

Annual Meeting Conducted Via Video Conference

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Richland County Foundation will conduct its annual meeting via a video conference at 12 p.m. Wednesday, May 20.

To join the meeting go to richlandcountyfoundation.org and click events.

During the meeting Chairwoman Julie McCreedy and President Brady Groves will review the Foundation's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the work done during 2019.

Richland County Foundation Funds COVID-19 Rapid Response Grants

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Richland County Foundation Board of Trustees has redirected its Unrestricted/Community Fund to meet emerging needs. The Community Fund will provide grants for health and human services on a rolling basis to nonprofit organizations in Richland County.

To support this effort, we encourage donors to contribute to the Community Fund www.richlandcountyfoundation.org/donate. Any Community Fund gifts received throughout 2020 will be used to assist nonprofits directly impacted by COVID-19.

The Foundation believes that generosity has the power to unite and heal communities in good times and bad. A global threat like COVID-19 affects more than just the infected. It is a time to come together to drive a spike of generosity, citizen engagement, business and philanthropy activation, and support for our community and nonprofits in Richland County.

On April 16 the Foundation awarded \$203,386 to COVID-19 Rapid Response grants funded from the Community Fund and Donor-Advised Funds to the following organizations:

- American Red Cross for general support
- Ashland Community Foundation for its Emergency Fund

- Avita Health Foundation for personal protective equipment and general support
- Bellville Neighborhood Outreach Center for meat in its food pantry
- Catalyst Life Services for personal protective equipment, telehealth and tech support
- Community Foundation of Otsego County for its COVID Fund
- Domestic Violence Shelter for general support
- Grace Episcopal Church for its outdoor food pantry and food
- Mansfield Area Y for general support
- OhioHealth Foundation for lodging for frontline healthcare providers

- Salvation Army for general support

The Foundation also relaunched the Richland Gives platform to help nonprofits raise operating revenue during the COVID-19 pandemic. We know many nonprofit organizations are experiencing financial difficulties.

Richland Gives traditionally is held on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving. During this special edition of Richland Gives, the Foundation will pay the four percent Mighty Cause platform fee. Donors will be assessed a credit card fee. The Foundation also provided an advertising campaign to support the fundraising effort.

The Richland Gives COVID-19 Relief effort will run through May 5.





One of the Bennett's favorite hobbies is hiking. They hiked the Appalachian Trail in 2015 which took them about six months to accomplish. This summer they will attempt to tackle the Buckeye Trail, which is a 1,400-mile loop around the state of Ohio.

The Michael and Tina Bennett Fund

Longtime Shelby residents Michael and Tina Bennett wanted to do something to give back and help their community. That was their motivation in establishing a donor designated fund to benefit Shelby Help Line Ministries at the Richland County Foundation.

"We have always been involved in the community and it's important to us to assist those who may need a helping hand," said Michael.

Tina said over the years, they helped with many projects at Shelby Help Line Ministries. Tina created financial spreadsheets and taught a financial literacy class. The couple volunteered with the Community Christmas Program and the Summer Lunch program.

Tina retired from the Crestview Local School District where she served as treasurer and Michael retired from the Shelby Police Department where he was the chief.

"I liked being an officer and helping people. That was my life. This fund helps continue what Tina and I did professionally and personally," said Michael.

Shelby Help Line Ministries serves the community with a Community Christmas Program and food boxes clothing ministry, financial literacy, school supplies and clothes, medical equipment, free summer lunches for children and a community dinner.

Michael served on the Richland County Foundation Board of Trustee from 2007 to 2016 and served as chairman from 2012-2014. He played an integral part to find a permanent home for the Foundation. During his tenure as chair, the Foundation purchased and renovated the historic William Ritter House. The Foundation moved to its new location at 181 South Main Street in 2015. Before then, the Foundation rented office space at various locations in Mansfield over a 70-year period.

"Michael helped lead the board to develop the Ritter House as the new home for the community foundation, creating a physical representation of the Richland County Foundation tag line For Good. For Ever," said Foundation President Brady Groves.

SECURE (Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement) Act and What it Means to You

Charles P. Hahn, CFP®, ChFC

Congress recently passed—and the President signed into law—the SECURE Act, landmark legislation that may affect how you plan for your retirement. Many of the provisions go into effect in 2020, which means now is the time to consider how these new rules may affect your tax and retirement-planning situation.

Here is a look at some of the more important elements of the SECURE Act that have an impact on individuals. The changes in the law might provide you and your family with tax-savings opportunities. However, not all of the changes are favorable, and there may be steps you could take to lessen their impact.

Repeal of the maximum age for traditional IRA contributions.

Before 2020, traditional IRA contributions were not allowed once the individual attained age 70½. Starting in 2020, the new rules allow an individual of any age to make contributions to an IRA, if the individual has compensation, which generally means earned income from wages or self-employment.

Required minimum distribution age raised from 70½ to 72.

Before 2020, retirement plan participants and IRA owners were generally required to begin taking required minimum distributions, or RMDs, from their plan or IRA by April 1 of the year following the year they reached age 70½.

For distributions required to be made after December 31, 2019, for individuals who attain age 70½ after that date, the age at which individuals must begin taking distributions from their retirement plan or IRA is increased from 70½ to 72. In addition, certain individuals working past age 72 may be able to defer RMDs even further.

Under the old rules, anyone with money in an IRA was forced to take RMDs after turning age 70½. Those rules still apply to those who had turned 70½ by the end of 2019. For anyone who hadn't turned 70½ by then, the SECURE Act now delays those required distributions until after reaching age 72.

Partial elimination of stretch IRAs.

For deaths of plan participants or IRA owners occurring before 2020, beneficiaries (both spousal and nonspousal)

were generally allowed to stretch out the tax-deferral advantages of the plan or IRA by taking distributions over the beneficiary's life or life expectancy (in the IRA context, this is sometimes referred to as a "stretch IRA").

However, for deaths of plan participants or IRA owners beginning in 2020, distributions to most nonspouse beneficiaries generally are required to be distributed within ten years following the plan participant's or IRA owner's death. So, for those beneficiaries, the "stretching" strategy is no longer allowed.

Exceptions to the 10-year rule are allowed for distributions to (1) the surviving spouse of the plan participant or IRA owner; (2) a child of the plan participant or IRA owner who has not reached majority; (3) a chronically ill individual; (4) a disabled beneficiary; and (5) any other individual who is not more than ten years younger than the plan participant or IRA owner.

Those beneficiaries who qualify under this exception generally may take their distributions over their life expectancy (as allowed under the rules in effect for deaths occurring before 2020).

Regional Manufacturing Coalition Fund



Steve Cummins and Brady Groves

The Regional Manufacturing Coalition Ohio recently established a donor-advised fund to further its mission which is to support North Central Ohio manufacturers through education, training, and networking. RMC serves Richland, Ashland, Crawford, Huron, Knox and Morrow counties.

“This fund will allow us to help local students obtain degrees in manufacturing and engineering- related fields at The Ohio State University, Mansfield campus,” said RMC President Steve Cummins.

The RMC currently serves over 100 organizations collaborating manufacturers alongside numerous associative organizations and education groups. These

manufacturers represent the region’s food, fabrication, assembly, machining, and other industries. Also engaged and welcome to select discussions are various economic development representatives, elected officials, community groups, and media representatives. As a manufacturing coalition, RMC Ohio boasts an incredibly diverse groups of members, each serving an important role in our industry.

“The goal of the RMC fund aligns with one of the Foundation’s strategic initiatives which is to bridge the gap between local job openings and education and certifications,” said Foundation President Brady Groves.

The RMC also hosts an annual Manufacturing Day so high school students can explore career opportunities at area manufacturing companies. The event has attracted thousands of students over the past several years.

Objectives of RMC

- Serve as a networking and learning platform for members
- Promote the manufacturing industry throughout our region

- Partner with area organizations and schools to promote various workforce initiatives
- Assist local, private, and public organizations in attracting and retaining manufacturing and related businesses in the area
- Educate members on government programs designed to benefit manufacturers

- Provide a voice for area manufacturers to local, state, and federal government and offices
- Provide a platform for members to

form strategic alliances

- Work with the North Central Ohio Industrial Museum to ensure a strong manufacturing future by honoring our past and showcasing current efforts

For membership information go to rmcoho.org.

To donate to the RMC Fund, go to richlandcountyfoundation.org and click the donate button or write a check to the Richland County Foundation and note RMC fund on the memo line.

Katy Ault Phillips Memorial Scholarship Fund



Katy Ault Phillips was a very giving person and now a memorial scholarship fund has been set up to remember her. Katy passed away in 2012 at the age of 30 from melanoma.

Katy’s family initially established the Katy Ault Phillips Melanoma Foundation to help people undergoing cancer treatments. They ran the foundation for six years and found it to be a rewarding but emotional job. The foundation was closed about two years ago. Her mother, Linda Reisdorf, still wanted to do something and thought a scholarship fund would be a great way to honor Katy in a philanthropic way.

The Katy Ault Phillips Memorial Scholarship Fund will benefit students from Lexington High School, Katy’s alma mater.

Katy earned her undergraduate degree in Recreational Therapy from the University of Toledo and her Master of Occupational Therapy from the Medical University in Ohio. She worked as a recreational therapist in Toledo and then as an occupational therapist in Springfield, MO.

Linda said Katy had a genuine love of life and was very compassionate.

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Burnell-Evans Family Fund

Brigette Burnell and her husband, Scott Evans, like to include their children in the conversation about why giving is important.

The couple established the Burnell-Evans Family Fund and like the flexibility it offers to involve their children in charitable giving as they mature. Abraham is nine years old and Priscilla is seven years old.

Brigette said it provides them a mechanism to give to their church, Freedom Ridge in Ontario, as well as to other local charities.

Brigette serves on the Foundation Board of Trustees and the board at her church. Scott has volunteered at the Mansfield Area YMCA, Harmony House and Habitat for Humanity.

“Scott and I explain to our children that giving back can be done in several ways such as volunteering your time, making a donation or attending a performance at a nonprofit organization,” said Brigette.

The family enjoys going to Kingwood Center Gardens, Mansfield Richland County Public Library, Little Buckeye Children’s Museum, Gorman Nature Center, Mansfield Art Center, the Playhouse, and the Renaissance Theatre. They like to expose their children to different experiences and opportunities.

“I appreciate the verification and documentation done by the staff at the Foundation to ensure that our gifts are used the way we intended,” said Brigette.

Both are graduates of Ontario High School. Brigette is the Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary for The Gorman-Rupp Company and Scott owns and manages residential real estate properties.