GIRL SCOUTING PROGRAM
At Oak Hill Elementary

ANNUAL GRANTS
Improving Lives Together

AMOS KEARNS
A Well Lived Life

THE GIFT OF LEGACY
From David and Doris Dowdy, Jr.
As the new Chair of the High Point Community Foundation, I am a firm believer in surrounding myself with strong, intelligent leaders and this is what I have been able to do with my current Board of Trustees. We have a collection of community leaders who have not only shown a commitment to serving, but also have outstanding leadership experience and a diversity of skills and talents that will greatly impact our community. My strategy has been to place Trustees in leadership positions where their background and expertise will help us to become a stronger and more dynamic organization. I am a delegator by nature and thus far I am so pleased to see the initiative and drive this board has exhibited as it moves forward with a sense of urgency and a commitment to excellence. I look forward to working together and watching where this remarkable group will take us in these next two years.

I am personally invested in our Foundation, I absolutely believe in our mission and I am committed to sharing our story. I want to invite all of you to join our team as we invest in the future of the community we all love so much.

Thank you for your support,

Martha Yarborough
Chairman, Board of Trustees
High Point Community Foundation

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**THE CATALYST:**
Celebrating a Vision for Giving

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**THE PRESIDENT’S PERSPECTIVE**
Expanding our presence in the community

**THE WOMAN’S CLUB OF HIGH POINT**
A key funder for important projects in our community over the years

**HEART OF HIGH POINT FUND**
Deena Quebein Samuel is Named as New Chair

**AMOS KEARNS: A WELL LIVED LIFE**
Remembering a remarkable man and his community volunteer work

**TRENDS IN GIVING:**
FUNDRAISING PRIORITIES AND PITFALLS
A Community Foundation Sponsored Seminar

**THE PRINCIPALS’ FUND**
Northwood Elementary Gets a Helping Hand

**2013 ANNUAL GRANTS**
The High Point Community Foundation awards $303,000 to 16 local non-profits

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**THE CATALYST**
Concept and design by: Marshall

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**hpcommunityfoundation.org**
Welcome to the Summer 2014 edition of the Catalyst and thank you for taking the time to read about the many exciting things that have been happening at the Foundation.

In May of this year the Foundation will celebrate 16 years of serving the High Point community. I am very proud of the trustees who have served over the years. I am proud of our initiative funds – Principals’ Fund for Student Needs and Heart of High Point Fund – and the collaborative effort with members of the community serving on the committees for these funds. In addition we have built a strong investment platform and achieved the National Standards certification for community foundations. The Foundation through its Annual Grants program and its donors have invested in local nonprofits and community initiatives that have dramatically impacted our community and beyond.

I remember one of our first major grants in 1998, the 2009 Project, that set new standards for teaching literacy in our schools and ended up being known as the “High Point Literacy Plan” that was used to great effect all over Guilford County. Another high impact grant went to support the Violence Deterrence Program that helped High Point Community Against Violence become a national model. At the beginning of the influx of our Hispanic population, the Foundation made a grant to build the first Hispanic Center in High Point. One of the largest community projects we supported was the High Point Miracle Field, which provides a custom designed baseball field and playground for over 15,000 special needs children in 8 counties. The Foundation collected contributions of all sizes from hundreds of people in the community and made a signature grant in the amount of $41,600 in 2007 to show our support for this important project. These grants were investments and bold statements that say so much about the values and principles upon which this Foundation was built.

We’ve covered a lot of ground the last 16 years and with our new Chair, Martha Yarborough, I see us expanding our presence in the community and getting more people involved in what we are doing.

Thanks for believing in us… and we promise you the best is yet to come!

Always, Paul
Paul Lessard, President
High Point Community Foundation

If you want an example of a remarkable group of women, then look no further than The Woman’s Club of High Point. Since 1904, the Woman’s Club has been an invaluable resource for the community of High Point through their leadership, their scholarship programs and their well-known generosity. Many people may not realize that the Woman’s Club of High Point has been an important force for the development of community leaders and a key funder for important projects over the years. Their gifts initially underwrote the establishment of High Point’s Public Library in 1926. Then in 1962, they contributed all the money they had raised to build their own facility to the YWCA because they felt the YWCA needed the funds more to build their building. Eventually they were able to once again raise the money needed to purchase their own building. Over the years, the Woman’s Club has trained, equipped and inspired generations of women to volunteer in a variety of servant leadership roles throughout the High Point community, including delivering meals with Mobile Meals and serving refreshments and providing entertainment for the patients at the Evergreens Nursing Home. The Woman’s Club has also become very well known for the weekly buffet that served generations of High Pointers while the proceeds have enabled them to give back so much to the community. It has provided needed based scholarships for college students and nurses and contributed to many community causes. In addition, the facility on Johnson Street has provided a valuable resource for civic gatherings and wedding receptions.

In 2013, the Woman’s Club decided it was time to sell their building and, in keeping with their philosophy of making impactful gifts, they donated $200,000 from the sale of their property to the Foundation to permanently endow the Principals’ Fund for Student Needs. This gift will enable the Foundation to award more grants to the schools in High Point for unburdened student needs. Through these grants their legacy will live on forever and we thank them for their commitment to education.

We Honor the Generosity and Support of Donors who have given to the unrestricted fund of the High Point Community Foundation during our fiscal year ended June 30, 2013

Joe and Fran Craycroft Charitable Fund
The Debutante Club of High Point
Molly and Van Fletcher
Hilda B. Fountain Fund
Gilbert Gates
Carol M. Harris
Jane and Gene Kester
Martha C. Morey
Ann and Jim Morgan
Daniel R. Odom
Lisa Poplin

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Lisa Poplin
DEENA QUBEIN SAMUEL:
Heart of High Point Fund Names New Chair

The Heart of High Point Fund is an initiative fund that was established in 2008 by a donor family and the Foundation to create a permanent resource to serve basic needs in the community. This fund is designed to get money onto the street quickly when critical and emergency needs arise in organizations that are serving the poorest of the poor in the greater High Point community. To be eligible for Heart of High Point grants, organizations have to devote at least 50% of their budget and human resources to serving basic needs; food, shelter, clothing, medical care and rehabilitation.

To successfully serve this challenged population requires the committee that oversees the Fund to be very hands-on in an immediate-action mindset. Committee members serve in an “embedded” advocate role in which they not only learn everything about their organization they serve but also learn to sell their needs to the committee. Over the past five years the committee has been chaired by Martha Yarborough who has set the pace for what has become one of the Foundation’s most effective granting resources. This past December, Martha stepped down as chair to take over as chair of the Foundation. Replacing Martha, who has always been known for her high energy leadership, was a daunting task that ultimately led the Foundation to one of High Point’s most dynamic rising stars, Deena Qubein Samuel. Deena already has an established reputation for serving the High Point community in a myriad of ways.

Deena, the daughter of Nido and Mariana Qubein, received her undergraduate degree in business at the Kenan-Flagler Business School at UNC Chapel Hill and her MBA at High Point University. She serves as the CEO of Creative Services which is one of the premier consultant and management firms in the Southeast. She is also an accomplished community leader who has served on the boards of the United Way of Greater High Point, the NC Shakespeare Festival, Kids Voting, the Junior League of High Point, Leadership High Point, the Heart of High Point Fund and the High Point Community Foundation. In addition to this, Deena has played a key leadership role in the establishment of High Point’s first Young Professionals Association which has galvanized the young emerging leaders in our business community. Deena is well known for doing solid preparation, her quiet yet confident leadership style and her consistent and effective work ethic.

The Community Foundation is proud to partner with the nonprofits that are eligible for Heart of High Point funding that are serving the most needy in High Point. Currently, they are:

- Open Door Ministries
- Ward St. Community Resources
- West End Ministries
- Alcohol & Drug Services
- Caring Services
- Helping Hands
- Community Clinic
- Triad Health Project
- Salvation Army Shelter
- High Point Community Against Violence

Each of these organizations devotes over half of their budget and human resources to meet basic needs in the community.

To donate to this fund, send your check to:
High Point Community Foundation
Heart of High Point Fund
P.O. Box 5166, High Point, NC 27262
or visit www.hpcommunityfoundation.org
to donate by credit card.

AMOS KEARNS:
A Well Lived Life.

“One Men die, but few ever truly live...” These words spoken by the Scottish patriot William Wallace are a very fitting and apt description of the spirit with which our dear friend Amos Kearns lived by for the past 79 years. Amos believed in institutions of family, faith and community and he invested his time and resources in these values he held so dear to his heart. Amos will be remembered from his community volunteer work that he conscientiously pursued over the years with organizations including the High Point United Way, the YMCA, the Latino Center, the String and Spinetter Club, the High Point Museum Guild and the High Point Historical Society. He dedicated his time, energy and wisdom to each of these causes and they are stronger, more efficient organizations for his association with them.

“One Men believed in institutions of family, faith and community and he invested his time and resources in these values he held so dear to his heart.”

One of Amos’ great passions was his belief in the Boy Scouts of America which he knew changed young lives. His commitment was a constant in his life and in the lives of generations of the young men he impacted. He was a leader of Troop 7, which was sponsored by St. Mary’s Church. Over the years he served as president of the Uwharrie Council, a board member of both the Old North State Council and the National Council. He was recognized many times for his leadership and commitment with awards ranging from the Silver Beaver award, the Silver Antelope award and the distinguished Eagle Scout award. He also received the prestigious St. George’s Award from the National Episcopal Church for his many years of leadership and dedication to the Boy Scouts at St. Mary’s Church and, most recently, for his instrumental role in the establishment of the first Latino Boy Scout Troop in High Point. He saw scouting as a way to raise young men of integrity, faith and purpose who could serve and lead future generations.

St. Mary’s Episcopal Church was another calling to which Amos devoted his energies, talents and resources. He served as a Junior Warden, Senior Warden, Sunday school teacher, lay Eucharistic Minister, co-chair of the Building Endowment, a member of the Finance Committee and Verger. He was a member of the National Verger’s Guild of the Episcopal Church, a member of the Brotherhood of St. Andrews, in which he served on both the local and national levels and he was a member of the Diocesan Council of North America. Despite all of his worldly achievement, Amos’ greatest accomplishment was his beloved family which he started with Elizabeth Gayle Cooper, when they married in 1958. Together they raised three sons; Amos III, Marshall and Arthur and built a life in High Point that was blessed with friends they loved, community they served and a legacy that will be measured in the lives this remarkable man touched over the years.
Last fall, the High Point Community Foundation partnered with the Guilford Nonprofit Consortium, Wells Fargo and High Point University to expose area local nonprofit leaders to national caliber experts on fundraising. The seminar, Trends in Giving: Fundraising Priorities and Pitfalls, was headlined by Tricia Zoder, a Wells Fargo Trust and Fiduciary Specialist and Audrey Truman, a Philanthropic Consultant at Wells Fargo. Together these ladies represented over 40 years of experience in the philanthropic field.

The information presented exposed local nonprofits to statistics and facts about donors to help them understand what not to do when fundraising. Specific topics covered were: Protecting your Organization and Protecting your Donor: Pledges, Donor Agreements, Gift Acknowledgements, and Donor benefits. The event also addressed the growing concern over dwindling federal and state support and the reality that nonprofit organizations are going to have to become more self-sufficient.

High Point University provided a convenient and comfortable location which contributed to the success of the event as 48 organizations from Greensboro and High Point were represented. The Community Foundation is committed to providing educational opportunities for local nonprofits and will continue to pursue opportunities that meet this goal.
2013 GRANT AWARDS

A Total of $303,000 was Granted to 16 Local Nonprofit Agencies

The High Point Community Foundation is dedicated to strengthening the community for both present and future generations through the growth, management and disbursement of donated funds. Grant applications are accepted beginning June 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ORGANIZATION</th>
<th>HPCF Allocation</th>
<th>Cory McInnis Fund</th>
<th>Violet Hutchens Fund</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
<th>PURPOSE OF GRANT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City of High Point - Police Department</td>
<td>4,917</td>
<td>560</td>
<td>1,165</td>
<td>6,642</td>
<td>Week of leadership training for at-risk area students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ferndale Middle School/ESL Department</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>385</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>923</td>
<td>Cultural Fair at Ferndale Middle School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girl Scouts - Peaks to Piedmont</td>
<td>8,053</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>3,120</td>
<td>11,211</td>
<td>Pilot program for Girl Scouts to be an elective at Oak Hill Elementary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guide Posts of Strength</td>
<td>23,773</td>
<td>23,773</td>
<td></td>
<td>9-week Cancer Sun worship Series (4 per year)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guilford Country Cooperative Extension</td>
<td>11,565</td>
<td>2,516</td>
<td>562</td>
<td>14,643</td>
<td>Youth nutritional education through community/school gardens</td>
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<tr>
<td>Helping Hands Ministry</td>
<td>28,104</td>
<td>28,104</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Program to address dental care &amp; healthy eating on a budget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Point Central High School</td>
<td>13,904</td>
<td>9,662</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>30,656</td>
<td>Weight room equipment for new gym at Central High School</td>
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<tr>
<td>High Point Community Against Violence</td>
<td>23,901</td>
<td></td>
<td>23,901</td>
<td></td>
<td>Youth crime deterrence outreach</td>
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<tr>
<td>High Point Swim Club</td>
<td>17,932</td>
<td>539</td>
<td>2,115</td>
<td>20,586</td>
<td>Aquatic program for minority &amp; low-income children</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior League of High Point</td>
<td>15,028</td>
<td></td>
<td>15,028</td>
<td></td>
<td>Development of training materials on preservation of Historic Brier’s House</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mental Health Associates of the Triad</td>
<td>22,002</td>
<td></td>
<td>22,002</td>
<td></td>
<td>Expansion of outpatient services to working poor population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Olympics of NC</td>
<td>11,403</td>
<td></td>
<td>11,403</td>
<td></td>
<td>Tournament for those with special needs held in High Point</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theatre Art Galleries</td>
<td>7,603</td>
<td></td>
<td>7,603</td>
<td></td>
<td>Artist-in-residence for art in HP Library visualizing recycling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West End Ministries</td>
<td>37,813</td>
<td>37,813</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Funding to expand emergency assistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YMCA of High Point</td>
<td>13,878</td>
<td>13,878</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Program to train community leaders in the prevention of sexual child abuse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YMCA of High Point</td>
<td>34,624</td>
<td></td>
<td>34,624</td>
<td></td>
<td>Capital Campaign for Phase One building renovations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTALS: $275,000 $11,000 $17,000 TOTAL GRANTS $303,000

Please visit our website, www.hpcommunityfoundation.org for further information.

The U.S. National Bureau of Economic Research, official arbiter of U.S. recessions, tells us the Great Recession began in December 2007 and ended in June 2009. That may be true for the nation as a whole but, for at least two major areas of High Point, the recession still was in full swing during 2013. People dependent on West End Ministries and Helping Hands Ministry, two of the eight members of High Point’s Community Resource Network, direly were in need of help, and both agencies were running out of funds. West End Ministries’ mission, since 2001 has been “to work with the residents and other stakeholders to make the West End a safer and better place for all who live, learn, work or worship there. Helping Hands has been working with those in need in the greater High Point area since 1995. It serves individuals in crisis by meeting their most immediate needs, supporting, encouraging and praying for them during difficult times and strengthening families within the community by providing resources and training to empower them toward self-sufficiency.”

Consider how those missions dovetail with principles of the High Point Community Foundation’s Annual Grants program, which supports nonprofit efforts that improve the quality of life in the greater High Point area. The grants program “addresses community needs, addresses underlying causes rather than symptoms of problems, increases opportunities for people from low-income and underserved portions of the community and leverages additional program support from other private and public funding sources.” Those are some of the reasons West End and Helping Hands ministries garnered 21.75 percent of the $303,000 the HPCF grants program awarded in 2013. For West End, the funding is being used to expand emergency assistance. For Helping Hands, it is training clients how to eat healthy on a budget and to address much-needed dental care.

Money from two other sources supplemented the Community Foundation’s $275,000 allocation for grants. The Cory McInnis “Compassion in Education” Endowment Fund provided $11,000 designated for projects that enhance the quality of life and education for students in High Point. The Violet Hutchens “Children’s Education” Field of Interest Fund, to benefit education of young people, added $17,000.

The Community Foundation grants program began in 1998, when $100,000 was awarded. Over the 15 years of grants from the unrestricted endowment fund, the Foundation has awarded $3,654,200 and some 160 different organizations have benefited from HPCF annual grants.”

Previously, the HPCF Grants Committee consisted of members of the Foundation’s Board of Trustees but, in 2013, four members from the community at large joined nine board members in the decision-making process. They were the Rev. Dr. Joe Blosser, High Point University; the Rev. Joe Blankinship, Forest Hills Presbyterian Church; Lyil Clinar, community volunteer; and Ray McAllister, a former HPCF board and grants committee member. The Grants Committee will continue that community-involvement policy.

The Community Foundation grants program began in 1998, when $100,000 was awarded. Over the 15 years of grants from the unrestricted endowment fund, the Foundation has awarded $3,654,200 and some 160 different organizations have benefited from HPCF annual grants.
At the 2013 annual Celebration of Principals luncheon the High Point Community Foundation’s Principals’ Fund for Student Needs Committee partnered with the Kiwanis Club to honor our school leaders. Each principal received a small grant to be used for any unbudgeted needs during the school year. Also, each school’s successes of the previous year were highlighted and celebrated.

“When I was teaching and later serving as a principal, I can think of countless occasions when I pulled money out of my own pocket,” Principals’ Fund for Student Needs Committee Chair Vicki Miller remembers. “Our educators work so hard and they do it because they are committed to our children and they deserve all the help we can give them. We hope this luncheon reminded them we are all behind them.”

High Point city department heads, Chamber of Commerce board members, the High Point Partners and other community leaders who all have a vested interest in the success of our local schools were invited. The idea was to bring the community leadership together to help our local principals build relationships within the community.

A new edition to the program, Sindy Martin, a professional educational consultant, speaker and author of the book, “Smartin-Up, Your Professionalism” shared several ways our principals could foster and sustain respect and relationships within the community.

“What originally attracted you to the Foundation and why do you feel so strongly about its importance for High Point?”

I feel that, when people are blessed, we need to pass on these blessings and this can be done both monetarily and with our talents. I also believe in getting personally involved in any organization I give to so that I can better understand their needs and be a more discerning giver.

“Do you think the Foundation does well and where do you think the Foundation can improve?”

Finally, I want to grow our unrestricted endowment fund. This fund along with management fees supports our administrative expenses as well as our Annual Grants program. Growing the unrestricted endowment fund would allow the Foundation to have a larger impact on the community by increasing the amount budgeted to our Annual Grants program. Getting more unrestricted gifts is key and we’ll focus on this.

As the new Chairman of the Foundation, what are your goals for the next two years? First and foremost I want to educate the community on what we do here at the Foundation. I think if you ask most people about us they will tell you that we do “good things in the community” which is true, but if you ask them how we actually do this they probably could not tell you. I want to change this. I also want to expand our base of support and get everyone in the community involved. Specifically I want to see the 30, 40 and 50 year olds in High Point become philanthropists and I want to see the Foundation help make this happen.

What role do you see the Foundation currently playing in High Point and do you see this expanding? Since the Foundation was established we have always been what I would call a “reactive granter.” By this I mean historically we have responded to requests that nonprofit organizations have brought to the Foundation through our Grants Program. This has been great for us and for the community at large for the past 16 years. I think our organization has grown, matured and at some point in the near future we will be ready to be a more “proactive granter” which will enable us to make grants that have the capacity to dramatically shape High Point’s future.

You served for 5 years as the Chair of the Heart of High Point Committee, how has this experience impacted your leadership style? My work with the Heart of High Point Fund was one of the most rewarding and exciting experiences I’ve ever had. We built it from the ground up so it taught me a lot about establishing policies and procedures which are the key to any good organization. It gave me the confidence to delegate and lead with expectation. I have come to really appreciate and enjoy the creativity and vision that comes from great minds working in unison.

Where would you like to see the Foundation in 10 years? I would like to see the base of support and involvement with the Foundation broadened and for the entire community of High Point to have a real sense of ownership in the Foundation.
The Clark family believes in the power of education and they are passionate about providing this gift to young women in Tanzania where traditionally they have not been afforded this opportunity. Doug, who lives in High Point and works in Greensboro, is a well-known and respected journalist who writes for the News and Record. He is excited about two new partnerships that have recently been formed that will take their Donor Advised Fund at the High Point Community Foundation to the next level.

“We are pleased to report that Smart Girls Tanzania Fund (SGT) has received two substantial grants from the Mission Fund at First Presbyterian Church, in High Point, North Carolina and the PenWel Fund in Richmond, Virginia,” stated Clark. “PenWel’s mission is to focus on people and places with the most critical needs and provide support to organizations that can best use their funds to make a lasting impact. These wonderful, very deserving girls in Tanzania certainly fit this description.”

“We are providing the gift of education to young women in need at a cost that is small to us but priceless to them.”

Doug, his wife Margaret, and his son Andrew and his wife Myra, met with PenWel in Richmond to present their project, which was well received and did in fact begin a new relationship. They were able to share how Andrew’s service in the Peace Corps led to the establishment of the SGT Fund as he served as a volunteer teacher at the Kongei Secondary School near Lushoto, Tanzania. After returning from this Peace Corps assignment, Andrew went on to continue his education and, two years later, he and Doug made a return visit to see the girls he had taught graduate. It was after this trip that Doug and his family decided to build a relationship with the school by establishing a scholarship to subsidize girls attending the Kongei School.

“The school is operated by the Catholic Diocese of Tanga and it provides a rare opportunity for Tanzanian girls to receive an education beyond the primary level,” shared Maria Clark. “This education opens a world of opportunity for these girls and frees them from the prospects of early marriage, large families and most likely, life-long poverty. We saw it as a way to dramatically impact lives and help the country at the same time.”

Andrew, a UNC-Charlotte engineering grad, now holds a master’s degree from George Washington University and works for the U.S. State Department. He believes that Kongei is an excellent school whose students consistently score well on the national exams.

“The young ladies at Kongei are bright, eager to learn and very hopeful for a future that can offer them more than the traditional subservient role that women have played in the culture over the years,” Andrew noted. “The school is expensive by Tanzanian standards, the annual cost for tuition, room and board, uniforms, books and incidentals is about $1,000 a year. So my parents and I have asked the school directors to find us candidates with academic promise and financial need. We want to impact and enable girls who otherwise could not afford to attend.”

The SGT Fund started in 2011 with just one student, Zuhura. Lightness was added in 2012 and Anastazia in 2013. This year the Clark’s plan to add two new students and continue to broaden the impact of Smart Girls Tanzania. According to Margaret, “We’ll never have enough money to solve big problems in even one developing country in East Africa, but we hope to live up to The PenWel Fund’s mission: to ‘best use our fund to make a lasting impact on the lives of those in need. We sincerely believe we are providing the gift of education to young women in need at a cost that is small to us but priceless to them.’

To donate to this fund, send your check to:
High Point Community Foundation
Smart Girls Tanzania
P.O. Box 5166, High Point, NC 27262
or visit www.hpcommunityfoundation.org to donate by credit card.

One of the great advantages of being a “university town” is the school becomes an academic, athletic and cultural resource with the ability to impact local organizations, such as the High Point Community Foundation. This past semester a class called “Campaigns”, which is a senior level class for High Point University students majoring in public relations, partnered with the Foundation. The Campaigns class incorporates all knowledge and experience the PR track students have absorbed over their four years of college. It's a great opportunity for the students to tackle real-world marketing issues and provide a service for the community at the same time. The class divided up into five competitive teams to design the best marketing plan for the Foundation’s goal of expanding its base of support.

The class professor, Phil Watson, who holds an MBA from Harvard and has real-world experience in the public relations arena, and HPCF President Paul Lessard have a long-term partnership that has to be understood, nurtured and ultimately served with a campaign that will help the client grow their business. I love working with this class because they are focused, ambitious and do not pull punches.”

The five teams worked diligently and took the information learned and designed a campaign each thought would best serve the Foundation’s needs. Before May’s graduation the Foundation staff and trustees were invited to the university to hear and judge the final presentations and ultimately choose a winner. The Foundation will take the best ideas from each presentation and utilize those in future marketing strategies. We are most thankful to the students and Professor Phil Watson for their candid and visionary solutions.
Make no mistake about it, the annual meeting of the High Point Community Foundation is a celebration! “Over the past 15 years, this Foundation has provided a safety net that insures that the unmet needs of our community are provided for,” Coy Williard, HPCF Board of Trustees chairman, said. “This was the vision that our founders had in 1990 and I’m proud to say that we consistently honored these goals and we will continue to do so with the help of you, our donors.”

The annual meeting is an opportunity for the HPCF Board of Trustees and staff to thank you for your support, your vision and your dreams for a healthy and prosperous High Point community.

That’s why Neil Holzapfel, founder and director of Raise the Children International, was chosen as keynote speaker for the 2013 HPCF annual meeting. Raise the Children is an internationally acclaimed nonprofit that addresses the ever-growing plight of orphans in Africa. The organization identifies and nurtures academic, social and spiritual growth to cultivate leaders in their own communities and beyond. Holzapfel, now residing in South Africa and eight-year veteran analyst for Africa at the Capital Group Companies, has been recognized as one of the emerging social innovators in Africa.

Neil’s philosophy is to identify children who have a proven track record academically and who also share a common “servant leadership” mindset. Neil’s wife, Lesego, was an orphaned child herself, and knows firsthand the benefits of receiving help with her education. Lesego’s first question to children interested in receiving a scholarship is, “What makes you special out of the hundreds of children we interview? What they’re looking for is someone who will use the gift of education to change his or her world. Once the children are selected they attend top boarding schools in Africa and then later also receive help with college, and if necessary, a job. Once they are working, the expectation is set that all will give back to the organization that helped them and the cycle will continue. Neil’s vision is that one day, prior scholarship recipients will be the primary source of income for Raise the Children International and that he will be able to turn the program over to the South Africans.

On occasion at its annual meeting, HPCF honors two groups of people from the greater High Point community whose service has earned them either the Philanthropist of the Year Award or Spirit of the Foundation Award. It is fitting that Holzapfel was the speaker at the annual meeting in which David S. Miller was honored as the ninth Spirit of the Foundation Award winner.

Holzapfel works hard, in his relatively new career, to make a better place for orphans in Africa. Miller has worked for decades to make not only High Point, Guilford County and North Carolina better places to live, but, as the narrator of the video that preceded presentation of the award noted, Miller has been and still is trying to make the world a better place.

Known as an “out of the box” thinker, an education advocate, a social justice promoter and a champion in the fight against poverty, hunger and homelessness here at home, Miller worked directly with Mother Teresa in India during a trip in the early 1990s. His service there began by working in her “home for the dying” in Calcutta where he first washed blankets, then moved to distributing them and, with each new assignment, found himself being brought closer to the poorest of the poor. One day he found himself holding the head of a frail, dying man as Miller shaved his face. It was then that Miller understood what Mother Teresa had been teaching him all along.

Miller has served as chairman of numerous nonprofit organizations both locally and at the state level, and has been recognized for his many contributions, included being named the High Point Enterprise Citizen of the Year. In addition, has played a key role in the growth of the Community Foundation where he has served on the Board and as a member of the Grants Committee, helping to allocate funding for nonprofits in the greater High Point area.

The English word spirit comes from the Latin spiritus, meaning “breath”, but also “spirit, soul, courage, vigor.” The word spirit is often used metaphorically to refer to the consciousness or personality. And so it is with this fellow perhaps best known for his wry sense of humor and a true, oft demonstrated passion for serving those who struggle economically and have no voice in our community.
Paul Barringer was a direct descendant of General Rufus Clay Barringer, who was born in Cabarrus County and was the ninth of ten children born to Paul and Elizabeth Barringer. Both Rufus and his brother Victor served as officers in the Confederate States Army during one of our nation’s most catastrophic wars. Rufus attended UNC-Chapel Hill where he graduated in 1842, and then went to study law in Concord with his older brother Daniel. Rufus would go on to enjoy a successful law career and eventually represented Cabarrus County in The House of Commons in the North Carolina General Assembly from 1848 until 1850. While Rufus was a “Unionist” in his political views, he represented this district as an elector in the 1860 presidential election during which Abraham Lincoln was elected, which precipitated the outbreak of America’s Civil War.

When North Carolina seceded from the Union in May of 1861, Barringer’s first love was law, even though he was personally opposed to secession. He raised a company of 100 horsemen, the Cabarrus Rangers, who were designated as Company F of the 1st North Carolina Cavalry for whom Barringer served as their Captain. Barringer and his men served with great distinction and distinction during their involvement in the Peninsula Campaign under General J.E.B. Stuart, the Seven Days Battle, the Second Manassas and the Battle of Antietam. After the battle of Antietam, Barringer was left with two children, Paul and Anna. Two of his departed wife’s sisters also were married to Confederates; General D.H. Hill and the revered Stonewall Jackson. In 1870, General Barringer married again to Miss Margaret Long of Orange County and they produced a son, Osmond. General Barringer unsuccessfully ran for Lieutenant Governor in 1880 as a Republican, losing to James L. Robinson. He retired from his law practice in 1884 and became a writer, authoring a history of the 9th North Carolina Cavalry.

General Barringer was a man of great integrity, courage and honor who served through one of the bloodiest wars in American history with great distinction. Perhaps most telling of his character was the manner in which he threw himself into rebuilding his home state after the war concluded. He not only contributed in politics but also in the fields of commerce, business and literature.

The High Point Community Foundation salutes Paul and Merrill Barringer for their key role in the preservation of General Barringer’s flag and thereby recognizing the memory of a man a warrior, statesman and beloved son of North Carolina.

THE GIFT OF LEGACY:
David and Doris Dowdy, Jr.

It was in June of 2004 that the High Point Community Foundation was called upon to be involved in one of High Point’s historical moments. Four community leaders teamed up to preserve a piece of High Point history by commissioning a bronze sculpture of the “Plank Foreman” to commemorate what was once called the Plank Road. These men, Jim Mills, Sr., Jim Morgan, Aaron Clinard and David Dowdy, Jr. loved the community of High Point and each of them understood the significance of the Plank Road and its connection with the establishment of High Point. In the state of North Carolina, during the mid-1840s, a 130-mile road was constructed of wooden planks that would stretch from Fayetteville to Salem to aid commercial traffic. This road intersected with the Western Plank Road in place of elevation in the Piedmont area that was given the name High Point. Because of this road and High Point location the area grew into an economic center that would one day become the Furniture Capital of the World.

The “Plank Foreman” statue was the creation of David A. Dowdy, Jr., a native son of High Point and a self-taught sculptor, who had gained a national reputation for this classical artistry. The project took on even more significance when it was learned that Jim Mills, Sr., who had courageously battled cancer, was nearing the end of his fight. It would in fact be the final major civic project that Jim Mills, Sr. would be involved in before his death.

Working with the Community Foundation who managed the funds for the project, the Plank Foreman “gang of four” went out into the community and raised the money for the casting and installation. They received generous support from the corporate community and the private sector. The day of the installation was a grand celebration that brought hundreds from High Point to witness the unveiling in the shadow of another reminder of High Point heritage, the Train Depot. For the four friends who had pooled their talents and leadership it was a day of great celebration and accomplishment.

Recently, the Dowdy family donated the bronze maquette of the Plank Foreman statue to the Community Foundation. At the February Board of Trustees meeting of the Foundation, David and Doris were invited to attend so they could be officially recognized for their generous gift. David, always the gentleman, spoke briefly and from the heart at the event. “I have always loved High Point,” stated David. “It’s our home and we are honored to share it with all of you here at the Foundation.”
MARY WRIGHT MELLICHAMPE
Foundation Loses Friend and Supporter

A loyal supporter of the Community Foundation and High Point University, Mary Wright Mellichampe, passed away this last winter leaving a rich legacy of affection and generosity. Mary, born in Clay City, Kentucky, was a High Point resident for 67 years. She was the devoted wife of James H. Mellichampe, Jr. who worked as the CFO and General Manager of Pickett Mills beginning in 1947 until the mill ceased operation in 1985. James and Mary loved High Point and remained here after his retirement.

James and Mary met in Washington, DC, where she and several of her high school classmates had moved to find work. After marrying, they later moved to High Point where James’ maternal grandfather was the owner of Pickett Mills. Mary worked in the furniture business for Heritage Furniture in the late 1950s and early 60s. She enjoyed genealogy and was known to research family histories for many who requested her help. After James’ death in 2004, she endowed a scholarship at High Point University in her husband’s name and established a fund at the Community Foundation that will carry out the Mellichampe legacy for years to come.