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Steuben County Community Foundation

August, 2011



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Greetings!

We appreciate your continued support and interest in the Steuben County Community Foundation. Here are the current happenings!

Grants Making a Difference

One mission of the Steuben County Community Foundation is to impact Steuben County. This is done partially through grants awarded 6 times a year. The Foundation granted \$23,700 to 7 organizations in July. The next application deadline is August 31. For more information on how to apply for grants please contact Bill Stockberger at 260.665.6656 or bstockberger@steubenfoundation.org. Here's just a few of the ways SCCF impacted Steuben this month.

Chuck Sheets, Grants Committee member, presented a check to Jessica Black and Debbie Meyer from Erin's House for Grieving Children in the amount of \$5,000 for crisis response programming.





Katherine MacAulay accepts a check for \$2,000 for disaster services provided by the local chapter of American Red Cross from Grants Committee member, Carl Swift.

Jennifer Danic, Foundation CEO, and Marla Toigo, Foundation Board Member and Grants Committee member, present a \$5,000 check to Cindi Atkinson from Mad Anthony's Children Hope House.



Board Member Spotlight

James Burns

Outdoor recreation is one of the many things Steuben County has to offer, and is a favorite pastime for Jim Burns. Fishing and hunting are just a few of the hobbies he enjoys in his spare time. Jim has served on the Foundation's Board of Directors for two years after being asked by Chris Wheeler to fill his chair on the board upon his retirement. SCCF was not a new term to Jim as he helped to create the bylaws twenty years ago when the Foundation was founded. In addition to serving on the Board of Directors, Jim is the board representative for the Marketing and Technology committee and serves on the iMan board of directors.

A Richmond native, Jim graduated from Richmond High School. He went on to receive his bachelors degree from Indiana University in Bloomington. He now practices law in Angola and has been married to his wife, Shayne for 28 years.



Its strong diversity and broad reach in the community is Jim's favorite aspect of the Foundation, the fact that it truly does impact the entire county. He feels the greatest accomplishment of the Steuben County Community Foundation is the credibility that has been built in the community. He hopes that over the next few years, despite the pain of the local economy, the Foundation

continues to grow, staying the course it has followed so far.

Marla Toigo

As a child, Marla always enjoyed her summers on Lake Gage and has passed this love on to her children through their house on lake. Marla's passion for Steuben goes beyond the lakes and into the organizations of the community. She has been involved in many community events and planning committees to demonstrate her heart for philanthropy.



Following her graduation from Norwell High School, Marla attended Indiana University - Bloomington to complete her undergraduate studies. She obtained her masters degree at Western Michigan University. In 1998 she married her husband Dan and they have two children.

Through her involvement in the community, Marla met Dan Caruso who encouraged her to become associated with the Foundation by serving on the board. Almost immediately Marla became interested in the grants committee. She hopes that through the Foundation and the grants awarded, she can help impact education in Steuben County and help children to learn about and develop a heart for philanthropy. Marla loves the way the Foundation touches all areas of the community; from humanities to education. As she continues her participation on the board, Marla would like to see more people involved with the Foundation and more children reached and educated.

4-H Auction Proceeds Donated to Scholarship Funds

It's no secret that college is expensive. Tuition takes a hike each year, not to mention the rising costs of textbooks. Most high school seniors take every penny they can to school in the fall, but Logan Sellers had something else in mind.

Logan finished his 10th and final year of 4-H this summer. He was showing two animals and decided he wanted to donate his earnings back to the community through Steuben County Community Foundation scholarships. When word spread about the cause, donations came from all around, and he raised \$4,000.00. Logan said he was shocked at how much he raised.

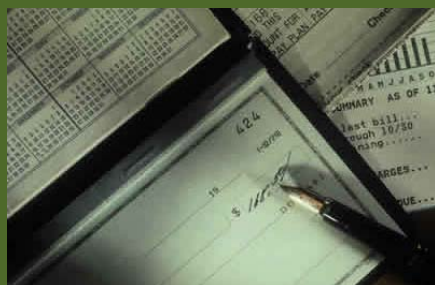
A student of Angola High School, Logan was friends with the four students killed in March's accident and played football with 2 of them. Greg Shively was his uncle and Chad Shively his cousin. So he decided to divide the



money among three scholarships: the Fourever Friends 2011 Memorial Scholarship, the Greg Shively Memorial Scholarship, and the Steven "Chad" Shively Memorial Scholarship. Later this month, Logan leaves for Valparaiso where he will study engineering.

Charitable Deductions Remain Untouched

A new law seeking to trim the federal deficit by \$2.5 trillion over the next 10 years has donors worried about the possibility of reducing or eliminating the charitable deduction. So far, there has not been confirmation that this is the case. The new law names \$900 billion in spending reductions now with another \$15 trillion in



cuts to be made by December 23. It's in the second stage that reducing the deduction or eliminating it could be put on the table.

One possible reform being discussed is replacing the deduction with a 12% tax credit. Some say this would be fairer because the credit would apply equally to all taxpayers. Sandra Swirski, executive director of the Alliance for Charitable Reform noted, "I'm not saying we need a charitable deduction, I'm saying we need an incentive for charitable giving." Most charities would agree that the tax deduction is the largest incentive especially for large donations. The next 6 months will be telling in the possible reform of the charitable tax deduction.

This article is a summary of Lisa Chiu and Suzanne Perry's "Charitable Deduction Not Touched in Debt-Ceiling Deal" article published in The Chronicle of Philanthropy on August 1st, 2011.

Book Collection Donated to Library

On Tuesday, August 9th, the Steuben County Community Foundation made a donation to the Carnegie Public Library of Steuben County that will begin a collection of philanthropic resources. The collection contains educational materials for nonprofit board members and volunteers about grant writing, fundraising, and many other topics. The books were donated to the Foundation by a Steuben County resident and have been available for public use at the Steuben County Community Foundation office. The staff, with consent from the original donor, decided the collection would be best utilized at the public library.

The library was happy to receive the donation as they have many questions from

patrons concerning resources for grant writing, board development, and other philanthropic topics. With the collection in place, others are encouraged to add to it making it a valuable asset to many organizations across Steuben County.



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Thank you for reading! We always have volunteer opportunities in various areas.

Donations to existing funds or towards our operations can be made online, mailed, or dropped off in the office Monday through Friday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm.

Sincerely,

Your friends at the Steuben County Community Foundation

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