



VOICE

News from the Fremont Area Community Foundation

*2nd Quarter 2009
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Legacy Society Dinner Remembers & Honors Members

The Fremont Area Community Foundation held its annual Legacy Society Dinner at the Fremont Golf Club on June 17.

President Tom Thomsen began the evening by thanking everyone for their generosity to the Foundation. Thomsen also stressed the importance of these gifts. "Many of our legacy gifts support the Unrestricted Endowment Fund - the fund from which the Foundation's community grants are given," Thomsen said. Marv Welstead was also recognized for his efforts on building the Legacy Society over the years.

Thomsen spoke about some of the highlights of the Foundation over the past year. The Foundation added a record 13 new funds to the Foundation, which increased the Foundation's assets by approximately \$330,000. One of those new funds was the Matthew Hartmann Memorial Scholarship. Doug and Kathleen Hartmann established this scholarship in honor of their son, Matthew, who was killed by a drunk driver last July. Doug spoke about establishing this scholarship.

Two scholarship recipients also spoke at the dinner: Hilary Mecham, recipient of the Rodney and Amy Mueller Johnson Memorial Scholarship and Fremont PTA/PTSA Scholarship; and Mallory Iseminger, recipient of the Matthew Hartmann Memorial Scholarship, along with Fremont Business and Professional Women's Scholarship.

John Schmitz, executive director of the Fremont Area Parks and Recreation Department, was also a speaker. The Friends of the Fremont Area Parks received a \$10,000 grant from the Lester A. Walker Fund, a component fund of the Foundation, for the Johnson Park Re-Tree Program.

Legacy Society members who passed away over the past year were remembered, including Betsy Mulliken. She was a part of the Foundation for 10 years and served as executive director from 2000-06. During her time with the Foundation, the assets more than doubled, and she was instrumental in developing the application and acceptance to the Council on Foundations to be compliant with the National Standards of Foundations. Bill Emanuel, first president of the Foundation; Mary Bigelow; Kathryn Anderson; and Leona Blazek were also remembered.

Twenty-one new members were recognized for joining the Legacy Society. Many of those were due to the efforts of Jim Ebers, who established the Rotary 5650 Program with the Fremont Rotary Club. This program is to build the Rotary Endowment Fund held at the Foundation.

The new Legacy Society Members are: J.J. and Jennifer Bixby, Gary and Denise Bolton, Sid and Patty Dillon, Allan and Julia Hale, David and Barbara Hartmann, Dr. Richard and Paula Hendriksen, David and Kimberly Mitchell, Dr. Rod and Cyndy Koerber, Ray and Mary Sendgraff, Dorothy Stangel, and Phil and Michelle Wood.



Mallory Iseminger was the 2009 and first recipient of the Matthew Hartmann Memorial Scholarship. She is pictured with Kathy and Doug Hartmann, who established the scholarship in honor of their son, Matthew.

The mission of the Fremont Area Community Foundation is to improve the quality of life by connecting donor interests with community needs.

Foundation Awards Recent Grants

The following are grants for the community from the Fremont Area Community Foundation:

- **Fremont First United Methodist Church** – By My Side Summer Program – A grant of **\$6,000** was awarded from the Lester A. Walker Fund for travel expenses associated with the program.
- **TeamMates of Fremont** – Expansion of Program – A grant of **\$2,000** was awarded from the Fremont Area Community Foundation for costs associated with expanding the program.
- **Fremont Opera House** – Second Act: Fremont Opera House Renovation – A last dollar grant of **\$100,000** was awarded from the Fremont Area Community Foundation for the project.
- **Trinity Lutheran School** – Technology Improvements – A grant of **\$5,000** was awarded from the Fremont Area Community Foundation for the costs associated with upgrading the technology system at the school.

Scholarships Awarded for the 2009-10 Academic Year

This spring, 38 scholarships were awarded. These scholarships account for a total of \$18,350 in funds awarded to date. Additional scholarships will be awarded during the summer.

Al Bahe Memorial Scholarship

Tyler Ketchem

Allyssa, Sheldon & Mariah Johnson Memorial Scholarship - Kacie Strong

Bruce Gocken Memorial Business Scholarship

Kyle Watson

Cecil Anderson Fremont Kiwanis Club Scholarship

Kristin Berner

Emmett & Mae Johnson Memorial Scholarship

Robert (Robby) Loftis

Francis Conrad Memorial Scholarship

Kristin Witte

Grant & Muriel Freeman Vocational Fremont Kiwanis Club Scholarship - Alicia Wagner

Freeman Midland Lutheran College Fremont Kiwanis Club Scholarship - Martin Hernandez, Karen Liekhus

Fremont Area Art Association Hazel Keene Memorial Scholarship - Jayme Bristol

Fremont Business & Professional Women's Scholarship

Sarah Brune, Emily Helget, Mallory Iseminger

Fremont High School Alumni Student Aid Endowment

Karrie Thompson

Fremont Noon Optimist E.V. "Vic" Nielsen Scholarship - Erica Dickmeyer

Fremont PTA/PTSA Scholarship

Holly Bussa, Jessica Hazelton, Mitchell Hunt, Hilary Mecham

Golden K Kiwanis Harold Anderson Scholarship

Kourtney Emmons, Heidi Greitens

H.M. "Micky" Krupinsky Scholarship

Mariel Groh

Haines Hill Memorial Scholarship

Kaylee Strong

Jamie Charleston Memorial Scholarship

Erica Dickmeyer, Tyler Ketchem

LaVern F. Lueschen Scholarship

Shelby Miller

Loran & Ina Deane Rogers Memorial Scholarship

Taylor Franzen

Loren Nothwehr Scholarship

Jace Dallman

Marvin G. Welstead Scholarship

Aaron Morris

Mary Ellen Wieland Scholarship

Kelsie Rogers

Matthew Hartmann Memorial Scholarship

Mallory Iseminger

Myra Rogier Lesiak Scholarship

Jessica Hazelton

Robert Yanike Scholarship

Allison Hanen

Rodney & Amy Mueller Johnson Memorial Scholarship

Hilary Mecham, Leigh Ann Walter

Ruth I. Frederiksen Memorial Scholarship

Brandon McElroy

Sherlock Nursing Scholarship

Brianne Boltinghouse

William Simms Memorial Scholarship

William Poppe

Care Corps Completes Endowment Challenge Grant Program

The Fremont Area Community Foundation offered five organizations a \$10,000 challenge to encourage the development of endowment funds. The campaign is called "Building for the Future" and asked the organizations to either begin a new endowment fund with the Fremont Area Community Foundation or to grow an existing endowment fund with the Foundation. The organizations were given one year to raise new funds to receive the match of \$10,000.

Care Corps, Inc.; Crisis Center for Domestic/Sexual Abuse; Jefferson House; Friends of Fremont Area Parks, Inc.; and Fremont Opera House, Inc. were chosen to participate in this first year program which began on March 1. "We are pleased that all five organizations have accepted the challenge and are working to meet the one year deadline," said Kristine Gale, executive director. "It is impressive that in just four months into the challenge, Care Corps has successfully raised the \$10,000 to be matched by \$10,000 from the Fremont Area Community Foundation to the Care Corps Endowment Fund," said Tom Thomsen, president of the Foundation.

Care Corps immediately selected Don Hinds and Hazel Dillon to spearhead their efforts to meet the challenge. "We are proud to announce that Care Corps was able to achieve 100 percent participation from both the Care Corps Board of Directors and the Care Corps staff to help meet the overall challenge," Hinds said. Care Corps is a Homeless Shelter that provides services and programs designed to address the underlying causes of homelessness. "Endowments are for the future stability of an organization. I think 100 percent participation shows the dedication and commitment we have to serving the community and maintaining a



Kristine Gale, executive director, receives a check from Hazel Dillon and Don Hinds, members of the Care Corps Board of Directors.

strong organization," Hinds said. Hinds and Dillon also went outside the organization to complete the match.

The four other organizations are continuing to work toward the match. "We know some of the other organizations are also close to making the match," Gale said. "We hope to have all of the organizations succeed in the challenge and offer this campaign to new organizations in 2010."

The Fremont Area Community Foundation believes that endowment funds are a key vehicle to ensuring the long-term future of an organization. Endowment funds are permanent funds held in perpetuity for the organization. The income generated from those funds is used to support the organization and its programs.



Bill Dugan, member of the FAF Grants Committee, presented a check to Dinie Jensen, By My Side Instructor at First United Methodist Church. Also pictured is Kaylin Brown. A grant of \$6,000 was given from the Lester A. Walker Fund for the program.



James Knoepfel, principal at Trinity Lutheran School; Joanne Thietje, FAF grants committee member; students Mackenzie Dockerty and Allyssa Dockerty; and Dick Hendriksen, FAF grants committee member, are pictured at a grant check presentation for technology improvements at the school. The Foundation gave a \$5,000 grant toward the project.

Hooper Area Community Foundation Hosts Garden Tour



The Hooper Area Community Foundation hosted a Summer Garden Tour on July 19. Many beautiful gardens were featured on the tour at four locations around the Hooper area. Over 200 people attended the event to benefit the Foundation.

Family gardens included on the tour included:

- **Ron & Gail Bopp:** Featured a beautiful water garden
- **Randy & Nancy O'Connor-Ruppert:** Featured Prairie Restoration, a vineyard and beekeeping
- **Elwood & Bonnie Wobken:** Featured beautiful gardens with flowers grown from seed by the homeowners
- **Ken & Sue Fase:** Featured unusual plants and gardens, container gardens, greenhouse and freeze-dried floral business.



Tour attendees gathered at the Fases to view many gardens, including container gardens, on the property. The Fases' 5½ acres also include a gazebo, rose garden, potting shed and a pergola - a wooden structure with vines that grow around it.

IRA Charitable Rollovers May Be Received Through 2009

What is an IRA charitable rollover?

The law uses the term "qualified charitable distribution" to describe an IRA charitable rollover. A qualified charitable distribution is money that individuals who are 70½ or older may direct from their traditional IRA to eligible charitable organizations. The provision has a cap of \$100,000 for charitable distributions from individual IRAs each year. Individuals may exclude the amount distributed directly to an eligible charity from their gross income.

Do donors also receive a charitable deduction when they roll over assets to a charity under this provision?

No. Under this provision, donors benefit by not having to recognize the amount contributed directly from their IRA to a qualifying charity. However, because donors exclude this contribution from their gross income, they cannot take a charitable contribution deduction for the contribution.

To which charities may donors make qualified charitable distributions?

Most contributions to public charities—other than supporting organizations—are considered qualified charitable contributions. However, distributions from IRA accounts to donor-advised funds held by public charities are not considered qualified charitable distributions under this provision.

Under what circumstances will this special treatment of an IRA charitable rollover most likely benefit donors?

Generally, this new provision benefits donors who itemize

deductions and whose charitable contributions are reduced by the percentage of income limitation or by the itemized deduction reduction. Traditionally, when individuals receive a distribution from their IRA and make a corresponding charitable contribution, they must count the distribution as income and then receive a charitable deduction for any amounts they transferred to charity. For higher income taxpayers, the charitable contribution deduction they receive may not totally offset the taxes they must pay for receiving the distribution from their IRA. In such cases, donors would potentially benefit more by using the charitable rollover provision when making a charitable donation.

How do individuals make a qualified charitable distribution?

Individuals must instruct their IRA trustee to make the contribution directly to an eligible charitable organization.

How will charitable distributions impact the minimum required distributions from a taxpayers' IRAs?

Shortly after individuals reach the age of 70½, they are generally required to receive distributions from their traditional IRA. For the purposes of minimum required distributions, the Internal Revenue Service treats distributions from an IRA the same, whether individuals use the distribution for personal purposes or directs the distribution to a charity.

For more information, contact your financial advisor or Kristine Gale at 721-4252.

New Members Elected to FACF Board of Directors

The Fremont Area Community Foundation closed its fiscal year with the retirement of four members of the Board of Directors and with the announcement of the addition of four new Board of Directors members. "We would like to thank our dedicated members who have completed their terms," said Tom Thomsen, president. Linda Chapman, former president of the organization; Marianne Simmons; Stan Darling; and Twila Flamme completed their terms on June 30. "All of these individuals have been very active in the Foundation's accomplishments and have worked very hard to continue to grow the organization," Thomsen said. Each term is three years and Chapman, Darling and Simmons have served for more than one term. "We appreciate the commitment and talent that each of our Directors has shared through the years. The organization is strong because of the people who are willing to be involved in the community," said Kristine Gale, executive director. Chapman and Darling have also agreed to continue serving on committees as non-Board members with the organization. "We appreciate their willingness to continue being involved even after their terms are complete. The continuity is important to our success," Gale said.

The Foundation also welcomes new Board of Directors members: Dolores Bang, Mary Buller, Cindy Coffman and Chris Leech.

Bang is a life-long resident of Fremont. She is currently retired after working more than 18 years for Randall's Grocery and 11 years at First State Bank. Bang is the past president and the 2010 Show Chairman of Prairie Peacemakers Quilt Guild, historian and active member of First Baptist Church, member and past president of the Fremont Golf Club Ladies' Golf Association and a member of PEO HK Chapter. Dolores' husband, Eugene, passed away in 2007 after 54 years of marriage and five children.

Mary Buller is a life-long resident of North Bend. Buller graduated from Kearney State College. She is currently a co-owner of North Bend Grain Co., Inc., a family business, with her husband, John. She has served as a substitute teacher at the elementary level for over 30 years. Buller currently serves on the North Bend Central Foundation Board, North Bend Area Community Foundation Board and Friends of the North Bend Library building committee. She is also a member of St. Charles Catholic Church as a eucharistic minister, choir member and past parish council member. She is a member of the Dodge County Historical Society Board of Directors, belongs to PEO CT Chapter, St. Anne's Altar Society and is a volunteer at the May Museum. John and Mary have two sons, living in Elkhorn and in Lincoln.

Cindy Coffman is a life-long resident of Fremont. Coffman graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She is employed as a controller for Kelly Klosure in Fremont. She is

A Message from the President



The terms of four Board members of the Foundation have expired and many thanks and much appreciation goes out to Twila Flamme, Marianne Simmons, Linda Chapman and Stan Darling. They have given to our area and community for many years, and they have served the Foundation extremely well with their time, talent and commitment to the goals and mission of the Foundation.

For every action there is an opposite reaction, and we now have four new Board members who have large shoes to fill, but they are as equally capable and committed as those Board members they replace. Welcome Christine Leach, Cindy Coffman, Dee Bang and Mary Buller.

New Board members go through an orientation with Foundation officers, administration and committee chairs that touches upon the organization of our Foundation and the details of how things get done. Listening to what was presented only highlights why our community can trust their donations with this group and rest assured that community needs will be met to the extent our funds permit.

One can only marvel at the attention to detail, the desire to improve and the flexibility to meet new challenges, yet always keeping in mind that service to the needs of our area is of utmost importance.

So what is the point? Our Board of Directors deserve a lot of thanks and appreciation for the job they do.

Thank you, keep up the good work.

Tom Thomsen
FACF Board President

currently on the Fremont Opera House Board, a member of the Priscilla Flower Mission and PEO AJ Chapter and a member of St. James Episcopal Church. She is married to Mike, who is employed with Diers Ford-Lincoln-Mercury. They have two children: Carly Coffman, RN BSN at Creighton Med Center NICU, and Chris Coffman, a May graduate of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Chris Leech has resided in Fremont for the past 20 years. Leech graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She is a member of the board of directors for the Fremont Opera House, secretary/treasurer of the Fremont Opera House Capital Campaign, member of Priscilla Flower Mission and PEO AJ Chapter. She is married to Les, president of Fremont Beef Company, and they have three sons: Adam in Boston, MA; Aaron (and wife Lauren) in Clemson, SC; and Nathan (and wife Claire) in Spartanburg, SC.

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Book of Memories

Donors may establish a lasting memorial to honor the memory of a friend or relative, or to honor a special occasion, such as retirement, through a gift to the Book of Memories. The name of the person honored is inscribed in the "Book of Memories," an attractive, leather-bound volume displayed at the Keene Memorial Library.

In memory of:

- Marvin Bartling
- Betty Camp
- Melanie Craig
- Eldon L. Davis
- Irene Feaster
- Lois Nielsen
- Bessie Mills
- Alan Mulliken
- Betsy Mulliken
- Rovilla Munday
- Raymond A. "Ray" Nelson
- Mary Newkirk Dimmitt
- Betty L. Phillippe
- Robert L. Preston
- Abbey Ryerson
- Joe Strauss
- Jean Welstead



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