A Message From the Director

Dear Friends of the Foundation,

We have been blessed with an unseasonably mild winter and the temperatures certainly remind us that spring is quickly approaching! Spring is a busy time for the Foundation and we would like to remind you of a few approaching deadlines: The preliminary scholarship review, which you will read more about below, is Friday, February 14. Final applications are due Friday, March 13.

In this edition of the newsletter, you will learn about the generosity of Denver and Peggy Anders and their legacy gift to support the church that meant so much to them. You'll also read about a grant awarded to create a children’s book unique to Lancaster and get to know one member from the Foundation's Board of Trustees a little better.

We hope you enjoy these last few weeks of winter and look forward to a productive season ahead!

Amy Eyman
Executive Director

Scholarship Preliminary Review Opportunity

The Fairfield County Foundation is offering a preliminary review of your general scholarship application. What does that mean? If your application is fully submitted by Friday, February 14, we will review your application for completeness. A staff member will contact you at the email address you use to log on with to let you know of any issues by February 28. You will have the opportunity to make any needed corrections before the final deadline on Friday, March 13. Taking advantage of this opportunity does not increase your chances of receiving a scholarship, but provides an opportunity for mistakes to be corrected before the deadline and decreases the possibility of your application being ineligible.

What types of mistakes would make your application ineligible? If your application does not have an OFFICIAL transcript, it will be marked ineligible. High school students need to confirm that their counselors upload their transcript before the deadline. If your application does not include the first page of your SAR that shows your EFC (obtained from completing the FAFSA) for the 2020-2021 year, it will be marked ineligible.
We are often asked, "Without letters of recommendation, how do I make my application stand out?" Here are a few tips on what to include in your personal statement that will help reviewers see the whole picture:

- Give personal insight as to why you have chosen your school and/or field of study. Do you have a passion, focus or personal story that makes this path your destiny?
- Address any extenuating circumstances that will make financing your education difficult. Sometimes, the numbers don't tell the full story. Use your personal statement to elaborate on your situation.
- Focus on quality more than quantity of your writing. Expand beyond including your hopes to find gainful employment and become a productive member of society. Tell us more about your unique story.
- Lastly, have someone proof read your work! Sometimes, the meaning can be lost if the thoughts are jumbled or the grammar is incorrect.

You can find example documents and tips in the FAQs section of our website.

Fairfield County Foundation Announces Denver and Peggy Anders Fund

Denver and Peggy Anders recently left a one-million-dollar gift to establish The Denver and Peggy Anders Fund. This gift allows their legacy to live on through their church, where they devoted a large part of their lives.

Denver spent his entire life in Lancaster, OH, leaving only for a tour of duty in the U.S. Navy. He was a part of what Tom Brokaw termed the "Greatest Generation" - the people who fought a world war and returned to build a strong and great nation. Denver worked and retired as an iron worker. His hobbies included flying his small plane and riding motorcycles. In his lifetime, he landed in or flew over every state in the continental U.S. Denver lost his first two wives to cancer before he married Peggy. Denver often joked that, when he died and was buried, he'd be surrounded by the most important women in his life: his mother and three wives.

Peggy was affectionately known as "Perky Peggy". She led the greeter ministry at her church - the church lobby was her domain. She was once referred to as the church linebacker, because you didn't get through the doors without going through Peggy. Peggy was kind to every guest that came through the doors of her church. She sent cards thanking them for coming and invited many to join her and Denver for lunch (She always said, "Denver will pay"). Before she met and married Denver, Peggy was a successful realtor in Columbus. She was gracious, kind, funny, and loving. She once said, "I'm not afraid to tell you my age, I'm 86. But if Denver dies before me I'm telling everyone I'm 68."

Denver and Peggy Anders loved the Lord and they loved their church. Their generosity in death is a reflection of their generosity in life.
Jeff Beard is President of Standing Stone Bank and has recently been appointed Chairman of the Fairfield County Foundation Board of Trustees.

Outside of his professional role, Jeff spends most of his free time with his family. Much of his free time is spent attending his children's activities and coaching their sports teams.

Jeff chose the Foundation as his way of giving back to the community because of the Foundation's far-reaching impact and involvement in so many local organizations and causes. During his tenure on the Board, he hopes to carry on the Foundation's mission and ensure there is continued support in our community. Additionally, he wants to continue helping the Foundation implement several initiatives within the strategic plan this year.

AHA! A Hands-On Adventure A Children's Museum

In 2019, the Foundation awarded a grant from the Terry A. McGhee/Sally J. Grimm Community Fund to AHA! Children's Museum for the printing of a book unique to our area that will benefit the community in many ways.

Pip's Path Through Lancaster, Ohio was written and illustrated by Ohio native Erin M. Burchwell. This children's story is told through the eyes of a curious squirrel, Pip, who narrates Lancaster's history as he journeys on a scavenger hunt. Pip visits local landmarks such as the Decorative Arts Center, the Sherman and Georgian Houses, Zane Square, Keller Market House and county parks.

'Pip's Path' promotes youth literacy and local history, with a portion of proceeds benefiting participating local nonprofits. Erin has dedicated time to promoting the book around Lancaster with meet and greet book signings where she shares insights about the process of creating the book and displays original artwork for all who attend, young and old alike!
Get the Latest Foundation News

Follow and like Fairfield County Foundation on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. We welcome your comments and questions!

Visit us on the web at www.fairfieldcountyfoundation.org, where you'll find important information about upcoming grant and scholarship awards, creating a fund, making an online donation, and much more.

What is a Community Foundation?

A community foundation is a non-profit, publicly supported, nonsectarian philanthropic institution with a long-term goal of building permanent funds established by many donors to carry out their charitable interests, and for the broad-based charitable interest of and for the residents of a defined geographic area.