

Donors establish new funds



Robert E. Fisher Fund, a new fund to support the skilled trades

Jana and Alma Fisher recently established the Robert E. Fisher donor advised fund to honor Jana's father and Alma's husband. As a die maker at the General Motors plant in Ontario for 33 years, Robert was proud of his manual skills.

Through the Robert E. Fisher Fund, they want to help people acquire the necessary skills and supplies to obtain good manufacturing jobs which are readily available.

Alma and Robert moved from Cincinnati to Mansfield in 1956 for his job at the Fisher Body Division of GM.

Robert had many interests and hobbies, including woodworking. He studied drafting in high school and built a desk during his junior and senior years. He continued to draw and build furniture including a cherry drop-leaf table for Jana.

Robert enjoyed caring for a wild flower plot and walking on the Richland B&O Bike Trail.

He also was interested in Native American history and acquired a collection of books on the subject. Robert hunted and

collected Native America artifacts from area fields.

In addition Robert was a Baku Grotto Clown for about 30 years. He started as a volunteer to build props for the clowns and eventually developed his own clown persona, Styx. He was a favorite in local parades as he rode a bicycle dressed in blue jean overalls and a fat tie. Alma joined him for 20 years and was known as Trixie the clown.

Styx helped officers from the Richland County Sheriff's Department DARE program teach children about the dangers of drugs. He would perform magic tricks and explain to the children that like magic, drugs are just an illusion.

Justin and Lynn Marotta Fund

The Justin and Lynn Marotta Fund was recently established as a means to promote horticulture in our region.

"I love the horticulture industry and want to continue to support and promote it.

Lynn and I want to draw attention to the beautification and the operation, application, and maintenance of it while also directing our charitable dollars," said Justin Marotta.

The Marottas want to provide grants to help Ashland University, the Ohio State Agricultural Technical Institute or other institutions that focus on the promotion and development of horticulture while benefitting the community.

From 1986 through 2015, as former owners of the Possum Run Greenhouse, the Marottas donated annual flowers to their alma mater, Ashland University, to add to the beauty of the campus.

"At the time, we were unable to make a monetary donation, but we were excited to donate flowering annuals as a gift in-

kind. As students we remembered seeing blooming annuals on campus and how nice it looked. We wanted to bring that beauty back and that is how we were able to help." Now in our retirement years, Justin and I want to continue giving back. We knew that a donor advised fund with the Richland County Foundation was the best mechanism to carry out our charitable wishes," said Lynn Marotta.

A donor advised fund can be established with a \$10,000 gift. Donors can help decide which organizations receive grants from their fund and they will receive a charitable tax benefit.

The Foundation staff manages the fund and completes the paperwork associated with it.

"When people like Justin and Lynn Marotta establish a new fund it helps spread the word about donor advised funds and philanthropy in Richland County," said Foundation President Brady Groves.





Restoring Raemelton Therapeutic Center

By Chrissy Foltz, Foundation intern

The first phase of a restoration project is underway at Raemelton Therapeutic Equestrian Center in Mansfield. The Foundation awarded a \$145,000 grant to help with the project which is estimated to cost over \$850,000.

“A matching grant from the Richland County Foundation for the first phase of the capital campaign significantly contributed to the future of Raemelton Therapeutic Equestrian Center. With this gift we have already initiated the restoration and preservation of our historical riding hall and the main horse barn,” said Raemelton Therapeutic Equestrian Center Director of Operations Tara Corrigan

Tara said the project then will address drainage and sewer issues. Pasture building will begin in the fall because Raemelton does not own the property on Trimble Road where the current pastures are located.

Phase II will include repair of the driveway and replacement of the polo barn. Modifications to the office, a restroom and grooming barn will make these areas accessible to people with disabilities. All of the improvements will ensure that Raemelton staff and volunteers can provide Equine Assisted Activities and Therapies to people with special needs for years to come.

Late last year, Raemelton Therapeutic Equestrian Center board purchased the historic Black Estate through donations from John and Peter Black and the Robert and Esther Black Family Foundation, as well as an anonymous gift in memory of John Taylor.

The late Frank B. Black, founder of Ohio Brass Co. and polo enthusiast, built the estate in the 1920s.

A capital campaign, “Beyond Dreams . . . Within Reach,” is underway. For more information go to raemelton.org.

Donors establish new funds (continued)



Mansfield Aviation Club Fund

The Mansfield Aviation Club (MAC) has set up a designated fund to provide scholarships for people to learn to fly.

MAC is now a 501c (3) organization.

The ability for MAC to offer Aviation Scholarships was given a kick-start when one of its members provided a generous donation to establish a designated fund which will be managed by the Richland County Foundation.

During the next few months, the timeline and application process for a MAC Aviation Scholarship will be finalized and information will be available at mansfieldavclub.com or richlandcountyfoundation.org.

Established in 1949, MAC is a group of people interested in aviation. Club activities consist of monthly meetings and informal gatherings that concentrate on fun, good fellowship, and the opportunity to share aviation experiences and safety information. Service activities include support for the Garden of Heroes at Mansfield Lahm Airport, participation in the annual Mansfield Lahm Airport Day (Pancake Breakfast), creation and upkeep of the terminal pilot lounge, and providing free flights for youngsters between the ages of 8-17 through the EAA Young Eagles program.

If you would like to make a donation to the Aviation Scholarship Program or would like more information contact MAC President Rich Green at 419-512-0470.

A donor advised fund can be established with a \$10,000 gift. Donors can help decide which organizations receive grants from their fund and they will receive a charitable tax benefit.

Other types of funds include field of interest, designated and agency.

Depending on the fund acceptable gifts include cash, stocks/bonds, real estate, life insurance, retirement accounts and other advanced options.

The Foundation staff manages the fund and completes the paperwork associated with it.

The Foundation offers various types of funds. If you are interested in learning more or establishing a fund please contact Maura Teynor, director of donor services and communications, at 419-525-3020 or mteynor@rcfoundation.org



Mind Body Align Charitable Fund

The Mind Body Align Charitable Fund seeks to further the mission and vision of Mind Body Align through philanthropy. The fund was established by MBA founder Annamarie Fernyak.

The fund will support projects that support women and empower them to lead happier, more fulfilling lives. Examples include, but are not limited to: alternative wellness, women's entrepreneurship, yoga for underserved populations, healthy foods initiatives, arts & culture, and professional development.

Applicants must be a 501c3.

The mission of Mind Body Align is to create a community of collaboration which inspires, nurtures and empowers. The vision is to provide a female focused facility offering space and services which nurture community, individuals and growing business.

MBA recently opened an Entrepreneurs' Kitchen in the lower level of the Barrington One Building on Park Avenue West. The commercial kitchen was created to support start-up growing foodie entrepreneurs.

MBA also will open a new location in the former Butterfly House at 20 North Mulberry Street to offer additional space and opportunities to fulfill its mission and vision.

For more information on MBA go to mindbodyalign.net

\$500,000 awarded to nonprofit organizations

The Foundation Board of Trustees approved over \$506,000 in grants to area nonprofit agencies during its June meeting.

Projects of special note impacting area residents include:

- **Braintree Business Development Center** to facilitate the Richland Entrepreneurial Alliance
- **Dayspring Assisted Living and Care Facility** to upgrade its entrance awning
- **Flying Horse Farms** to send Richland County children with serious illness to summer camp
- **Mansfield Memorial Homes** for its Homemaker/Home Health Services and Rotary Adult Daycare
- **Neos Dance Theatre** for a 1940s Nutcracker production
- **OhioHealth Pediatric Therapy** to buy bicycles for children with impairments
- **Ohio Special Response Team** to purchase a commercial drone for search and rescue missions
- **Richland Community Development Group (RCDG)** for marketing materials to promote the 179th Air National Guard
- **RCDG for Richland Young Professionals** to fund a mentorship program
- **Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Ohio** to house Richland County families
- **Salvation Army** to fund rental assistance program

The Board of Trustees approved 35 additional grants from donor advised, field of interest, donor designated and agency funds to meet emerging needs.

Nonprofit organizations can sign up for Richland Gives



Richland Gives registration is now open and free for Richland County based nonprofit organizations at richlandgives.org. Richland Gives is set for November 29 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The day is designed to encourage people to contribute to local non profits they care about through a single giving platform/website. The Richland County Foundation is hosting the day to build capacity, grow philanthropy and make the community stronger.

The day of giving will allow local organizations to raise funds and awareness as well as cultivate new donors and reinvigorate lapsed donors.

Each organization will have an individualized web page to promote their cause. The success of the event will depend on our collective enthusiasm and implementation.

Leading up to the event the Foundation is providing toolkits as well as webinars, mass media and social media coverage to make it easier for nonprofit organizations to participate. For more information about the day of giving contact Richland County Foundation Donor Services and Communications Director Maura Teynor at 419-525-3020 or mteynor@rcfoundation.org.

Osborne Meese Academy focuses on excellence

Half-day educational workshops via the Osborne Meese Academy continue through November for staff and board members of 14 nonprofit organizations. The program is designed to build and support nonprofit organizations and to act as a catalyst to encourage stronger collaboration in the community.

The Osborne Meese Academy encompasses three key components: education, professional support and grant writing assistance. The initiative was named the Osborne Meese Academy to honor the Foundation's founding father.

The organizations participating are: Discovery School, Linden Road Presbyterian Church, Mansfield Memorial Homes, Mankind Murals Inc., North Central State College Foundation, North End Community Improvement Collaborative, Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Ohio Genealogical Society, Parent Aide Program, Pediatric Development Center, Richland Carrousel Park, Richland County Historical Society, Richland Public Health and Starfish Project of Richland County.



Children enrolled in the Salvation Army Dewald Center Summer Zone Camp enjoyed building and launching rockets with the help of teachers from Pioneer Career and Technology Center. The camp was funded by many organizations including the Foundation. The Foundation awarded over \$30,000 in Summertime Kid grants to 17 local organizations to support creative, educational and fun-filled activities for hundreds of Richland County children.

Local students receive scholarships



The Foundation awarded close to \$405,000 in scholarships to Richland County students this year.

For the first time the Foundation awarded scholarships to students attending a trade school. The Board of Trustees earmarked \$40,000 for the additional scholarships to better meet the needs of students and to build a stronger, well-trained local workforce.

RCF Scholarship Committee Chairman Chan Stevens reported 288 students received scholarships from various funds. Fifty-three scholarship recipients will attend a local college or university. The average scholarship amount was about \$1,400.

Scholarships are awarded based on a student's financial need. The application will be available online at richlandcountyfoundation.org after January 1 with an April 1 deadline.

A scholarship fund can be created with a minimum investment of \$20,000. For more information on how to establish a scholarship fund or any other fund at the Richland County Foundation please call 419-525-3020 or visit the website richlandcountyfoundation.org.

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Why do people give?

Good question! According to "The Nonprofit Marketing Blog" the 15 reasons why people donate are:

1. Someone I know asked me to give
2. Felt emotionally moved by someone's story
3. I want to feel as if I can help
4. I want to feel as if I'm changing someone's life
5. I feel a sense of closeness to a community or group
6. I need a tax deduction
7. I want to memorialize someone
8. I was raised to give to charity – it's a family tradition
9. I want to support this charity
10. It makes me feel a connection to other people and builds my social network
11. I want to have a good image for myself/my company
12. I want to leave a legacy that perpetuates me, my ideals or my cause
13. I feel fortunate(or guilty) and want to give something back to others
14. I give for religious reasons
15. I want to be seen as a leader/role model



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Women's Fund awards scholarships & welcomes new members

L to R: New WF Advisory Committee member Della Phelps, scholarship recipient Leona Smith, new WF Advisory Committee member Deanna West-Torrence and scholarship recipient Crystal Eldridge.

The Women's Fund of the Richland County Foundation awarded scholarships totaling just over \$6,000 to Latosha Babcock, a junior majoring in social work at Mount Vernon Nazarene University, Crystal Eldridge, a junior majoring in business/finance at Mount Vernon Nazarene University, Kelly Korody, a senior majoring in nursing at Ashland University and Leona Smith, a sophomore majoring in psychology at North Central State College.

The Women's Fund scholarships are given to non-traditional female students attending area colleges.

In other business, the Women's Fund Advisory Committee named Paula Cohen as chair and Jill Haring as vice-chair. Edie

Humphrey was thanked for her service as the previous chair. Thelda Dillon and Judie Collins completed three terms and were recognized for their service. New members welcomed to the committee were Deanna West-Torrence and Della Phelps.

Mark Your Calendar

The Women's Fund will celebrate its 20th anniversary this year with a special reception September 9 at Kingwood Center from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The Women's Fund was created in 1996 to promote philanthropy among women and to provide funding to programs to empower women and girls.