

Inside The Acorn

Page

2008 Philanthropist of the Year Award.....	1
2008 Spirit of the Foundation Award.....	1
President's Perspective.....	2
Joe Rawley Assumes the Community Foundation Helm	3
Foundation Celebrates First Decade.....	4
The Legacy of James & Mary Mellichampe Foundation Loses Friend & Advocate	6
George McCann Marsh	7
A Conversation with Joe Rawley	8
Heart of High Point Fund	11
Gift from Bob Brown	12
Cornerstone Health Care Establishes Foundation	16
Housing First.....	17
The High Point Principal's Fund	18
Guardian Fund Established for High Point Police Department	19
High Point's Secret Weapon - Community Against Violence	20
Foundation Partner Wachovia Securities Announce New Positions.....	21
Hilda Fountain	21
2007 Grants Awarded	22
The Great Peruvian Adventure	23
Dustin's GreenHouse.....	23
Caring Services	24
Guilford Education Alliance	25
Ten Years in Pictures.....	26
Guiding Nonprofits in Guilford County - The Guilford Nonprofit Consortium	28
Dallas Family Establishes DAF.....	29
Community Foundation Partners with University to Bring Medal Home	30
Foundation Announces New Jordan Washburn Family DAF	32
Marty's Legacy Lives On Through Nursing Scholarships	33
Local Nonprofit Explores the Art of Healing	34
Revitalizing Communities - S.H.A.R.E.	35
Foundation Welcomes New Director of Accounting.....	36
Foundation Welcomes New Office Administrator	37
Foundation Hosts Nonprofit Seminar	37
Funds.....	38
Fund Established to Honor Local Physician	40
Wesleyan Boys Soccer Team Partners With Foundation	41
The Mother Baby Foundation.....	42
Learning from the Pros - Brothers Organized to Save Others.....	43
To Sleep, Perchance to Dream - North Carolina Shakespeare Festival.....	44
Foundation Applauds Kiwanis Club	45
Telling the Foundation Story - Sandy Keziah	46
Season's Greetings	47

2008 PHILANTHROPIST OF THE YEAR AWARD

This year's recipients of the Philanthropist of the Year Award represent a second generation of exciting philanthropic leadership in the community of High Point. Jim Millis Jr., Bill Millis, Emily Millis-Hiatt, and Molly Millis-Hedgecock are executing their own unique styles of giving with a variety of projects that are having great impact in High Point and beyond. Their hands-on, creative, and results oriented philanthropy is a testament to the Millis family generational commitment to giving.

Each of the siblings learned over the years that wise and discerning givers must first understand the issues, carefully study



*Bill Millis, Jim Millis Jr., Emily Millis-Hiatt,
Jesse Millis, Molly Millis-Hedgecock*

2008 Philanthropist... ➤ page 13

2008 SPIRIT OF THE FOUNDATION AWARD

At this year's Annual Meeting the Foundation recognized one of High Point's most beloved and humble business leaders, Dan Odom. Dan has served as the Treasurer of the High Point Community Foundation for the past three years. The "Spirit of the Foundation" Award is not given out every year and is reserved to recognize people in our community who have made uniquely important contributions of time and effort to enhance the mission of the Foundation.



*Dan Odom Jr., Karen Odom, Gloria Odom,
Dan Odom, Jennifer Kallo, Jonathan Odom*

2008 Spirit... ➤ page 15

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



Paul Lessard

I recently read a book that I would highly recommend which focused upon one man's reaction to his own terminal illness and the remarkable speech he delivered on the subject at Carnegie Mellon University. His talk was part of a series of lectures, *The Last Lecture*, that the University sponsors in which selected professors are asked to impart their experience, wisdom and thoughts from a "rear-view" perspective.

This talk, that Dr. Randy Pausch presented, went on to become an internet phenomenon that has been viewed by millions and widely acclaimed.

What is unique about the speech and the subsequent book is that Dr. Pausch's message is not one of sadness and regret; instead it is a celebration of life that focuses upon achieving one's dreams. The book is invigorating and inspirational as Pausch is not one to feel sorry for himself and views this part of his life's journey as an opportunity to touch the lives of others with his wisdom, humor, insights, and most of all his very candid humanity.

Over the years I have developed a tendency to read late at night and Dr. Pausch's book has a way of probing into places we don't often tread and it makes one consider issues that often flash into our consciousness and illuminate for an instant and then fade back into the netherworld of our unconsciousness. Have I lived a life of generosity and compassion? Have I loved unselfishly and truly shared my gifts? Have I been willing to be an instrument of positive change who always seeks justice and peace?

Dr. Pausch's book hit me at an opportune time as I had recently finished writing a book I had started working on with my friend Yogi Yarborough who passed away two years ago. The title of the book is *A Measure of My Heart - Life Lessons from Yogi* and it is a chronicle of a friendship that lasted over 30 years and the life lessons Yogi had taught me during the final year of his life. The uncompleted book had been waiting patiently in the shallows of my comput-

er's river of documents for months exactly as I had left it the day after I had delivered my friend Yogi's eulogy. I realized then that I would have to lay the project aside for a while as the loss was too fresh and like all things in life true perspective is only gained through patience and distance.

This past August I finally found the time to return to the book and I finished the final four chapters up in a quaint guest cottage on Lookout Mountain at Covenant College where my son, Jordie, was attending Covenant College's Elite Showcase Camp. We were at the College for four days where I wrote every morning from 6:00am to 1:00pm and I literally finished the last chapter at 11:30pm on the final day of camp. When I keyed in the last words of the book on my laptop I could not help but think back over the final weeks of Yogi's life and I still marvel at the amazing peace I had observed in my friend.

This same peacefulness was something I also felt while reading Pausch's book and I have come to realize that this serenity is a byproduct of a life well-lived. Both books made me focus once again on those previously mentioned questions that dance in and out of our lives and I realized that what counts, what really counts, are those seemingly innocuous decisions we make every day that ultimately dictate the course of our own lives. We can choose to be served, or serve; we can choose to receive, or give; and we can choose to enrich our own lives, or invest in and improve the lives of others. These decisions ultimately echo into our eternities, they illustrate the quality of our character and our faith, and in the end, they are what ultimately define us as men and women.

In the wee hours of the night it is men like Dr. Randy Pausch and Yogi Yarborough who inspire me and who I long to emulate. Our community of High Point is blessed to have so many among us who daily choose to seek the high road, who reach out to their brothers and sisters in need, and who consistently seek to serve, to give, and enrich.

I consider it a great privilege to work with many of these people here at the High Point Community Foundation and I challenge each of you who read this to take a moment this evening, right before you go to sleep, and consider those questions we too often avoid and decide what path you will choose. 🍷

JOE RAWLEY ASSUMES THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION HELM

This past winter former Chairman Bill McGuinn turned over the gavel to the fourth Chairman of the High Point Community Foundation, Joe Rawley. Joe is a well-regarded leader and businessman in the High Point Community who is also known for his quiet strength, confidence, and vision. After being on the job for just a short amount of time Joe is already leading the Foundation in some interesting and very exciting new projects.

Joe, who retired from his ownership position at the High Point Enterprise eight years ago was born and raised in High Point. He spent his early years in the High Point public school system and later went to boarding High School at Campbell College. After graduation he attended Wake Forest University where he received his undergraduate degree, and later an MBA from the Wake Forest Babcock School of Management.

Joe went to work for the High Point Enterprise where he was employed in the news and advertising departments. Later, he held the position of General Manager and Co-Publisher. During the 1980's he was active with international press programs, and was Chairman of the International Press Telecommunications Council, a London based organization.

Joe was appointed to the US National Commission for UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) by the Secretary of State and was a member of US delegations to a number of meetings of that organization. He served a short time with UNESCO at its headquarters in Paris.

Joe and his brother David were partners with Randal Terry. That partnership lasted until 1999 when the Paxton Media Group purchased Joe and his brother's interest.

"Joe is extremely well-read, and is a true life-long student," shares Foundation President, Paul Lessard. "He is an interesting blend of left and right brain intelligence and he is a gentleman in the 'Old-World' sense of the word. He is a great joy to work with and, as I tell him often, he makes the job fun. We are so fortunate to have a man of his passion, commitment, and curiosity as our leader at the Foundation."

Joe began his tenure on the High Point Community Foundation Board in 2000 and soon became very interested and involved in the Grants Program. He later went on to become the Chairman of the Grants program with which he took a very hands-on leadership approach and actually developed the program that is still used to tabulate

the voting process. He has served on a number of local boards including High Point Regional Health System and the Chamber of Commerce. Joe has also been active in leadership with the String and Splinter Club and has played a role in helping the Hispanic Center at Christ the King Church on Kivett Drive.



Joe Rawley

"Joe is a very caring and conscientious man who is always ready to reach out and help those who are in need in our community," notes Father Phillip, Pastor of Christ the King Catholic Church. "He has always been there to help me with his leadership, generosity, and wisdom, which has contributed to our success."

Joe's impact upon the High Point Community Foundation has been extremely important to the growth of the organization. He is very well educated in the computer arts and uses the Internet to learn about the work and accomplishments of other community foundations. His greatest strength and ultimately his legacy will be his drive to insure that the Foundation is current and in fact, ahead of the compliance curve. He sees this point in the Foundation's history as a very critical time for growth in not only assets but also infrastructure.

"Joe has been a tremendous asset to our endeavor and I am proud that he accepted our invitation to join the Board as one of our original founding members," remembers Jim Morgan, Former Chairman, HPCF. "He is extremely bright, he is a forward thinker, and he is a leader who builds consensus through educating and appealing to the good and true intentions that we all have within us. I am so proud of Joe and I am confident he will continue to grow our Foundation and expand the good work it is doing."

Joe Rawley who once built a career upon reporting about the events and leaders that have shaped our country's and community's history is now positioned to make his own historical mark thorough his leadership and vision for the High Point Community Foundation. The Community Foundation is proud to welcome Joe onboard. 🍷

FOUNDATION CELEBRATES FIRST DECADE

The Board of Trustees of the High Point Community Foundation, nonprofit leaders and friends of the Foundation gathered on Wednesday, May 14, 2008 at 11:30 am at the High Point Country Club to celebrate ten years of building and growing philanthropy in the High Point Community.

The highlight of this year's Annual Meeting was the naming of the 2008 Philanthropists of the Year, the Community Foundation's flagship award that recognizes individuals who have most impacted the High Point Community and the Foundation with their philanthropy. This year's Award, the ninth in the Foundation's history, was the first to be given to four individuals. Jim Millis, Jr., Bill Millis, Molly Millis-Hedgecock, and Emily Millis-Hiatt each have Donor Advised Funds at the High Point Community Foundation that have been very dramatically impacting our community and beyond in remarkable ways. Each Fund has taken a very unique and personal perspective on philanthropy that have ranged from supporting worthwhile local projects, Christian missions overseas, programs for the needy, outreach programs for youth, and many others.

Also announced at the Annual Meeting was the Spirit of the Foundation Award recipient. Dan Odom was recognized for the tremendous amount of time, leadership, expertise and passion he has so generously given in his capacity as the Treasurer of the Community Foundation. Dan has played a key role in establishing and fine-tuning the Foundation's financial policies and procedures that have played a crucial role in our on-going rapid growth. This Spirit of the Foundation Award had only been given four times in the history of the Foundation and Dan joins Judy Mendenhall, Bill Horney, Joe Rawley, and Dustin's Greenhouse as recipients of the award.

The Annual Luncheon included video presentations honoring the Awardees as well as a retrospective look at the first ten years of operation. The meeting opened with a beautiful invocation from Dr. Jesse Keaton of Memorial United Methodist Church, Chairman Joe Rawley delivered remarks, Paul Lessard, Foundation President, gave a brief State of the Foundation update and the keynote speaker, Henry Carter, former President of the Winston-Salem Foundation, delivered an insightful and inspiring talk about the importance and value of philanthropy. The pro-

gram concluded with final remarks from Joe Rawley that encouraged all attending to seek out their own vision of philanthropy.

At the ten year mark, there were several milestones to reflect upon that included:

- Raising an endowment for the community that in the past ten years has granted over \$2,264,000.00 to 165 nonprofit organizations.
- Providing the initial start-up funding for the High Point 2009 Project that brought in literacy teaching specialists to instruct local elementary school teachers in how to teach reading. This project saved three schools from being taken over by the state.
- Underwriting the construction of the very first Hispanic Center at Christ The King Catholic Church that underscored our community's support for our Hispanic neighbors.
- Supporting the construction of the very first handicapped accessible playground in High Point at the Johnson Street School that was named in honor of Cory McInnis, a courageous young man who taught our entire community the meaning of grace and courage in the face of adversity.
- Co-sponsoring with Cornerstone Health Care the Well-Child Inoculation Clinic at Christ the King Catholic Church for the Hispanic community.
- Organizing with Cornerstone Health Care the Medical Screening Clinic for our new Montagnard community.
- Stepping up to become one of the first granters of the West End Ministries community project by providing funds to purchase their new headquarters.
- Helping to underwrite the building of Leslie's House, the new shelter for homeless women.
- Establishing the \$4 million "Heart of High Point" Fund that will provide for basic needs: food, shelter, medical and rehabilitation, in perpetuity.
- Establishing the High Point Schools "Principals" Fund that will provide for the urgent needs of our local school leaders.

MEETING THE UNMET NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY

"Our Community Foundation is the fruition of a dream that started with a remarkable group of men and women who loved High Point and believed it was necessary to establish a permanent financial vehicle that would both fund and insure its future," states Paul Lessard. "Generations from now people will look back and realize that the thriving community of High Point, where everyone is valued, nurtured, and given an equal opportunity to be successful and fulfill their true God-given potential, has been irrefutably changed by the vision and generosity of this very special group of leaders and donors who worked together to build this 'reservoir of hope' that we know as the High Point Community Foundation." 🍷



*Henry Carter, Keynote Speaker
Former President of the Winston-Salem Foundation*



*(l-r) Bill Millis, Ashley Hedgecock, Jim Millis, Jr.
Nido Qubein, Paul Lessard, Jim Morgan & Joe Rawley*



*(l-r) Gary & Eleanor Ilderton, Hilda Fountain
Gloria & Dan Odom, Bill & Caroline McGuinn*



*Joe Rawley, Chairman
High Point Community Foundation*



*(l-r) Mariana Qubein, David Hayworth, Peggy Amos
Rhea Carter, Scott Wesserman, Richard Budd
Phil Phillips & Bill Horney*

THE LEGACY OF JAMES & MARY MELLICHAMPE

One of the wonderful aspects of the relationships that are established at the High Point Community Foundation is that the life stories of individuals and families who have meant so much to the history of our community are recorded, remembered, and perpetuated for future generations. These stories are an integral part of our community's historical tapestry and to hear them is to understand Winston Churchill's admonition that one must understand the past to be able to truly know where to go in the future.

Earlier this year, Mrs. Mary Mellichampe, with the help of her nephew Norm Smith, and the guidance of attorney Perry Keziah, completed the legal contracts to establish a legacy fund at the High Point Community Foundation, that will, upon her passing, support organizations that she and her husband cared about and supported during their lifetimes. Deferred gifts like this are wonderful financial vehicles through which families can insure that the non-profit organizations they championed over the years will be supported when they are gone. It is also a great way to let nonprofits know in advance about future gifts which helps their long-range planning and it gives the organizations a chance to thank their benefactors. The future recipients of the Mellichampe Fund will include the *ARC of High Point* and the *GTCC Foundation/Mary Mellichampe Nursing Scholarship* both of which will do incredibly good work in the community for years to come.

When Mary was asked why she decided to make this very generous gift she very simply replied that High Point was her and her husband James home for over 50 years and it felt good to be able to give back to the community that had meant so much to them. Often time gifts like this are precipitated by significant financial events in a family's life. In this case it was the sale of family land that had been purchased in 1904. This land was located in the Oakview area of High Point, which at one time was considered "out in the country", and even today is a very picturesque area with three ponds that all feed into Oak Hollow Lake. The story about the Mellichampe family is one that spans a very exciting period in High Point's history and reveals so much about the genesis of what we all call our home today.

James and Mary met in Washington, DC during the WWII

years where they both worked for the US Maritime Commission. They were introduced by a mutual friend and married a few years later. James brought his new bride to High Point where his family owned an interest in the Pickett Cotton Mills that were originally started by Francis Marion Pickett. James started at the bottom and thoroughly learned the mill operation. When he retired he was the Secretary/Treasurer and General Manager.

James was a very conservative man, who was exceptionally organized, and who always told you the truth. His honesty, integrity, and wonderful sense of humor were what I admired most about him," remembers Mary. *"He loved sports, old movies, and he was an exceptional golf putter and would often compete against young men with the Professional Putters Association. We were married for 58 years and my father-in-law liked to call me his cute little redheaded girl... I always loved that!"*



James Mellichampe Jr.

During their lifetime Mary and James watched High Point grow from a post-war town to the hustle and prosperity of the golden years of textile and furniture manufacturing. When they first arrived from Washington Mary remembers that there were certain things, apartments, kitchen appliances such as refrigerators and stoves, that were very hard to find in High Point.

"I remember that we ended up getting a stove from a friend in High Point that was an older model but worked just fine," recounts Mary. *"I'll never forget the first refrigerator we bought, it was a Kelvinator that we ordered in 1948, and that thing had lasted over 50 years and when I gave it away before I moved it was still running!"*

"We are deeply grateful that Mary has chosen our Community Foundation to pass on her philanthropic assets to the community that she and her husband James loved so much," states Paul Lessard, President, High Point Community Foundation. *Mary's affection for High Point is very evident and I have loved learning more about the history of our great community. We look forward to insuring that the legacy of Mary and James is always remembered and I know their contributions to High Point will even outlive her Kelvinator refrigerator."* 🏠



Mary Mellichampe

FOUNDATION LOSES FRIEND & ADVOCATE

GEORGE MCCANN MARSH 1921 - 2008

The High Point Community Foundation mourned the loss of one of its inaugural members of the Board of Trustees when George McCann Marsh died August 17, 2008 at the age of 86. Marsh was one of the first significant contributors to the Foundation and he played a key role in the early leadership of the organization.

"George was a great leader in both our community and in the business world," remembers Jim Morgan, Past Chairman, High Point Community Foundation.

"George was a man of great wisdom and compassion who was always ready to support a good cause in our community. He will be greatly missed and always remembered as a true leader in High Point."



George McCann Marsh

Over the years Marsh served stints as President, Chairman, and CEO of Marsh Furniture Company where he played a crucial role in growing the organization to the industry leader they are today. He was also known as one of High Point's key civic leaders who gave generously of his time and financial resources to a variety of causes.

Marsh was a decorated WWII veteran who went to work at Marsh Cabinets in 1946 and assumed a leadership role in the company by the 1970s. Marsh was named the High Point Enterprise Citizen of the Year in 2002. He was active in leadership with numerous organizations over the years including High Point Regional Hospital where he played a key role in growing the hospital's endowment and helping lead building campaigns during his time as its Chairman.

"George was a dear friend and a greatly admired and appreciated mentor," states Paul Lessard, President, High Point Community Foundation. *"This community has been blessed to have a man of his character and compassion to lead us over the years. I will miss George and I will always appreciate the tremendous impact he had upon me and so many others in our community."* 🍌



Marsh Furniture Company, circa 1920

A CONVERSATION WITH JOE RAWLEY, CHAIRMAN

This past January the High Point Community Foundation welcomed aboard its fourth Chairman in the ten-year history of the organization. Joe Rawley, a well-known and regarded businessman and community leader, was an original member of the inaugural Board and a past Chairman of the Grants Committee. Joe's media background, his calm and friendly demeanor, and his well-known intellect will be great resources for the Foundation.

The Acorn thought our readers would like to spend some time with our new Chairman and hear a few of his thoughts concerning the Foundation and its impact upon the High Point Community.

Acorn: Let's start with your thoughts on the mission of the Foundation.

Joe: The mission of the Foundation is to encourage and facilitate philanthropy, and to be a growing resource for helping nonprofit organizations.

Encouraging giving is easy to understand. But what does it mean to facilitate giving? The charitable goals of donors differ greatly. The Foundation is able to set up various types of funds such as donor advised funds, special interest funds or scholarship funds, and work with donors over time to help them accomplish their objectives. Most of those funds will continue to make grants year after year, some even across generations. And so our mission is twofold, serving our donors, and serving the community.

The Foundation, through its charter, is forever linked with this community. Supporting the Foundation contributes to making High Point stronger and better prepared to meet future challenges. That distinction of being a local organization is very important to donors.

Acorn: What are some of the Foundation's goals in the near term?

Joe: Our challenge is to be certain that the Foundation continues to move in the right direction, and that means maintaining the momentum we have built up over the past decade.

The top priorities currently are: working to make every donor's experience with the Foundation positive, making prudent decisions in our granting process, building the Foundation's assets, being certain that our policies and procedures meet national standards, carefully managing our resources, and maintaining a first-class, highly competent and knowledgeable staff.

Acorn: Can you share your thoughts on philanthropy?

Joe: The story of the poor widow's gift illustrates, among other things, that the desire to give touches people of all circumstances. We want to provide opportunities for giving at many levels.

Our community has benefited in untold measure from the generosity of individuals, families, and businesses able to make large gifts. The Foundation must have substantial donors, major philanthropists, to carry out its mission. Major gifts are the basis for major change. Philanthropy at that level provides a critical reservoir of funding for future grant making.

The Foundation's charter also states that it is part of our mission to "afford to persons of moderate means an opportunity to make gifts with a greater beneficial result than possible through individual action." We should not lose sight of that responsibility. The recently launched "Heart of High Point Fund" may become an ideal means to achieve that goal.

Whatever the circumstances and the capability of the individual, every gift should bring joy to the giver. I believe all of those involved in whatever capacity in the High Point Community Foundation "family" have experienced that joy of giving.

Acorn: Does any need in our community stand out in your opinion as requiring urgent or immediate attention?

Joe: Education is certainly one of our vital concerns. Providing good early childhood education and having top quality schools is a priority, here and nationwide. High Point and Guilford County have excellent nonprofit organizations whose goals are to improve education at all levels. The Foundation has supported those agencies and other education initiatives every year since it began making grants. We continue to be very aggressive in supporting sound education projects. The Foundation encourages donors with a special interest in education to consider scholarship fund opportunities. And we are constantly exploring new ways to assist with funding for educational needs.

There are children in High Point whose life experiences rarely extend beyond their own neighborhoods or the world of television. Over the years, the Foundation has been particularly active in responding to grant requests from organizations that expand horizons for young people. Many younger students do not see the connection between education and economic opportunity or quality of life in future years. Our city's future depends in large part on the education of its citizens. Improving early education is a collective responsibility and perhaps our community's greatest challenge.

Acorn: Many people say that High Point is a unique community when it comes to philanthropy - what are your thoughts on this?

Joe: Those who come to High Point from other areas often recognize and comment on the unique spirit of this community. There is no question that we are blessed with a large number of community-minded citizens, leaders and donors who have been extremely generous with their time and resources.

What is more remarkable is that so many have shared a genuine, life-long love for this city. Today, High Point is in the process of change, perhaps the most profound at any point in its history. Good things are happening and we seem to be poised on the threshold of a new era... not clearly seen, but sensed. We are facing a time of extraordinary challenges and opportunities. During the coming decade, our city needs leadership equivalent to that provided by the outstanding men and women of vision who have guided this community for generations. We are fortunate that at present there are such younger leaders.

Acorn: What community issues will the Foundation focus on during your tenure?

Joe: That question is not as simple as it sounds. Grants are made in response to grant requests, so to some extent our grant options are set by the requests we receive. The grants committee includes many of High Point's best-informed citizens, and they have a strong sense of which requests address the highest priority community needs.

But, there are a few areas we will hear a lot more about this year and next: workforce preparedness, downtown development, keeping high achievers

in High Point, and problems with youth violence.

The link between education and area economic development has become increasingly evident in recent years, as new industries move to High Point and have difficulty filling jobs with adequately educated and well-prepared employees. It is not an overstatement to say this problem has reached a crisis stage. It is a subset of the larger education issue and needs the same urgent attention.

Downtown development has become a top community priority. Work is just getting underway for a major initiative in this area. Downtowns are being reborn across America, some with resounding success. The Foundation has in the past and will continue in the future to support efforts aimed at having an attractive and vibrant downtown. The issues are complex and the rewards potentially huge.

Recently the Foundation has, through DAF grants, been supporting efforts to reduce youth violence, crime, gang involvement and drug use in High Point. It is already clear that this support is much needed and can help bring about real change.

On a different topic, many of our brightest young achievers, particular from minority communities, are not attracted to staying in High Point. The main factors bearing on this issue are related to quality of life and economic opportunities. Today, more than ever, we need talented young people to come back to High Point after their higher education, and we need diversity in the leadership of our community.

Acorn: The growth of the Foundation has been strong over the years. What are your thoughts on development?

Joe: Perhaps there is no issue of greater importance to the future of the Foundation than development. We want to see the annual grants program grow each year and increase the amount granted. But that can only happen with the growth of the Foundation's unrestricted funds. And large unrestricted gifts are relatively rare.

There are times in the lives of some donors when it is more practical, or prudent, to consider philanthropy and generosity than at other times. Often, specific events in the life of a family or an individual create an ideal opportunity for giving. Sometimes these are taxable events like the sale of a business, the passing of a family member, or even the sale of a home. We remain aggressive in keeping potential donors informed about the benefits of involving the Foundation in their philanthropic planning.

Most of the Foundations assets have been given by living donors who have continued to be actively involved, and have seen what their generosity has accomplished. But, a very significant number of deferred gifts have been committed to the Foundation. Those donors have entrusted us to protect their philanthropic vision and execute their wishes after they are gone. This is truly a sacred responsibility that is taken very seriously. It is a great privilege for the Foundation to receive such bequests and to have a role in helping bring about the transformation and good envisioned by the donor.

Our Board of Trustees, leadership and staff have worked hard over the past ten years to build credibility and to educate the High Point community about our mission. The Foundation's President, Paul Lessard, has developed

relationships with individuals and families and has come to understand more clearly their unique and very personal philanthropic goals.

Sometimes those goals involve a particular cause, or an organization that the Foundation researches and monitors, or a family's desire to encourage multigenerational participation in their giving. Paul's zeal for the work of the foundation motivates and inspires confidence. He and his staff strive to utilize all of the Foundation's resources to make giving easier, more effective and more enjoyable.

Acorn: The Foundation has been blessed with strong leadership over the years. Can you share your thoughts on this?

Joe: I have great respect and admiration for all the prior chairmen, and each has brought a unique set of skills to the Foundation. Watching and learning from them has been fascinating and rewarding. One cannot have experienced the compassion and dedication of all those who have been leaders in various capacities in the Foundation without feeling a profound sense of appreciation. Never

before have I so distinctly understood the significance of Isaac Newton's saying about "standing on the shoulders of giants."

Acorn: Two years from now how would you like your tenure as Chairman of the Foundation to be remembered?

Joe: I would like this tenure to be remembered as a time many High Pointers learned more about what the Foundation is, how it works, what it does, its benefits, and how they can become involved. 🍵



THE HIGH POINT COMMUNITY FOUNDATION EXISTS TO:

- Build an endowment through donations of all sizes for the community that will provide for the changing needs of the citizens of High Point for generations to come.
- Administer an Annual Granting Program that serves the needs of the greater High Point community by financially supporting nonprofit organizations and initiatives that are positively impacting lives in our community.
- Manage Donor Advised Funds, Special Interest Funds, and Organizational Endowments for individuals, families, local businesses and nonprofit organizations; and assist them in fulfilling their philanthropic interests.
- Serve as a community leader, convening agencies and coordinating resources to make good things happen in the community.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT

www.hpcommunityfoundation.org

HEART OF HIGH POINT FUND ESTABLISHED AT FOUNDATION

Nearly six months ago a discussion began with Jim Millis Jr., Bill Millis, Emily Millis-Hiatt, and Molly Millis-Hedgecock who envisioned the establishment of a special fund to specifically meet the basic needs of the High Point community. The mission of the Fund would be very straight forward, to create a reservoir of funds that would support organizations that provide food, shelter, medical care, and rehabilitation to the poorest of the poor. The Millis siblings agreed to bring \$2 million in new assets to the High Point Community Foundation if the Foundation would match their gift with an additional \$2 million. The end result of that challenge was the establishment of a new \$4 million Heart of High Point Fund that will have the capacity to help sustain non-profit organizations that very directly impact the lives of the most challenged in High Point.

"This new Fund is a perfect example of how good philanthropy always involves partnerships in which funds can beget more funds for a good cause," noted Paul Lessard, President, High Point Community Foundation. *"Jim Jr., Bill, Emily and Molly have seen a need and have very creatively addressed this need with a vehicle that has the capacity to really grow over the years."*

One of the initial intentions of the Fund is to challenge other philanthropists in the community to step up and


contribute to what could be a multi-generational resource that one day could greatly reduce poverty in the High Point Community.

The Fund was officially announced at the 2008 Annual Meeting and the plan is to begin granting in 2009. There have been several organizational meetings at which policies and procedures for the new fund have been discussed and evaluated.

"This new Fund is a perfect example of how good philanthropy always involves partnerships in which funds can beget more funds for a good cause."

The next steps will be the naming of the Committee that will oversee the granting process and a selection of the non-profit organizations that will be eligible to receive these funds. Initially it has been decided that at least for the next few years there will not be a formal application process, but instead the Committee will be responsible for researching and nominating potential grantees in much the same manner that the Kate B. Reynolds Foundation and the Bryan Foundation operate.

"This Heart of High Point Fund will help support many nonprofit organizations in our community and we are approaching it's establishment with patience, due diligence, and most of all a desire to create a process that is fair and compassionate for all," states Joe Rawley, Chairman, High Point Community Foundation. *"We are deeply grateful to the Millis family and we will work very hard at building this endowment with the help of other philanthropists in our community."*

The Community Foundation is particularly pleased with the fact that this Fund has the potential to be a model that other foundations and communities might emulate in the future. The High Point Community Foundation has always striven to break new ground and incorporate a proactive approach to meeting the ever changing needs in the community. There is great expectation for the future growth of the Fund that truly symbolizes the tradition of caring for our own that the High Point community has always been known for. 

**Tax deductible contributions
may be sent to
Heart of High Point Fund/HPCF
PO Box 1371
High Point, NC 27261
336.882.3298**



"We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give."

Winston Churchill

GIFT FROM BOB BROWN BRINGS ADDITIONAL FUNDS INTO THE FOUNDATION

Bob Brown has been a quiet and dependable agent for good in the High Point Community for decades and recently his generosity



Robert Brown

has brought still more funds into the Foundation which will ultimately help the many causes that Bob holds dear. As most know, Bob grew up in very modest surroundings but he was championed by a force that was much bigger than the challenges that once stood in his way - this saving grace came in the form of a woman of strong faith, morality, and belief in a grandson she knew was destined for greatness.

"Bob has been a loyal supporter and advocate for our Community Foundation since the very beginning," states Paul Lessard, President, High Point Community Foundation. "He is a remarkable man who does things for the right reasons and he never forgets his community, or the people who helped him get where he is today. When you walk into his office the first thing you see is the picture of his Grandmother that hangs behind his desk - which says so much about this man's heart."

Every philanthropist has their own vision of what giving should look like and for Bob it often involves young people and specifically underwriting

projects that provide deserving students with academic opportunities, cultural exposure, and hope. One of Bob's favorite local projects is the Academy for Life Transformation, an inner-city summer program that provides fun, education, trips outside the city, music and a safe, spiritually based environment that protects and nurtures children.

"Bob has been our champion from day one and I always know that if we have a need we can count on this wonderful man to help our children," notes Dr. Jesse Keaton, Founder & Director, Academy for Life Transformation, Inc. "Bob has a big heart and while he does enormous good with his financial gifts I think his greatest impact is when he actually comes in and talks to the young people himself. He is a man of accomplishment, faith, and commitment - this is what our young people need to see."

Other organizations who have received faithful support from Bob include; the National Conference for Community and Justice of the Piedmont Triad, Inc., the NCAA Foundation, Inc., the Alexis de Tocqueville Society, the Horatio Alger Association of Distinguished Americans, and Brothers Organized to Save Others (BOTSO). Bob has also been very faithful in supporting projects that preserve and promote the African-American Heritage of High Point; like the Peterson Doll Museum where Bob and his wife left a one-of-a-kind doll collection of

famous black Americans, the Black Child Development Institute of Greensboro, Bennett College, the Rosetta C. Baldwin Foundation, William Penn Griffin High School, and many more.

"Bob is a man who can always be counted upon to help a good cause, to promote High Point, and to invest in the lives of deserving young people," states Jim Morgan, Past Chairman, High Point Community Foundation. "He is a leader who has served in the highest echelons of national office and yet he has never forgotten where he came from, or those people who helped him become the success that he is today."

Every organization needs a champion, someone who sees the value of the mission, who believes enough to invest in the endeavor, and who is willing to provide not only moral support, but also serve as a role-model and source of inspiration. This is a role that Bob Brown has played over the years for many organizations and it is one that he will continue to serve as a beacon of hope and opportunity to those in need in High Point, throughout the country, and the world.

The High Point Community Foundation salutes Bob Brown for his commitment to passing on the blessings of mentorship, support, and love that he once received from a very special lady in his life.



"It's not what you get, but what you give that counts."

Bob Brown

the organizations that are impacting these issues, and then develop a giving strategy that ensures the viability and sustainability of the vehicles they have chosen to support.

Perhaps the most remarkable aspect of their giving is that so much of it is still focused in the community of High Point where they grew up, built their relationships, received their educations, ran their businesses, and raised and educated their own families.

"What everyone should understand is that while Jim and Jesse Millis will always be remembered and appreciated for the critical role they played in the initial funding of the Foundation, I believe that the contributions that Jim Jr., Bill, Emily and Molly have already made and will make with their future philanthropy will be equally and perhaps even more impacting to the future of High Point," states Paul Lessard, President, High Point Community Foundation. "I think it is always important to remember that this money could have gone anywhere, they choose to invest it in the community they love."

Jim Jr.

Jim Millis, Jr. sees his philanthropy as a living, breathing entity through which his family can promote and encourage material, social, and spiritual change within individuals and communities. Jim's apprenticeship as a Millis Foundation Board member instilled both his drive to give and his belief that all philanthropy must be intentional and results driven. He intimately understands that the world will always provide an endless supply of worthwhile projects that will all have legitimate financial needs. The ultimate effectiveness of philanthropy will always be seen in the identification process and the method of underwriting which will allow well-run organizations to sustain and expand their respective missions.

A defining project for Jim's Fund involved the crucially important initial funding and personal leadership that promoted and organized the creation of a groundbreaking alcohol and drug abuse prevention program. This successful project has radically changed the lives and quality of life in Jim's community on North Carolina's Outer Banks.

Whether it involves touching young lives through investments at the Victory Junction Gang Camp, maintaining a 30 year commitment to one of High Point's cultural icon's, The North Carolina Shakespeare Festival, or challenging

other donors to invest in the future of High Point University, Jim's disciplined and yet compassionate approach to giving is achieving very significant social change while personally touching the lives of many.

*"... all philanthropy
must be intentional and
results driven."*

In addition to this, Jim provides the very same leadership and example he once received from his parents to his own family that includes his beautiful wife Debbie and their three children, Debbie, Dak and Jonathan.

Bill

Bill's philanthropy has taken on a very personal perspective that has become a true reflection of both his personality and his faith. The Fund's giving has been greatly influenced by his strong love and commitment to the community of High Point as well as his deeply held belief that God has uniquely blessed him and has called him to use these blessings to touch the lives of others.

The philanthropy of Bill and his Board, comprised of his mother and daughters Casey, Maggie and Jenny (youngest daughter Jesse will join the board in a few years) is about making an impact where they can personally witness it. They often take an active part in these projects, many of which can be found right here in High Point. Bill and his Board have also been quite involved in ministries in Kenya and Belize. It is immediately obvious when working with Bill and his Board that their style of giving is quiet, well researched, and always accompanied with a genuine and heartfelt joy.

Whether it is helping underwrite the purchase of new books for a local elementary school's library, providing uniforms for an inner-city youth football league, or helping to

finance the critical work of an inner-city tutoring program for at-risk children - Bill and his Board see giving as an intensely personal act that has the capacity to radically change a community one life at a time.

Emily

One only needs to see the "handle" that Emily Millis-Hiatt uses as her e-mail address, "Cowgirl," to understand that she is a woman who appreciates the simple pleasures of life. To see Emily in her home is to understand that it is her friendships, her church, her son Ryan and his wife Karla, daughter Haley and her husband Nick, and her love of animals that really drives this woman. Emily's nature is that of a soft-spoken woman whose kindness and thoughtfulness extends into her giving.

She is concerned about those who suffer, so she helps support disaster relief projects. She believes in helping those with economic needs so she gives to ministries that feed the poor, help the homeless, and provide for the sick and needy. She understands the importance of providing guidance and mentoring for our youth so she invests in organizations that touch the lives of children. She realizes that the only change that truly matters is that of the spirit so she supports missions that bring the gospel into Lithuania in Eastern Europe, Belize in Central America, and yes, right here in High Point.

Emily's Donor Advised Fund has and will continue to transform lives in her own low-key style that is both a personal and direct outgrowth of her faith. All of this will happen and if Emily has her way none of us will ever know a thing about her philanthropy - and that will be just fine with her.

Molly

Molly Millis-Hedgecock is a woman of great commitment and drive, tempered with a deep love of family and an intense desire to touch the lives of others. Her guiding motivation can be found in the words of a past president, Teddy Roosevelt, who also happened to share Molly's love of big game hunting. Roosevelt once said that what a man does for himself dies with him, what he does for others lives on forever. When this presidential exhortation is combined with Molly's spiritual inspiration that can be found in the


Book of Mark, "to whom much is given, much is expected," one can see why Molly is a woman who views her philanthropy as a sacred responsibility.

So when she gives to local projects that help children with special needs, homeless women and the medical needs of the poor, when she delivers medical and school supplies that touch and improve the lives of people in Botswana, when she lends her resources and her leadership to the NC Zoo and the High Point Community Foundation, Molly understands that what she is really doing is simply passing on God's gifts and honoring a legacy that she is now mentoring to her son Justin and her daughter Ashley.

The Future

Most recently all four Millis siblings combined their assets to create a new Field of Interest Fund at the Community Foundation that will henceforth be known as The Heart of High Point Fund. The Foundation was asked to match a gift of \$2 million to set up this \$4 million Fund that will have its own Grants Committee. This Fund will support nonprofit organizations that are providing the most basic needs of food, shelter, rehabilitation and healthcare to the neediest in the High Point community. This new Heart of High Point Fund is a truly innovative project that has been inspired and championed by a new era of philanthropists who know what is possible when like-minded leaders work together.

Four lives with four different philanthropic visions all share a common genesis and a collective desire to make a positive difference in our community, the country, and the world. Jim Jr., Bill, Emily and Molly now carry on a legacy, each in their own way that will continue to be inspired by the promise of faith, an undying love of community and a genuine sense of compassion.

Jim Jr., Bill, Emily and Molly have each developed a personal vision, strategy and philosophy for giving," notes Joe Rawley, Chairman of the High Point Community Foundation. "Focus, clarity and compassion are the hallmarks of their generosity. They are highly effective, informed givers with very clear objectives. Their commitment to and involvement with the organizations they support is passionate and long-term. Their philanthropy has and will continue to have a major impact in this community, and in a wider, far-reaching community." 

The 2008 "Spirit of the Foundation" Award recipient has contributed his talents and his efforts to help the Community Foundation build and maintain a transparent, dependable, and most of all accurate financial system.

Dan Odom's tenure as Treasurer at the Foundation has been replete with rapid asset growth, constant change, and ever increasing demand for the upgrading of services and



Dan Odom & Paul Lessard

systems. Dan oversaw the installation of the Blackbaud Software Program that is the gold standard of the Foundation world. He has played a major role on the Personnel Committee with the hiring of two key staff members and committed substantial time to help the Director of Accounting acclimate to her new position.

Dan has also played a key role in upgrading the Foundation's financial policies and procedures. He approaches his commitment to the Foundation with the same attention to detail that he displays at his own firm. Whether it is reviewing financial statements or over seeing budget proposals, Dan is a man who demands accuracy and accountability. Most recently he has been a tremendous resource for the Foundation initiative to earn the National Standards accreditation.

Dan attended High Point University and entered the accounting field in 1963 when he established Odom & Company, L.L.P. He holds a CPA and a CVA as well as memberships in the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the N.C. Association of Public Accountants, the National Association of Certified Valuation Analysts the Institute of Business Appraisers, the Estate Planning Council of High Point, and the Triad Association of Accounting Firms.

Dan's public service record is equally as impressive with Board stints at the Baptist Retirement Homes of North Carolina and the Endowment Board of High Point Regional Health Systems. He served as Treasurer of Childwatch of High Point, Central Baptist Association, and the High Point Community Concert. He has also volunteered his leadership as Chairman of the High Point Chamber of Commerce Educational Committee and the State and Local Legislation Committee. Dan's work at the First Baptist Church of High Point includes service as both a Deacon and as a Chairman of the Stewardship committee. Finally, he has served as President of the High Point Historical Society, the Estate Planning Council of High Point, the High Point Civitan Club, and the String and Splinter Club. Dan has also found time to teach as an Adjunct Professor at his alma mater, High Point University.

Dan would no doubt consider his greatest achievement to be his role as husband, father, and grandfather. He inherited his love of family and his legendary work ethic from his beloved Mother who was both his mentor and his inspiration. Dan is married to his beautiful wife, Gloria Pierce Odom; he is the father of four children, Jonathan, Daniel, Jennifer, and Karen; and seven stepchildren, and a grandfather to seven ... at this time. Like everything else in his life Dan approaches his family with a sense of commitment and appreciation that underscores the quality of this very special man's heart.

The High Point Community Foundation was proud to present this most prestigious award to our dear friend and most conscientious Treasurer, Dan Odom. 🍪



"I view philanthropy as an opportunity to share my blessings with others, hopefully making their lives a little better. In our community, as in others, there is a genuine need for the fortunate to step up and help meet the challenges facing so many."

Dan Odom

CORNERSTONE HEALTH CARE ESTABLISHES FOUNDATION

Earlier this year, Cornerstone Health Care announced the establishment of a charitable foundation that will focus on promoting programs that encourage area youth to pursue careers in healthcare. The physician group made an initial gift of \$50,000 to the Cornerstone Health Care Foundation in memory of James M. Errico, MD, a highly respected member of the Cornerstone family who recently died.




James M. Errico, MD

"Cornerstone is an organization that believes in making a difference in the communities we serve. We see this foundation as a philanthropic force that will touch the lives of many people for generations to come," said Grace E. Terrell, MD Cornerstone President and CEO. "The initial funding honors the memory of one of our very best, Dr. Jim Errico, whose life epitomized all that is good and true in our profession."

An ophthalmologist, Dr. Errico served the High Point community for over 35 years. He was awarded his medical degree by Johns Hopkins University and served his internship at the Mayo Clinic. He served as an Army physician during the Vietnam conflict before settling in High Point where he established his practice and started a family. Dr. Errico was happily married to his wife Hilde for 45 years, and they raised four children, James, Robert, Greg and Cynthia. Jim and Hilde were the proud grandparents of 11 grandchildren, Eleanor, Quinn, Charlotte, Anthony, Nicholas, Granite, Peter, Christopher, Braun, Max and Francis.

Dr. Errico was committed to serving on medical missions to South America and was very involved in the education of local medical professionals. He and Hilde served as marriage mentors for the Immaculate Heart of Mary's Engagement Encounter Ministry. Dr. Errico served as a Camp Doctor and Scout Master for the local Boy Scout Troops, and was a volunteer tutor with Communities in Schools. He gave over 100 units of blood to the American Red Cross during his lifetime.

"Dr. Errico was not only my personal physician, he was a dear friend who treated me and all of his patients with a sense of dignity and compassion that was truly an outgrowth of his faith and his passion for serving others," said Paul Lessard, President, High Point Community Foundation. "I am so proud and honored that Cornerstone Health Care has chosen to partner with the Community Foundation to honor Dr. Errico. It is exciting to see a corporate citizen like Cornerstone Health Care invest in the future of our great community. I am confident that they will set new standards in corporate stewardship that others will emulate in the future." 

**Tax deductible contributions
may be sent to the
Cornerstone Health Care Foundation/HPCF
P.O. Box 1371
High Point, NC 27261
336.882.3298**



"No one would know the Good Samaritan if he'd only had good intentions. He had money as well."

Margret Thatcher

HOUSING FIRST

Longtime advocate for the homeless, Raymond Payne, founder of *Rabbit Quarter Ministries*, has recent-



Raymond Payne

ly expanded his quest to aid those in most desperate need by partnering with *Open Door Ministries*. As Case Manager for *Housing First*, a pilot program funded in part by Guilford County and the City of High Point, Raymond searches for High Point's chronically homeless to offer housing and community services.

The program, which is operated through *Open Door*, targets those who have been homeless for a year or more or have experienced homelessness multiple times, and are disabled. Priority goes to individuals with a mental health diagnosis; however, those with physical disabilities and substance abusers also qualify. Potential program recipients must also be identified as repeat services users, those who make frequent trips to jails, hospitals, and/or psychiatric units. Once identified, willing individuals are provided with housing and are connected with services appropri-

ate to their needs. The goal is to alleviate chronic homelessness and help participants become self-sufficient. Monitored by the state, this initiative will track participants, their long term success rates toward self-sufficiency, and costs of housing and services to the chronically homeless as it compares with frequent system use.

Years ago, Raymond would have met the criteria for *Housing First*. He was a substance abuser who was often homeless for extended periods of time. He has since turned his life around and dedicated himself to the care of this area's homeless.

"Raymond is the ideal person to do this job," stated Steve Key, Director of Open Door Ministries. *"He has experience, drive, and motivation but is not unrealistic in his expectations. I can't think of anyone else who has given as much to High Point in his work with the homeless."*

Raymond seeks out individuals who can most benefit from *Housing First*, often times they are those he has known and served for years through his own *Rabbit Quarter Ministries*. Among his many duties, Raymond finds suitable housing, connects participants with community services, provides transportation, and tends to the daily needs and life coaching necessary to help make the transition into a new environment and lifestyle. Always devoted and purposeful, Raymond works tirelessly to find and place those most in need into the program.

The first person placed in *Housing First* is a woman who's very grateful for both Raymond and the program. Tammy was married with four children, a home and a normal life. Her husband, a former alcoholic, eventually returned to drink and became increasingly violent. Tammy fled with

the children to a shelter, only to have her two youngest placed out of her care. As the two oldest left to live with relatives, Tammy was heartbroken and her life began to spiral downward. With nowhere to live and her children gone, she ended up on the streets and eventually into substance addiction. Tammy lived under a bridge in High Point for several years, even after she was struck by a car and received debilitating injuries.

A frequent visitor to *Open Door Ministries* for free meals, Tammy eventually became a volunteer at the shelter. It was there that Raymond overheard a conversation and learned where Tammy had been living. When *Housing First* was ready for operation, she was the first person Raymond approached. Tammy, who is physically disabled, was placed in housing and receives much of the assistance she has needed for so long. She has reestablished relationships with her two oldest children and feels happy and hopeful.

"Housing First and Raymond are huge blessings to me," said Tammy. *"They have helped me not only by meeting physical needs but also by allowing me the opportunity to be a part of my children's lives again."*

As a champion for the homeless, Raymond is well suited to the challenging work he does with *Housing First*. Yet the downtrodden in any form call to his heart. *"Our society is punishing people for failure. We need to show them they are valued. When someone's belief system changes, behavior changes. If you want to help,"* Raymond advises, *"support any agency that speaks to you that helps people in need. If you can't support it monetarily, volunteer your time, become a part of the giving solution. And overall, commit to being less judgmental of others."* 🍷

HIGH POINT COMMUNITY FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HIGH POINT SCHOOLS PRINCIPAL'S FUND

On September 9th the High Point Community Foundation held a special event at the High Point Country Club to announce the establishment of a unique Fund that will provide financial resources for worthwhile needs and projects that principals serving in the High Point public schools may encounter in their work. The City of High Point Public Schools Principal's Discretionary Fund, which has been underwritten by an anonymous Donor, is the first of its kind in High Point. Attendees at the event included community and business leaders and High Point public school principals. The guest of honor was the new Superintendent of the Guilford County Schools, Maurice "Mo" Green, who officially recognized and accepted the Fund that will henceforth serve as a resource for public school principals in the High Point community.

"We are so pleased to announce this inspiring resource" said Joe Rawley, Chairman, High Point Community Foundation. "High Point has a history of innovation in giving, and has some wonderful donors who make things like this happen. This fund will make a difference."

The establishment of the Fund is coming at a very opportune time for the High Point Community that has seen a dramatic shift in the local economy that was once dominated by furniture and textile manufacturing. Historically a lot of the needs that the community experienced in previous years were always attended to by local businesses who viewed this as a social and moral responsibility.

"High Point is changing economically and this Donor, who insisted upon remaining anonymous, wanted to establish a resource for our principals that could be supported by the entire community over the years," notes Paul Lessard, President, High Point Community Foundation. "Our public schools are an important factor in the future economic development of High Point and the remarkable men and women who run our schools and nurture our children absolutely deserve this kind of support."

"Mo" Green, who has just recently assumed the helm of leadership at the Guilford County Schools, graduated from both undergraduate school and Law School at Duke University. He later worked for the "blue chip" Charlotte Law Firm of Smith Helms Muliss & Moore LLP where he was

named a partner. His tenure at the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools began in 2001 as General Counsel, in 2006 he was named the Chief Operating Officer, and last February he added Deputy Superintendent to his portfolio.

"We were honored to have "Mo" join us for this historic event and we are looking forward to getting to know him better and working closely with him in the future," states Paul Lessard. "We thought this event would give Mo a chance to meet the leadership of High Point and experience the uniquely philanthropic environment that has made High Point known as a community that values education and educators."



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"Charitable giving by large companies, foundations and other philanthropically-minded organizations can make a significant difference in the operations of a public agency. That has certainly been the case at Guilford County Schools, where the business community regularly partners with our schools or the district to devise strategies to boost student achievement and to motivate employees."

Mo Green

GUARDIAN FUND ESTABLISHED FOR HIGH POINT POLICE DEPARTMENT

In the not-to-distant future there will be a statue standing right in front of the High Point Police Station that will honor the officers, both past and present, who have served and protected our community. In addition to the statue, there will be commemorative police badges commissioned for every officer to wear for the yearlong celebration of our City's upcoming Sesquicentennial Anniversary. The charitable vehicle that is formally known as The Guardian Special Interest Fund has been established at the High Point Community Foundation and is accepting donations.

The driving force behind this exciting project is local business and community leader Coy Willard who believes that the men and women who "serve and protect" our community are a very special group of professionals who deserve the recognition.

"The High Point Police Department has been recognized not only nationally, but internationally, for their innovative programs that deal with violent crimes," notes Coy Willard. "Our community owes a great debt of thanks and appreciation for the outstanding job these remarkable professionals perform every day and that is why we have undertaken this project to celebrate one of High Point finest institutions."

The statue will feature a police officer helping a child, symbolizing their mission of "serving and protecting." The Department has become known over the years as a police force that is as committed to reaching out and serving our citizens, as they are to the more traditional mission of enforcing the laws of our city."

"I believe that our Department has a reputation as an organization that wants to prevent criminal activity by creating relationships through preventive programming" states Chief Fealy. "Our Officers understand that keeping the peace is as much about serving our citizens as it is about enforcing the law. I'm very proud of our men and women on this police department; they are well-educated, well-trained, intelligent

professionals who serve with compassion and responsibility. We are so appreciative of the support our community has given us for these projects."

Managed by the Foundation, the Guardian Fund will ultimately be used for both the statue and the badges under the direction of the Guardian Fund Committee. The Foundation will help the Committee promote the project and raise funds for this very worthwhile project.



"We are honored to be a partner in this richly deserved recognition of our outstanding Police Department," states Paul Lessard, President, High Point Community Foundation. "These men and women who serve on the force put their lives on the line for us day in and day out and I know that our community will rally behind this fundraising effort."

A major gift has already kicked off the fund with High Point University contributing \$27,000.00 to the cause.

"Our University is deeply rooted in the past and the future of our great community," shares Dr. Nido Qubein, President, High Point University. "The police department has been a tremendous partner with us over the years and they continue to be a critical part of our University's desire to create a safe campus that our students and our community can be proud of. We salute Chief Fealy and his wonderful officers who make High Point a better place for us all."



**Tax deductible contributions may be sent to
The Guardian Fund/HPCF
P.O. Box 1371, High Point, NC 27261
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"As the Chief of Police in High Point, I have seen firsthand the tremendous good that has come from philanthropy coordinated by and through the High Point Community Foundation. Our citizens use the foundation as a vehicle to focus their charitable efforts to address our greatest needs in the most effective manner. The people of High Point are safer today because of our citizens philanthropy and the Foundation's efforts to see that the resources go to do the most good."

Jim Fealy

HIGH POINT'S SECRET WEAPON AGAINST CRIME & DRUGS

There are very few people in the High Point Community who know much about a special group of citizens who have been working in the trenches for years to help eliminate crime and drugs in our inner city. Fortunately for the citizens of High Point, Jim Fealy, Chief of Police, High Point Police Department, is one of the few and a strong advocate of this effort.

"The High Point Police Department has become known all over the world as an organizational model for how community policing can be effective and successful, and the lion's share of the credit for this recognition would have to go to CAV (Community Against Violence)," states Fealy. "These are remarkable people who have worked behind the scenes for years to make our job at the Police Department more effective and successful. I could not be more proud and thankful for these servant leaders who simple love their community and are willing to put that into action."

High Point Community Against Violence is an organization that was established in 1997 with the expressed mission of eliminating crimes, drugs and gang activity in the High Point Community. Their tactics have ranged from supporting investigations, building and sustaining community support for police initiatives, and literally getting out into the streets after a crime has taken place to encourage witnesses to come forward and mobilize the impacted neighborhoods to rally against the perpetrators.

"In any successful endeavor there are unsung heroes who are willing to do the hard work just because it is the right thing to do," noted Major Marty Sumner, High Point Police Department. "People like Greta Bush, the current president, and Rev. Jim Summey that make up the membership of the CAV organization are all unsung heroes in our fight to eliminate crime, drugs and gang activity in the inner city of High Point. We owe High Point CAV a great debt of gratitude."

Currently there is an initiative underway that will seek to reinforce the good work CAV has been doing and bring in more resources so that their efforts may be amplified. One of the organizations involved in this effort is the High Point Community Foundation who is directing donors as well as Foundation resources to aid in this most important mission.

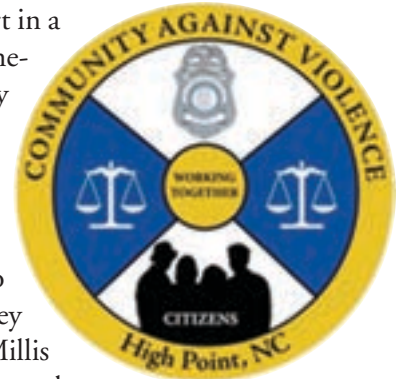
"When we first approached Chief Fealy with a desire to take some very deliberate steps to combat the issues of crime, drugs and the proliferation of gang activity the Chief's first thought was to create more support for CAV," remembers Paul

Lessard, President, High Point Community Foundation. *"He told me and our donors that the police department had the ability to identify, apprehend and incarcerate criminals. What was needed at this point were ways to strengthen the preventive and rehabilitative resources that CAV is already providing."*

Providing this key support in a timely manner was something that Chief Fealy envisioned coming from the leadership in our business community. Leading the charge in these efforts will be two men who will play a key role in the process, Bill Millis and Ed Price. Both men are key business leaders who know and understand the business community and have a true affection for the community.

"Bill and Ed are High Pointers first and foremost. They grew up in this city, and they remember what many of the lost neighborhoods used to be," shares Paul Lessard. "Both of these men are willing to put their time, energy, and resources into addressing the issues of crime, drugs and gangs simply because they realize it is the only hope for a successful future in High Point."

The High Point Community Foundation looks forward to working with High Point CAV and the remarkable people who make up their ranks and praise them for their willingness to put their principals into action on the streets. In the days ahead the community of High Point will be hearing more about this exciting partnership that will bring the business community, High Point CAV, and the High Point Police Department together to create a very visible and intentional response to the illegal activities that are robbing High Point of its young people and its neighborhoods. 🏠



**To learn more about
High Point Community Against Violence (CAV)
and how you can make a difference, please contact:
The High Point Community Foundation
P.O. Box 1371, High Point, NC 27261
336.882.3298**

FOUNDATION PARTNER WACHOVIA SECURITIES ANNOUNCE NEW POSITIONS

One of the Community Foundation's longest and most valued relationships over the years has been with Tommy Langley and Wachovia Securities. They have played a crucial role in the gifting process by providing the venue for all stock gifts that the Foundation receives. They have been dependable partners that have made our Donors gifts easy to make and by extension have helped the Foundation services more user friendly.

In these past few months Wachovia Securities has seen some exciting development in their personnel area. Stephanie Johnson who has served as Executive Administrator for both Tommy and Matt has recently been promoted into a new career as a Financial Advisor. Anyone who has worked with Stephanie over the years knows her to be ultra efficient, dedicated, and a pleasure to work with. These skills will serve her well as she moves into a position in which she will be able to expand her abilities to serve clients in a new and exciting way.

"Stephanie has always been such a great resource to the Foundation and we are so pleased to hear about her promotion," states Paul Lessard, President, High Point Community Foundation. "She is one of the most organized people I have ever met and she has always been so committed to serving others well - I know she will be a great success in her new position."

In addition to Stephanie's promotion Tommy has also brought on board two new team members who will be serving as Client

Services Specialists. One of the new hires is someone that will be familiar to many in High Point as she is already a well-known leader and advocate who has worked over 20 years in the non-profit arena. Allison Forrester received her undergraduate degree from Duke University and her Master's Degree from UNC-Chapel Hill.



*Allison Forrester, Stephanie Johnson,
Tommy Langley, Kelsey Smith,
& Matt Thiel*

"I have had the pleasure of working with Allison in the past and have always considered her to be one of the brightest and most professional women I have ever known," remembers Lessard. "She will be a great asset to Tommy's organization and I look forward to working with her in the future."

The other new team member is Kelsey Smith, a recent graduate of Winston-Salem State with a degree in Business Administration.

The Community Foundation wishes Tommy and his team the very best in this new chapter of their organization's history and we look forward to many more years of working together to serve our Donors. 🍷



2007 GRANTS AWARDED

The tenth Annual Grants Program of the High Point Community Foundation distributed checks in January 2008, providing funds to underwrite nonprofit organizations that are changing lives in the greater High Point

Community. The grants are a tangible symbol of the principals and values that the foundation holds dear: compassion, justice and the opportunity for every person in our community to reach their God-given potential.

High Point Community Foundation 2007 Grant Recipients

Academy for Life Transformation	\$ 15,100
Brothers Organized to Save Others	\$ 11,500
Carl Chavis YMCA	\$ 34,000
Central NC Chapter Nat'l Multiple Sclerosis Society	\$ 5,200
Children's Home Society	\$ 5,400
Communities In Schools	\$ 13,400
Community Clinic of High Point	\$ 19,300
Ferndale Middle School*	\$ 750
Guilford Child Health, Inc.	\$ 17,500
Guilford County Schools	\$ 4,800
Habitat for Humanity	\$ 5,900
High Point Museum	\$ 2,500
High Point Park & Recreation - Miracle Field ...	\$ 41,600
High Point Library Foundation	\$ 12,700
High Point Regional Health System	\$ 2,700
High Point Ballet	\$ 10,700

I Am Now, Inc.	\$ 19,200
Junior Achievement of Central NC	\$ 12,500
Mental Health Association	\$ 16,900
Montlieu Math & Science Academy*	\$ 9,600
Reading Connections, Inc.	\$ 10,600
Second Harvest Food Bank	\$ 9,750
S.H.A.R.E. of North Carolina	\$ 18,800
Special Olympics of North Carolina, Inc.	\$ 10,100
The Piedmont School	\$ 19,000
Triad Health Project	\$ 10,000
Triad Ladder of Hope - Central Triad Baptist Assoc.	\$ 4,900
Ward Street Missions	\$ 25,000
West End Ministries - Leslie's House	\$ 40,600

*Cory McInnis Compassion in Education Endowment



THE GREAT PERUVIAN ADVENTURE

Since 2002 Martin, Lou, Ashlie, and Mallory Green have devoted themselves to honoring a beloved son and brother, Dustin Green, who passed away tragically during his freshman year at N.C. State. Over the years the work of the Fund has included establishing computer technology centers, creating seminars for local school teachers, setting up e-mail networks for local schools, and creating an innovative program they call *Dustin's Greenhouse Globetrotters*. The mission of the *Globetrotters* has been to expose area youth who come from challenging economic and family backgrounds to new cultures and experiences that will expand their horizons on a personal, academic and spiritual level.

"My family believes that our young people should and must be, the most important priority in our community," notes Martin Green. *"We want to honor the life of our son and brother, Dustin, by providing a tangible way for kids to look deeply into their hearts and discover the enormous potential for achievement and good that lies in each one of them. We do this by challenging them physically, emotionally, and intellectually, and in the process we change their lives forever and they in turn do the same for us."*

This past summer the Greens took ten students and two area teachers to Lima, Peru and in the process gave them the experience of a lifetime that was complete with thrills,



fears, physical challenges and philanthropy. The *Globetrotters* spent their first night of the trip on the floor of the Lima airport awaiting their flight to Iquitos which immediately showed them that they were now venturing into the unpredictability of the "third world." Upon reaching Iquitos the group rolled up their sleeves and went to work at the People of Peru Girls Academy and Crisis Center (www.peopleofperu.org). This amazing institution provides a secure, educational, home environment for teenage girls who have been victims of domestic violence or sex crimes. Many of the girls already had their own small

children, and this home with its environment of love, compassion and care is the first safe haven they have ever encountered. The kids worked right along side of the Academy Girls painting rooms, performing other cleanup tasks, and becoming friends. After this the *Globetrotters* moved up the Amazon River where they explored the jungles, played with children in the villages they encountered and at one point helped feed over 200 senior citizens.

The mission of this trip and the *Globetrotters* program was to combine philanthropic work with adventure, learning, and exposure to new cultures that will absolutely rock the world of these kids from Guilford County. Many of the *Globetrotters* had never been on an airplane, or been swimming in the Amazon River with piranhas bumping against their legs, and certainly none of them had planned to have a 15 ft



Lou Green

Anaconda wrapped about their neck! In addition to all of this the kids also hiked 43 miles across the Andes to explore the ancient Choquequirao ruins and in the process they discovered the most important find of all, their hearts, their souls, and the incredible potential that lies within each of them.

"The Green family has been, and will always be, my heroes," states Paul Lessard, President, High Point Community Foundation. *"I've watch them pour their lives into young people in our community who desperately needed some one to tell them that they mattered, that they have value, and that they have the potential to live lives of great achievement and significance. The coolest thing about the project is that I know that in every good thing they do Dustin is honored and remembered and what better legacy could you create for a son and brother who was so deeply loved?"* 🍀

To learn more about *Dustin's GreenHouse* and how you can contribute to this fund please contact:

The High Point Community Foundation
P.O. Box 1371, High Point, NC 27261
336.882.3298

CARING SERVICES

If you live in High Point and have been touched in some way by substance abuse, you are not alone. Substance abuse impacts every aspect of our lives, contributing to chronic illness; violent crime; injury and death; the spread of sexually transmitted diseases; workplace violence; and the list seemingly goes on and on. According to a study done by the Guilford County Substance Abuse Coalition in 2003, 51% of the county budget allocated at \$198,785,744.00 went to Human Services and Public Safety, both areas that bear the heavy cost burden of substance abuse. A study from the Guilford County Department of Social Services estimates that eighty percent of all child welfare cases involve substance abuse.

The good news is that men and women who choose recovery over addiction can become very successful when offered treatment and aftercare. This is where an organization that is a former recipient of a grant from the High Point Community Foundation (HPCF) comes in. Providing housing and supportive services to recovering individuals as they attempt to rebuild their lives, Caring Services of High Point is one of the largest non-profit agencies in the community with 88 beds for recovering men and women, providing aftercare services and treatment including transitional housing, supported living, outpatient treatment, relapse prevention, education, employment, and family counseling.

Recent research determined that the State of Kentucky saved over \$10,000,000.00 annually, or \$.44 for every dollar spent on providing services to treat substance abuse. The study found that those who received adequate treatment committed fewer crimes, earned more money at work, and used less alcohol and other drugs, demonstrating that treatment and supportive services provide cost saving benefits to both the individual and the community where they reside.

"Caring Services is a private, non-profit agency that provides housing and supportive services for recovering alcoholic, addicts and their loved ones", notes Becky Yates, Executive Director. "Part of the problem we encounter in raising money for this critical resource is that our clients are not warm and fuzzy, in fact they are often a bit scary, and this can make some people turn away. However I believe that no one would be able to turn their back on these people if they truly understood that, there by the grace of God go I."

An added benefit to the community is the housing that has been reclaimed and rehabilitated for use by Caring



Phelps House Volunteers

Services. Operating from its current location at Chestnut and Kivett, Caring Services is rebuilding the lives of recovering substance abusers and rebuilding the neighborhood in which it is located. The Agency looks forward to adding six new beds for women by the end of the year and with a little luck, a lot of faith, and the generous support from the community, Caring Services will be able to purchase and rehabilitate additional property and serve more clients.

"People do not understand the depth of pain and hopelessness that addiction can bring until it hits someone you love," shares Sherrie Yarborough, Board Member, Caring Services. "This organization saved my son's life and I can never really describe how grateful I am for that. I want to be sure that we keep this resource growing so that other Mothers can share the same joy that I have now." 🍀

Caring Services
PO Box 6219
High Point, NC 27262
www.caringservices.org
336.886.5594

GUILFORD EDUCATION ALLIANCE COMES OF AGE

The effectiveness of advocacy is always a difficult thing to measure and while some consider it a science, it is often more of an art form that has the ability to move mountains. No where has this been more evident than in our recent \$457 million Guilford County School Bond campaign which faced many obstacles and challenges that were overcome, in large part, by the hard work and the commitment of the Guilford Educational Alliance (GEA). The Alliance, led by Executive Director Dr. Margaret Arbuckle, Chairperson Ann Busby, and a very committed Board of Directors stepped up to play a huge role in this critically important Bond campaign. While the GEA was established more than five years ago, many in Guilford County do not yet know and appreciate what an incredible resource this organization has become for the families and students of Guilford County.

The organization was started in 2001 by a unique partnership between the Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro (CFGG) and the High Point Community Foundation (HPCF). Walker Sanders, President, CFGG and Paul Lessard, President, HPCF, worked with Jim Morgan, the organization's founding Chairman, to create an organization that would bring Greensboro and High Point together in a common cause - the educational future of our children.

"Walker and I believed that it was important for our communities to partner with one another to show that High Point and Greensboro could work in tandem on projects that truly matter," remembers Paul Lessard, President, HPCF. *"We brought this idea to our Chairmen and our Boards and there was an immediate realization and a sense of excitement that we could work together to accomplish what neither of us could do alone."*

Education alliances had begun cropping up all over the country and their purpose was and still is to be a critical friend to the local school system. This mission includes helping to get the community at large to "own" and take responsibility for the local school system. The Alliance wants to be a key (critical) player in making the school system work for everyone. Secondly, they want to play a role of oversight, advocate, and accountability agent to ensure the local schools are operating to their very fullest potential.

"The Alliance was an endeavor that brought a wide range of leaders together who all had great ideas and a willingness to work together," notes Jim Morgan, Founding Chairman. *"We worked very deliberately and we slowly created an organ-*

ization that represented our entire county. The fruit of our labor has been very rewarding to see - especially with this most recent bond issue."

Now, back to advocacy, the most recent \$457 million school bond that passed in May of 2008 had faced obstacles that the two earlier school bonds in this decade did not face. Specifically, this was the third school bond in three years, construction costs had risen dramatically resulting in a 50% increase for essentially the same amount of construction as in 2003, and, on top of this, the economy was going south and property taxes were already rising to pay for the two earlier bonds. The schools needed help and the first organization to step up and endorse the bonds publicly was the Guilford Educational Alliance in January of 2008.

In addition to the public endorsement, Margaret mobilized her Board Members who immediately set up presentations for various organizations throughout Guilford County. The Board Members were very actively involved in explaining the importance of the Bond's successful passing and they, in every sense of the word, became advocates for every child in our county. Margaret also made many personal appearances where she was able to explain the bond and promote it with a sense of independence and credibility that only an objective third party could.

"I am so proud of our Board and I am absolutely convinced that their hard work and vision provided an invaluable service to the citizens of Guilford County," stated Margaret Arbuckle, Executive Director, GEA. *"Nothing is more important to the future of our county than the education of our children and the Alliance considers it a great privilege to be an advocate for this generation and for many to come."*

The High Point Community Foundation is proud of its partnership with the Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro and is delighted to see this shared endeavor making such a profound difference in the manner in which our communities view public education. We congratulate Margaret Arbuckle, Ann Busby, and Jim Morgan for their vision, commitment, and leadership. 🍷

Guilford Education Alliance
902 Bonner Drive
Jamestown, NC 27282
www.guilfordeducationalliance.org
336.841.4332

TEN YEARS & COUNTING



*Jack & Marsha Slane,
Bill Horney*



2004-2005 Grants Committee



The original HPCF Executive Board



Dr. Nido Qubein & Dr. Otis Tillman



Paul Lessard, Travis Burrell, David Miller & Joe Rawley



Bill Horney & Cerise Collins

IMAGES - PAST & PRESENT



*Joe Rawley, Bob Rankin, Father Phillip
Evelyn Crews, Sister Philomena & Steve Key*



*Bill McGuinn, Paul Lessard
Max Meeks & Marsha Slane*



Jim Morgan & Paul Lessard



*Hank Wall &
Bill Horney*



Peggy Amos, Dr. Nido Qubein & David Haworth



Joe Barnes & Jerry Camp



*Jim Millis Jr., Jesse Millis, Joe Rawley
Paul Lessard, & Bill Millis*



Martha & Yogi Yarborough, & Mayor Becky Smothers

GUIDING NONPROFITS IN GUILFORD COUNTY

In this era of rapidly expanding nonprofit organizations there is always a concern that new entities do not duplicate services, or develop organizations that are not effective and efficient. Our community is fortunate to have an organization whose mission is focused upon gathering, educating, collaborating, and celebrating the nonprofit sector. This is an organization that has been welcomed with open arms by the nonprofit community as the need for mentoring and partnering has continued to grow over the years.


Donna Newton, Coordinator of the Guilford Nonprofit Consortium, comes from a for-profit background and brings much to the organization with her networking skills, marketing talents, and desire to help this industry become more successful. *"I have always had a desire to serve others and I can not think of a more rewarding mission than helping nonprofit organizations improve their effectiveness and efficiencies,"* states Newton. *"All too often nonprofit leaders work in isolation and do not benefit from the advantages that professional fellowship can produce. This is what the Consortium is all about and we would love to work with more nonprofits in High Point."*

Like any other industry there are nuances that must be mastered to be successful and for nonprofit organizations this can present a very long and steep learning curve. The Consortium represents a venue in which existing nonprofits as well as new organizations can meet, share ideas, and seek out partnerships.


"The High Point Community Foundation has seen through our Grants program that there is a tremendous need for a resource like the Consortium," notes Paul Lessard, President, High Point Community Foundation. *"I do think that any way we can help these folks find efficiencies and partnerships that will enable the nonprofit sector to not only survive in hard economic times, but also consolidate services will ultimately make everyone stronger. We're very excited about the Consortium working with more nonprofit organizations in our community."*

The Consortium has a website that will provide more information for those nonprofit leaders who are interested in learning more about the organization. They also organize and run regular roundtables and Best Practice Conversations for executive directors, staff members, and

board members. Other valuable resources that they provide are seminars and workshops that focus on a variety of professional development issues as well as a Financial Help Desk.



"I have always had a desire to serve others, and I can not think of a more rewarding mission than helping nonprofit organizations improve their effectiveness and efficiencies"



At the High Point Community Foundation one of the core goals of the organization is to support the good work that our nonprofits are doing in this community through grant investments, seeking out potential partnerships, and providing a link between the private and public sectors. The Consortium is a welcomed resource that has the capacity to provide tremendous support and expertise to the nonprofit organizations that are doing so much good in High Point. 🏠



330 S. Greene Street
Greensboro, NC 27401
www.guilfordnonprofits.org
336.851.2748

DALLAS FAMILY ESTABLISHES DONOR ADVISED FUND AT THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

The J. Sanders Dallas, Jr. Family and the High Point Community Foundation announce the establishment of the Vicki Smith Dallas Mobile Meals Special Interest Donor Advised Fund that will provide funds in perpetuity for Vicki's great passion, Mobile Meals of High Point, Inc. The Advisory Board will consist of J. Sanders Dallas Jr. as Chairman with his children J. Sanders Dallas III, Hayes Dallas, and Elizabeth Dallas Davis serving as board members.



Vicki Smith Dallas

"Our mother truly loved what Mobile Meals did for this community and she was very involved in the initial establishment of the endeavor," remembers J. Sanders Dallas III. "All of us children remember being with mom when she helped deliver meals and I believe it inspired all of us to be good stewards."

Vicki Dallas was indeed a good steward who was not only involved in the Mobile Meals program, but also lent her leadership to other nonprofit organizations including the High Point Council on Aging, the Urban Ministry, the Junior League, the High Point Historical Society where she helped with their Capital Campaign, the High Point Debutant Ball, the High Point Regional Health System Volunteer Program, the Angela Peterson Doll Museum and the High Point Museum Guild.

"My mother was an incredible woman who was a wonderful parent, and a true leader who believed in giving back to the community she loved so much," shared Elizabeth Dallas Davis. "When I remember my mother I think first of her car-

ing about my brothers and me and really anyone else who was in need. She was the greatest mentor a child could ever ask for and even today I measure myself as a mother and community volunteer by her yardstick."

Church also played a major role in Vicki's and her family's life. They attended the First Presbyterian Church of High Point where she served as a Deacon, Moderator of the Women's Church, a Circle Chairman, a Bible Leader, Worship Committee Member, Chairman of the Wedding Committee, a Sunday School Teacher, and Chairman of both the Christian Community Action and the Bible Study Fellowship - the first in High Point.

"We were so lucky to have a mother who cared as much as our mother did," states Hayes Dallas. "Mom really passed on her passion for the church and inspired all of us with her faith and commitment. She and my father helped shape all of us children into people who understand that we have been blessed and in turn are obligated to pass the blessing on. She was a great mother who we all miss every single day."

The Donor Advised Fund will be endowed so that Mobile Meals will know that over the years they will always be able to count on that money coming in to support the cause that Vicki loved so much.

"We at the Foundation are truly touched and honored that the Dallas family would choose us to maintain this wonderful commitment to the Mobile Meals of High Point organization," says Paul Lessard, President, High Point Community Foundation. "What I love most about Donor Advised Funds is the fact that they do indeed carry on a loved one's memory and they also provide a way to insure that their final philanthropic wishes will always be honored and perpetuated over the years."



"Understanding human need is half the job of meeting them."

Adlai E. Stevenson

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION PARTNERS WITH UNIVERSITY TO BRING MEDAL OF HONOR HOME

As most of our readers of the Acorn know the High Point Community Foundation was established to achieve a three-pronged mission: to raise an endowment, to manage funds for Donors, and to grant nonprofit organizations in our community. Another, unofficial part of the mission is to serve as an initiator of good projects in the community. Over the years this has included sponsoring free medical clinics, feeding the homeless on Thanksgiving, providing resources to various nonprofits in High Point, and creating partnerships within the community. In October of this year the Foundation had the opportunity to play an interesting role in a project that has brought our nation's highest military decoration, the Medal of Honor, to High Point University where it will remain on display in perpetuity to honor the spirit of a very special alumnus.

The medal's journey began a couple years ago when a member of the Foundation Fund Family, Dwight Bumgarner, called Paul Lessard and told him to hurry over to Furnitureland South as fast as he could - he had a friend in town he had to meet. Little did Lessard know that the man he would meet that day was one of the Marine Corps most recognized and beloved heroes, Medal of Honor recipient, Jack Lucas. Jack had wrangled his way into the

Marines at the tender age of 14 years so he could join the fight against the Japanese. The teenage Lucas was big and stocky for his age and through both guile and bravado Jack worked his way onto a troop ship that was heading toward one of the deadliest beach assaults in Marine Corps history, the battle for Iwo Jima. During the second day of the battle Jack was fighting across the island with five of his fellow Marines when two enemy hand grenades landed at their feet. Without hesitation Jack threw his body over the grenades and absorbed the explosion with his own body in a selfless action that saved the lives of his comrades.

Though he was severely wounded, Jack survived his medical evacuation and later endured over 30 operations to get him back on his feet.

Jack was honored by the Marines for his actions on Iwo Jima with the Medal of Honor, our nation's highest military decoration for courage. After he received the medal from President Truman, Jack attended and graduated from High Point College where he belonged to the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity and the Veteran's Club. Upon graduation Jack earned a commission in the Army where he served with distinction in the Airborne and later retired as a full Colonel. In his later years Jack traveled extensively and became well known on the speaking circuit for the inspiring talks that he gave to various organizations throughout the country. One of Jack's speaking events took place at Duke University during which he met High Point's very

own Dwight Bumgarner. Dwight had played football at Duke and like Jack, had also raised some cane during his youth, and the two immediately became friends. This relationship ultimately led to the introduction to Lessard who came from a Marine Corps family and had personally heard the legend of Jack Lucas during his basic training at Quantico, VA.



Jack Lucas with President Truman

"Meeting Jack Lucas was like shaking hands with a legend," remembers Lessard. "Jack and many other Marine who fought in the battle for Iwo Jima are true heroes of the Corps. Meeting a Medal of Honor recipient who was willing to sacrifice everything for his country and his fellow Marines was truly an honor. He signed a couple of his books for my father and me and we talked about Iwo Jima and the medal. It was a day I will never forget and it began a relationship that would one day lead to the Medal of Honor coming home to the University."

Medal of Honor ➤ page 31

Jack, who was then in his late 80's, continued to keep in touch with his friends in High Point and this past year when his health began to decline the original idea of finding a permanent home for his medal at High Point University began to get more traction. Both Paul and Barry Kitley handled the ground work with the University and while progress was being made the final decision unfortunately came too late as Jack died during the summer of 2008 leaving the status of the medal in his wife Ruby's hands and she wholehearted gave her support.

In July Lessard drove up to Quantico Marine Base to attend his nephew's graduation from Officer's Candidate School and meet with Col. Padilla and General Amos who were heading up the medal project for the Marines. Both men were loyal advocates for the project and assisted Lessard in the formidable application process that was necessary to secure the medal for the University. They also assisted Lessard in procuring a Marine band, a Marine color guard, and Brigadier General Nicholson to deliver the Keynote Address at the installation event that took place during High Point University's Alumni Weekend on October 4th, 2008.

"This project required a lot of work on the part of several people who all shared a common vision of honoring this great



David Carter

man," notes Lessard. *"Dwight Bumgarner played a key role in this process as did Barry Kitley, Chris Dudley and Chad Hartman of High Point University.*

We learned early on that we were breaking new ground as High Point University would be, according to the Marines, the only University in the country to have a Medal of Honor

installed on their campus and that is something High Point can be very proud of."

At the ceremony Lessard also recognized three High Point WWII heroes, David Carter, a Navy Cross recipient for heroism as a torpedo bomber in the Pacific, Jack Rochelle, who served with the OSS in China, and Mr. "Gib" Gibson who was one of a very special group of men who can claim that they fought in the Battle for Iwo Jima where "Uncommon Valor was a Common Virtue."



Jack Rochelle



Marion "Gib" Gibson

"The High Point Community Foundation is both proud and honored to have played a role in this partnership with the University to bring this medal home," states Lessard. *"We believed from the very beginning that it was important to have the medal displayed where young people for generations to come will see it and understand that the freedoms they enjoy today were bought at a very steep price by real heroes like Jack Lucas."* 🍷

FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES NEW JORDAN WASHBURN FAMILY DONOR ADVISED FUND

Jordan Washburn is a man who has always been passionate about helping others and the community of High Point has often been



Jordan Washburn

the recipient of his good works. His enthusiastic demeanor and his relentless energy make him the perfect fundraiser and a great point man for any project. This past winter Jordan contacted the Community Foundation and informed Paul Lessard that he wanted to establish a Family Fund so that he could use it to help others. Lessard was not surprised, as he had known Jordan for over 30 years, having first met him when he was coaching his boys' soccer team in the early 80's.

"Jordan is a man who cares about others and he has the kind of personality that just makes you feel better for simply being around him," notes Lessard. *"I was thrilled when Jordan called us to establish the fund, but I was not surprised as this is the kind of thing I have seen Jordan do throughout his life. He truly understands that life is about helping others and making this world a little better than the one he was born into."*

Another organization that has reaped the benefits of Jordan's generosity, energy, and leadership is the Victory Junction Gang Camp for critically ill children. In a volunteer capacity Jordan quickly became one of the best salesmen the organization had. He

took on the camp as his own personal crusade and raised an incredible amount of money through his hard work, networking, and determination. Any time he spoke of the Camp his love and compassion for the children was immediately evident. He saw the Camp as a means to reintroduce a sense of joyful childhood to youngsters who have had it stripped away because of the demands of their illness. In his numerous presentations he would always say that every youngster deserves the right to be a child, to have fun, and enjoy the simple pleasures of life.

"Jordan Washburn has been a tremendous advocate for our camp and his outstanding work in High Point has been one of the reasons this project has moved along so quickly," states Dean Kessel, President, Victory Junction Gang Camp. *"I wish the world had more people like Jordan as he is a man who truly cares about others and is willing to invest his time, talents, and resources to positively impact the lives of others."*



*Jordan & Lou Washburn
with Richard Petty*

Another cause that Jordan has lent his passion and time to is a very special man named John Willet and the organization he runs in the Triad known as *Search Ministries*. The flagship of this program in High Point has been a bible study that John Willet has run for years that started at the String and Splinter Club and later moved over to the High Point Country Club. Willet has always had a remarkable talent for teaching the bible, but his greatest gift is the manner in which he makes the bible applicable to the large following of men he has gathered over the years. Jordan has always believed that John had the ability to dramatically touch the lives of others and he has been one of John's greatest supporters making sure that John can concentrate on the ministry and not have to worry about his financial support.

"Jordan is a dear friend and a man who cares so deeply for those he has encountered in the course of his life journey," notes Willet. *"I have been blessed to be one of those people and I would have to say that my ministry would not be what it is today without his friendship, support and prayers. I can't think of a finer man and a better friend."*

The Community Foundation is proud to be partnering with Jordan and his family and this Fund will no doubt continue the great work that Jordan has always done over the years.

"We are honored to be partnering with Jordan and the Foundation looks forward to working with him and his family in the years to come," states Joe Rawley, Chairman, High Point Community Foundation. 🍷

MARTY'S LEGACY LIVES ON THROUGH NURSING SCHOLARSHIPS

Martha "Marty" Bumgarner was many things; a beloved wife, a devoted Mother, a cherished friend, a well-known and respected nurse at High Point Regional Health Center, and now, four years after her passing, she has become an inspiration for those who would pursue the nursing profession she loved so much. Marty, who courageously battled lung cancer, left behind her husband



Martha Bumgarner

Bill, her two daughters, and her Mother and Father-in-law who have all worked to ensure that Marty's memory will be preserved in the lives of future nurses. The Martha Bumgarner Nursing Scholarship Fund was established, by Bill, Dwight, and the entire Bumgarner family, at the High Point Community Foundation to provide educational opportunities to men and women in the Greater High Point community who share Marty's commitment to excellence in nursing.

"Marty never smoked in her life and we will always struggle with the manner in which she died," shared her father-in-law Dwight. "She was a woman who was full of energy, passion, and desire to serve her patients well. We established the Martha Bumgarner Nursing Scholarship Fund to perpetuate her memory and to give back to a profession that she cared so much about."

In the three years since the scholars program has been in operation, the Martha Bumgarner Nursing Scholarship Fund at the Foundation has sent 11 students to nursing schools with seven of the graduates working either in High Point, Greensboro or Winston-Salem medical facilities. *"We are very proud of the tremendous impact that the Fund has had upon the local nursing industry and we are confident that she would be proud of the legacy that has been created,"* states Sherri Scott, Director of Donor Services & Administration, High Point Community Foundation. 🍷

MARTHA BUMGARNER NURSING SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The Class of 2005

Trish Cornette

Critical Care Nurse, High Point Regional Health Center

Megan Takashige

Medical Telemetry Nurse,

High Point Regional Health Center

Kristi Wood

Cardiology/ICU Nurse, Baptist Hospital

The Class of 2006

Katie Arthurs

ER Nurse, High Point Regional Health Center

Rose Gaiser

OR Nurse, Wesley Long Hospital

Sheryl Scott

OR Nurse, High Point Regional Health Center

Rebecca Sparks

Psychology/Aging Nurse, Pennybyrn Retirement Center

The Class of 2007

Brandon Burke

ER Nurse, High Point Regional Health Care

Randi Cockman

Graduate, GTTC Nursing Program

Sidnee Hullette

Nursing Student, UNC-Charlotte

Sandy Scarboro

Neo Natal/ICU Nurse, Women's Hospital

The Class of 2008

Shannon Jessup

Nursing Student, GTCC

Stephanie Piraino

Nursing Student, GTCC

Michele Reid

Nursing Student, GTCC

Whitney Dodson

Nursing Student, ECU

LOCAL NONPROFIT EXPLORES THE ART OF HEALING

What would you say if someone told you that the cure for cancer, HIV/AIDS, or even Alzheimer's might be discovered by a group right here in High Point? As wild as this scenario may sound it is absolutely possible and the vehicle through which this could take place is a young and growing nonprofit organization known as *Healing Seekers*.



Amy in Madagascar

The program is the inspiration of a remarkable young woman who has already carved out quite a niche for herself in this area as a trusted and much sought after resource for finding natural solutions for various health issues. Her name is Amy Greeson and she is a graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill School of Pharmacy who is now carrying on as the second generation of a family pharmacy tradition in Thomasville. Her father, Joe Greeson and her mother, Barbara, have owned and operated the Thomasville Pharmacy for over 25 years. Upon meeting Amy one is immediately struck by her intelligence, enthusiasm, and commitment that literally radiates from this beautiful young lady who appears to be moving at warp speed in all she does.

The mission of Healing Seeker is to discover and bring awareness to the many healing treatments and therapies taking place around the globe.

This is accomplished through a variety of venues which include the production of documentaries, an educational website and presentations to school systems and universities. The countries that have been, or will be explored include; Madagascar, the South American Amazon region, New Guinea, the Congo, Malaysia, and Indonesia. These countries are all known to have the most bio-diverse areas on the planet which are abundant in rare and often previously unknown life forms.

"Several years ago, researchers at Harvard discovered bark from a tree which appeared to knock the socks off the HIV-1 virus," states Amy Greeson, Founder and President. "They returned to the rainforest to gather more samples from this particular tree only to discover that the tree was no longer there... the area had been destroyed. To this day the research community has been unable to relocate that particular species of tree. We are literally racing the clock as our world is encroaching more and more into these pristine ecosystems. This is why I established Healing Seekers, so that we could meet with and learn from indigenous healers who have natural remedies that we may otherwise never know about."

The first in the series of Healing Seeker documentaries was a tremendous success with a format that combined the humor of the "Crocodile Hunter," the exotic charm of the "Going Tribal" program, and the scientific curiosity and voyeurism of the popular "CSI" series. Amy is a compelling host who has the unique ability to take potentially complicated scientific principles and make them both entertaining and exciting.

The website, which can be located at www.healingseekers.com, continues to grow its content which is full of

video clips, interactive educational explorations, information, and discoveries. There will be active classroom applications that will enable students to join in the explorations, to ask questions, and to experience the unique opportunity to learn directly from the source. It is conceivable that future trips will include not only cyber journals, and have real time video that will share healing experiences from around the world, all designed to entice our younger generations to learn not only about their world and its infinite possibilities, but also about themselves and their innate abilities, passions, and potential to make a difference in their world.

The third and potentially most exciting part of Healing Seekers mission is to seek out, discover, and research potentially new healing sources that may have extraordinary healing potential, but are simply not currently identified in the western medicine model. On a recent trip, Amy met with a woman healer in Madagascar who has been working very effectively fighting breast cancer with a plant that is having more positive healing results than those currently being used in the West to treat breast cancer.

"We are so pleased to be able to support Amy and the Healing Seekers organization and help to expose them to the High Point philanthropic community," states Paul Lessard, President. "Education has been and continues to be one of the Foundation's very top priorities and programs like Healing Seekers have tremendous potential for not only educating our young people, but also getting them excited about learning. Amy is a remarkable woman who is touching lives in a powerful way and I am confident that her work will make a very significant contribution to our culture's perception of healing."



REVITALIZING COMMUNITIES - ONE HOUSE AT A TIME

Founded in 2001 by veteran contractor, Bill Waller, S.H.A.R.E. (Self-Help and Rewarded Efforts) of North Carolina, Inc. is a nonprofit organization that provides healthy and affordable housing to low and moderate-income families. Over the past two years, this multifaceted organization has successfully improved living conditions for over thirty families in the Macedonia area, and with a grant from The High Point Community Foundation, is refurbishing several homes in the West End.

Unbeknownst to many in our community is the fact that homes in our inner city are experiencing a very real and alarming environmental threat. A high percentage of these homes contain dangerous levels of lead paint, mold, mildew, asbestos and other hazardous materials. A recent local newspaper article stated that over 4000 children in High Point tested positive for lead poisoning, with 24 children found to have dangerously high lead blood levels. Such elevated levels can lead to learning disabilities and other potentially life threatening illnesses in children and adults. To combat these health issues, S.H.A.R.E. utilizes experts in the fields of construction and hazardous materials removal to

transform substandard housing into "like new" residences for deserving families. S.H.A.R.E. also builds new homes within the target community when land is available. Area homes and land may be acquired through grant monies, private and government agencies, and donations from private citizens.

While contractors busily improve a home's environment, other S.H.A.R.E. staff set about identifying and interviewing potential homeowners. S.H.A.R.E. representatives attend neighborhood association meetings, city housing events, church Sunday school sessions, and other avenues of community outreach to seek possible housing recipients. Once identified, these families receive financial counseling, homeowner education, and an offer to purchase or rent a newly renovated home at affordable, below market rates. "Our objective is to manifest a better future where all families are able to live the American dream of homeownership and mainstream values that accompany asset building. We believe homeownership makes better citizens, neighbors, taxpayers and consequently a better High Point," states Diane Westmoreland, Public Relations Director. S.H.A.R.E.

has also recently partnered with World Relief to help place refugees new to our area into housing. Thus far, ten Sudanese families have been placed into S.H.A.R.E.'s new or refurbished homes in High Point. Utilizing these strategies, S.H.A.R.E. is able to address the growing decline in affordable housing, provide healthy living conditions, and promote community pride through neighborhood enhancement.

Executive Director Bill Waller notes, *"S.H.A.R.E. is committed to eradicating our communities of neglected, unsafe housing units particularly hazardous to children and seniors. Recognition and assistance from the Community Foundation is invaluable in support of these rehabilitation projects. Our publicized efforts and partnering with the Foundation has already resulted in donations of single and multi-family housing units. We anticipate others joining our mission as S.H.A.R.E.'s efforts expand from the Macedonia neighborhood into the West End and other communities."*



S.H.A.R.E. of North Carolina, Inc.
2100 E. Wendover Avenue
Greensboro, NC 27405
336.275.7077



Before



After

FOUNDATION WELCOMES NEW DIRECTOR OF ACCOUNTING

In October 2007, the High Point Community Foundation had the good fortune of adding Karol Murks to its staff as the new Director of Accounting. Karol comes to us with almost twenty years of accounting and financial experience in public and private settings. She has quickly demonstrated outstanding skills and financial knowledge to aid our office in serving donor and community needs.

"We are very fortunate to have found someone with Karol's background and her outstanding skills," states Paul Lessard, President. "Karol's past experience as a C.P.A. in South Carolina and her more recent work in the private sector make her a tremendous asset and insure her role as a key player in our Foundation's future."



Karol Murks, Paul Lessard & Sherri Scott

Karol was born in Anderson, South Carolina and moved with her family to Florida and Virginia before they settled in Jamestown, North Carolina. She graduated from Ragsdale High School and went on to UNC-Greensboro, graduating Magna cum Laude with a BS degree in Business Administration with a concentration in accounting. Karol

received CPA certification and practiced public accounting in her own firm for several years. Prior to joining the Community Foundation, Karol was CFO with a private company.

This past November, Karol traveled to Charleston, SC to be trained in Blackbaud, a cutting-edge financial software program used by the Foundation. This formal training and Karol's own background have allowed her a swift and confident handle on her current job responsibilities. These responsibilities include management of financial records for the Foundation, donor funds, and grants programs, handling accounts payable and receivable for the administrative budget, and working with the Foundation's Treasurer.

She will also be responsible for preparation of the Annual Budget, working with our CPA firm as they conduct Annual Audits, reconciliation of Donor Advised and Agency Funds on a monthly basis, reconciliation of bank accounts, and preparation of monthly financial reports. *"We believe that fiscal responsibility is one of the key obligations that our Community Foundation has to our Donors," shares Dan Odom, Treasurer, "Karol is a very conscientious and well-educated professional who will be able to take our financial accountability to the next level. We consider ourselves very fortunate to have her in our Foundation family."*

Karol lives with her husband, James, in a hand-built log cabin on seven beautiful acres in rural High Point. She has two children; daughter, Melissa attends NC State University, and son, Ben, attends Guilford Technical Community College.

The Murks attend First Baptist Church where Karol is a member of the choir and the adult handbell choir. Karol also studies violin and enjoys her menagerie of pets that include a horse, a dog, a goat, a hamster, and numerous much-loved cats. 🐾



The true meaning of life is to plant trees under whose shade you do not expect to sit."

Nelson Henderson, 1860

FOUNDATION WELCOMES NEW OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

The High Point Community Foundation recently added Doris Thompson to its staff as an Office Administrator. Doris will be primarily responsible for supporting the Foundation's Annual Grants Program, general office administration, and assisting with donor relations.

Prior to joining the Foundation, Doris was a customer service representative and brings a wide range of experience and knowledge to her new

position. She previously served on the Board of Directors of the High Point Area Arts Council, the Citizens Advisory Committee of the High Point Housing Authority, and she is a past chairperson of the Human Relations Commission of the City of High Point.

Doris completed Challenge: High Point and is very well-versed in High Point's charitable community which will be of great help in her new responsibilities with the Grants

Committee. She grew up in Trinity, NC and graduated from Trinity Senior High School before moving to Massachusetts where she attended the University of Massachusetts and graduated from the Massachusetts State Police Academy. Doris and her husband Al Shaw moved back to the area in 2005. Al, Retired Chief of Police, is the owner of A.R. Shaw Consulting, which specializes in law enforcement and security issues. The Shaws attend First Baptist Church in Trinity. 🏰



FOUNDATION HOSTS NONPROFIT SEMINAR

The High Point Community Foundation has always striven to be a philanthropic resource that not only serves our Donors, but also provides for those nonprofit organizations that are making such a critical difference in the quality of life in our community. In keeping with this spirit, the Foundation recently hosted a seminar that focused on the various ways that nonprofit organizations can more efficiently work with the Community Foundation and Private Foundations.

The Keynote Speakers for the event were Ranlet Bell and Edward Griggs who work with the law firm of Womble Carlye Sandridge & Rice. Both Ran and Edward are recognized experts in tax law and nonprofit legal issues. Ran, who is a graduate of Wake Forest Law School, and Edward, who is a graduate of the University of South Carolina, have worked with the High Point Community Foundation since its inception and have provided invaluable guidance and assistance over the years. Their client list

includes some of the largest and most successful businesses in the Triad, as well as a large contingent of high net worth individuals and families in the Triad.

The area of focus for the meeting was the Pension Protection Act of 2006 that included legislation regarding Donor Advised Funds, advice on fundraising, and an overview of gift acknowledgement rules. The particular area of interest was helping nonprofit leaders and fundraisers understand how to navigate the legal issues presented by the Pension Protection Act while still making giving easy and fun for their Donors. The program was very informal with Joe Rawley, Chairman of the Foundation welcoming the 40 plus group of nonprofit leaders.

"The program went extremely well and we were particularly pleased with the interaction that took place with the audience and the speakers," shares Sherri Scott, Director of Donor Services and Administration at the

Foundation. *"We truly enjoy working with our local nonprofit organizations and we felt that providing this expertise would not only be instructional, but show our support by sharing our resources."*

Sherri Scott has become very involved with the "compliance" issues within the Community Foundation and will be the contact for any nonprofit organization that may have a question regarding gifting.

Sherri has done an outstanding job with her new responsibilities in the area of compliance," notes Paul Lessard, President, HPCF. *"We have recently completed the lion's share of the certification for the National Standards criteria and Sherri has led the charge. She has also been a tremendous help in our campaign to insure that we are always operating in such a manner that is consistent with regulatory guidelines. She is a woman of great integrity, she is very detailed oriented, and she always wants to do things right. We are truly blessed to have her on our Foundation Team."* 🏰

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.

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

Elizabeth Aldridge
Bob & Martha Amos
Roma & Wray Amos
BB&T
Herman & Zelda Bernard
Betty Lou & Tom Blount
Jane & Ralph Brooks
brij
The Ray & Tanya Burrow
Robert & Susan Culp
Dr. Harry R. "Frosty" & Catherine W.
Culp
Meredith & Ralph Eanes
Shirley & George Erath
Van & Molly Fletcher
Dr. & Mrs. J. Thomas Gooding
The High Point Merchant's Association
Patricia Horney
ISurity
Milton & Janice Kirkland
Jane & Paul Lessard
Lexington State Bank
Jenni & Dan Lynch
Mollie & George Marsh
Eva Dell & Jim Marsh
The Holt McPherson Center
Nancy & Max Meeks
Judy Mendenhall
Merrill Lynch
The Jim & Jesse Millis, Sr. Family Fund
Charles & Sandra Odom
Piedmont Natural Gas
Robert B. Rankin Family
Glenda & Joe Rawley
Phyllis & Stanley Shavitz
Herman & Louise Smith Family Fund
Dr. Otis Tillman
Mrs. Lucy Voliva
Wachovia Bank
W. Vann & Ann York

PERMANENT DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

Linda Armstrong Endowment Fund
Robert & Sally Brown Family Fund
Martha W. Bumgarner
Nursing Education Fund

Phil Chang & Friends
Memorial Scholarship Fund
Earl E. & Kathryn W. Congdon
Family Donor Advised Fund
Katherine Harvey Covington
Charitable Giving Fund
The Covington Family Fund
Joe & Fran Craycroft Charitable Fund
Bonnie Craig "Commitment for Quality
Daycare" Donor Advised 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
Donor Advised Fund
Hilda B. Fountain
Endowed Donor Advised Fund
Friends of Pakistan Earthquake
Relief Fund
Garet's Place Fund
Dustin's GreenHouse Memorial Fund
The Chris & Charlie Greene Family Fund
Darrell & Stella Harris Family Fund
Douglas & Susan Harrison
Donor Advised Fund
The David R. Hayworth "Commitment
to Youth" Endowment Fund
The A. Boyden Henley, Jr. Family Fund
High Point Regional Association of
Realtors, Inc. Donor Advised Fund
High Point Medical Society
Endowment Fund
Hirsch Family Donor Advised Fund
Jeff & Claire Horney Donor Advised Fund
The Grace Gurley Horney Family Fund
J.E.M. Donor Advised 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
Donor Advised Fund
Shirley Pearson Scholars Fund
The Earl N. Phillips, Jr. Family Fund
Sallie B. Phillips Donor Advised Fund
The Nido & Mariana Qubein
Family Fund
Robert B. & Nanabeth N. Rankin
Family Fund
Dr. David Ross Memorial Fund
Stanley & Phyllis Shavitz
Family Foundation
The Jack & Marsha Slane Family Fund
The Tilley-Higgins Donor Advised Fund
Michael J. Ujevich Donor Advised Fund
James E. & Becky Farlow Wray
Family Fund
Richard C. & Marietta Wright
Family Donor Advised Fund
Jordan & Lou S. Washburn
Family Donor Advised Fund

DEFERRED GIFTS

Paul Brayton
Col. & Mrs. Terrance (USMC) (ret.) -
Bequest
Ray & Tanya Burrow Family Fund
P. Hunter Dalton
Drs. Robert & Christie DaVanzo
Mary W. Mellichampe
Bill & Caroline McGuinn
Ed Price
Lou & Jordan Washburn

FIELD OF INTEREST FUNDS

City of High Point Public Schools
Principal's Discretionary Fund
Heart of High Point
Violet Hutchens Children's Education
Field of Interest Fund

SPECIAL INTEREST FUNDS

Guardian Fund of the HPCF
High Point Miracle Field Fund
Vicki Smith Dallas Mobile Meals Fund

ORGANIZATION ENDOWMENTS

Alcohol & Drug Services
Endowment Fund

Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater High Point
Endowment Fund

Cornerstone Health Care Foundation
Organizational Endowment

Family Service of the Piedmont
Endowment Fund

High Point Mental Health Association
Endowment

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

Triad Health Project Endowment Fund

United Way of Greater High Point
Endowment Fund

Youth Unlimited Endowment Fund

FOUNDATION WELCOMES NEW DONOR ADVISED FUNDS FAMILIES

It is with great appreciation and deepest admiration that we welcome these new Funds into the High Point Community Foundation Family. Each fund is unique and tells a different story, but what they all share in common is the desire to reach beyond self and touch the lives of others through philanthropy.

The Foundation takes great pride in partnering with these families and organizations and we look forward to watching these funds grow and touch the lives of others for generations to come. We believe that servant leadership and stewardship like this can change a community and in the process elevate all of our lives. Perhaps it is stated best in the book of John 15:13 when we learn that *"Greater love hath no man than this; that a man lay down his life for his friends."*

We salute each one of our new family members and we thank you for entrusting your philanthropic vision with our Community Foundation.

NEW FUNDS ESTABLISHED FOR 2007/2008

City of High Point Public Schools Principal's Discretionary Fund

Cornerstone Health Care Foundation Organizational Endowment

Dr. David Ross Memorial Fund

Guardian Fund of the High Point Community Foundation

Heart of High Point Fund

J.E.M. Donor Advised Fund

Jordan & Lou S. Washburn Family Donor Advised Fund

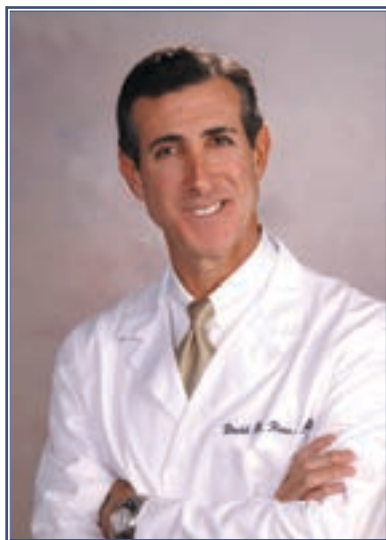
United Way of Greater High Point Endowment Fund

Vicki Smith Dallas Mobile Meals Fund

Violet Hutchens Children's Education Field of Interest Fund

FUND ESTABLISHED TO HONOR LOCAL PHYSICIAN

Last winter the High Point community lost a well respected and admired orthopedic surgeon who was known throughout the country for his abilities as a joint specialist. Dr. David Ross, who tragically died in an automobile accident, left a legacy of patients whose quality of life was dramatically enhanced with his remarkable surgical skills. He also left behind his beloved wife



Dr. David Ross


Stephanie, son William, and daughter Katie who wanted to preserve his memory by starting a Donor Advised Fund that would help pay expenses for other children who lost their parents prematurely.

"I have always admired Stephanie for her commitment to her children and her compassionate approach to life", states Paul Lessard, President, High Point Community Foundation. "Even in the midst of her family's devastating loss I saw how she looked for some way to create something positive. Our hearts and prayers went out to this family and we are honored to partner with them in this Fund that will preserve David's memory and help children in need."

David was an avid outdoorsman who loved his hunting dogs and could always be seen about town and out on the

soccer fields watching his daughter Katie play ball with one of his beloved dogs at his side. He also loved to play golf and could be found out on the Emerywood Golf Course walking the holes with Stephanie. He was also known to have great compassion for his patients for whom he went to great lengths to serve. David completed his internship at Vanderbilt University Hospital before he came to High Point to join the High Point Orthopedics practice. Before his untimely death David had recently launched his own surgical practice.

Stephanie will serve as Director of the Board of Advisors and her children William and Katie will serve as Board Members of the Dr. David Ross Memorial Fund. One of the greatest benefits of Donor Advised Funds is they allows families to have multigenerational representation on the Board and thereby allows for mentoring and the teaching of stewardship.

"A donor advised fund can be the beginning of a family philanthropic tradition that extends across generations," said Joe Rawley, Chairman, High Point Community Foundation. "It lets families incorporate cherished principles and values in their charitable planning. The Dr. David Ross Memorial Fund will touch the lives of and bring comfort to many young people during the coming years." 

**Tax deductible contributions may be sent to the
Dr. David Ross Memorial Fund/HPCF
P.O. Box 1371, High Point, NC 27261
336.882.3298**



"And now, abideth faith, hope, and charity, these three, but the greatest of these is charity"

– 1st Corinthians

WESLEYAN BOYS SOCCER TEAM FULFILLS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT AT LESLIE'S HOUSE

One of the key value systems on the High Point Wesleyan Christian Academy Boys Soccer Team is underscored in the words of their Head Coach, Scott Reitnour, when he tells the young men that to be leaders they must first be servants. A casual observer can see this at a practice when seniors haul in the balls, pick up the field, and in essence serve the underclassmen. While Captains are key factors in the team's success one of the most important positions in this team hierarchy is the team Chaplain who provides spiritual leadership and inspiration. Reitnour, who has coached at the school for five years, puts it best when he underscores his philosophy of the game that many of the players have printed on their training jerseys, *The Game Belongs at the Foot of the Cross*.



Wesleyan Christian Academy Boys Varsity Soccer Team

It should be no surprise then that the Wesleyan soccer team organizes a community service project each year and this year, in partnership with the Community Foundation, the young men undertook a new mission, to touch the lives of the women who are living at Leslie's House, the new woman's homeless shelter located at the West End Ministries Complex on English Road.

"It is one thing to teach a young man to honor and protect women, but it is much more impacting for them to personally interact and help actual women who are in need," states Scott Reitnour. *"As much as we want our men to be great players it is much more important to me that they become Godly men, compassionate fathers, and great husbands."*

The members of the team decided that preparing "care packages" for the women would be something practical that could not only fulfill their daily needs, but perhaps give them something that might make them feel special and cared for. Many of the team members had prepared *Samaritan's Purse* Christmas Shoeboxes over the years and their "care packages" were prepared in much the same manner. Such things as soap, toothpaste, mouthwash, bath powders, skin care products, perfume, clippers, files, and other personal care items were included as well as candy and sodas.

"These young men really took a lot of time and care in the preparation of their packages," shares Paul Lessard, President, High Point Community Foundation. *"I was really touched by the compassion and sincerity as well as the great lengths they went to make their gifts special. Our society has lost a sense of civility and I believe that turning boys into men is becoming a lost art and the process is as much a heart change as it is anything else. We were so proud of these young men that night and the manner in which they respected and cared for the women of Leslie's House."*

The evening was capped by a group prayer in which the individual team members prayed for the women and asked God to watch over them. After some time spent getting to know one another, the evening was symbolically capped when one of the women turned to Coach Reitnour and asked if the team could come back to celebrate her birthday!

The Leslie's House experience has stayed with the boys and even a couple weeks later one could still hear comments from the boys regarding the evening and the service project they will never forget.

It might also come as no surprise that a team whose philosophy is based on such principals as Christian service, caring, and compassion would be successful, late in October this success translated on the field when the Wesleyan Boys Soccer Team finished their regular season with a 3-0 win at Charlotte Christian bringing their record to 15-4-2 which elevated the team to a #1 ranking in the entire State of North Carolina. They have been seeded #1 in the upcoming State Tournament that will begin on their home field right here in High Point.

Who said good guys have to finish last? 🏆

THE MOTHER BABY FOUNDATION...

BRINGING WOMEN TOGETHER TO BUILD HEALTHIER CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN HIGH POINT



Barb Carder

There is a little known resource in the Triad that is already having a great impact upon early childhood intervention and it is called the Mother Baby Foundation. As most in the community know, the High Point Community Foundation has always been dedicated to early childhood intervention, and that is why we are excited to see this new Foundation making such a huge impact.

This new resource provides comprehensive prenatal and postpartum support networks for babies, mothers, and their families. Strong communities are built upon healthy families and no period of time is more important in a child's life than the time leading up to delivery and up to three years after. This season of life is when children are prepared for learning and nurtured for healthy emotional development. The Mother Baby Foundation believes that investing in both the mother and the child during

this period is absolutely essential to proper development.

The Foundation provides a listening ear to new mothers by providing professionals who help with nursing, lend emotional support, and offer counseling that can make a critical difference in the future of a young child. Breakout groups and classes bring women together who are going through the same experience and can therefore provide support and encouragement.

Perhaps the most impacting program is the Mother Baby Pep Talks which provides expertise and fellowship which helps explain what postpartum depression is, and provides assurance they are not alone, that many mothers have gone through it before, and underscores there are people available to help. *"I'm involved with the Mother Baby Foundation because I have a passion for the mission,"* states Maria Puschinsky, Chairman of Mother Baby Foundation. *"I personally experienced the challenges of postpartum depression and I want to be sure every woman in our community receives the support and help I was given."*

Barb Carder, a registered RN as well as an International Board Certified Lactation Consultant, is the Executive Director of the Mother Baby Foundation. She is supported by a staff that includes Lynda Wagoner, RN MS; Kelly Tyrey, MS, RD, LDN, CDE; Stephanie Howard, Sally Lewis, and Cara Allen.

"We believe that Motherhood is the ulti-

mate adventure that all women should enjoy," notes Carder. *"Our job at the Foundation is to educate, support and nurture so that all women know that Motherhood is about more than surviving, it's about thriving!"*

While these services may sound fundamental what all must understand is that many of these young women are without older women in their lives who can help them through the overwhelming experience of first time motherhood. Generations ago young mothers were mentored by their mothers, grandmothers, or other responsible women in their community. Today with families living farther apart, these resources can no longer be counted upon.

The Mother Baby Foundation is building community through reaching out to High Point's most vulnerable populations, infants and new mothers. The intervention is priceless and the manner in which they touch young lives is truly remarkable. *"I struggled with postpartum depression after the birth of my baby,"* states Emily, a young mother involved with the Mother Baby Foundation. *"I will be forever grateful that caring, knowledgeable professionals guided me to get the help I needed. Today I am a happy mom with a beautiful son."* 🍷

The Mother Baby Foundation
P.O. Box 1675
Jamestown, NC 27282
www.motherbabyfoundation.org

LEARNING FROM THE PROS

TEACHING LESSONS ON AND OFF THE FOOTBALL FIELD

In mid-July a remarkable group of professional athletes with ties to the Greater High Point community came to town to teach young men lessons that will benefit them on the football field and most importantly, in the game of life. The group, led by Stefon Adams, a former Southwest High School football star who played in the NFL for six seasons, partnered with Hank Wall (BOTSO), who just happens to be his big brother, to positively impact lives using football as the venue.



SWG & Hamilton Tigercat (CFL) standout Calvin Adams gives instructions to campers

Hank Wall, for those of you who do not know him, is a man who has been investing his life and his resources into young African-American men in the High Point community who desperately need strong male role models. Over the last 10 years Hank has built an organization that brings stability, expectations, and positive role models into the lives of young men who have great promise and potential. More often than not Hank, who just recently retired from the United States Postal Service, would finance the expenses of the organization out of his own back pocket. The High Point Community Foundation (HPFC) learned of Brothers Organized to Save Others ten years ago through contacts in the community. This was the beginning of a rela-

tionship that the Foundation and many of its donors have valued and been inspired by over the years.

"Hank Wall is a very special man who recognizes young African American men for the treasure they are and he believes they are worth fighting for," notes Paul Lessard, President, HPCF. "I admire Hank because he lives out his values and principles daily by the manner in which he serves these young men. It's always easy to say that we have a problem, what is difficult is actually doing something constructive about it. Hank puts his time, money, and passion where it counts most - in the lives of these young people. I am so proud to work with Hank and our Foundation is honored to partner with this fine organization."

"BOTSO believes that all young men need discipline, education, and a solid moral compass and the way Hank and his organization pass this on to the young men is through life examples, tutoring, accountability, and most of all love. As important as Mothers are to a young man's life there is no substitute for a strong male role model who points the way with consistency and fairness. Hank's had plenty of practice in this life of duty as he was the oldest of eight brothers, many of whom went on the play professional sports which leads us back to this summer's camp.

In a unique partnership with the High Point Parks and Recreation Department, the 1st Annual In Our Hometown" NFL Football Camp came to High Point armed with the experience and commitment of local young men who made it to the pros. With teachers like Stefon Adams, a former Los Angeles Raider, Greg Jefferies, a former Detroit Lion, and many others, the camp staff ran local High Point youngster through a skills

and technique daylong program that was made even more challenging by the hot July weather. In between blocking, agility, and wind sprint drills campers were also exposed to lessons on making wise decisions in life, avoiding unnecessary conflict, learning how to be successful in the classroom, and how to be young men who lead with character - not egos.



Campers in Action

"I'm very proud of my brother Stefon and the success he has achieved in his life both in and out of athletics," shared Hank Wall, Executive Director, BOTSO. "However, what I am most proud of is his willingness to give of himself to ensure the future of our young men. People need to understand that these young men are valuable and that we must break the cycle of leadership failure among African American men. These young men must learn that men provide for their families, they honor their commitments, and they say no to drugs, crime, and gangs."

BOTSO is in the fight for the future of our young men and Hank Wall knows it will be a long and arduous battle that we cannot afford to lose. 🏆

"TO SLEEP, PERCHANCE TO DREAM..."

It is the dreams of some that help shape the lives of many, and Pedro Silva, Director of the acclaimed North Carolina Shakespeare Festival, has crafted a dream to nourish the soul of a community. The Spirit Center, a vision artfully mastered like Prospero's Island, is a stunning community resource for self-discovery and imagination. Directed by a passion for the performing arts, Pedro and company have created a one-of-a-kind facility in the heart of High Point to challenge and engage all residents toward a "burgeoning of the spirit."



Production Place

An initial introduction to the Spirit Center reveals a salmon-hued building complex offering 51,000 square feet for the NCSF's central operations, but beyond the intriguing facade lies access to so much more. The performing arts campus reveals rare space for class-related performance, rehearsal, production, education, and other services available to arts enthusiasts, students, teachers and citizens statewide. Housing the bulk of these facilities is Production Place, a 36,000 sq. ft. renovated warehouse with vintage hardwood floors, arched structural supports, and historically necessary open spaces which now meld with modern updates for the comfort and convenience of the public. There are two large rehearsal halls, dedicated classroom space for

educational programs, a Green Room with kitchen and dining areas, reception, storage and Costume, Scene and Prop Shops. These unique shop collections gathered over a lifetime of theater, and space and tools for new artistic imaginings, will be available to area production groups and schools for rental, creation, and expert guidance on the physical elements of drama. Theatre participants will make heavy use of this area, as will those who attend camps, workshops, classes and seminars sponsored by the Festival's Outreach Education Program.

The second, smaller building at the Spirit Center is known as Outreach Place. It is a 15,000 sq. ft. facility for administrative offices and Outreach



Outreach Place

Education Program leaders. Intentional work toward the betterment of community is developed within these walls, carefully constructed with importance on value, quality, and enrichment of the human spirit. "Spirit Center is about our community, first and foremost," notes Pedro. "Secondarily, it is the Festival's home. Having a place to call our own allows us to be an important part of our community, a place we hope to fill with cultural and educational activity."

Renovation of the former structure, located on the corner of Green and

Ward Streets, is nearly complete, yet the Festival must continue fundraising efforts. To meet costs, another 1.4 million dollars is needed.

"Quietly, The Festival has raised over \$1.8 million of our Gateway to Excellence campaign's \$3.2 million goal. The remaining campaign funds will help pay off the construction loan for Spirit Center's up-fit, establish Development and Communication Offices, seed Outreach Education programs and establish a fund to underwrite workshop and class fees for disadvantaged youth," says Pedro. "Every dollar contributed to this campaign will be a true investment that will generate significant returns in our beloved community for years to come. The Festival is passionate about serving our city with distinction because we believe strongly that High Point will be a better place to work and live as it matures its cultural and artistic soul."

The Spirit Center is fully operational and rehearsals for "King Lear" and "Much Ado About Nothing" started in early August. It is the hope of the North Carolina Shakespeare Festival and Pedro Silva that the realized dream of the Spirit Center is only the beginning of fostering and fulfilling many more dreams within the community. "We are very proud of our association with Pedro and the Shakespeare Festival. They are truly one of High Point's crown jewels," shares Paul Lessard, President of the HPCF. "They are very fortunate to have a leader like Pedro who epitomizes the energy, passion, and talent that the theatre arts present."

The stage has been set and "all the world" is invited to take their places, make their entrances and exits, and grasp a rare and unique opportunity to nourish the soul. 🍷

FOUNDATION APPLAUDS KIWANIS CLUB OF HIGH POINT FOR YOUTH GRANTS

This past September the Kiwanis Club of High Point celebrated 88 years of service to the children of High Point when it awarded grants to 12 nonprofit organizations who serve the youth of High Point. The grants, \$2,000.00 per organization, came from the proceeds of the Club's Annual Pancake Breakfast and Silent Auction Fundraiser.


"The grants are the fruits of our labor and we are entrusting it to the organizations that have such a positive impact on the lives of our young people," stated Jeff Oves, Kiwanis Club President. *"We are happy to have this honor and the ability to do this, and we are excited to have great partners to share in our mission. We have a long history of leadership and service in High Point and we look forward to continuing both for the next 88 years."*

The Grants were the result of a year long process to re-establish the Club's gifting to a core group of non-profits. This year recipients included: Big Brother/Big Sisters, Boys and Girls Club of Greater High Point, YWCA, High Point Area Arts Council, Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club, The Arc of High Point, Boy Scouts of America: Old North State Council, Communities in Schools, Girl Scouts Triad Council, YMCA, Youth Focus, and Youth Unlimited.

The Kiwanis Club of High Point has a solid history of service and their projects include: serving as reading tutors for fourth and fifth graders, distributing dictionaries to every third grade student in High Point, underwriting a dugout at the new Miracle Field, building a porch for the "I Am

Now" home, buying and installing playground equipment at several local elementary schools, landscaping the play area at Hallelujah House, building a Habitat for Humanity House, and providing mentors for BOTSO and the YWCA's Teen Mom program.

The High Point Community Foundation salutes this sterling example of philanthropy in our community and is excited to see other organizations sharing their resources and talents to make our community a better place for all of us.

"The Kiwanis Club has always been a great resource for our community and we are so excited to see these grants that will not only celebrate their 88th Anniversary, but also touch the lives of so many children," states Paul Lessard, President, High Point Community Foundation. *"Everyone can be a philanthropist and whether it is helping a local school, or providing funding for a nonprofit that is making a difference in the life of a child, it is so important to give not only of our resources, but also from our hearts. The Kiwanis Club gets this and we are proud to be partners in philanthropy with them."* 

Jonathan Cox
Kiwanis Club of High Point
www.kiwanishighpoint.org
336.403.3602



"To find the best in others; to leave the world a little better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch, a redeemed social condition; to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is the meaning of success."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

TELLING THE FOUNDATION STORY

This past year the Community Foundation was fortunate enough to benefit from the skills and talent of one of High Point's more successful and well-known sons - Sandy Keziah. Sandy, who is the oldest son of Perry and Ginger Keziah, attended Westchester Academy and later went on to graduate from Duke University.

After school Sandy went into the advertising business and soon became internationally known for his expertise in branding. The Community Foundation, now completing our 10th year of operations, thought it was a good time to reflect upon how we were communicating our message to our donors, grantees, and the community at large. Sandy, who now lives in Colorado, graciously offered to donate his expertise and fly into High Point to work with our leadership to evaluate how we were telling our story.

What we learned was that we were doing a lot of things right and that our biggest need was to get our story out to more people. He underscored that our greatest strength was in our strong track record and our rapidly growing accomplishments. He confirmed that we had a great story to tell and explained that sharing our mission and three main goals would both educate and inspire.

Our Mission

- **To raise and grow an Endowment that will always belong to the community of High Point.**
- **To manage, nurture, and direct Charitable Funds for individuals and families who want to pursue philanthropy and do not want to deal with the legal, administrative, and accounting responsibilities of a private foundation.** *The Foundation now manages over 64 Funds that have given over 17 million dollars back into charitable organizations and causes.*
- **To maintain an Annual Granting process that will provide funding for nonprofit organization that serves the citizens of the greater High Point Community.** *The Annual Grants Program has given out over 2 million dollars to more than 160 nonprofit organizations in its ten year history.*

With Sandy's help the Foundation examined ways in which we could tell our mission story in a more visible and compelling manner while also letting our community know that the Foundation is a philanthropic vehicle that all of us can use to make good things happen for High Point.

Whether it is a gift of \$25, or the establishment of a \$4 million dollar fund, the Foundation is a user-friendly tool that everyone can use and where every dollar counts and makes a difference.



The Keziah Family

This year, the Foundation staff developed a campaign that incorporates all the various aspects of the Community Foundation story. The Foundation has also begun a print campaign that highlights our mission and drives people to our updated website. In the months ahead there will be more mailers and communications that will further educate and enlighten our community about the Foundation.

A wise man once said that it is never good to assume anything and thanks to Sandy's generous contribution of time and expertise we believe that the High Point Community Foundation has learned that the job of telling our community who we are and what we do will always be an ongoing endeavor. To Sandy and the entire Keziah family, the Foundation extends our sincerest thanks and appreciation. 🍷



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Season's Greetings:

The Board of Trustees and the Staff of the High Point Community Foundation want to wish our donors, friends and nonprofit partners a blessed and joyful holiday season. We thank each of you for your vision and desire to make the greater High Point community a better place for all to live, raise a family and run a business. We offer you this prayer with our thanks and admiration.

During this holiday season we celebrate the spirit of community and we are thankful for the COMPASSION that we see every day from our donors who are willing to plant trees under whose shade they may not expect to sit; the LEADERSHIP of our Trustees who bring their experience, wisdom and vision for improving the quality of life here in High Point one person at a time; The COMMITMENT TO JUSTICE that empowers our community to treat each of our citizens in such a way that every child and adult may rise up to their fullest God-given potential; the VISION that we have seen and continue to see throughout our community to create equal access for all to education, opportunity and safety so that future generations will enjoy more prosperous and fruitful lives; and the FAITH that is unique to High Point that empowers all to serve a higher power, to look beyond ourselves, and always seek to meet the unmet needs of others.

We believe in the future of our community and we understand that our collective future is one that each of us can contribute to every single day. We thank you for your support of our Community Foundation and we wish you all God's grace and blessings.

Always,

Paul Lessard, President

Paul

Joe Rawley, Chairman

Joe

Sherri

Karol

Doris



EMPOWERING YOUR GENEROSITY TO ECHO FOREVER

The High Point Community Foundation's Endowment is our current generation's gift to the future generations of High Point. These funds, built through both small and large donations, will always be the property of the citizens of High Point and under the watchful eyes of the Foundation's Board of Trustees these assets will continue to grow over the years. This will insure that in the future economically challenged children will be educated, the homeless will have shelter, and those in need of medical care will be provided for because people like you are willing to invest in their future.

Gifts to the High Point Community Foundation's Unrestricted Fund may be:

- To honor and recognize a loved one.
- Your answer to a taxable event (i.e. - sale of business, transition of family wealth, sale of a home or property, etc.) in which it would be more satisfying to give it back to your community than pass it on in taxes.
- A bequest in your will that could change the lives of others and perpetuate your generosity for generations to come.

To discuss your gift please call us at 336.882.3298.
Thank you!

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