25 years of enriching the Derby community

For 25 years the Derby Community Foundation has been enriching the quality of life in the Derby area. During 2018 this anniversary will be celebrated in a number of ways, including a Generosity Challenge (see related article on page 3).

The significant impact that the DCF has had on the Derby community over the past 25 years is a testament to the vision and generosity of our donors. From the first initiative of the DCF, raising matching funds for a grant from the Kansas Department of Transportation to construct the first phase of Derby’s now 25-mile hike/bike path, generous donors have been the key to success.

Along with the hike/bike path came the opportunity to plant trees so Derby could become a Tree City USA. The DCF hosted Derby’s first Arbor Day celebration which has grown into a popular community-wide event.

Generous donors have been inspired to work with the DCF to purchase 18 bronze sculptures which can be viewed throughout the community. Donors have also opted to establish permanent memorial funds with the DCF which have funded a variety of efforts, including holiday light displays, annual grants to the Derby Free Spirits, and support for kidney disease and cancer support organizations.

Kermit Daum, retired Science Department Chair/Teacher at Derby High School, was the (continued on page 2)
StoryWalk promotes literacy and healthy activity

An innovative and creative project coordinated by the Derby Health Collaborative and Derby Public Library received lead funding from the Derby Community Foundation’s Kansas Health Foundation Fund in 2017. StoryWalk was conceived as a way to inspire parents, teachers and other adults to take young children outdoors to enjoy reading stories together.

StoryWalk, which consists of 20 frames mounted on posts, each containing a page from a children’s book, is located along the hike/bike path at High Park. Five times a year, the book is replaced with a new one.

Many community groups provided funding for this project, including the DCF, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Fidelity Bank, Derby Rotary Club, WSU South, South Central Kansas Library Society, Friends of the Derby Library, Derby Library and Derby Recreation Commission.

StoryWalk helps build children’s interest in reading and combines three critical elements for overall family health: early literacy learning, family engagement outdoors, and physical activity.

2017 Grants & Scholarships

A variety of grants and scholarships were awarded through the Derby Community Foundation in 2017 (not an all-inclusive list).

**Community Enrichment Grants:**
- Derby North Middle School – National Junior Honors Society/Community Service Projects ........... $500
- Derby Middle School – Robotics Club Competition ........................................ $1,919
- Derby High School – Social Studies Classes/Preserving History in 3D ......................... $2,289
- Derby Police Department – “Safety Town” ......................... $2,500

**Kansas Health Foundation Fund Grants**
- Derby Senior Celebration 2017 .................................................. $500
- Parents At The High School/After Prom ........................................ $500
- LEAD Derby ........................................................................ $500
- Guadalupe Clinic – Pharmaceuticals for Low-Income Derby Residents ............... $1,000
- Derby USD 260 Food Service – Summer Lunch Program ...................................... $2,500

**Decarsky Foundation Fund Grants**
- Derby Area Circles .......................................................... $3,000
- Wichita Children’s Theatre performances for 1st graders ............................................ $1,500*
- *with additional support from the Wal-Mart Foundation ........................................... $2,500

**Arlo and Charlotte Lindsey Kidneys for Life Memorial Fund**
- Children’s Organ Transplant Association ............... $352

**Patty Anthony Memorial Fund**
- Special Olympics-Kansas (Derby Free Spirits) ............... $250

**Ada Thoma & Melva Owens Memorial Scholarship**
- Hazel May .................................................. $850

**Mike Burr Memorial Scholarship**
- Michaela Ensor .................................................. $289

**Decarsky Foundation Scholarship**
- Addison Linn, Chandler Benway, Luke Palmer, Autumn Crafton, Jesus Loera, Katelyn Voge, Juliana Karagianis, Shelby Foster, Kathryn Margret Drake, Lauren Eichman, Samantha Hill, Meaghan Mizak, Ryan Palmer .................. $52,500 total awards

**Rotary Club of Derby Scholarship**
- Lauren Eichman, Autumn Pourhussin, Elizabeth Wien, Cody Ramsey, Madison Scott .................. $4,000 total awards

**Braxton Kooser Memorial Scholarship**
- Ryan Palmer .................................................. $300

**Colleen Zirkle Memorial Scholarship**
- The Independent School .................................................. $1,000

**Riley Hill Memorial Dance Scholarship**
- Aidan Dewitt .................................................. $500

**Ross Hearn Vocal Music Excellence Scholarship**
- Hanna Cox .................................................. $250

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**Enriching the community (continued from page 1)**

first donor to realize the opportunity to award scholarships through the DCF. Today, the DCF administers 10 scholarship funds which award $60,000 in scholarships to local students. Through the Career Technical Education Assistance Fund, each semester donors have helped DHS students enrolled in technical certification courses at area community/technical colleges with purchasing required materials and supplies.

By participating in the DCF’s annual gala event donors have contributed to the awarding of over $100,000 in grants to local nonprofits through the DCF’s Community Enrichment Grant Program. Grants are also awarded from the DCF’s Kansas Health Foundation Fund to support community health initiatives.

In 2010 the DCF in partnership with the Derby Veterans Memorial Committee and the City of Derby, began work to design and fund a tribute to Derby area military veterans. On Veteran’s Day 2011, the Walk of Freedom-Derby Area Veterans Memorial was dedicated in Garrett Park. The DCF and City of Derby have coordinated several additions to the memorial in recent years and a Veteran’s Day gathering is hosted by the DCF each year at the park.

As we move forward from this anniversary year, we will be seeking input and assistance from local donors. We believe that in order to better our lives we must better where we spend our lives. For us, that’s Derby, Kansas. We will strive in the years to come to work with donors to raise a shared standard of excellence in all we do.
Scholarship fund established in memory of Diana Unkel

The family of Diana Unkel has established a scholarship fund in her memory with the Derby Community Foundation. Diana Unkel was a lifelong resident of Derby, taught music at Swaney Elementary School, Derby Sixth Grade Center, and was the accompanist for the Derby High School vocal music program. She also taught piano lessons and served as organist at Madison Avenue United Methodist Church and Woodlawn United Methodist Church. Diana touched the lives of many Derby residents through her passion for music.

Contributions may be made to the Derby Community Foundation to support the Diana Unkel Memorial Scholarship Fund (checks made payable to Derby Community Foundation may be sent to: PO Box 372, Derby, KS 67037, with “Unkel” in memo line).

DCF Grants Make a Difference

Positive connections were made by Derby North Middle School National Junior Honor Society members and 4th/5th grade students at Swaney Elementary School through support from a DCF grant. Transportation for the 80+ members of the DNMS Honor Society to Swaney and other schools and community facilities is being provided with the grant funds during the 2017-2018 school year.

Circles Derby received a grant in 2017 to provide funding for a coach for a period of 24 weeks. As a result of this funding important relationships were formed and progress was made by Circle Leaders (participants) to make changes that will result in better lives for themselves and their families.

Take the Generosity Challenge

As part of the DCF’s 25th anniversary celebration we invite Derby area residents, businesses and organizations to participate in the Generosity Challenge. The Generosity Challenge is designed to encourage and reward generosity within the Derby community.

“For 25 years, generosity has been at the heart of the Derby Community Foundation’s efforts,” said Theresa Hearn, DCF Executive Director. “Derby is a community full of generous people and we want to highlight their efforts through this Challenge.”

Guidelines for participation are as follows:

Generosity Challenge participants must live within the Derby school district boundaries and may be an individual, civic group, organization, business, or group of individuals.

The participants must complete an uncommon act of generosity during 2018 that accurately reflects the mission of the Derby Community Foundation, which is “to enrich the quality of life in the Derby area.” There is no age limit for a participant.

To participate in the Generosity Challenge, a form which is available on the Community Foundation’s website (www.derbycf.org) must be completed and submitted to the DCF.

The act of generosity can be in many forms; it does not have to be financial.

In addition to the participation form, entrants should submit a separate, single sheet of paper, which explains the “uncommon act of generosity” that is proposed to be completed or has been completed.

Generosity Challenge participants will be featured in an advertisement in the Derby Informer, on social media (Facebook and Twitter), and will receive a yard sign to display.

Each year the DCF awards the Generosity Award to recognize generous acts of an individual, business or organization. The 2018 Generosity Award recipient will be selected from the participants of the Generosity Challenge. The Generosity Award recipient is given the opportunity to award a $500 grant to a local charity.

Past Generosity Award recipients are Carol Keller, Becky Robinson, Dave Peebler and Ben Ray.

Complete an UNCOMMON ACT OF GENEROSITY during 2018 and you or your group may be selected to award a $500 grant to a local charity.

Learn more at www.derbycf.org or call 316-788-9815.
Uncorked 2018 Live Auction Items

- Just You and the Speedway – Mario Andretti Racing Experience for Two (your choice of Arizona, Illinois, New Hampshire or North Carolina)
- 2 Premium tickets to WSU vs. Cincinnati Basketball Game (March 4)
- Symphony in the Flint Hills (4 pack of tickets with goodie basket)
- Derby Recreation Commission Basket (includes Annual Family Membership)
- One-of-a-kind Silver Bracelet crafted by Derby Jewelers
- Jim Beam Masterpiece from Gary & Kathy Prewitt
- 2018 Music Theatre of Wichita (4 pack tickets with back stage tour pass)
- Fun at the Arb and A Night of Fine Dining – Two 2018 season passes to Bartlett Arboretum & Luciano’s 4-course Dinner for 6 with two bottles wine & six Luciano wine glasses
- Bottle of Signorello Estate Big Rock Cuvee Cabernet Sauvignon
- The Best In Boston Revealed – Tour for Two of All of Boston’s Best Attractions

BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW FOR THE EVENT OF THE YEAR!

SATURDAY, FEB. 24, 2018
7-10 p.m. “The Venue at Madison Avenue Central Park

Tickets: $75 ($40 of ticket price is tax-deductible donation). Available NOW at Derby Welcome Center (cash/check only) or online at derbycf.org.

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