One of the great benefits of aging is the enhanced perspective we seem to acquire from this seasoning process. Perhaps it’s the bird’s view of life that we gradually attain which enables us to recognize the elaborate patterns and rhythms that do indeed make up the tapestry of our lives. As each passing year goes by I find myself realizing more and more that our lives and the life of our community are dictated by this divine ebb and flow of these seasons of life.

Over the past 12 years since the Foundation first opened its doors for business I have seen seasons of plenty and times of great challenge. Through it all our Community Foundation has continued to grow, to grant, and impact those in need in our great community. I find this sense of permanence to be a great comfort as it shows me and the entire community that there are institutions that will always be there, regardless of the season, to provide a catalyst for positive change for all of our citizenry.

Currently we find ourselves in a time of economic challenge that has touched all of our lives and I am often struck by the paradoxical dilemma this creates. When money is scarce the tendency is for both people and organizations to tighten their belts and spend less. The great irony is that it is during these times the ability to give becomes not only critically important, but morally imperative.

The Community Foundation has a rich history of stepping up to provide a “Reservoir of Hope” to those in need in all areas of High Point. At this point in our institutional growth we are seeing that our future will depend upon strategically growing new partnerships to ensure that our next generation will benefit from our endowment.

What will these partnerships look like? Certainly growing the width and depth of our Donor family to insure a more diverse giving base will be a key to our future. Secondly, it will be absolutely critical that we be involved as a philanthropic vehicle that can help families of wealth as they go through the huge transfer of assets that is currently taking place in our community and throughout the country. Finally, we will be focusing upon the many Foundations, in most cases, local family Foundations that want to become multi-generational funds that grandchildren and great grandchildren can be involved in. The Foundation can introduce a sense of sustainability and continuity to these funds that will be very reassuring to these families who want to continue to impact their community for generations to come.

As we are reminded in the Book of Ecclesiastes, “For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under the heaven.” Let us commit as individuals and collectively as a community to always seek out the season of giving, to give with wisdom and discernment and to continue to build that “Reservoir of Hope” that our children and grandchildren will one day benefit from.
Stepping into the Chairmanship of the High Point Community Foundation has been a very humbling experience for me as I follow in the very large footprints of great men like Jim Morgan, Nido Qubein, Bill McGuinn, and Joe Rawley. Each of these Chairmen brought their own unique talents and skills to the position and over time I have seen how these combined contributions have made our Foundation stronger and uniquely suited to our community of High Point. I have grown up in this community, went to school here, worked here and raised my family here. Therefore, being a part of this city is something that I not only cherish but it is a sacred responsibility that I take very seriously.

As I move through my first year as the Foundation Chairman the vision that I see is one of growth that will broaden our support, a continuing commitment to fiscal responsibility and a focus on raising unrestricted gifts from our Donors. An “unrestricted gift” is exactly what it sounds like; it is a gift that Donors give us that can be used at the Foundation’s discretion which is a real key to our future growth.

Why are unrestricted gifts so important? First of all this money pays for the overhead of the Foundation which is less then 1% of our managed assets – this is considered very lean in the foundation world. In addition to the overhead the unrestricted dollars also completely fund our Annual Grants Program which has given millions of dollars to our local nonprofits since 1998. So in essence, when you make an unrestricted gift to the Community Foundation, you are really making a gift back to our community.

I’m a business man; I’ve worked in the financial community throughout my entire career so I tend to look at any endeavor in which I am involved in terms of dollars coming in and dollars going out. The Foundation, even though it is a nonprofit, is run like a business – we’re aggressive, lean, nimble and we strive to be innovators. This is an organization I’m very proud of and it is an endeavor that everyone in High Point, regardless of economic status, can be a part of. Join me and the Foundation family by investing in the future of our community.

Thank you for your friendship and your support of the Community Foundation, I look forward to all of you becoming a part of this great resource and together we can make High Point even stronger than it is today.
The Board of Trustees of the High Point Community Foundation, nonprofit leaders, and friends of the Foundation gathered on Wednesday, May 12th, 2010 at the High Point Country Club to celebrate philanthropy and recognize two women who helped change our community for the better by serving as educators, community leaders, and lifelong philanthropists.

The ballroom at the High Point Country Club was filled to capacity with a diverse collection of Donors, Trustees, friends, community leaders, and staff members from nonprofit organizations who serve the High Point Community. In the past 12 years the Community Foundation has granted over $2,864,200.00 to more than 200 nonprofit organizations. In addition to this, the Donor Advised Funds, an increasingly powerful reservoir for good, have granted over $18,000,000 to nonprofit organizations and causes.

The event was opened in prayer by Reverend Jim Summey, the Executive Director of High Point Community Against Violence. AB Henley recognized our sponsors Wells Fargo, Sharrard McGee and Gefen Productions. The program was highlighted by remarks from Chairman, AB Henley, who painted a picture of the Foundation mission; President, Paul Lessard, who gave an update on the state of the Foundation; and Grants Committee Member, Tom Blount, who summarized the Annual Grants Program results from 2009.

One of the reasons for the strong attendance this year was a very popular Keynote speaker who also happens to be a renowned artist and long time philanthropist, William “Bill” Mangum. Bill’s presentation focused upon his passion for helping the homeless and the audience was treated to the story behind the establishment of the Honor Card Program, a charity fundraiser that Mangum has run for over 20 years. Each year he produces an original painting that is focused upon the theme of homelessness which he then reproduces into cards that are purchased with all proceeds going to aid the Greensboro Urban Ministry. Mangum’s presentation was both thought provoking and inspiring and included a humorous walk through the beginning of his career as an artist.

The highlight of this year’s Annual Meeting was the naming of the 2010 “Spirit of the Foundation” Award recipients which were presented by Mayor Becky Smothers and former Mayor Judy Mendenhall. This very special award recognizes individuals who have given generously of their time, leadership, expertise, and passion for the good of both the Foundation and philanthropy in High Point. This year the award was shared by two remarkable women, Vicki Miller and Martha Yarborough, both of whom dedicated their careers to educating the youth of our community.

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Vicki’s impact was made as a teacher, Assistant Principal, and ultimately as a Principal. She was the creator of the Ferndale Pride Program that promoted community service and she was the recipient of the North Carolina PTA Outstanding Educator Award and High Point Schools District Teacher of the Year. Her academic work in graduate school was focused upon music education and one of her greatest achievements in this area was the founding and leading of The Heart and Soul Singers, a music group for special needs students and adults. She is widely known and appreciated for her child centered approach to education, her innovation, and ever present positive energy. Vicki’s volunteer work includes West End Ministries, the High Point Kiwanis Club, and United Way of Greater High Point.

Joining Vicki to receive the award was Martha Yarborough who spent a good portion of her career helping special needs children whom she placed in jobs throughout Guilford County. She also lead a very active volunteer life that included providing leadership for the High Point Family Life Council, the Wesley Memorial Children’s Ministry, Greensboro College, Westchester Academy, the American Red Cross, the YWCA and the Salvation Army.

In addition to the lifetime achievements of these two women, both have provided invaluable leadership by serving as Chairmen of the recently established Funds; The Heart of High Point and The Principal’s Fund. Vicki is serving as the Chair of the Principals’ Fund Committee, which is dedicated to providing funds for unexpected needs that constantly arise in High Point schools. Martha serves as Chair of the Heart of High Point Committee which provides funds for nonprofits who are providing basic needs in the Greater High Point community. These needs include food, shelter, medical care and rehabilitation.

Both Vicki and Martha led these Committees from startups to highly successful and effective funds that are making a critical difference for the people of High Point. The video presentation of the awards was indeed the emotional highlight of the program that brought the capacity crowd to their feet with heartfelt applause that brought both women and many in the audience to tears.

As Chairman AB Henley closed the 11th Annual Meeting of the High Point Community Foundation it was very clear that the state of philanthropy in High Point is vibrantly growing and continuing to touch the lives of many.
The High Point Community Foundation is proud to announce that the High Point High School (now High Point Central High School) class of 1960 has established a Fund that will provide scholarship money for deserving graduates. The Class of 1960 wanted to make a very visible statement of appreciation to the school which provided a very significant and positive life experience for their class.

Dr. Richard Carmichael, a Professor at Wake Forest University, and President of the Class of 1960, has led the effort and he believes that investing in the future is the best way to honor the past.

“My former classmates and I all have very fond recollections of our time at High Point High School and it was indeed a very important stepping stone for many of us as we went on to college and careers,” notes Carmichael. “We felt that creating a Fund at the Community Foundation that would provide money for deserving graduates of our high school to further their education would be the most fitting way to honor and thank this great institution.”

Carmichael and the Class of 1960 see this fund as a way to inspire and encourage more former classmates to participate in this endeavor that will be a permanent resource for deserving current students who have the ability to go on to the next level, but do not have access to the funds. High Point Central High School serves one of the most diverse populations in the State with over 36 nationalities represented in their student body. This population has a very high percentage of “Title One” students who have a variety of needs.

“Central High School has been and continues to be a critically important community institution,” notes Paul Lessard, President, HPCF. “It has a rich history, a highly respected IB program, a very successful ESL program, and a proud tradition of preparing High Point students who have gone on to do great things in our community and beyond. I am so proud of the Class of 1960 and I hope all the Central Alumni will rally behind Dr. Carmichael and his team to create a lasting and living tribute for this school.”

Carmichael has worked hand-in-hand with the Central High School Guidance Counseling office which will handle all the scholarship applications and notify the Foundation annually to identify the recipients. The Fund will be managed and grown by the High Point Community Foundation and in time it is hoped that this Fund will help thousands of students attend the College of their choice.

High Point Central High School has traditionally played a key role in the academic, social and emotional growth of generations of students and how fitting that the future of the school and indeed the High Point Community, will be shaped by the product of this great institution.

High Point High School Class of 1960
One of the wonderful aspects of philanthropy is that partnership opportunities often arise in which two organizations can pool funds to pursue a shared vision. The ability to work together not only brings more funds to the mission, it also builds relationships that can last a lifetime and often facilitate other partnerships.

In 2009 the Community Foundation had the privilege of joining with Dr. Patrick Harman and the Hayden-Harman Foundation to underwrite the creation of a very whimsical and alluring “World of Adventure” entrance to the children’s room at the High Point Public Library. One of the most attractive elements of the project was the company that would be developing the concept and creating the structure was run by former Walt Disney designers who we knew would bring a fresh look that would excite children and lure them into the children’s room.

“We believe that investing in a facility that perpetuates the all important goals of educating our city and encouraging citizens to continue to grow intellectually is an investment in High Point’s future,” notes Patrick Harman, President, Hayden-Harman Foundation. “We also loved the idea of helping to create an entrance that would make our children more excited about books and the process of learning. We enjoyed working with the High Point Community Foundation and know that we will partner again in the years to come.”

The project came to fruition early this spring when Kem Ellis, Executive Director of the Library, invited the Hayden-Harman Trustees, High Point Community Foundation Trustees, the Library Trustees and their friends and supporters from the community for the unveiling of the new creation. Several children were in attendance and were invited to join the adults to pull back the curtain that had been concealing the object of everyone’s curiosity. The end result was absolutely stunning and the reactions ranged from joy to amazement from the children. It was gratifying to see that the goal of the entrance was already working as it drew all of the children into the new room.

The project was a great example of what can be accomplished when leaders set their expectations high and are willing to pool resources to make dreams possible. The High Point Library is indeed one of the crown jewels of the community of High Point as it brings together a very diverse population and encourages both young people and adults to pursue two of the most important and needed activities; learning to read and expanding knowledge and imaginations. The new children’s room is a shining example that has set the standard for other communities around the state.

When you first meet Patrick Harman one immediately thinks of a college professor and you would be right as Patrick holds a PhD and is an adjunct professor at Elon University. In addition to his teaching, he also spends an enormous amount of time looking for new Foundation projects and monitoring the status of previously awarded grants. The Foundation currently makes grants in High Point and in Alamance County. Patrick is joined in the management of the Hayden-Harman Foundation by the entire family who all has a say in the granting process.

“The Hayden-Harman Foundation is doing critically important work in our community and they are accomplishing this with insightful and wise leadership,” states Lesard. “We enjoy working with them and are so grateful for this family who sees needs and are willing to do something about them. We look forward to growing our relationship with them over the years and doing more projects together.”

As the bible scripture states, “Two are better than one, because they have good return for their labor.” Here’s hoping this shared labor continues for the years to come.
We often hear about the importance of corporate philanthropy and over the years in High Point there has been a tremendous amount of giving that has come from businesses that have ranged from textile, furniture, chemical and even lumber companies. In the last 20 years some of these benefactors have faded away, or at least scaled down their operations because they have been sold, moved off shore, or simply closed down. High Point, like every city in the country, is dealing with this economic transition by encouraging and creating good environments that can help new businesses prosper. One of the most encouraging signs of this economic rebirth is the appearance of new corporate benefactors and nowhere is this more evident than at Cornerstone Health Care.

In a very short time the Cornerstone Health Care Foundation, which is led by Page Redpath and her staff, has grown in both assets and through the impact they are making with their innovative programs which are targeted toward exposing students to health care careers. Both High Point Central High School and Andrews High School have established health-care academic tracks for students who want to ultimately work in areas of health technology, nursing, and even practicing as Physician’s Assistants and Doctors.

The Cornerstone Health Care Foundation has invested in these young people by providing field trips, speakers and a summer camp program where students learned first-hand about the healing profession. This past July the five-day Camp Cornerstone allowed students to observe doctors, learn about the application process for higher education, and tour laboratories at the Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center.

“Our community is full of young people who have so much potential and can realistically become professional healthcare providers if they simply receive some guidance and exposure, that's what we see as our role in the High Point community,” states Redpath. “As the economy evolves the healthcare field will continue to grow and these careers have the potential to create productive lives for the students and employ more of our local population.”

Cornerstone Health Care is widely known for its high quality medical facilities and the idea of the Foundation grew out of a sense of commitment to the community they serve. High Point has been very good to Cornerstone so it simply made sense to the organization's leadership to pay this blessing forward.

“We are rapidly growing a very successful organization and we believe that it is our responsibility to give back and plant seeds, if you will, to create positive things for our next generation,” notes Dr. Grace Terrell, President & CEO, Cornerstone Health Care. “It is refreshing to see these young people so hungry to learn and it is also very satisfying to be able to work with them as they grow.”

In addition to Camp Cornerstone, The Foundation has also underwritten and organized a two-day Cornerstone Sports Medicine Seminar which covered the identification and treatment of injuries to knees, feet and shoulders which are more common to high school sports. They also looked at two areas of concern that are becoming more visible amongst athletes like concussions and heat illness.

The seminar was held at Providence Place, which now houses

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Every great endeavor needs a champion, someone who not only believes in the mission, but is passionate enough to be willing to invest their time, energy, resources and yes, prayers. The High Point Community Foundation was blessed to have two truly remarkable friends and champions in Jim, Sr. and Jesse Millis. Many would say that Jim was the visionary and the very visible leader whose enthusiasm and vision made many great things happen in this community. Jesse, however, was always very happy being in the background where she served as Jim’s most valued advisor, best friend, and his moral and spiritual compass who never forgot that the money they had been blessed with was never theirs, but only on loan from God.

To know Jesse was to understand that her life perspective was based upon one thing and one thing only, her faith in God… the rest she believed were only details. She was a woman who could always cut through the fat and get to the heart of the matter. She understood that most of the things our culture holds as valuable are really very temporary and not to be counted upon. She found her identity and wealth in her faith, her family, her friends and the lifelong love affair she and Jim had with High Point. In a generation that too often relies on relativism and shifting priorities Jesse was a welcome relief for she would tell you exactly what she thought and made no bones about it. You always knew where Jesse stood. She was a woman who saw things in black and white, right or wrong, and this sense of clarity and consistency of belief was always a breath of fresh air.

Jesse never put any stock in social pretense and unless you knew of her wealth it was impossible to know that she wasn’t just another Good Samaritan who simply enjoyed serving others. She was always very committed to organizations that reached out to the poorest of poor. What many admired most about her was that she not only gave of her resources but she found her greatest joy in rolling up her sleeves and giving of herself. She was a woman who did not see people in terms of their social standing, but only cared about the condition of their heart and their willingness to serve others. It was always about giving and passing along the blessing that defined and illuminated Jesse’s heart.

Very few people in this community will ever really know how much Jesse gave back to her beloved High Point and that was exactly the way she would have wanted it. She abhorred recognition and believed the highest form of philanthropy is that which is done anonymously. She always reached out to the downtrodden and she was fiercely loyal to her friends. She lovingly embraced her children; Jim, Jr., Bill, Emily and Molly as well as her Grandchildren and Great-Grandchildren as God’s greatest earthly gifts, but most of all, she was a woman after God’s own heart.

Cornerstone’s new administrative offices, where it hosted a large crowd of area coaches and trainers. The first time program was a unique opportunity for those attending to hear directly from sports medicine professionals like Dr. John S. Tipton who shared about his local sports medicine practice and could give immediate feedback to many questions fielded from the attentive audience. The seminar, which they plan to make an annual event, was very well attended and received high marks from all who took part in the two-day tutorial.

“We are so blessed to have the outstanding leadership that both Grace and Page provide this new and growing Foundation,” notes Jim Morgan, Chairman, Cornerstone Health Care Foundation. “They are two very bright and detail-oriented profession-
Wendy Fuscoe, the Executive Director of The City Project, is a weekend runner. Not a fast one, but most Saturdays and Sundays she runs a 4-5 mile loop around her neighborhood. She runs past million dollar homes, and others far more modestly priced. She strides through the Uptowne district, the Johnson Street Historic District, the Showroom District (Downtown) and past the hospital. These districts are all part of the core city area – our urban core. Every time she runs her loop she marvels at the diversity and loves the fact that she is part of the effort to advocate for the return of people, businesses and services to the urban core of High Point.

The City Project consists of a group of passionate community leaders who have been tasked with implementing the core city plan and these folks are passionate about High Point. They are looking to the days ahead when our Main Street will actually be a “main street” instead of a thoroughfare. They see a day when living in the core city will mean you will be able to walk down the street and get a cup of coffee and a newspaper. They imagine a time when the Uptowne (Main Street from State Ave. to Ray Ave.) will have all the amenities found in a downtown, and our downtown will have restaurants and retail shops to complement the showroom properties. They can see South Main becoming a collection of eclectic stores and restaurants for the 10,000 GTCC students and 5,000 HPU students. They envision that one day Washington Street will be the go-to place for good entertainment and one-of-a-kind shopping and dining. The Core City Plan which was adopted by the City Council in 2007 lays out a blueprint for what High Point’s urban core can look like and The City Project’s goal and reason for being is to see the plan become reality.

Wendy and The City Project are advocates, or cheerleaders if you will, for our urban center. Over the past 2 years, they have scoured the land for funds that will underwrite and lay the foundation for change. They have gone to foundations (local and national), and to federal and state government looking for money to construct urban greenways, streetscape Main Street, do environmental assessments, construct master plans and fund smaller projects that demonstrate change (such as the Uptowne banners). They have worked with city government to amend the city ordinance and code to allow for “A-frame” signage and sidewalk dining. They have fostered the formation of the Uptowne High Point Association and are strong proponents for getting Washington Street on the Historic Register.

They have had streetscape plans drawn for Washington Street and already some private investment is taking place. They are the energy and drive behind the Uptowne events that have been bringing Beach music and parties to Main Street with great success. They have local artists talking about murals and art work to make our buildings more interesting. They were advocates for the small business loan pool and are even now pushing for other options that will make the urban core an attractive place for new businesses.

They have harnessed the young intellectual creativity of students at GTCC, HPU and UNCG to assist in various projects, and with every step they are working hand-in-hand with city government. This effort will take equal parts public and private involvement – and these steps are already being taken.

Why is The City Project the future for you, me and High Point? It’s simple, we can continue having Main Street used as a super highway with cars hurling past our retail stores; or we can do what Asheville, Winston-Salem, Raleigh, Durham and Salisbury have done and reclaim the core of our city for the people it was originally designed for, the citizens of High Point.

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When Wendy first met Gary Simon, owner of Simon Jewelers, she asked him what it was like owning a high-end jewelry store at such a busy intersection, with traffic moving 45 miles an hour and a bird’s eye view of a gas station and car lot. His response was surprising. “I don’t see a gas station,” stated Simon. “I see Tiffany’s. And I don’t see a car lot – I see Bergdorf’s”. It is why Gary stays, and believes that one day soon our city will share his dream. Wendy and The City Project see the same vision and ask for all of High Point’s support.
His past December the High Point Community Foundation inaugurated a new Chairman, AB Henley. He is no stranger to High Point, he grew up here, raised his family here, and became a leader in the business community. AB attended Guilford College and completed his BA Degree at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In 1983 he received his MBA with a concentration in finance from the Kenan-Flagler Business School at UNC-Chapel Hill.

Henley later founded and served as the President of Southeastern Factors, a division of the First Factors Corporation that was later acquired by GE Capital. AB also served as President of Henley Paper, a 200 employee paper and packaging company. Locally, Henley is well known for his work in renovating the award winning historical preservation hotel, the J.H. Adams Inn. Today, Henley is a partner at RealtyAnalytix Advisors, a real estate advisory firm specializing in representing companies in the leasing, acquisition and sale of commercial real estate.

In addition to his professional life AB is active with many local organizations: Branch Banking and Trust Company, High Point Chamber of Commerce, High Point Regional Health System, Westchester Country Day School and High Point Community Foundation. AB is married to Grace Fulton Henley and they have two children, Bo (14) and Laney (11).

As the youngest Chairman in the history of the Community Foundation, AB has also served as Chairman of the Investment Committee for five years. The Acorn thought our readers might like to know more about the man who will steer the Foundation through 2011.

**ACORN:** You have assumed a leadership position at the Community Foundation that has a rich history of truly outstanding community leaders like Jim Morgan, Nido Qubein, Bill McGuinn, and Joe Rawley. How has working with these men impacted you over the years and how might it influence your tenure as Chairman?

**Henley:** While each of these men has brought different skills and strengths to the position there has been a tangible culture of leadership that has been consistent over the years. The way the business of the Foundation has been run since day one has been very mission centered, with a commitment to integrity and transparency and a real devotion to serving the entire community. One cannot work with men of this caliber and not feel that this organization and its leadership is indeed a sacred trust. I look forward to following in their footsteps and building upon the many contributions these men brought to our cause.

**ACORN:** Can you talk about what you see as the core mission of the Foundation and how that might impact High Point today?

**Henley:** Since the very beginning the Community Foundation’s core mission has been three-fold; to raise an endowment for the good of the community; to manage Donor Advised Funds and endowments and to provide an Annual Grants program that serves the nonprofit organizations in the community. I believe that now more than ever the Foundation is serving as a safety net for our High Point community and it is a resource that will always be there to support all of our citizenry.

**ACORN:** You served as the Chairman of the Investment Committee for over five years, how will that impact your Chairmanship?

**Henley:** Serving as Chairman of the Investment Committee was actually a great way to prepare for this Chairmanship. First and foremost it gave me an appreciation for how the Foundation works from a financial perspective which is a must in making strategic decisions. It requires that one always maintain a “long horizon” which is what the Foundation is all about - serving this community in perpetuity.

**ACORN:** Let’s take a moment and talk about your vision for the Community Foundation over the next two years.

**Henley:** I am very committed to broadening our donor base and really would like to focus on the need to build up our Unrestricted Fund, which funds our Annual Grants program. Gifts to this fund will enable the Foundation to give even more money away each year to nonprofit organizations and I’d love to see this happen before my tenure is over.

**ACORN:** What do you see as the key issues the Foundation and by extension the City of High Point is facing at this time?

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When you ask leaders in a community about the one single thing that can change the life of an at-risk child the answer is all the same; EXPOSURE... EXPOSURE... EXPOSURE. No one understands this better than Martin, Lou, Ashlie and Mallory Green, the founders of one of the High Point Community Foundation’s most active Funds, Dustin’s GreenHouse. Each summer for the last seven years the Green family members and their volunteers identify students in area schools who are at-risk in terms of academics, home life and behavior. They then interview the kids and the significant people in their lives to determine if they would be a fit in the Dustin’s GreenHouse Globetrotters Program for that year.

Once selected, the GreenHouse Globetrotters meet faithfully with the ultimate goal of team building that creates a level of trust many of these young people have never experienced before. Ultimately their goal is help these students grow emotionally, intellectually and spiritually by taking them out of their comfort zones. They accomplish this by transporting them to another country where they do volunteer work, explore the culture, and get exposed to people and children who are often in situations so much worse then their own. The beauty of the program is that it truly is the tale of two journeys; there is the actual physical trip and then there is the amazing journey each participant takes in their own mind where they often discover potential they never knew they had.

This year’s trip took the Globetrotters to site of the recent World Cup, the exotic and beautiful country of South Africa, where they spent time with orphans in the township of Siyathuthuka, swam with sharks and met one of the most influential men in the world, Dr. Desmond Tutu. Dustin’s GreenHouse also teamed

Continued on next page
One of the key figures in the establishment of the High Point Community Foundation was and is Jim Morgan, well-known community leader and Managing Partner of the Herring, Morgan, Green and Rosenblutt, L.L.P. law firm. As early as 1990 Morgan, working with the late Jim Millis Sr., actually drew up the paperwork that established the Foundation’s legal entity. Both Morgan and Millis then worked for the next eight years to build the necessary support and financial resources to actually open the doors for business. Morgan, a former State Legislator, who has a long history starting, serving and sustaining nonprofit organizations as well as lending his time and leadership to important causes, was recognized for his commitment with two State organizations.

After practicing law for more than 40 years and serving in various leadership roles with the Bar Association, Morgan was inducted into the General Practice Hall of Fame by the North Carolina Bar Association as their Annual Meeting. This award recognized excellence in the practice of law at the local level as well as sustained commitment to serving all clients over the years with professionalism, respect and integrity.

In addition to the North Carolina Bar recognition, Jim Morgan was also recognized as the North Carolina Hospital Trustee of the Year at the North Carolina State Hospital Association’s Annual Meeting. This award is given to individuals who have invested years of service and leadership as a Trustee and as an advocate for High Point Regional Health System and also the State Hospital Board of Trustees.

Over the years, Jim has served in leadership roles in over 70 nonprofit organizations and has been a tireless community leader in both High Point and the Triad. Jim has also been a leading advocate for intercity cooperation in building a strong and unified Triad.

“Jim is a man who truly sees himself as a servant for his community,” notes Paul Lessard, President, HPCF. “I have watched Jim selflessly contribute to so many organizations over the years and I do believe that his longevity of service speaks volumes about his sense of commitment and passion for making High Point, the Triad and the State of North Carolina a better place for all of us. We are so proud of Jim and congratulate him on these two great deserved recognitions.”

**FOUNDING CHAIRMAN RECOGNIZED FOR LEADERSHIP AND SERVICES**

Jim Morgan

**DUSTIN’S GREENHOUSE (continued from previous page)**

up with one of our local celebrities, Doc Hendley, who was chosen as one of the Top 10 CNN Heroes of 2009 because of the success of his organization, Wine to Water, which provides one of the most critical resources to 3rd world countries… water… by drilling wells. In association with the digging of the well the Globetrotters planted a garden that not only left a spiritual footprint behind but also a legacy of the friendships that were built while creating the garden.

The grand finale of the 2010 Globetrotters trip was a once in a lifetime experience at the Kruger National Park where the young people were able to see lions, tigers and other varieties of African wildlife up close and personal. Keep in mind that many of these young people had never left the Triad and most had never even been on a plane before.

Needless to say the entire experience was life changing for all involved. What continues to make the Globetrotters so vitally important is that it is one of the few programs that truly focuses upon the hearts and souls of our young people as they develop a sense of servant leadership among the at-risk students who, in-turn, go back and change their own worlds.
Funds

Because they believe that the High Point Community Foundation will, over the years, be a tremendous force for good, touching many lives in our community, and because they have embraced the Foundation as a part of their stewardship program, this community will be forever grateful.

Donor Advised Funds
Linda Armstrong Endowment Fund
Robert & Sallie Brown Family Fund
Phil Chang & Friends Memorial Scholarship Fund
Earl E. & Kathryn W. Congdon Family Fund
William and Virginia Corrigan Family Fund
Katherine Harvey Covington Charitable Giving Fund
The Covington Family Fund
Joe & Fran Craycroft Charitable Fund
Bonnie Craig “Commitment for Quality Daycare” Fund
Daniel K. Davis Family Fund
Bill & Alice Ervin Family Fund
Bill & Lucille Fenn Family Fund
The James E. Foscue, Sr. Family Advised Fund
John N. and Louise Foster Family Fund
Hilda B. Fountain Endowed Fund
Garet’s Place Fund
Dustin’s GreenHouse Memorial Fund
The Chris & Charlie Greene Family Fund
Darrell & Stella Harris Family Fund
Douglas & Susan Harrison Fund
The David R. Hayworth “Commitment to Youth” Endowment Fund
The A. Boyden Henley, Jr. Family Fund
High Point Central Class of 1960 Scholarship Fund
High Point Regional Association of Realtors, Inc. Fund
High Point Medical Society Endowment Fund
Hirsch Family Fund
The Grace Gurley Horney Family Fund
J.E.M. Fund
David & Sharon Keever Family Foundation Fund
George & Nancy Lyles Family Fund
Marsh Furniture Family Fund
Kay & Dusty Maynard Family Fund
Bill & Caroline McGuinn Family Fund
David J. McIlquham Family Fund
William B. Millis Fund
James Millis, Jr. Fund
Molly Millis-Hedgecock Fund
Emily Millis-Hiatt Fund
The Donald B. Morgan Education Fund
North State Communications Fund
Shirley Pearson Scholars Fund
The Earl N. Phillips, Jr. Family Fund
Sallie B. Phillips Fund
The Nido & Mariana Qubein Family Fund
Robert B. & Nanabeth N. Rankin Family Fund
Dr. David Ross Memorial Fund
Stanley & Phyllis Shavitz Family Foundation Fund
The Jack & Marsha Slane Family Fund
The Tilley-Higgins Fund
Michael J. Ujevich Fund
James E. & Becky Farlow Wray Family Fund
Richard C. & Marietta Wright Family Fund
Jordan & Lou S. Washburn Family Fund

Special Interest Funds
Avenue of Flags Fund
Vicki Smith Dallas Mobile Meals Fund
Ray & Tanya Burrow Family Fund

Organization Endowments
Alcohol & Drug Services Endowment Fund
Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater High Point Endowment Fund
Cornerstone Health Care Foundation Endowment Fund
Family Service of the Piedmont Endowment Fund
High Point Mental Health Association Endowment Fund
Next Step Endowment Fund
North Carolina Shakespeare Festival Cash Revenue Fund
North Carolina Shakespeare Festival Artistic Excellence Fund
North Carolina Shakespeare Festival Ebenezer Scrooge Trust
North Carolina Shakespeare Festival Endowment Fund
Triad Health Project Endowment Fund
United Way of Greater High Point Endowment Fund
Youth Unlimited Endowment Fund

Deferred Gifts
Paul Brayton
Dr. Ralph & Jane Brooks
Col. & Mrs. Terrance (USMC) (ret.)
P. Hunter Dalton
Drs. Robert & Christie DaVanzo
Mary W. Mellichamp
Bill & Caroline McGuinn
Ed Price
Lou & Jordan Washburn

Field of Interest Funds
City of High Point Principals’ Fund
Heart of High Point
Violet Hutchens Children’s Education Field of Interest Fund
Cory McInnis “Compassion in Education” Fund
We honor the generosity and support of donors whose initial gifts enabled the High Point Community Foundation to prosper.

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Bob & Martha Amos  
Roma & Wray Amos  
BB&T  
Herman & Zelda Bernard  
Betty Lou & Tom Blount  
Jane & Ralph Brooks  
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Ray & Tanya Burrow  
Robert & Susan Culp  
Dr. Harry R. “Frosty” & Catherine W. Culp  
Meredith & Ralph Eanes  
Shirley & George Erath  
Van & Molly Fletcher  
Tom & Jean Gooding  
The High Point Merchant’s Association  
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We honor the generosity and support of donors who have given to the unrestricted fund of the High Point Community Foundation during the 2009 and 2010 fiscal year.

String & Splinter Club in honor of Joe Rawley  
Dan & Gloria Odom in honor of Carey & Eleanor Ilderton  
The Stanley and Phyllis Shavitz Family Fund in honor of Paul Lessard  
Steve Shavitz in honor of Perry Keziah  
The Debutante Club of High Point in honor of the 2009 High Point Debutantes  
Charles Alt in memory of Dot Morgan  
Randy & Page Redpath in memory of Dot Morgan  
Mrs. Thayer Coggin in memory of Dot Morgan  
David & Kay Maynard in memory of Dot Morgan  
Sanders & Lane Dallas, Jr. in memory of Dot Morgan  
Martha Tucker in memory of Dot Morgan and in honor of Jim Morgan  
Sherri Scott in memory of Dot Morgan and in honor of Jim Morgan  
Donna, Jeff, Roger, and Jason Sims in honor of Jim Morgan  
Charles & Patricia Mendenhall in memory of Dot Morgan  
Coy Williard in memory of Dot Morgan  
Robert & Tara Hughes in honor of Brian Norris  
Marcella McGee  
Hilda B Fountain Fund  
Andy & Mary Beamon  
Robert & Bee Rule in honor of Jim Morgan  
Joe & Sue Myers  
Gene & Jane Kester in memory of J.C. McAllister and Jim Errico  
Gene & Jane Kester in memory of Evelyn Wood  
Alex Sutherland family in honor of Jim & Ann Morgan
It is sadly ironic that one of the most demanding and underappreciated jobs in any city these days is also one of the most important. Principals have always played a tremendous role in the lives of the students that matriculate through their schools; in fact most of us can look back and remember a particular principal who made a significant difference in our lives. They work ridiculously long days, they are called upon to serve in so many capacities and yet what drives them most is their love for young people.

The Foundation has been involved with our local schools from the very inception of the organization in 1998 and has always believed that supporting education was a top priority. This priority was recognized with a flagship grant during the High Point Community Foundation’s first Annual Grants program. More recently, emphasis has been given to the students’ needs that arise daily and are not in the budget, but often paid for out of a principal’s own pocket. These needs include required school attire, field trip funds, school supplies, and award certificates.

For the past two years the High Point Community Foundation has been making grants to High Point school principals who have applied for grants from this innovative fund. This wonderful resource was made available through the generosity of an anonymous Foundation donor who loved young people and knew of the many unmet needs. As the community has witnessed the difference this Fund has made, new donors have stepped up and given additional gifts. The hope is that one day the Principals’ Fund will become a permanent endowment.

“Our community is so blessed to have men and women of such strong character and conviction serving as principals in the High Point schools,” states Vicki Miller, Chair, Principals’ Fund. “Having worked as a principal in my own career, I know first-hand how much these amazing people contend with every single day. We are so pleased to be able to provide a resource for these principals to help enhance the quality of education for High Point students.”

The Principals’ Fund Committee is made up of a group of community leaders who have a proven track record of impacting our schools with their leadership and resources and are not Trustees of the Foundation. This group includes Chair Vicki Miller, Sylvia Samet, Bill Millis, Carlvena Foster, Dot Kearns, Jim White, Ed Price and Cerise Collins. The Committee makes informed and timely decisions and takes their responsibility very seriously. They are a diverse group with various areas of expertise and are always looking for ways to stretch every dollar the Fund has to grant in order to maximize results.

“As a parent whose children successfully went through the Guilford County school system, I know first-hand the many financial considerations our schools face,” states Jim White, Committee member. “It is a true testament to the support that High Pointer’s have always had for our schools that makes these funds available. We are blessed to live in a community where our children’s welfare is a priority. Donors, anonymous and otherwise have said “…here…give our children the best…help them get what they need.” It is my hope that others will do the same and this Fund will be available for years to come.”

If you would like to contribute to the High Point Principals’ Fund, you can donate online at www.hpcommunityfoundation.org or send a check to PO Box 5166 High Point, NC 27262
One of the most important leadership positions at the Foundation is the Chairmanship of the Investment Committee. This past December the position was transferred from AB Henley, who moved into the Foundation's Chairmanship, to Scott Tilley, who has an extensive background in the financial world with over 22 years of experience and has become well known as a community leader. Scott holds the highly respected title and distinction of Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA), a significant accomplishment. He is a personal Investment Advisor - Portfolio Manager at Merrill Lynch which is a designation granted to financial advisors who have significant experience and knowledge and have exhibited the ability to manage high net worth portfolios. In addition to his professional experience, Scott has contributed many hours to nonprofit boards and charitable causes over the years such as the Kiwanis Club of High Point, Family Service of the Piedmont, the Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club, and the fundraising committee of the Miracle Field of High Point. Scott is married to Shelby; together they have a daughter, Samantha, and son, Scout, who attend Wesleyan Christian Academy. The Foundation is fortunate to have Scott in this leadership position and thought an Acorn interview would give more insight into the experiences and perspectives of our new Investment Chair.

**Acorn: As Chairman of the Investment Committee you work with some of the brightest minds in the community, can you explain how you utilize this expertise?**

**Scott Tilley:** We really have been blessed with this Committee which has a remarkable group of men who have a wealth of financial experience and who really understand money and investments. As Chairman of this committee my first rule of leadership is to simply not get in the way. I’m always amazed at how our group can address an issue by simply opening up a discussion and through the conversation we always end up with two or three ideas that make sense and are worth pursuing. I also try to use my experience and knowledge to introduce new and sometimes “outside-the-box” ideas to the Committee.

**Acorn:** What do you see as the advantages of having a Donor Advised Fund with the Foundation that they might not see in private foundations?

**Scott Tilley:** The obvious answer is that with a Donor Advised Fund the Donor does not have to give away 5% of the Fund’s assets every year as private foundations are required by law to do. Secondly, there are advantages to pooling one’s money with an endowment the size of the Foundation. There are investment vehicles we can get our Donors into that have large minimums; some as high as $2 or $3 million and then there is the diversity of investments that we can provide and the sense of balance this creates. As I mentioned before the oversight that the partnership of Wells Fargo and the Investment Committee provides should bring great confidence to our Donors. Also, there is the logistical support the Foundation can bring to our Donors that range from quarterly reports, to personalized service that includes the turnkey handling of gifts to nonprofits as well as notifying those who the Donor might be honoring with the gift.

Continued on page 25
The Community Foundation gathered on Thursday, December 17th, 2009 at the High Point Country Club to award grants checks to 18 non-profit organizations that have impacted the Greater High Point Community with both fundamental and innovative programming. This is the 12th year that the Community Foundation has run the annual Grants Program during which time just under $3 million has been granted.

This past year’s Annual Grants totaled $250,000 and were greatly influenced by the harsh economic conditions our community and country have experienced. “The Committee allocated fewer grants for larger sums and primarily focused on areas of basic need,” shared Jan Samet, Chairman of the Grants Committee. “Our Committee made decisions that showed compassion, vision and foresight. I am grateful to the Committee for their outstanding work and commitment to High Point.”

Grants awarded focused on basic needs or Community Projects which totaled $131,500. Health Projects followed with $51,650, Youth Projects with $39,200 and Education Projects with $27,650.

The Cory McInnis “Compassion in Education” Endowed Fund granted $10,000.00 to three different educational projects; $2,800 to the Junior Achievement program for local High Point schools, $4,500 to the North Carolina Shakespeare Festival to bring educational workshops into our public schools, and $2,700 to the North Carolina Zoo to bring their Zoo Keepers into the local K-8 classrooms to engage students in a variety of science based educational programs.

The Grants Committee had a very challenging task as they endeavored to address the many needs that have arisen with the struggling economy. “One of the great strengths of a Community Foundation is that it is governed and run by local community leaders who truly understand the unique needs of our citizenry,” states Paul Lessard, President, HPCF. “We are particularly proud that even in this year of great market instability we have been able to give $260,000 in grants. We have our Investment Committee and our Investment Management Partners to thank for this and I am indeed grateful.”
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Purpose of Grant</th>
<th>HPCF Grant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Court Watch of NC</td>
<td>Administrative support for office</td>
<td>7,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foster Friends of NC</td>
<td>Fund extra-curricular activities for foster children</td>
<td>8,200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family Service of the Piedmont</td>
<td>Salary support for a forensic interviewer</td>
<td>20,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grace Church/Helping Hands Ministry</td>
<td>Salary support for an administrative assistant</td>
<td>27,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guilford Child Development</td>
<td>Parent/child literacy program for minorities/immigrants</td>
<td>7,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guilford Interfaith Hospitality Network</td>
<td>Salary support to provide a budgeting coordinator</td>
<td>11,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Point Community Against Violence</td>
<td>Operating funds to expand programs</td>
<td>30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Achievement of Central NC</td>
<td>Financial literacy and work readiness program in HP schools</td>
<td>3,650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mother Baby Foundation</td>
<td>Post-partum support group for new mothers</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina Shakespeare Festival</td>
<td>Curriculum &amp; extra-curricular theater arts programs in HP schools</td>
<td>4,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina Zoological Society</td>
<td>Zookeepers in K-8th grade HP schools to provide enhanced science-based curriculum</td>
<td>2,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Door Ministries</td>
<td>Administrative support for Community Resource Network</td>
<td>27,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Connections</td>
<td>Operating funds for reading program</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salvation Army Boys &amp; Girls Club</td>
<td>Support for inner city baseball league</td>
<td>13,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Community Clinic of High Point</td>
<td>Access to medication program</td>
<td>16,650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Methodist Agency for the Retarded</td>
<td>Operating funds due to state budget cuts</td>
<td>12,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Way of Greater High Point</td>
<td>Weekend backpack food program for needy children</td>
<td>18,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West End Ministries</td>
<td>Operating funds for programs</td>
<td>29,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$250,000</strong></td>
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</table>
The Heart of High Point Fund was established to specifically address unforeseen needs that arise with nonprofits that provide food, shelter, medical care and rehabilitation. Because it is an initiative fund, it demands tremendous involvement in both time and wisdom from the Committee that oversees it. In addition to Chairperson Martha Yarborough, the current Committee is comprised of the following members: Jane Blackwell, Reverend Joe Blankinship, Captain Larry Casterline, Wendy Fuscoe, Butch Johnson, James LeGrande, Harvey Lowd, Wayne Marshall, Kay Maynard, Ed Price, Deena Qubein, Shane Stutts, David Walker, and Reverend Robert Williams.

Each Committee member is paired with an eligible organization and they spend time learning about the nonprofit’s operations, programs and needs. They in turn become an advocate for the organization and will petition the Committee for grants when an unexpected critical shortfall occurs. The Committee reviews each petition and then votes as a group to either support or decline the request based on the mission of the fund and specific criteria.

“Our Committee puts a lot of time and effort into assessing needs and advocating on behalf of these organizations,” states Yarborough. “Every decision is tough as we do not have unlimited funds and want to be sure that we are being good stewards. The Heart of High Point Fund has made a great impact on the community. The knowledge and resources that the Committee has provided to the organizations speaks to the commitment and character of each member and the original benefactors.”

The Heart of High Point Fund is supported by people who care about the poorest of the poor and donations of any amount can make a huge difference in the lives of men, women and children who are experiencing economic struggles right here in our own community. This fund is unique because it makes grants throughout the year for emergency funding and decisions and grants are made in a timely manner. The goal of this Endowed Fund is to continue in perpetuity. As traditional funding sources continue to diminish we hope that this Fund can continue to grow and fill the void.

If you would like to contribute to the Heart of High Point Fund, you can donate online at www.hpcommunityfoundation.org or send a check to PO Box 5166 High Point, NC 27262

**HEART OF HIGH POINT FUND FOCUSES ON BASIC NEEDS**

**AB HENLEY INTERVIEW (continued from page 11)**

Henley: We are a community in transition and one of the most crucial issues is supporting and retaining our local companies, attracting new businesses and helping them become successful enterprises that will in turn become strong corporate citizens.

It is imperative that all of us believe that we have a stake in this community and are willing to step up help make good things happen. This is how we will retain our young people, create an exciting and dynamic downtown, and attract new companies to our great city.

ACORN: As we all know the stock market has drastically impacted investors over the last few years, how has this impacted the Foundation and what do you see ahead?

Henley: We have always had a culture that fosters a conservative and creative approach to doing business. The Foundation has always run a very tight ship in terms of our budget. The first step in dealing with the market downturn was to further reduce our expenses by 20%, which was significant against a pretty lean budget to begin with. Our current and immediate future plans are to grow our unrestricted assets and donor base in order to assure future sustainability.

ACORN: What is your personal philosophy of philanthropy?

Henley: Let me begin by saying that there are many effective ways to give and my philosophy is just one that works for Grace and me and our children. First of all I believe in starting with my Church pledge which is really important to my family. Secondly we like to indentify a few organizations or causes that we

__Continued on next page__
This past December the Community Foundation celebrated the tenure and contributions that the High Point Community Foundation’s fourth Chairman, Joe Rawley, made during his 2 years in office. In recognition of his many contributions to the Community Foundation, his leadership at the String and Splinter Club, the Hispanic Center and the Guilford Interfaith Hospitality Network Joe received the Order of the Long Leaf Pine.

Historically this award has been considered one of the Governor’s most prestigious awards that recognizes citizens who have displayed extraordinary service to community, state, and mankind. Traditionally the Order of the Long Leaf Pine bestows upon its recipients the “special privilege” that entitles them to propose the following toast, “Here’s to the Long Leaf Pine, the summer land where the sun doth shine. Where the weak grow strong and the strong grow great. Here’s to down home, the Old North State.”

Joe Rawley is a very private and humble man whose action and sense of commitment to High Point speak very loudly. The Foundation has not only benefited from his well-known financial acumen, but also from his ability to gather a large and diverse amount of information and readily determine what is applicable to the organization he is serving. He was quite involved in the Foundation’s quest for the National Standards Certification and provided both inspiration for the staff and a keen understanding of the process itself.

“Joe was the right man at the right time for our Community Foundation,” notes Paul Lessard, President, HPCE. “He really understood the Community Foundation concept and he played a key role in our achieving the National Standards certification that made us one of the smallest staffs in the country to attain this important credential. He is a very committed man who very willingly gave of his time, talent and resources to make our Foundation a stronger and more efficient organization.”

Joe continues to serve on the Executive Board and will no doubt be called upon frequently for his wide range of knowledge and expertise in philanthropic matters. The Board of Trustees of the High Point Community Foundation and staff are deeply grateful for Joe’s service and look forward to many more years of working together to create positive change that will influence the community of High Point for generations to come.

believe in and actually get involved with. I think it is much more effective to focus on a few things where we can really make an impact. It is important to me that we give not only our money, but also our time and leadership.

ACORN: Who has influenced you most as a leader?

Henley: I have been surrounded by good leaders all my life from teachers, to coaches and especially mentors in the business community. I learned a lot from Phil Phillips whom I worked for at First Factors. I have also been influenced by the leadership at the Community Foundation. When you serve next to men like Jim Millis Sr., George Erath, Nido Qubein, Jim Morgan and Bill Horney you can’t help but hope that some of it rubs off. I would also say that I have been influenced by many of the nonprofit leaders we work with and I continue to be inspired by them and the good work they do for High Point.

ACORN: What is it about High Point you admire most and why?

Henley: I grew up in this city and I’ve seen how people care for one another and I’ve always admired how this community rallies when there is a need. I also like the fact that High Point is a place where folks who are new in town can step up and become part of our leadership and this is something that you rarely see in a big city environment. Finally, I love the sense of heritage and history that High Pointers have always embraced. Regionalism will be an important driver of our economic success, but High Point will never compromise its unique identity.
One of the key factors in the success of any enterprise is and always will be a broad base of support from both within and outside of the organization. Over the years the High Point Community Foundation has found that we can never have enough friends out in the community who understand what we do and are willing to help spread our story. Since the establishment of the Foundation there have been professionals in the community; attorneys, accountants, financial managers, bankers, insurance brokers and estate planners who have understood and appreciated the philanthropic role the Foundation plays.

These professionals who have worked with the Foundation have seen opportunities to not only help their clients avoid paying excess taxes, but to also facilitate philanthropic giving at the same time. It’s a winning solution for all involved as it satisfies the client’s tax issues and also enables them to make a gift to the Community Foundation which will impact the intended recipients for generations to come instead of just giving it all to Uncle Sam.

“Kevin is a real gentleman and he is always looking for a way to create win-win situations for his clients.”

he graduated with a Juris Doctorate in 1980.

Kevin first practiced law in St. Louis, Missouri before eventually moving to High Point in 1989. As you would imagine the practice of this field of law must be done with a high level of confidentiality, attention to detail and the ability to build strong and sustaining relationships. It is also important for Kevin to have a wide range of legal and business expertise in a variety of areas as each of his client’s estates each have their own unique challenges.

Upon meeting Kevin it is immediately obvious that he is a man who enjoys people and understands the value of listening. His relaxed style and caring manner makes one immediately comfortable and encourages a sense of confidence. It is easy to see how Kevin’s clients can respond to this man as his competence is only exceeded by his innate desire to serve others.

“Kevin is a real gentleman and he is always looking for a way to create win-win situations for his clients,” notes Paul Lessard, President, HPCE. “He has a very giving heart and loves to find ways to serve his clients needs and create charitable opportunities along the way. I really admire Kevin as he is a man who brings out the best in everyone and sees his profession as a way to make our world a little better place for all of us.”

Professional partnerships are a key to the future of the High Point Community Foundation and the staff is always available to talk to these men and women who see opportunities to serve their clients and also help them enjoy the benefits of philanthropy.
The Guilford Nonprofit Consortium is a nonprofit whose mission is to bring educational and leadership training to other nonprofit organizations. Many small nonprofits do not have the resources to hire staff with the essential professional skills to adequately sustain their operations. The Consortium strives to support this need and has already garnered a great reputation for the work they have accomplished with the nonprofits in Greensboro.

“Donna Newton, who heads up the Guilford Nonprofit Consortium, is one of the hardest working ladies I know,” states Paul Lessard, President, HPCF. “She has done a tremendous job building a very user-friendly resource that helps nonprofits with their strategic direction, effectiveness, and sustainability through education, mentorship and partnerships.

In the fall of 2009, High Point University hosted an event to introduce the Consortium to nonprofits in High Point. This event was promoted and supported by the High Point Community Foundation, the United Way of Greater High Point, and the Hayden-Harman Foundation.

Because the Consortium has sponsoring organizations including the Joseph M. Bryan Foundation, the Cemala Foundation, the Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro, the Hayden-Harman Foundation and the Weaver Foundation, the cost of annual membership is only $50. The Consortium holds monthly meetings that nonprofit directors and staff can attend where they are exposed to speakers from various fields of expertise. Members also have the opportunity to get involved in half-day workshops and roundtable discussions which provide important interaction with colleagues.

In addition to the monthly meetings the Consortium also offers a 6-month Nonprofit Management Institute that is produced in collaboration with High Point University’s nonprofit degree program. There is also an Executive Director Academy which is a nine month leadership training program that is done in collaboration with The Center for Creative Leadership. This program matches the participants with professional executive coaches. The Consortium also is currently designing a pilot program for a Board Development Academy which will address how to develop and effectively utilize the talents of local community leaders who are the real power behind any successful nonprofit.

“Over the years as we have worked with the nonprofit community we have found that the majority of them are filled with very passionate and committed people who really care about their mission, but simply need help learning the professional skills that are so important to sustainability,” shared Newton. “We have a strong network in Greensboro and have already made inroads in High Point and look forward to reaching more organizations in the near future.”

For more information please visit the Consortium website at guilfordnonprofits.org.
Fifteen years ago John Langdon and his wife Joyce started a ministry they called Helping Hands that has since operated under the auspices of two churches; The Lighthouse Assembly of God and Grace Church. Along the way this little ministry they established on a shoestring has become the largest redistributors of food in the city of High Point. The goal of Helping Hands has always been simple; to put food in the hands of the folks who need it most while loving and supporting them. In 2009 the ministry augmented their services by providing emergency financial aid for rent and utilities. In addition to this they have also provided budgeting classes, counseling and support.

“Over the years I have seen that grassroots, faith-based initiatives have been very effective and I think it is due to a combination of the spiritual commitment and the high caliber of people involved in the organizations,” noted Paul Lessard, President, HPCF. “John Langdon and Helping Hands have been a real blessing to this community and it may be a surprise to learn that they are giving away more food than anyone else in the city.”

Today the ministry is a member of the Community Resource Network in High Point as well as being a partner agency with Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest North Carolina. They are now serving over 4,077 families totaling 10,134 individuals in a single year. How did this happen? John Langdon would say that God has been in charge from the very beginning and all he has had to do is be faithful and hold on tight as it has been a wild and successful ride!

“We want to be able to reach out into our community and let people know that when they are desperate, hungry and without hope that we are here,” states Langdon. “While the food certainly helps with the physical hunger we are hoping we can do even more by providing for their spiritual hunger. We are looking for a building to house the ministry and the new church somewhere in the south end of High Point.”

Keep your eyes on the south end of High Point in the coming months and if you’re the owner of a building in that part of town you might want to consider helping them. It’s an investment that would yield great dividends as The Mission will henceforth be providing food for the stomach and for the soul.

John & Joyce Langdon

Director of Helping Hands, is getting ready for a major transition in his life and in his ministry. For years Grace Church, where John has served as a Staff Pastor, has provided a ministry site which is located at 1919 Surratt Drive. Recently, John announced that he will start his own church, called “The Mission”, and move Helping Hands with it. Although Helping Hands will still receive some support from Grace Church, they are looking for a new location to house both the new church and ministry and will need to move in a few months.

“We want to be able to reach out into our community and let people know that when they are desperate, hungry and without hope that we are here,” states Langdon.

Langdon, who has been and continues to be the Executive Director of Helping Hands, is getting ready for a major transition in his life and in his ministry. For years Grace Church, where John has served as a Staff Pastor, has provided a ministry site which is located at 1919 Surratt Drive. Recently, John announced that he will start his own church, called “The Mission”, and move Helping Hands with it. Although Helping Hands will still receive some support from Grace Church, they are looking for a new location to house both the new church and ministry and will need to move in a few months.

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Finally there is the Foundation’s due diligence abilities and their extensive experience with the nonprofit community which can really help the Donor chose wisely in their giving. The Foundation can provide Donors the same benefit of a private foundation without the disadvantages and the hassle.

**ACORN:** You are following in the footsteps of Jim Millis, Sr. and AB Henley. What have you learned from their tenures that you will carry over into yours?

**Scott Tilley:** These are certainly two outstanding leaders who I have not only considered friends; but also teammates who have always been generous in sharing their challenges and victories. I think we learn from each other and that this should be an ongoing process.

Mr. Millis taught me about approaching our Investments with a true entrepreneurial spirit and a “can-do” attitude. He was very serious about maximizing the returns because it maximized the benefit we were able to deliver to the community. He was also so bullish on High Point and had such a passion for giving back to the city he loved – this spirit was contagious to all of us. AB is a close friend and what I have always admired about him is his integrity and his attention to detail. He is always prepared and he approaches everything he does with a sense of thoroughness and thoughtfulness that is so important to any endeavor that is long-term. I am confident this is why Mr. Millis recommended AB Henley to follow him in this important role.

**ACORN:** The Stock Market has been very unpredictable over the past two years; tell us what the Foundation sees for the upcoming year?

**Scott Tilley:** We believe that there is real value in the equity markets and that there are good companies out there with strong balance sheets that are being traded below their true value. We also see great opportunities outside the US in the international markets and we are investing in this area as well. We are very cognizant of the market uncertainty and that is why our investment policy encourages wise, discerning and informed growth. We remain highly diversified and receive a substantial portion of our return from dividends and interest.

**ACORN:** You have a strong record of community service would you share your personal thoughts on why this is so important to you?

**Scott Tilley:** I have been very blessed in so many ways and I have always felt that it is my responsibility to pass these blessing on with my time, talent and resources. My Dad was and my Mom remains an amazing role model. I could not have asked for better mentors and examples of how to live a Christian life.

**ACORN:** You come from a very strong financial pedigree with your Father, W. Allen Tilley, being known as one of the founding fathers of the Triad investment business – what was the most important thing your Father taught you?

**Scott Tilley:** My Dad taught me many valuable things about business and life. He was one of the most disciplined men I have ever known and I’ve always thought that his time in the Marine Corps had a lot to do with that. He was also an extremely loyal man and he taught me the value of being true to others, his word was his bond. He attended the same church for 30 years, was married to my mom for over 50 years and he served many of the same clients for more than 35 years. I hope I can look back one day and see that I lived my life in a way that would have made him proud.
One of the great fringe benefits of working at the Community Foundation is that the staff has the privilege of working with an incredible group of donors who so often display what President Abraham Lincoln once called “the better angels of our nature.” One of the most memorable of these stories goes back over twenty five years and is a wonderful example of how one kind gesture can change a life forever.

This story involves two very successful men; Perry Keziah, who is arguably one of the finest estate attorneys in the state and Steve Shavitz, a very success businessman and the son of the late Stanley Shavitz and his wife Phyllis who have been and continue to be dear friends and supporters of the Foundation. Perry it seems was working with a woman who had been recently widowed who had some real estate needs and Steve was a young man who was just getting into the real estate business and attempting to find his niche in that industry.

In the course of his conversations with his client, Perry recommended that the widow go to Steve who he knew was a bright, ambitious young man who would work hard. The widow contacted Steve and they did indeed work together. The interesting part of this story, or as Paul Harvey would say, “the rest of the story” is that this relationship led Steve to another client, the IHOP Corporation, who ended up becoming a lifelong client and a business account that has continuously supported Steve’s business over the years.

Earlier this year Paul Lessard received a call from Steve and learned of this remarkable story. Steve was calling to make an “unrestricted” gift to the Foundation in Perry’s honor to thank him for his kindness that had provided him with much success.

“It made me realize that each of us have the capacity to change the world, in small ways, every single day, if we are willing to look for these opportunities and act upon them.”

The wonderful thing about Steve’s gift is that it truly will be the gift that keeps on giving as a contribution to the “Unrestricted Fund” will help to build up the Community Foundation’s ability to give more in Annual Grants each year. When the gift arrived an acknowledgement letter was sent to Perry that later elicited a call from a genuinely touched man who was both grateful and amazed that Steve had remembered him over so many years. A good deed remembered, a friendship built and a gift that never stops giving.
The Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater High Point is an organization that the High Point Community Foundation has worked with over the years through both our Annual Grants Program and our Donor Advised Funds. They serve a critically important role in the High Point Community by investing in High Point’s most valuable resource, our children.

This past summer the Board of Trustees of the Club announced the hiring of a new President/CEO, Thomas Falgout. He is a long-time non-profit and Boys and Girls Clubs professional who has worked in Louisiana as the Vice President of Operations where he oversaw the daily operations of six clubs, and the Boys and Girls Clubs of Acadia in Lafayette as the Director of Operations. Thomas brings over sixteen years of experience with the Boys and Girls Clubs of America to his new position with the High Point Clubs.

The Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater High Point is a United Way partner program that has been a critical resource in the lives of over 1000 High Point youth ages 6-18. The Clubs’ program and services currently include; Education and Career Development, Health and Life Skills, Sports, Fitness & Recreation, Character and Leadership Development and the Arts.

“We have worked with the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater High Point since the Foundation doors were opened,” states Paul Lessard, President, HPCEF. “They are a driving force in the development of our youth in High Point and we are very excited to see them hire a professional like Tom who can bring so much to the organization and by extension the community of High Point.”

The future looks bright for the organization and Tom has plans for developing new programming that will expand the Clubs’ outreach. One of the areas that both the High Point Community Foundation and the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater High Point would like to see developed is the establishment of a scholarship program that would give economically challenged youth in High Point the opportunity to attend either GTCC or a 4-year University. If you are interested in learning more about Tom and the Clubs’ plans for the future, you can call their office at 882-2582.

Congratulations to William “Bill” Mangum, our 2010 Annual Meeting Keynote Speaker, who was recognized as the 2010 “Spirit of Entrepreneur” recipient for Jr. Achievement of Central NC. He is accompanied by Paul Lessard who was Bill’s presenter for the award and Jim Morgan who was the 2009-2010 Chairman of Jr. Achievement and Hall of Fame Laureate in 2005.
Over the years High Point has become known as one of the Nation’s leaders in crime management and prevention. Starting with Chief Louie Quijas and carried on and expanded by current Chief Jim Fealy, the High Point Police Department has developed a crime reduction program that has partnered with the Governor’s Crime Commission and law enforcement partners from around the state and the nation.

This innovative approach to law enforcement which stresses “Community Policing” depends on cooperation with the citizenry to build a team that not only enforces the law but also helps rejuvenate at-risk neighborhoods within the city. Armed with federal warrants, the High Point Police identify, investigate and build airtight cases against violent criminals who are terrorizing neighborhoods. Next, they are put into one of the most innovative processes in the country which is run by the remarkable folks at High Point Community Against Violence (HPCAV).

“I cannot begin to tell you how proud and grateful I am for the invaluable work of High Point Community Against Violence. They have saved our community not only money but have helped preserve lives and property,” shared Chief Jim Fealy. “Our Department has received multiple awards over the years for our Crime Reduction Programming, but much of it would not have been possible without the support and leadership of HPCAV. I am so grateful for their sense of commitment to this community.”

The HPCAV organization actually began working with the Police Department over ten years ago and has always been made up of local citizens who care about their communities and are willing to invest their time and energy to eliminate violence. Over the years they have evolved from helping the police in the neighborhoods after a crime has been committed, to developing an innovative program that has become known as the “Call In”, which is a reality check for the offenders.

Each quarter the Police gather together approximately 20 male and female offenders who, according to their profiling research, are most apt to commit a violent felony based upon their past record, current activities and solid police investigations. They are notified by their parole officer that the invitation has been tendered and they must attend. The evening at the Police Department facility begins with a presentation by the HPCAV volunteers who talk to the guests about their activities, who underscore that the community is no longer going to tolerate their criminal pursuits and they are offered a one-time deal to go straight. If they accept, they are eligible for support that includes a place to live, transportation, help finding work and mentoring. If they choose not to accept the evening gets a little more challenging.

The next meeting of the night takes place across the hall and it is full of law enforcement personnel including the SBI, ATF, federal prosecutors, and local police departments. Right from the onset Chief Fealy makes it exceedingly clear that the people in this room don’t care whether the offender takes the deal HPCAV is offering as they have enough evidence on each of them to send them to Federal Prison for 10 to 20 years. At this point the Chief has their complete attention and the various organizations represented throughout the room each make a brief statement.

By the end of the evening the HPCAV folks and the Police liaison staff are working with the offenders who want to go straight. Others are leaving with the knowledge that there is now a huge “bull’s eye” target fixed upon their backs. This approach has been incredibly successful over the years. “This program has saved over $70 million dollars over the years by eliminating the very expensive scourge that violent crime creates in a community,” stated Major Marty Sumner. “HPCAV has singlehandedly changed the way policing is done all over the country and our Department is consistently being asked to come and speak to communities who have seen the results and want to learn how they can replicate the program.”

HPCAV received a grant from the Foundation Investment in High Point Community Against Violence Pays Dividends

Continued on page 33
Foundation Trustees & Fundholders Celebrate Grand Opening of New Office

A special thanks to Bank of America who has enabled the Foundation to lease premium office space and have signage on Main Street after 13 years of serving the donor’s interests and meeting the community’s needs in High Point.
In 2000, the city of High Point received an unexpected gift in the form of 10 Nuns from the Order of St. Vincent De Paul who came to High Point as missionaries from India to do work in third-world like situations right here in our own backyard. Let’s back up for a moment and look at how these remarkable ladies arrived in High Point, NC of all places and why they came to this community to make a positive impact.

In the late 90’s a Catholic Priest now known to all as Father Phillip asked the leadership of the Charlotte Diocese to place him amongst an economically diverse population. They immediately pointed him toward Christ the King Church in High Point. By the time Father Phillip arrived, the African-American membership of the church was experiencing the onset of the Hispanic influx which was taking place all over the Triad. Soon he became known as the man to go to for help in the Hispanic Community.

After watching the Hispanic numbers increase dramatically, the first Community Foundation Chairman, Jim Morgan, saw that this was a population that needed to be embraced. Initially the Foundation partnered with Father Phillip to sponsor a “well-child clinic” with Cornerstone Health Care providing doctors and medicines. The clinic benefited Hispanic school age students were having a difficult time getting into the local public schools because they lacked the necessary inoculations. The Foundation later made a grant through the Annual Grants Program to help create a new building on the Christ the King campus that would serve as a Hispanic Center.

As the needs in the Hispanic Community continued to grow, Father Phillip could see that High Point was fertile ground for a more comprehensive ministry but he needed help. It was at this point that he returned to his home in India and enlisted the help of the Sisters of St. Vincent De Paul, a German Order of Nuns who were known for their compassionate service all over the world. He brought the Sisters back to High Point and they began a service ministry that has changed High Point forever.

The Sisters have become a key part of the Hispanic Center where they have reached out to new immigrants, opened the De Paul Academy, the only five-star bi-lingual pre-school in High Point, as well as working in various social projects throughout the community.

What is most remarkable about the Sisters is they are all highly educated with most having Masters Degrees in the specialty areas in which they now serve which includes local hospitals and nursing homes. They have each taken a vow of poverty that keeps...
CONVENT
(continued from previous page)

them from owning anything but two sets of clothes. They are all also dedicated to service and prayer which calls them to wake in the middle of the night for Adoration worship. For many years the Sisters have lived in a house located on the Christ the King Church Campus with others housed in various locations throughout the city. It has been a workable arrangement, but not an optimal one.

On October 28th the Sisters will celebrate the opening of a brand new Convent that will have the capacity to house all of them and enable them to have a permanent home in which they can live, worship and grow. The original property was a gift from Ken Hughes, a Trustee of the High Point Community Foundation, and it has been built with a combination of Father’s tenacity and the generosity of donors in High Point. A lead gift from Mark and Rena Norcross started the giving which has since attracted more donors from the community. Currently fundraising efforts continue and they are now only $100,000 away from completely paying off the mortgage.

The opening of the convent is a special day for many but especially for a truly remarkable group of women who have dedicated their lives to service to the poorest of the poor and continue to be the unexpected gift that keeps on giving.

ENHANCE YOUR CHARITABLE LEGACY WITH A CRUT OR CLAT

By Hayes Dallas, Independent Insurance Representative

SOUNDS LIKE SOMETHING YOU NEED MEDICATION FOR RIGHT? HOWEVER CHARITABLY INCLINED INDIVIDUALS WITH HIGHLY APPRECIATED ASSETS ARE USING THESE TRUSTS TO OBTAIN FAVORABLE TAX STATUS FOR THEIR HIGHLY APPRECIATED ASSETS WHILE AT THE SAME TIME LEAVING A LEGACY TO THEIR FAVORITE CHARITY.

A Charitable Remainder Unitrust (CRUT) typically involves the donation of highly appreciated assets into a Charitable Trust by the owner (grantor). The Trust could then sell the property and invest the proceeds in other assets without having to pay income or capital gains tax as the CRUT is exempt from Federal Taxation. The charity’s actuarial interest must be at least 10% of assets transferred to the Trust.

The grantor of the Trust receives a fixed percentage (typically a percentage less than the anticipated interest income of the asset) from the Trust each year for life. The client will pay federal income tax but only on the amount distributed each year. The asset is revalued each year so the amount distributed to the grantor each year may fluctuate based on the increase or decrease in the asset’s value.

The grantor can look forward to income for life from the Trust. The grantor also receives an immediate income tax deduction in an amount equal to the present value of the anticipated remainder that will pass to a charity at the death of the grantor. The charity receives the remainder from the Trust at the time of the grantor’s death.

A Charitable Lead Annuity Trust (CLAT) creates an immediate annual donation to the charity of the grantor’s choice. The Grantor again donates an asset or cash to the Trust. The Trust is exempt from federal income tax. The advantage to the charity is that they receive annual donations from the Trust instead of having to wait until the death of the Grantor. One difference between the valuation of the asset in a CLAT is that the value of the asset is determined only at the time of the donation and not each year as with the CRUT.

The Grantor does not receive annual income from the Trust. An income tax deduction is realized based on the value of the future payments to the charity. A portion of the Trust assets can be used to purchase life insurance on the grantor benefiting both the grantor’s beneficiaries and the charity as well. Again not only does the charity receive the annual distribution from the Trust but a large lump sum from life insurance at the death of the grantor. The grantor’s beneficiaries also receive tax-free life insurance.

For more information about the information contained in this article you may contact Hayes Dallas at 336-471-1100 or hayes.dallas@gmail.com.
The Principals’ Fund Committee partnered with the Kiwanis Club on August 13th at the High Point Country Club to host the 1st Annual Principals’ Luncheon at which High Point principals had their school’s achievements recognized for the 2009-2010 school year.

“Our principals are one of our most valuable resources in our community,” stated Vicki Miller, Chair, High Point Principals’ Fund Committee. “We wanted them to know that people appreciate their hard work and that this community is willing to step up and be partners with their schools.”

The event was hosted by the Kiwanis Club as part of their weekly meeting and it was opened by Wendy Rivers, Club President, and then turned over to Paul Lessard, President of the High Point Community Foundation who welcomed all guests and underscored the critical role that our principals play in our community.

“Our principals do not work for money or fame,” noted Lessard. “They do it because they love our children and are willing to dedicate their lives and careers to helping them grow intellectually so that they can reach their own God-given potential. We are proud of each school’s recent accomplishments and are pleased to be able to provide a platform from which this good news can be shared and let our principals know how much we support them.”

Vicki Miller followed Lessard and recognized each school for their accomplishments this past year by reading a short brag statement. Every school had several victories that ranged from better test scores, drastically lowered suspension rates, to local and national recognitions for both the schools and the principals themselves. She noted that too often all we hear is the negative while in reality there is so much to celebrate about the state of our local schools. Vicki concluded by asking all the principals to join her at the podium. They each received a small kickoff grant to get them started for the new school year and a copy of Glenn Chavis’ book, Our Roots, Our Branches, Our Fruit - High Point’s Black History, 1859 - 1960, which had been purchased by the Community Foundation to be used as reference resource for all High Point schools.
There is no doubt many teachers would think bringing a Zookeeper in the classroom would be helpful for crowd control; however, these days in High Point they’re coming in our classrooms to help teach. The North Carolina Zoological Society has developed an innovative program that brings in Zookeepers to enhance the engagement of the students in learning about science related topics as well as motivating students to take action. This program is being underwritten by a grant from the High Point Community Foundation which is excited to see creative approaches being implemented to encourage local students to embrace learning and see that it can be fun.

The Zookeepers work with the teachers and address the science curriculum of the North Carolina Standard Course of Study. The first step in this program involves in-class work, where the keepers may bring in animal artifacts, engage students in active discussions or even physical activity designed to teach them about wild life. The second phase involves follow-up activities like hands-on environmental projects to build on the concepts taught in the classroom in a cross-curriculum approach. This action phase plants seeds of commitment in the students and affects the way they view the world and this inevitably impacts their daily behavior and choices.

“The program is designed to make science come alive,” notes Kathy Bull of the NC Zoological Society. “It is a wonderful way to bring a new and exciting face into the classroom who can in turn introduce the students to a new way of learning.

Another great by-product of this approach to learning is that the hands-on projects also end up having a beautification impact upon the grounds of the school. Currently participating schools include; Florence Elementary, Johnson Street Elementary, Montlieu Elementary, Welborn Academy of Science and Math, Andrews High School and Southwest High School.

“We at the High Point Community Foundation firmly believe that the future of our great city will depend upon the quality of education our young people are receiving today,” states Paul Lessard, President, HPCF. “We applaud the NC Zoo for creating such an exciting program that makes learning more fun and encourages the students to appreciate the environment and we encourage all High Point Schools to take advantage of this free opportunity.”

Community Foundation’s 2009 Annual Grants Program that helped underscore their organizational structure and helped underwrite the first full-time Executive Director in the organization’s history, Reverend Jim Summey. Jim is an ordained Minister and a community leader who served as the Executive Director of West End Ministries. Most recently HPCAV and the city have partnered with other donors to bring in the nationally recognized America Works organization who will focus on the most challenging part of the felon to citizen program – helping past offenders find jobs.

“HPCAV has always been about providing grassroots leadership for the most challenging issue in our communities history, violent crime,” notes Jim Summey. “We truly believe that America Works and the job services they bring will be the key to ridding our community of violent crime. These offenders need to know that if they choose to go straight there will be a way for them to live and build a new life – it provides hope for the future.”

HPCAV’s offices are located right on Main Street after receiving a gift of the building from well-known businessman and philanthropist Zaki Khalifa.

The rapidly growing organization is busy organizing citizen volunteers and always looking for new ways to support the efforts of the Police Department. HPCAV is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization that continues to grow and would welcome financial support as well as moral support as they strive to make High Point a better and safer place for us all. If you are interested in more information please contact Jim Summey at 886-5723.
One of the most significant factors taken into account when a corporate entity is conducting an evaluation of a potential community for a new corporate site is the “quality of life” that the particular area would offer their employees. As we have been told over the years, the world has indeed become flat and so has our country. Our community of High Point is now competing with cities all over the South and the nation to become the new sites for businesses we desperately need. With this in mind it becomes very clear that programs which bring an enhanced quality of life to High Point are critically important to have in order to compete in these evaluations, and even more essential to support.

Many of these “quality of life” institutions have been particularly challenged during the past couple years. We as a community must rally around and support these High Point Arts organizations which include the High Point Arts Council, NC Shakespeare Festival, High Point Ballet, Theatre Arts Galleries and the Community Theatre. These organizations provide programming in High Point that foster culture and access to involvement in the arts for all our citizenry. In times of economic challenge it has become increasingly difficult for the Arts Community to raise funds and one of the key reasons is that, rightly or wrongly, they are sometimes viewed as a luxury in times of financial challenge.

As a community granter it can be particularly difficult to go through our Annual Grants Program and interview the many deserving organizations that are providing basic needs which can be very compelling and yes, essential. These services include feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, and providing educational programs that can measurably change lives. When you put the Arts next to these requests it pales in comparison and yet these programs serve a tremendously important role in educating and providing an environment of culture that is so important to the future of any community.

If I put on my Foundation President hat I can confidently say that the Arts and the impact they can make upon a community are not only a critically important “quality of life,” they also very much qualify as an “economic development” vehicle. High Point must continue to attract these new businesses, keep our young people from moving away and encourage the growth of what is often called “the creative class.”

It is important that all of us begin to think of our home as more than just a place to live, eat, work and sleep and realize that we are living in a very important season of our city’s history. If we want to grow, diversify and develop the “new economy,” the next generation of High Point industry, we must be able to offer a well-rounded community. We must be seen as a community that is progressive, innovative and wise enough to support the Arts, which calls us to consider that which makes us most human… the celebration of creativity and culture. 🎨

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**The High Point Community Foundation website now offers online giving**

Choose the fund you want to contribute to.

Make your gift in a matter of minutes.

Receive a receipt immediately.

Visit [hpcommunityfoundation.org](http://hpcommunityfoundation.org) and click the “Donate Now” button
In the past 10 years the High Point Police Department has become well known for their innovative approach to violent gang, gun and drug related crime. As a result of a very productive partnership with Dr. David M. Kennedy, Director of the Center for Crime Prevention and Control at John Jay College in New York and his innovative “Strategic Deterrence” strategies, violent crime has dramatically declined saving millions of dollars and lives in our community. The news of High Point’s success traveled fast and soon the Department was being invited all over the country to teach their methodology.

“Our Department’s approach has been nationally and internationally recognized and it has continued to evolve over the years with the help of community partners at the High Point Community Against Violence organization,” notes Major Marty Sumner.

With the success of the violent crime prevention program, the High Point Police Department is now looking at another disturbing social issue, domestic violence. Unless you are part of the Police Department it is unlikely that you would know how much of an issue domestic violence has become. It involves a high volume of calls, repeated calls to the same location, consumes large amounts of time and often results in injuries or death. Domestic violence disturbances are consistently the number one call for service in High Point, averaging more than 5,000 a year.

The most tragic result of domestic violence has been a rash of very violent homicides. Since 2004 there have been 16 domestic related murders in High Point, including three cases of murder/suicide where the suspect killed his partner and then turned the gun on himself. Traditional efforts to control the most violent offenders and reduce the harms to victims have not been effective.

“Our Department’s Executive Leadership Team led by Major Sumner could see that this problem was not going away,” noted Chief Fealy. “When we made the decision to make an all-out effort to address domestic violence our first logical step was to go to the man who helped us with violent crime, Dr. Kennedy.”

Kennedy believed that the same “focused deterrence” approach which had proven effective at controlling other violence in High Point could be the answer.

“We were not paying enough attention to controlling the offender. Traditional approaches have been victim-focused with heavy emphasis on helping the victim avoid patterns of abuse, disengage from abusers and physically removing themselves from abusive settings,” stated Kennedy. “What if in addition to providing services for the victim we also used very focused formal and informal sanctions against the offender?”

Despite the widespread belief that domestic violence is different from other types of violence and is evenly spread across society, research shows it is not. Ten years of arrest data told the Department that the repeat domestic violence offender in High Point had a lengthy criminal history beyond domestic assaults. In fact, their criminal histories were similar to the gang and drug offenders notified by the Violent Crime Task Force.

Since these offenders have rich criminal histories and are known to the criminal justice system they could be identified based on past behavior, targeted for prosecution and used as examples to others. During a face-to-face intervention/notification, police, prosecutors and community can lay out the levers that will be pulled for future acts of domestic violence.

Chief Fealy and his Executive Leadership Team believe that this approach has the potential to change the way our society deals with domestic violence and once again High Point will be leading the way. The Department is moving ahead with this promising new strategy while they also work to find grants and build new partnerships to support the work.

Domestic violence knows no economic or social boundaries, is too often kept as a destructive family secret and it is directly associated with economic viability and health issues. High Point is a community that has always risen to address community needs and domestic violence has already become an issue that will demand not only the attention of our Police Force, but the support of local community leadership and citizenry.
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