As the year draws to an end, many people are consumed with holiday plans and shopping. You might want to include a plan for charitable giving. Gifts to the Richland County Foundation present charitable and tax related opportunities and can be applied in a variety of ways. Donations can be made to endowment funds that provide a lasting resource for current and future charitable giving in our community. Our endowment funds serve a broad range of charitable purposes including health and human services, education, children and families, community development, economic development, arts and culture, and environment.

Donor advised funds are preferred by many because the donor can recommend grant distributions to qualified charitable organizations subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees. This type of fund, as well as all other funds, benefits from the investment returns of our professionally managed portfolio.

A choice for gift and estate planning is a charitable gift annuity. The purchase of a charitable gift annuity guarantees fixed payments for the life, or joint lives, of the donor. Upon the death of the last annuitant, the Foundation receives the remainder of the funds. The annuity purchase qualifies as a tax-deductible charitable gift at the date of purchase based on an accepted formula.

The IRS provision allowing individuals age 70-1/2 or older to make tax-free gifts from their IRAs to charitable organizations expired on December 31, 2013. Congress may act to reinstate the provision by the end of the year, although this is uncertain.

Estate planning involving the Foundation has, over the years, served an important role in providing for a lasting legacy for many donors and their families through the establishment of named endowment funds on their behalf. Charitable bequests, charitable remainder trusts, charitable lead trusts, and gifts from retirement plans and life insurance policies are just some of the options available.

Any gift to the Foundation is considered an irrevocable and tax-deductible gift at the time the gift is made. Other than cash, the value of the gift is measured according to its fair market value. For gifts of securities, fair market value is determined by the stock market exchange price on the day of the gift. For gifts of real estate, artwork, and other collectibles, an appraisal establishes the value of the gift.

Additional tax savings exist for gifts held for more than one year of appreciated securities and real estate held for investment, otherwise known as capital assets. Appreciated gifts of this type generally allow the donor to avoid tax on the capital gain portion that would normally apply if the property were sold, while realizing a charitable deduction for the full market price. Appreciated gifts of capital assets held for less than one year are limited to their cost basis.

Gifts of artwork and other collectibles are subject to limitations on their deductibility due to the IRS rules of unrelated use. Generally, the tax deduction for gifts of artwork and collectibles to the Foundation is the lesser of the cost or fair market value.

Your charitable giving decisions and goals should be reviewed with a professional advisor prior to the donation for consideration of maximizing tax savings and complying with IRS rules and regulations. Proper planning may result in significant tax savings.
The Fran and Warren Rupp Fund supported 22 interns to work and learn at local non-profit organizations. Morgan George, North Central State College graphic design student, interned at the Richland County Foundation and helped with marketing materials and the website.

Here is a list of the non-profit organizations and interns.

• Bellville Neighborhood Outreach Center, Emily Cardwell
• City of Mansfield, Laura Morel
• City of Mansfield, Ocie Hill, Donyell Taylor
• Cosby Educational Heritage Center, Mallory Serrano
• Culliver Reading Center, Jonathan Bessick
• Gorman Nature Center, Brad VonBlon
• Harmony House Homeless Services, Breeaunna Adams
• Hospice of North Central Ohio, Stephanie Elgin
• Kingwood Center, Maria Bon
• Mansfield Area Y, Janna Trittschuh
• Mansfield Art Center, Olivia Glass
• Mansfield UMADAOP, Kathleen Bias
• Mary McLeod Bethune Intervention & Enrichment Center, Stefanie Stoops
• North End Community Improvement Collaborative, Kizzy Williams
• North End Community Improvement Collaborative, Kimberly Habetger
• Ohio Bird Sanctuary, Tracie Stadelman
• Ohio Bird Sanctuary, Jordann Hire
• Raemelton Therapeutic Equestrian Center, Mackenzie Miller
• Renaissance Performing Arts, Jessica James
• Richland County Foundation, Morgan George
• The Domestic Violence Shelter, Morgan Gongwer
• The Salvation Army, Tori Watkins

Students at Malabar Intermediate School will benefit from a $94,000 grant from the Fran and Warren Rupp Fund. $62,000 from the grant funds a Go Math program, $25,000 is for field trips, $5,000 goes to tutoring and $1,500 is for projectors. One of the field trips took students to Columbus in October to visit the main campus of The Ohio State University.

A Teacher Assistance Program Grant helped Shelby Whippet News purchase a GoPro camera and drone to capture video for its newscasts. Seventh graders Swade Cirata and Jaden Sickmiller are the drone pilots.

High-tech teaching at The Ohio State University—Mansfield Campus. Jaime Cruse and Ally Taylor work together during a Comparative Studies course taught by Associate Professor Steven Joyce in the Richland County Foundation Learning Collaborative classroom.
Earlier this year the North Central Ohio Land Conservancy received a $20,000 Foundation grant to purchase 23 acres of land to complete an extended trail system in the Clearfork River Valley for use by the general public. This photo shows the beauty of the land in southern Richland County.

Congratulations to the City of Shelby on its newest park, the Black Fork Commons. An area ravaged by floods has been transformed into a park that includes an amphitheater and trails. A Shelby park levy funded most of the cost along with state and local grants including one from the Foundation. Shelby Mayor Marilyn John and Park Board members break ground for the new park.

OhioHealth-MedCentral Heart Success received a $7,000 grant for its Heart Success disease management program. It educates patients about heart failure symptoms, risk factor modification, medications and a healthy lifestyle. Cardiac Educator Kay Truax talks to Robert Linton of Mansfield about monitoring his health.

The New Store received a $10,000 grant to provide campus wear uniforms to Richland County students in kindergarten through 8th grade who are referred by their school principal based on financial need. Volunteer Rick Sjostedt helps Todd Bryant select a shirt.

Third Street Family Health Services opened its pediatric practice this year at Catalyst Life Services Center on Sterkel Blvd. with the help of a 2013 Foundation grant. The practice is led by Dr. Jessica Aderman who is pictured with TSFHS CEO Jared Pollack and Foundation President Brady Groves.
New Initiative Supports Nonprofits

The Foundation Board of Trustees approved $96,450 to establish a nonprofit capacity building and support program to serve as an informational resource and act as a catalyst to encourage stronger collaboration in the community during its October meeting.

The new initiative was named the Osborne Meese Academy to honor the Foundation’s founding father.

The idea for a nonprofit capacity building program was the result of a community meeting hosted by the Foundation in March followed by a Board of Trustees retreat. Additional meetings and a survey were conducted by the Foundation to discover nonprofit agency support needs.

Local foundation staff also visited and gathered information on best practices from other foundations in Ohio with nonprofit capacity building programs.

Foundation President Bradford Groves said, “This is a perfect way to recognize the work done by Osborne Meese at the beginning of the Foundation. He believed in and was passionate about this community. It is not just about what can be done today, it’s about helping agencies fulfill their mission and improve over time to positively impact people.”

The Osborne Meese Academy encompasses three key components: education, professional support and grant writing assistance.

In 1945 Osborne Meese rallied enough support and money to establish the Richland County Foundation. The basis for establishing the foundation was to provide all possible advantages, advancements, betterments, facilities and opportunities for the people of Richland County and vicinity.

Half-day educational workshops will be held January through November at the new home of the Foundation, 181 South Main Street. Topics such as developing a marketing and fundraising plan, engaging in collaborations and grant writing, building an effective board and identifying outcomes and measures will be explored.

Each nonprofit agency can bring two staff or board members to each session. The annual fee is $250 with the potential for financial assistance available.

Twenty nonprofit agencies will be accepted for 2015. Applications are available online at rcfoundation.org and are due December 12. For additional information call 419.525.3020.