

For good. For ever.

The History of the HCCF

There is a slogan that community foundations in Michigan use: "For good, for ever." That is because community foundations date back all the way to 1914 – yes, before the Great Depression. Banker and lawyer Frederick Harris Goff formed that first community foundation as the Cleveland Community Foundation.

The history of the Huron County Community Foundation is much shorter, but it has weathered the ebb and flow of changes in the economic climate.

Carl Osentoski, executive director of the Huron County Economic Development Corp, met with businessman Lowell McDonald informally and the two men discussed a dream of having a community foundation in Huron County. The concept was transformed into action when Martha Thuemmel of Port Austin, then county commissioner, came forth with \$1,000 of seed money.

It wasn't until the Kellogg Foundation of Battle Creek, however, offered grant dollars to community foundations that real growth bloomed. The goal of the HCCF was to raise \$400,000 to receive a grant of \$200,000. S. Tenney McGraw, a retired banker, launched an aggressive campaign to build the HCCF in April of 1997. He served as the first executive director of the Foundation.

Under his guiding hand, and through the generosity of individuals and businesses, the goal was reached. Significant boosts were received from the Huron Medical Center, Scheurer Hospital, the estate of Judge Neil MacCallum and Vernetta Thuemmel.

The Kellogg grant required the formation of a Youth Advisory Committee that would oversee the grant funds received so that the youth of the area would benefit. YAC continues to meet monthly during the school year, conducting grant rounds twice annually.

The HCCF complies with the National Standards of Community Foundations and those who place funds under its care are assured of careful, conscientious handling of the funds and it, like the Cleveland Community Foundation, will serve the county for generations now and to come thanks to the many contributors who want to improve the quality of life in Huron County.

2008

Investment Strategies

Charting the course for long-term financial security

The Huron County
Community Foundation is
essentially the savings account
for the county. Contributions
that are made are invested and
only interest may be spent for
grant awards each year, so that
funds continue to benefit the
county into perpetuity.

The Managed Account Program (MAP) at Edward Jones is helping the HCCF maintain its long-term viability to the community by making wise investment choices. The HCCF works to maintain 60 percent of the funds in growth and 40 percent in income. This reflects the goals of retaining principal, providing income to match the Foundation's 5 percent spending policy, and long term growth in the fund.

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Assets

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REVENUE & EXPENSE

	2009	2008
Support & Revenue	382,138	178,106
Contributions	49,593	50,211
Investment Income	(158,923)	(48,156)
Realized Gains	120,734	(155,647)
Unrealized Gain/Loss	393,542	24,514
Total Support & Revenue	333,372	
Expenses	47,450	69,532
Grants	57,194	62,032
General/Administrative	104,644	131,564
Total Expenses	104,04	
Increase (Decrease) in	288,898	(107,050)
Net Assets	1,534,272	1,641,322
Net Assets – Oct. 1	\$1,823,170	\$1,534,272
Net Assets - Sept. 30	Ψ1,020,11	

-	INANCIAL STATEMENT
Balance Sheet	9-30-09

	Cash	2009	2008
	Investments	36,958	40.5
	Net Property & Equipment	1,816,528	43,897
	Total Assets	555	1,519,671
		1,854,041	726
	Liabilities & Net Assets	7 - 1,041	1,564,294
	Accounts Payable		
	Funds held as Agone 5	1,443	
	Net Assets	29,428	1,775
	Total Liabilities & Net Assets	1,823,170	28,247
-	- Worldes & Net Assets	4.5	1,534,272

Complete audit report and 990 tax return available. Visit our website at www.huroncountycommunityfoundation.org.

For good. For ever.

2000



Executive Director's Message

Karl Kraus

While I was in line at Care and Share this past winter to get my box filled with groceries and household items for the needy, I ran into John Moore. I have known John for a long time. We had served together on the Mental Health Board during the late 70's. John has always been a great community supporter and is currently the President of the Board of Trustees of the Huron County Community Foundation. He asked me how retirement was going and would I be interested in working with the Foundation as its Executive Director. The current Executive Director, Debbie Oglenski, was retiring to pursue an advanced degree in ministry. John and I then met with Lowell McDonald and Steve Harmon and discussed the opportunity and the Foundation's expectations. After attending the Foundation's annual meeting, I decided to give it a try. I was very impressed with the Trustees' commitment and the professionalism of both Debbie Oglenski and Amy Braun, the Foundation's operations manager.

Debbie Oglenski was very helpful during the transition to my new position and she had

established a solid base upon which to continue the work of the Foundation.

Being Executive Director has been a very challenging and rewarding experience thus far.

This past year Tom Morneau from the Huron County Sheriff Department has joined Jeanette Hagen as co-coordinator of our Youth Advisory Committee. Our thanks to Sheriff Hanson for his commitment to the youth of our community.

Notwithstanding the downturn in the stock market, the Foundation

remains on track. Distributions were made by the Foundation board on awards for YAC grants, field of interest grants, and scholarships.

Three new funds were established this past year: the Elkton-Pigeon-Bayport Laker School Fine Arts/Academic Fund, the Paul Streussnig-Murphy Bakery Scholarship Fund, and

the Clarence and Loraine Braun Scholarship Fund. Also, Dr Edward Steinhardt made a substantial addition to the Dr. Edward and Alice Steinhardt Sacred Heart Church Fund and the Steinhardt Family Science Scholarship Fund.

The Board of the Foundation promoted the Cornerstone Club. Donations by members of the Club go to support operating expenses of the Foundation and are greatly needed and appreciated.

The Huron County Community Foundation website continues to be a valuable source of information about the Foundation. You can learn about the Board of Trustees, committee membership, policies, financial information, and all of the funds administered by the Foundation. You can also download grant and scholarship applications. A new feature has been added to the website this past year. The website now has a link to process a donation to the Foundation with a credit card or Paypal at www.huroncounty communityfoundation.org.

The Foundation continues to offer estate planning seminars in a person's home with groups of about 15 friends and family. A

volunteer attorney presents the seminar while the host provides light refreshments as hospitality. There is no cost for this courtesy. Experience has shown that these seminars are very informative and helpful. Participants are provided concrete ideas as to what to consider when setting up their estates. Also, I am always available to present a program about the Foundation for civic groups. If you are interested in either an estate planning seminar or a program speaker, please give me a call.

I look forward to the challenges that face us in the coming year, the good work of our Board and the generosity of people like you who support our efforts.

One thing that I have learned, or I should say what has been reinforced to me, is the concern and generosity people have for their fellow Huron County citizens and their welfare. There a lot of good people out there who believe inFor good....For ever.

Executive Director

Mission Statement

The mission of the Huron County Community Foundation is to support the public well-being and to improve the quality of life in Huron County.

The Foundation will carry out its mission by:

- Supporting a broad range of philanthropic interests in Huron County for
- Facilitating partnerships in identifying and addressing community challenges and opportunities.
- Educating the community and promote the foundation as a means of managing charitable gifts for donors; primarily in the form of permanent
- Making grants to address constantly changing community needs while fulfilling donor intent.



Meet the Board of Trustees 2009





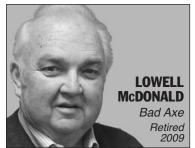




























We appreciate the time, talent corengy...













McDonald's Food & Family Center 989-269-7442







HCCF Golf Outing - May 27, 2009

The Huron County Community Foundation is grateful to all of those who participated in our annual golf outing. Whether you were an advertiser, team sponsor or enrolled in the event as an individual golfer, we want you to know that each one of you is an important supporting block in the daily workings of our foundation. You have helped to make the event a swinging success! We look forward to your continued support at our future annual golf outings.



Golf teams dodged rain showers to show their support for the Huron County Community Foundation 3rd annual golf outing at Verona Hills Golf Club.



The corporate sponsor team of AVCI - Agrivalley Communications Inc. shown, from left, are Aaron Meinhold, Jim Christner, Ed Eichler, missing Wanda Eichler.

Thanks to our corporate sponsor **Agri-Valley Communications***

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HCCF Welcomes New Funds



CLARENCE AND LORAINE BRAUN SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The family of Clarence and Loraine Braun has established a scholarship in honor of their parents.

The Brauns worked tirelessly to promote education in the county. Clarence served on the Eccles School Board and the Huron Intermediate School Board for 47 years, holding the titles of president and treasurer on both boards. He was instrumental in the building of the Huron Area Technical Center.

All 15 of the Braun children, many of whom went on to graduate with honors, received the first eight years of their education in a rural school. One-room schools remained open into the 21st Century due in part to the efforts of the Brauns and many other citizens who demonstrated their concerns in the early 1970's at the Michigan legislature when it considered closing rural schools.

To be eligible for the scholarship, which will be awarded for the first time in 2010, a student must be a graduating senior or a past graduate of a Huron County high school and either a participant of a Huron Area Technical Center program for a minimum of one-year, or have been a rural school student for at least four years. Those applying need to have a 2.5 GPA for the junior/senior high school years' performance or a minimum 3.00 GPA, if a current college student. Applicants must have been accepted into a technical or trade school or two-year or four-year college or university program. In the case of two equally qualified and deserving students, financial need will be taken into consideration.

A family spokesperson said the HCCF was chosen for establishment of the scholarship to ensure longevity of the fund and to do something positive in the name of their parents.

"We picked the technical center because Dad vigorously supported its creation, and country schools because, small as they are, they were important sources of education for my parents. They both strongly advocated keeping rural schools open," the family spokesperson said.

THE PAUL STREUSSNIG-MURPHY BAKERY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

A scholarship fund in memory of Paul F. Streussnig Sr. has been established.

Streussnig and his brother, Ted, owned Murphy's Bakery in Bad Axe, which they purchased from their parents, Raymond and Anna Streussnig. The brothers operated the business for 42 years.

Paul married Nancy (Swackhamer), in 1970. The couple enjoyed 38 years together until colon cancer claimed his life. The Streussnig's have two children: Jody and Paul Jr., both of Bad Axe. Paul Jr. is currently co-owner of Murphy's Bakery with his cousin, Raymond Streussnig.

Paul F. Streussnig Sr. served on the advisory board at the Huron Area Technical Center, beginning at its inception until his death.

To be eligible for this scholarship a student must have been a participant in the HATC food and hospitality program, preferably for two years.



Applicants must be accepted at a two-year or fouryear institution pursuing a degree in an area of food or hospitality services or a culinary trade school program. Applicants must have a grade point average of 2.0 or better and have demonstrated a consistent improvement over the course of their twoyear studies at the HATC. All students applying for this scholarship will also need to compose an essay stating what they have learned from their studies at the HATC and what their future plans are.

Nancy, Jody and Paul Jr. Streussnig all concur on the significance of this scholarship fund.

"This is a wonderful way to honor his memory," said Paul Sr.'s daughter, Jody. "The community has given so much to him over his years of being in business and this scholarship is a way our family can give back to the community that has been so good to him."

For good. For ever.

Huron County Community Foundation

YAC is comprised of youth from all area high schools. It puts the needs of children and

puts the needs of children and young people first. Based upon YAC recommendations, the Foundation awarded the following grants during the past

The **Huron County** Homeless Coalition was awarded \$1,500 to be used for assistance to the needs of the homeless.

The **Ubly Community** Schools received \$1,500 to be used to upgrade playground equipment.

Making Emergencies BEARable for Children, a program of the Huron-Sanilac EMS Network, was awarded \$1,000 to support an interactive EMS trauma reduction program for prekindergarten through fourth graders and special needs students, utilizing EMS Amanda the Panda and Andy Ambulance.

Kids Talk, a youth

awareness program sponsored by the Bad Axe Lodge 2358 Loyal Order of Moose, Inc. was awarded \$200. High

school students are selected and trained to make presentations to the children ages 4-9 on topics that have, in the past, included bullying, tobacco, alcohol and nutrition concerns, Halloween safety and self-respect.

Kids in Motion, a program to promote positive health fitness during recess at the Bad Axe Intermediate School, was



YAC members gather for their year end meeting and party. Front row, from left: Chris Hoffman, Devin Prich, Adam Heldt, Eric Labuhn, Tyler Oeschger, Nathan Sorenson. Back row, from left: Katie Jo Gentner, Elayna Wichert, Caitlin Homrich, Jodie Pettit, Emily Dropiewski.

in Port Hope received \$200 to sponsor a Social Studies Fair, featuring students' projects and foods from around the globe.

Huron Medical Center was awarded \$700 to support its Buckle Your Brain program to educate children on preventing brain and spinal cord injuries and fit children with helmets.

The **Sebewaing Public** Library was awarded \$575 to support its summer reading program designed to inform children from pre-readers through young adults about all the library has to offer.

The Harbor Beach Parks and Recreation was awarded \$115 to support the Thumber Children's Theater summer program for 5th through 10th grade students.

The Bad Axe Band Boosters was awarded \$110 to support a day long Master Musician Workshop for high school band students.



What Does

- Teaches youth the value of philanthropy
- Fosters leadership qualities
- Heightens awareness of community needs
- Takes a positive approach to improving quality of life





TELEPHONE: 989.269.2850

HCCF Announces 2009

Thirty-two scholarships, totaling \$25,600, were awarded this past spring.

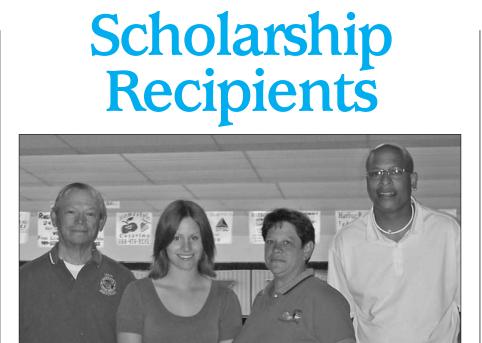
There are currently 29 scholarships with the Huron County Community Foundation. Two of those, the Kenneth W. Laughlin Accounting Scholarship and the Scheurer and B.G. Kamlapurker Medical School Scholarship, are awarded in the fall and winter.

The Judge Neil R. MacCallum Memorial Scholarships in the amount of \$750 each were awarded to Bridget Piotter of Port Hope and Cory Sobczak of Bad Axe.

Travis Volmering of the Harbor Beach School District received an \$800 award from the Steven Kuzak Memorial Golf Scholarship.

The Jason Kiehl Memorial Scholarship Fund for Huron Area Technical Center students were granted to Tyler Maschke of Bad Axe, Cody Wessels of Lakers and Josh Booms of Harbor Beach. Each received \$800.

Other scholarship recipients by school district are:



The new Maurer/Yageman Bowling Scholarship made its first awards in 2009. Shown here, from left, are Harbor Beach varsity bowling coach Herman Kammerzell, recipient Kimberly Wehner, coaches Chandra Booms, and Willie Hale.

BAD AXE: Brian Cox, the new Gib Rooney Family Scholarship, \$750; Kyle Mooney, the new Linda Rowland Drama Scholarship, \$500;

Ashley Collings, the Ervin Ignash Scholarship, \$500; Brandon Baranski, the Claude Marsh Scholarship, \$1,000; Ashley Sobczak, the Dr. Edward Steinhardt Family Science Scholarship, \$3,400; Lindsay Yaroch, the Charles Todd Music Scholarship, \$1,000; and Jennifer Morneau, the William T. Collon Scholarship, \$1,000.

The Kenneth W. Laughlin accounting scholarship was presented by Mr. Ed Moore. This year's recipients are, from left, Joshua Tshirhart and Jolene Kirsch.

CASEVILLE: Bethany Anne Grates received the Mary K. and Robert Quinn Memorial Scholarship, \$1,000; and Kevin Osentoski and Elizabeth Lalley, the Caseville Kiwanis Scholarship, \$250 each.

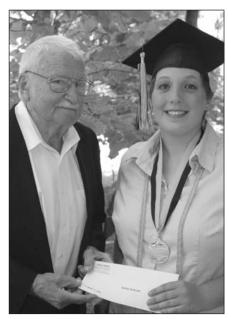
HARBOR BEACH: Eric Bischer was awarded the Harbor Beach Rotary Clement M. Kubik Scholarship, \$500; Andrea Schumacher and Emily Klaski, the William Eick School Family Scholarship, \$900 each; Jennifer Brandow, the Sgt. Aaron C. Elandt Memorial Scholarship, \$700; Katelyn Romzek, the Annabelle Jenks Scranton Scholarship, \$250; Emily Klaski, the Esther E. Lincoln Scholarship, \$1,000; and Kimberly Wehner, the new Maurer/Yageman Bowling Scholarship for \$500.

NORTH HURON: Taylor Boshart was awarded the new Maurer/Yageman Bowling Scholarship for \$500; and Joshua Picard, the new Paul F. Streussnig Murphy's Bakery Scholarship for \$250

PORT HOPE: Jessica Zick was the recipient of the Warren Eilber Family Scholarship for \$800; and Terra Pleiness, the Marla Muter Scholarship, \$500.

UBLY: Lyndsay White, Jason Schroeder, and Robert Pollum were recipients of the Betty Zulauf Academic Scholarship. Each received \$1,000. Sheila Pichla received the Francis and Opal Hund Scholarship for \$1,000.

The Huron County Community Foundation scholarships are dedicated to helping Huron County high school graduates achieve an advanced education. The generosity of scholarship donors shows their commitment to the young people of our county. We appreciate the trust and confidence placed in the Foundation to act as a vehicle for those who strive to further the education of our young people.



Dr. Edward Steinhardt presents Bad Axe senior Ashley Sobczak with the Steinhardt Family Science Scholarship Award.

HCCF Grants Fund Projects throughout the County

Huron County Community Foundation has supported the community this past year with its annual grantmaking awards. Foundation grants are made to charitable organizations in the county to meet pressing community needs. Grant awards totaled \$5,400.

Sigel Township Fire

Department was awarded \$500 to assist it in the purchase of medical equipment for its First Responder Program. Equipment that is used is replaced by the ambulance crew in each occurrence, so the project is sustainable.

The Bad Axe Band Boosters were awarded \$1.500 from the Charles & Judith Weeks Donor Advised Fund to support a day

Grant

long Master Musician Workshop for high school band students. Master Musicians from the Flint Institute of Music or the Detroit Symphony will be on hand to interact with the band students.

Sleeper State Park was awarded \$100 from the Natural Resources Preservation Fund for bluebird and wood duck nest boxes.

The Education Fund made a \$700 award to support a Laker After School Mentoring Program. This after school program involves high school students mentoring younger students in various cultural, athletic, and scientific activities.

The Suicide Prevention Coalition was awarded \$1,200 from the Huron Medical Center and the Grant Round Schedule Health & Medicine Funds to

support

YAC and the Huron County Community Foundation each offer grant rounds during the year. An announcement is posted to the website, www.huroncountycommunityfoundation.org, whenever applications are being accepted. You may also register at the website to receive an email notification of pending grant rounds.

Youth Advisory Committee funding must benefit the youth of Huron County in some way. The YAC students typically make awards two times per school year.

The Huron County Community Foundation accepts applications for a wide field of interests, from education, arts & culture, and health to recreation resources, and natural area preservation.

Those with 501 (c) (3) status, or groups that fall under another organization with that classification, are considered for grant awards. Routine operating expenses, capital equipment, computer hardware or software, vehicles, endowment campaigns, expenses normally covered by municipal government, debt obligations are not grant fundable.

programs in area schools about awareness, education, and assistance regarding preventing suicide particularly in the young population.

Thumb Industries was granted \$1,400 from the Charles & Judith Weeks Donor Advised Fund in support of its Recycling Initiative. This recycling effort will offer competitive jobs in the area, provide area residents and businesses an affordable renewable energy source, and educate students about recycling and renewable energy while keeping our landfill cleaner.











2009 Contributors

Thank you to the caring people from the area and beyond who have contributed to the Huron County Community Foundation. Your donations are helping to improve the quality of life in Huron County, for good, for ever. Remember, you may earmark your contribution to a particular fund, or you may opt to allow your contribution to go into the trust fund. Grants from the trust fund are not limited to a particular cause or endeavor.

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Alex Prill Amv Reinke-Deer Bill Haldane Chester & Mary Jane Baranski Claude Marsh **Dolores Day** Ed Plevnia Ellen Peterson Floyd Booms Frank L. Sinclair Gertrude Fisher Gib Rooney Jack MacEachin Jason Kiehl Jean Wolf John Decker John Paul Linda Rowland Clayton Maurer/Biff Yageman Nadine McGovern Nora Essenmacher Pat Lee Paul Streussnig Steven Kuzak Teresa Ladebouche Tom Clauss Tom Babcock Wendell Koehn

Wilburt Brown

Huron County Charitable Funds

Donor Advised Funds

You can have ongoing involvement in the use of your gift. You work with our program staff, identifying how to use dollars from the fund you establish to address the issues and needs you care about most. You make the recommendations; the board of trustees distributes the grant dollars.

- Charles and Judith Weeks Fund
- · Lewie & Jannette Knoblock Fund
- · Northstar Fund
- Robert Thuemmel & Matthew Keillor Fund

Designated Funds

Direct your gift specifically to YOUR church, YOUR school, YOUR charity.

- Administrative Endowment Fund of the Foundation
- Cornerstone Club Fund for Foundation operations
- Dr. Edward & Alice Steinhardt Sacred Heart Church Fund
- NEW Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port Laker Schools Fine Arts/Academic Fund
- Harbor Beach Lighthouse Preservation Society Fund
- Harbor Beach Pirates Endowment Fund
- Health & Recreation Center of Huron County
- Huron County Homeless Coalition Endowment Fund
- Huron County Nature Center Fund

- · Huron County Safe Place Fund
- Pointe Aux Barques Lighthouse Fund
- · Ubly Bearcats Endowment Fund

Scholarship Funds

There are several scholarships under the fiscal management of the HCCF. Endowments continue to grow these funds, provide for student scholarships and give the donors some tax benefit.

- Annabelle Jenks Scranton Fund for Harbor Beach Schools
- Bad Axe Rotary Nora Dowde Fund
- Betty Zulauf Academic Fund
- B.G. Kamlapurker Fund & C.A. Scheurer Hospital Fund
- · Caseville Kiwanis Fund
- · Charles H. Todd Memorial Fund
- NEW Clarence & Loraine Braun Fund
- Claude Marsh Fund for Bad Axe Schools
- Deer Acres Fund for Harbor Beach Schools
- Dr. Edward Steinhardt Family Science Fund for Bad Axe Schools
- · Warren S. Eilber Family Fund
- Ervin R. Ignash Fund for Bad Axe Schools
- Esther E. Lincoln Fund for Harbor Beach Schools
- Francis & Opal Hund Fund
- · Gib Rooney Family Fund
- Harbor Beach Rotary Clement Kubik Fund

Huron E.M.S. Tuition Fund

- Jason Kiehl Memorial Fund
- Judge Neil R. MacCallum Memorial Funds
- · Kenneth W. Laughlin Fund
- · Linda Rowland Drama Fund
- Marla Muter Fund
- Mary K & Robert Quinn Memorial Fund
- Maurer/Yageman Bowling Fund
- NEW Paul F. Streussnig Sr.-Murphy's Bakery Fund
- Robert & Verneta Thuemmel Fund
- Sgt. Aaron C. Elandt Memorial Fund
- Steven Kuzak Memorial Golf Fund
- William R. Eick School Family Fund
- · William T. Collon Fund

Unrestricted Funds

Your gift can address everchanging community needs — including future needs that often cannot be anticipated at the time your gift is made. By placing your gift in the Huron County Community Trust Fund, the Board of Trustees has the flexibility to respond to the community's most pressing needs, today and tomorrow.

Field of Interest Funds

You can target your gift to address needs in a specific area of community life. You identify your personal interest area when making your gift; the Board of Trustees awards grants to the community organizations and programs that are ___ making a difference in the area

- Amy Reinke Deer Safe Driving Fund
- Arts & Culture

you select.

- Education & Literacy
- · Health & Medical
- Huron County Economic Development Fund
- · Huron Medical Center Fund
- Natural Area Preservation
- · Recreation Resources
- · Youth YAC

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The Huron
County Community
Foundation has a
variety of giving
methods tailored to
each unique
situation. We look
forward to working
with donors and their
philanthropic
interests.

Outright Gift

You can make a gift of cash, stocks, bonds, real estate or other assets to the Foundation. Your charitable gift qualifies for tax advantages under federal and Michigan law.

Bequest by Will

You can
designate a gift or
portion of your
estate to your
community
foundation and, in
some cases, receive
a substantial
reduction in federal
gift and estate taxes.

Charitable Lead Trust

You can place cash or property into a trust that pays a fixed amount to the foundation for the number of years you select. Once this period ends, the assets held by the trust are transferred to the beneficiaries you name. In some cases, you receive a substantial reduction in federal gift and estate taxes.

Give More for Less!

Gifts to permanent endowment funds at the Huron County Community Foundation are eligible for the Michigan State Income Tax Credit as well as federal income tax deduction.

For a married couple based on a \$400 endowment contribution:

Married Couple Donation Your Gift	\$400
Your Gift	25%
Federal lax liate	(5200)
Michigan lax Oredit.	(\$100)
Michigan Tax Credit. Federal Tax Savings Net Cost of Endowed Contribution	*\$100
Net Cost of Endowed Contribution	our tay

*For illustrative purposes. Please consult your tax advisor for your specific tax benefits.

The Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port Laker Schools Fine Arts/Academic Fund



The Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port Laker Schools Fine Arts/Academic Fund is the newest member of the Huron County Community Foundation Family.

This fund, which has been established specifically to support fine arts and academics in the district, was made possible through a generous anonymous benefactor.

"This is a community that is generous and proud of its district," said Robert Smith, superintendent and alumnus of the district.

"People treat the school as part of their community, not just the school," added Mike Klosowski, district accountant and 1999 graduate of the district.

"Residents view the school district as a heritage to be passed from one generation to the next," Smith added.

Income from the fund will be used for projects such as musical instrument purchases, transportation for band performances or competitions; band uniforms; the hosting of community productions in the auditorium;

royalties for plays, as well as costumes and set construction costs; text books; technology; science equipment and eco-friendly enhancements and extra-curricular programs such as FFA.

Income from the fund will be distributed annually. A committee comprised of the superintendent, administrators, and community members at large will ensure that there is a base of support for choices made.

The newly established fund offers Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port Laker Schools' supporters and alumni a venue to make donations that are eligible for a State of Michigan tax credit and a federal tax deduction. Contributors are assured that their gift remains in the district. Donors may indicate that gifts are designated to the Laker Schools Fund and, if there is a preference, whether their gift is for fine arts or academics.

Smith and Klosowski would both like to encourage alumni to consider a gift to the fund in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the district.

Cornerstone Club

The Huron County Community Foundation is an endowment philanthropic organization. Only the income generated from the principal of funds placed with the Foundation is used to award grants and scholarships to support the community. Operating expenses are paid from the Foundation's administrative fee and fundraising efforts. The administrative fee structure is kept as low as possible so that the fund balances will grow as rapidly as possible. In most years operating expenses have exceeded the fees generated from the fund values. This requires additional fundraising efforts to bring the operating budget into balance.

To help sustain a balanced operating budget, the Foundation has created the Cornerstone Club. Members of the club make an annual donation to the operating fund of the Foundation and are recognized for their generosity and commitment to the Foundation's motto of ...For good. For ever.

The Board of Trustees of the Foundation sincerely appreciates the support of the Cornerstone Club without which the Foundation would not be self-sustaining.