The mission of the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation is to acquire and distribute resources that support various Lakeshore Public School programs and projects aimed at enhancing, enriching, or supplementing learning opportunities for students, staff, and community.

THANK YOU, SPONSORS!

GOLF SCRAMBLE
MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2019
Learn more PAGE 2.

APPLY FOR AN LEF GRANT TODAY!
Learn more PAGE 11.

TRUSTEES
JC Anderson
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Laurie Schmidt
Kim Thompson
Naomi Ventura
Kathleen Wolf
17TH ANNUAL LAKE SHORE GOLF SCRAMBLE

THE FUN HAPPENS
MONDAY, JUNE 17

Register your team at:
LEFonline.org

Learn more at LEFonline.org

The Lakeshore Golf Scramble will be held on Monday, June 17, 2019 at the Harbor Shores Golf Club in Benton Harbor. The event starts with a 8:45 A.M. shotgun start. We have had a full roster of golfers the past two years. Don’t miss out on getting your team registered for this year’s golf outing.

Sponsors make this event possible. All proceeds go to benefit students and teachers of Lakeshore Public Schools. Sponsors please register at LEFonline.org

THE LAKE SHORE EXCELLENCE FOUNDATION (LEF) HAS A LOFTY MISSION.

We believe that we can all reach higher to provide learning opportunities for our students, staff, and community. That’s why every year, the LEF exceeds our goal of raising more than $350,000 to financially support various Lakeshore Public School projects and grants.

Excellent schools are the foundation of excellent communities. When you invest in Lakeshore schools through the LEF, you are investing in the quality of life in our community both today and tomorrow. Superior education is no accident; it takes a lot of hard work and plentiful resources. Even though Lakeshore Public Schools receives some of the lowest per pupil funding in Michigan, we don’t settle for mediocre education. Our schools live up to their motto: “Grounded in Tradition; Committed to Excellence.”

At Lakeshore, academic excellence is evident in every building, every day. Your funds help students reach higher toward realizing their potential. The LEF makes learning opportunities available that simply could not be supported through regular school funding sources. In collaboration with Lakeshore staff, we invest in four areas: academics, the arts, technology, and our community. We seek to enrich the curriculum, expose students to cultural opportunities, create a technology-rich learning environment and add vitality to the lives of everyone in our community.

REACH HIGHER WITH US … READ MORE PAGE 12.

LAKE SHORE EXCELLENCE FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT FUND

The Endowment Fund is our long-term strategy to funding the LEF mission of learning for generations to come. Annually, the LEF Board evaluates the health of the fund, makes contributions based on giving and project needs, and reinvests the earned interest. If you are interested in learning more about the Endowment Fund, please contact J.C. Anderson at (269) 921-2513 or email at anderjcna@gmail.com.
On February 11, I had the opportunity to give LEF’s annual report to the Lakeshore Public School’s Board of Education. Here are a few of the highlights:

2018 was our best year for fundraising in the 21 year history of LEF. A total of $563,900 was raised and will be used for major projects and grants benefiting our students, teachers and the community.

In 2019, there will be funding for four (4) major projects and $200,000 in student and teacher grants.

The 4 major projects include:
1. STEM Implementation
2. Reading Matters
3. Auditorium Updates
4. Stadium Speaker Enhancements

Superintendent, Phil Freeman, perhaps best summarized the impact of LEF by saying—

“....would we have eventually gotten these projects done? Yes, a decade from now. Being able to have the LEF’s financial support to accelerate these projects to impact the students in the classrooms today is amazing.”

As a community, we should feel good about the support in our community to invest in our schools. That said, our work is not done. I will share two facts that are alarming and emphasize the need for the continued fundraising work of the LEF on behalf of our students, teachers and the community.

These two concerns include:

**Lakeshore Public Schools remains in the bottom 25% of state revenue per student.**

- For the six (6) years that I have served as Chairperson of the LEF, Lakeshore Public Schools has remained among the districts with the lowest foundation allowance per student putting it in the bottom 25% of funding for public schools on a revenue per student basis.

- The $7,871 allocated by the State per student for Lakeshore falls $1719 short of the $9,590 per student required for a basic education in Michigan according to the School Finance Research Collaborative (2017).

The recently released study, Michigan State University Policy Report, determined:

- Michigan was 50th in the nation in growth of public school funding between 1995 and 2015, declining more than 15% over that period when adjusted for inflation.

To continue the fine traditions of academic and program excellence that defines Lakeshore, the need for continued LEF fundraising is obvious. Our 2018 LEF fundraising was the best ever at $563,900. Still, we are committed to support the positive efforts in our schools by raising significant funds that have a proven impact on our students.

I have made it a practice to be transparent with our LEF efforts and focus. So, above you see some good news, but also some troubling news impacting our Lakeshore Public Schools and therefore, our community. Your financial support is greatly appreciated.

LEF recently mailed more than 2,000 letters to Lakeshore Public School households. The goal is to double the number of contributors. All monetary gifts are appreciated. To learn more visit LEFonline.org or contact myself. I would appreciate the opportunity to discuss this with you and would honor your valuable time with only a 15 minute conversation.

I can be reached by email (anderjcna@gmail.com) or by phone (269-921-2513).

Sincerely,

J.C. Anderson, Chairman

A very BIG Thank You is in order to the 90 individual and business donors that generously contributed 136 items to our Third Annual LEF Online Auction. And, as important, a big THANK YOU to the 161 bidders who took part in the auction that ran from February 2-9.

The results (drum roll please...)

**DONORS + AUCTION WINNERS = $19,000 to Lakeshore Public Schools!**

This year’s results far exceeded our expectations. For comparison, in 2018, the Auction raised $13,800. LEF Board member, Lori Marciniak, who serves as Chair for the auction, deserves a great deal of credit for this success. The Auction has given LEF a great start in 2019.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

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J.C. Anderson
LEF Chairman

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LEF recently mailed more than 2,000 letters to Lakeshore Public School households. The goal is to double the number of contributors. All monetary gifts are appreciated. To learn more visit LEFonline.org or contact myself. I would appreciate the opportunity to discuss this with you and would honor your valuable time with only a 15 minute conversation.

I can be reached by email (anderjcna@gmail.com) or by phone (269-921-2513).

Sincerely,

J.C. Anderson, Chairman
DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI
MICHAEL BRADLEY, CLASS OF 1977

“He was the oldest graduate in his police academy class,” said Laura. “We always told our kids to pick a job they love, and that’s why I encouraged Mike to go back and do what he wanted to do. He has loved the job, and that’s why I think he has gone so far.”

Bradley began his career in law enforcement serving with the Berrien County Sheriff’s Office as a jail deputy and court officer before being promoted to patrol deputy with the county’s enforcement division. But his star was quickly rising, and after just three years on the road, Bradley became the Deputy Director of Emergency Management, and later, Chief Deputy of Emergency Management and Homeland Security. He retired with the rank of Chief Deputy of the Berrien County Sheriff’s Department, and currently serves as acting Emergency Management Coordinator and Deputy Chief of Police for the Pokagon Tribal Nation.

“The Distinguished Alumni committee looks for candidates who excel in their professions, and make significant contributions to their communities, to serve as role models who inspire and challenge today’s students,” said Deja. “Michael has by far exceeded these requirements working behind the scenes in Berrien County, so our community is prepared and safe in the event of an emergency.”

Lakeshore Alumni Association President and Lakeshore Excellence Foundation Trustee Chad Deja says Bradley is an excellent choice as this year’s honoree.

Bradley’s work has been recognized by the Michigan Emergency Management Association, where he was awarded recovery, response, and preparedness of the year honors, as well as top Professional Emergency Manager, before being appointed in 2014, and again in 2018, by then-Governor Rick Snyder, to the Michigan Citizen-Community Emergency Response Coordinating Council (MCCERCC) for his technical expertise related to emergency management. His other community involvement includes serving as chair of the Berrien County Chapter of the American Red Cross.

“Graduating from Lakeshore and coming back to this award from Lakeshore is a right of passage,” said Bradley. “I tripped on the way up to the podium while giving my commencement speech as a graduating senior. The first thing that came to my mind was ‘I get to try it again!’”

That’s not the only do-over Bradley has experienced. His graduating class voted him “Most Likely to be a Cop.” A premonition that was put on hold, after family obligations led Mike down a career path that his wife Laura knew was not his true calling.

“To me, my success is because of the people I work with,” said Bradley. “Everything I have done, and every committee I have sat on, those projects have been successful because of them.”

After decades focused on that mission of safety, Bradley says he’s not done yet.

“It’s the 180,000 people who make up Berrien County and the 3,000 I now serve as part of the tribal nation,” said Bradley. “As long as I can help that is what I am going to do.”
The Lakeshore Excellence Foundation will honor Bradley during a special ceremony prior to his speaking at Lakeshore’s commencement ceremony in June. As Bradley ponders how he’ll address the class of 2019, he offers this advice:

“If you believe beyond your problem and take care of what’s important now, that’s what’s going to take you far in both your personal and professional life,” said Bradley.

“What I have done in my life is no different than the kids who are ready to take their tassels and move them to the other side. They are all distinguished graduates, because they have all worked hard to make it to this point.”

THE ECONOMIC CLUB OF SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN SPEAKER SERIES

2018 SPEAKER: JOE BIDEN

Each year, students from Lakeshore and surrounding districts get an up-close-and-personal interaction with some of the greatest leaders in the world. Thanks to a collaborative agreement between the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation and The Economic Club of Southwest Michigan, approximately 20-40 students get the opportunity to attend.

LEF hosts these events and invites: Lakeshore, St. Joseph, Berrien Springs, Michigan Lutheran, Bridgman, and area home school students.

After a private Q&A session with the speaker, students enjoy listening to a speech given in the conference room at the Mendel Center. Immediately following, the speaker engages in a round-table discussion with students where feedback and ideas are shared.

CLASS OF 1969 50TH REUNION

CLASS OF ‘69, YOUR 50-YEAR REUNION IS COMING.

For information and to get your name on the list, please visit the LEF website: www.lefonline.org/50-year-registration-form

HOPE TO SEE YOU!

YOU SHOP. AMAZON GIVES.

MAKE YOUR ONLINE SHOPPING COUNT!

It’s as simple as going to: smile.amazon.com

Select Lakeshore Excellence Foundation as your charitable organization. From then on, any eligible purchase will result in 0.5% going to LEF!
About two years ago, many things came together to formulate a long term literacy initiative based on the following COMMITMENTS:

- To train teachers with a long term professional developer who would come often and consistently and to allow teachers to attend the renowned Teachers College at Columbia University in New York to receive specialized and intense training in reading and writing
- To provide new curriculum and resources in reading and writing for all teachers
- To provide $3,000 per classroom for adding books to enrich classroom libraries where kids have access and choice in books every day

Dr. Julie Powell
Assistant Superintendent

As the Assistant Superintendent of Lakeshore, I have the pleasure and passion to be able to coordinate teaching and learning in our schools.

We are incredibly GRATEFUL for our Lakeshore Excellence Foundation with their generous contribution to our efforts. We could not get as far nor as fast without them. Following are some quotes from teachers:

“I am so grateful for the opportunities the Reading Matters grant has provided. I was lucky enough to attend Teachers College in New York, where I learned so much useful information that I’ve been able to use in my classroom, as well as share with my colleagues. We needed many new books to align with our new reading curriculum and the Reading Matters grant has allowed me to purchase so many wonderful new books for my classroom library!”

Jillian Crockett, Kindergarten teacher, Stewart Elementary

“My kids love the variety and depth in our classroom library with the new books I have been able to purchase with the Reading Matters grant. They get so excited whenever I get a new order or I take out a genre of books I have hidden away for a new reading unit. So many of my kids groan when reading time is over or ask if they can read longer! I am very grateful to the LEF to be able to have these options for my students.”

Jen Hyns, 3rd Grade teacher, Hollywood Elementary

“The Reading Matters Grant directly impacts the quality of my instruction because of my experience at the Summer Institutes for Reading at Columbia’s Teachers College. I am so fortunate to have gone to a training that continues to have a lasting influence on how I teach reading and writing to students. Additionally, because of the grant money to buy new books for a wide variety of readers in my classroom, I feel that I am better equipped to help guide and grow my students than I ever was before we started this initiative. I currently have about 75 more books in my Amazon cart that my students have either asked for or that I’ve seen a need for in my classroom. How many teachers can say that?”

Maddie Haydon, 4th grade teacher, Roosevelt Elementary

“I love how motivated and engaged my students have become with reading. In fifth grade, we start our year with an Interpretation Book Clubs unit. The students learn how to work with a group and have deep conversations about plots, authors’ craft, and more. After the conclusion of the unit, many of my students choose to form their own book clubs and meet together outside of Reader’s Workshop class. It’s great to see them taking initiative and building reading into their lives outside of what is required. This wouldn’t be possible without having such a great selection of books for kids to choose from that meet both their needs and their interests.

Rachel Adams, 5th grade teacher, Stewart Elementary

Reading Matters is a fantastic example of the measurable impact our generous donors have on the students and staff within Lakeshore Schools. To learn more about LEF or to make a donation, visit LEFOnline.org.
SENSORY COUNSELING OFFICE DEFINED:

A room which combines a range of stimuli to help individuals develop and engage their senses. These include equipment, such as light coverings, colors, sounds, tactile wall, swings, crash pads, and sensory soft play objects all within a safe environment that allows a person using it to explore and interact without risk.

Mindy Weaver received a LEF Staff Support Grant to modify her own office into a sensory room that is open to all students in the Middle School.

She designed her sensory room to be a calming or re-focusing room. The equipment purchased for the room is geared more for therapeutic sensory that provides strategies to assist students in calming down.

Sensory stimulation can engage different areas of the brain, helping children absorb and retain more information and better meeting the needs of the individual. In this environment, students can safely engage and explore the environment, which leads to positive effects on their ability to react and interact with the larger world around them (i.e., following classroom expectations and peer relationships.)

Students and parents alike see the room as fun and there are more students interested in spending time in my office not because they need sensory stimulation but just because they think it’s fun!

“Thank you, LEF, for all you do to help our district! I greatly appreciate this opportunity.”

-- Mindy Weaver, School Counselor
LEF GRANTS IN ACTION -- LEARNING WITH 3D PRINTERS
Lakeshore Fab Lab- LEF Staff Support Grant

Lakeshore’s Fab Lab (Fabrication Laboratory) is preparing students for the future. Additional 3D Printers were purchased with a LEF Staff Support Grant at the high school. Now more students can take CAD (computer aided design) concepts and bring them to life.

This is the process that engineers use in the real world: design, build, evaluate, test, and continuously improve. With 3D Printers, students can evaluate and test their own creations. Students then are assessed based on completion of a 3D printed part and whether or not the part was a success. If the student can properly explain what went wrong with the print or the design and fixes the issue, that is success. The application of designing, creating and problem solving can be applied to many things in life.

The addition of more 3D Printers in the Fab Lab means that we can increase the number and frequency of student access to the Printers.

With 3D Printing, students are able to support the Technology exploration class with design projects and the Robotics Team with their design needs.

“Thank you all for making this happen. We will continue to create opportunities for the Lakeshore students.”
-- Bradley Smith, LHS Teacher

A SPECIAL THANKS --

Bradley Smith  LHS Fab Lab
Mike Schmidt  Electric Car Team
Doug Haygood  Engine Build Team
Jon Woodard  High School Robotics Team
Eric Schuh  Middle School FTC Robotics Coach
THANK YOU LAKESHORE EXCELLENCE FOUNDATION!

The Roosevelt Physical Education LEF Staff Support Grant was used to increase the number of throwing materials for students. Now more kids can participate at a time, and thus and have more time to practice and enjoy their physical education class.

Prior to the grant, we had a very low number of throwing materials: gator balls, footballs, yarn balls, etc. The lack of throwing materials slows the games down and makes the games more difficult.

Now the students have more than enough materials and it makes the games so much more enjoyable. In the first nine weeks, the students practiced throwing and rolling in a variety of games and competitions.

It has allowed us to play a wider variety of games.

Every student at Roosevelt was impacted with this grant. They will have a better experience in physical education/music and motion and developing these skills may encourage them to try a new sport that they have not been interested in before.

“Thanks to everyone at LEF for this opportunity.”
-- Aaron Toothman, Physical Education Teacher

APPLY FOR GRANTS AT LEFONLINE.ORG
THANK YOU, ONLINE AUCTION DONORS!
LEF thanks all of our donors. All proceeds benefit the students and staff at Lakeshore Schools.

Please thank, and continue to support, all the individuals and businesses who support Lakeshore Public Schools!

221 Main- Restaurant & Cocktail House
Abonmarche Consultants
Affinity Salon & Spa - Renee Borah
Alex’s Veggies
Applebee’s Neighborhood Grill & Bar
Berrien County
Bert’s Breakfast Korner
Bill Scalletta
Bit of Swiss
Bittersweet Ski Resort
Bob Lausman
Boulevard Inn & Bistro
bread+bar by Bit of Swiss
Bridgman Family Dental Care
Celebration Cinema
Chad Deja
Chateau Chantel
Chocolate Cafe- St Joseph
Coach’s Bar & Grill
Competitive Edge
-- Paula Wygonik and Mary Jo Tomasini
Cracker Barrel
Curious Kids’ Museum
Diamond Factory Service
Dura Mold Inc.
Fanatics
Fenn Valley Vineyards
Fernwood Botanical Garden
and Nature Preserve
Field Museum
Firekeepers Casino
Frederic & Kimberly’s
Friends of LEF
Full Circle Café & Espresso Bar
Grande Mere Inn
Gravity Winery
Great Lakes Eye Care
Greg Younger
Harbor Shores Golf Course
Hartline’s Greenhouse and Garden Center
Honor Credit Union
Hoopla Frozen Yogurt
Indian Lake Hills Golf Course
JC & Nancy Anderson
John Ball Zoo
Kilwins St. Joseph
Lakeshore Family Dental
Lakeshore High School
-- Athletic Department
Lakeshore Petroleum
-- John, Kathy & Mark Curtis
Lauren Clem
M Squared Modern Hair
M&W Tire
MagFit Training
Mark III Grille & Bar
Martin’s Super Markets
Matt Mantei
Melanie at Allure Hair Design
-- (Stevensville)
Michael Lovelace
Modern Day Knights
Moersch Hospitality Group
Nutrizone- Mary Jo Risetter
Olive Cart
Papa Vino’s Italian Kitchen
Perennial Accents
PGA Golf
Phil and Melissa Molloy
Red Coach Donuts
Revive Self Spa
Rick Waning
Roger Mojsiejenko
Santaniello’s Restaurant
-- and Banquet Facility
Sensational Spas
Shedd Aquarium
Silver Beach Pizza
Silver Harbor Brewing Company
Soft Touch Car Wash
Sophia’s House of Pancakes
Sophie Bauchet
Southshore/Mark Ficks
Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra
Sparkle Quik Lube
Tara Newman, Delicious Deliveries, LLC
Taylor Rental
Texas Corral Grill & Saloon
The Inn at Harbor Shores
Tom and Sharon Austin
Turquoise Top Hat
Vision Wealth Management, LLC
Whirlpool Corporation
Deadlines are approaching for student and teacher grants. All grant applications are taken online at grants.lefonline.org.

APRIL 15 DEADLINE FOR GRANTS

FOR STUDENTS:
Patti Florian Student Enrichment Grant
(formerly Stepping Stones Grant)

FOR TEACHERS:
Foundation Project Grant
Professional Development Grant

Please direct questions to:
Kim McAllister at kim.mcallister1@yahoo.com

APPLICABLE FOR GRANTS AT LEFONLINE.ORG

PATTI FLORIAN STUDENT ENRICHMENT GRANT
Application Deadline: April 15, 2019

Patti Florian Student Enrichment Grants are awarded for activities or events that promote self-improvement through exploration, discovery, study and interaction. This could include, but is not limited to: workshops, retreats, camps or lessons, all of which could serve as a springboard to further exploration or mastery.

Patti Florian Student Enrichment Grants are intended to serve as a means of access to experiences and opportunities outside of ongoing lessons, team and school curriculum activities. Patti Florian Student Enrichment Grants support student enrichment and fund learning experiences; providing opportunities to expand awareness of student interests and curiosities.

If you are a Lakeshore student in any grade, kindergarten through high school, this grant may be of interest to you! By taking some time to prepare an application, you may receive funds to support your interests. The LEF does not consider grades and family economics in evaluating the application.

FOUNDATION PROJECT GRANT
Application Deadline: April 15, 2019

The best ideas in education come from teachers, and LEF supports these ideas with our grants. Do you have a big idea for a quality educational experience that would benefit a large constituency of Lakeshore students, staff, and/or the community? If your idea would cost more than $2,500 you should consider applying for a Foundation Project Grant.

We are looking for creative, innovative proposals that support the LEF mission statement. Your proposal should be endorsed by the district.

Take this opportunity to think out of the box or reproduce what works in other classrooms or schools. Our goal is to support your creativity and enrich the educational experience of all Lakeshore students. If your idea has the potential to make a positive impact on your teaching, your students, your school or on others in the district, apply for a Foundation Project Grant now!

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT
Application Deadline: April 15, 2019

Do you have a great opportunity to develop and strengthen your professional talents and skills by attending a conference, seminar, workshop, college course or other experience?

The Professional Development Grant is for staff who seek to bring continual energy, talent and passion to their roles. It builds on the excellence of our staff by providing professional development opportunities in addition to those provided by the district.

Single grants are available in an amount up to $750 to cover the costs of registration and fees. A per diem for travel, meals and hotel will be considered if requested and will depend on available funds. Please note, if the Professional Development activity occurs on a school day, you must include $100/day in your request to pay for a substitute in your absence.
EVERY DOLLAR COUNTS AND EVERY VOLUNTEER HELPS.
We appreciate every contribution because your financial support is making a big difference for our students.

MANY WAYS YOU CAN GIVE TO THE LAKESHORE EXCELLENCE FOUNDATION:

DONATE CONVENIENTLY ONLINE AT LEFONLINE.ORG
It only takes a minute and your contribution will make a lifetime of difference to our schools. You may use any major credit card or your PayPal account.

SWING THOSE CLUBS
Participate in the annual Lakeshore Golf Scramble at the fabulous Harbor Shores Golf in Benton Harbor. This event takes place Monday, June 17 — details and registration will be posted at LEFonline.org. This Jack Nicklaus Signature Course gives you a spectacular setting in which to support your schools. You don’t have to be a pro to enjoy the rolling terrain, dramatic views of Lake Michigan and keeping your ball dry while playing alongside Paw Paw River and Ox Creek. The day includes 18 holes of golf, cart, a luncheon buffet, tee gifts and some surprises. All proceeds support LEF projects and grants. Questions? Contact Chairperson William Scaletta at 269.429.1638 or at williamscaletta@sbcglobal.net

BECOME A LAKESHORE LANCER LEADER
Lakeshore Lancer Leaders are contributors who annually donate $1,000 or more in support of LEF projects. We deeply appreciate this commitment to quality education and will work diligently to support projects that provide the richest learning experiences possible.

While it is impossible to thank Lancer Leaders enough, we offer the following benefits as a token of our appreciation:

• An annual reception honoring major donors
• 2 Lakeshore All Sports passes for athletic events held at Lakeshore schools (exclusive of post season games)
• 2 reserved seats at performances by the Lakeshore Arts Department (i.e. plays and concerts) in the Lakeshore Community Auditorium
• Special tours or previews of our completed projects
• . . . and (we really can’t say it enough), the gratitude of all students, staff and community members whose lives will be enriched because of your generosity!

CONTRIBUTION FORM

Name of Contributor(s):
____________________________________________

Address/City/State:
____________________________________________

Phone (Home): _______________________

Phone (Work): _______________________

Phone (Cell): _______________________

Email:  _______________________

Are you a Lakeshore graduate? ☐ YES ☐ NO
If YES, what year did you graduate? ________

Will your employer match this contribution? ☐ YES ☐ NO

My contribution amount: $_____________

Optional:
My gift is in honor/memory of:
____________________________________________

Address/City/State:
____________________________________________

SEND FORM AND CONTRIBUTION TO:

Lakeshore Excellence Foundation
5771 Cleveland Avenue, Stevensville, MI 49127

Please make checks payable to Lakeshore Excellence Foundation.

The Lakeshore Excellence Foundation was established in 1997 as a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization, governed by an all-volunteer Board of Directors made up of local community members. Your donation to the foundation is tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.