



Neil and Carol Hamilton

#### About Hamilton Insurance

*Incorporated in 1992, Hamilton Insurance Group, Inc. and its family of agencies are leaders in providing quality protection for thousands of individuals, families and businesses throughout Ohio and in twenty other states. The Hamilton Group now operates from two locations: 1669 Lexington Avenue in Mansfield and 750 Cross Pointe Rd. Unit G in Gahanna, Ohio. Providing superior customer service and low rates along with their ability to understand customer's coverage needs drives the success of the agency.*

## Building a Legacy of Giving: A Local Couple Sets Up a Donor-Advised Fund to Support Community Impact

In a move that highlights their longstanding commitment to supporting local causes, Neil and Carol Hamilton, owners of Hamilton Insurance Group, Inc., have established a donor-advised fund with the Richland County Foundation. This generous decision will allow them to continue giving back to the community that has supported their successful business journey while also involving their adult children in the process of philanthropy.

*"I want to leave a legacy and help the community for many years to come," said Neil.*

For years, Neil and Carol have helped various nonprofits in the area, particularly those that align with their passions for entrepreneurship, youth and family, and the arts. Through their new fund, they plan to expand this support and make an even greater impact. The couple's new donor advised fund will allow them to recommend grants to local nonprofits that are close to their hearts. Over the years, they have built

relationships with many of these organizations, and now they can direct resources through their donor advised fund.

A key aspect of this fund is its ability to engage their adult children, Christine Myers, Brian and Michael Hamilton, in the decision-making process. Neil and Carol are excited to pass down the tradition of giving to the next generation and involve them in discussions about philanthropy.

During Richland Gives, an online giving event hosted by the Foundation, the Hamilton family gets together and decides which nonprofits to support. They now can use their donor advised fund during Richland Gives and pay no fees.

"We've been fortunate to build a business here, it is important to support the community that has supported us over the years," said Carol.

Through this fund, Neil and Carol hope to inspire others in the community to consider how they can make a lasting impact as well. Whether it's supporting small businesses, or addressing emerging needs, the couple's gift is a testament to the power of community and the importance of giving back.

Merris and Jean Welge are with Ontario Police Chief Tommy Hill.



## Donor Testimonial

"The Richland County Foundation has worked well for us in three ways.

- The Foundation provides several ways we can support Law Enforcement, which is very important to us.
- The Foundation provides a way to increase our income through the use of Charitable Gift Annuities.
- The Foundations provides a way to decrease our Income Tax without itemizing deductions by accepting donations directly from our RMD's thereby reducing our taxable income.

They are great to work with!"

## Foundation grants over \$8.7M last year



RCF President & CEO Allie Watson, outgoing Board of Trustees Member Jessica Gribben, and Chairman Chris Hiner at the annual meeting.

During the Richland County Foundation's annual meeting, President & CEO Allie Watson reported that the Foundation granted **\$8,771,101** in 2024. Donors continued to be very generous, and gifts for the year totaled **\$8,721,037**.

Foundation donors were most passionate about supporting community development with grants totaling **\$2,640,595**. Other sectors receiving grants were children/families/youth **\$1,618,939**, education **\$1,599,678**, arts & culture **\$1,411,118**, human services **\$877,956**, health services **\$196,736**, environment **\$191,436**, economic development **\$153,537**, and churches **\$81,106**. To review the 2024 annual report, go to [richlandcountyfoundation.org](http://richlandcountyfoundation.org).

Guest speaker Chair of the Women's Fund, Amy Hiner discussed their focus on childcare.

During the business portion of the meeting, Troy Cramer, Laurie McKeon, and Marcella Smith were approved as incoming Board of Trustees members. The following trustees will serve as officers this coming year: Chair Dr. Theresa Roth-Groth, Chair Elect Lee Tasseff, Secretary Jack Stewart, and Treasurer Dakota Durbin.

Jessica Gribben, Jason Guilliams, Barbara Zaugg-Joudrey, and Jotika Shetty completed their terms and were recognized for their dedication and service to the community.

## Supporting Local Causes: A Legacy of Generosity

In a charitable display of community support, Conn and Carol Dandareau, long-time residents of Mansfield, have taken a significant step toward ensuring the sustainability of several local nonprofits for generations to come. Through their establishment of a donor advised fund (DAF) with the Richland County Foundation, they are now actively supporting the causes they care about most—while also making plans to leave a lasting impact after their passing. The retired educators met while student teaching at Bowling Green State University. Conn taught at John Simpson Middle School in Mansfield and Carol taught at Lucas Local Schools, Crestview Local Schools, and St. Peter's School in Mansfield.

### A Donor Advised Fund for Today and Tomorrow

A donor-advised fund allows individuals and families to make charitable contributions, while retaining the ability to recommend grants to their chosen nonprofits over time. For the Dandareaus, this fund provides a way to continue their support of local causes that have been important to them throughout their lives, such as education and literacy, social services, and the arts. The flexibility and control of the DAF allows them to direct their charitable dollars in a way that aligns with their values and passions—both now and into the future.

### A Planned Gift to Support Local Organizations

In addition to their giving through the DAF, Conn and Carol have made a thoughtful decision to include several local nonprofits in their estate plans. By designating a portion of their estate to benefit these organizations, they are creating a legacy of generosity that will continue to serve the community.

*To learn more about how to create your own legacy of giving, contact Chief Advancement Officer Maura Teynor at [mteynor@rcfoundation.org](mailto:mteynor@rcfoundation.org). Together, we can make a difference.*

## Charitable Gift IRAs or Retirement Plans

A retirement plan is one of the best types of assets to transfer to a charity because it produces taxable income. Most assets that an heir inherits are free from income tax. However, an heir will pay income tax on disbursements from a decedent's retirement plan such as a profit-sharing plan, Section 401(k) plan, or IRA. If you are going to make a charitable gift, it is usually better to transfer the taxable assets subject to income tax to a tax-exempt charity — such as Richland County Foundation — and to transfer the non-taxable assets not subject to income tax to heirs.

*If you would like to make a transfer from your IRA, please contact Chief Advancement Officer Maura Teynor at [mteynor@rcfoundation.org](mailto:mteynor@rcfoundation.org) or 419-525-3020.*

### Charitable Remainder Trust

You can place cash or property in a trust that pays an annual income to you (or another named beneficiary) for life. After you pass, the remainder of the trust transfers to the community foundation and is placed into a charitable fund you have selected. You receive income tax benefits the year you establish your trust.



## Honoring Loved Ones Through the Gift of Education



Russell Patterson



Marian Patterson



Eileen Schraedly

Local donors have found a touching way to honor their parents while making a lasting impact on future generations. Bob and Jodi Schraedly, established the Schraedly-Patterson Scholarship Fund at the Richland County Foundation, ensuring that their legacies will live on through the gift of education. Three of their parents were long-time educators.

Eileen Schraedly, Bob's mother, was an elementary school teacher for forty years in the Ontario school system. She started her educational journey at Bowling Green State University and transferred to Ashland College. She earned her education degree in the 1960s.

Russell Patterson, Jodi's father, served in the United States Air Force during WWII and flew 35 missions from England over the European Continent. After that, he served at a U.S. Base in India whose mission was gasoline deliveries flying around the Himalaya Mountains into China. Following his military service, he benefited from the GI Bill to obtain an education degree from Ohio Wesleyan University. Later, he enrolled at Bowling Green State University and earned his licensure to become a school principal. He served as Madison Local School District teacher, coach, and administrator for twenty-six years.

"WWII changed my father's life; he wanted to give back in a meaningful way. That had a significant impact on his decision to pursue education as a career," said Jodi.

Marian Patterson, Jodi's mother, was a Home Economics teacher in the Cardington School District. She often used skills from the classroom to volunteer in the community.

This thoughtful act of generosity stems from the donors' desire to celebrate the values their parents cherished: hard work, dedication, and the pursuit of knowledge. By creating the scholarship fund, Bob and Jodi not only memorialize their lives but also provide opportunities for students to achieve their educational dreams — a cause that was close to their hearts.

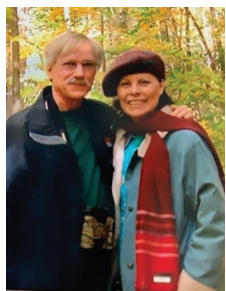
The scholarship will support Richland County students pursuing a college degree or career technical education certificate, helping to alleviate financial burdens and open doors to new possibilities.

"This fund is a way to give back to the community and to honor the incredible people who shaped our lives," the donors shared. "It's fulfilling to know their legacy will inspire and empower others for years to come."

Bob and Jodi Schraedly own Charles Mill and Pleasant Hill Marinas and have often volunteered their time in the community.

The donor leveraged his IRA for this impactful gift, taking advantage of tax benefits. The fund stands as a testament to the enduring power of philanthropy and the transformative impact of education.

*We are deeply grateful for this meaningful contribution and the opportunity to help this family's story inspire others. If you are interested in creating a legacy of your own or learning how to make a difference through your IRA, please reach out to Chief Advancement Officer Maura Teynor at [mteynor@rcfoundation.org](mailto:mteynor@rcfoundation.org).*



### A local couple's legacy

Alan and Sharon Mottayaw are helping the community with their estate gift to the Richland County

Foundation. Sharon passed away in 2023 and Alan in 2012. Their gift has established two funds at the Foundation.

The Alan and Sharon Mottayaw Fund, a designated fund, will provide grants to St. Peter's Church, where they were parishioners, and the Monsignor Dunn

Foundation to support St. Peter's School. In addition, the fund will support the Malabar Farm Foundation Fund at RCF for education and preservation projects, Ohio State University Foundation for cancer and nephrology research, and the Wayne County Agricultural Society for its horse-pulling competition during the fair.

The Alan and Sharon Mottayaw Scholarship Fund will support Richland County students with their college expenses for those pursuing a degree in engineering or performing arts.

Alan was a lifetime resident of Mansfield and formerly employed at Century Link as an IT Specialist. Family members said he was the nicest guy you would ever meet, and his

caring and patient demeanor was evident. Sharon was artistic and put her creativity into paintings, floral arrangements, dancing, and sewing.

The Richland County Foundation Legacy Society provides a way to recognize generous individuals who have included the Foundation in their estate plans. Legacy Society Donors understand that a planned gift is a simple way to contribute to the future of our community.

*If you are interested in learning more about how your estate gift could impact your community, contact Chief Advancement Officer Maura Teynor at 419-525-3020 or [mteynor@rcfoundation.org](mailto:mteynor@rcfoundation.org).*

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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## CFNS

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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.



[RichlandCountyFoundation.org](http://RichlandCountyFoundation.org)

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## Women's Fund advocates for improved childcare



Quality childcare is essential for families, yet many women face challenges in accessing reliable care. The Women's Fund of the Richland County Foundation has been investing in improving childcare locally since 2018.

Women's Fund Chairwoman Amy Hiner and Vice Chairwoman Amy Goyal were at the Ohio Statehouse with Groundwork Ohio and hundreds of others advocating for quality childcare. Access to affordable, high-quality childcare is an economic issue for women and lays the foundation for successful educational outcomes in young children ages birth to five. When women and families thrive, our community is strong and our future is bright.

WF Chairwoman Amy Hiner and Vice Chairwoman Amy Goyal at the Ohio Statehouse.



**Registration for Richland Gives, an online giving event hosted by the Richland County Foundation, will open August 1 and continue through October 31. Richland County based nonprofit organizations are eligible to participate. It is free; however, nonprofits must register each year.**

## Start planning for Richland Gives

Richland Gives is designed to encourage people to contribute to local nonprofits they care about through a single giving website. The Foundation hosts the day to build capacity, grow philanthropy and make the community stronger.

RCF will host a kickoff event Friday, October 10 from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. for nonprofits to learn marketing tips from Vinyl Marketing President Colleen Cook. This year, donors will only pay a credit card fee. The RCF Board of Trustees voted to cover the 4% platform fees.

The Richland Gives donation period is from November 17 at 7 a.m. through December 2 at 7 p.m. For more details or to donate go to [richlandgives.org](http://richlandgives.org).