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RICHLAND COUNTY FOUNDATION

Our Community Newsletter • Spring 2009



Ohio Bird Sanctuary received a 2008 Summertime Kids grant for "Nature Camp." The program gave over 40 children (many from Friendly House) the opportunity to explore and develop a curiosity of the natural world.

Ohio Bird Sanctuary Purchase Preserves Portion of Camp Avery Hand

The Ohio Bird Sanctuary (OBS) has purchased 71 acres of the former Camp Avery Hand from the Heart of Ohio Boy Scout Council. The purchase includes the 56 acres on which OBS is currently situated, and an additional 15 acres. Richland County Foundation granted \$33,000 to provide the final dollars needed to complete the purchase.

As part of the agreement, The Richland County Park District will retain a conservation easement, which will ensure that the property remains a nature preserve and environmental learning center. Another

provision will allow the property to revert to the City of Mansfield if OBS ceases to exist. The additional acreage provides a natural geographic boundary and includes the former Boy Scout dining hall, which the Sanctuary plans to renovate in order to host larger school groups, coach tours and corporate retreats.

"When we learned that the Scout Council was planning to sell the camp we were concerned about the future of the Sanctuary. The purchase of the land will provide a permanent place for the Sanctuary and protect the land from development," said Gail Laux, Ohio Bird Sanctuary Executive Director.

Over the years, individuals, corporations, and foundations have invested significant resources and time to support the Ohio Bird Sanctuary. It has become part of the fabric of our community by providing educational programs and outdoor recreation. Through strategic planning and a committed group of volunteers, it has grown from hosting 30 programs a year to 350 programs, including eight weeks of nature camps.

The \$446,200 purchase price was raised from local donors together with The Wallis Foundation, The Hire Family Foundation, Richland County Foundation, and the Clean Ohio Fund.

Dick Walters, chair of the Richland County Foundation Distribution Committee that reviews grants, commented, "We are impressed by the leadership of the Sanctuary. They have been successful in maintaining their annual operations and increasing their outreach as a debt-free organization."



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MARCH

Fri 13 – 5:00 pm

Due date for TAP (Classroom Teachers) applications

Sat 28 – 7:00 pm

CONNECTIONS Spring Fling for members and prospective members

APRIL

Wed 1 – 5:00 pm

Due date for college scholarship applications

Tues 14 –

11:30 am – 1:00 pm

The Locally Grown and Organic Food Movement Sponsored by The Women's Fund at Café on Main, downtown Mansfield

MAY

Fri 1 – 5:00 pm

Due date for general grant applications for June decision

Mon 4 – 11:45 am

Annual Meeting of Richland County Foundation - Holiday Inn

Mon 25

Foundation office closed for Memorial Day

JUNE

Wed 3 –

1:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Basic Grantwriting at Mansfield-Richland County Public Library

2008 Financial Highlights

Total gifts received for various charitable purposes were \$2,526,143 and came from 1,587 separate gifts. The Foundation is responsible for 302 separate component funds, each of which has its own charitable direction established by the donor. Foundation assets as of December 31, 2008 were \$63,331,262.

Six new funds established in 2008

Charles V. and Constance D. Adair, Donor Advised Fund

Leona M. Miles Fund, directed to support crippled children

Richland Newhope Fund II, Agency Endowment

Croghan Family Fund for Renaissance Performing Arts

Croghan Family Fund for Richland Academy

Marilyn A. Wilson Scholarship Fund

Grants Awarded

\$3,025,500 in grants was paid to community charitable organizations from funds established at the Foundation.

Two New Funds Established in 2009

Emily Brown established the Charles Gailey Brown and Emily Campbell Brown Scholarship Fund shortly before her death on February 2, 2009. The Foundation

has received dozens of donations, from throughout the country in her memory.

In January, the Mansfield Civitan Club established the Mansfield Civitan Club Fund.

Sally Ford, Civitan President, said, "Our club has been in this community for nearly 50 years. We have always worked hard and have done a lot of good things. We want to be sure we continue to do good for ever."

College Scholarship Applications Due April 1

The final day to submit applications for undergraduate college scholarships is Wednesday, April 1, 2009. Applications and guidelines are available on the Richland County Foundation website at www.rcfoundation.org.

Who can apply? Students who are residents of Richland County and are attending or planning to attend an accredited college or university on a full-time basis, demonstrate a minimum grade point average, and show financial need.



Trustee Betty Wells, President Pam Siegenthaler, and Trustee Cathy Stimpert presented scholarships at the 2008 freshman awards program.

Support Charity and Receive Income for Life . . . through a Charitable Gift Annuity

What is a charitable gift annuity? It is a way for individuals to give a gift to charity, reduce taxes, and receive income from the annuity for life. It is an ideal plan for those who would like to make a significant gift but depend on the income from their assets. During these times of economic uncertainty, guaranteed rates for individuals 65 and older of 5.3% to 9.5% compare favorably with other cash-like investments.

How does it work?

A Charitable Gift Annuity is a simple contract between a donor(s) and Richland County Foundation. In exchange for a contribution of \$10,000 or more, the Foundation promises to make fixed payments for life to one or two annuitants. The Foundation invests and manages

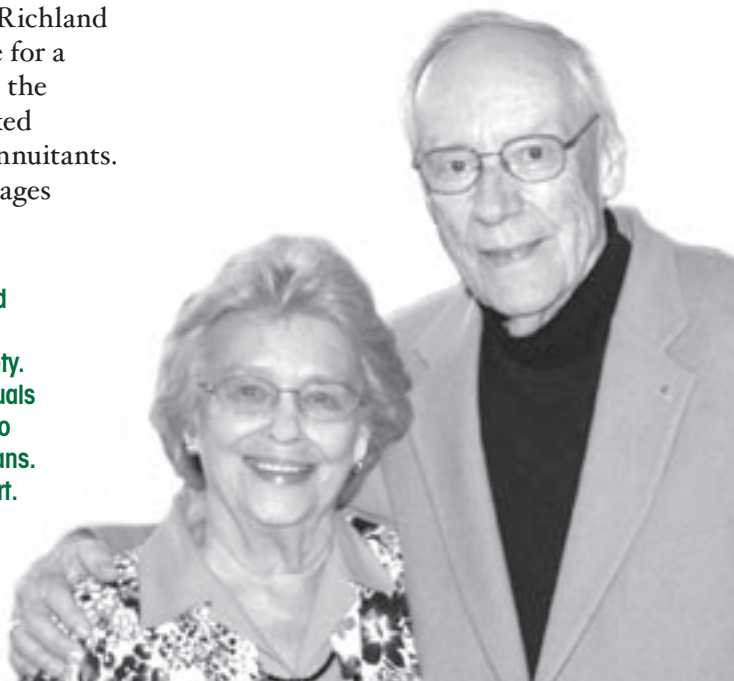
When Bob and Peg Soulen established a Charitable Gift Annuity in 2008 they became members of the Legacy Society. The Legacy Society recognizes individuals who have made plans to leave a gift to the community through their estate plans. Members are listed in the annual report.

the contribution. When the last annuity payment is made, the remainder of the contribution is used to support the charitable interests identified by the donor.

Is a Charitable Gift Annuity Safe?

A charitable gift annuity is safe because it is backed by the full resources of the Foundation.

To review an annuity payment schedule, based on your age, you may visit our website at www.rcfoundation.org. To find out more call the Foundation office at 419.525.3020.



Annual Meeting Announcement

*Richland County
Foundation 64th
Annual Meeting for
election of trustees and
2008 reports.*

Monday, May 4, 2009

11:45 am

Holiday Inn

*Please call the
Foundation office at
419.525.3020. Cost for
the lunch meeting is
\$20.00.*

2008 Annual Report Available May 4, 2009

*The 2008 annual
report can be viewed
or downloaded at
www.rcfoundation.org.
You may also request
a copy by calling the
Foundation office at
419.525.3020.*

Your Gifts Now Accepted Online!

Donations by credit card can now be accepted on the Foundation website by going to www.rcfoundation.org. The process is safe and secure with credit card information processed through PayPal™. (Note: One does not need a PayPal account to make a contribution.)

Annual Grants from Agency Endowed and Agency Designated Funds

In spite of current economics that have reduced Foundation endowments, the Board of Trustees held to the same spending policy that has been in effect for several years. The decision was made with the understanding that needs of the recipient agencies are greater than ever.

\$331,157 in grants to 15 organizations were approved for 2009

Children's Theatre Foundation
First Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.),
Mansfield, Ohio
Mansfield Area Y
Mansfield Cancer Foundation
Mansfield Art Center
Mansfield Playhouse
North Central State College

Ohio Bird Sanctuary
Ontario Public Schools
OSU-Mansfield
Renaissance Performing Arts
Richland Academy
Richland Carrousel Park
Richland County Historical Society
United Way of Richland County

Community Grants from Unrestricted Funds

Trustees Approved Grants Totaling \$88,000

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Supporting Emerging
Community Needs

When donors establish funds without restrictions or make contributions to the Community Endowment Fund, they have entrusted the board with the ability to respond to the ever-changing needs of our community.



The Bellville Bandstand is a local landmark and focal point for the Village of Bellville. Built in 1879, it is designated as a National Historic Site. There are only three of its kind left in the United States.

The following grants were awarded in December 2008 and February 2009. They are awarded through a competitive grantmaking process held six times a year and approved by the Board of Trustees.

Family Life Counseling & Psychiatric Services received \$12,500 for *Abuse-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Child Physical Abuse*. The grant will fund start-up costs for the pilot program to treat and prevent child abuse. *Granted from the Charles R. Underhill Fund.*

Mansfield Community Playhouse received \$5,000 for a *Waterline Replacement Upgrade*. The grant is part of a \$7,500 project at the historic Mansfield Playhouse to update plumbing and install an additional water heater. *Granted from the RCF Consolidated Memorial Fund.*

Ohio Bird Sanctuary received \$33,000 for *Land Acquisition*. The grant provides final funds to purchase 71 acres of the former Camp Avery Hand property. *Granted from the Katherine C. Bristol Fund.*

Renaissance Performing Arts received \$2,500 for *Artspace Feasibility Study*. The grant will provide final dollars for a feasibility study to create living spaces and galleries for 24 artists in downtown Mansfield. The study will be conducted by the nonprofit organization, "Artspace." *Granted from the David N. and Miriam G. Feiser Memorial Fund.*

St. Peter's School received \$20,000 for an *Elevator Upgrade*. The grant is part of a \$217,500 project to repair the elevator serving a day care and latch key program for the general public. *Granted from the RCF Consolidated Memorial Fund.*

Village of Bellville will receive up to \$15,000 for the *Bellville Bandstand Restoration Project*. The challenge grant will provide a \$1 to \$1 match, up to \$15,000 to help fund renovation and repair of the Bellville landmark. *Granted from the Howard and Majoria S. Smith – Bellville Community Fund.*

Teachers Attend Grant Writing Workshop

Teachers from local school districts attended a workshop at the Richland County Foundation office to learn about the Teacher Assistance Program (TAP) and how to apply for a grant. The annual program provides grants up to \$1,000 to teachers who develop creative and interesting new programs, projects and events for K-12 classrooms.

Applications are due March 13. An awards program will be held at the Mansfield/Richland County Library on May 27.

Program Officer Becky Smith reviews grant guidelines during workshop for local teachers.



"Dream Team" Breaks Ground for Rehab Center



The ground-breaking ceremony for the (new) New Beginnings drug and alcohol residential and treatment facility was held January 26, 2009. The new facility is being funded as part of a \$3 million campaign that also includes renovations and new equipment for the Rehab Center.

In addition to the \$350,000 awarded from unrestricted funds, eleven donors suggested grants from Foundation Donor Advised Funds.

2009 Grant Application Schedule

General Grants

Applications are due Friday at 5 pm on the following dates:

May 1

July 3

September 4

November 6

Special Programs

Individual Assistance, March 6 and Sept. 4

Teacher Assistance Program, March 13

College Scholarships, April 1

The Women's Fund, September 18

Connections Fund, November 6

Members of the "Dream Team" capital campaign committee are pictured left. Standing left to right, Rep. Jay Goyal, Grant Milliron, Chan Stevens (campaign chair), Rev. Cliff Shutjer, and Dave Carto. Not pictured are Gayle Gorman Freeman, Lydia Reid, Dick Taylor, and Jon Taylor.

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Connections Awards Grants for Education

at the Richland County Foundation

A total of \$6,310 in grants were awarded at the Connections Winter Gala on Saturday, January 24. The evening program was held at the Renaissance Theatre and was attended by grantees, guests, and Connections members.

Discovery School *Distance Learning Field Trips* - Program includes an interactive package of seven electronic field trips to Colonial Williamsburg to enhance the experience for students studying Social Studies pertinent to the American history unit.

Mansfield City Schools –Newman Elementary *Tyger Totes that Teach* - Grant provides totes, books, and math manipulatives to improve 2nd and 3rd grade math and reading skills.

Mansfield City Schools – Prospect Elementary *Prospect School - Where Everybody is Somebody* - Program provides positive reinforcement for acceptable behavior and improved academic performance through an awards program and interaction with role models.



Connections co-chair Terri Hamilton and Foundation President Pam Siegenthaler present grant award to Lisa Cook, Head of Discovery School.

Mansfield City Schools –Newman Elementary *Phonics, Fluency and Fun* - Program focuses on important components of reading: phonics, phonemic awareness, vocabulary, comprehension and fluency. The target group is beginning readers.

Mansfield City Schools –Newman Elementary *Phonics First Reading Foundation* - Grant provides materials essential for students (K-3rd grade) to better develop the core competencies necessary to read and spell.

Mansfield City Schools –Newman Elementary *Help Me Read Headphones* Program for pre-K -3rd grades, was developed based on studies that demonstrate struggling readers improve through reading books and having them read back to them.

Mohican School in the Out-of-Doors *Education In Nature* - Grant supports Mohican School partnership with 5 Richland County schools, which have expressed interest in visiting for day-long experiences.

Renaissance Performing Arts *Playwriting at the Ren* - Program provides workshops to kids in grades 6–12 to develop their play-writing skills.

Co-chair Terri Hamilton commented, "It is through our pooled resources that we can support special programs that might not otherwise have been possible."

Mark Your Calendar! CONNECTIONS SPRING FLING

Connections Advisory Committee is hosting a social event for members, friends, colleagues, and prospective members at the Mansfield Art Center on Saturday, March 28 at 7:00 p.m. RSVP at the Foundation, by phone: 419.525.3020 or by email: kjohnston@rcfoundation.org

The Women's Fund Awards \$15,800 in Grants

At their annual fall luncheon, the Advisory committee of The Women's Fund at Richland County Foundation awarded grants to 10 public charities for unique programs that benefit women and girls.

Catholic Charities Women's LifeSkills Workshop – Program includes basic money management, household management, and technical management tools for female clients.

Center for Individual and Family Services Ladies in Recovery – Program addresses chemical addiction and mental health issues.

Center for Individual and Family Services The Women's Group – Program provides an opportunity for participants to try new activities, learn new skills, meet a variety of people, and share their knowledge and skills with peers.

Central City Economic Development Community Action Council Women's Empowerment Project – Program includes a seminar offering encouragement, guidance, mentoring and greater insight into the women's strengths which include leadership abilities as well as interpersonal and communication skills.

Community Action for Capable Youth (CACY) Sisters Inspiring Sisters (SIS) – CACY Prevention Educators will utilize the evidence-based LifeSkills training lessons on anti-bullying conflict resolution, coping with anxiety and stress, communication and social skills, during weekly group meetings.

Community Health Access Project, Inc. (CHAP) Early Infant Assistance – Grant dollars will be used to purchase needed diapers and formula as part of a program to help pregnant women and newborn babies.



Women's Fund donors, (left to right) Pat Schutjer, Nancie Cummins, Fran Welsh, and Sallie Rohm, at annual grant award luncheon.

Culliver Reading Center ARTEE Art Empowerment Experiences – Program will offer women ages 8-17 the opportunity to engage in a variety of art experiences.

Harmony House Enrich, Enhance, Empower – Women living at Harmony House will participate in workshops on assertiveness skills, health and fitness, dressing appropriately for specific occasions, etiquette, and manners.

Rehabilitation Center of North Central Ohio Rehab Renewal Campaign Grant will enable the Rehab Center to provide a mother & baby room at the New Beginnings facility.

Visiting Nurses Association of Mid-Ohio (VNA) Home Health Aide Training for STNA Credentials – Training program to help new employees succeed in care-giving and prepare for a statewide-recognized credential in patient care. The sessions are designed to help translate informal abilities learned through caring for family members into a viable set of job skills.

The Locally Grown and Organic Food Movement

Join The Women's Fund for what is bound to be a lively and informative discussion. Four panelists will share their knowledge and take questions about the importance of buying local and organic products, where they can be purchased, and trends both here and around the country.

Tuesday, April 14, 2009,
11:30 a.m to 1:00 p.m.

Café on Main, Downtown
Mansfield

Cost: \$8.50 for a
soup and salad buffet.
Reservations and payment
due by Friday, April 10.
Call the Foundation office
for more information or
download a reservation
form from our website at
www.rcfoundation.org.

Honoring Someone Special for Mother's Day

Donors can make gifts in honor or in memory of their mother, daughters, sisters, friends, or any special women in their lives. Last year \$7,000 was raised from the Mother's Day campaign to support *The Women's Fund*. Gifts can be made online at www.rcfoundation.org or through the Foundation office. Please make your gift by April 30, to ensure your honoree(s) receive acknowledgement before Mother's Day.



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The Richland County Foundation is recognized for having organizational and financial practices that are in compliance with National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations.

GRANTS FROM DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

\$352,525 approved to the following local organizations as suggested by the donors.

American Red Cross
Ashland University
Big Brothers/Big Sisters
Boy Scouts Heart of Ohio Council
Crawford County Community
Action Center
Culliver Reading Center
Domestic Violence Shelter
Friendly House
Galion Area United Way
Galion Community Center YMCA
Galion Community Hospital
Galion Kiwanis Club
Habitat for Humanity
Hospice of North Central Ohio
Humane Society of Richland County
Kid's Connection of Ohio, Inc.

Mansfield Christian School
MedCentral College of Nursing
MedCentral Health System
North Central State College Foundation
Ohio Bird Sanctuary
Raemelton Therapeutic Equestrian Center
Rehabilitation Service of
North Central Ohio
Renaissance Performing Arts
Richland Academy of the Arts
Richland County Children Services
Shelby Helpline Ministries
The Salvation Army
The Women's Fund at
Richland County Foundation
United Way of Richland County
Volunteers of America



Kid's Connection Girls Empowerment Program