madonna High School and received a bachelor of arts degree from DePaul University in Chicago. She enjoyed a career in marketing and journalism. She also held an Illinois Real Estate License. Mrs. Kent has served on the boards of area organizations including Family Counseling Service, American Association of University Women and YWCA Aurora. In addition, she has been a volunteer at the Dominican Literacy Center. Allen Kent, a native of Jefferson, South Dakota, is a graduate of the College of Pharmacy at South Dakota State University. He was on the pharmacy staff of Provena Mercy Center for many years and retired as director of pharmacy. Mr. Kent also holds a master of science degree in business from Aurora University. He has served on many professional boards, including the Pharmacy Practitioner Panel of The United States Pharmacopoeia. He also has volunteered for several community boards including Kiwanis Club of Aurora, Dominican Literacy Center, Provena Fox Knoll, Aurora Public Arts Commission and the Prestbury Citizens Association.

KONRAD FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND IN MEMORY OF ARTHUR W. KONRAD (EST. 2004)

This fund provides scholarships to graduates of West Aurora High School. Arthur W. Konrad (1928-2004) was born in Padew, Poland. He immigrated to the United States in 1950 and served overseas with the National Guard during the Korean War. As the sole proprietor of Konrad’s Barbershop, Mr. Konrad worked as an independent barber from 1959 to 1999 on High Street in Aurora. Known as “Art by Art,” his business was a mainstay of the Pigeon Hill community. In 1977, he obtained his real estate broker’s license and added a second line of business to his High Street location. Mr. Konrad was a member of the Luxemburger Club and the German-American (DANK) Club. He also was a graduate of Waubonsee Community College.
WILFRED A. KRAMER MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1998)

This fund was created by Wilfred Kramer for the unrestricted use of the Community Foundation. Wilfred Kramer (1922-2004) was a graduate of Marmion Military Academy. After high school, he attended Niagara and Marquette Universities and played on the football teams of both schools. Mr. Kramer was a veteran of the United States Navy and served as a pilot during World War II. He also played on the Navy football team. In 1943, he was selected to the College All Star Game. After the war, he played professionally for the Cleveland Browns and the Buffalo Bills and later became a member of the NFL Alumni Association. In 1947, Mr. Kramer founded Janco Supply in Aurora.

RALPH & ALICE KRAMP SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND IN MEMORY OF RANDY KRAMP (EST. 2010)

This fund was created to honor the memory of Randy Kramp (1967-2010). Mr. Kramp, a lifelong Auroran, was forty years old when he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. After a three-year battle, he died in June of 2010 of complications from the treatment. Mr. Kramp joined Cub Scouts as soon as he reached the age of eligibility and that began a lifelong enjoyment and commitment to the values of scouting. After he achieved the rank of Eagle Scout, he assumed the role of adult leadership as a Wood Badger. He remained active in scouting his entire life. One of the proudest days in his life occurred when he became the sixth man in three generations to join the ranks of the Aurora Fire Department. Mr. Kramp served as a paramedic for a number of years and also was on the water rescue team. His father Ralph Kramp retired as Aurora’s fire chief and then assumed the position of fire chief at Fermi Lab in Batavia. His mother Alice Nilles Kramp created this endowment fund in memory of her son and also to honor the family legacy in fire service. Scholarships from this fund are available to current or former Boy Scouts in the Fox Valley who are pursuing a higher education toward a career in the field of fire service or emergency medical service.

J. PAUL & WANDA H. KUHN SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1986)

This fund, created upon receipt of a bequest from the estate of Wanda Kuhn in 1986, was established as an endowment in 1989. J. Paul Kuhn (1889-1966) was an Aurora attorney for many years. He received his law degree in 1910 and established a practice in Aurora that year. He served as assistant state’s attorney in Kane County from 1912-1916 and was active in numerous professional and fraternal organizations. Mrs. Kuhn was born in Iowa in 1919. She was an Aurora resident until her death in 1985.

LOUISE G. & MARGARET E. LANE SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1994)

This fund provides income to students graduating from Aurora Christian, East Aurora or West Aurora High School for attendance at a college or university located within the State of Illinois. Margaret Lane (1906-1993) was a graduate of West Aurora High School. She earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Illinois and a graduate degree from Northwestern University. She taught in the West Aurora School System at Lincoln, Hill and Todd Elementary Schools. Her sister Louise Lane (1907-2003) also received her undergraduate degree from the University of Illinois and a graduate degree from Northwestern University. She taught in the West Aurora School System at Greenman and Freeman Elementary Schools, as well as West Aurora High School. Both women maintained memberships in numerous community organizations including the American Association of University Women, the Aurora Area Retired Teacher’s Association and New England Congregational Church.
CAPTAIN LESTER H. & MARIE T. LEIFHEIT MEMORIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1995)

This fund, originally created in 1995, was established as an endowment in 1999 upon receipt of a bequest from the estate of Marie T. Leifheit (1922-1998). It was Mrs. Leifheit’s wish to provide a perpetual charitable vehicle for the support of the Aurora Police Department as a memorial to her husband Captain Lester H. Leifheit. Captain Leifheit (1921-1983) joined the Aurora Police Department in 1949. He was promoted to sergeant in 1957, lieutenant in 1965 and captain in 1972. Captain Leifheit was commander of both the Field Services Bureau and the Administrative Bureau. He retired after serving the Aurora Police Department for thirty-three years.

ARNOLD E. & DONNA LIES FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2009)

The Arnold E. and Donna Lies Family Endowment Fund was established to provide support for the charitable needs of the Aurora community. Arnold Lies (1929-2015) was a lifelong resident of Aurora. He attended St. Therese Grade School, Marmion Academy and Marquette University. Mr. Lies was a second lieutenant in the United States Army during the Korean War. He was stationed at Fort Benning, Georgia and Camp Cooke in California. For over fifty years, he owned and operated the Arnold Lies Company, a contracting firm responsible for the construction of many notable buildings in the Aurora area. He gave back to his community through his service to Holy Angels Church, Provena Mercy Medical Center, Aurora Exchange Club and the West Aurora High School Sports Boosters Club. Donna Lies is a graduate of Holy Angels Grade School and West Aurora High School. She has volunteered for Provena Mercy Medical Center and St. Anne’s Society of Holy Angels Church. At the time they created their fund within the Community Foundation, Mr. and Mrs. Lies commented: “We have created an endowment fund to provide an ongoing legacy for the benefit of the community in which we have lived and raised our family.”

JESSE F. MABERRY, JR. ADVISORY ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1986)

This fund was created by Jesse Maberry, former vice-president of Aurora Bearing Company, Inc. Mr. Maberry has served on the boards of directors of several organizations, including the Old Second Bancorp. The fund, created in 1986, was established as an endowment in 1990. Mr. Maberry also was instrumental in establishing the Aurora Bearing Company Advisory Fund within the Foundation.

MARZUKI FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUNDS (EST. 2004 & 2009)

Two endowment funds were established within the Foundation in honor of the Marzuki Family. The first fund—Donie, Marie & Judy Marzuki Endowment Fund—was established in 2004 by the children of Donie and Marie Marzuki to recognize and honor their parents for their devotion and sacrifice in raising a family during difficult economic times. Like many other people, Mr. and Mrs. Marzuki were first generation Americans who achieved a successful and fulfilling life in the face of adversity, including the loss of a child to fire. Donie Marzuki (1895-1976) was employed as a milkman and Marie Marzuki (1901-1976) was a homemaker. Their daughter Judy is also honored by this fund. In spite of profound disabilities, Judy Marzuki (1943-2000) overcame great obstacles to bring much joy and happiness to her family and friends. This fund provides grants to Keeler Center of Aurora to encourage outdoor activities for their disabled clients.

The second fund—Don & Marie Marzuki Family Foundation—was established in 2009 by Jack Marzuki in memory of his loving parents and siblings. The purpose of the foundation is to assist people in other countries who experience great adversity in their lives. Matching grants from the fund are available as an incentive for local students to become involved in the financial support of needy children living in the lesser developed countries and to assist students responding to a natural disaster or need in those nations. Through these experiences, it is hoped that local youth will develop a spirit of philanthropy that extends to other countries. It also is the intent of this fund to encourage an understanding and appreciation of other cultures and nations. A video of the lives of the Marzuki Family is available on the Community Foundation website.
**JUDY MARZUKI ENDOWMENT FUNDS**
*(EST. 2004 & 2012)*

Two endowment funds were established within the Foundation in loving memory of Judy Marzuki. The first fund—Judy Marzuki Endowment Fund for Wildlife—was created in 2004 by her sister and brothers. The purpose of this fund is to encourage individuals to participate in volunteer activities at area wildlife centers. Judy Marzuki (1943-2000) was disabled from birth. She found that nature and wildlife do not distinguish between handicapped and non-handicapped people. Together, she and her caregivers found much enjoyment and beauty when visiting nature and observing wildlife. Wildlife teaches valuable lessons on the struggles of life. It teaches that these struggles can be relieved through the efforts of those who share their time and talent.

The second fund—Judy Marzuki Endowment Fund for Nature and the Environment—was created in 2012 by her brother Jack Marzuki. This fund was established to improve and protect the environment and nature which were such an important part of Judy's life. Grants from the fund are available to students attending a high school located in Aurora, Illinois who wish to participate as interns with the Student Conservation Association. Grants also are available to student groups at high schools located in Aurora, Illinois for projects to improve and protect the environment and nature. Finally, grants are available to the highest rated environmental and nature organizations. A video of the lives of the Marzuki Family is available on the Community Foundation website.

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**JOHN & JOAN MATTHEWS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND**
*(EST. 1993)*

Scholarships from this fund are awarded to students graduating from East Aurora or West Aurora High School for attendance at Waubonsee Community College or Aurora University. The fund was established by the Matthews’ children in recognition of the couple’s profound interest in education. John Matthews (1907-1992) was an educator and civic leader in Aurora for many years. The couple maintained memberships in numerous professional and civic organizations.

**MAYOR ALBERT D. & MARY ANN MCCOY ADVISORY ENDOWMENT FUND** *(EST. 2005)*

This fund was created by Albert and Mary Ann McCoy to support their philanthropic objectives. Created in 2005, it became an endowment fund in 2015. Al McCoy is a lifelong resident of Aurora. He graduated from Marmion Academy in 1944 and attended Aurora University and the University of Montana. He is a combat veteran of World War II, serving on the aircraft carrier USS Monterey in the South Pacific. Mr. McCoy was Mayor of Aurora for twelve years from 1965 to 1977. During his tenure, Aurora annexed over 6,800 acres of land giving rise to Aurora’s distinction as the second largest city in Illinois. Mr. McCoy is past president of The Aurora Foundation (now the Community Foundation) and was a member of the board of directors for twenty-seven years. Mary Ann McCoy (1931-2008) was born in Huron, South Dakota. She graduated from Plano High School in 1949 and attended Northern Illinois University. Mrs. McCoy was a member of New England Congregational Church and sang in the church choir for forty-one years. Mr. and Mrs. McCoy were married for fifty-three years and were active in numerous civic and charitable organizations.

**DANNY MCCUE MEMORIAL/AURORA FIREFIGHTERS SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND** *(EST. 2005)*

This fund provides scholarships to students who are employed by the Aurora Fire Department or to students whose parents or grandparents are employed by or retired from the Aurora Fire Department. Scholarships are available to students pursing a career at the college level of study or at a trade or vocational school. Dan McCue (1955-2005) was employed by the Aurora Fire Department for twenty-four years, achieving the rank of captain. He also served as a paramedic for eighteen of those years. Mr. McCue was a graduate of East Aurora High School. He died after a courageous battle with cancer. This scholarship honors, among many other attributes, a dedicated firefighter, friend, father and husband. His legacy of courage, strength and love for life will continue to inspire future generations of students.
HELEN SCHLICHT MCGEACHY & ARTHUR C. SCHLICHT SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1994)

This fund provides scholarships to students graduating from Aurora Central, Aurora Christian, East Aurora, Marmion Academy, Rosary or West Aurora High School. Students entering the field of education, engineering, science, medicine or nursing are eligible to apply for these awards.

This fund was established by Arthur C. Schlicht in memory of his mother Helen Schlicht McGeachy. Mrs. McGeachy (1910-1994) was a graduate of East Aurora High School. An outstanding typist and secretary, she ultimately became secretary to the presidents of CA&E Railway and Walker Process Equipment of Aurora. Arthur Schlicht was vice-president/national sales manager at Walker Process Equipment. He holds a degree in chemical engineering from the Illinois Institute of Technology. This fund was created in 1994 and established as an endowment in 1995.

MICHAEL DAVID MCGRATH SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2006)

This fund was established to honor the memory and celebrate the life of Michael David McGrath (1977-2003). The fund, which was created in 2006, became an endowment in 2013. Michael was a graduate of Downers Grove North High School and made his living repairing and refurbishing computers. He was an intelligent and inquisitive young man of unlimited potential. As an encouragement to future generations, this scholarship is intended for students who possess both the ability and desire to increase their knowledge in a chosen field of study. This scholarship also is designed to provide opportunities for students with limited financial resources to enhance their skills and affirm their self-worth. Michael was a multi-talented young man who frequently benefited from the kindness of others. This scholarship is offered to recognize and perpetuate those qualities.

JOHN & GWEN MCKEE ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2010)

This fund provides income for the Community Foundation’s discretionary grantmaking program. John McKeef is a life-long resident of Aurora, Illinois and is a graduate of West Aurora High School. In 1958, he graduated cum laude from Beloit College with a degree in economics. He then was employed in the family owned business, McKee Door Company, until it was sold in 1986. He continued working with the successor company, Porvene-McKee, until 1994. Mr. McKeef has served as director and president of the Aurora Family YMCA, The Aurora Foundation (now the Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley) and the Kiwanis Club of Aurora. He also has been a director of Mental Health and Mental Retardation Services, Inc., and trustee of Aurora University and the AuroraYWCA. In 1992, he received the Cosmopolitan Club’s Distinguished Service Award and, in 2005, he was named recipient of the Kiwanis Club’s Service to God and Fellowman Award. Gwen McKeef (1937-2014) was born in Chicago, Illinois. She was a 1958 graduate of Beloit College and was employed for two years at IBM as a Systems Representative. She was a talented and prolific quilter, producing quilts for family, friends and charitable causes. Mrs. McKeef was a member of New England Congregational Church, where she participated in the chancel choir. Mr. McKeef is also a member of the chancel choir. He has served as moderator and member of the church’s major governing boards. The couple has three children.

JAMES C. MCLALLEN ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1983)

The James C. McLallen Endowment Fund provides annual grants to St. Mary Roman Catholic Church in Aurora. James McLallen (1913-1996), a lifelong Auroran, received a bachelor of science in chemistry from the University of Illinois in 1935. He was employed in the research and development facility of Baxter Laboratory in Morton Grove for forty-four years. He also was a member of the American Chemical Society, the American Society of Micro-Biologists and St. Mary Roman Catholic Church.
LEON MCNAIR ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2014)

This fund provides grants to the First Tee of Aurora and Fox River Valley in the name of Leon McNair. Grants awarded from the fund help defray the expense for local youth to participate in the sport of golf. Leon McNair was born in Amsterdam, New York. He moved to Illinois where he attended Glenbard West High School. While in high school, he received the Most Valuable Player Award in Golf in 1959 and 1960. He then played on the Southern Illinois University five-man golf team that won the NCAA Division II National Championship in 1964. In 1966, he received a degree in advertising and public relations from the university. Leon McNair was the director of golf and manager of the Fox Bend Golf Course for thirty-eight years. He currently serves as the president of the Wadsworth Golf Charities Foundation where he has been instrumental in launching Links Across America. This initiative has created a team of company partners from the golf industry to develop short golf courses (three, six or nine-hole courses) throughout the country. These courses provide affordable golf for youth, families, adult beginners and individuals with injuries or disabilities. To date, eighteen such courses have been developed in thirteen states across the country. Mr. McNair has served as president of the Illinois PGA and member of the PGA Education Committee, National Oldsmobile Scramble Advisory Board and PGA President’s Council on Growing the Game. He currently is a member of the board of directors of the First Tee of Aurora and Fox River Valley, National Alliance for Accessible Golf and Freedom Golf Association. Mr. McNair and his wife Carole Ann have two children.

RICHARD E. & ANN R. McWETHY SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2012)

Ann Riford McWethy was born in Boston, Massachusetts in 1919 to Lulu and Otis Riford. She grew up in Canton, south of Boston. After four years at prep school at Northfield, Massachusetts, Mrs. McWethy graduated from Green Mountain College in Vermont. After college she worked as a legal secretary in Boston. She met her future husband Richard E. McWethy (1921-2014) at a naval officers’ dance at Harvard University. They were married in January of 1944. Richard (Dick) McWethy was born and raised in Aurora, Illinois. He graduated first in his class from West Aurora High School. In 1939, he went to Caltech in Pasadena, majoring in engineering. He was on active duty with the Naval Reserve when school was not in session. After graduation, he was called for active duty in the Navy and was sent to Harvard University for communications training. He eventually served on Attu, at the end of the Aleutian Island chain in Alaska. There he worked in communications with code machines while they launched bombing runs over northern Japan. Mrs. McWethy worked at Phelps-Dodge mining in Arizona and in Seattle while her husband was on active duty. When the War was over, they returned to Aurora where Richard McWethy joined his father at McWethy Brothers Insurance, founded by his grandfather and his grandfather’s brother in 1869. He concentrated on farm and livestock insurance, which had always interested him. Mr. McWethy volunteered for many years for the Boy Scouts and the YMCA in Aurora. He was a member of the Rotary Club of Aurora and Oswego. Mrs. McWethy enjoyed the Junior Women’s League in Aurora, and volunteered for many years at Hines VA Hospital, working mostly with the wounded veterans from the Vietnam War. The couple had three children.

ALBERT W. MEDERNACH SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2012)

This fund, which was created upon the receipt of a bequest from the estate of Albert William Medernach, provides scholarships to students residing within the Community Foundation service area. Albert Medernach (1941-2012) was born in Aurora, Illinois to John and Loretta Medernach. His father worked at the National Brush Company and his mother was a homemaker. They were blessed with twelve children. Their son Albert attended St. Nicholas Catholic Grade School and was a graduate of Marmion Academy. He served in the United States Army from 1964 to 1966. He was employed by Caterpillar Tractor Company for thirty years. After retirement, he volunteered for Hesed House and St. Rita of Cascia Church, where he became affectionately known as “Mr. St. Rita.” Mr. Medernach was a master gardener who looked forward to the springtime when he was able to resume the design of his flowerbeds and other plantings. His devotion to family was of great importance to him as demonstrated by the special care he provided to his mother prior to her passing. He was a kind and thoughtful man who brightened the lives of others. Albert Medernach will be remembered for generations to come for his generous provision for the educational futures of local students.
ARMANDO MENDEZ MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1994)

A memorial fund was established by the family and friends of Armando Mendez (1975-1994) as a tribute to the life of this promising young student. Armando was pursuing a career in the field of architecture at the College of DuPage. He was a 1993 graduate of Aurora Central Catholic High School where he participated in football, track, tennis and wrestling. Armando Mendez was a role model for younger students, an inspiring “big brother” to those who knew him. Scholarships from this fund are awarded to graduates of Aurora Central Catholic High School. Created in 1994, the fund was established as an endowment in 1998.

JOHN E. MEYER FAMILY ADVISORY ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2012)

This fund was established by the children of John E. Meyer through a distribution from their father’s private foundation. The fund’s primary goal is to support organizations that “nourish the lives of children.” Jack Meyer (1929-2010) was born in Joliet, Illinois and grew up in Aurora, Illinois. A graduate of Marmion Military Academy and Benedictine University, he worked as a chemist for many years in the roofing material business, relocating from Illinois to Michigan and then to Maryland. During his career, he was awarded four patents. Later, he formed a consulting business which helped three companies enter the roofing granule market. Moving to North Carolina, he established the Meyer LD Corporation to build and restore homes. He also wrote and published a number of books. Among his many personal interests were history, travel and cooking. One of his last wishes was to establish a charitable fund to benefit children in need.

RICHARD J. & MARILYN J. MICHELINI SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2005)

This fund was created to provide scholarships to students who reside within the incorporated area of the Village of Montgomery. Richard Michelini (1931-2003) was a graduate of Colorado State University. He served in the United States Army and was regional sales manager for Ciba-Geigy for thirty-three years. Mr. Michelini served on the Montgomery Village Board and also was chairman of the Aurora Township Democratic Party. Marilyn Michelini was the president of the Village of Montgomery. She was a member of the DuKane Valley Council, Kendall County Mayors and Managers Association, Metro West Council of Governments, Kane County Storm Water Management Commission and United Way of the Fox Valley. Previously, she served on the Kane County Board and the Village of Montgomery Board of Trustees. Mrs. Michelini created this scholarship fund as a tribute to her husband and as a meaningful way to assist the residents of the community she served. Created in 2005, the fund was established as an endowment in 2008.

ROBERT & PATRICIA MICHELS FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2002)

Lifelong residents of Aurora, Robert and Patricia Michels established the R.N. & P.M. Michels Family Advisory Fund in 2002. The fund became an endowment in 2009 to support the religious and educational efforts of Aurora Catholic schools in Aurora, Illinois through The Aurora Catholic Education Foundation. Robert Michels (1922-2008) was a graduate of Marmion Academy. He attended Purdue University for two years and then served as a flight instructor in the United States Air Force during World War II. In 1946, he joined his father in the coal and oil business. Three years later, they created the Michels Lumber Company. Robert Michels owned and operated the business until 1994. He was active in the Serra Club, Lion’s Club and the Knights of Columbus. He and Patricia Raspiller were married in 1944. Mrs. Michels is a graduate of Madonna High School. She is a member of the St. Anne’s Society of Holy Angels Church and the Serra Club. Mr. and Mrs. Michels
attended Catholic grade schools and high schools, as did their nine children. Their fund is a testament to their belief in and support of Catholic education.

**FRANK & MARIANNE MILLER ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2006)**

This fund was created to provide annual grants to local educational and charitable organizations. Frank Miller is a 1951 graduate of Marmion Military Academy. In 2002, he received the school’s prestigious Centurion Award for longtime public and community service. He earned a degree from Aurora College in 1961 and serves as a member of the board of trustees. He worked for Illinois Bell/Ameritech from 1952 until his retirement in 1990. Mr. Miller was a member of the Kane County Board for more than twenty years, eight as chairman. In 2004, the Orchard Road underpass was named the Frank R. Miller Transportation Plaza to honor his commitment to transportation and the citizens of Kane County. He serves or has served on a number of boards and commissions including the Community Foundation, Rosary High School, Senior Services Associates, Fox Valley Park District Foundation, NIPC, the RTA and RTA Pension Trust as chairman. Marianne Miller is a graduate of Madonna High School. She is a member of Holy Angels Church and the church’s St. Anne’s Society. She also is a longtime active member of the Child Welfare Society and has served as a Kane County election judge for thirty-three years.

**FRED & BARB MILLER SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1998)**

This fund provides scholarships to students of German descent who are graduating from a high school located within the Foundation’s service area. Fred Miller (1928-1999) retired from the Columbia Pipe Company in 1996. He devoted a lifetime of service to the Boy Scouts of America. He was active in Boy Scout Troop 29 at Domeier and Hermes Schools for over fifty years. During that time he received every award given to those associated with the Boy Scouts. His other civic activities included memberships with the Tiger Club and the Italian-American Club. The Optimist Club presented an award to Mr. Miller in honor of his outstanding contributions to the community. Barb Miller also was involved in several community organizations. She was an active member of the PTA’s of several East Aurora Schools, was a Girl Scout Leader for eight years and a committee member of Troop 29. This fund was created in 1998 and established as an endowment in 2000.

**SENATOR ROBERT W. & HELEN DREW MITCHLER SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2007)**

Robert Mitchler (1920-2012) was a native of Aurora. He graduated from East Aurora High School and Aurora College. He was employed by the CB&Q Railroad until 1941. He then served in the United States Navy during World War II. In 1950, he was recalled to active duty in the Korean War. Mr. Mitchler also worked for Northern Illinois Gas Company. In 1964, he was elected to the Illinois State Senate where he served until his retirement in 1981. Helen Mitchler is also a native of Aurora. She is a graduate of East Aurora High School and the Copley Hospital School of Nursing. Her career in nursing was with Copley Memorial Hospital and the Dreyer Medical Clinic. Both Mr. and Mrs. Mitchler were active in community service. Robert Mitchler served with numerous military and veteran organizations and Helen Mitchler with social, political and medical support units. Mrs. Mitchler’s active work with the National Society Daughters of The American Revolution earned her election as National Vice President General.

**MANDY MODIC ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2015)**

This fund was created by the McGee Foundation of Dallas, Texas to provide annual grants to the Paramount Theatre in Aurora, Illinois for the theatre’s Broadway Series. The fund pays tribute to Mandy Modic, a professional actress who has appeared in several musical productions at the Paramount. Mandy was born in Coppell, Texas, a suburb of Dallas. As a youth, she was an avid participant in several sports and was honored to have played volleyball in the Junior Olympics at age seventeen. She received a bachelor of fine arts degree in musical theatre from the Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University. She has performed throughout the country and overseas, appearing in numerous musicals including Hairspray, Spamalot, Anything
ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Goes, Pirates of Penzance, Carousel, Les Miserables and A Chorus Line. For the 2015-2016 Season, Mandy starred in The Who’s Tommy, 42nd Street, and Annie. She also had the opportunity to appear on NBC and developed a love for film and television. Mandy also enjoys traveling, baking, photography, laughing, and chocolate! More information regarding Mandy and her professional career can be found at www.mandymodic.com.

G. WILLIAM & FREDA S. MOORE SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2006)

This fund provides scholarships to students pursuing studies in business or accounting. G. William Moore grew up on a farm near Paducah, Kentucky. He graduated from Bowling Green College of Commerce with a degree in higher accounting. Mr. Moore served in the United States Navy during World War II reaching the rank of lieutenant. He came to Aurora in 1946 to work as a CPA for a local accounting firm. In 1949, he opened his own firm and continued in practice until 1977. He then joined his practice with a firm from Champaign, Illinois, predecessor to Sikich Gardner & Co. Mr. Moore is a member of Wesley United Methodist Church and the Aurora Noon Kiwanis Club. Freda S. Moore (1918-2004) was a native of Clarksburg, West Virginia. She graduated from Bowling Green College of Commerce with a degree in business administration. After graduation, she taught business courses at the high school level. During World War II, she worked for the United States Air Force in Norfolk, Virginia. Mrs. Moore was a member of Wesley United Methodist Church and was an accomplished musician, playing the piano, saxophone and clarinet.

GERALD & BARBARA MORROW FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2010)

This fund provides income for the Community Foundation’s discretionary grantmaking program. Barbara Biever Morrow (1930-2013) was born in Aurora. Her family heritage of civic service in Aurora, through the Biever Furniture Company, dates back to the company’s founding in 1881. Following her graduation from Northwestern University, she had a gratifying career as a third grade teacher at Freeman Elementary School. She was recognized for her achievements by West Aurora School District 129 with the “Golden Apple Award.” Gerald Morrow (1924-2014) was a CPA and graduate of the University of Illinois. He served as treasurer of the City of Aurora for eight years. He was honored by election as president of the Illinois Municipal Finance Officers and as chairman of an Illinois CPA Society committee charged with rewriting the State of Illinois’ municipal accounting standards. Mr. Morrow then served as treasurer of the Wadsworth Golf Construction Company for over thirty-five years. He later was elected to a four-year term as auditor for Kane County. He also was an instructor for evening advanced accounting classes at Aurora University, president of the Aurora Kiwanis Club and an active participant in United Way. During World War II, Mr. Morrow served his country as an Army Paratroop demolition specialist with the First Allied Airborne in Europe.

ROBERT G. MUKENSTURM ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2005)

This fund was created to administer an unrestricted bequest from the estate of Robert Mukensturm. Mr. Mukensturm (1920-2004) was born in Deerfield, Michigan. He graduated from the Alexian School of Nursing in 1942. He then served in the United States Navy. Following his discharge from the Navy in 1951, he worked for the Aruba-Standard Oil Company. Mr. Mukensturm subsequently became associated with St. Charles Hospital in Aurora for ten years as a nurse anesthetist. He then joined the practice of Gillette, Starshak and Colletti at the Aurora Dental Arts Clinic where he remained for twenty-five years. He was a member of the Aurora Turner’s Club, Amvets Post 103 and the Yorkville American Legion Post 489.

JAMES & KATHERINE NAVOTA ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2010)

This fund provides income for the Community Foundation’s discretionary grantmaking program. James Navota was born and raised in Aurora, graduating from East Aurora High School in 1960. He attended the University of Denver, Valparaiso University and graduated with honors from Northern
Illinois University with a degree in business administration in 1964. He joined Barber Greene Company in 1965 following active duty in the United States Army Reserve. He served in many marketing and sales positions during his twenty-three years, leaving the company in 1987 as director of sales, construction machinery. For the following two years, Mr. Navota was with the Old Second National Bank as a trust officer, employee benefits. In June 1989, he joined Lyon Work Space Products holding various positions in marketing and sales, retiring as vice-president, sales and marketing for Sycamore Systems in 2006. He has served on many industry boards and committees throughout his career. After graduating from Marycrest College in 1964, Katherine (Kathy) Navota moved to Aurora to teach. She was a classroom teacher, a reading resource teacher, the district Title I grant coordinator, the district reading/language arts coordinator and principal of Rose E. Krug Elementary School from 1993 until her retirement in 2006. Mrs. Navota received her master of education degree in educational leadership from National Lewis University in 1991. She is active in the Aurora Area Retired Teachers Association, Delta Kappa Gamma educational sorority, DD Chapter of PEO Sisterhood and currently serves on the board of directors and executive committee of the Community Foundation. Mr. and Mrs. Navota were married in April 1967 and have two sons Jonathan and Jason.

DONALD E. & ANNABELLE KEEFE NELSON SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1997)

He was a member of St. Mary Roman Catholic Church, Aurora Kiwanis Club, Knights of Columbus and numerous other civic organizations. He served as a member of the Zoning Hearing Board, the Civil Service Commission, the Aurora Baseball Commission, School District 131 Board of Education, and was a member of the original group which introduced Little League Baseball to Aurora. In 1980, the Cosmopolitan Club of Aurora bestowed the “Distinguished Service Award” to Mr. Nelson and, in 1991, the Aurora Kiwanis Club awarded the “Service to God and Fellow Man Award” to him. This fund was created in 1997 and established as an endowment in 1998.

ROBERT L. & MARJORY J. NELSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2004)

This fund provides scholarships to students pursuing a career in the medical field of study with a preference to those students entering the field of nursing. Marjory Nelson (1928-1998) received her bachelor of arts degree from Aurora University and her R.N. certification from the Copley Hospital School of Nursing. She also undertook additional graduate studies at Northern Illinois University and the National College of Education. She was employed by Copley Memorial Hospital and later served as a nurse for the East Aurora Schools. This fund was created by Mrs. Nelson’s family and friends to provide recognition of her extraordinary dedication to the field of nursing. Upon the passing of her husband Robert, the Nelson family added his name to the fund. Robert Nelson (1924-2015) was a veteran of World War II. He served with the Navy in Europe and the Marines in the Pacific. He worked in the field of education and was a retired principal in School District 44 in Lombard, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson were survived by two daughters and three grandchildren. Created in 2004, the fund became an endowment in 2005.

THEODORE SILSETH NELSON SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2005)

This fund provides scholarships to students who are returning to school after an elapsed of several years since high school graduation. Students must be at least twenty-two years of age to be eligible for these awards and must be entering a two-year course of study leading to an associate’s degree in the field of health care with preference to students seeking a registered nurse certification. Theodore Nelson was born in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He received a BBA degree with majors in economics and labor management relations from the University of Iowa. In 1969, Mr. Nelson moved to Aurora as a result of a corporate transfer. He was employed as a large commercial account underwriter in the insurance industry. Mr. Nelson created this fund out of respect for the competency of those who are members of the health care profession and to encourage those who wish to improve themselves by returning to school after having been in the work force.
FRANK & MARIAN NEWELL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2000)

This fund was created by Marian Newell as a memorial to her husband. Frank Newell (1915-2000) was a graduate of Millikin University. He retired from Nicor in 1975 after thirty years in various accounting positions. Mr. Newell was an instructor of Celestial Navigation in the Army Air Corps during World War II. He was a member of New England Congregational Church in Aurora. Marian Newell attended Millikin University and has belonged to several organizations in Aurora including P.E.O. Chapter BT, Daughters of the American Revolution, Midwest Early American Pressed Glass Club and the Woman’s Club of Aurora. She also is a member of New England Congregational Church in Aurora.

JOHN & PEG NICHOLS MEMORIAL LIBRARY ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2007)

This fund provides annual grants to the Messenger Public Library Foundation. John Nichols (1936-2005) was born in California. As the son of a career U.S. Navy officer, he was living in Hawaii during the bombing of Pearl Harbor. His family later moved to Seattle, Washington where he completed his high school education. Mr. Nichols then enlisted in the U. S. Air Force and was stationed in Morocco. He earned degrees in chemistry and geology before settling into a thirty-year career with the United States Government. Peg Nichols (1942-2006) was a graduate of Fenn College. She pursued graduate studies at Kent State and the University of Utah. For many years, Mrs. Nichols was a contributing editor to the Windmill Herald and a trustee of the North Aurora City Council. She was instrumental in establishing the new library in North Aurora.

OBERWEIS FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1985)

The family and friends of Joseph J. Oberweis (1911-1984) established this fund at the time of his death to provide grants for the Community Foundation’s discretionary grantmaking program and for the administrative needs of the Foundation. Mr. Oberweis was chairman of Oberweis Dairy Inc. of Aurora and served on the board of directors of Valley National Bank. He was active in the Aurora Noon Lions Club, the Knights of Columbus and the Loyal Order of the Moose. His wife Lora J. Oberweis (1909-2005) had served as the vice-president of Oberweis Dairy, managing credit accounts. Mrs. Oberweis also was a first grade teacher and later the principal of Dieterich School in Aurora, where she met her future husband who was the school’s milkman. Created in 1985, the fund was established as an endowment in 1994.

IRENE & MARIE OBERWEIS NURSING SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1996)

This scholarship was created by Marie Oberweis as a loving tribute to her sister Irene. Marie Oberweis (1921-2007) graduated from Madonna High School in 1939. That year, she started her career with Oberweis Dairy where she later became a partner with her father Peter Oberweis and her brother Joseph Oberweis. Irene Oberweis (1924-1996) attended Annunciation School in Aurora. She spent many years of her life in hospitals due to fragile health. In gratitude for the exemplary care her sister received throughout her lifetime from those in the nursing profession, Marie Oberweis created a permanent scholarship fund to support area students entering the nursing field.
MERRILL E. & FRANCES C. OLSON ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2005)

This fund was established upon the receipt of an unrestricted bequest from the estates of Merrill and Frances Olson. Merrill Olson (1919-1987) was born in Mankato, Minnesota. He was a graduate of Gustavus Adolphus College and attended St. Paul College of Law. Mr. Olson worked for the William H. Ziegler Company of Minneapolis until 1962 when he moved to Aurora. He retired in 1977 as a vice-president of the Barber-Greene Company. Frances Olson (1911-2004) was born in Amboy, Minnesota. She was a graduate of Amboy High School and attended Mankato State Teachers College for several years. Mrs. Olson was an active member of Wesley United Methodist Church, the White Cross Auxiliary of Copley Memorial Hospital and the Child Welfare Society.

NEAL & MARY CLARK ORMOND ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2011)

Neal Ormond III and Mary Clark Ormond, in the firm belief that educators are key social ingredients in every community, established a fund in their names in 2011 to encourage exemplary teachers and other educators of School District 129 to pursue ongoing professional development and to reward effective teaching and learning strategies. Neal Ormond has lived in Aurora almost his entire life. In his professional career he served as a vice president of the Quaker Oats Company, and he retired in 1995 after nearly twenty years as vice president of Human Resources for W. W. Grainger, Inc. He has gifted the community for nearly half a century by founding and leading such organizations as the A+ Foundation for West Aurora Schools and the West Aurora Sports Boosters, and serving as a long-time board member and president of School District 129 and chairman of the Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley. For more than fifty years he has volunteered innumerable hours coaching youth and high school basketball, tennis, softball, cross country and track and has served as the radio and television Voice of the West Aurora Blackhawks sports teams. A native of Chicago, Mary Clark Ormond served as head of the Aurora Public Library in the 1970s and as a volunteer has served as president of such organizations as the Aurora Historical Society, the Tuesday Garden Club and the Aurora Festival Association. She was a co-founder of the Fox Valley Arts Hall of Fame and the Fox Valley Garden Club. She served on the board of the Community Foundation for twenty years and remains involved with the scholarship program. A dedicated gardener, she has worked on projects throughout the community with especial devotion to trees.

MEG PAPADOLIAS ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2011)

The Meg Papadolias Endowment Fund was created to honor Meg Papadolias, a music educator who devoted more than thirty years to the advancement of vocal and choral music in School District 129. Established in 2011, the fund became an endowment in 2012. The fund is primarily designed for the music development and nurturing of current and future students of the district through the expansion and enhancement of the instruction, development, and general excellence of West Aurora
High School students in the area of vocal arts. Mrs. Papadolias received her bachelor of arts and master of arts degrees from Northern Illinois University. In 1979, she began her teaching career in West Aurora School District 129. She first taught at Freeman and Schneider Elementary Schools, and then moved to Washington Middle School. She started teaching at West Aurora High School in 1985 while also maintaining her position at Washington. In 1996, she left Washington to become the full-time choral instructor at the high school. Until her retirement at the end of the 2011 school year, she took the choral program to great heights. She added a number of specialty choirs to the district’s music program, including the Bel Canto Choir, Dorian Choir, Lyric Chorus, Madrigal Singers, Mixed Ensemble, STUDyhall, and Varsity Singers, as well as maintaining the A Cappella Choir. Mrs. Papadolias designed and implemented a piano lab for all beginning choirs. The students in these choirs learn music literacy skills with the aid of pianos and most students learn to coordinate the use of both hands while playing the piano. She also served as the choral director for West High’s nationally recognized and award winning musicals, and created the district-wide Fine Arts Festival in which all district schools participate. In addition, Mrs. Papadolias wrote and continues to revise annually, “Magic,” a beginning textbook for all choirs. The book includes theory, ear training, music history and sight reading. In her later years at West High, she expanded her leadership to the entire Fine Arts Department and served with distinction as Department Chair. The Meg Papadolias Endowment Fund will help the district to continue this work in her name, so that all choral music students at the middle and high school levels will continue to be enriched and encouraged to become the best they can be in the field of music.

WALTER PAYTON ROUNDHOUSE COMPLEX ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1996)

In 1996, Aurora’s historic 1855 Roundhouse (the nation’s oldest existing limestone Roundhouse which was used to house and repair locomotives) was transformed into the Walter Payton Roundhouse Complex. The Complex contains a brewery, restaurant, banquet facility, museum and retail store. The inner courtyard is paved with personalized “gift bricks” purchased by individuals and businesses. One-half of the proceeds from the sale of the bricks was donated to the Community Foundation to establish this unrestricted charitable fund in the name of Walter Payton. Mr. Payton (1954-1999) was a star running back with the Chicago Bears.

WALTER M. PENNINGTON LONDON POE SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1997)

Walter M. Pennington (1945-1997) taught at Washington Middle School in Aurora for twenty-six years. He coached wrestling, girls basketball and co-ed track at the school. He also served as coach of the girls cross country and track teams at West Aurora High School from 1985-1989. Mr. Pennington battled cancer for several years prior to his death. During that time, his family and friends created a scholarship fund to reflect his devotion to the field of teaching and his interest in the works of authors Jack London and Edgar Allan Poe. Scholarships from the fund are awarded to graduates of West Aurora High School who will be studying within the field of education.

G. KENNETH & DOROTHY L. PERKINS SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2007)

This fund was established to administer a bequest from the estate of Dorothy Dewing Perkins (1913-2007). Mrs. Perkins was the granddaughter of Dr. George H. Dewing, who was a member of the faculty of Mendota College in 1893, the year the college was founded. The college moved to Aurora in 1912 and was renamed Aurora College. Mr. Dewing served as the chairman of the Department of History and Social Sciences at Aurora College where a plaque commemorates his achievements. Dorothy Perkins was born in Chicago and attended Senn High School. She graduated from the Grant Hospital Nursing Program in 1935 and worked as a private duty nurse until her marriage in 1938 to George Kenneth Perkins (1906-1967). Mr. Perkins, a native of Quebec, Canada, immigrated to the United States in 1926 and later became a U.S. citizen. He graduated from Aurora College in 1932. Mr. Perkins was employed by International Harvester Company as a salesman, first in Ottawa, Illinois and later in Dixon, Illinois. In 1940, Mr. and Mrs. Perkins moved to Yorkville, Illinois and, with two partners, opened Yorkville Implement, an International Harvester store. Later, they bought and operated the business together. Following Mr. Perkins’ death, Mrs. Perkins operated the business until 1974, the only woman International Harvester dealer in Illinois.
DAVID B. PERRY ENDOWMENT FUND  
(EST. 2004)

This fund was established to administer a bequest from the estate of David B. Perry. David Perry (1919-2003) was born in Kaneville Township. His great grandfather, Amos Miner, was the first settler in the township. Mr. Perry lived most of his life in the home that his great grandfather built. As a devoted member of the Kaneville Historical Society, Mr. Perry worked tirelessly to preserve the rich heritage of his community. For a number of years, he was employed by Northern Illinois University. He also raised cattle as well as crops on the land that he loved. He and his wife Marian were faithful attendees of the Chicago Opera and shared a deep respect for the traditions of the Kaneville community. Mrs. Perry died in 1989. This fund provides income for the support of charitable organizations located in Kaneville.

ORVILLE PETERSON HEALTH CARE SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND  
(EST. 1976)

Mr. Peterson (1910-1984) was president of Copley Memorial Hospital from 1946 until 1976. During that time, the hospital undertook three major building projects. Mr. Peterson also guided the remodeling of the Pediatric Department and the renovation of the 1888 building which later became the Kidney Dialysis Center. He often recalled and was deeply touched by the extraordinary commitment of the hospital’s physical therapy staff during the polio epidemic. “The staff just never left during that time.” Mr. Peterson passed away in 1984 in Long Beach, California. In the 1990’s, Copley Memorial Hospital (renamed Rush-Copley Medical Center) moved from its original location on Lincoln Avenue in Aurora to Ogden Avenue in Aurora.

DORTH A POOLEY ENDOWMENT FUND  
(EST. 1993)

This endowment was created to administer an unrestricted bequest from the estate of Dortha Pooley. Miss Pooley (1903-1992) was a graduate of West Aurora High School. In the early 1920’s, she was employed as a stenographer for the Prudential Insurance Company. In 1932, she graduated from the University of Wisconsin and, in 1940, she received her master of arts degree from Columbia University. Miss Pooley was a teacher in the East Aurora School System for thirty-three years. She taught at the elementary school level and later became an art instructor at East Aurora High School until her retirement in 1968. She was a gifted artist and studied at the Art Institute of Chicago.

ROBERT J. & MARY JAYNE POOLEY ENDOWMENT FUND  
(EST. 2011)

The Robert J. and Mary Jayne Pooley Endowment Fund was created by the couple’s family and friends at the time of Mrs. Pooley’s passing. The fund provides scholarships to students entering the field of nursing. Robert J. Pooley, Sr. is a lifelong resident of Aurora. He attended St. Mary Grade School and East Aurora High School. He was a graduate of Iowa State University where he received a degree in general engineering. After college, Mr. Pooley returned to Aurora and joined his father to form Leon B. Pooley and Son Builders (later Robert J. Pooley, Inc.), a company that constructed single family homes in the Aurora area for thirty years. He also was a member of the Illinois Realtors Association. Mary Jayne Pooley (1936-2011) was born in Hannibal, Missouri. At the age of nine, her family moved to Aurora. She was a graduate of Madonna High School and St. Joseph School of Nursing, both in Aurora. Mrs. Pooley reentered the workforce in 1982 as a nurse and addictions counselor. Before her retirement in 2007, she worked for twenty-two years at the Community Counseling Center in Aurora. In 1957, Mr. and Mrs. Pooley were married at Holy Angels Church. They made their home in Aurora, raising six children.
ENDOWMENT FUNDS

RALPH C. PUTNAM FUND (EST. 2009)

This fund was established upon the receipt of a bequest from the estate of Ralph C. Putnam, Jr. The net income of the fund is distributed on an annual basis to St. David’s Episcopal Church of Aurora. Ralph C. Putnam, Jr. (1915-2009) served from 1962-1990 on the board of directors of the Community Foundation and was administrator from 1962-1982. He was a graduate of West Aurora High School, Dartmouth College and Harvard Law School. He began his career as an attorney in Chicago and later became a member of an Aurora law firm created by his father Ralph C. Putnam, Sr. and Benjamin P. Alschuler, Sr. Mr. Putnam was active in various charitable organizations. He was the last surviving founding member of St. David’s Episcopal Church of Aurora. Attorney Putnam set a high standard for the Community Foundation in his rigorous and faithful interpretation of the law. His influence and good judgment continue to impact our organization to this day.

ELDON R. & EVELYN E. RACKMYER PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2007)

This fund provides grants to St. Rita of Cascia School in Aurora. Eldon Rackmyer (1912-1991) was a lifelong Aurora resident. He was a graduate of East Aurora High School and worked as a conductor for the CB&Q Railroad. Both his father and grandfather served as aldermen for the City of Aurora. Mr. Rackmyer was a member of St. Rita of Cascia Church. Evelyn Rackmyer was born in Richmond, Illinois. At the age of three, her family moved to Aurora. She attended Sacred Heart Grade School and Madonna High School. After graduation from East Aurora High School, Mrs. Rackmyer worked as a clerk-steno for the CB&Q Railroad. She served as a member of the staff of the Aurora Public Art Commission and has volunteered for numerous local organizations, including the Aurora Historical Society and Provena Mercy Medical Center. Mrs. Rackmyer is a member of St. Rita of Cascia Church.

LYDIA B. RAYMOND SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1980)

A bequest from the estate of Lydia B. Raymond was received in 1980 to provide scholarships for public high school graduates in Aurora. In 2002, the Foundation reestablished the fund as an endowment to ensure ongoing recognition of her generosity. Lydia Raymond (1893-1979) lived most of her life in Aurora and attended the West Aurora Public Schools. She was a graduate of the University of Chicago and received certificates from the University of Paris, the Sorbonne and the University of Mexico. She taught language, social studies and French at West Aurora High School from 1918 until her retirement in 1958. Upon her retirement, she received a tribute from her students in the West Aurora EOS Yearbook. “This tribute is the voice of all students who under her tutelage learned from her much more than academic information. Miss Raymond possessed that great quality of all truly dedicated teachers who inspire students to extend themselves, to persevere and to expand.”

ROY, IRENE & JANET RAYMOND ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2004)

This fund was created in 2004 through the receipt of unrestricted bequests from the estates of Janet Irene Raymond (pictured here) and her mother Irene Raymond. Janet Raymond (1940-2003) was a graduate of West Aurora High School. She was employed in the Medical Records Department at Rush-Copley Medical Center and was a member of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority—Chapter XI Zeta Lambda. Irene Raymond (1909-1984) was born in Indiana and was a homemaker. Roy D. Raymond (1908-1980), father of Janet and husband of Irene, was born in Plano and was a graduate of Big Rock High School. He was the owner of the Lakone Company in Montgomery and was a member of the Kane County Board of Appeals for twenty years. The family lived in Aurora.
CHARLOTTE T. REID MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2007)

This fund was created to provide scholarships to students entering the field of music. Charlotte Reid (1913-2007) was born in Kankakee, Illinois. She attended Illinois College in Jacksonville and studied music with Louise Gilbert of Chicago. Later, she was a featured vocalist on the nationally syndicated radio program on NBC, the Don McNeil Breakfast Club. When her husband Frank Reid died after winning the Republican Primary for the United States Congress in 1962, Mrs. Reid was chosen to run in his place. She won and was re-elected four more times. In the middle of her fifth term, she was appointed to the FCC. Mrs. Reid addressed the National Republican Convention in 1964 and 1968. This fund, created at the time of Mrs. Reid’s passing, became an endowment in 2008. A video of the life of Charlotte Reid is available on the Community Foundation website.

G. WILLIAM & MARY D. RICHARDS SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2005)

This fund was created in 2005 by the family and friends of G. William and Mary D. Richards to honor their 50th Wedding Anniversary. G. William Richards (1933-2009) was born in Chicago, Illinois. He received his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Illinois. He was admitted to practice in Illinois in 1957. Mr. Richards was a magistrate for the City of Aurora and the 16th Judicial District Circuit Court. He also was an assistant states attorney for Kane County. Mr. Richards was the first president and chairman of the board of the Bank of Montgomery. Mary Richards (1933-2007) was born in Aurora, Illinois. She was a graduate of West Aurora High School and the James Ward Thorne School of Nursing of Passavant Hospital at Northwestern University. She was employed by Dreyer Clinic in downtown Aurora. Mrs. Richards was a member of the Kane County Board for twenty-four years. She was active in the Aurora Republican Women’s Club, Aurora Junior Woman’s Club and the Aurora Children’s Dental Service. Mr. and Mrs. Richards devoted their lives to the service of numerous charitable organizations in the Aurora community. This fund was established as an endowment in 2008.

R.M.R. ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2001)

This fund was created by an anonymous donor to provide financial assistance to students attending Our Lady of Good Counsel School in Aurora. In 1910, two Adrian Dominican Sisters opened the school on the upper floor of Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, which was built in 1909. In 1925, the School Sisters of St. Francis arrived to oversee the expanding school. Portable classrooms were added to accommodate the increasing number of students. In the early 1960s, a new school was constructed to serve over 800 students. The school is located on Talma Street in Aurora.

GARY A. & MARY RUTH ROBERTS ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2014)

This fund was created to foster educational opportunities for elementary, high school and college level individuals, as well as provide grants to local non-profit organizations. Gary and Mary Ruth Roberts are lifelong residents of Aurora. Mr. Roberts was born in Marion, Illinois. His family moved to Aurora when he was three years old. Upon graduation from East Aurora High School, he entered the military. In 1946 and 1947, Mr. Roberts served as a Lieutenant in the 1st Cavalry Division in Japan. He was employed by the Freeman United Coal Mining Company for thirty-nine years. He retired in 1987 having achieved the position of Vice-President of Sales. Upon retirement, Mr. Roberts enjoyed volunteering at Provena Mercy Medical Center where he served for seven years as a member of the board of directors. He also volunteered for the Waubonsee Literacy Program, Holy Angels Food Pantry, Hesed House and Holy Angels School. Mary Ruth Roberts is a graduate of West Aurora High School. She continued her studies at the St. Francis Hospital School of Nursing in Evanston, Illinois. She graduated from St. Francis and later from Loyola University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing. As a long-time cancer survivor, Mrs. Roberts was active with the American Cancer Society where she volunteered for thirty-five years as director of the Reach to Recovery Program. She also was a director of The Aurora Foundation from 1986 to 1998. Her other activities included serving as a Eucharistic Minister at Holy Angels Church, and volunteering for the Waubonsee Literacy Program, Provena Mercy Medical
Center, Holy Angels School and Hesed House. Mr. and Mrs. Roberts are the proud parents of five children and eleven grandchildren.

MOSHE JAMIL ROGERS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1995)

A memorial scholarship fund was established by the family and friends of Moshe Jamil Rogers (1977-1995) to commemorate the life of one of Aurora’s most promising student leaders. Moshe Rogers was a student at Aurora Central Catholic High School where he excelled in track and basketball. As a star athlete, he was being pursued by such prestigious universities as Georgetown and Notre Dame. Moshe Rogers also was an inspirational role model for younger children who looked to him for guidance. According to the Reverend Edward Gillespie, pastor of Our Lady of Good Counsel Church which Moshe attended, “Not in my memory...has the death of an individual touched and moved so many people.” Scholarships from this fund are awarded to students graduating from Aurora Central High School who are able to demonstrate positive values in the areas of character and leadership.

EDNA M. ROLLINS ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2011)

This fund was created upon the receipt of a bequest from the estate of Edna Rollins. The net income of the fund is distributed on an annual basis to the East Aurora Educational Foundation Fund within the Community Foundation, Edna M. Rollins Elementary School and St. John’s Episcopal Church. Edna Rollins (1916-2010) was a lifelong Auroran. She was a 1933 graduate of East Aurora High School. Three years later, she began a career with the school system that lasted forty-three years. She served as the director of financial and administrative services and also as treasurer of the district. In 1989, the board of education voted to name an elementary school after her. The Edna Rollins Elementary School became a source of great pride to her and she visited the school at every opportunity. A believer in lifelong education, Miss Rollins received a bachelor’s degree from Aurora University in 1972. She also took additional courses at Northern Illinois University and the University of Illinois. A charter member of the Illinois Association of School Business Officials, she was the first woman to serve on its board of directors. Miss Rollins also was named Woman of the Year by the Aurora Business Women’s Association and the YWCA Aurora. A video of the life of Edna Rollins is available on the Community Foundation website.

ROOTS/PAULY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2012)

This scholarship fund was established by Karen Roots Helm in memory of the members of her family who attended East Aurora High School. These members include her grandfather Louis A. Pauly (pictured here), her mother Ethel Pauly Roots, her father Edward James Roots (the couple also is pictured in this profile), as well as her aunt Mildred Pauly Tilly (Leo), and her uncle Louis R. "Bud" Pauly (Emma). Louis A. Pauly was born in Aurora and attended Aurora schools, including East Side High School, which was located on Root Street. In 1909 he began working as a clerk for the Home Building and Loan Company, eventually achieving the positions of company secretary and chairman of the board of directors. Mr. Pauly was a charter member of the Marion Avenue Baptist Church. He also was grand master of the Masonic Lodge and the Ben Hur Lodge, as well as a member of numerous other organizations. He and his wife Minnie raised three children on Lincoln Avenue in Aurora. The children attended C.M. Bardwell Elementary School and were graduates of East Aurora High School. Daughter Ethel Pauly was a 1936 graduate of East High School of Aurora (now K.D. Waldo Middle School). She served as a substitute teacher. She married Edward Roots, a 1930 East Aurora High School graduate. Mr. Roots was a city tennis champion and an engineer with the Barber-Greene Company. They had three children who also attended Bardwell Elementary School and graduated from East Aurora High School at its present location on Fifth Avenue. Their children included 1961 graduate Karen Roots Helm, 1966 graduate Richard (Dick) Roots, and 1969 graduate John Roots. Karen was in the last class to attend the first East Side High School (it was being used for 8th grade) before it was demolished to make room for a grocery store. Louis A. Pauly, and Edward and Ethel Roots believed in hard work, saving money and a good education. This fund recognizes and honors these timeless values that guided their lives. Scholarships from the fund are reserved for graduates of East Aurora High School who also attended C.M. Bardwell Elementary School.
HERMAN & CATHERINE (CONDON) SCHEURING ENDOWMENT FUND  
(EST. 2001)

This fund is structured to provide annual distributions of income to local libraries. Herman Scheuring (1904-1988) and Catherine Scheuring (1906-1983) were born and lived their entire lives in Kendall County. They lived in their farm home in Bristol Township for fifty-three years of their married life. Mr. Scheuring’s entire career was associated with farming. He helped organize St. Anne’s parish in Oswego, serving as one of its original trustees. Mrs. Scheuring taught as a young woman at several country schools (Keck, Squire and Cutter Schools). She completed her professional career by teaching kindergarten and first grade at the Montgomery Grade School (since renamed Nicholson School). The couple held education in the highest regard and it is appropriate to memorialize their lives through the support of local repositories of knowledge—their local community libraries.

DANIEL W. SCHINDLBECK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND  
(EST. 2004)

This fund provides scholarships to students pursuing a career in criminal justice or law enforcement. Daniel Schindlbeck (1943-2004) was a graduate of Marmion Military Academy. In 1976, he received a master’s degree in criminal justice from Michigan State University. He was a police officer in Aurora for twenty-eight years, reaching the rank of lieutenant before retiring in 1994. He then joined the Kane County Sheriff’s Office for ten years and was serving as undersheriff at the time of his passing. Mr. Schindlbeck was past president of the Kane County Chiefs of Police, member of the Illinois Chiefs of Police, Illinois Sheriff Association, Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #14, the Illinois Police Association, Aurora Turners Club and the Batavia Moose Lodge #682. Created in 2004, this fund became an endowment in 2005.

FRED W. SCHUSSLER ENDOWMENT FUND  
(EST. 1989)

An unrestricted bequest was received in 1989 from the estate of Fred W. Schussler. In 2002, the Foundation reestablished the fund as an endowment to ensure ongoing recognition of his generosity. Fred Schussler (1904-1988) was born in Joliet, Illinois. He moved to Aurora in the early 1920’s to launch a specialized automotive business. From the end of World War II, he was actively engaged in residential and industrial property management. Mr. Schussler was president of the Cosmopolitan Club in 1936. He also served as president of the Aurora Historical Society from 1960 to 1966 and continued as a member of the board of directors thereafter. His other affiliations included the Greater Aurora Chamber of Commerce, Aurora Kiwanis Club, Two Rivers Council Boy Scouts, Edna Smith Home, Aurora Navy League, Knights of Columbus and St. Rita of Cascia Church.

LILLIAN R. SCHWARZ ENDOWMENT FUND  
(EST. 1980)

This fund was created to administer an unrestricted bequest from the estate of Lillian Schwarz. Miss Schwarz (1894-1979) was an assistant to Dr. F.J. Coughlin of Aurora from the early to mid 1900s. She then became a technician at Mercyville Sanitarium in Aurora until her retirement in 1969. She maintained memberships in numerous organizations including the Business and Professional Woman’s Club, PEO Sisterhood-Chapter DD and the Woman’s Club of Aurora. She also was a member of First Presbyterian Church in Aurora.

ROBERT G. SCHWEITZER SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND  
(EST. 1992)

This endowment, created to administer a bequest from Robert Schweitzer’s estate, provides scholarships to students who are majoring in a science-related field of study. Mr. Schweitzer (1918-1989) graduated from the Armour Institute of Technology of Chicago in 1940 with a degree in chemical engineering. He was employed at the National Can Company in Chicago for many years and was a resident of Oswego.
MILDRED E. SHAMBO SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1992)

Scholarships from this fund are awarded to students at the undergraduate and graduate level of study. The fund was established upon receipt of a bequest from Mildred Shambo (1907-1992). Miss Shambo, a lifelong resident of Aurora, taught in the East Aurora School System for thirty-nine years. She was a philosophy major at the University of Chicago and later earned a master of arts degree from Northwestern. She maintained memberships in numerous professional and civic organizations. Miss Shambo provided a bequest to the Community Foundation as her way of giving back to the community which had meant so much to her throughout her lifetime.

ELIZABETH KNELL SHEPARD MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1992)

This fund, originally created in 1992, was established as an endowment in 1998 upon receipt of an unrestricted bequest from the estate of Elizabeth Knell Shepard. Elizabeth Shepard (1917-1996) lived in Aurora until 1971 at which time she moved to Michigan with her husband, L. Montgomery Shepard. Her father John Knell was co-founder and president of All-Steel in Aurora. While living in Aurora, she served on the Copley Memorial Hospital Board of Directors and remained an active supporter of the hospital until her death. The Knell Cancer Care Center at Rush-Copley Medical Center was named in honor of her family’s long-standing commitment to the institution.

CLYDE & KATHRYN CASE SHIELDS KIWANIS LEGACY ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2015)

This fund was established to help serve children in need in Aurora and the surrounding area. 2016 marks the 100th anniversary of the Aurora Kiwanis Club, the Premier Service Club in Aurora. The Kiwanis Legacy Endowment Fund will ensure the future of the club for the next 100 years and beyond. Clyde Shields, President of the Aurora Kiwanis Club in 2015-2016, with board approval, initiated this fund to create an opportunity for the Aurora community and Kiwanis Club members to make an impact by donating to and ensuring a strong future for the club. Clyde has a long history of volunteering with Big Brothers Big Sisters, Boy Scouts, Saints Peter and Paul Catholic School, and Kiwanis Club of Aurora. Originally from Wisconsin, Mr. Shields graduated from James Madison Memorial High School in Madison. He has an associate degree in Real Estate from Madison Area Technical College and a bachelor of science degree in Industrial Technology from UW-Stout in Menomonee, Wisconsin. Even though he lives in Naperville, his heart is truly in Aurora. Kathryn Case Shields, a native of Naperville, graduated from Benet Academy in Lisle. She received a BS in Dairy Science from the University of Illinois and a MS in Animal Physiology from Texas A&M University. After a career as a sales leader in healthcare, she retired in 2014 and continues to consult. Mrs. Shields serves on the board for Naperville Responds for Our Veterans. The couple’s son Jake is pictured here with his parents. Mr. and Mrs. Shields are parishioners of Saints Peter and Paul Church in Naperville.

SIMONS-MINKLER SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1970)

This endowment was created upon receipt of a bequest from Katharyn Simons. Miss Simons (1885-1969) lived her early years in Yorkville. Upon graduation from Beloit College, she taught at Morton High School in Cicero for thirty-six years. After her retirement, she returned to Yorkville. Her maternal grandfather was an early settler of Kendall County and developed the famous “Minkler Apple.” Simons bequeathed a large portion of her estate to the Foundation in honor of her family. The Simons-Minkler Fund provides income for scholarships to students graduating from East Aurora, West Aurora or Yorkville High School. Created in 1970, the fund was established as an endowment in 1989.
RUTH H. & B.R. SKAGGS ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2000)

This fund provides scholarships to students graduating from a high school in the Foundation’s service area with preference to students pursuing a vocation related to the field of Christian Service. Ruth H. Skaggs (1912-2006) served as the Community Foundation’s Scholarship Secretary for eighteen years, retiring in 1988. She previously had been secretary to the president of Lyon Metal Products. She also served as a director of the Bank of Boulder Hill until it affiliated with Merchants National Bank. Her husband B.R. “Bev” Skaggs (1912-1996) retired from Lyon Metal Products in 1977 after forty-one years of service. He was a member of the American Society of Safety Engineers and the Lyon Quarter-Century Club. He also served in the United States Navy during WWII. Mr. and Mrs. Skaggs were active volunteers for Wayside Cross Ministries, the Boulder Hill Civic Association and Bethany of Fox Valley United Methodist Church.

THOMAS P. SPERRY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1998)

This fund was established by the family and friends of Dr. Thomas P. Sperry. Thomas Sperry (1948-1998) practiced Orthodontics in the Aurora area for twenty years. He was a graduate of the University of Illinois College of Dentistry and had served as an associate professor in the Department of Orthodontics at the University of Illinois in Chicago. In addition to his numerous professional affiliations, Dr. Sperry was an avid historian, writer and mountain climber. Scholarships from this fund are reserved for students pursuing studies in the liberal arts curriculum with preference to those students majoring in history. Created in 1998, the fund was established as an endowment in 1999.

WALTER A. SPERRY SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1995)

Students entering post-graduate studies in the fields of dentistry or engineering are eligible to apply for scholarships from the Walter A. Sperry Scholarship Endowment Fund. This fund was established as a memorial to Walter A. Sperry, Sr. (1882-1981) and Walter A. Sperry, Jr. (1922-1995). Walter A. Sperry, Sr. received a degree in chemical engineering from Ohio State University in 1907. He was a chemist in Columbus, Ohio and Grand Rapids, Michigan before his appointment as superintendent of the Aurora Sanitary District, a position he held from 1930 to 1958. His son Walter A. Sperry Jr. was a graduate of the University of Illinois Dental School and practiced in Aurora from 1947 to 1988. In addition, he taught at the College of Dentistry at the University of Illinois-Chicago for twenty-five years.

LEWIS B. & JEANETTE A. SPILMAN ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1999)

This fund provides support to local organizations serving the needs of the elderly, primarily those suffering from depression and depressive disorders. Lewis Spilman (1904-1998) was associated with the field of transportation for many years. He was a member of the Kane County Antique Car Club, Fremont Lodge #15 A.F. & A.M., Aurora Lodge Chapter #22, Royal Arch Masons, Aurora Council #35, Cryptic Masons and Aurora Commandery #22. Jeanette Spilman (1907-1999) was a member of the Diamond Class of Fourth Street United Methodist Church, Woman’s Club of Aurora, Daughters of the American Revolution and the Huddle Keller Memorial. The Spilmans were members of Fourth Street United Methodist Church.
PAUL FRANCIS & MARIAN GOODWIN STARE ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2000)

This fund was created to assist the charitable needs of Holy Angels Catholic Church in Aurora. Mr. and Mrs. Stare were lifelong residents of Aurora and lifelong members of Holy Angels Church. The couple graduated from Holy Angels School in 1922 and West Aurora High School in 1926. Marian Stare (1908-2003) was a 1929 graduate of Illinois State University. She taught in the primary grades in West Aurora School District 129 and at St. Mary's Parochial School. She was a member of Holy Angels St. Anne's Society, the Mercy Center Auxiliary and the Aurora Historical Society. Paul Stare (1906-2000) was employed in the sales department of International Harvester Company for thirty-four years. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus No. 736, the Fourth Degree Marquette Assembly and the Aurora Historical Society.

MARGARET MERCER STEWART SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2006)

This fund was created by Margaret Mercer Stewart to support the education of nursing students. Mrs. Stewart (1912-2005) was born in Aurora, Illinois. She graduated from West Aurora High School and attended North Central College. She was drawn to nursing, graduated from the Evanston Illinois Hospital School of Nursing in 1934 and then served as a school nurse in Evanston. In 1935, she married Thomas Graeme Stewart, a descendent of the pioneer Stewart farming family of Tamarack (now Plainfield) Illinois. The couple resided on and farmed the ancestral land from 1937 until Mr. Stewart's death in 1970. Since that time, Mrs. Stewart continued to live on the farmstead and rented the land for agricultural purposes. She was able to achieve her wish of living on the farm until her death due in part to the care provided by her home health care aides. Mrs. Stewart was an artist, skilled in several media including pastels, oils and watercolors. She won numerous awards at both local and state levels.

HAROLD, EDITH & AUSTIN STOLL ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1999)

Austin Stoll provided for the creation of an unrestricted endowment fund upon his death as a memorial to his parents, Harold and Edith Stoll. Harold Stoll (1896-1981) was an attorney in Aurora for over fifty years. He served in the United States Navy during World War I and was a member of numerous area professional and civic organizations. Edith Stoll (1900-1995) was a charter member of the Mid-West Early American Pressed Glass Club, and a member of the Aurora Historical Society and the Woman's Club of Aurora. Mr. and Mrs. Stoll were active in the theater and radio. They produced a radio program which was broadcast on station WJJD in Chicago. Austin Stoll (1936-1999) was a graduate of West Aurora High School and Northwestern University. He was a certified public accountant, real estate broker, and owner of Austin Stoll and Associates in Chicago.

EDWARD & SHARON STREDDE ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1993)

This fund provides income for the Community Foundation’s discretionary grantmaking program. Originally created in 1993, the fund was established as an endowment in 1998. Edward Stredde was associated with Bell Laboratories and Lucent Technologies for thirty-seven years. He retired from Lucent Technologies in 2004 where he served as vice-president of international technical support. Mr. Stredde was a board member of the Family Support Center and the Girl Scouts—Fox Valley Council. He currently volunteers for Boy Scout Troop #3, sponsored by New England Congregational Church of Aurora. Sharon Stredde was president and chief executive officer of the Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley for thirty years (1985-2015). She is a former member of the Board of Education for School District 129 and has served on the boards of the Aurora University Citizens Advisory Council, New England Congregational Church of Aurora, Wadsworth Golf
Charities Foundation Advisory Board and YWCA Aurora. Mrs. Stredde was named 2007 Professional Grant Maker of the Year by the West Suburban Philanthropic Network. In 2010, she received the Lyle E. Oncken Community Services Award from the Mental Health & Mental Retardation Services, Inc. organization. In 2015, she was awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Aurora University. Mr. and Mrs. Stredde are graduates of the University of Illinois and have one son Robert Stredde. They are members of New England Congregational Church, and are life members of the Aurora Historical Society and the Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley. A video of the lives of Edward and Sharon Stredde is available on the Community Foundation website.

SHARON STREDDE ADMINISTRATIVE ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2007)

This fund was created by Sharon Stredde to provide income for the future administrative needs of the Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley. In November 1985, she became the first executive director of the Community Foundation (then called The Aurora Foundation). In 2003, she was named president and chief executive officer. She retired in 2015 after thirty years of service. Under her leadership, the assets of the Foundation grew from $3.7 million to over $70 million. She also instituted and directed the production of historic videos that continue to be effective in preserving the legacies of local individuals, families, businesses and non-profit organizations. Mrs. Stredde established this fund in honor of her original and all subsequent boards of directors for their gracious encouragement of her role within the Community Foundation. This fund also was created in grateful appreciation for the hundreds of individuals and families who so generously supported the Community Foundation during her tenure of service.

CARL E. SWANSON & CLARA M. SWANSON & FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2009)

Scholarships from this fund are awarded to descendants of current or deceased members of Grace Lutheran Church in Lily Lake and/or the American Legion Post 630 in Elburn. Carl Edward Swanson and Clara Magnusson Swanson were born in Sweden. They met after immigrating to America. They lived in Aurora for a short time after their marriage and then moved to Lily Lake to begin a life of farming. In 1933, they bought a 110 acre farm. Sadly, Mr. Swanson died four years later leaving his wife to manage the farm and raise their six remaining children. Times were difficult for Mrs. Swanson and she nearly lost the farm. However, through hard work and determination, she and the children were able to maintain the farm. Mrs. Swanson died in 1969. In 1983, the farm was sold by her children. A portion of the proceeds were given to the Community Foundation by their youngest child Carl R. Swanson (1927-2007) upon his death. In giving his gift, Mr. Swanson wrote, “My parents’ lives of hard work, family devotion and spirit were responsible for the good fortune of the eventual sale of the property. That same spirit and devotion were instilled in their children and there was never any animosity among them. With that in mind, this memorial is instituted.”

THELIN FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2007)

This fund was established to support community needs focused on education and the arts. Helen Thelin is a graduate of Rutgers University. She received her master of arts degree from Northwestern University. She has served on the boards of directors of AAUW, Girl Scouts—Fox Valley Council, Retired Senior Volunteer Program of Batavia and the Batavia Foundation for Excellence in Education. Calvin Thelin is a graduate of Colgate University and the Northwestern University School of Law. He practiced law for over forty years in Aurora. During the Korean War, he was a staff legal officer in the Navy with the 7th and 5th Fleets. Mr. Thelin served on the board of directors of Aurora University and was president of the Greater Aurora Chamber of Commerce. The Theelins are members of the Batavia Congregational Church.
HESTER “LARK” THOMASSON ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2008)

This fund was established by the Girl Scouts-Fox Valley Council to provide annual support for the leadership development of residents of the Fox River Valley who are Girl Scouts or volunteers to the Council. The initial gift to create the fund was given in loving memory of Hester Thomasson by her sister Mary Lou Conover. Hester Loretta Thomasson (1917-2006) was born in Whittier, Iowa. In 1931, her family moved to Aurora. During World War II, she began working for Sears Roebuck and Company and eventually became head of the Young Women’s Department. Miss Thomasson was active in Girl Scouts as a troop member and also the Golden Eaglettes, a high school group. As an adult, she was a troop leader and became the adult leader who led the singing at council-wide events. It was during this time that she was given the camp name of “Lark.” Later, as a result of her long efforts as an adult volunteer, she received the Thanks Badge, one of the highest honors at the council level. Miss Thomasson lived in a Friends (Quaker) community until moving to Aurora. Her family believed that this background led to her gentle and peaceful lifestyle.

EARL F. & FLORENCE V. TIDHOLM ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1994)

This unrestricted fund was created by Florence Tidholm in loving memory of her husband. Earl Tidholm (1914-1993) was born in Chicago, Illinois. He attended Valparaiso High School, Valparaiso University Night School and the Lincoln Institute. In 1946, he joined the Stephens-Adamson Company in Aurora after having worked at McGill Manufacturing Company in Indiana. He later became plant superintendent of Sealmaster in Aurora. Mr. Tidholm was active in several community and professional organizations. Florence Tidholm (1916-2010) was born in Warsaw, Indiana. She was associated with Lyon Metal Products, Inc. for many years. She and her husband were the parents of two children, Robert and Virginia.


Two endowment funds were established within the Foundation by Francis D. “Pat” and Alice E. Tighe. The first fund was created in 1981 to assist the Fox Valley Park District’s Friendly Center Club. It was established as an endowment in 1990. The second fund was established through a bequest received from the estate of Mr. Tighe in 1995 for the benefit of Holy Angels Catholic Church of Aurora. “Pat” Tighe (1907-1995) was the chief of police in Aurora during the 1950’s. He then joined the brokerage firm of Scrap Corporation of America, retiring in 1990. Mr. Tighe also was a special agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation from 1941 to 1945. Alice Tighe (1911-1990) was a member of Holy Angels Church, Ladies of Columbus, Friendly Center Club and Mercy Center Auxiliary.

JACQUES & CHARLOTTE TOUSSAINT ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2013)

This fund, which provides income for the general grant making program of the Community Foundation, was created to honor the lives of Jacques (1922- 2015) and Charlotte (1924-1996) Toussaint. Jacques Toussaint was born on December 3, 1922 in Roubaix France, which is located along the Belgium border. He was the son of Joseph and Marie (Vandekerckhove) Toussaint. His parents and their three children immigrated to the United States when Jacques was a toddler. Jacques Toussaint proudly served in the United States Army in World War II. He worked for twenty-nine years for Ward Machinery of Chicago as a tool and die maker. He then was in business for himself for the next twenty-one years. His business was located on River Street in Aurora. He married Charlotte Vettel in 1941. She was a lifelong resident of Aurora and was involved in local politics. Mr. and Mrs. Toussaint were married for fifty-five years until Charlotte’s passing in 1996. They had one daughter Sharon Wampler. Mr. and Mrs. Toussaint were active members of St. Therese Church in Aurora. When they moved to Marywood, they became members of Annunciation Church. In August 2006, Mr. Toussaint became a pioneer resident...
of Monarch Landing in Naperville. He was an avid reader of history and especially enjoyed reading about Abraham Lincoln and the era of the Civil War.

JAMES & CLARICE TOYNTON SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2012)

This fund awards scholarships to graduates of West Aurora High School who will be entering the field of elementary or special education. James Toynton was born and raised in Genoa City, Wisconsin. He is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin at LaCrosse where he received his degree in elementary education. Later, he received his master’s degree in education from the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana. Mr. Toynton taught at Frank Hall Elementary School from 1960 to 1970. He also served as principal of Nancy Hill Elementary School from 1971 to 1981 and Frank Hall Elementary School from 1981 until his retirement in 1994. He and his wife Clarice then established Gert’s Custom Blind and Shade business, which they owned and operated from 1994 until 2005. Mr. Toynton’s community involvement has included memberships on the West Aurora School District 129 Board of Education, Aurora Area Salvation Army Advisory Board and Aurora Evening Lion’s Club (charter member). Clare Toynton was raised on a dairy farm near Ferryville, Wisconsin. She is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin at LaCrosse, where she received a degree in elementary education. Mrs. Toynton taught second grade at Freeman Elementary School from 1962 to 1965. She then became a learning disability teacher at Washington Middle School and at Nicholson, Schneider and Smith Elementary Schools from 1976 until 2000. She was the recipient of the Golden Apple Award from West Aurora School District 129 which recognizes extraordinary dedication to the school district. Her community involvement has included ten years of service as a member of the board of directors of Mutual Ground. The Toyntons are active members of St. Mark’s Lutheran Church.

TREMBACKI & HULTGREN FAMILIES SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2000)

This fund provides scholarships to students graduating from East Aurora or West Aurora High School who will be entering the field of teaching. Raymond Trembacki (1925-2000) was a teacher in the West Aurora School System from 1952 to 1959. He then moved to East Aurora High School to develop the photography curriculum. In 1983, he continued his teaching career at the College of DuPage. Janice Trembacki (1927-1997) was an English teacher in the West Aurora School System. She taught at Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson Junior High Schools. She retired in 1990. Mr. and Mrs. Trembacki were graduates of Illinois State University (BA) and Colorado State College (MA).

Dale and Rae Jean Hultgren also had long and distinguished careers as educators for the Aurora schools. In 1953, Dale Hultgren joined his sister Janice Trembacki in the West Aurora School System. He taught at Freeman Elementary School and later he taught science at Thomas Jefferson Junior High School. Mr. Hultgren is a graduate of Illinois State University (BS) and the University of Colorado (MS). Rae Jean Hultgren (1935-2008) taught in the Business Education Department at West Aurora High School, where she later became the department chairperson. She also taught at East Aurora High School in the Business Education Department until her retirement in 2000. Mrs. Hultgren was a graduate of the University of Iowa (BBA and MA).

PAUL R. UNDERWOOD ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1997)

This fund was created to administer an unrestricted bequest from the estate of Paul Underwood (1922-1997). A lifelong Auroran, Mr. Underwood was employed by Lyon Metal Products as a draftsman. He also was a member of the Aurora Hiking Club. Other charities named to receive a portion of Mr. Underwood’s estate include Salvation Army, Wayside Cross Ministries and Children’s Memorial Hospital of Chicago.
LOUIS VAGO ADVISORY ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1986)

This fund was created by Louis N. Vago to respond to the changing needs of area charitable organizations. Mr. Vago (1925-2015) was a director of the Community Foundation for twenty-two years. He received his law degree from DePaul University, was a certified public accountant and an agent for the Internal Revenue Service. He was founder and president of General Aluminum Corporation from 1960-1986. Mr. Vago maintained memberships in numerous professional and civic organizations including the Illinois Bar Association, Kane County Bar Association, Elks Lodge and the Knights of Columbus. This fund was created in 1986 and established as an endowment in 1990.

VORIS FAMILY PERMANENT ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1991)

This fund was established to support a wide range of community needs in the name of the Voris Family. Frank Voris (1907-1989) was a director of the Foundation for fifteen years, serving as chairman for two of those years. He also served as a senior or emeritus director for seven years prior to his death. Mr. Voris was past chairman and president of Merchants National Bank of Aurora and the Bank of Boulder Hill. He also was founder and secretary treasurer of Walker Process Equipment, Inc. In 1987, he received the Aurora Cosmopolitan Club’s 54th Annual “Distinguished Service Award” for his extraordinary service to the community. Frances Voris (1909-2000) was a lifelong member of New England Congregational Church of Aurora. She was the owner of The Knit Shop for many years and was active in the Child Welfare Society and the Tuesday Garden Club. Mr. and Mrs. Voris were graduates of the University of Illinois.

CHARLOTTE S. & FRANK K. VORIS ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2013)

This fund was created by Charlotte S. and Frank K. Voris to provide grants to local charitable organizations. Frank Voris was born in Aurora, Illinois. He is a graduate of West Aurora High School. He received his bachelor of science degree from the University of Illinois and earned his MBA from Northern Illinois University. Mr. Voris was the executive vice-president of Merchants National Bank at the time of his retirement. Charlotte Voris was born in Rockford, Illinois. She is a graduate of West Rockford High School and the University of Illinois. After her children were grown, she worked in the travel industry. Charlotte and Frank Voris are members of New England Congregational Church in Aurora. They have three sons and eleven grandchildren.

WADSWORTH FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUNDS (EST. 2000)

Two endowment funds were established within the Foundation by Brent and Jean Wadsworth. The first endowment, the Wadsworth Family Endowment Fund, provides income to the A+ Foundation for West Aurora Schools to benefit the students of West Aurora School District 129. The second endowment, the Wadsworth Family Cultural Arts Endowment Fund, provides income for cultural arts programs, performances and projects. Brent Wadsworth is a graduate of the School of Landscape Architecture at the University of Illinois. In 1958, he founded Wadsworth Golf Construction Company, a firm specializing in golf course construction with offices in Illinois, Florida, Arizona, California and Pennsylvania. It is the largest firm of its type in the United States. During the past forty years, the company has built over 500 golf courses and remodeled other courses including the Augusta National Golf Club and the Greenbriar. Mr. Wadsworth serves on several golf course industry advisory boards and was selected to be a member of the Illinois PGA Hall of Fame. The American Society of Golf Course Architects honored him with the prestigious Donald Ross Award.
Robert and Shirley Waldo bequeathed a portion of their estate to provide scholarships for local students. Shirley Waldo (1923-2002) was a graduate of West Aurora High School. She received a teaching degree from DeKalb Teachers College and a master’s degree from Northwestern University. She was an educator in the East Aurora School System for twelve years. In addition, Mrs. Waldo was a past president of the Copley Memorial Hospital Auxiliary, director of the Women’s Chicago District Golf Association and member of Our Savior Lutheran Church. Her husband Robert Waldo (1911-2007) was born in Sycamore. His family moved to Aurora the following year when his father, K.D. Waldo, was appointed principal of East Aurora High School. K.D. Waldo was later named superintendent of the East Aurora Schools. Robert Waldo studied at North Central College and the University of Illinois. He was a proprietor of Healy Chapel and later of Daleiden Mortuary.

GEORGE & CORA WEBSTER SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2010)

This fund provides scholarships to African American students who are graduates of high schools located within the Community Foundation service area. Created in 2010, the fund became an endowment in 2015. George Webster is a native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He is a graduate of Westinghouse High School in Pittsburgh and attended Pennsylvania State University. In 1963, Mr. Webster enlisted in the United States Marine Corp where he attained the rank of Staff Sergeant. His service included sixteen months in Vietnam. After serving ten years in the Marine Corp, he joined the United States Navy. From 1979 until 1982, he was a Navy recruiter in Aurora. After serving on five different aircraft carriers, he eventually achieved the rank of Master Chief Petty Officer. Upon his retirement from the service in 1988, he and his wife Cora Webster moved back to the Aurora Community. Mr. Webster was an Aurora Election Commission Judge for twenty-one years and a member of the Aurora Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association for many years. Cora Webster was born in Eudora, Arkansas. She worked as a licensed cosmetologist in Texas and was employed by both the May Company and the K-Mart Corporation in Illinois. Mrs. Webster is a member of the Main Street Baptist Church and serves as a member of the Nurses’ Aide Ministry. Mr. and Mrs. Webster were married in December 1969 at Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church in Chicago. They have one son, one granddaughter, two grandsons, and two great-grandsons.

BRIAN WEILAND INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC CAMP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1999)

This fund was created in 1999 by the family of Brian Weiland to honor his life. In 2007, the fund became an endowment. Brian Weiland (1973-1983) was born in Mason City Iowa. He was an active participant in the outstanding music program offered in the Mason City Iowa School System through his playing of the saxophone. He also demonstrated a talent for drawing and cartooning. His love of sports included basketball, biking and swimming. In November 1983, Brian lost his life while playing ice hockey with friends on the river behind his home. Shortly thereafter, Jerry and Sharon Weiland established a trust fund to perpetuate the memory of their beloved son. The trust provides scholarships to high school students in the Mason City Iowa Community School District who have demonstrated a talent and interest in the field of music. The fund created within the Community Foundation provides annual distributions in Brian’s name for the ongoing support of these highly prized scholarship awards.

MORRIS & SARAH WEISMAN MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2004)

This fund was created upon receipt of an unrestricted bequest from the estate Sol Weisman as a memorial to his parents. Morris and Sarah Weisman were born in Russia and immigrated to the United States shortly before World War I. They later met in Omaha where each had settled. Morris Weisman (1895-1977) moved to Aurora in 1917 and the couple was married the following year in Aurora. Mr. Weisman was a partner in the Aurora Window Cleaning Company for fifty-one years until the business was sold in 1968. He was past president and treasurer of Temple B’nai Israel. He also was a member of the Aurora B’nai B’rith Lodge, the American Legion Roosevelt Aurora Post 84 and the Loyal Order of the Moose Lodge #400. Sarah Weisman (1897-1983) was a member of Temple B’nai Israel and the Temple’s...
Sisterhood. She also was a lifetime member of Hadassah and the National Council of Jewish Women. Sol Weisman (1918-2003) was born in Aurora. He was a graduate of the University of Chicago and lived most of his life in Chicago. He was self-employed.

**CHARLES G. & MARY K. WHINFREY ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2013)**

This fund provides income for the Community Foundation’s discretionary grantmaking program. Charles George Whinfrey, Jr. (1923-2005) was born in Cleveland, Ohio and was raised in New Jersey. He enlisted in the United States Navy in 1944 and was the captain of the minesweeper USS Reedbird for sixteen months, attaining the rank of lieutenant while serving off the coast of Pearl Harbor and in the Panama Canal. He then received a degree in science and agriculture from Cornell University. After a successful sales career in the chemical industry with PennSalt Company in Philadelphia and Great Lakes Solvents in Chicago, Mr. Whinfrey founded Producers Chemical Company in Aurora in 1963. To better serve its customers, the company later moved to Batavia and then to Sugar Grove. Mr. Whinfrey retired from the business in 1986 and turned over the operations to his family. After retirement, he became involved with the Coast Guard Auxiliary in Naples, Florida. He conducted search and rescue missions and also courtesy safety checks for recreational boaters. He also was a volunteer at Morton Arboretum. He met his future wife Mary Kirk while they were students at Cornell University. They were married in 1946. Mrs. Whinfrey (1925-2013) was born and raised in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She was instrumental in the founding of Producers Chemical Company in 1963 along with her husband. She had a great sense of style and for almost thirty years worked and modeled at The Little Traveler in Geneva, Illinois and other retail boutiques in Naples, Florida. The couple had three children—Donald, Peter and Jane Harris. Peter Whinfrey and Jane Harris have both served as directors of the Community Foundation. A video of the life of Judith Ann Whinfrey (Peter’s wife) is available on the Community Foundation website.

**LEWIS E. & DORIS M. WHITT MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2000)**

This fund was established by Doris Whitt as a memorial to her husband. The fund provides annual assistance to Hesed House, Inc., Mutual Ground, Inc. and Wayside Cross Ministries. Lewis Whitt (1917-2000) was born in Gallatin, Missouri and was a graduate of Batavia High School. He was a devoted member of Fourth Street United Methodist Church where he served on the Finance Committee and the Commission on Evangelism. He also was a trustee of the church, a lay speaker and a Sunday School teacher. His civic involvement included participation in the Boy Scouts of America and the Aurora Optimist Club. In addition, he assisted with the annual development campaigns at Aurora University and Wayside Cross Ministries. Mr. Whitt was the founder and owner of Whitt Bros. Garage, which opened in 1948. Doris Whitt (1918-2015) was born in Gallatin, Missouri. She was the daughter of Eugene G. Farrer and Ella S. (McCrary) Farrer. She married her childhood sweetheart Lewis Everett Whitt on September 8, 1937. They shared sixty-two loving years together. Mrs. Whitt was a long-time member of Fourth Street United Methodist Church where she and her husband raised their five children. In addition, she was very active in Cub Scouts and the P.T.A. at Beaupre School. Mrs. Whitt was instrumental in the family business, Whitt Bros. Garage, where she served as bookkeeper until her retirement at eighty-nine years of age.

**MARIE WILKINSON ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2006)**

This unrestricted fund was created to honor Marie Wilkinson. Marie Wilkinson (1909-2010) devoted her life to causes that advance the dignity of all people in the City of Aurora. She established the Marie Wilkinson Food Pantry and later the Marie Wilkinson Child Care Center. She was responsible for the formation of the Aurora Human Relations Commission in 1964, an organization she chaired for over thirty years. Her influence was so far-reaching that a park was named in her honor. Mrs. Wilkinson was born in the French Quarter of New Orleans and educated at Straight University (now Dillard University). She moved to Aurora in her early 20s. Her husband Charles Wilkinson was a successful businessman who...
provided unfailing support to his wife. He died in 1995. The couple had two children. The legacy of Mrs. Wilkinson is profound in its simplicity. She shared everything she had with others, expecting nothing in return. Marie Wilkinson lived the Golden Rule.

WILLETT & PEFFERS FAMILIES SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1995)

This fund was established by Martha Willett Peffers to provide scholarships for students entering the field of music. Mrs. Peffers (1911-2004) was a graduate of West Aurora High School. She received a degree in philosophy from the University of Illinois and a teaching certificate from Aurora College. She also attended the Art Institute of Chicago. A lifelong Auroran, Mrs. Peffers was a member of the Tuesday Garden Club, the West Side Reading Circle and Chapter BT of P.E.O. Her husband Hopkins Stolp Peffers (1905-1995) attended Culver Military Academy in Indiana where he later taught. He also attended the University of Wisconsin. Mr. Peffers was a manager and consultant in the field of public transportation for many years.

ROBERT WILLIAM/ANITA NELSON MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1990)

This fund was created to provide scholarships to Aurora students who have been selected for participation in the Robert William/Anita Nelson Memorial Swim Program. The swim program was established shortly after the 1979 Fox River drowning of Robert William (1967-1979), a twelve-year-old student at Nancy Hill School. The program provides additional instruction for students who have yet to master the skills necessary to become successful swimmers. In 1990, the program was renamed the Robert William/Anita Nelson Swim Program. Mrs. Nelson, a teacher at Nancy Hill School and an original member of the swim program committee, was profoundly dedicated to the program’s development and success. She passed away in 1990. This fund was created in 1990 and established as an endowment in 1999.

JOHN V. WINKLE FOUNDATION (EST. 2010)

The John V. Winkle Foundation was created to provide scholarships to graduates of high schools located within the Community Foundation’s service area. John V. Winkle (1938-2010) of Aurora (formerly of Batavia, Illinois and Youngstown, Ohio) was born in Youngstown, Ohio. He was a graduate of Ursuline High School and Youngstown University. In 1969, Mr. Winkle moved to Illinois where he joined and later would acquire the Weldstar Company in Aurora. He touched many lives through his philanthropic endeavors and in his service to various organizations, including The Association for Individual Development, Big Brothers/Big Sisters and TriCity Family Services. He also was a member of Annunciation Catholic Church. Scholarships from his foundation will continue his belief in the potential of every person and his sense of commitment to one’s community. Honesty, integrity and compassion were the core values upon which he built his personal and professional life. “Wink” was survived by his wife Carol of fifty years, his seven children and their families, including his biggest fans—his twenty-five grandchildren.

J. ROBERT & MARION E. WINN SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1998)

This fund was created in 1998 and established as an endowment in 2001. J. Robert Winn (1922-1988) was a lifelong Auroran. He was a graduate of Ursuline High School and attended Carthage College. He served in the United States Army during World War II. Mr. Winn joined his father in the family business, Winn Lumber Company. He was a member of the Board of Education for School District 131 and the Aurora Optimist Club. Marion Winn (1922-2007) was a graduate of East Aurora High School. She attended the Metropolitan Business College in Aurora and was employed at the United Gas and Electric Company in Aurora. After raising her family, she worked in the accounting department of East Aurora School District 131 for twenty-five years. Mrs. Winn also was a member of the Aurora Optimist Club.
WINTERINGHAM FAMILY PERMANENT ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1995)

The Winteringham Family Permanent Endowment Fund was established through a generous bequest received from the estate of Marian Winteringham. Miss Winteringham (1901-1994) was a teacher in the West Aurora School System for over forty years. She taught at Abraham Lincoln and Nancy Hill Elementary Schools for the first half of her career. In the early 1940’s, she joined the faculty of West Aurora High School where she taught English and also served as Dean of Women for many years. This fund was created by Marian Winteringham as a memorial to her parents Arthur J. and Minnie Winteringham, her sister Claire Winteringham, and her brother and sister-in-law Sidney and Frederika Winteringham. Although her bequest was unrestricted, Miss Winteringham requested that at least a portion of her gift be used to provide scholarships for students entering the field of teaching. A video of the life of Marian Winteringham is available on the Community Foundation website.

JACK DESHA WITT EDUCATION ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1991)

This endowment was created by a bequest received from the estate of Jack Desha Witt (1907-1990) as a memorial to his father Dr. John D. Witt (1874-1938). Dr. Witt (pictured here) was a physician and surgeon who practiced in Aurora during the early 1900’s. The Jack Desha Witt Education Fund provides income to Aurora students entering a premedical course of study, including the field of nursing. Mr. Witt chose the Foundation as a meaningful and permanent way to honor the memory of his father.

HARRY & VIOLA WORLAND ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2007)

This fund was created at the time of Mr. Worland’s passing. Harry Worland (1917-2007) was born in Windsor, Illinois. He was a 1934 graduate of Mattoon High School. Mr. Worland served in the United States Army from 1941-1945 during World War II and was stationed in the South Pacific, Australia, New Guinea and the Philippines. An avid bowler, he and his wife Vi enjoyed the Friday Nite Elks Club and Mixed League. Viola Worland (1913-2011) was a lifelong resident of Aurora. She retired from Northern Illinois Gas Company, now NICOR, after thirty-seven years of service. She and Harry Worland were married in 1956 at a private ceremony presided over by Dr. Harold Teed, pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Aurora. Mrs. Worland was an avid golfer, playing in many tournaments at Phillips Park and surrounding area courses. She was a fifty year member of the Alamo Chapter #693 Order of the Eastern Star. This fund, created in 2007, became an endowment in 2013 through the funding of an unrestricted bequest from Mr. and Mrs. Worland’s estate.

MYRON L. & FRANCES B. WORMLEY SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2004)

This fund provides scholarships to students who have been active participants in the Kendall County 4-H Program. Myron Wormley (1914-2006) was a graduate of East Aurora High School and the University of Illinois. He farmed on the Wormley Farm near Oswego until 1959. He then began a career in real estate, retiring in the mid 1980’s. Mr. Wormley also was the Oswego Township Supervisor for twenty-five years. Frances Wormley (1918-2010) grew up on a farm in Millbrook. She was a graduate of Yorkville High School and attended the University of Illinois. Mrs. Wormley was an elder at the Oswego Presbyterian Church, where she also was the organist for many years. She served on the board of directors of the YWCA Aurora and on the organizing board of what became Waubonsee Community College. She also was a member of PEO, Republican Women, Eastern Star and the Grove Road Farmers Club.
RICHARD & CAROLE WYATT ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 2013)

This fund was created in honor of Richard and Carole Wyatt, long-time supporters of the sports programs in West Aurora School District 129. The net income of the fund provides grants for the tennis programs at West Aurora High School and the district’s middle schools. In addition, grants are available for the boys’ basketball program at the high school. Richard T. Wyatt (1930-2012) was born in Aurora, Illinois. He was a graduate of West Aurora High School and the University of Illinois. He owned and operated the Aurora Tennis Club on Indian Trail for thirty-five years. During the 1970s through the 1990s, he proudly witnessed the state and national championship players produced by the club. Mr. Wyatt also owned the Westwind Swim Club on Indian Trail in Aurora, where hundreds of children learned to swim. An avid fan of the West Aurora High School Blackhawks, he and his wife Carole saw nearly every basketball game played between 1970 and 2005, and were members of the Illinois High School Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame. His loyalty and devotion to the Blackhawks were recognized when he was inducted into the West Aurora High School Sports Hall of Fame. Carole J. Wyatt (1934-2015) was born in Aurora, Illinois. She was a graduate of East Aurora High School and attended Northern Illinois University. Mrs. Wyatt taught for twenty years for East Aurora School District 131 at Simmons Junior High School. She and Richard were married in 1954 and had seven children.

LOUISE C. ZILLY ENDOWMENT FUND (EST. 1988)

An unrestricted bequest was received in 1988 from the estate of Louise Zilly. In 2002, the Foundation reestablished the fund as an endowment to ensure ongoing recognition of her generosity. Louise Zilly (1894-1986) was born in Adelsheim, Germany. She and her husband Louis lived in Aurora for many years. Mr. Zilly was a machinist at Independent Pneumatic Tool Company and Mrs. Zilly was employed at the Mill Race Inn in the 1950’s. Mr. Zilly passed away in 1937. Other charitable organizations benefiting from Mrs. Zilly’s thoughtful bequest include the Aurora Historical Society and the Salvation Army.
The Community Foundation manages the endowments of many non-profit organizations, institutions, civic clubs and community groups. These funds are structured to serve their intended charitable purpose(s) in perpetuity. Seven of these endowments honor individuals whose exemplary contributions are remembered each year when distributions are made from the funds. Those honored are Reverend Arlan & Delores Brandt (Our Savior Lutheran Church), John C. Dunham (Dunham Fund Grow A Healthy Child Endowment For CASA), Anne S. Goldsmith (Paramount Arts Centre Endowment), H.L. "Les" Lester (Kane-Kendall Voiture 592 of the 40/8), John M. Lies (Rotary Club of Aurora), Lyle E. Oncken (Rotary Club of Aurora) and Robert I. Stuart (Aurora Optimist Club). Profiles of each agency and institutional endowment fund can be found on our website.

www.CommunityFoundationFRV.org
Foundation Funds—See All Funds

A+ Foundation For West Aurora Schools
A+ Foundation For West Aurora Schools Reading Program
AEEF (Aurora East Educational Foundation) Scholarship
Association For Individual Development
Aurora Area Interfaith Food Pantry
Aurora East Educational Foundation
Aurora Family YMCA
Aurora Historical Society
Aurora Neighbors Uniting
Aurora Optimist Club
* Aurora Police Foundation
Aurora Public Library Foundation
Aurora University
Bethany Of Fox Valley United Methodist Church
CASA Kane County
Catholic Charities—Aurora
Child Welfare Society
Equine Dreams, Inc.
Family Counseling Service Of Aurora
Fine Line Creative Arts Center
Fox Valley Earth Day
* Fox Valley Orchestra
Fox Valley United Way
Geneva Community Chest
Hesed House
Kane-Kendall Voiture 592 Of The 40/8
* Kiwanis Club of Aurora
Mutual Ground
* New England Congregational Church
Our Savior Lutheran Church
* Paramount Arts Centre Endowment
Presence Mercy Medical Center
Quad County Urban League
River Corridor Foundation of St. Charles
Rotary Club of Aurora
Rush-Copley Fox Valley Heart
SciTech
Senior Services Associates, Inc.
Suicide Prevention Services
Thorium Action Group
Three Fires Council
TriCity Family Services
TriCity Family Services Wilderness Challenge Program
VNA Health Care
Wayside Cross Ministries
West Aurora High School Class of 1956
West Aurora High School Library
* Woman’s Club of Aurora
YWCA Aurora
Zonta Club of Aurora

* Videos of these organizations are available on the Community Foundation website.
T he majority of the following funds are classified as temporary or “pass-thru” funds. Although several of these funds will achieve endowment status, others have been established only for temporary purposes. Please note that profiles and photos of all of our funds are featured on our website.

www.CommunityFoundationFRV.org (Foundation Funds—See All Funds)

**Donor Advised Funds**

Nicholas R. Albers Memorial Fund
Alexander Fund
Ann T. Alexander Fund
Duncan Alexander Fund
Thomas S. Alexander Fund
Tom & Kris Anderson Colonial Fund
Mel Auliker-Dave Zierke Family Fund
Aurora Bearing Company Fund
Aurora Noon Lions Club Fund
Stewart A. & Claire E. Beach Fund
Beacon-News Fund
Beds for Kids Fund
Belson Fund
Mary S. Bertolini Hope Fund
Beta Sigma—Sigma Pi Foundation
John & Joanne Dieterich Fund
Dunham Fund
Robert E. & Helen K. Farmahn Fund
Sue & George A. Finley III Fund
Tom & Joyce Fisher Family Foundation
For Scout Foundation
F. James & Martha Garbe Fund
Mary E. Gardner Educational Support Foundation
Grometer Family Fund
Peter & Jackie Henning Fund
Dave & Sandy Higginbotham Fund
Kiwanis Club of Aurora, Illinois Fund
Laatz Family Foundation
Ken & Hedy Indregren Fund
John & Gwen McKee Fund
Michael J. & V.R. R. Moncs Fund
Francis I. Orvis Myers Fund
Theodore Silseth Nelson Fund
Norris Fund for the Arts
Old Second National Bank Fund
Olsoen Roofing Company, Inc. Fund
Gerald & Mary Ellen Palmer Fund
James D. & Marlene F. Pearson Fund
Plano Molding Company Fund
Gary A. & Mary Ruth Roberts Fund
S & I. Fund
Edward H. & Marie Clare Schmitt Fund
Sikich LLP Fund
Edward & Sharon Stredde Fund
Josh Sweet Memorial Fund
Donald R. Taylor Fund
Tom & Mary Jo's Bowl of Soup Fund
Mark & Pam Truemper Fund
Kenneth E. & Susan B. Tunteed Fund
Fred Vargaeson & Kay Curtis-Vargaeson Family Foundation
Robert W. & Antonette P. Vaughan Fund
Frank R. Voris Family Fund
Ralph D. Voris Fund
Scott & Michelle Voris Family Fund

**Restricted Funds**

A+ Foundation For West Aurora Schools
Administrative Fund
A+ Foundation For West Aurora Schools
A+ Foundation For West Aurora Schools Program Fund
Nicholas R. Albers Memorial Scholarship Fund
Association For Individual Development Fund
Aurora Area Interfaith Food Pantry Fund
Aurora Area Retired Teachers’ Association
Scholarship Fund
Aurora Associated Relief Endowment Fund
Aurora Bicentennial Fund
Aurora Central Catholic High School Scholarship Fund
(In Honor of Father Jerome Leake)
Aurora East Educational Foundation STEM After School Program Fund

Aurora Hispanic Heritage Advisory Board Fund
Aurora Historical Society Historic Video Project Fund
Aurora Junior Woman's Club Scholarship Fund
Aurora Junior Women's Club Scholarship Fund
(For a Scholarship)
The Aurora Kiwanis Club/William J. Downs Scholarship Fund
The Aurora Kiwanis Club/Dr. Harry Y. Greeley Medical/Healthcare Scholarship Fund
The Aurora Kiwanis Club/G. William “Bill” Moore Scholarship Fund
Aurora Police Foundation Scholarship Fund
Aurora Public Art Commission Fund
Aurora Public Library Foundation Fund
Aurora Public Library Foundation Sanitor Fund
Aurora Township Youth Foundation Scholarship Fund
Aurora Veterans Advisory Council Fund
Aurora Veterans Advisory Council Community Scholarship Fund
Mary Calkins Hope Memorial Fund
Battavia Arts Council Fund
Battavia Public Library Foundation Fund
Mary Hogan Bencheni Memorial Scholarship Fund
William & Edna Bennett Scholarship Fund
Biever Family Scholarship Fund
Shirley Borel Journalism Scholarship Fund
Hilary Breenen Administrative Fund
Donald E. & Claire E. Brown Fund
Todd C. Bryant Memorial Scholarship Fund
Kyle D. Campbell Memorial Scholarship Fund
Careers In Transition, Inc. Scholarship Fund
Community Foundation Administrative Endowment Fund
Community Foundation Alumni Scholarship Endowment Fund
Community Foundation General Fund
Community Foundation Historic Video Project Fund
Community Foundation Memorial Endowment Fund
Community Foundation Permanent Endowment Fund
The Conservation Foundation Environmental Scholarship Fund
Mark W. & Janet Foley Corah Fund
Coronado Dental Scholarship Fund
Corridor Partnership for Excellence in Education Fund
Norman E. Dietz Memorial Scholarship Fund
Doebert Family Scholarship Fund in Memory of Edward D. Doebert
William P. & Michelle D. Dugan Catholic Mass Fund
Dunham Scholarship Fund
Steven John Duranceau Memorial Scholarship Fund
East Aurora Greenlab Fund
Waren E. & Shirley J. Eggers Scholarship Fund
Sandy Exleben Memorial Scholarship Fund
Family Counseling Service Of Aurora Fund
Fine Line Creative Arts Center Fund
First Responders Benevolent Care Fund
August W. Fischer, Jr. Scholarship Fund
Louis R. Fone Music Scholarship Fund
Fox Industrial Park Scholarship Fund
Friends of Aurora's After-School Programs Fund
Friends of Aurora Animal Control & Care Fund
Friends Of Phillips Park Park Fund
Mary E. Gardner Designated Fund
Garfield Farm Museum Historic Administration Scholarship Fund
Wayne & Karin Greenwald Family Fund
Hamline Family Nursing Scholarship Fund
Erin K. Harrison Memorial Scholarship Fund
Hearts for Hanah Scholarship Fund
Dr. J. William & Arline Hoban Family Fund
Robin M. Hodgson Memorial Scholarship Fund
Holy Angels Food Pantry Fund
Ben Honouzy Memorial Scholarship Fund
Humane Society of Aurora Fund
John E. & Rosemary Hutchings Scholarship Fund
Illinois Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives Fund
INC Board Latino Master of Social Work Scholarship Fund
John R. Jaros Fund for the Aurora Historical Society
Joseph Corporation Fund
Edward & Genevieve Jankelks Scholarship Fund
Kane County Community Reinvestment Fund
Kane County Fit For Kids Fund
Stanley F. & Janiee L. Karamasak Scholarship Fund
Phyllis Kramer Scholarship Fund
Richard J. & Irma E. Larson Scholarship Fund
Library Education Scholarship Fund
Lucas Family Fund
Making A Difference Fund
Kathleen Ann McCalla Memorial Fund
Messenger Public Library of North Aurora Foundation Fund
Alan Nelson Fund
Avid Nelson Memorial Fund
Lois A. Nelson Memorial Scholarship Fund
Mary Reis Nelson Memorial Fund
David A. Neumann Scholarship Fund
Nicor Gas Scholarship Fund
Olson Roofing Company, Inc. Scholarship Fund
Operation Snowball—Greater Fox River Valley
Ormond Family Fund for the Aurora Historical Society
Phillips Park Zoocecy Fund
Marvin F. & Geraldine E. Pilmer Scholarship Fund
James D. Pittman Memorial Scholarship Fund
Christine A. Poniquett Memorial/INC Board Minority Student Scholarship Fund
Lance Corporal Hrentes Ramos Memorial Scholarship Fund
Razvi Family Fund
RiverEdge Park Fund
Richard H. Rokop, Sr. Memorial Scholarship Fund
Senior Services Associates, Inc. Fund
Ted & Virginia Shaw Student Reading Program Fund
William & Angelica Skoglund Administrative Fund
Smashing Walnuts Foundation Fund
Smith Elementary School Scholarship Fund
Solinar Scholarship Endowment Fund
Stutz Family Fund
Drs. Sara & Daniel Susmano Scholarship Fund
Bill Sweeney Memorial Scholarship Fund
Josh Sweet Memorial Scholarship Fund
Taking Back Our Community Fund
TB Community Initiative Fund
Daryl Thompson Memorial Scholarship Fund
Tri-City Family Services Fund
University of Illinois Extension Kane County Unit Fund
Louis Vago Scholarship Fund
Judith M. Vanl Scholarship Fund
Village of Gilbotts Community Days Fund
Dustin Villarreal Family Memorial Scholarship Fund
Ellen L. & Robert L. Weber Scholarship Fund
West Aurora Art Heritage & Education Fund
West Aurora Class of 1958 Fund
West Aurora Community Field of Dreams Fund
West Aurora High School Alumni Scholarship Fund
West Aurora High School Class of 1963 Scholarship Fund
West Aurora High School Fund In Memory Of
Richard J. Dorsey
Joe and Jeanine Memorial Nursing Scholarship Fund
Alexis White Scholarship Fund
Dr. Keith W. Young Memorial Historic Preservation Fund
Albert M. Zari Scholarship Fund
We gratefully recognize the following individuals who remembered the Foundation with a bequest from their estate or who have indicated that the Foundation has been named as a future beneficiary of their estate. These special community benefactors have enriched the lives of others through their concern for the charitable needs of our community. If you have included the Foundation in your estate plan, please consider becoming a member of our Legacy Society. We would sincerely appreciate the opportunity to pay tribute to your thoughtfulness.

Patricia Abell  
Alice E. Allen  
Stephen J. Andras  
Nanci Sue Anfinsen  
Identa M. Austin  
Alma L. Bachert  
Dr. William J. & Doris M. Ball  
Dr. Carl H.H. & Anne M. Baumann  
Mary Hogan Bencini  
William W. Boden  
Mary J. Boland  
Helen A. Brackney  
John A. Brennecke  
Margaret Brennecki  
Alicemae Brown  
Lorraine B. Bryant  
Sherry L. Bryant  
Jeffry A. & Patricia E. Butler  
Charles & Josiedell Carnes  
Mary R. Chapman  
Howard E. Charles, Sr.  
Glenn D. & Leola M. Commons  
James S. Copley  
Roy E. Davis  
Herman A. Dickes  
James Dorion  
John S. Dunham  
Howard C. Eagle  
Barbara K. Engelbracht  
Viola Erlenborn  
Tish Evers  
Edward H. & Frances M. Fauth  
James H. & Ione P. Fitzgerald  
Francis A. Geib  
Dr. & Mrs. Howard E. Gillette  
Colonel Sidney Ginsberg  
Margaret F. Glenn  
H. Linton & Sue Graham  
William B. Greene  
Kenneth G. Grueter  
Vernon H. Haase  
Ruth N. Hamper  
Josephine M. Hancock  
Marion L. Harmon  
Eileen R. Hart  
Jean C. Hart  
Lawrence P. Hartlaub  
Donald A. Heinz  
Ronald M. & Janet S. Hem  
Barbara H. Henning  
William P. & Ruth E. Hilgen  
Dave & Sandy Hipp  
Ella M. Hoffman  
W. Charlie & Shirley L. Hooper  
Mary Virginia Hughes  
Eleanor C. Hungar  
Shirley Miller Hurd  
Justus L. & Grace Hobbs  
Johnson  
Malcolm L. & Lydia J. Jones  
Darrell L. & Nancy S. Jordan  
Edward & Genevieve Jungels  
Betty M. Kahle  
Phyllis G. Kramer  
Wanda H. Kuhn  
Louise G. Lane  
Marie T. Leifheit  
Herbert L. Lester  
Frederick W. Lindblad  
Mary M. Luther  
Gary L. & Judy C. McCann  
Albert D. McCoy  
Mary Ann Court McGray  
John F. & Gwen H. McKee  
Albert W. Medernach  
Audrey V. Mellott  
William F. Messenger  
Frank & Marianne Miller  
Robert G. Mukensturm  
James & Katherine Navota  
Alan A. Nelson  
Marie E. Oberweis  
Merrill E. & Frances C. Olson  
Paul A. Ormond  
June Z. Orr  
Louis R. Pauly  
Martha W. Peffers  
Dorothy L. Perkins  
David B. Perry  
Dortha Pooley  
Alma A. Price  
Ralph C. Putnam, Jr.  
Evelyn E. Rackmyer  
Irene M. Raymond  
Janet Irene Raymond  
Lydia B. Raymond  
Gary A. & Mary Ruth Roberts  
Edna M. Rollins  
Allan L. Schoeberlein  
Fred W. Schussler  
Lillian R. Schwarz  
Robert G. Schweitzer  
Mildred E. Shambo  
Elizabeth Knell Shepard  
Katharyn Simons  
Beverly R. & Ruth H. Skaggs  
Lewis B. & Jeanette A. Spilman  
Paul Francis & Marian Goodwin Stare  
Margaret Mercer Stewart  
Joseph & Carolyn Stoffel  
Austin E. Stoll  
Edward & Sharon Stredde  
Carl R. Swanson  
Henry & Lauralyn Theodore  
Lucius A. Thomas  
Francis D. Tighe  
Barbara Tinker  
Jacques & Charlotte Toussaint  
Paul R. Underwood  
Louis N. Vago  
Fred Vargason & Kay Curtis-Vargason  
Frank & Frances Voris  
Robert & Shirley Waldo  
George E. & Cora L. Webster  
Sol Weisman  
Bertha Weissman  
Dorothy E. White  
Marian Winteringham  
Jack Desha Witt  
Harry & Viola Worland  
Louise C. Zilly
The following grants were approved or paid from Community Foundation Discretionary Funds during 2015. Grants to those agencies designated with an asterisk (*) were approved prior to 2015. Total grants awarded in 2015 from Discretionary, Advisory and Other Named Funds were $4.9 million.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ORGANIZATION &amp; PURPOSE</th>
<th>AMOUNT APPROVED</th>
<th>AMOUNT PAID</th>
<th>FUTURE COMMITMENT</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anderson Animal Shelter (Computer Equipment)</td>
<td>* 4,000</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Association for Individual Development (Capital Improvements)</td>
<td>25,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aurora Regional Fire Museum (Furnishings)</td>
<td>15,692</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aurora University (Welcome Center Construction)</td>
<td>* 50,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Batavia RSVP (Lock Boxes, Smoke Detectors)</td>
<td>* 2,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Breaking Free (Security &amp; Paging System)</td>
<td>15,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cadence Health Foundation (Equipment)</td>
<td>13,360</td>
<td>13,360</td>
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<tr>
<td>CASA Kane County (Office Furniture)</td>
<td>* 4,015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Changing Children’s Worlds Foundation (Computer Equipment)</td>
<td>* 8,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communities In Schools (Computers &amp; Office Equipment)</td>
<td>* 11,576</td>
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<td>Community 4:12 (Purchase of Home)</td>
<td>10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Career Center (Computer Equipment &amp; Furniture)</td>
<td>* 4,055</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conservation Foundation (Flooring &amp; Building Repairs)</td>
<td>10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eldersday Center (Therapeutic Equipment)</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>- 10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family Focus (Telephone System)</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>- 10,000</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Field of Dreams (Capital Improvements)</td>
<td>* 2,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fine Line Creative Arts Center (Roof Replacement)</td>
<td>15,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>F.I.A.P. (Office Equipment)</td>
<td>* 3,748</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fox Valley Family YMCA (Security Upgrades)</td>
<td>* 19,955</td>
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<td>Fox Valley Hands of Hope (Equipment)</td>
<td>9,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fox Valley Orchestra (Instruments &amp; Equipment)</td>
<td>* 17,500</td>
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<td>Fox Valley United Way (SPARK Program)</td>
<td>8,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Garfield Farm (Barn Restoration)</td>
<td>* 20,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hesed House (Security Upgrades)</td>
<td>19,100</td>
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<tr>
<td>HorsePower Therapeutic Riding (Equipment &amp; Computer)</td>
<td>* 15,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jennings Terrace (Floor Replacement)</td>
<td>* 20,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kairos Torch IYC (Projector &amp; Laptop)</td>
<td>* 1,936</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marklund Children’s Home (Equipment)</td>
<td>7,965</td>
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<tr>
<td>NAMI (Computer Equipment)</td>
<td>* 5,739</td>
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<td>Northern Illinois Food Bank (Van)</td>
<td>18,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oswogoland Seniors (Equipment)</td>
<td>10,275</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plum Landing (Concrete Restoration)</td>
<td>* 20,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presence McAuley Manor (Equipment &amp; Furnishings)</td>
<td>* 7,763</td>
<td>9,257</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presence Mercy Medical Center (Floor Scrubbers)</td>
<td>* 18,200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project HELP (Computer Equipment)</td>
<td>* 2,100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rebuilding Together Aurora (Equipment)</td>
<td>* 16,502</td>
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<tr>
<td>Renz Addiction Counseling Center (Computer &amp; Office Equipment)</td>
<td>* 4,430</td>
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<tr>
<td>SciTech (Computer Equipment)</td>
<td>10,670</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Services Associates (Telephone System &amp; Equipment)</td>
<td>* 16,455</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Augustine College (Renovations)</td>
<td>7,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Charles Heritage Center (Display Cases)</td>
<td>8,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Charles Singers (CDs for Recordings)</td>
<td>4,835</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steel Beam Theatre (Lighting System)</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>- 15,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunnymere (Elevator Replacement)</td>
<td>* 20,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>TriCity Family Services (Computer Equipment)</td>
<td>15,000</td>
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<td>TriCity Health Partnership (Furnishings)</td>
<td>1,322</td>
<td>1,217</td>
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<td>Valley Sheltered Workshop (Remodeling)</td>
<td>* 13,000</td>
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<td>VNA Health Care (Equipment)</td>
<td>15,000</td>
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<td>Wayside Cross Ministries (Roof Replacement)</td>
<td>15,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>World Relief Aurora (Computers &amp; Workstations)</td>
<td>13,360</td>
<td>- 13,360</td>
<td>-</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

INFORMATION FOR GRANT APPLICANTS: Organizations seeking a grant from the Foundation must access our website for guidance on our application process prior to submitting a proposal.
HISTORY OF THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF THE FOX RIVER VALLEY

In 1943, Charles Hoefer, then publisher of the Aurora Beacon-News, convened a group of community leaders to study post-war plans for a better Aurora. Weekly luncheon meetings were held “at the round table” in the Elks Club in downtown Aurora.

The war years were inflationary. Manufacturing plants were operating at full capacity and were extremely profitable. Corporate income taxes were excessively high and business leaders were seeking ways to redirect their profits from onerous taxation to the service of local needs.

Conditions thus were favorable for the formation of a philanthropic vehicle—a community foundation—which would allow for the accumulation of tax-deductible contributions when convenient for the donors. Assets so accumulated would be retained for later distribution to charitable causes as suggested by the donors. These reservoirs of charitable gifts, known as Advisory Funds, could be named after the companies and individuals contributing the gifts.

In June 1948, formal structure was given to this concept through the establishment of The Aurora Foundation. Aurora industrialist William B. Greene was elected president, a position he held for thirteen years. Attorney Frank R. Reid, Jr. served as the Foundation’s first secretary and legal counsel.

Since 1948, the Foundation has grown from 1 charitable fund with assets of $5,000 to 467 charitable funds with assets of over $71 million. Although Advisory Funds remain an attractive vehicle for charitable donors, other types of funds have become important to the Foundation and its role within the community.

Scholarship funds have distributed over $13 million to local students. Funds also have been created to benefit social service agencies, educational and healthcare organizations, the arts and culture, religious institutions and the environment. Grants and scholarships awarded by the Foundation since its founding total $60.6 million.

In 2006, the Foundation adopted a new name to more accurately reflect the communities it has always served. The Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley continues the proud tradition of The Aurora Foundation by reaching out to citizens of the Greater Aurora Area, the TriCities and Kendall County.


The Foundation’s current board of directors invites the participation of all who wish to be a part of our continuing development as a charitable resource for area citizens.


STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL TRANSACTIONS
(Unaudited)
FOR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015

Net Assets —
January 1, 2015 $ 75,414,314

Additions:
Gifts $ 4,035,085
Other Income 355,443
Interest and Dividends 1,835,969
Net Realized and Unrealized Gains on Investments (3,052,281) 3,174,216

Total Additions $ 7,858,530

Deductions:
Grants $ 4,903,366
Scholarships 984,989
Investment Management Fees 392,701
Professional Fees 15,119
Administrative and Other Expenses 832,270 7,118,445

Net Assets —
December 31, 2015 $ 71,470,085

WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUR CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTION

All contributions to the Community Foundation fulfill charitable purposes. No gift is used to defray the operating expenses of our organization unless a donor designates his or her gift for placement in our Administrative Endowment Fund. And then, only the income earned by the investment of gifts placed in that fund supports administrative expenses.

Any administrative fee charged to a Foundation fund is deducted from the income earned by that fund. Thus, the original value of each contribution to our organization is safeguarded for charitable needs.

INVESTMENT OF FUNDS

The following local financial institutions, acting as agents, manage the funds of the Foundation as the Foundation Board directs. These institutions also invest each fund under the supervision of the Foundation’s Finance Committee.

BMO Harris Bank N.A.
Clear Perspective Advisors
First National Bank
Old Second Wealth Management
Trust Company of Illinois
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Cristina S.T. Anderson
Hon. F. Keith Brown (Ret.)
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Scott Voris
Kyle D. Witt

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Chairman
John Diederich
Vice-Chairman
Sharon Stredde
Corporate Secretary
William B. Skoglund
Treasurer

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
John Diederich
Hedy K. Lindgren
Katherine Navota
Robert J. O’Connor
Sharon Stredde
William B. Skoglund
Mark E. Truemper

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President & CEO
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Executive Vice-President
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Sarah Herring
Executive Assistant
Heather Johnson
Director of Scholarships
Gregory Probst
Director of Finance & Technology
Rhonda Soos
Director of Operations

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Mac Salazar
Donald A. Schindlbeck
Frank K. Voris
Ralph D. Voris
Richard W. Wake
Peter K. Whinfrey

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