

# THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Volume 9, Issue 1

of Susquehanna and Wyoming Counties

HERITAGE  
page 13

LIBRARIES  
page 18

DONOR ADVISED  
FUNDS  
page 20



### INSIDE THIS EDITION:

From the Editor. . . . .	1
Foundation News . . . . .	2-3
Philanthropy . . . . .	4-5
Education . . . . .	6-9
Wyoming County . . . . .	10-11
Natural and Agricultural Heritage. .	13-14
Community . . . . .	16
Scholarships . . . . .	18-20
Community . . . . .	21
Libraries . . . . .	22-23
Donor Advised Funds . . . . .	24-27
Web Site News . . . . .	28
Memorial Funds . . . . .	30-31
Financial . . . . .	33
Funds . . . . .	34-36
Affiliates . . . . .	37
Legacy Society. . . . .	37

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*Toby Anderson*

Toby Anderson is a founding member of the Friends of Salt Springs Park and is the current chairperson of the Friends Legacy Society. He is an avid supporter of the park and is credited along with others for completing the tedious government forms and follow ups to arrange for much of the government funding grants received by the park over the past two decades. See page 14 for his account of the history of the park.



*Jim May*

Jim May has been appointed Director Emeritus due to his recent move to California. He was very instrumental as an officer and director in preparing and facilitating the strategic plans for both the United Way of Susquehanna County and also the Community Foundation. He continues to support the Foundation in the preparation of our magazine and enjoys staying in touch since he greatly misses Susquehanna County and his former home on Silver Lake. After the sale of his businesses and recent retirement, he has been keeping a full schedule of landscape painting, now ocean waves instead of scenic farmlands, and has written a book entitled “Hypothesis”, a murder mystery about Susquehanna County and the gas drilling frenzy now taking place. See page 17 for more details about the book and its publishing schedule.



*Molly Riordan*

Molly grew up in Brackney and graduated from Montrose Area High School. She studied journalism at Ithaca College and Marywood University and worked as a reporter for several years, most recently for the Susquehanna Independent. She held administrative, public relations and marketing positions with various companies in the region before joining The Foundation as Administrative Assistant. Molly serves on the board of the Montrose Restoration Committee. She and her husband Mike, an electrician, live in Montrose with their three young children.



*George Schreck*

We once again are pleased to feature the nature photography of George Schreck, of Franklin Forks, on our cover and throughout this edition. George’s deep understanding of wildlife, woodlands and waterways comes from his years as a hunter, as well as his time working as a game warden. George’s patience in pursuit of the perfect moment and his attention to detail are a model for his Salt Springs Park digital photography class students. He can be contacted at [williguy@epix.net](mailto:williguy@epix.net).

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*Marian S. Miskell*  
Editor

## When the Going Gets Tough

In the worst economy in a generation, people can count on this Community Foundation to do its part. We stand among the nonprofits in rural areas who are coping better than our urban counterparts, and who remain more optimistic about the communities we serve.

Coping in hard times was a necessity for the farmers, miners, woodsmen, and small business entrepreneurs who settled these counties. The evidence of a winter-hardened work ethic, frugality, self-reliance, and a make-due resourcefulness are everywhere in our architecture, fieldstone walls, tools, quilts, and grandparents' stories.

The programs at Salt Springs Park, featured within, are an immersion experience in frontier values. The Friends of Salt Springs have been preserving and restoring the heritage of our last two hundred years, and sharing it with the community through their public programs. This year the Friends received a remarkable donation of a farming tool collection – the gift of the late John McKeage and his wife Ellie. Park Historian, Debra Adleman relates, “The McKeages did not want the collection boxed up and kept in storage. Ellie wants it to be a part of the community.”

Speaking at the Park's oral history program, Mr. Stephen Depew told how all ten children in his family had specific significant jobs like mowing fields or shucking corn. Even the dogs and goats contributed by running on treadmills geared to churn butter.

In that spirit, this Foundation remains committed to a sound, conservative investment policy for the long haul. While foundations across the country lost 33 to 57 percent of their assets in 2008, our assets took a maximum hit of just 25 percent, and as of June, 2009 were rebounding steadily.

Our donors remain undaunted. Good people from every corner of our two counties keep ringing our phone, and arriving with new endowments to support the charities they love. Our banks and businesses keep contributing to pre-school and K-12 scholarships, plus education improvements such as the Montrose Area School District Community Learning Center. This habit of “gittin' goin” is as old as the hills around us. We intend to keep it alive.



## AS ECONOMY SLUMPS, DONORS AND FOUNDATIONS STEP UP

- Charitable giving by the wealthy has spiked dramatically in the last decade.
- Two-thirds of affluent Americans still plan to maintain their level of charitable giving this year.
- Despite a decline in their assets of nearly \$150 billion in 2008, US foundation grants held steady at an estimated \$45.6 billion.
- Nationwide, The Council on Foundations reports that the majority of community foundations will maintain or increase grant making from donor advised funds to address human service needs in 2009.
- America's biggest foundations are stepping up to help the homeless and hungry by reducing foreclosures, keeping food bank shelves stocked, and providing services and financial counseling.



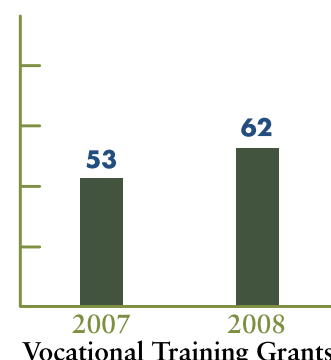
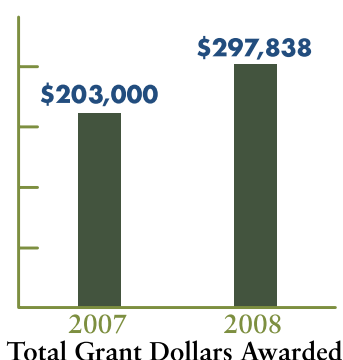
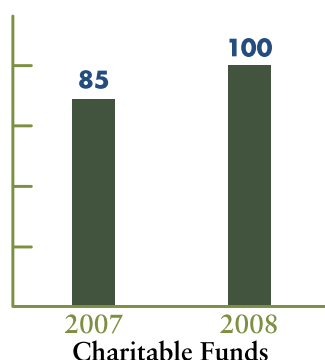
*Rick Lochen*



*Sandra Major*

- Peter Quigg has been appointed to be President of The Community Foundation; Earle Wootton will continue in his role as Chairman of the Board.
- Rick Lochen, President and CEO of People's National Bank, and Pennsylvania State Representative Sandra Major have been elected to the Board.
- Foundation staff has a new Administrative Assistant, Molly Riordan.
- Earle Wootton has been selected as Chairman of a newly organized Pennsylvania Community Foundations Marcellus Shale Committee.
- Peter Quigg has accepted appointments to serve on the Lackawanna College New Milford Center Advisory Board, the Pennsylvania 4-H Development Council, The Blue Ridge School District Strategic Planning Committee, and the Susquehanna County Career and Technology Center Advisory Council.

## NUMBERS NEWS



Our investments declined nearly 25% in 2008 due to the recession. In the first half of 2009 those funds have increased in value by 10%

## 4-H DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL



*Peter Quigg*

Foundation President, Peter Quigg, has accepted a three-year seat on the Pennsylvania 4-H Development Council. By creating local and statewide endowments, the Council works toward the day when Pennsylvania's 4-H clubs will be funded forever. Its current project is to increase members in the 4-H Keystone Society, which recognizes donors to any Pennsylvania 4-H endowment. Mr. Quigg will be responsible for development projects in Lackawanna, Luzerne, Susquehanna, Wayne, and Wyoming Counties. He will be serving our rural area as a partner with Penn State University.

"Peter brings fundraising expertise from the community foundation perspective which will help to strengthen the 4-H youth development program," noted Eric McGinnis, head of fundraising for Penn State Cooperative Extension. "We are excited to bring him into the fold."

## School District Foundations

Among the Community Foundation's most popular endeavors has been the formation of School District Foundations. The idea has caught on quickly, and families, teachers, administrators, and alumni are rapidly establishing endowment funds or contributing to existing funds. As a result, in 2008 alone, our high school graduates received more than \$43,000 in college assistance. Two of those scholarships provide assistance throughout a four-year college career, and many of the awards are eligible to be considered for state matching grants.

The arrangement allows each local school board to retain the ability to advise The Community Foundation on the how it would like its endowment funds directed. Yet, school boards are relieved of many legal burdens associated with funds management, and they are not responsible for the overhead of investing, accounting, auditing or administering their endowment. School

Superintendents from districts which have foundations are able to meet at The Foundation and exchange fundraising ideas with their peers.

In addition to providing college scholarships for graduating seniors, some donors choose to support school music, arts or sports programs which they know made a difference in their own lives or the lives of their children. One fund focuses upon teaching children good life habits to maintain their health.

School District Foundation funds may be designated to enhance the school library, a computer lab, or environmental programs. These funds may not be used for the operating expenses of the school districts which are paid for by federal, state and local property taxes. Several funds have been established to honor a beloved teacher or administrator who is retiring, or to establish a memorial for a student or school supporter who has died.

## Tourje Family Assists Sienko Nature Trail Blazers

The Blue Ridge School District campus is perched on a mountain top, surrounded by many other mountains that embrace the Borough of New Milford. It is a perfect site for lofty thoughts or rugged hiking. The vision of a Andrew F. Sienko Sr. Memorial Nature Trail includes the possibility of both, with outdoor classrooms, learning stations for biology and ecology classes, flora identification tags, and sitting benches along trails currently being cleared and marked. The Nature Trail was recently named in honor of Mr. Andrew Sienko Sr., a long time supporter of the school district who died, and students and faculty have been actively involved in creating it. It is intended for public use as well as for students. For the project to move forward. The Sienko family established an endowment with the Community Foundation to help maintain the trail.

The Tourje family of Forest City, owners of the NEP Telephone Company helped provide seed money for the nature trail. The family's Jessie Osgood Tourje Memorial Fund is an endowment established to honor their matriarch. The Tourje fund annually provides grants to Blue Ridge, Forest City Regional, Mountain View, and Susquehanna Community School Districts to support unfunded projects that will benefit students. In November 2008 Steven Tourje presented Blue Ridge officials and student trail volunteers with a \$1,000 grant which in conjunction with the Sienko family will allow the school to keep on blazing trails in their woods and in their science programs.



*Left to right standing are: Elementary Principal Matt Button, teacher Nancy Burkett, Middle School Principal Matt Nebzydoski, NEP Telephone Co. Steven Tourje, Foundation President Peter Quigg, a student Nature Trail volunteer, and teacher Laurie Klenchik. Kneeling are two more student Trail volunteers.*

“ We learn things at school; we observe them in the fields and woods.”

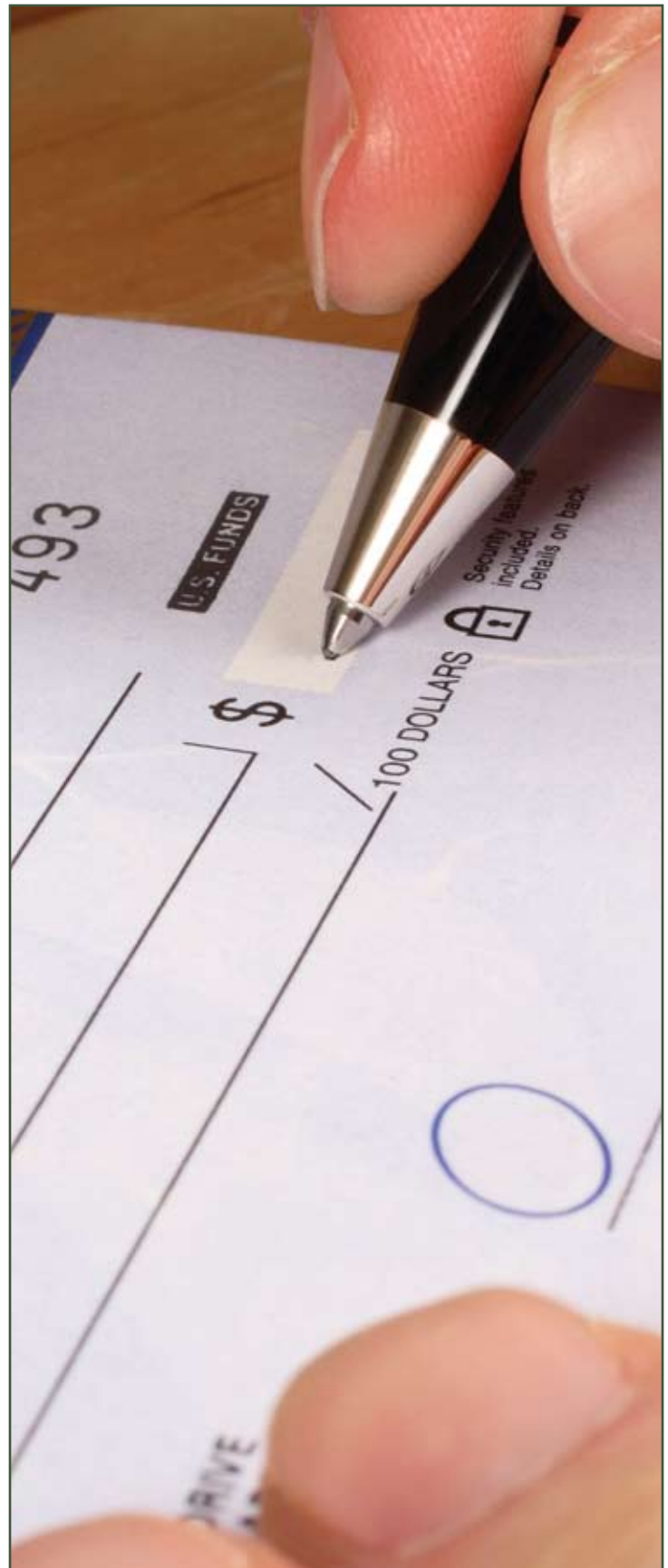
John Burroughs



## 2008 Foundation Donors

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- Doris Baum
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- Marion Miller
- Milnes Companies
- Montrose Area Chamber of Commerce
- Marilyn Morgan
- Mountain View School District
- Mountain View School District Alumni Association
- Steven Moyer
- NEP Telephone
- Albert Nicciolino
- Norm Norton Stone
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- Mary Yeager
- Mary Zbegner



## Landfill Hosts Environmental Camp

Alliance Landfill in Taylor, PA is one of Waste Management's 33 landfills to be certified by the Wildlife Habitat Council. On this site, children age 8 years and older enjoy a fun-filled summer learning event known as Camp Kestrel.

At the Camp kids hike and plant trees. They are taught the principles of wildlife habitat, the role of butterflies, and the importance of litter control. In addition to its environmental innovation, Alliance Landfill has contributed to the state's low and moderate-income scholarship program administered by The Community Foundation – EITC.

Alliance and other local businesses over the past five years have helped nearly 1,000 area students from Preschool through Grade12 with scholarships.



## EITC Grants Help Families

They had insurance. They had good jobs. They worked, and saved, and started families, and seemed well on the path of the American Dream. Until out of the blue, two families were financially sucker punched by illness and accidents. They are two of the families who benefit from the Preschool Scholarship Program at The Community Foundation, which is funded through corporate donations. Neither family was used to asking for help, nor were they really expecting to get it. And these two families are very grateful to EITC donors and The Foundation.



### BUSINESS DONORS TO EITC

- Andre & Son Agway
- Community Bank & Trust
- First Liberty Bank & Trust
- Frontier Communications
- Milnes Companies
- North-East Pennsylvania Telephone Co.
- Pennstar Bank
- Peoples National Bank
- PNC Bank
- Pump N Pantry Convenience Stores/Fleet Transport & Trading
- Storeroom Solutions
- Waste Management



## Heather is Ready

*Names have been changed to protect privacy.*

Having children wasn't as easy for Joanne and her husband. In fact, finally bringing Heather into the world almost cost Joanne her life. But, they had their precious daughter, and they began raising her with love and attention. They knew that a good education, starting with preschool, was vital to her future.

And then, fate knocked them for a loop. Joanne's medical problems worsened. Every spare cent, and some they didn't have to spare, went to medical bills. "How," she wondered, "could they keep Heather in preschool?" The teachers at the preschool suggested a scholarship from The Community Foundation. Joanne almost shrugged it off. While they were struggling financially she assumed that they couldn't qualify for help because of her husband's income. But, she tried anyway, and was pleasantly surprised to receive a congratulatory letter.

"It wasn't just about numbers" at the Foundation, Joanne says. "The Foundation looked beyond the numbers to the people involved and made the decision to help. The application process was easy, and best of all, confidential." The EITC scholarship program is available to families with an adjusted gross income of under \$50,000, one of the highest limits for similar programs. "I can't say enough about the program."

Heather recently registered for Kindergarten, and was tested on her readiness. She excelled in advanced vocabulary, general knowledge and her self-confidence. "People who meet her think she must be in first or second grade. Heather is ready to take off." As they regain their financial footing, Joanne and her husband plan to contribute to the Community Foundation. They believe in returning the favor, and luckily for all of us, that's a lesson they've instilled in their daughter as well.

## Amazing Grace



*Grace, the calf is called Bambi*

Ann and her family were blindsided by medical problems. In a span of one year, her father's health declined, her sister was diagnosed with cancer and began treatment, and her oldest child was in a terrible car accident. She decided that, for the first time since she was 16 years old, she'd leave the workforce and help take care of the family. "Although things were tough," she admits, "I don't regret my decision."

Throughout that tough year, Ann's young daughter Grace was growing quickly, as preschoolers do. Grace had been born without her left arm, but it hasn't slowed the little girl down a bit. "She is pretty amazing. Nothing stops this girl." But Grace was deeply affected when her Grandfather eventually passed away. "My biggest concern," says Ann, "was how she would adapt to lots of kids and also the everyday challenges of a class room."

She remembered that when her older son had registered for kindergarten several years earlier. "It was obvious which children had gone to preschool. The crying and begging that the preschool kids had done at three years old was now being done by five year-olds, because they were so scared."

Ann decided to enroll her daughter at Grace Lutheran Preschool in Hop Bottom, because they'd done such a wonderful job with her older son. "Grace is doing great! Mrs. Fluck and Mrs. Chidchester (teachers at Grace Lutheran) have done a wonderful job, not only with Grace, but with all of the students." Ann gives credit to the school, and to The Foundation. "I would not have been able to send her had it not been for the Community Foundation."

## Dual-Enrollment: Doubling the Bang for Hitting the Books

This school year 18 Blue Ridge High School students received Community Foundation tuition assistance totaling \$8,047. The aid allowed them to participate in an innovative dual-enrollment program at the Lackawanna College New Milford Center. Students in this program take college level classes in subjects such as engineering, environmental literacy, problem solving, calculus, physics and advanced history. The classes are taught at their high schools by accredited teachers and students receive college credits for taking on the challenge.

The Dual-Enrollment experience saves families college tuition expense, plus it offers students the chance to explore academic interests. It is hoped the experience will allow them to make better earlier decisions on their college major. Dual-enrollment can accelerate college graduation dates, and offer academic challenge to gifted students, keeping alive their interest in college throughout their upper class high school years.

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## “Project Lead the Way” Seeks Donors

The Susquehanna Community School District is seeking business donors who are able to direct about \$50,000 of what would otherwise be state taxes (EITC ) toward providing the school with a design and engineering program for 7th and 8th grade students known as Project Lead the Way. To date Peoples National Bank has provided \$24,000. Furthermore the the Tourje Family has also provided \$700 from their Jessie Osgood Tourje Memorial Endowment.

Seventh grade students would begin with the Design and Modeling unit, and the following year as eighth graders they would continue with the Automation & Robotics and the Magic of Electrons units. These units allow the students to enhance their mathematics and science knowledge, as well as develop rudimentary engineering skills. Students interested in science, mathematics, aeronautics, engineering, and biomechanics would greatly benefit from this program. Project Lead the Way engages students through a combination of activities-based, project-based, and problem-based learning environments. Practical engineering concepts are implemented to solve real-life situations. Students also learn to analyze data and solve real-world problems while also understanding the impacts of their projects. They also learn to participate as a team in accomplishing their tasks, deliver their findings to an audience, and to learn in a professional scientific setting.

Specifically, students in the Design and Modeling Unit will utilize geometry, problem-solving, teamwork, and project management skills to design and develop product prototypes. Students in The Magic of Electrons Unit will engage in relevant hands-on projects to unravel the mysteries of digital circuitry so prevalent in our modern world. Students in the Automation and Robotics Unit will design and build automated systems that incorporate the principles of electrons, physics, and robotics to gain an understanding of contemporary mechanical applications. The combination of traditional industrial arts, mathematics, and science courses with the innovative Project Lead the Way program is especially helpful in training students for more rigorous studies later in High School and then in college and finally in the workplace. Interested businesses are asked to please contact Peter Quigg, President of The Community Foundation at 570.278.3800 or at [Foundation@epix.net](mailto:Foundation@epix.net).

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## New Tech Training Scholarship at MASD

Two caring parents of students in the Montrose Area School District have anonymously established a new scholarship aimed at helping students attend a post secondary degree or training program in the technology or industrial arts field.

The new fund is called The Technology for Tomorrow Scholarship Fund. It is the latest addition to the Montrose Area School District Foundation. In 2009 the fund will award \$500 to a student in good standing who demonstrates good character and citizenship. Grades and financial need can also be a factor in receiving this award.

Principal Jim Tallarico notes, “This is a great opportunity for these kids to get the recognition and support they deserve. Guidance Counselor, Mary Beth Ohmnacht adds, “It is wonderful to have this type of support from parents and community members to help our students.” This scholarship can be further enhanced from tax-deductible contributions from individuals and businesses.



## The John James Endowment for Business Students

*“Our 100th Endowment!”*



Marion O'Malley

The students of Susquehanna County owe a profound “Thank you” to a man they probably never met. Mr. John James was a veteran of the US Navy and the recipient of the National Defense Service Medal. He worked as a manufacturing Production Manager. After his business career he retired to this area, lived quietly, and recently died here. Before his death Mr. James explored many local charities for the purpose of making a final donation to benefit the community. His research helped him narrow his preferences. Working with his Attorney, Marion O'Malley of Montrose, he decided that The Foundation would provide the maximum flexibility over the long term for directing his gift. His Will stipulated that a fund valued at \$115,000 would be established with The Community Foundation “to benefit young people of merit.”

Attorney O'Malley and Foundation President Peter Quigg worked together testing several ideas on how to fairly and equitably carry out Mr. James' wishes. It is always important that the fund grants reflect the life and values of their donors. Since five of the six school districts in Susquehanna County currently have chapters of the respected Future Business Leaders of America, they decided to provide annual support to those chapters.

The FBLA is the largest business based student organization in the world. Participation in FBLA chapters provides students with documented business accomplishments to complement their academic experience. This assists students applying for college scholarships to business schools, gives them opportunities to demonstrate leadership skills, and to win national Business Achievement Awards in competitive business and technology events.

Teachers who mentor the area's FBLA chapters are enthusiastic to receive the long-term support that will allow them to plan challenging new projects. One of the first may be to monitor the investment of the John James endowment and study the fund's growth results in a changing economy. A visit to The Foundation for lessons in the nonprofit business sector, understanding business tax credits, conservative investment strategy, and endowment development may also be in the future.

## Community Learning Center at Montrose Area High School



Montrose Area High School has refurbished and upgraded its Distance Learning Room with the help of The Community Foundation, Peoples National Bank and State Rep. Sandra Major who collaborated in raising \$36,000 in EITC funds to finance the project. In its new condition, the Center has been renamed the Community Learning Center. It is located in a separate room adjoining the school library. The facility includes six tiered rows and desks with computer access, a white board and a 12 foot projection screen above a large conference table. The room has improved DVD access, a new sound system, and state-of-the-art video conferencing.

MASD Technology director Craig Owens explains, “The Community Foundation approached us, and we knew our technology learning center was aging. A lot of upgrade was needed. This has been a great opportunity to provide a center for both the school and the community. It can accommodate up to 50 people comfortably. The Center is designed to be multi-functional and can be arranged as either a conference room or amphitheatre.”

The new Center has already served MASD gifted students linking them to a NASA classroom via Internet II (an Internet connection available only for educational programs). MASD 12th graders have also hooked up with their peers in an Ohio school for an interactive video conference to exchange ideas. In these cases speakers and attendees at both schools can see and hear the distant teachers and students, while they are all viewing the same online material on the laptop computers in front of them. The Center is available for community and business groups to use. For information contact the MASD superintendent's office at 570.278.6212.

## Dutch Keller Award Moves to Community Foundation



“I’ll always remember him as being very demanding, but very fair,” recalls Stew Casterline, a former football player, student and family friend. “He was a strict disciplinarian, but he also had a sense of humor. He was one of the most respected members of the faculty, during his tenure at Tunkhannock.” It’s a tribute to the

impact he made on the school that, over 40 years later, his memory lives on in the scholarship that bears his name and the students who embody the values he instilled in his players. One of the region’s longest-lived and most prestigious college scholarships is now being administered by the Community Foundation of Susquehanna and Wyoming Counties. The Ambrose “Dutch” Keller Memorial Scholarship Fund has been rewarding Tunkhannock High School student-athletes for their educational achievement and athletic accomplishments since 1968.

The endowment honors Mr. Keller, who coached basketball at Tunkhannock for nine years, and was also credited with the success of several of the school’s football teams. Keller not only guided his players on the court but also in their school-work, asking that they work hard to obtain a well rounded education. That is reflected in the selection process for the scholarship winners. Applicants must be in the top third of their graduating class, and have achieved at least 5 varsity letters in order to qualify. A committee comprised of family members, players from Keller’s teams, and school officials decide the winner of the \$1,000 scholarship, which was announced at the Awards Night ceremony on May 20th.

A graduate of Forty Fort High School, Mr. Keller was an Army veteran of WW II, serving in the 95th Infantry

Medical Battalion. In April of 1945 he was awarded the Bronze Star for his courageous evacuation of wounded soldiers from the battlefields in Metz, France and Lisdorf, Germany. According to his commanding officer, “He repeatedly and unhesitatingly subjected himself to intense enemy small arms, mortar and artillery fire” as he returned time and again to get his fallen comrades to safety. Dutch also received a Presidential Citation for his action in battle.

On July 9, 1945 Keller and Nancy Lewis, of Harding, PA were married in Forty Fort. Nancy graduated from East Stroudsburg Teachers College and taught Physical Education at Montrose High School, and then at Tunkhannock’s middle and high schools. She shared her husbands’ love of sports and coached the gymnastics club for a time. She retired from Tunkhannock in the 1990’s. Dutch also graduated from East Stroudsburg, later obtained his Masters at Bucknell University, and taught science at Tunkhannock High School in 1948. Dutch was the head boys’ basketball coach, with an astonishing record of 120-61, and helped lead the team to titles in the Suburban League in 1952. In 1957 his team went unbeaten in 15 games in their march to the Back Mountain League championship. His teams were a remarkable 39-5 in his last two seasons coaching. One of his players, Jim Hudock, remains the schools’ all-time leading scorer and played for UNC.

Keller also assisted football coach “Duke” Bunnell as a line coach, contributing to five of the Tiger team’s unbeaten seasons. He coached the linemen under Charlie Shaw as well. During his tenure as Line Coach the Tigers were 78-21-1 over 11 seasons. Dutch also managed to find time to assist Ernie Holdredge in Track and Field in the early 1960’s. He died in 1967, and the entire school community joined his family in mourning their loss.

## Dr. Shelly and the Power of Music



Just before Dr. W. Dayton Shelly died in April 2008, a group of Tunkhannock High School Choir members came to the Shelly home to sing for him. Despite his weakened condition, Dr. Shelly, who

had a life-long love of music, was uplifted by their voices. Mrs. Dianne Shelly was incredibly moved by the experience.

“These students,” she explains, “just beginning their own life journey, witnessed the awesome power of music.” Their performance, “will forever be a moment of light during a very dark time.” The Shelly family felt it important to give back to young people in some way. This was the origin of The Dr. W. Dayton Shelly Memorial Music Scholarship Fund. The Fund’s scholarships are awarded to students who understand and appreciate the power of music, but may not necessarily be planning to enter into the field of music as a profession.



## Frank J. Valvano Memorial Scholarship



The Tunkhannock Area School District suffered the loss of recently retired Assistant Superintendent, Frank J. Valvano. Mr. Valvano was killed in a motorcycle accident in the spring of 2008. His family and close friends have honored him by establishing a permanent endowment which will be part of the Tunkhannock Area School District Foundation. It will provide scholarships to benefit Tunkhannock graduates who demonstrate academic achievement, community involvement, enjoyment of our natural environment, and enrichment from both athletic competition and appreciation for the arts.

“The world cares very little about what a man or woman knows; it is what a man or woman is able to do that counts.”

Booker T. Washington

## Camp Invention

This year The Community Foundation will provide \$5,000 to help 25 science-loving kids attending Camp Invention at Tunkhannock Middle School. That's up from 10 the first year and 15 kids helped last year. The program director, Lisa Burgess knows that students who receive these scholarships would never have “this wonderful opportunity” without them. Camp Invention is a summer science enrichment program developed by the National Inventors Hall of Fame and the US Patent and Trade Office. The skills they learn help them succeed in life and on their Science Assessment Tests.

## Grange Growing the Next Crop of Farmers



The Oriental Grange of Mill City has established a permanent endowment fund to encourage an interest in agriculture among young people of Wyoming County. Grange members will determine the use of the fund proceeds annually. They may choose to provide financial assistance to any agricultural non-profit program or organization, or to provide a college scholarship for a student majoring in a subject relating to an agricultural related field.

The late Jack Tomlin, Treasurer of the Grange, and also a member of the Tunkhannock Area School Board, was instrumental in the establishment of this fund. Before his passing he explained, “We will be looking to local Future Farmers of America chapters, 4-H chapters, the Tunkhannock Area School District, and other groups to help us find the best use of these funds in the future.”



## Tunkhannock Public Library

Friends of Tunkhannock Public Library have transferred their endowment to The Community Foundation for local management.



# Let's Keep It Local

Charity begins at home. Keep it  
local where it can be managed for  
the results intended.

The Community Foundation of Susquehanna and Wyoming Counties



## The Buzz About Bees



Susquehanna Beekeepers have been busy learning about and promoting the culture of honey bees for the last 31 years. Their dedication goes beyond enjoying a hobby. Beekeeping supports a critical link in the human food chain, and the entire ecological web, and is especially important in agricultural areas.

Thirty percent of all our crops require pollination and 80 percent of all pollination is done by honey bees. Master Beekeeper, Richard Chapin likes to tell his students “Every third bite of food you eat requires pollination.”

This group’s 50 or so members never stop learning from Penn State or other experts. Whatever they learn is shared with young and old. Jerald Ely is also a Master Beekeeper, one of the Association’s founders, and a Director. He has been teaching beekeeping for more than 40 years. He and other beekeepers give classes at the Montrose Adult School; they have a honey house and demonstration hives at the Harford Fair; they give school demonstrations to 15 to 20 schools per year, including Church or private schools, and home schooled children throughout their five-county northeast PA region.

In popular role-playing classes given by the Association, children act out the role of a queen bee, worker bees, funeral bees, guards and housekeeper bees, learning lots while they giggle and wonder. All of this teaching is provided free of charge, with a goodwill donation suggested. Over the years the donations have been collected and were accumulated into a scholarship fund.

This year, to sustain their teaching and promotion mission, the Beekeepers invested their fund at The Community Foundation. The Foundation will help administer their fund to provide youth education programs or a scholarship for a young person interested in studying apiculture.

Fortunately, this area has not yet been affected by the Collapsing Colony Disorder (CCD), which seems to afflict large traveling commercial hives most severely. Pesticide use may be a factor. Our local bees are healthier, reports Chapin. Their greatest challenge appears to be surviving the long cold winters.

People are drawn to beekeeping by a fascination and respect for the enormous contribution bees make, a desire to be close to nature, and to participate in an essential part of the earth’s life cycle. “This is an agricultural pursuit,” affirms Chapin. Some beekeepers also earn income from sales of honey, beeswax candles, and hand creams, or from hiring out bees to help pollinate crops. Others learn and collect the honey for their own use and gifts, or to brew mead, a kind of honey wine.

Northeastern PA honey is produced during spring and fall nectar flows. Spring flower honey is balanced by a fall nectar flow of predominantly goldenrod honey. It is a healthful, natural product, containing local pollen which some say can relieve pollen allergies. To learn more about Susquehanna Beekeepers Association visit <http://susqbkeepers.g2gm.com>.



## The Story of Salt Springs

Salt Springs has a long history as a resource for Susquehanna County. The peace and beauty of the place has been a part of local life for many generations of community residents and their guests. With its fine old buildings dating from the mid-1800's, its woods and streams, and Fall Brook flowing through a spectacular gorge and a series of waterfalls, this is truly a gem of the entire northeast Pennsylvania region.

As a family farm and homestead for many generations of the Wheaton family, it has long been used as a place of gathering for the community. There are albums of photographs showing that the Wheatons welcomed family outings and picnics in the early 1900's. Salt Springs stories abound: of native Americans extracting salt from the water, of drilling for oil and gas, of a woolen mill powered by a water wheel, and many recollections of pleasant afternoons spent in the fields and woods.

The state acquired the property in the early 1970's and it became Salt Springs State Park. Administered out of the Scranton area, it has always been a little too remote to get the attention and maintenance it needs. Over the next twenty years serious deterioration occurred; the trails were non-existent and the buildings were close to the point of no return. Matters came to a head when some local firemen went to the courthouse and asked whether they could burn down the houses for practice.



TOBY ANDERSON

Mr. Anderson is currently the chairperson of The Friends of Salt Springs State Park Legacy Society, and was among the founding members of The Friends. He is a retired attorney, formerly of Philadelphia. He was Susquehanna County Solicitor for a time, and also a reporter for The Independent newspaper. In addition to his volunteer work to promote and preserve the Park, he performs with the Tri-Cities Opera of Binghamton. He and his wife Libby now reside on a sheep farm in Franklin Township.

*Interested donors are invited to become members of the Friends Legacy Society or to donate to the Friends of Salt Springs Park Fund.*

With that wake-up call the local community took charge. A group of volunteers headed by Warren Williams, then Chair of the County Commissioners, formed a non-profit corporation and began discussions with the Bureau of State Parks about management of the property. In 1995 a formal agreement was signed giving operational control to the Friends of Salt Springs Park, Inc. Included in this plan was the right of the Friends to use the buildings, and to lease the residence (the smaller farmhouse) for income. There was no other provision for state funding.

The Friends of Salt Springs Park, Inc. is now in its fifteenth year of management of the park, and Salt Springs is still the only state park in Pennsylvania under the operational control of a volunteer group. Over this time the Bureau of State Parks has provided no funds to the group. The Friends has grown through its active membership campaigns, and the community response has been truly amazing, reflecting the fact that present and former residents of the area recognize the importance of the park for the health of the entire region. By virtue of locally raised funds, supplemented by grants and a state Conservation Corps program, the buildings have been preserved and partially restored. The Friends has purchased adjacent land which more than doubled the size of the original park. Trails have been laid out and marked. A pavilion was constructed, from an old "threshing barn" which was dismantled on another site and reconstructed at the park using traditional man- and horse-power methods. Camping sites and cottages have been constructed, with a composting restroom. The large dairy barn has been preserved and partially restored, with ongoing plans for public access space.

Perhaps more important than the physical facilities are the Friends' educational programs, both environmental and historical. The Friends provides an aggressive environmental education program in several of the public schools of the county which includes bringing the children to Salt Springs for a day of exploration and learning. Historical and natural artifacts and information are on display in the Wheaton House, the main administration building, and oral history, presentations of local history, and research are ongoing. Volunteers take shifts at the park on weekends to talk to visitors and suggest membership in the Friends.

Salt Springs is a success story of community response to a perceived need. Passionate effort and aggressive planning have resulted in an important resource in a region which is underserved by our government. In this changing culture, changing economy and changing population, Salt Springs is a permanent asset whose value can only grow.





# LEGACY SOCIETIES

At a time when all charities are facing financial challenges, the Community Foundation is proud to offer a partnership that will provide perpetual help.

- Each Legacy Society benefits a single charity.
- The funds are provided by bequests that are made by members and other supporters of the charity.
- The Foundation will provide all of the support needed to establish a planned giving program.

Contact The Community Foundation for Information

## Garden Club Flower Show

In September as our 2008 gardens rustled with fall's first winds, the Garden Club of Montrose hosted an exuberant flower show at the Foundation Building. The rooms were made brilliant with horticulture displays of home grown flowers and greenery. The public toured for two days, casting votes on favorite exhibits and marveling at the arrangements using live and dried plant materials assembled with wit and imagination. For their efforts the Garden Club won the "Superior Flower Show" award from the Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania. The Community Foundation is proud to have provided the venue.

This year's 'Words to the Wise' theme sparked fresh takes on verbal clichés such as "Two's company", "Hitch your wagon to a star" and "The best things in life are free." Congratulations to all the ribbon winners, to Chairperson Shirley Andre, and to the entire Garden Club for an heroic undertaking that showcased their resourcefulness, creativity, and gardening skills.

The Garden Club of Montrose is the oldest existing federated Garden Club in Pennsylvania. Its members currently endow two memorial funds at The Community Foundation- one which supports civic beautification projects, and another which provides a college scholarship.



“Far and away the best prize that life offers is the chance to work hard at work worth doing.” Theodore Roosevelt

## Marcellus Committee



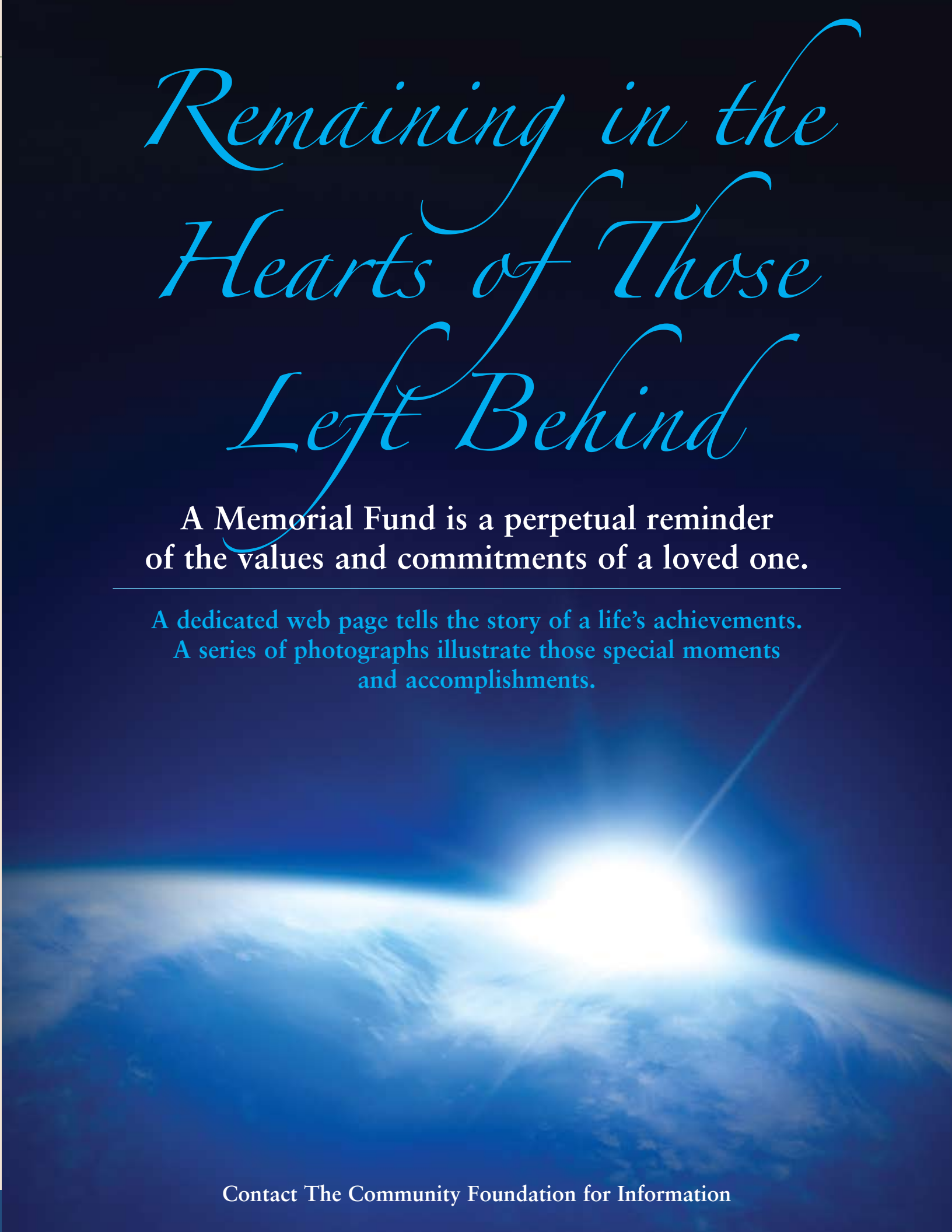
Earle Wootton

Earle Wootton, Chairman of The Community Foundation, has been selected by the Community Foundations for Pennsylvania to chair the newly formed Marcellus Committee. This committee is investigating the benefit that oil and gas exploration has had upon non-profits and charities throughout the United States.

Two topics of interest include partnering with gas companies for community projects, and providing tax benefits to donors whose mineral rights leases provide benefits to their communities. To date, organizations in Texas have been contacted for information about how they best manage charitable donations related to petroleum exploration.

In recent months The Community Foundation itself has received \$138,000 in gas related donations that enhanced, or established endowments supporting a local hospital, a library, two churches, a college scholarship, and The Foundation's low-income K-12 Scholarship Program.





# *Remaining in the Hearts of Those Left Behind*

A Memorial Fund is a perpetual reminder  
of the values and commitments of a loved one.

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A dedicated web page tells the story of a life's achievements.  
A series of photographs illustrate those special moments  
and accomplishments.

Contact The Community Foundation for Information

The following schools and their students benefit from tuition assistance programs, endowments, and college scholarships administered by The Community Foundation.

## Blue Ridge School District Foundation

Blue Ridge Superintendent's Fund for Special Projects  
Bradley David Conklin Memorial College Scholarship  
Gil Depew Memorial College Scholarship for Diabetic Students  
Donley Family Memorial College Scholarship  
Ferdinand Graf Memorial College Scholarship  
David Hwang Memorial College Scholarship  
John James Memorial Endowment for Future Business Leaders of America Club  
Andrew F. Sienko Sr. Memorial Nature Trail Endowment  
Andrew M. Snitzer Memorial College Scholarship  
Margaret Stone Music College Scholarship  
Susquehanna County Christmas Basketball Tournament College Scholarship  
Jessie Osgood Tourje Memorial Fund for Special Projects  
Kermit Van Cott Horticulture College Scholarship  
John J. and Ann Vitale Scholarship for College Seniors or Graduate Students  
Tuition Assistance for students from low and moderate income families to attend the Creative Adventures for Education field trip to Washington DC  
Tuition Assistance for students from low and moderate income families to attend the Susquehanna County Career and Technology Center  
Tuition Assistance for students from low and moderate income families for Dual Enrollment Courses at Lackawanna College

## Elk Lake School District Foundation

Gil Depew Memorial College Scholarship for Diabetic Students  
Agnes & James W. Holbert College Scholarship  
John James Memorial Endowment for Future Business Leaders of America Club  
Montrose Area Chamber of Commerce Pauline MacNeal Memorial College Scholarship  
Margaret Stone Music College Scholarship  
Susquehanna County Christmas Basketball Tournament College Scholarship

Maurice D. Taylor Memorial Music College Scholarship  
John J. and Ann Vitale Scholarship for College Seniors or Graduate Students  
Tuition Assistance for students from low and moderate income families to attend the Susquehanna County Career and Technology Center

## Endless Mountains Christian Academy

Tuition Assistance for students from low and moderate income families to attend Endless Mountains Christian Academy.

## Faith Mountain Christian Academy

Tuition Assistance for students from low and moderate income families to attend Faith Mountain Christian Academy.

## Forest City Regional School District

Gil Depew Memorial College Scholarship for Diabetic Students  
John James Memorial Endowment for Future Business Leaders of America Club  
Margaret Stone Music College Scholarship  
Jessie Osgood Tourje Memorial Fund for Special Projects  
John J. and Ann Vitale Scholarship for College Seniors or Graduate Students

## The Geneva School

Tuition Assistance for students from low and moderate income families to attend The Geneva School.

## Lackawanna Trail School District Foundation

Paul Fearick Memorial College Scholarship  
Margaret Stone Music College Scholarship  
Matthew Van Fleet Memorial Automotive Scholarship  
Tuition Assistance for students from low and moderate income families to attend the Susquehanna County Career and Technology Center

Since 2003 The Foundation has awarded 812 scholarships worth \$645,831.00



## Montrose Area School District Foundation

Daniel Arnold Memorial College Scholarship  
 Dr. Raymond Bennett Memorial College Scholarship  
 Choconut Valley Elementary School Wellness Fund  
 Daniel Crisman Memorial College Scholarship for the Arts  
 Gil Depew Memorial College Scholarship for Diabetic Students  
 Julia Frystak Memorial College Scholarship  
 Agnes & James W. Holbert College Scholarship  
 John James Memorial Endowment for Future Business Leaders of America Club  
 John Krupinski Memorial College Scholarship  
 Montrose Area Chamber of Commerce Pauline MacNeal Memorial College Scholarship  
 Montrose Business and Professional Women's College Scholarship  
 Morgan R. Potter Memorial College Scholarship  
 Nicholas Severcool Memorial College Scholarship  
 The Margaret Stone Music College Scholarship  
 The Susquehanna County Christmas Basketball Tournament College Scholarship  
 Technology for Tomorrow College Scholarship  
 John J. and Ann Vitale Scholarship for College Seniors or Graduate Students  
 Mathew James White Memorial College Scholarship  
 Robert Wood Memorial College Scholarship  
 Tuition Assistance for students from low and moderate income families to attend the Susquehanna County Career and Technology Center  
 A Grant in Partnership with Peoples National Bank to Renovate the High School's Community Learning Center

## Mountain View School District

Gil Depew Memorial College Scholarship for Diabetic Students  
 Kingsley Civic Club College Scholarship  
 Robert W. Klenk College Scholarship  
 John James Memorial Endowment for Future Business Leaders of America Club  
 Mountain View School District Alumni Association College Scholarship  
 Mountain View School District Library Endowment  
 Margaret Stone Music College Scholarship  
 Susquehanna County Christmas Basketball Tournament College Scholarship  
 Jessie Osgood Tourje Memorial Fund for Special Projects

John J. and Ann Vitale Scholarship for College Seniors or Graduate Students

Tuition Assistance for students from low and moderate income families to attend the Susquehanna County Career and Technology Center

## Saint Agnes School

Tuition Assistance for students from low and moderate income families to attend Saint Agnes School.

## Summit Christian Academy

Tuition Assistance for students from low and moderate income families to attend Summit Christian Academy.

## Susquehanna Community School District Foundation

Gil Depew Memorial College Scholarship for Diabetic Students  
 Edwards-Napolitano Memorial Music College Scholarship  
 John James Memorial Endowment for Future Business Leaders of America Club  
 Margaret Stone Music College Scholarship  
 Susquehanna County Christmas Basketball Tournament College Scholarship  
 Jessie Osgood Tourje Memorial Fund for Special Projects  
 John J. and Ann Vitale Scholarship for College Seniors or Graduate Students  
 Tuition Assistance for students from low and moderate income families to attend the Susquehanna County Career and Technology Center  
 A Grant in Partnership with Peoples National Bank to Implement "Project Lead the Way" for the Industrial Arts Program

## Tunkhannock Area School District Foundation

David Clark Memorial College Scholarship  
 Jack Daniels Memorial College Scholarship  
 Joseph Dohrer Memorial College Scholarship  
 Ambrose "Dutch" Keller Memorial College Scholarship  
 Albert M. Purdy Music College Scholarship  
 Dr. W. Dayton Shelly Memorial Music College Scholarship  
 The Margaret Stone Music College Scholarship  
 Young Musicians Endowment for 5th Grade Band Students  
 Frank J. Valvano Memorial College Scholarship  
 Tuition Assistance for students from low and moderate income families to attend the Susquehanna County Career and Technology Center  
 Tuition Assistance for students from low and moderate income families to attend Camp Invention

## Students Received Scholarships to Attend the Following Colleges and Universities

The Pennsylvania State University  
Mansfield University  
Lebanon Valley College  
Broome Community College  
Susquehanna University  
Lackawanna College  
East Stroudsburg University  
Marywood University  
Binghamton University  
Lock Haven University  
King's College  
Syracuse University  
University of Pittsburgh  
Wilkes University

California University of Pennsylvania  
Canisius College  
Universal Technical Institute  
Keystone College  
Shippensburg University  
Casenovia College  
Temple University  
University of Scranton  
University of Massachusetts  
University of The Sciences in Philadelphia  
Sweet Briar College  
Indiana University of Pennsylvania  
Bob Jones University

## Pre-K schools receiving scholarships from the Community Foundations

Keystone College Children's Learning Center  
Lake Winola Pre-School  
Children's Palace Pre-School  
Creative Play Pre-School  
Factoryville United Methodist Church Pre-School  
Tunkhannock Nursery School  
Grace Lutheran Church Pre-School

Angel Beginnings Pre-School  
Endless Mountains Learning Center  
Hearts and Hands Pre-School  
Small World Pre-School  
Sonshine Pre-School  
Time to Grow Pre-School

## Charitable Savings Accounts

May be established by an organization or an individual

Deposits are Tax Deductible

Withdrawals may be at any time

Withdrawals may be in any amount

Withdrawals must go to a charitable purpose



## E.L. Rose Conservancy Preserves a Special Time and Place

Our friends at the E.L. Rose Conservancy continue their creative efforts to preserve the natural beauty and cultural heritage of our area. Their latest project is the publication of an original small book, *Camp Red Wing-Camp Red Cloud 1912-1939*. More than 52 pages of photos and text faithfully recapture some of the charming history of Silver Lake and Susquehanna County that might otherwise be forgotten.

In the early twentieth century the most prominent families in America sent their children to our exclusive lakeside camps where the urban elite swam and paddled in our mountain lakes, and hiked our woodlands and rural pastures. The book would make a wonderful addition to any local history collection, and a memento to send home with summer visitors. Much has changed, but thanks to the work of the Conservancy, much of Silver Lake's beauty can still be savored. Lingering at the lake remains a perennial pastime. Proceeds for sale of the book go to the Conservancy's Stewardship Fund which is used to monitor their land under easement protection. The book is available at Sea Hag Soaps and Mercantile in Brackney or at 570.663.2297.



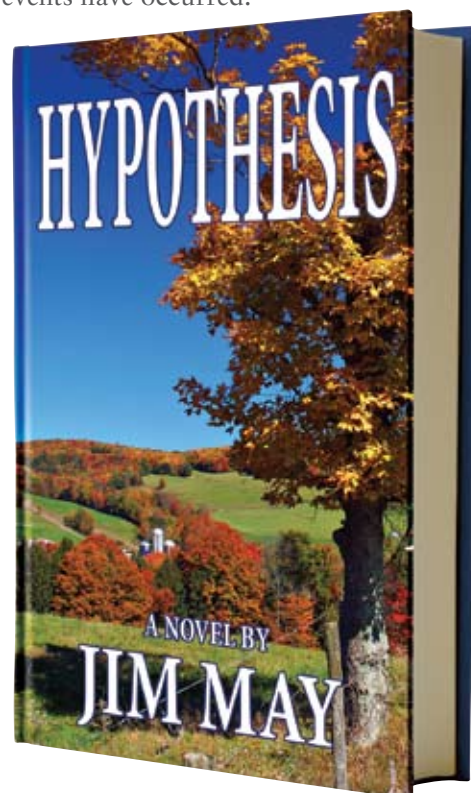
## "HYPOTHESIS" Murder Mystery written about Susquehanna County Gas Drilling Frenzy

Real-time events occurring in the current Marcellus Shale natural gas exploration and drilling frenzy in poor rural northeast Pennsylvania are centered in the natural beauty and quaint ways of Susquehanna County which becomes one of the characters in *Hypothesis*, a uniquely paced mystery thriller by Jim May. Small town police chief Mitch Mitchell notices an unusual cluster of deaths due to suicides and accidents, and he enlists the help of his admired problem solving friend who is a summer resident at Silver Lake near where most of the events have occurred.

Beginning with a shotgun in the mouth suicide shooting where the victim's dog ate all of the fallout, and then with a dentist who had a weekend ether overdose party by himself, the convoluted series of events which follow lead the pair of investigators to try influencing the local state police authorities and eventually the FBI to trace the causes of these and other deaths. Fearing that a scheme has its roots everywhere around them and not knowing whom to trust, they are presented with a few political problems in trying to solve the crimes. The alarming truth spawns separate control of the ill-gotten proceeds along with the development of an unprecedented philanthropic concept with promise to greatly influence the economy and welfare of the region for the benefit of the residents ad infinitum.

While the intent of *HYPOTHESIS* is entertainment as a novel for the general reading audience, it is based on legitimate engineering and economic concepts which should be of technological interest to the people and governments of northeast Pennsylvania and northern New York as well as the natural gas exploration and drilling industry as a whole. These concepts could be a significant game changer for everyone involved.

Publication is scheduled after Labor Day initially through [amazon.com](http://amazon.com), [borders.com](http://borders.com), [barnesandnoble.com](http://barnesandnoble.com) and [target.com](http://target.com).





## Libraries on our Minds

This year many community donors focused their dollars on shoring up our libraries. It's hard not to love a library. They are free to all; they are safe for young and old; they are packed with knowledge, tools, and adventure. Our libraries' books, videos, and computers are egalitarian portals to the world. Libraries are also community centers. Their steps are among the most heavily trafficked real estate in our counties. Readers of all ages, toddlers to seniors, meander through the stacks. No one is turned away, and no one leaves empty-handed or without an answer. When donors want to serve a broadest swath of people who are curious and actively educating themselves, when donors value public infrastructure, libraries are a natural choice. Read and rejoice for us all:

## Tunkhannock Public Library



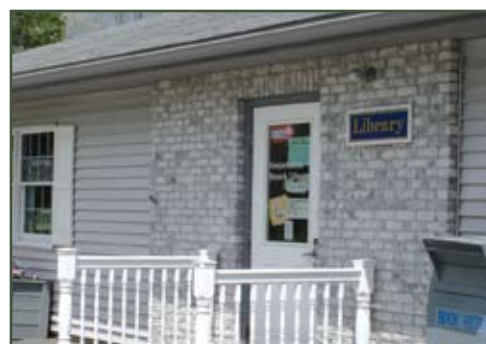
*Maggie Cartwright*

- Board member Marguerite Cartwright, Maggie to her friends – who are legion, is the first Wyoming County citizen to pioneer a Community Foundation Legacy Society for one of her favorite organizations, The Tunkhannock Public Library. Maggie has notified The Foundation that her estate planning includes establishing a permanent endowment to support The Library. Maggie is renowned for her community leadership. In this work especially, she hopes others will follow her example to ensure that this essential Wyoming County institution continues to thrive.
- The Board of Directors of Tunkhannock Public Library has transferred its existing endowment to The Community Foundation so that it will be managed locally. The Foundation is grateful for their vote of confidence.



## Susquehanna County Historical Society & Free Library

- The Friends of Susquehanna County have donated \$500 from their Endowment to the computer fund at the Susquehanna Branch Library. Librarian, Amelia Paterno reports the need to update the library's equipment. This donation will help achieve a financial goal that will then be matched by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Together local and Gates Foundation funds will allow the Library to purchase new computers. \$1,000 more is needed. Your gift – large or small – can help.



## Mountain View School District Library

- Mark and Sandra Wilmot of Union Dale have transferred The Mountain View School District Library Endowment to The Community Foundation. This is a permanent fund meant to provide additional revenue to libraries in both the Elementary and High Schools. Mark, an avid reader, established the fund in 1994 by donating the stipend he received as Acting Treasurer for the Mt. View School Board. An existing Mountain View Staff/United Way Community Service Scholarship has also been rolled into the new library endowment fund.
- School District faculty and staff will have the opportunity to designate their United Way contributions to benefit this Library Fund.
- The Tourje family of Forest City, who have been staunch supporters of local education, have contributed some of the proceeds of their Jessie Osgood Tourje Fund to this new Library Fund.
- The Mountain View School District PTO, with guidance from parent Kim George, contributed \$500.00 to help further enhance this new endowment that will benefit students and teachers alike.



“ I have always imagined that Paradise will be some kind of library”

Jorge Luis Borges

## What is a Donor Advised Fund?

Donor Advised Funds allow individual or business contributors and members of their families to advise The Community Foundation each year regarding how the income from their funds should be directed. Donors and their family members of all generations are welcomed to meet at The Foundation building to discuss their charitable options. They can confer with our staff about which local organizations fit their area of interest, be it human services, health, education, the arts, the natural environment etc.

Because The Community Foundation is locally based, and managed by people who live in the community, our advisors are aware of particular pressing community needs and organizations seeking funding for special projects.

Your anonymity is always an option, or your family or business may choose to be recognized in Foundation press releases and publications. Very often, allowing your donation to be noted publicly encourages others who know and respect you to become donors themselves.



“Anything you can do needs to be done, so pick up the tool of your choice and get started.”

Ben Linder

## ORGANIZATIONS WHICH RECEIVED DONOR ADVISED FUND GRANTS IN 2008-09

- Lanesboro Community Church
- United Way of Susquehanna County
- Interfaith of Susquehanna County
- Montrose Restoration Committee
- E.L. Rose Conservancy
- Endless Mountains Health System
- Montrose Borough
- Susquehanna County Free Library & Historical Society Association
- Little Hill-Alina Lodge
- Trehab
- The Community Foundation
- The Food Pantry
- Jewish Community Center of Scranton
- Saint John's Church of Susquehanna
- Susquehanna Branch Library
- American Red Cross Susquehanna County Chapter
- Mehoopany United Methodist Church
- Boy Scouts Baden-Powell Council
- Friends of Salt Springs Park
- Habitat for Humanity of Susquehanna County
- Susquehanna County Sheriff's K-9 Unit
- Montrose Wine and Chocolate Festival
- Montrose United Methodist Church
- Garden Club of Montrose



## NY Giants Pro Bowler Supports United Way



*Chris Snee and Ruth Donnelly*

Montrose graduate and New York Giants' offensive guard, Chris Snee, was this year's top NFL Pro Bowl vote-getter among guards. No doubt a hefty portion of his over 300,000 fan votes came from his hometown. Snee has been a popular supporter of the Susquehanna County United Way. Fans met with him to have Giants' memorabilia autographed this June at the United Way's annual tailgate party fundraiser.

This year Chris brought along teammate Rich Seubert for the annual Punt Pass and Kick competition held the following day at Montrose High. Hundreds of fans joined in the two-day sports event which is in its fifth year. The activities raise \$15,000 to \$20,000 to help area United Way agencies.

## County Inmates Help United Way Rebuilding Project



One of United Way's major projects this year was the complete reconstruction of the home of a Blue Ridge School District student who is being raised by his grandmother. The work involved significant labor and materials contributions from local contractors, excavators, merchants, and volunteers. Among many helpers, the work of inmates from the Susquehanna County Department of Corrections stood out.

The inmates showed remarkable compassion and interest in seeing that the family's trailer home was repaired to a safe and sound condition. District Attorney, Jason Legg noted that they donated work hours far beyond their community service requirements to see that the job was done.

## The United Way and The Community Foundation

Establishing The United Way of Susquehanna County was the first major financial project of The Community Foundation. Like a parent and an adult child, today they are both located and functioning independently, but with close ties. A good way for donors to understand the distinction between the organizations is the following:

- The United Way serves donors like a charitable 'Checking Account'. For the most part donations (your 'checks') to your United Way are destined to flow, in full, directly, in the year your gift is made, to meet the immediate financial needs of the charity you choose.
- The Community Foundation serves donors more like a 'Savings Account'. Donations are accumulated into an endowment fund (your 'savings account') which is invested and earns interest. The principle of the fund remains in your account and grows with added contributions ('deposits') plus investment earnings accumulated over time. Grants ('withdrawals') are distributed annually to your favorite charity, but these are drawn from the interest portion of your 'savings account' only. This insures long-term, dependable income for your charity, even after you are deceased.

## Local Red Cross and Trehab Receive Grants



The Bertsch Family Fund, established by Mrs. Sarah Bertsch of Montrose, this year applied its annual grant to support a local Red Cross safety program which is popular with families - The Susquehanna County Youth Field Days for children age 6 to 11 years.

This year Red Cross volunteers taught more than 60 participants about having a home fire safety plan, preparing for a storm or natural disaster, treating a choking child, first aid for cuts, burns and sprains, and dealing with bullies. The event was held in Springville at the Baptist church and all materials and safety kits were provided free thanks to the Bertsch family and other nonprofits.

The advisors for the Crossley-LaBonte Family Fund chose to help both the Red Cross and Trehab with grants this year. Furthermore, the Alfred Bertsch Fund in Memory of Chris Lake also provides perpetual annual support to Trehab as well as Interfaith, and the Clair Young Memorial Endowment supports Trehab's youth workforce development program for Blue Ridge School district graduates. These agencies assist local people with basic needs such as food, shelter, and clothing in times of fire, flood, or other emergency. The Red Cross Youth Field Days, and Trehab's workforce development trainings are examples of how these agencies help prevent disasters and family crises.

These have been popular charities among donors who prefer to target the basic human service needs of our community.

## Blanket Boy

By Tami A. Cortwright, Program Director Susquehanna County Chapter American Red Cross



*Jackson Considine (Blanket Boy)*

What do you get a 7-year-old boy for a birthday present? Mike and Sarah Considine's son Jackson's 7th birthday was celebrated with classmates from Lathrop Elementary, his cousins and grandparents. His only birthday wish was that each guest would bring him a blanket to donate to the American Red Cross of Susquehanna County to be used for victims of disaster.

"My mom had called the office to ask what I could do to help the American Red Cross for my birthday that was on January 21st," said Jackson. "It made me feel happy because it's good to give our blankets to people who need them, that don't have homes. They've had a fire, or had a flood," Jackson said with a smile. Jackson, along with his grandparents dropped off 18 blankets at the Red Cross Public Avenue, Montrose donation location. After a disaster, such as a home fire, trained Red Cross interviewers meet one on one with families to determine

immediate needs. They are assisted with the basics - food, shelter, and clothing. But the Susquehanna County Chapter also gives each family member a new blanket. The chapter has been running short of new blankets. From December into January the Chapter had eight fires involving 39 residents including 15 children. The chapter also assisted a family that was evacuated due to gas fumes. There were two adults and three children residing in that home.

Tami A Cortwright, Program Director Susquehanna County Chapter American Red Cross recalls, "When Jackson came in with his grandparents to give his birthday gift of 18 blankets, he saw first hand that there were only a couple blankets still available for families in need. It is special people, such as volunteers that do things to help our chapter. Jackson is one of those heroes extraordinaire who help with the constant need for comfort items. People with only the clothes on their back truly appreciate the warmth of a blanket."



## Montrose United Methodist Church Designated Funds



The Community Foundation has relationships with a growing number of religious congregations. In our last issue we highlighted seven beautiful churches – large and small. The Foundation is helping them fill their food pantries, develop endowments, create Legacy Societies, pay their fuel bills, and fulfill their charitable missions. In this issue, we would like to focus upon our partnerships with Montrose United Methodist Church. They are an inspiring example of what can be done, and what is being done by church members to provide long-term support for places of worship.

### Fund serves those close to her heart

The family of the late Ruth Taylor Yeager of Montrose has established an endowment in her memory to provide financial assistance to special needs individuals. The fund will assist members of the Montrose United Methodist Church, or if no one from the church needs assistance, it will be available to citizens of Susquehanna County who wish to attend programs and retreats at Sky Lake Camp in Windsor, New York. Mrs. Yeager's husband, Jack, found this to be a fitting tribute to his late wife because this endowment will forever benefit organizations and people that were close to her heart. Mrs. Yeager was for many years a teacher of socially and emotionally disturbed youth.

### Something to sing about

A church family has used its mineral rights proceeds to help United Methodist fund its choir or other music programs. Many people in our community are choosing The Community Foundation as a way to give back a portion of their natural gas windfall to support something in their hometown that is worth maintaining. Even after this couple has joined the heavenly choir, their endowment will insure that the music at United Methodist plays on.

### Honor thy father and thy mother

Another family whose roots at United Methodist span generations has taken to heart the fourth commandment to honor thy father and thy mother. This family has established endowment funds in the names of both sets of parents. The funds will benefit United Methodist Church or another charity directed by the donors. Memorial funds, honoring a deceased loved one, are a meaningful way to serve the ongoing needs of the living church community. Donors to The Community Foundation always have the option of remaining anonymous themselves. However they sometimes wish to celebrate their loved one's life by creating online Memorial Pages. See the article on Memorial Pages on page 28 of this issue.

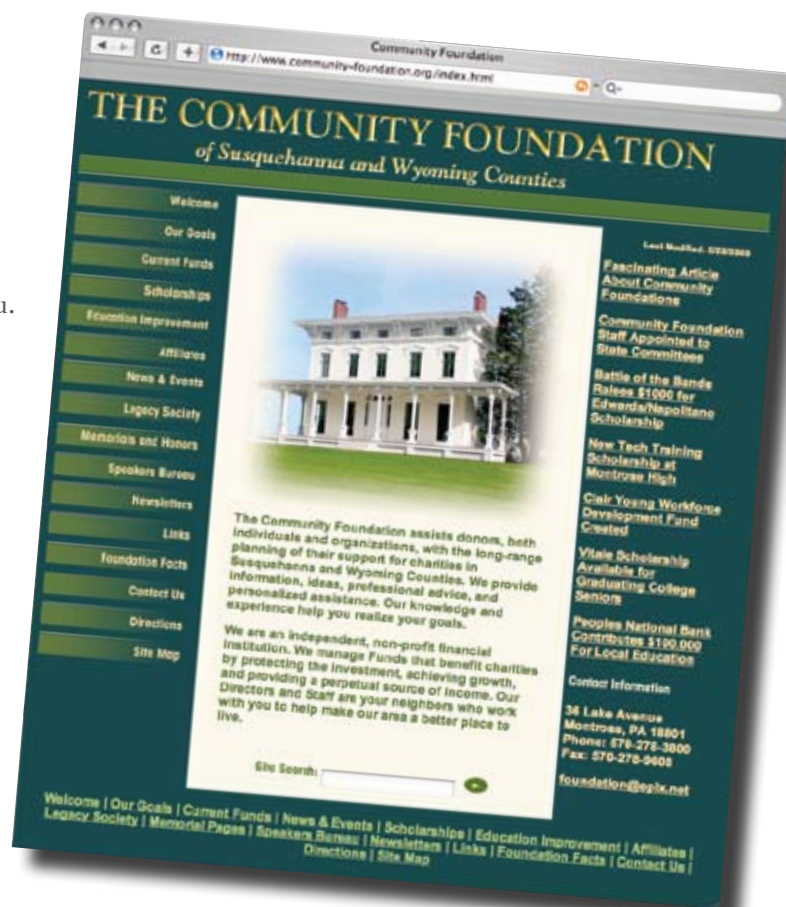
### The littlest Angels not forgotten

The families of children attending Angel Beginnings pre-school have many blessings to count. Fourteen Angel Beginnings pre-school students have benefited from Community Foundation EITC grants. The grants help children of families earning less than \$50,000 per year pay for pre-school tuition.

## www.community-foundation.org

The Community Foundation web site last year received nearly 300,000 visits. We believe it satisfies important community needs. Here's what you can do on the site.

- Research scholarship opportunities.
- Understand what a Community Foundation can do for you.
- Meet Foundation donors.
- Learn about grant-giving funds.
- Honor our heroes of war and peace.
- Read stories and see photos of beloved citizens.
- Engage a speaker for your club.
- Understand the work of area nonprofits.
- Identify businesses that support our schools & families.
- Learn about civic improvements & projects.
- Link to community organizations and resources.





A Family Advised Fund at the Community Foundation allows families to support the needs they believe are most important.

# *Extending Family Values*

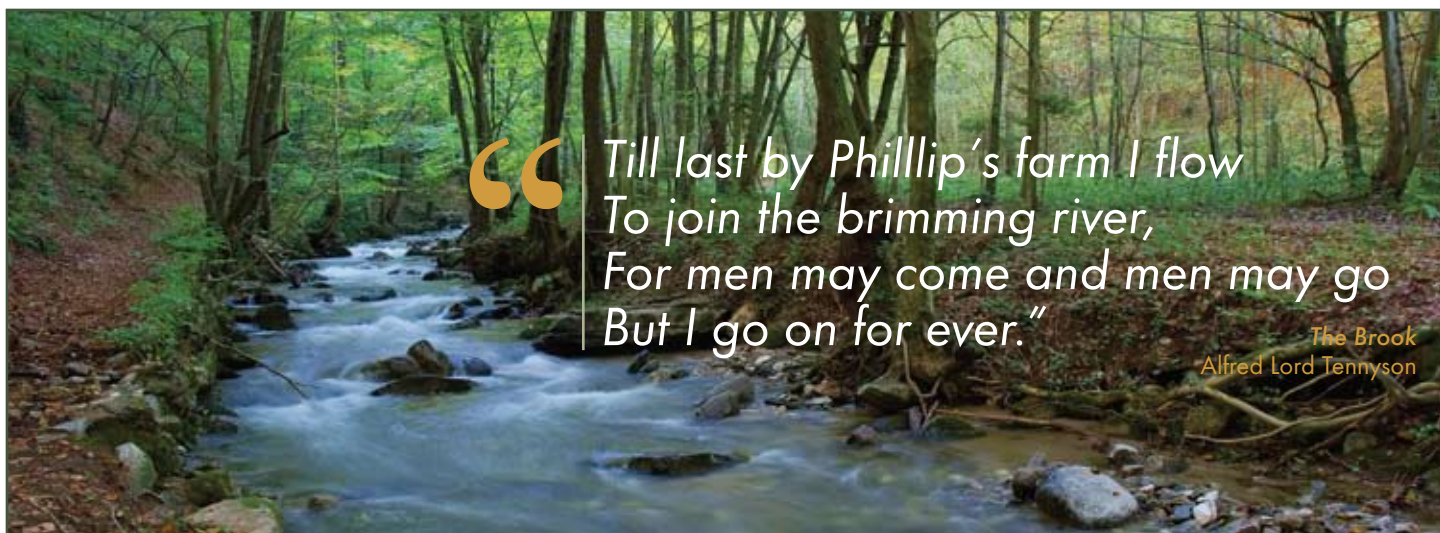
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## A C R O S S   T H E   G E N E R A T I O N S

The tradition of giving to our local community is perpetuated as a family decides which charities have the greatest need.







*Till last by Philllip's farm I flow  
To join the brimming river,  
For men may come and men may go  
But I go on for ever."*

*The Brook  
Alfred Lord Tennyson*

## Online Community Foundation Memorial Pages

Each Memorial Page on our web site represents a fund supporting a good work important to a notable community member who has died. Online Community Foundation Memorial pages tell the stories of their lives, and celebrate their contributions throughout their career, military service, religious and family life, sports and community activities. Family photos mounted on the site portray their achievements, happiest moments, memorable milestones, and the faces of those who now follow in their footsteps.

Memorial Pages are a fitting and personal tribute. They keep alive the memory of a good person whose spirit endures and continues to serve our community through the grant-making power of an endowment fund. Inspiring examples can be viewed online at [www.community-foundation.org](http://www.community-foundation.org).

## Clair Young of New Milford

Clair Young, a principal at Blue Ridge from 1969-1982, dedicated his life's work to ensuring that kids in his school achieved their goals. He realized, and his family remembers, that not all students aspire to professions requiring college degrees. The Young family believes these young people's choices are as important as any other graduates, and that their efforts in high school should be rewarded. To memorialize Mr. Young's contribution to the community, Marie Young and her son John chose to establish an endowment for Blue Ridge High School students who can receive workforce development help through TREHAB. Learn more about Clair online.



## Pauline MacNeal Honored by Montrose Chamber



The Montrose Area Chamber of Commerce has chosen to honor an early and dedicated member who died in 1995, Pauline MacNeal. She is remembered as a woman of determination, strength and foresight. After surviving an auto accident that left her handicapped, she continued to be a driving force in service to the Chamber and other community organizations.

The permanent endowment established in Pauline's name will provide a college scholarship to an Elk Lake or Montrose Area High School student who achieves a 3.0 GPA in his or her first semester of college studying business or economics or a related field. Applicants will also be required to write a winning 200 word essay. A Memorial Page for Mrs. MacNeal may be viewed on the Community Foundation web site at [www.community-foundation.org](http://www.community-foundation.org).

## Maurice Taylor Memorial Scholarship



Many long-time residents of the Montrose area believe the community owes its deep-rooted love of music and especially school band and concert band music to Maurice D. Taylor. He was a 1924 graduate of Montrose High School and taught there from 1927 to 1955, and again from 1967 to 1972. He died at age 95 in 2001. Mr. Jack Yeager is an in-law to Mr. Taylor. After consulting with Mr. Taylor's daughter, Janet M. Taylor of Illinois, he has generously decided to honor Mr. Taylor's legacy by establishing a Community Foundation Scholarship in his memory. The scholarship will provide college tuition assistance to a Montrose Area or Elk Lake graduate who will major in music. Jack Yeager serves on the Board of Directors of the Montrose Restoration Committee and for many years was a Montrose Borough Council Member.

Maurice D. Taylor was the author of "Easy Steps to the Band" books which were used for many years to teach high school music. He established the Montrose Music House in the late 1930's to publish the "Easy Steps" series. That business was sold to Mills Music in New York in 1945 after 158 titles had been published. The move allowed Mr. Taylor more time to devote to teaching.

Mr. Taylor was a marching band legend, not only in Montrose but across the country. To this day, the area has very high participation in its school bands. Band concerts for Fourth of July weekend and Blueberry Festival are tremendously popular, and even our local barbershop quartets recognize Mr. Taylor as an early mentor and inspiration. In a time when many wealthier communities have cut or eliminated music programs, it is a testament to such forbearers, that the Montrose music programs continue to flourish and be supported by community members such as Mr. Yeager.

Anyone interested in joining Jack Yeager in supporting local musical talent may enhance this endowment by sending a contribution to The Community Foundation.

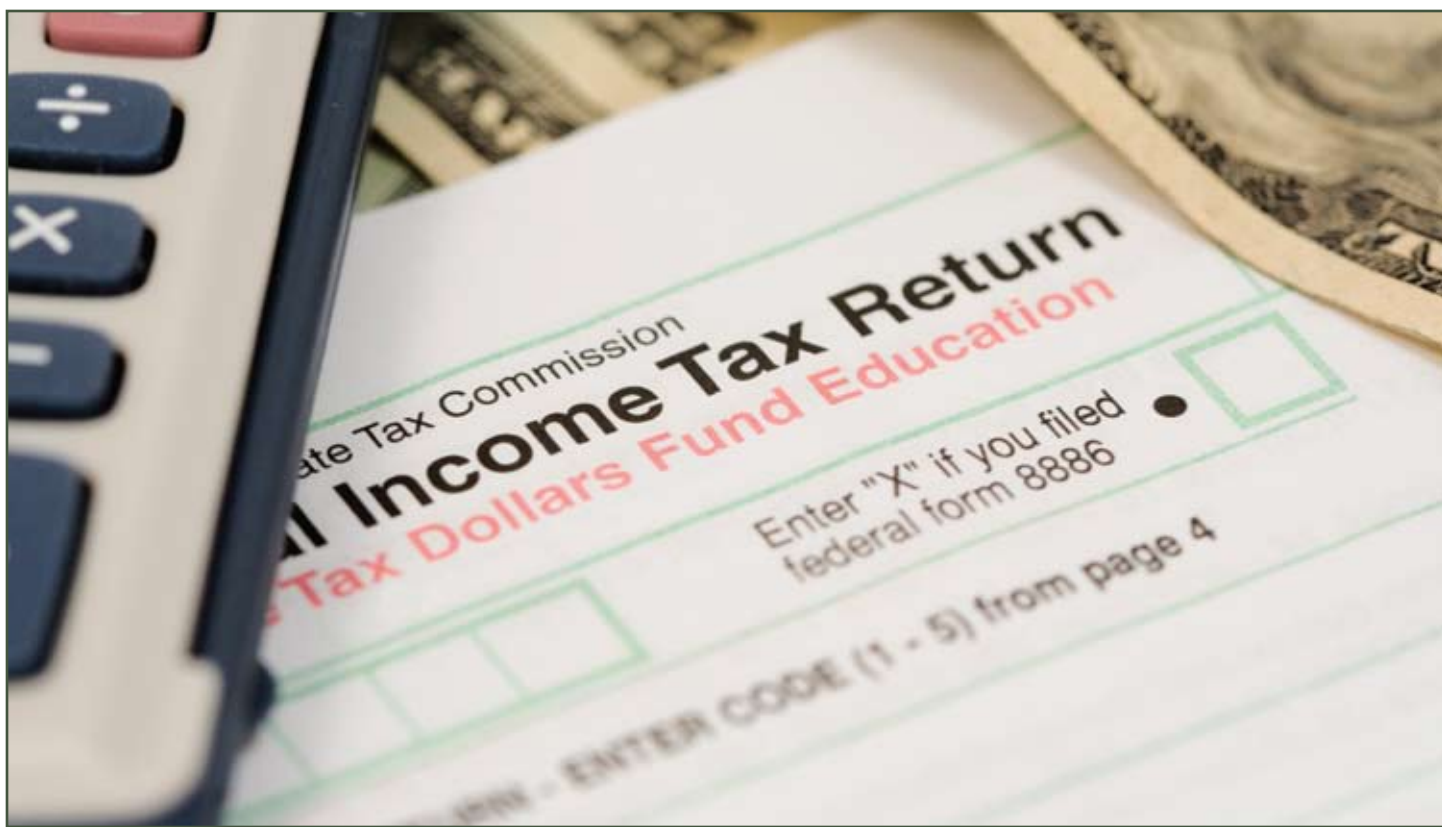




The Community Foundation's primary responsibility is to serve our donors by protecting their funds, investing these funds to grow in value, making distributions to the charities when the donor chooses, and ensuring that the contributions are used by the charities according to the donor's instructions.



## Tax Credit Opportunities



The state has expanded opportunities for businesses to participate in its Education Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program. This program allows businesses to receive from 75% to 100% tax credit when they make donations to Pre-K through Grade 12 scholarships or when they make donations toward specific education improvements in our schools.

### Which Businesses Qualify for EITC tax credits?

- Sub Chapter S Corporations or Partnerships
- Limited Liability Corporations
- C Corporations

### Which Taxes Qualify for EITC tax credits:

Any company which pays the following taxes may qualify for EITC tax credits:

- Corporate Net Income Tax
- Capital Stock Franchise Tax
- Bank and Trust Company Shares Tax
- Title Insurance Companies Shares Tax
- Insurance Premiums Tax
- Mutual Thrift Institutions Tax
- Personal Income Tax of S Corporation Shareholders or partners in a general or limited partnership

### About Gas Leases and Tax Credits

- 501C(3) non-profits with land may establish donations with The Foundation. If the donation amount exceeds 35% of the value of the proceeds, The Foundation can hold the mineral rights.
- To date \$138,000 in gas exploration proceeds have been donated by area landowners to enhance existing funds or establish new endowments.
- A business's natural gas exploration proceeds may be applied to EITC. To date \$50,000 in gas signing bonus money has been contributed to EITC by businesses.

*Your personal or business accountant or CPA is most welcome to contact The Foundation to learn more.*

## **Albert & Ventresca Families Fund for The Women's Resource Center of Susquehanna County**

Established by Judy Albert Ventresca to assist deserving women making an effort to improve their circumstances.

## **L. Carter & Elizabeth Anderson Fund**

Supports various charitable needs of Susquehanna County as recommended annually by the Anderson family of Franklin Forks.

## **Helen & DeWitt Andre Memorial Fund**

Established by Joe and Kathy Andre in memory of Joe's parents, to benefit the Montrose United Methodist Church or another charitable organization recommended by the Andre family.

## **Daniel Arnold Memorial Scholarship Fund**

Established in memory of Daniel Arnold, killed in action in Iraq in September, 2005. Provides a college scholarship for a football player from Montrose Area High School, Daniel's alma mater.

## **Dr. Raymond L. Bennett Memorial Scholarship Fund**

Established in memory of Dr. Ray Bennett, a long-time Montrose physician. Provides a college scholarship for a Montrose Area High School graduate who has maintained an 85 GPA during High School and has participated in interscholastic athletics.

## **Dr. A. Monroe & Sarah Bertsch Family Fund**

Established by Mrs. Sarah Bertsch of Montrose, this fund will provide annual grants to various local charities as recommended by Mrs. Bertsch and her family.

## **Albert Bertsch Fund in Memory of Chris Lake**

Established by Albert Bertsch of Montrose in memory of his good friend, Chris Lake, who passed away unexpectedly. This fund provides support to the Trehab Agency and the Interfaith Agency.

## **Blue Ridge School District Foundation Superintendent's Fund**

Personally established by Superintendent Robert McNamara. Supports the educational programs of the Blue Ridge School District.

## **Norman Brunner Memorial Fund**

Established in memory of Norman Brunner, who in the 1950s, founded the Susquehanna County Charities Distribution Fund, the forebear of The Community Foundation. Provides grants to the United Way of Susquehanna County.

## **Evelyn G. Brush Memorial Fund for St. John the Evangelist Church of Susquehanna Borough**

Established by the estate of Mrs. Brush, this fund provides annual grants for St. John's Church.

## **Deborah A. Burke Breast Cancer Fund**

Provides assistance to breast cancer patients.

## **Choconut Valley Elementary School Wellness Fund**

Established by a family from the Choconut area to support student health and wellness initiatives in the elementary school as designated by the Principal.

## **David Clark Memorial Scholarship Fund**

Established in memory of David Clark, a Tunkhannock Area High School graduate who passed away in 2005. Provides a college scholarship to a Tunkhannock graduate who has overcome personal adversity to graduate from High School and go on to college.

## **Clemens Family Fund**

Established by David and Carol Clemens of Hallstead. Supports various charitable needs of Susquehanna County as recommended annually by the Clemens family, especially the United Way of Susquehanna County, and also open land preservation initiatives.

## **Clifford Township Historical Society Endowment**

This endowment was established by the Historical Society to provide assistance with operating expenses and projects.

## **Community Foundation Operating Endowment**

Established by The Community Foundation's Board of Directors, this endowment assists with the administrative expenses of The Foundation.

## **Community Foundation Building Endowment**

This endowment was established by friends of The Community Foundation to help maintain our office facility, which was donated for our use in 2008.

## **Bradley David Conklin Memorial Scholarship Fund**

Established in memory of Brad Conklin, a High School student killed in an automobile accident. Provides a college scholarship to a Susquehanna County High School graduate who excels in academics and exhibits exceptional athletic talent.

## **Countryside Conservancy Endowment Fund**

Established by the Conservancy to support its mission of land and water protection in and around the Tunkhannock Creek Watershed.

## **Daniel Crisman Memorial Scholarship Fund**

Established in memory of Daniel Crisman, who was killed in the World Trade Towers on September 11, 2001. Provides a college scholarship for a Montrose Area High School graduate who exhibits exceptional artistic talent and will study the visual, performing, or literary arts.

## **Crossley-LaBonte Family Fund**

Established by Jane Crossley LaBonte, this fund supports various Susquehanna County charities and non-profit organizations as recommended annually by Mrs. LaBonte and her family of Brackney and Montrose.

## **Jack Daniels Memorial Scholarship Fund**

Established in memory of Jack Daniels, a gifted Junior High School student/athlete who passed away in a swimming accident. Provides a college scholarship for a Tunkhannock Area High School graduate who exhibits exceptional talent in interscholastic athletics on the Track & Field team, the Cross Country team, and maintains an outstanding academic record.

## **William Dean Memorial Fund**

Supports Susquehanna County non-profit organizations as recommended annually by the Dean family of Montrose.

## **Gil Depew Memorial Scholarship Fund**

Established by the family of Mr. Depew to provide a college scholarship for a diabetic student from one of the six Susquehanna County High Schools.

## **Joseph Dohrer Memorial Scholarship Fund**

Established by the estate of Mr. Dohrer when he passed away in 1985. Provides a scholarship to a Tunkhannock graduate who has maintained at least a 3.0 GPA in High School, who has financial need for assistance, and will attend college or a post secondary degree program. If a 3.0 GPA is maintained in college the award will be granted for up to four years of post secondary degree education.

## **Donley Family Memorial Scholarship Fund**

Established in memory of the Donley family siblings, Harry, Josephine, Maurice, and Paul. This scholarship provides assistance to a Blue Ridge graduate who displays a need for financial assistance. If the recipient maintains a 3.0 GPA in college this will be awarded for four years.

## **Edwards-Napolitano Memorial Music Scholarship Fund**

Established initially in memory of Johnny Edwards, a talented musician from Susquehanna. In 2007 the name of the fund changed to also honor Johnny's good friend and band-mate, John Napolitano, who has also passed away. This fund provides a college scholarship for a Susquehanna Community High School graduate who exhibits exceptional musical talent in vocal or instrumental performance.

## **Cecilia C. & Glenn W. Ely Memorial Fund**

Established by the Ely's daughter, Judy Kelly of Montrose, this fund will support local charities as recommended annually by the Larry and Judy Kelly family of Montrose.

## **Harold & Frances Ely Family Fund**

Established in honor of Mr. & Mrs. Ely by their children and grandchildren, this fund will provide assistance to the Endless Mtns. Health System and to the Susquehanna County Library.

## **Paul Fearick Memorial Scholarship Fund**

Established by Mr. Fearick's family and friends in memory of his many years as a teacher and coach at Lackawanna Trail High School. Provides a scholarship for a graduate of Lackawanna Trail High School who exhibits leadership, perseverance, dedication and academic commitment, has participated in school sports programs, and who will enter college or a post secondary degree program.

## **Feed a Friend Fund**

Established by an anonymous donor to provide annual support for The Susquehanna County Food Pantry.

## **Friends of Salt Springs Park Fund**

Established by the Leasure family, this Fund supports the programmatic needs of Friends of Salt Springs Park.

## **Friends of Susquehanna County Fund**

Supports non-profit organizations in Susquehanna County as recommended annually by The Friends of Susquehanna County, formerly known as The Friends of Barnes-Kasson Hospital.

## **Julia Frystak Memorial Scholarship Fund**

Established in memory of Julia Frystak, a High School student killed in an automobile accident. Provides a college scholarship to a Montrose Area High School graduate who excels in academics and participates in athletics.

## **The Garden Club of Montrose, Presidents Fund**

Established by the McLaughlin family. Supports the civic beautification projects of The Garden Club of Montrose.

## **The Garden Club of Montrose, Jean Rose Memorial Education Fund**

The Fund provides support for Garden Club members' education enhancement and for college scholarships for local students.

## **Ferdinand Graf Memorial Scholarship Fund**

Provides a college scholarship to a Blue Ridge High School graduate who exhibits good sportsmanship in wrestling.

## **GRW Fund**

Supports non-profit organizations in Susquehanna County.

## **Agnes & James W. Holbert Scholarship Fund**

Established by the children of James W. Holbert, who was in the Army Medical Corps during WWII and participated in the Normandy Invasion. The scholarship provides assistance to Elk Lake High School, and Montrose Area High School graduates who excel in academics, exhibit high moral character, and who will participate in the ROTC Program in college or enter a U.S. Military Academy.

## **David Hwang Memorial Scholarship Fund**

Established in memory of David Hwang, a teenager killed in an automobile accident. Provides a scholarship to a Blue Ridge High School graduate of high moral character who has participated in interscholastic sports and whose academic achievements have led to enrollment at an institution of higher learning.

## **Jackson Cemetery Association Endowment Fund**

Established by the Cemetery Association to assist with the expenses of managing the Jackson Cemetery.

## **The John M. James Memorial Fund to Benefit Future Business Leaders of America Clubs**

Established by the estate of Mr. James, who had retired to Susquehanna County, to benefit the FBLA Clubs in the county's school districts.

## **Jones Family Fund**

Supports Susquehanna County human services agencies that provide health care, mental health care, or substance abuse care.

## **The Ambrose "Dutch" Keller Memorial Scholarship Fund**

Established by Mr. Keller's family in memory of this legendary Tunkhannock coach who passed away in 1967. For a student ranked in the top third of Tunkhannock's graduating class who has earned at least five varsity letters during high school.

## **Kingsley Civic Club Scholarship Fund**

Established by the Kingsley Civic Club to provide three annual college scholarships to Mountain View High School graduates who have maintained a 3.0 GPA in a college preparatory curriculum and who write winning essays regarding their greatest accomplishments in High School.

## **Kintner Family Fund**

Established by Fred and Jeanne Kintner to benefit the United Methodist Church of Mehoopany.

## **Robert W. Klenk Scholarship Fund**

Established by the Mountain View School District Alumni Association in honor of Mr. Klenk, former Principal of the Elementary School and of the High School. Provides a scholarship to a graduate who will attend college to pursue a degree in education and who exhibits a need for financial assistance.

## **John Krupinski Memorial Scholarship Fund**

In memory of John Krupinski, Montrose High School basketball star, and first Business Manager of the Montrose Area School District. Provides a college scholarship to a Montrose graduate who will major in business, economics, or the business application of technology.

## **Law Enforcement Fund**

Established by Susquehanna County District Attorney, Jason Legg, to assist with the expenses of law enforcement, particularly the Susquehanna County Task Force, and the K-9 Unit.

## **Mary and Kenneth Leasure Fund**

Supports non-profit organizations in Susquehanna County as recommended annually by the Leasure family.

## **Mary K. Leasure Fund**

In memory of Mary Leasure, who greatly enjoyed the beauty of Salt Springs State Park. Provides grants for the maintenance of Salt Springs State Park, and especially for the upkeep of the Mary K. Leasure Memorial Bench.

## **William and Deborah Lewis Fund**

Supports non-profit organizations in Susquehanna County as recommended annually by the Lewis family of Montrose.

## **Marian and John Miskell Family Fund**

Supports non-profit organizations in Susquehanna County as recommended annually by the Miskell family of Montrose.

## **The Montrose Fund**

This fund has been established by The Community Foundation to make annual grants to the Borough of Montrose to offset lost tax revenue because of the Foundation's non-profit tax exempt status. It is hoped additional local non-profits will also contribute to the fund.

## **Montrose United Methodist Church Music Endowment**

Established by Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Stone to assist with expenses related to the church choir and general music activities at the Montrose UMC.

## **Montrose Area Chamber of Commerce Pauline MacNeal Memorial Scholarship Fund**

Established by the Montrose Area Chamber of Commerce to honor past member Mrs. Pauline MacNeal and to provide college tuition assistance to graduates of Elk Lake and Montrose Area School Districts who will major in a business related field.

## **Montrose Business and Professional Women's Scholarship Fund**

Provides a college scholarship to a High School graduate from Susquehanna County who will further his or her education in preparation for entering the business or health care professions, or to an adult seeking further education. This scholarship will not be awarded in 2009 while the fund matures in value. Tax-deductible donations to the fund are always welcome.

## **Montrose Cemetery Association Endowment Fund**

Established by the Cemetery Association to assist with the expenses of operating the Montrose Cemetery.

## **Mountain View School District Alumni Association Scholarship Fund**

Provides a college scholarship to a Mountain View student in good standing who will matriculate at college or a post secondary degree program.

## **Mountain View School District Library Fund**

Established Mark Wilmot of Union Dale to provide support to the Libraries in the Mountain View Elementary School and High School.

## **Eileen and Gregory Myer Fund**

Supports low income housing projects in Susquehanna County.

## **The Claire Williams O'Neil Foundation Scholarship**

The Claire Williams O'Neil Foundation was established by the family of Mrs. O'Neil who was an admired and inspirational teacher in Susquehanna. The Foundation provides a college scholarship to Susquehanna Community students who exhibit extraordinary goals, but who might otherwise have difficulty attending the highest quality universities to further their education. Click here to link to The O'Neil Foundation's web site for more information.

## **Rita and Haskell Oakes Memorial Fund**

Established by Joe and Kathy Andre in memory of Kathy's parents, to benefit the Montrose United Methodist Church or another charitable organization recommended by the Andre family.

## **Oriental Grange of Mill City Fund**

Established by the Oriental Grange to support projects and initiatives that will encourage an interest in agriculture among young people in Wyoming County.

## **Peoples National Bank Fund**

Supports business leadership development programs in Susquehanna and Wyoming Counties.

## **Morgan R. Potter Memorial Scholarship Fund**

In memory of Morgan Potter, a college student who passed away unexpectedly. Provides a college scholarship to a Montrose High School graduate who exhibits school spirit and has maintained good grades.

## **Albert M. Purdy Music Scholarship Fund**

Established by the Tunkhannock Area High School Band Boosters Association in honor of retired teacher Albert Purdy. Provides a college scholarship to a Tunkhannock graduate who will study the musical arts.



## **Jonathan Randall Memorial Fund**

In memory of Jonathan Randall, who was killed in the World Trade Towers, September 11, 2001. Provides grants to charitable agencies as recommended annually by the Randall family of Silver Lake.

## **Ricci Family Fund**

Supports various non-profit organizations as recommended annually by the Daniel Ricci family of Montrose.

## **Edward L. Rose Conservancy Fund**

Supports the programmatic needs of the Edward L. Rose Conservancy of Susquehanna County.

## **Nicholas Severcool Memorial Scholarship Fund**

Provides a college scholarship to a Montrose High School student who has overcome personal adversity in order to graduate and go onto a postsecondary degree program.

## **Dr. W. Dayton Shelly Memorial Music Scholarship Fund**

Established by the family and friends of Dr. Shelly to memorialize his love of music, this fund grants a scholarship to a graduating Tunkhannock Area High School senior who has exhibited a life-long love and appreciation of music.

## **Andrew F. Sienko Sr. Memorial Fund**

Established by the Sienko family to provide support for the Andrew F. Sienko Memorial Nature Trail at Blue Ridge School District.

## **Silver Lake Ladies Club Fund**

Supports the Club's annual college scholarship presented to a High School graduate from Silver Lake Township, or other Club projects.

## **Andrew M. Snitzer Memorial Scholarship Fund**

Provides a college scholarship to a Blue Ridge High School graduate of high moral character who will attend college to train for a career in education.

## **Margaret Stone Music Scholarship Endowment**

Established by Mrs. Stone, Houghton College class of '45, to assist a Music Major attending her alma mater.

## **Susquehanna County Christmas Basketball Tournament Scholarship Fund**

Established by the school districts in Susquehanna County to provide college scholarships to students from the teams that participate in the Annual Susquehanna County Christmas Basketball Tournament every December. This scholarship will not be awarded in 2009 while the fund matures in value. Tax-deductible donations to the fund are always welcome.

## **Susquehanna County Historical Society & Free Library Association Endowment Fund**

This endowment has existed for a number of years, and in 2007 the Board of the Library and Historical Society transferred it to The Community Foundation for local management. The endowment assists with the expenses of operating the Historical Society in Montrose, and the Library branches throughout the county.

## **Susquehanna Beekeepers Education Endowment**

Established by the Susquehanna Beekeepers Association to assist with their education programs for young people.

## **Susquehanna County Civil War Monument Fund**

Supports the restoration and maintenance of the Civil War Monument on the Montrose Green.

## **Susquehanna Fire Department Fund**

Assists with the operational expenses of the Susquehanna Fire Department

## **Technology for Tomorrow Scholarship Fund**

Established anonymously by a Montrose family, this endowment provides a scholarship for a graduating Montrose Area High School Senior who will enter a post secondary degree program for technology or industrial arts training. Student must be in good standing, display good character and citizenship qualities. The student's grades and financial need may also be considered.

## **Jessie Osgood Tourje Memorial Fund**

Established by the Tourje family of Forest City in memory of their mother and grandmother. Provides annual grants to Blue Ridge, Forest City, Mountain View, and Susquehanna Community School Districts.

## **Tunkhannock Public Library Endowment**

Established by the Board of Directors of the Library, this endowment will provide permanent annual support to assist with the library's expenses.

## **Mary M. Umlauf Memorial Fund**

Supports the Lanesboro Community Church.

## **United Way Fund**

Provides grants to the United Way of Susquehanna County.

## **Frank J. Valvano Memorial Scholarship Fund**

Established in memory of Frank J. Valvano, a retired Tunkhannock Area School District administrator, who passed away in a tragic motorcycle accident while en route back to the Milton Hershey School where he was a house parent. Provides a scholarship to a Tunkhannock Area graduate who is a good, solid student, and who exemplifies Valvano's outstanding character and varied interests.

## **Kermit Van Cott Horticulture Scholarship Fund**

Established by the Van Cott family in honor of their father, Kermit, a long-time nurseryman from New Milford. Provides a college scholarship to a Blue Ridge High School graduate who exhibits an appreciation for our natural environment and who has an economic need for assistance.

## **Matthew Van Fleet Memorial Automotive Scholarship Fund**

Established by Matthew's parents and his sister, along with students and teachers from Lackawanna Trail in memory of Matt who passed away in an automobile accident. The scholarship provides assistance to a Lackawanna Trail graduate who will study automotive technology and who writes a winning essay about why he or she has chosen that field and also addresses the future of automotive technology.

## **Vicki's Fund for the Prevention of Domestic Violence**

In memory of Vicki Clary, killed by her estranged husband. Provides support to the Susquehanna County Women's Resource Center.

## **John J. and Ann Vitale Scholarship Fund**

Available to alumni from the six school districts in Susquehanna County who are in their final year of college or graduate school and who have incurred student debt.

## **Robert and Katharine Warriner Fund**

Established by Mr. and Mrs. Warriner of Elk Lake to support agricultural heritage and cultural programs in Susquehanna County.

## **Wellness Fund**

Established to encourage an understanding of complimentary and alternative health and wellness by providing support to The Self Discovery Wellness Arts Center in Montrose.

## **Mathew James White Memorial Scholarship Fund**

In memory of Mathew White, a High School student killed in an automobile accident. Provides a college scholarship to a Montrose High School graduate who writes a winning essay about the hazards of adolescent substance abuse.

## **Robert Wood Memorial Scholarship Fund**

In memory of Robert Wood, who in 1955 started the Montrose Minute Men Ambulance Service. Provides a college scholarship to a Montrose High School graduate who will study the medical professions or become a Paramedic.

## **June J. Wootton Fund for Hospice and Palliative Care**

Supports hospice and palliative care in Susquehanna and Wyoming Counties.

## **Earle and June Wootton Fund**

Supports non-profit organizations in Susquehanna and Wyoming Counties as recommended annually by the Wootton family of Montrose.

## **Ruth Taylor Yeager Memorial Fund**

Established by the family of Mrs. Yeager, who was a long-time special needs teacher to socially and emotionally challenged children. The endowment provides assistance for special needs individuals to attend Sky Lake Camp as recommended by the camp's Director and the Trustees of the Montrose United Methodist Church.

## **Clair Young Memorial Endowment for Youth Workforce Development**

Established by the family of Mr. Young who retired as the Blue Ridge High School Principal in 1982. The endowment provides support to the Trehab Agency to assist with workforce development for a Blue Ridge graduate who will seek immediate employment rather than entering college.

## **Young Musicians Fund**

Established by the Music Department of the Tunkhannock Area School District. This fund helps provide assistance for 5th Grade students from low income families to rent musical instruments.

The Community Foundations manages endowments for the following school districts that provide college scholarships to graduates as well as support for educational projects within the districts themselves.

- **Blue Ridge School District Foundation**
- **Elk Lake School District Foundation**
- **Lackawanna Trail School District Foundation**
- **Montrose Area School District Foundation**
- **Mountain View Alumni Funds**
- **Susquehanna Community School District Foundation**
- **Tunkhannock Area School District Foundation**

## LEGACY SOCIETY

### The Community Foundation Legacy Society

Our Legacy Society exists to formally recognize those who have generously remembered their favorite charity when making their estate plans. A simple clause in a Will stating that a Fund will be established, and a Letter of Instruction outlining one's priorities, is all that is necessary. Upon the settlement of an estate The Community Foundation will establish a Fund to provide perpetual assistance to whatever cause or charitable organization was stipulated in the Will. To recognize the forethought of Legacy Society members, and to extend a public thanks, The Community Foundation will host annual events in honor of Society members. An individual, or that person's attorney, may contact The Community Foundation for more information about remembering one's favorite charity in a Will. The following organizations have established Legacy Societies Chapters with The Community Foundation.

#### **Edward L. Rose Conservancy of Susquehanna County**

Patty Bloomer, a Board member of the Rose Conservancy, has agreed to serve as Chairwoman of the Conservancy's Chapter of our Legacy Society. The Community Foundation greatly looks forward to working with Patty and others in developing long-lasting support for the Conservancy.

#### **The Friends of Salt Springs Park**

Toby Anderson, a Board member of The Friends of Salt Springs Park, has agreed to serve as Chairman of the Friends' Chapter of our Legacy Society. The Community Foundation greatly looks forward to working with Toby and his Advisory Board members Debra Adleman, Bruce McNaught, and Hedi Randall in developing long-lasting support for Salt Springs Park.

Legacy Society Members: Bruce McNaught: Member Since October 26, 2007, Nancy Wottrich: Member Since October 26, 2007, Charles & Hedi Randall: Member Since January 10, 2008

#### **The Tunkhannock Public Library**

Tunkhannock Public Library Board Member, and Community Foundation Board Member, Mrs. Maggie Cartwright has the distinction of being the very first member of our very first Legacy Society to serve a non-profit organization in Wyoming County. We thank Maggie for her caring and foresight and invite others to follow her example in helping to provide permanent support for a valuable asset in our community.

Legacy Society Member: Maggie Cartwright: Member Since August 1, 2008



Go to our Web site for updated

# Community Foundation:

- News and Events
- Scholarships
- Memorials
- Honorary Funds
- Legacy Societies
- School District Endowments
- People and Purpose

The Community Foundation web site received 288,820 visitors within the last year.

[www.community-foundation.org](http://www.community-foundation.org)

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