

# ~ Keynotes ~

*A publication of the Holmes County Education Foundation*



H O L M E S   C O U N T Y  
E D U C A T I O N  
F O U N D A T I O N

*Providing Key Opportunities  
for Further Education*

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## Celebrating 20 Years!

### *Education Foundation Reflects on Turning Twenty*

It has been said that many things grow better with age, and this sentiment has been no exception to the Holmes County Education Foundation. Beginning in 1989 with a seed (the vision of one person) the Foundation has since grown and thrived, and has become the vision and priority of many people within and outside the Holmes County community.



Big changes and major growth has been commonplace for the Foundation since that time. In 1991, the first scholarships were disbursed, totaling \$43,000. Twenty years later, over \$561,000 was awarded to new and renewing recipients. The pool of scholarships has also grown from one (the *Holmes County Education Foundation Scholarship*) to 38 named scholarships in honor or memory of various organizations, past and present residents and friends.

In this span of time, opportunities in addition to post-secondary scholarships became available to Holmes County residents and businesses. The Foundation's alternative grant program has allowed for vocational training for the Amish community as well as professional development grants for individuals from non-profit and public entities. The scope of educational encouragement has also increased with the creation of the Holmes County College Access Program.

To commemorate the celebration of twenty years, the Foundation has spearheaded a \$20/20 campaign, asking donors and scholarship recipient "alumni" to give a total gift of \$20 (or more) for the 20 years the Foundation has existed. Checks can be made payable to **HCEF** and sent to the Holmes County Education Foundation at 114 North Clay Street, Millersburg, OH 44654.

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us on a groups page  
on Facebook.

We plan to have  
updates for current  
recipients, keep

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**"recipient alumni" in the loop, provide information for special events, and post updates for donors. You must have a Facebook account to be able to view this groups page. We hope to add you as a friend!**

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## *A Message from our Director*

*"Most modern calendars mar the sweet simplicity of our lives by reminding us that each day that passes is the anniversary of some perfectly uninteresting event."*

- Oscar Wilde, Irish dramatist, novelist, and poet (1854 - 1900)



I would like to think that August 24, 1989 was a day that did hold an interesting event. It was on that day twenty years ago that the Holmes County Education Foundation was created. The donor's intent was to provide scholarships or other financial assistance for the pursuit of education or vocational training beyond grade school. Since then the Foundation has matured from infancy through its teens into an adult and I have been fortunate to have been a part of this transition for the last ten years.

Earlier this summer I was able to witness and participate in the 50th wedding anniversary of my parents. This type of celebration tends to be a rare occurrence these days and I'm proud of my parents that they reached this golden occasion. As we kids, spouses, grandkids and great-grandchild sat around the dinner table my father looked at mom and said "Look at what we have created." Little did they know fifty years earlier what they would accomplish in life and how their five children would multiply.

Little did the Foundation's creator know what they had created. The Foundation has multiplied from its modest beginning of providing \$43,000 in scholarships its first year to awarding \$561,000 in scholarships this year. In addition, nineteen vocational classes have been provided to the Amish community and the services of the Holmes County College Access Program have helped to increase the county college going rate by 6%.

To celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Holmes County Education Foundation we are announcing our \$20/20 Campaign. Please join me in donating \$20 or more to the Foundation so we can continue to make an impact in the lives of our students and our community. I know two special people who have made an impact in my life and I have contributed \$50 to the cause to honor their amazing golden accomplishment. :)

Darla A. Stitzlein, *Executive Director*

## NEW ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS WELCOMED



The Education Foundation would like to

*Anna M. Patton*  
Administrative Assistant



welcome three individuals to the HCEF Advisory Board: (*Top to bottom*) **Kate Findley**, retired educator, **Shawn Starlin**, Executive Director of the Holmes County Economic Development Council, and **Ronda Steimel** of Holmes County Title Company.

We look forward to getting to know these individuals and receiving their knowledge and guidance. The Foundation would also like to thank former members **Kurt Cline**, **Carol Hochstetler**, **Terri Loder**, **Mary Miller** and **Gary Sterrett** for graciously serving on the board.

## NEW SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS RECEIVE \$149,950



(Pictured, above) West Holmes scholarship recipients celebrate with scholarship families during Senior Awards Night, held on Wednesday, May 27th. Above (L-R), Jane Graven stands with Paul Skolmutch, who received the Graven Family Nursing Scholarship; Alicia Hipp, recipient of the Patricia M. Morganti Memorial Scholarship, poses with Education Foundation Administrative Assistant Anna Patton, niece of the late Patricia Morganti; Jeremy Duncan is congratulated by Darb Snyder for receiving the Darb Snyder Educational Scholarship.

The total amount in new Holmes County Education Foundation (*HCEF*) scholarship awards given is \$149,950 for the 2009-2010 academic year. Applicants still had an unmet need of \$613,699 despite receiving this assistance from the Foundation. A total of \$561,000 was awarded to new recipients and renewing recipients.

The Foundation would like to thank all of the Holmes County students who participated this year, the donors, community members, and educators who make the scholarships possible, and to the HCEF Trustees and Advisory Board for participating in the scholarship selection process.

The Holmes County Education Foundation has been encouraging further education for Holmes County residents by awarding well over \$5 million in scholarships and grants since 1991.

## SUMMER MEMORIAL EVENTS

### *Patten Poker Run and Frenette Golf Outing Carry on a Legacy*

The 5th Annual WHP3 Memorial Poker Run was held on Saturday, June 13th to remember Bill Patten, III. One hundred and seventy five riders toured Holmes and surrounding counties on motorcycles to raise funds for the William H. Patten III Memorial Scholarship. The event raised



more than \$2,000 for the cause. The scholarship benefits students pursuing the field of business or education. This year's recipient is Morgan Warner.



The 10th Annual Aimee Frenette-Rickly Memorial Golf Outing boasted mostly sunny skies with only a quick downpour on Sunday, June 28. Thirty-three teams enjoyed the event with the team of Mike Prater, Ryan Schlabach, Micah Roach, and Jon Trueblood coming in first with a score of 53. The golfing team of Roy Crayton, Sean Warner, Sam Crayton and Will



Crayton, as well as golfers Betty and Dick McNutt (*pictured, left*) pose for one of many photos taken to celebrate a decade of honoring Aimee Frenette-Rickly's memory. The Foundation would like to thank all of the

faithful hole sponsors, the Frenette family, donors and friends who make this annual event possible and wonderful every year.

## COLLEGE ACCESS NEWS

Spring proved to be jam-packed for College Access Advisor Ann Gastier.

Her days consisted of traveling to both West Holmes and Hiland High Schools, helping seniors with the college application process, filing Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) forms, speaking to parents regarding post-secondary education, aiding non-traditional students in their educational pursuits, making college visits, and so on! Though her summer slowed down a bit, Gastier continued to be busy holding sessions for Texas Guarantor (TG) loan replacement grant recipients, attending various seminars, and preparing for the next academic year. **Top photo:** Ann Gastier (*far back, right*), talks to TG Grant recipients about



financial literacy and provides them with tips for post-secondary educational life. **Center photo:** West Holmes students Chelsea Reigle and Katrina Miller display some of the books now available to the high school, thanks to the Holmes County College Access Program and the Ohio College Access Network (OCAN). **Bottom photo:** two enthusiastic models sport College Access tee-shirts that will be given to

next year's juniors who have taken on the college-seeking process.

## GOLDEN APPLES



*"Like apples of gold in settings of silver is a word fitly spoken." -Proverbs 25:11*



### *From our Gift Planning Officer*

If you sit through very many seminars or sermons, sooner or later you will hear these exact words, or words to this effect: "To fail to plan is to plan to fail." Let this little chestnut draw your attention to these questions...considerations to measure the impact of your legacy--

*What am I doing about planning for my family's future?*

*What lasting difference do I want to make in my community?*

The late Robert F. Sharpe, Sr. founded and directed the National Planned Giving Institute. More than once I heard him tell us about "four facts folks never think will happen to them":

- **DYING TOO SOON**- before they have taken sufficient action to ensure they have left enough financial resources to meet the needs of their family.
- **A CATASTROPHIC EVENT** - the devastating accident or major emergency where sudden adversity sweeps away their financial resources
- **A CHRONIC ILLNESS**- that slowly but surely drains away their resources while weakening their ability to oversee those resources
- **LIVING TOO LONG**- the very real possibility of them exhausting their financial resources, given today's lengthened life expectancies.

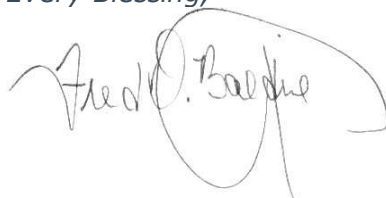
**A GOOD PLACE TO BEGIN** planning your legacy is to make a list of...

- **THE PEOPLE** you love and for whom you are responsible
- **THE PROPERTY** (*liquid assets, tangible/personal; real*) you own or anticipate owning
- **THE PLANS** you have to make for yourself, your loved ones and your community, church and or any other organization whose mission is dear to your heart
- **THE PLANNERS** you trust (*your attorney, CPA, CFP, Trust Officer*) to help you with your plans so you can realize your goals.

**A GOOD TIME TO BEGIN IS NOW!** I would be delighted to meet with you, get acquainted, learn about your goals, introduce you to a few options in legacy planning, and

(if need be) point you to some excellent people who are qualified to help you achieve your life legacy goals. Please feel free to contact me online at [plannedgiving@hcef.net](mailto:plannedgiving@hcef.net) or call me at (330) 674-7303, ext. #105.

Every Blessing,



Fred D. Balding, *Gift Planning Officer*

## AMISH VOCATIONAL TRAINING CLASS HELD

### *Boat Motor Class a First and a Success*

Seven students participated in the Basic Marine & Boat Motors class through the Amish Vocational Training Program. The class, concentrating on 2-cycle engines, began on March 18 and was taught by John Roberts of Roberts Technologies Services, LLC and Chris Plantz (pictured R-L, respectively, with boat motor). These Wednesday evening classes were held at the Engine Shed in Millersburg, owned by student Jonas Mast, and ended with a graduation on May 20.



Roberts stated that this class was the "best of the 19 classes through the [Education Foundation's] Amish Vocational Training Program" so far. Because of the busy summer months, no classes are being held, but Roberts and past students from his classes plan to represent the Foundation at the Doughty Valley Steam Show, July 23-25. This event will feature items from the previous tractor engine restoration class, as well as the boat motor class.

## LEADERSHIP GRADUATES CELEBRATE

### **Students Complete Leadership Holmes Co. Class**



HCEF Gift Planning Officer Fred Balding and the Holmes County GIS Consortium Director, Erik Parker (pictured, L-R) pose for a photo after Leadership Holmes County held graduation for its 2008-2009 members. Balding attended the group on behalf of the Foundation, and Parker was able to attend with the help

of a professional development grant provided by the Foundation.

"In all my 'fifty-something' years," Balding stated, "this has been one of the most marvelous times I've enjoyed. The very best things about it were the people I met, and those

*budding leaders who were classmates I now consider friends...The most lasting gift given me has been the relationships built with my Amish classmates. This especially happened when we interacted and exchanged thoughts each afternoon as I drove them to our scheduled points of interest in the county. If not for Leadership Holmes County, it is likely I would never have had this outstanding opportunity."*

*"I really appreciate the opportunity that the Holmes County Education Foundation provided me," Parker said. "The Leadership class helped me better understand my role and responsibility as a leader in government, as well as provided a way to better understand the people, economy, and inner workings of this beautiful place we call Holmes County...I would encourage anyone interested in developing their leadership skills to apply for Leadership Holmes County. [Facilitator] Leah Miller does a fantastic job."*

## SENIOR SERIES

### *Hot Summer Classes*

Senior citizens expanded their knowledge this spring and summer as two classes sparked interest. The first class, held in May, was Historical Facts of Holmes County, instructed by Forrest Chanay. Seen pictured (*right, top*), Chanay spoke about Fort Fizzle to interested history buffs. *"It has been a great opportunity to share information about our local people,"* Chanay said, *"and their involvement in the Civil War."* Forrest also heads the Civil War Round Table group that meets on a monthly basis at the Cary House.

June also proved to be interesting as Senior Series favorite Robin Hauenstein presented a seminar on writing in June. *"The Senior Series is a wonderful program that is gaining in popularity,"* Hauenstein said. *"I enjoy teaching courses because I feel I learn so much from the participants. So many of our friends and neighbors have stories to tell, want to learn a new language, enjoy reading and much more. I have grown to care for all of my students and am genuinely touched by the effort they put into their assignments and class participation. It is an honor for me to teach in the Senior Series. I feel as though I've not only learned a great deal, but have made friends with some wonderful people."* The Senior Series is a program presented by the Holmes County Higher Education Center, funded by the Holmes County Education Foundation.



## SPOTLIGHT ON ALUMNI

### *Featuring Mary Beth Zuercher*



*"Having chosen to work in the human services field, a college education has*



*significantly broadened my career opportunities,"* says Mary Beth Zuercher, program manager at the Holmes County Board of MR/DD (*Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities*). Zuercher, who has worked for MRDD for over

seven years, works with adults enrolled in the Sheltered Workshop program at Lynn Hope Industries. She works with a team to develop and implement goals and services necessary to support individuals in reaching their fullest potential. Mary Beth loves where she works and the support it receives from the community. *"My husband and I both grew up in Holmes County, but shortly after college,"* Mary Beth states, *"we moved out of state for several years. After we had our first child, we were happy to be able to return to Holmes County to be close to our families and to have the opportunity to raise our children in the same family-friendly community in which we both enjoyed growing up...I have been able to see first hand the tremendous amount of community and pride that is present in Holmes County [while at Lynn Hope],"* she states.

A 1993 graduate of West Holmes High School, Mary Beth received her Bachelor of Arts in sociology from the College of Wooster in 1997. She also received a Holmes County Education Foundation (HCEF) scholarship while at Wooster. *"School can be stressful enough without having to worry about money,"* she states. *"Receiving scholarships, such as those from the HCEF, allowed me the opportunity to worry less about my finances and to be able to focus more on my time and efforts on my studies."*

Zuercher also invests in the Education Foundation. *"My family and I greatly value the opportunities that our educations have afforded us, and we like being able to contribute to allow others the same opportunities. We also enjoy being able to donate as a way of honoring my husband's grandfather, Venus Zuercher, who was a school teacher for many years in Holmes County."*

Mary Beth and her husband Ted, live in Loudonville with their children MaKaylee (8) and Wesley (5). In her spare time, she enjoys cooking and remodeling her home.

## Scholarships Funded Through the Education Foundation

- Holmes County Education Foundation Scholarship
- [Anonymous Donors] Achievement Scholarship
- Baserman/Irving Family Scholarship
- Jennifer Bird Duff Memorial Scholarship
- Harold (H.T.) & Louise Blum Scholarship
- Joe & Frieda Bock Scholarship
- Ami Breitenbucher Memorial Nursing Scholarship
- Cary Scholarship
- College Access Last Dollar Grant
- Herbert & Corrinne Drushell Scholarship
- Donald C. Egger Memorial Scholarship
- French Ridge Title Co. LTD Scholarship
- Aimee Frenette-Rickly Memorial Scholarship
- Robert & Elsie Galley Education Scholarship
- Key Foundation Endowed Scholarship
  - Killbuck Area Scholarship
  - Helen Logsdon Scholarship
  - Master's Service Scholarship
  - McNutt Scholarship
- Patricia M. Morganti Memorial Scholarship
  - Keith Nowels Memorial Scholarship
- William H. Patten III Memorial Scholarship
  - Dr. Owen & Mildred Patterson Scholarship
- Raymond J. & Louella F. Patterson Scholarship
  - Sauerbrey Memorial Scholarship
  - John W. & Geneva Schuler Scholarship
  - Judson & Beverly Schuler Scholarship
- Blair Slutz Memorial Education Scholarship

- Melanie A. Gehm Memorial Scholarship
- Graven Family Nursing Scholarship
- Paul & Esther Haudenschild Memorial Music
- Holmes County Historical Society Scholarship
- Fred & Ollie Hoffman Scholarship
- Jennifer M. Jones Memorial Scholarship
- R. Dean & Jean A Smith Scholarship
- Darb Snyder Educational Scholarship
- Roy & Dorothy Stallman Memorial Scholarship
- Maxine Waltman Memorial Scholarship
- Helen Youngs Memorial Scholarship

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