

THE HIGH POINT
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

THE Acorn



Volume 16

"Serving the Donor's Interests and the Community's Needs"

Fall 2011



EXCELLENCE • TRANSPARENCY • ACCOUNTABILITY

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

I recently was invited to speak to a group of first time homeowners who had just graduated from a High Point Public Housing program where they participated in a thorough educational process that ultimately qualified them to get their home loan. I was particularly struck by the visible sense of pride and accomplishment that I saw in their faces that afternoon. It was apparent that these were folks who had not received a lot of the advantages many of us are blessed with. What so impressed me was their willingness to sacrifice, to save, to work on their credit rating and to spend their time and energy earning the right to own their home. There was something quintessentially American in that moment where they were recognized that made me realize how incredibly important it is to give people the opportunity to improve themselves through hard work and sacrifice instead of simply giving them a handout.

I have come to believe that the very best thing we can do for those who struggle economically is not to give handouts, but to teach them how to become self-sufficient and economically viable. As a country we have done a great disservice to a very substantial segment of our population by giving and promoting what we have thought were good works but, in reality was simply teaching dependency and reinforcing the victim mentality. This approach does not work and it does, in a very real sense, take away one's initiative, dignity and self-worth.

How does this relate to philanthropy? It has made me very committed to promote giving that comes with a very real sense of expectation. I encourage our donors to give in such a way that encourages the organizations who receive their donations to be transparent and accountable, so that in effect they must run programs that don't simply give, but demand that the recipients of their services earn the right to receive by somehow improving themselves in the process. If someone truly wants to improve their lot in life, they must always be willing to invest themselves through hard work, education and accountability. It is only when this transaction of philanthropy becomes a two-way relationship that true and profound change can occur.

I am very proud of the investments our Foundation has made in this community over the past 13 years and I'm even more proud of the difference our grants have made in the lives of individuals who can now work, read, finish high school, go to college, stay off welfare, pay taxes and become contributing members of our community. This is what responsible giving can and should be about – making one another better and stronger people.

We thank you for your support of our Community Foundation and consider our partnership with you a great privilege that we must earn every single day.

Always, Paul 🍷



Paul Lessard

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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

"The future belongs to those who see possibilities before they become obvious."

—John Scully, Apple

Too often people tend to think of "vision" as some nebulous, worldly concept when in reality it is simply leadership driven by experience, knowledge and a strong sense of urgency. As I look back on the past two years of my tenure here at the High Point Community Foundation I cannot help but appreciate and admire the strong shoulders I have had the privilege to stand upon. The men who made up our Founding Executive Board were a group of visionary leaders who loved High Point and understood that while they might not know what challenges lie ahead, they could clearly see the importance of establishing a permanent financial resource that would serve future generations of High Point citizens.

So where are we now 13 years later with assets exceeding \$60 million? I believe we have fulfilled the initial dream of our founding fathers with an endowment that has achieved




A.B. Henley

critical mass and a grants program that has given out over \$24 million in combined restricted and unrestricted funds. Just as important is our reputation in the community for being fiscally responsible and upholding the desires and instructions of our donors to fulfill their philanthropic goals. And finally, our staff has embraced a method of operations around best practices and in so doing has received National Standards designation by the Council on Foundations. Only a few public foundations our size across the country have gone through the rigor of the National Standards designation which is reviewed every five years.

I'd like to see the Foundation continue to drive our community in directions that will pull and stretch our citizenry. I believe that High Point's community foundation can and should become a voice of conscience in the community and uphold the highest standards while driving community initiatives. Our Heart of High Point and Principals' Fund initiatives, although relatively new in their formation, are attracting new donors and new volunteers to the Foundation. My hope is that these initiatives continue to grow in size so that their reach is felt by an even greater number of High Pointers.

Community vision will continue to guide the leadership of our Foundation and it has been my sincere privilege to work alongside this incredible collection of community servants. Men and women who are not afraid to dream, who are always willing to take on a challenge and who have invested themselves into something that they know is much greater than all of us. God bless you all.

AB Henley, Chairman, HPCF 

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

SHIRLEY PEARSON SCHOLARS FUND PARTNERS WITH WESTCHESTER COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

Shirley Pearson is one hard-working woman who runs her own cleaning service in High Point and over the years she has worked for some of the most influential families in the community. Years ago, Shirley learned two things; if you work hard, good things happen and if you want to be successful you must have an education. Shirley has obviously taken care of the hard work with her successful business that keeps her busy every day. The second tenant, getting a great education, was one that she drilled into the minds of both of her children. This goal was also accomplished through scholarships that helped send both her son and her daughter through Westchester Country Day School.

Shirley, being an appreciative person, wanted to be able to give back to the school which has given so much to her family. Several years ago she established the Shirley Pearson Scholars Fund and has been steadily working to build up the fund to a sufficient balance to be able to grant annual scholarships. So, this year she decided to partner with Westchester Country Day School to hold an event to promote diversity in education. Friends and supporters were asked to send donations to the fund that will provide scholarships to minority students attending Westchester Country Day School.

“My children received the opportunity of a lifetime to attend Westchester and I have seen how it has changed their lives by opening so many doors,” stated Shirley. “I



Shirley Pearson & Joe Dudley

just wanted to be able to thank the school for all they did for my family and provide the same opportunity for other children.”

*“We see this as
something that
will grow over
time and will
continue to touch
lives for
years to come.”*

The scholarships will be based on need as well as achievement and they will be given out every school year using a process managed by the school. “We are very grateful for Mrs. Pearson’s

commitment to our school and we look forward to working with her to impact the lives of our minority students,” shared Cobb Atkinson, Headmaster of Westchester Country Day School. “We see this as something that will grow over time and will continue to touch lives for years to come.”

The celebratory event took place on October 1st, 2011 on the Westchester campus with Mrs. Pearson hosting a dinner that included keynote speaker, Joe Louis Dudley, Sr., a nationally known and recognized business leader who co-founded DudleyQ+ which is one of the most successful black-owned businesses in America. His success is not limited to the business world as he has also been the recipient of many humanitarian awards for his generosity and charitable work including being named one of President Bushes’ “Points of Light.”

The Pearson Fund is a great example of the many ways that people are working with the Community Foundation to accomplish good things in the community. It also underscores that wealth is not a criteria to start a fund at the Foundation. 🏆

To donate to this fund
send your check to:

High Point Community Foundation
Shirley Pearson Scholars Fund
PO Box 5166
High Point, NC 27262

or visit

www.hpcommunityfoundation.org
to donate by credit card.

CHARLES DIFFENDAL LEAVES HIGH POINT COMMUNITY FOUNDATION UNRESTRICTED GIFT

Well known and respected local businessman Charles Diffendal loved the city of High Point where he had made his home and worked for over 50 years. In June, his estate presented the High Point Community Foundation with an unrestricted gift of \$466,000. Because of his relationship with many of the founding leaders of the Foundation, and his confidence in the continual strong leadership of the Board of Trustees, he was comfortable with this unrestricted bequest. Unrestricted gifts are added to the Community Foundation's endowment and support the Annual Grants Program.

Charles was born November 20th, 1918, during the final year of the First World War in Marietta, Ohio, but he lived the majority of his life in High Point in his home on Edgedale Drive which he shared with his loving wife Sara. He attended and graduated from UNC-Chapel Hill where he was a proud member of the golf team and a member of the ATO fraternity. He was a passion-

ate Tar Heels fan whom he supported and cheered for his entire life. Charles, along with his brother, John, operated Diffendal Floor Coverings in High Point until Charles went to work in the investment business with Hornblower, Thompson, McKinnon and finally retiring from Capital Investments.

Ken Fulp, a Director at the High Point CPA Firm of Sharrard, McGee and Company PA, was a dear friend and advisor to Mr. Diffendal, who also played a key role in the gift. "Charlie was a wonderful gentleman who loved his wife, friends and his community," stated Fulp. "He and I had talked about the Community Foundation and he really liked the idea of giving a gift that could touch future generations."

Charles married the love of his life, Sara, in 1958 and they enjoyed a wonderful marriage and were best friends. They were life-long members of St. Mary's Episcopal Church; they loved to garden and after his retirement they enjoyed

spending time in Florida. The Diffendal's were particularly fond of their wonderful neighbors and good friends on Edgedale Drive. They cherished the neighborhood children and everyone was always welcome in their home. They retired to the Presbyterian Home and ultimately moved to the new facility at River Landing.

"We are very grateful for Mr. Diffendal's generosity to both the Foundation and our entire community at large," stated AB Henley, Chairman, HPCF. "This very generous unrestricted gift was Mr. Diffendal's way of giving back to the community that had embraced and loved him and his wife for so many years. He is like many business leaders in our community who understand that the most valuable things in life are not what we keep but what we give away to improve the lives of others. Not only will this impact High Point for years to come, it will also carry the Diffendal family name into the future as true benefactors to this great community." 🙏

The High Point Community Foundation website offers online giving

Choose the fund you want to contribute to.

Make your gift in a matter of minutes.

Receive a receipt immediately.

Donate Now

Secure donations through
Network for Good

Visit hpcommunityfoundation.org
and click the "Donate Now" button



GUIDE POSTS OF STRENGTH, INC.

DIRECTIONS FOR THE JOURNEY *an introspective by Cathy Weaver*

For years High Point Oncologist Dr. Bernard Chinnasami envisioned a program to help patients through the daily challenges of a cancer diagnosis – challenges that cannot always be addressed in the doctor's office.

Dr. Chinnasami knew that even the most medically savvy patients become overwhelmed with the onslaught of information – and questions – that come when they hear the word “cancer.” For most folks, it's simply too much to absorb. He wanted to offer patients a reliable and simple – yet thorough – portal to all the information a new cancer patient needs. And he also wanted to make certain that each patient had the benefit of a mentor who had walked that road before. This concept remained just that – a concept - until Dr. Chinnasami began treating Catherine Weaver for breast cancer in December 2009.

Cathy had worked with Dr. Chinnasami through her career in healthcare public relations, so it was natural for the two of them to brainstorm about cancer care while she was undergoing treatment. In fact, it was in the chemotherapy room that Dr. Chinnasami and Cathy created Guide Posts of Strength, Inc. (GPS).

Incorporated in December 2010 and granted 501(c)(3) status in February 2011, GPS now provides “directions for the journey” for cancer patients and their close friends and family members through its interactive website (www.gpsmentoring.org), a panel of trusted experts, volunteer mentors and ongoing educational programs. Once the organization and plan were

established, Dr. Chinnasami and Cathy approached the Foundation about starting a fund.



Dr. Bernard Chinnasami

“Dr. Chinnasami is not only an outstanding physician, but a man who cares deeply for his patients and sees this project as a way to help newly diagnosed patients get access to vital information so that they better understand their illness as well as the resources that are available to



Catherine Weaver

them,” shared Paul Lessard, President, HPCF. “Dr. Chinnasami and Cathy have done a superb job establishing this new resource for our community and we are honored to work with them in the management of their fund as well as serving as a venue through which the public can contribute to this great project.”

By providing cancer patients a portal to trusted, tested, expert information,

GPS actually helps cancer patients (and their friends and family) bypass the tasks of sorting through endless amounts of information and have a smoother cancer journey.

One of the highlights of GPS's website is the “trusted expert” section. GPS has assembled a panel of professionals who each have a personal interest in cancer care. They provide candid information about the process of diagnosis and treatment, side effects of treatment, access to the latest research and coping with the emotional impact of a cancer diagnosis.

And the list of experts – and their specialized advice – is growing.

GPS is recruiting and training veteran cancer patients to become mentors to new cancer patients and pairs veterans with “rookies” based on type of disease and other common denominators. The goal is to provide a mentor for each newly diagnosed cancer patient in the Triad – and beyond. No one should have to go on this journey alone.

Yes, there will be bumps in the road. Yes, there will be detours. However, GPS is now here to help cancer patients and their friends and families every step of the way. 🙌

To donate to this fund
send your check to:

High Point Community Foundation
Guide Posts of Strength Fund
PO Box 5166
High Point, NC 27262

or visit
www.hpcommunityfoundation.org
to donate by credit card.

PRINCIPALS' FUND

A RESOURCE FOR HIGH POINT STUDENTS

The 2010 – 2011 school year continued to offer great opportunities for the Principals' Fund to support student-centered programs and expenses not covered by the schools' budgets.

One high-impact grant included funds to match a state grant for 575 new books for the Fairview Elementary School library. Fairview is a school that serves a high percentage of economically challenged students who don't have as much access to books at home because they are often in environments that necessitate frequent moves and changes of schools. The leadership at Fairview believes that getting books into the hands of students is a top priority and worked hard to secure funding for this project. "Fairview Elementary School serves one of the most impacted populations of students in our community and nowhere are books more needed to enable youngsters to be successful and reach their full potential," stated Vicki Miller, Chair, Principals' Fund. "We applaud Fairview for placing such an important emphasis on their media center."

Another investment from the Principals' Fund this past year helped purchase drum major and flag team uniforms for the Andrews High School Band which has been a well-known and award winning program over the years. The band's uniforms had fallen into the disrepair and the students were marching in shorts and t-shirts. The Principals' Fund Committee felt that perpetuating this important tradition was important to school morale and all



Vicki Miller

of High Point was excited to see the band marching in full regalia.

Field trips have always been an important part of any youngster's ed-

*"Fairview
Elementary
School serves
one of the most
impacted
populations of
students in our
community."*

ucation and in this past year the Committee granted funds for the Penn Griffin Seniors to go to New York City, the Fairview Elementary School 5th graders to go to Wash-

ington, DC, the Montlieu Elementary School 4th graders to go to Camp Don Lee and the Ferndale Middle School Student Technology Association to attend a National Competition in Texas.

A new program started this year was the "Honor An Educator" campaign, held in May, which provided the opportunity for area folks to publicly recognize educators, coaches, or mentors who have played a significant role in their lives. By making a gift to the Principals' Fund the donor was able to have a dedication listed in the High Point Enterprise. This campaign brought exposure to the work of the Principals' Fund and gave High Pointers a chance to remember those special people in the education field who impacted their lives for the better. A special thanks to Tom Blount and the Enterprise for partnering with the Foundation on this campaign.

The Fund continues to grow thanks to support from many donors in the community. Students are receiving immediate benefits from this resource and are getting a better vision for the role they will one day play in our community and the world. 🙌

To donate to this fund
send your check to:

High Point Community Foundation
Principals' Fund
PO Box 5166
High Point, NC 27262

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CLARK FAMILY ESTABLISHES SMART GIRLS TANZANIA FUND

Doug Clark and his wife Margaret of High Point along with their son, Andrew have partnered with the High Point Community Foundation to establish a Donor Advised Fund that will provide financial support for students at the Kongei Secondary School near Lushoto, Tanzania. The school is operated by the Catholic Diocese of Tanga in north-eastern Tanzania which is located near the boarder of Kenya. It enrolls approximately 360 girls in forms I through IV which is equivalent to US grades 8-11 and all instruction is in English.

“Our inspiration for this fund was our son Andrew who was a teacher at this school as a Peace Corps volunteer in 2006 and 2007,” notes Doug. “When Andrew went back to the school in 2009 to attend the graduation of his former students I went along with him and was so impressed with the enthusiasm and the tremendous potential of the young ladies that I met that I felt compelled to do something to help.”

Doug learned that fewer than half of the children in Tanzania are ed-

ucated beyond the primary level as the government provides relatively few public secondary schools. When he discovered that

“We learned that girls have much fewer opportunities to attend secondary school and that Tanzania has not embraced gender equity in education, or in the professional environment,” stated Margaret. “Our research showed that education for these girls is critically important as those who are educated are more likely to delay marriage and avoid pregnancy. They are more likely to be healthy, raise healthy families, gain professional skills and have fulfilling careers.”

The cost of one year at Kongei Secondary School is approximately \$1,000 which includes tuition, room, board, uniforms, books and incidental expenses. The

Clarks’ initial goal is to support one student at the school each year with more to come as their fund grows. Over time they hope to see the fund endowed so that the school will always know that these scholarships will be available for deserving students.



Doug and Andrew Clark with Tanzanian students



Andrew with students

there was no free education past primary school he and his wife Margaret decided it was time to do something for these young ladies.

“Our mission at the Foundation is to inspire and help facilitate good philanthropy and this project that the Clark family has brought to us

Continued on next page ➡

HIGH POINT CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1960 AWARDS FIRST SCHOLARSHIPS

An annual scholarship fund established by the High Point Central Class of 1960 and managed by the High Point Community Foundation celebrated the first scholarship awards to the class of 2011. The graduates of the Central High School Class of 1960 wanted to provide scholarships to deserving seniors of Central High School to help defray the cost of college. They also wanted to make a very visible statement of support to the school and deep appreciation for the very significant and positive life experience it had provided for their class.

Dr. Richard Carmichael, a Professor at Wake Forest University, and President of the Class of 1960, is excited about the first scholarships awarded. "We are very pleased to be able to honor two very special young people who have excelled in their work at High Point Central and are going to such outstanding Universities," stated Carmichael. "We look forward to more years of providing opportunities



Stephanie Blair & Marna Hafez

for Central students who are working hard to reach their full potential."

The first two recipients of the Class of 1960 Scholarships are Stephanie Blair, attending UNC-Chapel Hill, where she will major in Political Science and Marna Hafez attending

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Class of 1960 Scholarship Fund
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Wake Forest and majoring in Pre-Med studies. Both students have been strong school leaders as well as outstanding students at Central High School.

"We are so proud to be working with Dr. Carmichael and the Class of 1960 to recognize and help deserving young scholars like Stephanie and Marna," shared Paul Lessard, President, HPCE. "This fund

is very special to us as we believe that Central High School is a key learning institution in our community."

The High Point Community Foundation and Dr. Carmichael have worked hand-in-hand with the Central High School Guidance Counseling office which handles all the scholarship applications and notifies the Foundation annually to identify the recipients. While all High Point Central alumni are encouraged to contribute to this fund, it is also hoped that the community will rally around this vehicle so that more local students will receive the support they need to attend college. 🙌

TANZANIA FUND *(continued from previous page)*

is not only inspirational, it will be life changing for both the girls and ultimately the country they live in," notes Paul Lessard, President, HPCE. "I've known Doug for many years and I've always admired his integrity and his very sincere desire to serve others and make a difference in the world."

Scholarship Awards will be sent

to St. Paul's Abby in Newton, N. J. which oversees and supports the Kongei Secondary School. Any gift that is given to this fund will go directly to the scholarships for these young ladies who will in turn get the opportunity of a lifetime to attend the best academic school in the Tanga Region. 🙌

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High Point Community Foundation
Smart Girls Tanzania Fund
PO Box 5166
High Point, NC 27262

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AMERICAN FURNITURE HALL OF FAME FOUNDATION ESTABLISHES FUND

In April of this year, the Community Foundation was blessed with the opportunity to partner with the American Furniture Hall of Fame Foundation through the establishment of a new fund.

The American Furniture Hall of Fame, an international, industry-wide organization, was established in 1988, to honor those individuals whose outstanding achievements have contributed to the growth and development of the U.S. furniture industry, as well as to research, collect and to preserve the cultural, economic and artistic history of the furniture industry.

“The mission of the American Furniture Hall of Fame is to preserve and sustain the unique and rich history of the furniture industry for future generations,” stated Kurt Darrow, President, American Furniture Hall of Fame Foundation. “We take great pride in our initiatives to promote and celebrate the industry that we love and the High Point Community Foundation is helping to ensure our work in the future.”

Historically, the organization is well



Kurt Darrow

known for its annual banquet that has over the years recognized the industry's best and brightest with the presentation of the prestigious Affie Award to those inducted into the Hall of Fame. In addition to this, the organization also maintains the Wall of Fame and Walk of Fame exhibits which honor its members for their contributions to the industry.

Karen McNeill, CEO, American Furniture Hall of Fame Foundation, believes that the organization has just begun to scratch the surface of

its potential to serve, preserve and educate. “Our focus is to capture the knowledge and wisdom of our leaders by looking to the past to fuel the future for the next generations,” McNeill says.

The American Furniture Hall of Fame Foundation is in the process of building archives of original industry artifacts, patents, oral histories, historical biographies of industry founders, company histories, photographs, as well as a treasure trove of furniture designs from over the years. The organization considers the preservation of the industry's history a sacred responsibility that will ensure it is available for generations to come. 🏠

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American Furniture Hall
of Fame Fund
PO Box 5166
High Point, NC 27262

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AMERICAN FURNITURE
HALL *of* FAME
FOUNDATION, INC.

DENVER LINDLEY, JR. “ARTIST AND GENTLEMAN”

America lost one of her finest contemporary artists when Denver Lindley, Jr., died this past December. Mr. Lindley was nationally recognized for his mastery as an Abstract Expressionist. He had spent almost his entire artistic career working in oils, but made a transition to pastels late in life. His most recent artistic signature was a keen ability to convey the latent energy of mechanical forms into lyrical compositions. In the art world Mr. Lindley was particularly known for his talent at “premier coup” or “first stroke,” in which the artist applies each mark to his work with the intention of it being part of the final composition. He was a master of the economy of line, and throughout his career created arresting and deeply personal compositions. He was able to convey this emotional vividness whether working with the human form, or with the rusting, aging, abandoned mechanical forms of which he was so fond.

Mr. Lindley died at his son's home in Massachusetts on December 30th, 2010 at the age of 80. He had left the Outer Banks only weeks before his death, during what was thought to be a brief illness, but to the deep sadness of the entire Outer Banks community, he was never to return. In order to honor his great contributions to the art world, as well as his beloved place in the hearts of so many in his adopted home on the Outer Banks, where he is affectionately known as “The Artist of the Outer Banks,” a Fund has been established in his honor by his close friends Debbie and Jim Millis, Jr. The Denver Lindley, Jr. Arts Scholarship Fund, administered by the High Point Community

Foundation, will provide scholarships to Dare County high school students who are pursuing an education in the arts.



“Denver was not only a dear friend of ours and of our entire community, he was also a uniquely talented artist who understood that the expression of art is indeed one of mankind's highest callings,” stated Jim Millis, Jr. “However, what was perhaps the most singularly amazing aspect of

*“Denver understood that
the expression of art is
indeed one of mankind's
highest callings”*

Denver's personality was his desire to touch the lives of others through his compassion, leadership and friendship. His star will always shine brightly here in the Outer Banks and Debbie and I hope that this scholarship fund will perpetuate his memory and honor a life well lived.”

Mr. Lindley was born in Princeton, NJ, and was a graduate of Yale University. He studied and taught at the Art Students League of New York and lived and worked with his wife, Joan, a fellow artist, in Bucks County,

Pennsylvania. While living in Bucks County Mr. Lindley was instrumental in the creation of the James Michener Museum of Art, and served on the influential Bucks County Council on the Arts and was a long-time member of the Merce Cunningham Dance Foundation. During his career Mr. Lindley exhibited his work in museums and galleries throughout the country, including Manhattan's Janet Nessler Gallery and the Whitney Museum of American Art. His very distinctive art form was known for its openness and ease of engagement.

In the late 80's Mr. Lindley came to the Outer Banks and was drawn into exhibiting his work at the Ghost Fleet Gallery in Nags Head as a result of his close friendship with the artist Glenn Eure and his wife, the poet, Pat Eure, both owners of the Ghost Fleet Gallery.

“We are deeply honored to work with Jim and Debbie on the establishment of the Denver Lindley, Jr. Arts Scholarship Fund,” noted Paul Lessard, President, High Point Community Foundation. “He was a true American original and someone who was very special to the Millis family and it is a privilege to help perpetuate his memory.” 🙏

To donate to this fund
send your check to:

High Point Community Foundation
Denver Lindley, Jr.
Arts Scholarship Fund
PO Box 5166
High Point, NC 27262

or visit

www.hpcommunityfoundation.org
to donate by credit card.

*“O for a Muse of fire, that would ascend
The brightest heaven of invention!” –Henry V Act 1*

The North Carolina Shakespeare Festival is excited to announce that Wil Elder of Nashville, Tennessee has joined the Festival with the new title of Festival President. Wil's leadership and the continued creative concentration by Pedro Silva and staff will enhance the Festival's future many times over.

“We have always had the very best of creative leadership in the person of Pedro Silva,” stated Beth Koonce, NCSF Chairman. “Pedro has maintained the very highest quality of leadership over the years and has, in every sense of the word, defined the excellence for which the Festival has been known. The Festival's leadership is seeing new structure as an opportunity for NCSF to broaden strategic areas critical for future success.”

As President, Wil Elder adds a new skill set with his expertise in development, organization, logistics and marketing. Elder brings needed experience with him through his work as the Vice President of Cheekwood Botanical Garden and Museum of Art in Nashville, TN where he created, developed and oversaw all aspects of development and special events of a national caliber cultural institution. Prior to working at Cheekwood, Wil served as a Major Gifts Officer at the McCallie School in Chattanooga, TN where he focused on the cultivation and solicitation of major gifts from the school alumni. He traveled all over the country in this position and was an integral part of a very successful

\$179 million capital campaign. To support the Festival's vision of being a NC cultural institution, Elder's charge is to build sustainable financial support from around the state.



Pedro Silva & Wil Elder

“Wil has talents the Festival needs to develop its full potential as a statewide resource,” said Joe Rawley, NCSF Trustee. “He brings strong experience in fundraising, marketing and promotion. Wil and Pedro share a vision of restructuring NCSF into a dynamic theatre company well known, loved and supported across the entire state.”

The Festival is also focused on establishing a full time Development Department which will include Elder and four full time staff members; a Major Gifts officer, Director of Membership and Database Services, Director of Marketing and Communications, and a full time assistant. This new staff will focus upon

the building of contributed revenue, earned revenue, audience development and public relations.

“I couldn't be more thrilled to be joining the High Point community and leading one of its greatest cultural treasures,” stated Elder. “Establishing a true development program with the necessary staff, procedures and systems is our number one priority so that the Festival will be able to achieve sustainability in all of our future endeavors.”

This new plan will include preservation of the best of the Festival's traditions, like the Annual Christmas Carol production that has come to signify the best of the season in the Triad area as well as the continuation of the Festival Stage of Winston-Salem, with an exciting 3 show season. Also as a part of the long and successful statewide tradition The North Carolina Shakespeare Festival will continue Shakespeare to Go, just one of the many education initiatives that reach schools around the state.

“The NC Shakespeare Festival has been and continues to be one of the crown jewels of our great city,” noted Dr. Nido Qubein, President, HPU. “We all need to remember that the Festival, like our University, plays a critically important role in our economic development efforts by providing a world-class cultural resource that is so very attractive to incoming industries.”

Continued on next page ➡

SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL – TRADITION EMBRACES FUTURE

Recently the leadership of the North Carolina Shakespeare Festival celebrated and underscored its High Point roots by recognizing one of High Point's most beloved civic leaders, Rev. Ron Wilkins, with the establishment of a new fund, The Ron Wilkins FestForAll Fund. This new vehicle will fittingly underwrite free tickets for children from economically challenged backgrounds to attend plays. Like Ron Wilkins, this program promotes accessibility and inclusiveness in our community.

"It troubling to think there's a child in our community who cannot attend a Shakespeare Festival production or participate in one of its camps because they lack the funds to do so," says Pedro Silva, Managing and Artistic Director of NCSHakes. "This is why The Ron Wilkins FestForAll Fund has been established. Ron had a very big heart for the less fortunate in our community. Our new fund honors Ron's passion to inspire youth and to help them help themselves. Proceeds from the fund will be invested annually in providing teachers and service organization leaders with opportunities to bring



Ron Wilkins

youth to our shows, and in directly providing youth with scholarship opportunities to attend our camps and workshops. We hope this fund will reflect what Ron always championed – that everyone matters and deserves a chance to experience life's palette of rich opportunities." Ron was best known for his work as a Pastor who lived with and loved the downtrodden. He was also a beloved and respected public servant who took great pride in representing his constituency who were for the most part folks who had very little

and desperately needed a champion. He was a man who, despite the many health problems that plagued him in his final years, always had a smile on his face and something positive to share.

"Ron was a truly Godly man who lived to serve others," remembered Paul Lessard, President, HPCF. "I can still see him cruising down the sidewalk in his wheelchair stopping constantly to say hello to folks and share that very unique quality of joy that I've only seen in people who place their lives completely in God's hands. He was a real servant and he made a huge difference with his life and we feel so privileged that the Community Foundation will be able to manage this fund that will carry on his memory in High Point." 🙏

To donate to this fund
send your check to:

High Point Community Foundation
Ron Wilkins FestForAll Fund
PO Box 5166
High Point, NC 27262
or visit
www.hpcommunityfoundation.org
to donate by credit card.

SHAKESPEARE *(continued from previous page)*

Looking to the future, the Festival is pursuing the fascinating area of using "drama therapy" as a healing tool. Working with Creative Alternatives of New York, leaders in this field, NCSF plans to establish a similar model in North Carolina. See www.cany.org. Creative Alternatives of New York has been around for 30 years and its success in this area is amazing. This new direction

for NCSF will reach displaced or abused children, women, inmates, veterans and others who have developed deep psychological issues and who can find new direction through group workshops.

"We have always believed in the North Carolina Shakespeare Festival's mission and its long-term commitment to produce the high

quality productions that they bring to all parts of our community and state," stated Paul Lessard, President, HPCF. "I know that Wil and Pedro will be a strong team who are very capable of taking this outstanding organization to the next level. We wish Wil and Pedro God's speed in this exciting new endeavor and we look forward to working with NCSF in the years to come." 🙏

HEART OF HIGH POINT – INVESTING IN HIGH POINT’S UNMET NEEDS

Martha Yarborough and her Committee have been busy this year and are continuing to grow the impact of the Heart of High Point grants in the community. Grant requests occur all during the year and are handled quickly. Members of the Heart of High Point Committee are local community leaders who have shown a propensity to help nonprofits, especially those who are dealing with basic needs. Organizations supported by this effort must qualify by showing that at least one-half of their budgets go to meet basic needs, which is defined as food, shelter, clothing, medical care and rehabilitation.

Each member of the Committee works closely with one of the nonprofit organizations eligible for funding and serves as that particular agency’s advocate. They are tasked with imbedding in the organization, learning their needs and then sharing them at committee meetings. The process involves a lot of discussion among the Committee members as there are times when solutions may not necessarily result in a grant. For instance, there may be a community partnership that the particular organization can initiate that will solve their issue and preclude a grant. It is this wealth of community knowledge and leadership experience that has made the Heart of High Point such an immediate success.

Currently the nonprofits that are eligible for Heart of High Point grants are; Open Door Ministries,



Martha Yarborough

Ward Street Community Resources, West End Ministries, Alcohol and Drug Services, Caring Services, Helping Hands, Community Clinic, Triad Health Project, and Salvation Army Shelter.

“I would definitely attribute the success of this fund to the caliber of people we have serving on this Committee,” stated Martha Yarborough, Chair, Heart of High Point. “These remarkable men and women have a real passion to make a difference for their respective organizations. I’m so proud of them and the great work they have accomplished.”

Some of this past year’s projects that have received funding include: the building of a handicap accessible ramp at West End Ministries, the replacement of the tile floor to cover asbestos in the food pantry of Ward Street Community Re-

sources, and a repair and upgrade of a leaking bathroom facility at Open Door Ministries. The grants are not huge, but are typically for unexpected expenses that have not been budgeted for and the need is normally urgent.

The most recent Heart of High Point grants were made in response to the very significant loss of FEMA funding to nonprofit agencies in Guilford County. In August, grants totaling \$50,000 were presented to five High Point nonprofit agencies to supplement funding for rent and utility assistance. While emergency needs are fulfilled during the year, any monies remaining to be distributed at the end of the year are given as sustaining grants. In December, the Heart of High Point will recognize those agencies who have received year-end grants at the Annual Grants Luncheon.

The Community Foundation is proud to be able to support these agencies that are providing basic needs and have served the High Point community so well over the years. 🍷

To donate to this fund
send your check to:

High Point Community Foundation
Heart of High Point Fund
PO Box 5166
High Point, NC 27262

or visit
www.hpcommunityfoundation.org
to donate by credit card.

BACKPACK BEGINNINGS ESTABLISHES NEW FUND AND PROGRAM IN HIGH POINT

Parker White has a passion for feeding hungry children and earlier this year she announced that her organization, Backpack Beginnings, has established a Donor Advised Fund at the High Point Community Foundation which will help support her thriving program that has been serving the community of High Point since 2010.

"I started Backpack Beginnings in Greensboro and have been working with Guilford County Schools for a couple of years now," states White. "We have had great success reaching out to young people by using the public schools as our distribution venue. There are a tremendous amount of young children in Guilford County who are going hungry on the weekends and our backpacks are making sure that these youngsters not only have nutritious food to eat but also know that people care about them."

Over 53% of children in Guilford County's School System are on free or reduced lunches and the statistics for High Point students is even higher. Research very plainly shows that going hungry during the elementary years has a dramatic long-term impact upon the capacity to learn and succeed for these children. Going without food makes children inattentive and less able to learn, they are sick more often, they miss more school, and they tend to suffer from more behavioral problems that range from aggression to hyperactivity. Most educators will note that the early years are absolutely critical to the formation of an educational base that will carry stu-



Parker White

dents through middle school and high school.

"We have way too many students who are coming to school hungry," states Paul Lessard, President, HPCF, "and these children already have too many challenges to deal with in their life. There is

"There are a tremendous amount of young children in Guilford County who are going hungry on the weekends."

simply no reason for food to be a problem – and I am confident that Backpack Beginnings will have a positive impact on the children served over the years. We are proud

to work with this program and look forward to many years of partnership with Parker."

The Backpack Beginnings program began in High Point during the 2010 – 2011 school year on a small scale working with the students at Oak Hill Elementary School. Due to the demand and success at Oak Hill and other schools already being served in Greensboro White approached other Title One schools in High Point and found that expansion of her program was needed. Backpack Beginnings is now serving six additional schools which include; Northwood Elementary, Johnson Street Elementary, Parkview Elementary, Montlieu Elementary, Union Hill Elementary, and the Macedonia Head Start Program.

Backpack Beginnings partners with Second Harvest Food Bank where they receive prepackaged meals which are FDA approved and include diverse and healthy food items. The future success of this program will be dependent upon local support from High Point and it is hoped that everyone will see that this is an investment that our community simply cannot afford to ignore. 🍌

To donate to this fund
send your check to:

High Point Community Foundation
BackPack Beginnings Fund
PO Box 5166
High Point, NC 27262

or visit

www.hpcommunityfoundation.org
to donate by credit card.

For more information on this
program, visit the website at
www.backpackbeginnings.com

ELIZABETH ALDRIDGE AND HILDA FOUNTAIN HEADLINE FOUNDATION'S ANNUAL MEETING

One of the largest annual gatherings to date of the Board of Trustees of the High Point Community Foundation, non-profit leaders, and friends of the Foundation took place on Wednesday, May 25th at the High Point Country Club to celebrate 13 years of building and growing philanthropy in the High Point Community. Since 1998 when the doors of the Foundation opened for business, the Community Foundation has granted over \$3.1 million from unrestricted and over \$25 million from Donor Advised Funds which has impacted non-profit organizations in High Point, across the state and country, and throughout the world.

The first of this year's two flagship recognitions was the presentation of the 2011 Philanthropist of the Year Award which was presented to Elizabeth Aldridge for her numerous contributions to the greater High Point community over the years. She has supported a variety of projects which include; donating a tract of land in Archdale known as the Creekside Park Recreation Project, underwriting a new library in Archdale, supporting a new facility for the Archdale Fire Department, and years of generous support for her church. Elizabeth also played a key role in

the funding of the new Grubb Family YMCA in Archdale for whom she provided a lead gift and encouraged others to follow suite.

High Point has benefitted from Elizabeth's generosity as well, start-

es and equipment. She has also been a benefactor to High Point University where she has not only underwritten the installation of the Atlas statue on campus but has also provided scholarships for incoming students. Elizabeth has also played

an important role as a leader at the High Point Community Foundation where she has served on the Board of Trustees and as member of the Grants Committee. Elizabeth is truly a benefactor of two communities where she has become a beloved and respected leader who will always be remem-

bered as a catalyst for good causes.

"Elizabeth is a remarkable woman who has made a tremendous impact in the business world and has provided community leadership and vision for the High Point and Archdale communities," noted Paul Lessard President, HPCF. "She is a very deserving recipient for this prestigious award and I know she will inspire others to follow in her path."

The second recognition at this year's Annual Meeting was the presentation of the Spirit of the Foundation Award which recognizes individuals who have given of their time, energy, and resources to impact the High Point Commu-



Hilda Fountain and family members

ing with a lead gift to High Point Regional Hospital in 1986 from her and her late husband Bill that helped launch the HPRHS Endowment



Doc Hendley

Fund which has grown into a permanent resource for patient care serv-

Continued on next page ➡

ANNUAL MEETING *(continued from previous page)*

nity. This year's award, the seventh in the Foundation's history, was given to Hilda Fountain for her lifetime of service, philanthropy and leadership which has touched so many lives in High Point for more than ten generations. Hilda has served at the High Point Regional Hospital as a volunteer for over 35 years, supported learning institutions including Hillsdale College, High Point University and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. She has also been very supportive of the High Point Arts Council, the NC Shakespeare Festival, the Community Clinic, the Chancel Choir at Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church and the American Red Cross. In 2004, Hilda gave the High Point Community Foundation a substantial gift creating the Hilda B. Fountain Donor Advised Fund which will support her beloved charities in perpetuity.

"Hilda is a truly remarkable woman who has left an indelible mark upon the community of High Point," notes AB Henley, Chairman, HPCF. "She has generously given of her leadership, her vision and her resources to make High Point a better place for all of us."

In addition to these two remarkable ladies who were recognized, another draw for this year's Annual Meeting was the keynote speaker, Doc Hen-



Hilda Fountain and four generations

dley, a 2009 CNN Hero of the Year for the outstanding work his organization, Wine to Water, does all



Elizabeth Aldridge and family

over the world to bring clean water to third world countries. His message focused upon the theme that all of us, no matter who we are,

have the capacity within to make a positive impact. Hendley, a former bartender and singer, upon discovering that over 1 billion people die every year because they do not have access to clean water, was determined he would make a difference. This worldwide medical disaster haunted him and inspired him to raise money to meet this need by staging wine tasting events throughout the nation. He then taught himself the well drilling and irrigation business and the rest is history. His message was powerful and passionate and left the entire audience challenged.

Along with Doc, AB Henley delivered his Chairman's address, Tom Blount updated the audience on this year's Annual Grants Program, and Paul Lessard, the Foundation's President gave a "State of the Foundation" report that highlighted the progress made over the past year.

At the closing of the meeting, the three stars of the day were all inundated by well-wishers, family and friends which

over the years, has become a beloved tradition that underscores the overriding sense of family and community this meeting always promotes. 🍷

HIGH POINT'S HIDDEN TREASURE

One of the best kept secrets in High Point is our community's very own world class resource that can be described as the most complete collection of books covering the topics of furniture, design, architecture and interior design in the world. If one is not a member of the design or furniture community you may never have heard of the Bernice Bienenstock Furniture Library which is located on North Main near the historic Briles House, home of the High Point Junior League. The research library has over 5000 books that daily attract designers, architects, students, scholars and writers who review sketches, construction methodology and study the past and present styles of furniture and interior design.

"We see this remarkable collection of our design community's rich heritage as a key conduit that current and future designers and leaders will be able to use to help them move design into the next generation of creativity," shared Charlie Sutton, well known industry designer, Chairman, Bernice Bienenstock Furniture Library. "We consider our role as caretakers of this incredible resource as a trust and we look forward to creating ways to make it easier to access for both research as well as industry events."

Recently there was a flurry of activity at the Library as the staff, led by Curator, Karla Webb, welcomed the renovation of the facility to be ready in time for the October Furniture Market. New construction included work on the second floor to build a "Community Room" in which industry leaders, students and designers will host lectures, meetings,

art shows and design competitions jointly with colleges participating in their scholarship program.

Also included in the renovation is a new kitchenette and larger bathroom facilities. The entire permanent book collection will also be moved to the main floor of the library to

the past and helps guide the exciting creativity of future design. We attract a wide range of visitors who not only benefit from our resources but also get to know and appreciate our High Point community."

To walk through the library is to see a gracious and timeless archi-



Bernice Bienenstock Furniture Library

make it more accessible. Future plans include a re-cataloguing process and website update which will take place after the October Market. The building itself, which was once the home of Dr. and Mrs. C.S. Grayson, echoes High Point's illustrious past with architecture that harkens back to the days in which that particular block on Main Street was the home of many of High Point's leading citizens.

"We are very proud of our role as preservationists of many of the American Furniture Industry's key design resources," stated Karla Webb, Curator. "We like to think of ourselves as a link that protects and celebrates the rich tradition of

texture that seems to promote an atmosphere of research and creativity. The facility is also an ideal location for industry events and over the years the staff has staged social gatherings as well as full-day training sessions. A new marketing and public relations effort is underway to insure that more people in the furniture industry know about and feel welcome to use this great resource.

The future looks bright for the Bernice Bienenstock Furniture Library as its leadership strategically positions it to take an even bigger role in the promotion and celebration of High Point as the ever evolving world capital of the Furniture industry. 🍷

THE POWER OF STORYTELLING

One of the most important tasks for any organization is to be able to tell their story in a compelling and professional manner, which the Community Foundation has always understood and appreciated. These Foundation stories have been shared in newspaper articles, speeches and highlighted each year in this very newsletter.

It was this commitment to share stories that led the Foundation to establish what has now become a very popular tradition of closing the Annual Meeting each year with videos that celebrate the Philanthropist of the Year award or the Spirit of the Foundation recognition. These tales of generosity, vision and leadership have become known for their inspiration and quality over the years and the main reason for this has been Gefen Productions, owned and operated by husband and wife team Mark Caudill and Ellen Gefen.

“Our Annual Meetings have always been designed to educate and inspire,” noted AB Henley, Chairman, HPCF. “The video production has always been a key element of this and the work of Gefen Productions has been tremendous. We appreciate their great work and the generous sponsorship they provide for the Annual Meeting each year.”

Most folks in our business community do not even realize that we have a world-class film and video production company located in High Point’s traditional downtown community. Gefen has been in business for over 30 years and has won nu-

merous awards for their corporate work. Early on they developed a reputation for producing the Furniture Market daily show that catapulted Ellen into one of the most



recognizable faces in the industry. Mark has always been the driving force in the production side of the business while Ellen has served in an “on-air” capacity as well as running the marketing side of the business.

Their facility is located on Church Street and is filled with state of the art cameras, lighting and editing equipment. The video cameras which have grown much smaller and more manageable over the years are

Gefen has been in business for over 30 years and has won numerous awards for their corporate work.

now high definition and more vivid than anything you could have ever have imagined. However; their most valuable asset is the talented staff, who makes these “this is your life”

videos into creative productions.

“I was familiar with Gefen from my writing and producing days at Furniture Today magazine and had always admired the work that Mark and Ellen did. When we first established the Annual Meeting and the awards in my mind there was only one place to go for the video work,” remembered Lessard. “Mark and Ellen’s staff are first rate and Lee Allred, who typically does our editing, is as good as any editor I

had seen in the country – we are so blessed to have this resource right in our own backyard.”

The process that goes into the making of the award videos begins with Lessard researching the awardees which always involves interaction with their family members who help with historical facts and provide the many photos that are always key to the final production. Lessard then writes the script which determines who will need to be interviewed and then he reviews the script with Gefen. Once the interviews are completed the rest is up to Lee Allred and his magical editing skills.

All the work, energy and details of production are worth it when that moment arrives at the Annual Meeting when the lights go down and the recipients, their families and friends see the story for the first time as the smiles and tears begin. The relationship that has developed with Gefen and the Community Foundation has created a tradition that has defined and underscored the Annual Meetings for many years. 🍷

FERNDALE SOARING

The 2010 – 2011 school year was one of tremendous achievement for the students and teachers at Ferndale Middle School.

The enthusiasm and professionalism of the teachers and the administration have driven the successful programs that are bringing great credit to the school.

One of the inspirational forces at Ferndale is a remarkable woman named Kimberly Forbes, a 2010 Siemens STEM Institute Fellow, who

serves as a Technology Education Teacher and is calling her students and peers to greater achievement. Just this past year, the students at Ferndale participated in the FIRST LEGO League. This is a program that introduces students to real-world engineering challenges by building LEGO-based robots to complete tasks on a thematic playing surface. The LEGO League won second place at the regional competition. Other rec-

ognitions were earned by Ferndale students at the Technology Student Association State Competition. The Association is dedicated to teaching technology education to young people to prepare them for technology careers. The TSA's

membership includes over 150,000 middle and high school students spanning 48 states. Ferndale students also attended the NC State

“Kimberly represents the very best qualities of our local educators and it easy to be won over by someone who believes in our students with

such passion,” stated Paul Les-sard, President, HPCF. “We are very pleased and honored to have been able to partner with Kimberly and her students and we look forward to watching their future successes.”



Kimberly Forbes with Ferndale students

University's Sustainable Transportation Education Program (STEP) which challenges students to design solar-powered vehicles that compete in contests of range, speed and design. Finally, another group of Ferndale Students were competi-

had the privilege of working with Ms. Forbes by partnering with her and Ferndale's Technology Student Association. The Technology Student Association brings students together who have an interest and aptitude in science, engineering

and technology. The group works on experimental projects that teach the students as they work and ultimately they present their creations at competitions. This past year, their first

year as a functioning club, the work of the students was so outstanding that they won a regional event and received an invitation to compete at the National Competition in Dallas, Texas where they won 3rd

“Great schools are created and sustained by communities that are willing to step up and own their responsibility to support, encourage and partner with them in the education of our children.”

tively selected to attend the NASA Explorer School Virtual Student Symposium at Kennedy Space Center in Florida where they presented their original investigations on existing NASA mission or related research interests.

Continued on next page ➡

THE ARC – LAUNCHING A NEW SEASON OF GROWTH

Many of our readers are familiar with the Arc of High Point which has been a consistent resource for High Point's special needs population for many years. The organization has provided cutting-edge services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families by offering residential living, independent living, rehabilitation and vocational services, and advocacy and outreach. Like so many nonprofits in our community they have been impacted by the economy as well as the ever changing regulatory climate and the often shrinking state and federal funding resources. To their credit the Board of Trustees has been very proactive in their response to these challenges and are building a new and improved organization that will be able to better serve their very deserving clientele.

One of the big changes that has taken place at the Arc in the past year has been a new partnership they have formed with Monarch Inc., an organization that currently manages over 70 group homes and operated programs like those that had been offered at the Arc of High Point.

The Board of Trustees recognized that the numerous regulatory requirements and logistical demands could better be served by a specialized organization like Monarch, Inc. who could provide expertise as well as economies of scale.

"We have been working with Monarch for several months and have found them to be a reliable and very dependable partner who are helping us to be more efficient and effective," shared Allen Johnson, Vice-Chair of the Board. "Our vision now is to take our organization and the services it provides to the next level and create a first class operation for the benefit of our constituents. Additionally, the growing incidents of autism throughout the nation and our community are increasing the needs for the very services that the Arc of High Point can provide."

One of the key projects for the future will be the reestablishment of their Afterschool program, the All-day Summer Program and starting a Respite Program for parents. The game plan is to approach this initiative in several phases. First, is to

improve the facility. The facility has had minimal maintenance over the years and essentially no upgrades. Second, the Afterschool Program, and Respite Care Program would be initiated. The Summer School Program would hopefully be open for the summer of 2012.

"The Arc has been serving a crucial role in our community for over 25 years and as a parent of an intellectually and developmentally disabled son who is also a wonderful and loving human being I can tell you that the Arc has been an invaluable lifeline for me and my family," shared Bill Ervin, long-time supporter and Trustee of the Arc. "These special people are part of our great community and they need us to support them with our time, resources and leadership."

The Board of the Arc is currently undertaking a development effort for this most important new chapter in the history of the organization and it is a project that we encourage all of the High Point community to support. 🏆

FERNDALE *(continued from previous page)*

place in the Techno Talk Competition. This remarkable first year success speaks highly for the club leadership, the students and Ferndale who has nurtured and supported these types of programs.

"Great schools are created and sustained by communities that are willing to step up and own their responsibility to support, encourage and partner with them in the

education of our children," noted Vicki Miller, Chair, Principals' Fund. "We are proud of this remarkable group of High Point students who have shown that we can compete at the very highest levels in national competitions like this. I think it speaks volumes about Ferndale Middle School, their teachers and students."

The Foundation is very proud

of the Ferndale students for their outstanding achievement and we salute Kimberly Forbes for her leadership, commitment and vision for the young people of High Point. All eyes will be upon the Student Technology Association of Ferndale Middle School in anticipation of their next great success. 🏆

DUSTIN'S GREENHOUSE A STUDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

The Community Foundation is always pleased to be able to provide an update on one of the most innovative and active nonprofits that serves students in our community. Dustin's GreenHouse cultivates hope and opportunity in the lives of under-served and under-recognized high school students in Guilford County through unique global and service based learning programs and initiatives. Similar to how a gardener nurtures flowers in a traditional greenhouse, Dustin's GreenHouse nurtures potential in the lives of students – striving to equip them with the values, sense of purpose, perspective and support they need to grow into compassionate, well-rounded



Globetrotters 2011



Peru

and productive citizens. This is the vision that Martin & Lou Green had when they established a fund at the Foundation to memorialize their son Dustin, who loved to travel and touched many lives with his zest for life and his love for others.

The Globetrotter Program is an in-

teractive and “outside of the classroom” learning environment that focuses on self-actualization and global exploration. The program includes a 6-8 month in-country curriculum, as well as a 2-3 week international trip that combines physical adventure with cultural enrichment and philanthropic service. To date, the Dustin's

GreenHouse Globetrotter Program has taken students and teachers from across Guilford County to Guatemala, Uganda, Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands, Peru, Romania, Hungary and South Africa.

The 2011 trip to Peru led the Globetrotters through Lima to Cuzco to Iquitos where they experienced native tribes, hiking in the Andes Mountains, and poverty like they've never seen before. On the next page is a narrative from one participant, Sarah Catherine Lucas, who is a senior at Weaver Academy.

To donate to this fund
send your check to:

High Point Community Foundation
Dustin's GreenHouse Fund
PO Box 5166
High Point, NC 27262

or visit

www.hpcommunityfoundation.org
to donate by credit card.

“If someone had asked me how I felt about the issue of poverty a year ago, my vantage point would have been that of a sheltered teenager who knew little about the world beyond the United States. I would likely have responded with generic statements about how unfortunate and unfair global poverty is and thrown in a few facts I picked up from the news or gathered from the Internet. While I could have empathized with the problem, I did not know what real poverty looked like, nor would I have stopped to think, “What can I do about this issue?”



Sarah Lucas

Thanks to Dustin’s GreenHouse and the time I spent traveling and volunteering in Peru during the summer of 2011, my perspective of poverty (and of the role I play in helping to address the issue) has changed dramatically. The GreenHouse journey opened my eyes to many things, the extent of global poverty being one of them. The experience also inspired me to become a voice of change.

I vividly remember the first time I walked into my room after our three weeks in Peru. I saw my huge, freshly made bed and heard my mother say, “I laid out clean towels for you to take a shower.” I immediately began to sob. I had just spent close to a month living in a community where a family of five live in a structure a quarter of the size of my bedroom... a place where a bed is a block of wood with a sheet over it (if you’re lucky)... a place where a shower, a kitchen sink and a toilet is the Amazon River!

Today, if someone asked me how I feel about the issue of poverty, I would tell them poverty is the friends I left behind in Peru living in houses with floors made of dirt. Poverty is a mother named Rita sleeping on the streets of Iquitos with her newborn infant lying on only a piece of newspaper. Poverty is the baby I held at a medical clinic who is not going to live long enough to learn how to walk because she has a parasite caused by unsanitary drinking water.

Poverty is not just a current event or a global statistic; poverty is a human issue. If we are ever going to change things, people like you and me must step beyond our comfort zones and experience it first-hand. Not a day goes by that I don’t think about my journey with Dustin’s GreenHouse, for the perspective I gained through the experience or the voice of change it has inspired in my heart.”

– Sarah Lucas

THE 501(C)(3) PROCESS

BY RICK CORNWELL, FISHER, CLINARD, & CORNWELL, PLLC

Entities that want to qualify as 501(c)(3) organizations so that contributions made to them are tax deductible must file an application with the Internal Revenue Service. However, much work must be undertaken prior to submitting the application (which currently consists of 26 pages, although not all sections will apply to each charity).

The organization first should be established pursuant to state law. Copies of the documents filed with the state, which should contain the outline of an acceptable charitable purpose and a disposition of assets should the entity ever cease to exist, are transmitted with the application; bylaws or similar rules of operation are also required which should include certain provisions such as a conflict of interest policy. The instruments should

establish the officers of the applicant, and any business relationships between the charity and those individuals must be described (including any actual or proposed compensation). The application must also contain a description of the activities to be undertaken by the entity, as well as contemplated fundraising methods.

It is very advisable to retain an accountant to assist with the process in addition to experienced counsel. Detailed financial information must be contained in the application; if the applicant has existed less than 5 years, financial projections (which must be based on a reasonable and good faith es-

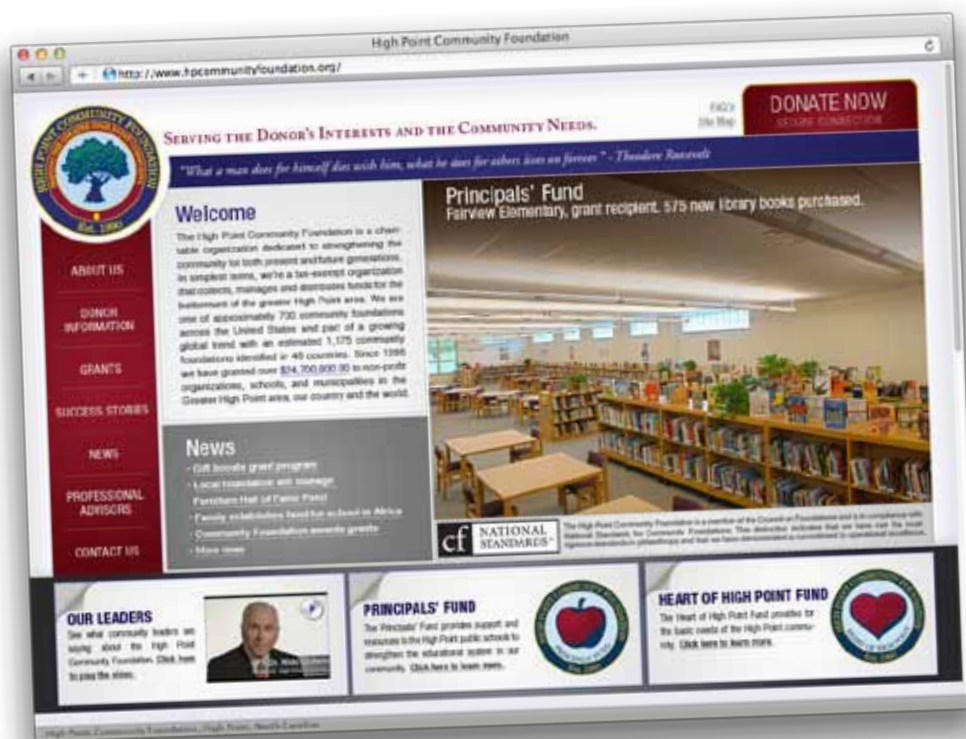


Rick Cornwell

timate) which correspond with the proposed activities of the charity are required.

Current 501(c)(3) entities should be alerted that a substantial number of small organizations have lost tax-exempt status for failure to file an annual

electronic notice for tax years beginning after 2006. Although the IRS should have mailed a notice of this action to each group at its last known address, it would behoove each exempt entity to review the revocation list published on irs.gov to be certain its status has not been revoked. If that has occurred, there is a somewhat simplified process for reinstatement if requested by December 31, 2012. 🙏



The new High Point Community Foundation website is coming soon!

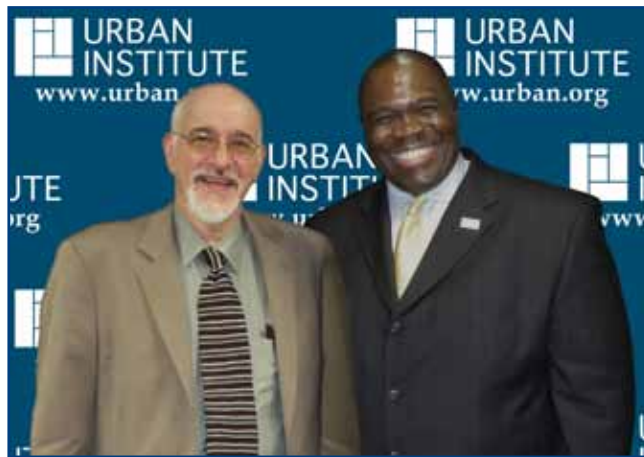
Bookmark us at
<http://hpcommunityfoundation.org>

WELFARE REFORM LIAISON PROJECT RECLAIMING LIVES THROUGH SELF-SUFFICIENCY

Twelve years ago Reverend Odell Cleveland had a vision for helping men and women reach their true potential by providing them with the skills and knowledge to enable them to be economically viable. In today's current economic environment it is critically important to understand that national and state budgets have been cut back and that self-sufficiency is the order of the day for both individuals and organizations. Reverend Cleveland established the Welfare Reform Liaison Project (WRLP) with the premise that it would have to be financially sustainable through innovative, entrepreneurial programs and consistent funding options.

"What I like most about Reverend Cleveland's organization is that he runs it like a business, which is what all nonprofits should be doing," noted Paul Lessard, President, HPCF. "He is very up-to-date on the emerging business technologies and he is not afraid to innovate and take calculated chances."

Since the very beginning WRLP's vision has been to take folks all but written off by society and expose them to training programs that include digital imaging, direct-care assistance, hospitality services and handling recycled materials. They also have a product distribution training program which is now over 11 years old which they use to teach "soft skills" by reinforcing professional habits such as showing up on time, being prepared, paying attention to detail and working under su-



Reverend Cleveland

pervision. Reverend Cleveland realized early on that most of the people in his program have been held up by various roadblocks to success including, incarceration, family issues, drug and alcohol addiction and just plain old "bad luck" that has led to long-term unemployment.

"Our goal has always been to bring dignity and purpose to the lives of those we touch," stated Reverend Cleveland. "So many of these men and women have experienced tough breaks and have simply lost confidence in themselves. We believe that God has created each and every one of us to reach our fullest potential and that is what we try to promote in our programs."

Over the years WRLP has tracked the progress of their graduates and have documented their earnings to be over \$9 million. Each year this program's graduates collective earn over 1.5 million not including the money it saves the community by getting them off welfare and once again paying taxes.

Reverend Cleveland brings a mul-

titude of skills and education to the organization with undergraduate degrees from the University of South Carolina Spartanburg in management and minors in finance, economics and computer science. He later received his Masters in Divinity (cum laude) from Hood Theological Seminary and he has gone on to do post-graduate work at Harvard's Divinity School and The

Center for Creative Leadership. He has wide-ranging teaching experience in programs at Duke University, North Carolina A&T and UNCG in which he passes on his vision for teaching and growing through self-sufficiency to the next generation of nonprofit leaders.

He has also just published his first book, *Pracademics and Community Change* which is the story of the WRLP's rise through social entrepreneurship and faith based intervention in impacted communities.

Reverend Cleveland represents the new wave of social activism that leads with strong business skills and a vision for financial independence for those who, up to now, have been caught in a life of dependence and poverty. His programs are growing and will continue to touch High Point and Greensboro in the years to come. They will no doubt inspire other nonprofits to greater heights of self-sufficiency.

If you are interested in learning more contact the WRLP office at (336) 691-5780. 🍌

HIGH POINT COMMUNITY FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES 2010 GRANTS

After 13 years of giving, the Community Foundation's grants program has become what the founding fathers had envisioned, a reservoir of hope and a safety net for those organizations that are meeting unmet needs in High Point.

The grants for 2010 totaling \$277,715.00 have addressed many of the needs that have arisen during a challenging economic time. Since the Annual Grants Program began in 1998, the Foundation has given out over \$3.1 million from the Foundation's Unrestricted Fund. In addition to this, the Foundation has also given out \$21.9 million in Donor Advised Fund grants bringing the combined total up to \$25 million in the last twelve years.

"In this time of economic uncertainty we are very pleased to be able to show our community that the Foundation can

be counted upon to support the needs of the greater High Point area," notes AB Henley, Chairman, HPCF. "Our Grants Committee had a very challenging job as there were so many needs out there to be addressed. Jan Samet, who finished his term as Chairman, has continued to do an outstanding job with this Committee. We are proud of the diligence, compas-

sion, and wisdom they have once again displayed in this year's granting process."

Each year the needs of the community change and the Grants Committee faces the difficult job of evaluating the emerging needs and establishing priorities that ul-

needs including; Community Projects which led the group with \$176,040, followed by Educational Projects with \$52,175, Youth Projects with \$39,500, and Health Projects with \$10,000.

It is important to note that \$11,365 in the Educational Projects came from The Cory McNinis "Compassion in Education" Endowed Fund and \$16,350 from The Violet Hutchens's Children's Education Fund.

"The Annual Grants process is without doubt our flagship program here at the Community Foundation as it very plainly reveals the val-

ues and principals we stand for." shared Jan Samet, Grants Committee Chairman. "Despite the economic challenges we have faced over the last two years, the Foundation has once again stepped up to meet the critical needs in our community and we have our loyal donors and supporters to thank for this." 🍷



2010 grant recipients

timately guide them toward their grant allocations. The Foundation was initially established to serve as a safety net that would provide for the unmet needs of the community and the timing of its establishment could not have been better.

The 2010 grants address a wide range of community

2010 ANNUAL GRANTS RECIPIENTS AND PROJECTS

Organization	Purpose of Grant	HPCF Grant
Big Brothers Big Sisters HP	Program to match a child who has one parent incarcerated in State or Federal prison with a big brother or sister	16,800
CFGG - Guilford Nonprofit Consortium	Operating funds for outreach to HP nonprofits that includes access to low cost, but high quality training and resources	10,000
City of High Point - Police Department	Fund victim service case worker to address domestic violence in coordination with the HP Police Department to reduce domestic homicides, injuries, & repeated calls	35,450
Communities in Schools High Point	Funding for the "Next Step Ninth Grade Transitional Program" to promote academic achievement and social success to decrease the dropout rate	16,350
Community Outreach of Archdale-Trinity	Funding to enhance the FISH (finding independence through self-sufficiency) services, which will prepare participants to be self-sufficient and navigate their way to employment	18,670
Family Service of the Piedmont	Funds to expand consumer credit counseling services	21,970
Ferndale Middle School	Funding to produce Culture Fair where students experience other cultures and gain appreciation for differences	800
Grace Church - Helping Hands Ministry	Operating funds to help keep vital staff that assist with participating in the Community Resource Network, distribute food, financial assistance, health fairs and job fairs	26,350
Guilford Education Alliance	Funding to support the teacher supply warehouse that provides classroom supplies to teachers while businesses recycle supplies instead of discarding them	10,900
High Point Community Against Violence	Operating funds to support deterring crime by working with violent offenders who desire to change their lives	25,150
Junior Achievement	Funds to support a K-12 real world to classroom financial & economic program to help students develop financial, ethical and economic foundations needed in our global economy	9,625
Randolph County Partnership for Children	Funds to expand Parents as Teachers - a family literacy program for at-risk parents with children under the age of 5	2,925
Special Olympics NC	Funding competitive event for statewide athletes - 50 from HP	8,175
Triad Health Project	Fund case manager to access services for clients affected by HIV/AIDS in the city of High Point	10,000
West End Ministries	General operating funding to provide services such as emergency assistance, community meals, Kids Café, Leslie's House, Boys & Girls Club, and Senior Adult Programs	27,350
Win-Win Resolutions	Funding for LOTSO which serves to deter high-risk minority and economically disadvantaged females ages 6-18 from involvement with gangs, delinquency, pregnancy, and deviant behavior	7,700
YMCA of High Point - Camp Cheerio	Funds to match a challenge grant for Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility in older cabins	15,000
YWCA of High Point	Funds to upgrade computer lab from 4 to 15 serving 90 kids, 60 teens	14,500

Total

\$277,715

FUNDS

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

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

Linda Armstrong Endowment Fund
Judith K. Austin Fund
Backpack Beginnings Fund
Robert & Sallie Brown Family Fund
Phil Chang & Friends Memorial
Scholarship Fund
Earl E. & Kathryn W. Congdon Family
Fund
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Fund
Katherine Harvey Covington Charitable
Giving Fund
The Covington Family Fund
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Bonnie Craig "Commitment for
Quality Daycare" Fund
Davanzo Family Fund
Daniel K. Davis Family Fund
Bill & Alice Ervin Family Fund
Bill & Lucille Fenn Family Fund
The James E. Foscue, Sr. Family Advised
Fund
John N. and Louise Foster Family Fund
Hilda B. Fountain Endowed Fund
Garet's Place Fund
Dustin's GreenHouse Memorial Fund
The Chris & Charlie Greene Family
Fund
Darrell & Stella Harris Family Fund
Douglas & Susan Harrison Fund
The David R. Hayworth "Commitment
to Youth" Endowment Fund
The A. Boyden Henley, Jr. Family Fund
High Point Central Class of 1960
Scholarship Fund
High Point Regional Association of
Realtors, Inc. Fund
High Point Medical Society
Endowment Fund
Hirsch Family Fund
The Grace Gurley Horney Family Fund
J.E.M. Fund
David & Sharon Keever Family
Foundation Fund
Denver Lindley, Jr. Arts Scholarship
Fund

George & Nancy Lyles Family Fund
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William B. Millis Fund
James Millis, Jr. Fund
Molly Millis-Hedgecock Fund
Emily Millis-Hiatt Fund
The Donald B. Morgan Education Fund
North State Communications Fund
Shirley Pearson Scholars Fund
The Earl N. Phillips, Jr. Family Fund
Sallie B. Phillips Fund
The Nido & Mariana Qubein Family
Fund
Robert B. & Nanabeth N. Rankin
Family Fund
Realty Analytix Triad Stewardship Fund
Dr. David Ross Memorial Fund
Stanley & Phyllis Shavitz Family
Foundation Fund
The Jack & Marsha Slane Family Fund
The Tilley-Higgins Fund
Smart Girls Tanzania Fund
Michael J. Ujevich Fund
James E. & Becky Farlow Wray Family
Fund
Richard C. & Marietta Wright Family
Fund
Jordan & Lou S. Washburn Family
Fund
Martha & Yogi Yarborough Family
Fund

FIELD OF INTEREST FUNDS

City of High Point Principals' Fund
Heart of High Point
Violet Hutchens Children's Education
Field of Interest Fund
Cory McInnis "Compassion in
Education" Fund

SPECIAL INTEREST FUNDS

American Furniture Hall of Fame Fund
Avenue of Flags Fund

Vicki Smith Dallas Mobile Meals Fund
Ray & Tanya Burrow Family Fund
Guide Posts of Strength Fund

ORGANIZATION ENDOWMENTS

Alcohol & Drug Services Endowment
Fund
Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater High
Point Endowment Fund
Cornerstone Health Care Foundation
Endowment Fund
Family Service of the Piedmont
Endowment Fund
High Point Mental Health Association
Endowment Fund
Millis Regional Heath Center Education
Endowment Fund
Next Step Endowment Fund
North Carolina Shakespeare Festival
Cash Revenue Fund
North Carolina Shakespeare Festival
Artistic Excellence Fund
North Carolina Shakespeare Festival
Ebenezer Scrooge Trust
North Carolina Shakespeare Festival
Elizabethan Garden Fund
North Carolina Shakespeare Festival
Endowment Fund
North Carolina Shakespeare Festival
Ron Wilkins FestForAll Fund
Triad Health Project Endowment Fund
United Way of Greater High Point
Endowment Fund
Youth Unlimited Endowment Fund

DEFERRED GIFTS

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P. Hunter Dalton
Dr. Robert DaVanzo
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Amy Greeson



**WE HONOR THE GENEROSITY AND SUPPORT OF
DONORS WHOSE INITIAL GIFTS ENABLED THE
HIGH POINT COMMUNITY FOUNDATION TO PROSPER**



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**WE HONOR THE GENEROSITY AND SUPPORT OF DONORS
WHO HAVE GIVEN TO THE UNRESTRICTED FUND OF THE HIGH POINT
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION DURING 2010 AND 2011**



The Alex Sutherland Family in honor of Jim Morgan
Marcus & Lore Farris in memory of Si Bell and Jesse Millis
Mrs. Marcella McGee
Daniel R. Odom

Stephen Shavitz in memory and honor of Perry Keziah
Hilda B. Fountain Fund

Richard & Sylvia Budd in memory of Jesse Millis

John Peddycord in memory of Jesse Millis

Andrew Price in memory of Jesse Millis

The Stanley and Phyllis Shavitz Family Fund in honor of Paul Lessard

The Debutante Club of High Point

Gilbert Gates

Roma Amos in memory of Jesse Millis, Marietta Wright, John Hamilton, Perry Keziah and Helen Bundy
The Estate of Charles E. Diffendal, Jr.

HELPING GROW HEALTHY FAMILIES

High Point, like many other communities around the country, is finding that as people are trying to live healthier lives and control some of the health issues of our generation like obesity, diabetes and hypertension there is a renewed interest in growing your own food.

To address these topics, North Carolina Cooperative Extension has two new programs they are bringing to the High Point area. The first is a national AmeriCorps school garden and Farm to School service program, launching in 2011. North Carolina Cooperative Extension and the Center for Environmental Farming Systems are proud to announce their role as hosts for the new FoodCorps program. FoodCorps will serve vulnerable children by improving access to healthy, affordable food, while training young leaders for careers in food and agriculture.

North Carolina was chosen from 108 national applications as one of ten states from across the US to pilot the FoodCorps program. As a pioneer in applying the proven model of national service to the widening epidemic of childhood obesity, FoodCorps and the 10 chosen host sites are poised to improve the wellbeing of thousands of children in its first year and millions over the next decade.

One of those sites is right here in Guilford County, and in particular the Title One schools in High Point. At these school sites, FoodCorps members will build and tend school gardens, conduct nutrition education, and increase the amount of local, fresh produce served in lunchroom cafeterias,

all in the spirit of service for healthier kids.

Utilizing the public service model of AmeriCorps, FoodCorps leverages federal funds to place young adults in high-need communities, with



the mission of improving children's knowledge and access to healthy food. FoodCorps also gives hands-on training to future farmers and food systems professionals.

The other project addressing the availability of local foods is commu-

nity gardens. While the popularity of community gardening has ebbed and flowed with socioeconomic conditions, the current recession combined with the benefits of local agriculture have heightened public interest once again. For many, the economy has made it essential for families to try to stretch their food budgets by growing their own produce. Food safety issues encouraged people to take control over what they feed their families and environmental concerns over how far produce is shipped before it reaches us made people want to "eat local" whenever possible. American consumers have increasingly realized the health benefits of gardening – not just in terms of healthy fresh produce, but in terms of the physical activity involved in growing nutritious food. The first two community gardens to go into the High Point area have been in the Macedonia community and the Southside community. We welcome you to visit these areas, meet the neighbors, and see how successful these gardens are.

Community gardens are not just about teaching people how to grow, but about growing as people and coming together to create sustainable communities. Community gardens allow individuals who may not know each other to come together over a shared interest. People are no longer strangers in their own community. People develop friendships and support systems. The simple acts of watering a neighbor's garden bed while they're on vacation helps remove barriers among people. Community gardens are a great forum for all ages and cultures to exchange ideas, share knowledge and food with others. 🥕

LATINO FAMILY CENTER LAUNCHES FIRST HISPANIC TROOP

Over the years the Boy Scouts have come to epitomize all those virtues that have made America great; trustworthiness, bravery, and a commitment to always be prepared. High Point in particular has had a storied history with Scouting as many of our community leaders first cut their leadership teeth in the Scouts. These days

Scouting, like many other things in our culture, is evolving and becoming a great vehicle to introduce young men to the many values and responsibilities of manhood and success. This is happening at St. Mary's Church where Amo Kearns, a long-time supporter and promoter of Scouting, thought that this tried and true program was just what young men at the Latino Family Center needed and the results have been spectacular.

"Every young man needs mentoring and guidance and that is exactly what the Boy Scout model is based upon," noted Kearns. "Our Latino Scout Troop is definitely blazing a new trail and I am convinced it is saving these young men from the many temptations that confront them on a daily basis."

Working alongside of Amo has been Evelyn Morales and Noe Suarez who also teaches and coaches at Central High School. They are proud that Scout Troop 7 is already producing Eagle Scouts and that the leadership of these very special young men is driving others to follow suite. Troop 7 is filled with activities including



camping trips, community projects and of course, the on-going work on merit badges. One young man, Fernando, who recently attained his Eagle Scout ranking learned quickly that achievement has its advantages and responsibilities.

"I am very proud to have earned my Eagle Scout ranking as it took a lot of work, but I also learned so much that will help me be productive in life," stated Fernando. "To achieve worthwhile goals we must be willing to be disciplined, driven and committed because there are so many things out there that can get you in trouble. I am so thankful for this program."

The Latino Family Center Scouting program is now in its second year and is the only 100% Hispanic troop in North Carolina. While the impact upon the young men has been tremendous they still struggle for funding and resources. Like any successful program they need champions in the community who are not only interested in the mission of scouting, but are also willing to invest their time and resources in this endeavor. "As Scout Master of Troop

7, I am proud of what our young men have accomplished," shared Dr. Mike Kerkado. "I see the tremendous good that scouting is doing for these young men, but I also see the many needs that we have at this time. Most of their families do not have a lot of disposable income so we are hoping that others in the commu-

nity will see this as a way to invest in these young men who will be future leaders in our community."

The scouting model has been so successful for the boys that the Latino Family Center has also established a Venture Crew program in order to include the girls. Venture Crew is a youth development program of the Boy Scouts of America for young men and women who are at least 13 years of age and have completed the eighth grade and are under 21 years of age. The program's purpose is to provide positive experiences to help young people mature and to prepare them to become responsible and caring adults. The program has been going strong for one year and has approximately 20 young ladies participating. They are about to start a one of a kind 6 week pilot program to be trained in emergency preparedness and safety so that they will be able to assist the Hispanic community in case of a disaster. If you are interested in helping with the Hispanic Boy Scouts or Venture Crew contact Dr. Mike Kerkado at ecoexplorer@hotmail.com. 🐾

MINISTRIES OF THE SON OF GOD CONTINUES TO GROW

Reverend Don Palmer and his wife Cindy had a vision over 10 years ago for impacting the southern part of Belize for Christ and His Kingdom. In the process they have not only touched the hearts of many, they have also changed the country forever. Many have heard of the northern part of this country as a tropical paradise that caters to tourists and boasts of fabulous resorts and a healthy economy. However the southern part of Belize has a long history of being poverty stricken, underdeveloped and very much in need of help. The Palmers saw this challenge as a ministry that could not only change hearts and minds, but also bring life to an area in which many live without hope.

In 2000 Don, who is from High Point, felt the call to ministry and along with his wife Cindy sold everything and left their former life behind to plant churches and spread the word in this region that so many had written off. Their first year was challenging as their very modest home was destroyed in a storm which necessitated Cindy heading back to the States, support money was tight and Don just about ruined his health by living out of his truck for six months.

So, with very little money and a steadfast belief in “walking by faith and not by sight,” Don began reaching out to the people of southern Belize. In the years that followed Don’s faithfulness began to produce fruit with many of the nationals who had grown up in the darkness of Mayan mysticism. Local churches were formed, home-grown leaders and preachers were

mentored and ultimately modest churches were built for the growing number of new worshipers. In time



Belize families

a radio ministry was created which included the construction of a radio station and the distribution of solar powered radios that were tuned to



Don Palmer performs baptism

one station run by the Ministries of the Son of God which has opened up both the world and the bible to families that have never had access to either before now.

The result of these new churches and educational resources has been dramatic as the communities which are being influenced by this ministry are flourishing and becoming more productive and economically stable. Don and Cindy once again have a home to live in and their supporters from all over the United States have been coming to Belize and helping

build churches as well as reaching out to the people.

Don’s secret weapon over the years has been a man who many would say is the ministry’s guardian angel. Bob Parrish, who is a long time High Point resident and a well respected insurance professional in the High Point business community, looked into the ministry and even traveled down to Belize to see Don’s work first hand. Bob saw something he had never seen before... the miracles that only radical faith can produce.

“I had been raised in the church and believed in God, but I had never seen anyone like Don before who was willing to give everything away and move to a foreign land that he knew nothing about, who had no guaranteed long-term support and who simply trusted everything to his God,” remembered Parrish. “He had this kind of blind faith that was producing real, live miracles that I saw with my own eyes and it has changed my life forever. I knew I had to help.”

Bob’s help came in the form of a much needed development effort that brought many High Pointers into the Belize ministry’s family of supporters. Bob’s reputation and his unceasing efforts to reach out to educate folks about the ministry produced a much needed stream of support. His goal now is to further build this support for the long-term sustainability of the ministry and ultimately pass on this most important job to the next generation to ensure that the good work in Belize continues. 🙏

SWIM 4 FUN/SWIM 4 LIFE

In January of 2008, the High Point Swim Club started an innovative program, Swim 4 FUN/Swim 4 LIFE, that teaches basic swimming skills to low-income and minority children so they can have fun in the water and even continue on into competitive swimming if they so desire. The program is for all children referred to the Swim Club through existing community organizations and the Guilford County School System. The goals of the program are; to expose children to the benefits that swimming can provide for a healthy lifestyle, to help reduce the high incidence of drowning in children and adults who come from low-income, minority backgrounds and to build confidence that may not have existed before.

“We have really enjoyed working with the young people who have attended our classes over the years, stated Aaron Reeves, High Point Swim Club Head Coach. “We learned very quickly that were it not for this program many of these youngsters would never learn how to swim. We make it fun, we build relationships with the kids and teach them to respect their bodies and stay fit.”

The program offers children the option to take an eight-week course or multiple sessions during the school year. When the children have completed all levels of the lessons program, they may choose to join HPSC's competitive team.



“Were it not for this program many of these youngsters would never learn how to swim.

We make it fun, we build relationships with the kids and teach them to respect their bodies and stay fit.”



There is a need-based scholarship program that is already in place for competitive swimmers so the support is there if they are interested.

The Swim Club provides a swimsuit, goggles, kickboard and

towel for all incoming students. All of these items have been donated by TYR (swimsuit company), Pannell Swim Shop and the Marriot Courtyard in High Point respectively. The children also receive a healthy snack after their lesson to reinforce positive eating habits which helps combat childhood obesity that tends to impact low-income children the hardest.

Swim 4 FUN/ Swim 4 LIFE introduces a life-long sport that combines strength, flexibility, balance and increased cardiovascular health. It promotes water safety by teaching young people to not only care for themselves in the water, but also potentially saving other lives because these children learn how to handle themselves so well in the water. It is exciting to see a program like this that uses sport as a vehicle for character building, encourages healthy life habits and provides a wonderful outlet for kids of all ages and backgrounds.

The High Point Swim Club was established in 1962 and is a USA swimming-sanctioned club that has produced swimmers who have participated in the Olympic Trials. If you are interested in learning more about Swim 4 FUN/ Swim 4 LIFE and would like to support this wonderful program, you may contact the Swim Club at 887-4772 to learn more. 📞

TRIAD COMMUNITIES BAND TOGETHER TO BUILD THE CAROLINA FIELD OF HONOR

The Triad, one of the most economically robust and beautiful regions of North Carolina, has so many attributes we can be proud of and one of the most impressive of these is our well-earned reputation for always being faithful when our Nation has issued a call to arms. Since very early in our history to the present nearly 150,000 of our young men and women from the Triad have donned the uniform and placed themselves in "harm's way" to protect the freedoms we all hold so dear. This legacy of service speaks volumes about the heart and soul of North Carolina Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines and it is for this reason that a local group of leaders are working to ensure that these remarkable men and women are never forgotten.

"I can't think of a more noble cause than remembering and honoring our Triad veterans who have served this country so faithfully over the years," stated Rob O'Hanlon, USMC veteran and Chairman of The Carolina Field of Honor/Veteran Memorial Park Foundation. "We believe that this commitment to remember is a sacred trust and all of us who are working to make this memorial a



Veterans Memorial

reality feel this every single day."

Rob and his Board of Trustees have been working hard these past two years securing the land, working

"I can't think of a more noble cause than remembering and honoring our Triad veterans who have served this country so faithfully over the years."

on design plans and gathering support for the memorial facility that will be built at Triad Park which is located in Colfax off Highway 421.

The memorial will honor members of all of our nation's Armed Forces with an architectural design that is reminiscent of the WWII Memorial in Washington, DC.

At first glance what catches the eye in the artist's rendition of the fu-

ture memorial is the soaring white obelisk which is planted within a surging fountain surrounded by a gently rippling expanse of water. Around the pool is a tasteful plaza with plenty of seating space which has the look and feel of a sacred place, a place of remembrance. Behind the fountain stand eight tall dark marble tablets, each of which are back dropped by flags representing our nation's services. Off to the side is a larger American flag that flies on a pole which stands alone, and higher than the rest, highlighting the regal majesty of our stars and stripes. The memorial exudes a sense of serenity and reflection that will immediately impact all who come to remember and honor those who have served.

"All of us who call the Triad our home will be very proud of this long awaited and richly deserved memorial which is such a fitting testament to our men and women

Continued on next page ➡

FOUNDATION INVESTMENT COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARD

Scott Tilley, in his position as Wealth Management Advisor at Merrill Lynch, likes to see money grow, but equally as important to him is the opportunity to give back and make a difference in the lives of others. This year Scott received national recognition for his altruistic efforts from one of the investment community's most recognized publications, Registered Rep Magazine, as one of the recipients of the 31st Annual Altruism Award. Scott was chosen out of a large and competitive national pool of very deserving financial professionals who have dedicated their lives to giving back to their respective communities.



Scott Tilley

This prestigious recognition is presented to professionals in the financial industry who have used their influence, talents and resources to champion causes that touch and change the lives of others. The narrative of the citation for the Annual Altruism Award

specifically noted the key leadership role Scott played in the establishment of a Miracle League facility in High Point. This state-of-the-art baseball park is built to accommodate the unique needs of disabled children so that everyone can have the opportunity to play ball, feel part of a team, and share in this enriching experience.

Scott had a tremendous role-model in his late father, Allen, who was a beloved and respected community leader and one of the founding fathers of the Investment Community in the Triad. Allen was also a life-long Cubs fan who always had a very special place in his heart for young children. This no doubt drove Scott's leadership interest in the Miracle League project and also inspired his firm's annual support of it. In much the same manner that his father once donated his hands-on involvement in projects he cared about Scott also

frequently serves as a Miracle League "Buddy" where he helps the youngsters with their hitting and pitching.

Another interest that has been important to Scott and his wife, Shelby, has been his commitment to High Point University where they made a very generous gift that underwrote the W. Allen and Nancy Tilley Trading Room in the School of Commerce. The facility offers students and faculty the opportunity to analyze financial and economic data which is displayed on a three-walled video ticker tape monitor. There are also 26 trading stations at which students can use the very same software that Scott and his associates work with at Merrill Lynch.

In addition to his leadership role at the Community Foundation, Scott also lends his skills and talents to other nonprofits in the High Point Community by serving on boards such as Family Service of the Piedmont and High Point Community Against Violence. 🏡

CAROLINA FIELD OF HONOR *(continued from previous page)*

who have served our great nation. I don't believe there will be anything in this state to rival it." noted Paul Lessard, President, HPCF. "I'm so impressed with the leadership that is guiding this important project and I am confident that the citizens of the Triad will step up and support this very worthy cause."

The next big step in this process will be the fundraising for the construction of the memorial. Local advisory groups will be formed in

Greensboro, High Point and Winston-Salem. If you would like more information please contact Bill Moss, Director, at 336-708-1988 or Rob O'Hanlon, Chairman, at 288-1208.

Every so often an opportunity comes along that allows a community to accomplish something that will have profound significance for generations to come. The Carolina Field of Honor is one such project and

it will say as much about the community who builds it as it does for the men and women it will honor.

Gifts can be made in support of this project to The Carolina Field of Honor, c/o The War Memorial Foundation, 5411 D W. Friendly Ave., Greensboro, NC 27410. The War Memorial Foundation is a registered 501(c)(3) so all contributions made to this project will be tax deductible. 🏡

THE ACORN INTERVIEW

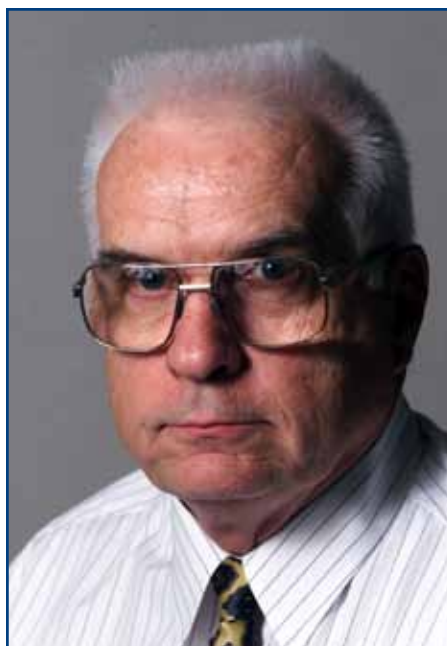
TOM BLOUNT – CHAIRMAN, GRANTS COMMITTEE

ACORN: Discuss your background with the Grants Committee and why you have been so committed to it over the years.

Blount: When then Committee Chairman George Erath asked me to serve on the High Point Community Foundation's Grants Committee in the late 1990s, it opened the door to one of the most challenging yet most enjoyable experiences in my life. Challenging because, as a Grants Committee member, while you get an in-depth education on what High Point is all about at the grass-roots level, you have to weigh the degree of need with the amount of money available for grants and make really tough decisions on how to distribute the money where it will do the most good. Enjoyable because, even though you always wish you had more money to grant, you know that the collective decision made by the Grants Committee in any given year is helping to turn many of "moles" on High Point's skin into "beauty marks."

ACORN: What, in your view, is the mission of the Grants Committee and how do you think it has evolved over the last 13 years?

Blount: I see the Grants Committee's mission as determining the greatest needs in the greater High Point community and, through its grant-making process, providing as much support (financial and otherwise) as possible (given the parameters) to transform that community weakness into a community strength.



Tom Blount

ACORN: What is it about the Grants Program that makes it so important to the mission of the Foundation?

Blount: Simply put, it propels the Foundation to serve as a trustworthy partner and leader in responding to community needs.

ACORN: Since the first Grants Program in 1998, what do you think have been the three most important grants the Committee has made and why?

Blount: Wow! Without at least looking over all of the grants that have been made during those 13 years, it truly is difficult to choose the three most important because I believe important grants have been made every year. I believe many of the "most important" grants over the years haven't always been those that have received the largest grants

given at that time. Often, the High Point Community Foundation's "endorsement" carries as much importance as the amount of money granted.

ACORN: What has been the hardest part of serving on the Grants Committee?

Blount: That's an easy question: (a) Determining the greatest needs from among the grant proposals, and (b) determining how best to distribute the money where it will do the most good.

ACORN: When grants applications are reviewed what makes some successful and others unsuccessful?

Blount: The capability of the grant proposal writer to clearly and concisely state the need, to clearly and concisely convey how the initiative proposed meets that need, and to clearly and concisely forecast the outcome. Some of the more successful proposals are not written by "professional" grant writers. "Amateurs" often gain the most meaningful awards.

ACORN: What areas in our community would you like to see impacted by Foundation Grants?

Blount: Continued emphasis on improving the quality of life for everyone in the community, more and better use of social capital to better address underlying causes rather than symptoms and to better support projects that are preventive and farsighted. 🙏

WILLIAM (BILL) ERVIN, FRIEND... LEADER... PHILANTHROPIST

1930-2011

The High Point Community Foundation and the community of High Point have lost a dear and remarkable friend whose life's impact will be felt by so many organizations and people for many years to come. Bill died peacefully in his home with those he loved most at this side, his beloved wife Alice and his sons; Billy Ervin and Derick Kennedy. Over a full and productive lifetime he was blessed to be a very successful businessman and well-known community advocate who touched the lives of those in our community who could not help themselves.

Bill was born in Statesville, NC on November 30th, 1930 and was a



Bill & Alice Ervin

loving son to Mr. and Mrs. McKinley Gladston Ervin. He was a graduate of Brevard College and High Point University; organizations he faithfully supported over the years. He served in the Army during WWII. Bill later had a very successful career in the insurance business after establishing Ervin, Haywood and Rankin Insurance Agency which he later sold to BB&T. In 1996 Bill was honored as High Point's Citizen of the Year.

Bill served as a volunteer and provided leadership for many nonprofit organizations over the years including; Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater High Point, the Salvation Army, the YMCA, the United Way, and

the High Point Community Foundation. However, his greatest legacy will be his lifelong commitment to The ARC of High Point which he served locally, statewide and nationally. He also helped found UMAR in 1983, an organization that touched the lives of those living with mental and physical handicaps. He and Alice donated the first UMAR Group Home in High Point and in 2011 he was honored with UMAR's first ever Legacy Award.

"Bill epitomized the idea of citizen leadership and he will always be remembered as a man who led both the business and nonprofit community with integrity and grace," stated Jim Morgan, Founding Chairman, HPCF. "I wish we had more like him and I know he will be remembered fondly by so many folks he helped over the years." 🙏

CORNERSTONE SUMMER CAMP COMPLETES 3RD EDITION

It is so encouraging when we see corporate America stepping up and becoming a philanthropic force in a community, and no one has done this better than the Cornerstone Health Care Foundation in High Point. This past June marked the third year that Cornerstone has sponsored a summer camp which introduces high school students to the medical arena with the purpose of inspiring and educating future healthcare professionals. The camp involves a lot of hands-on experience and interaction with local medical professionals in their working environment.



*3rd Annual Camp
Cornerstone participants*

There are many benefits of this program where young students are exposed to real life experiences that inspire them to apply themselves to their studies which suddenly

become more meaningful as they now connect these studies to career opportunities. The community of High Point also benefits with a potential source of future healthcare professionals with ties to the area and intentions to serve locally.

The Summer Camp is just one facet of Cornerstone's overall vision which also includes sponsorship of an Annual Sports Medicine Seminar that benefits local coaches and trainers all over the Triad area and a year-round outreach to educate local students in areas of healthcare and wellness. 🙏

Open Door Ministries has long been a provider of emergency assistance for the High Point community along with other organizations and many churches. Four years ago a number of these providers came together to discuss common issues and to evaluate the collective efficiency and effectiveness of the then current system. We began by trying to create a comprehensive list of the providers, no small task. Each of the providers had different hours of operation, different eligibility requirements, and different resources. There was little or no communication or coordination among the providers.

As we met, a variety of concerns began to surface. With over 40 identified sites to receive some type of assistance, the first issue was how would a person in need know where to start. The second issue was accessibility; people in immediate need often do not have access to transportation to get to various sites of assistance. The third was the random hours of operation many of the sites had. The fourth was safety. Many of the sites, especially churches, were often staffed by only one person at a time and some had experienced aggressive clients. And the last one was the issue of accountability, providing help only to those in need and eliminating abuse by “multiple shoppers”, clients who would visit multiple sites on a regular basis.

Universally we felt that the then current system was inadequate. Initial focus was on looking at the con-

cept of consolidation, fewer sites, in familiar places, within the neighborhoods where the clients lived. With the help of the High Point Police Department, the City of High Point Community Development, the United Way of Greater High Point, and the current service providers, we identified safe and known gathering places in each of

ity, record assistance given, and to communicate with each other. The Network agreed to use the web-based program CHIN, Community Homeless Information Network. This system allowed each site to quickly qualify clients, and access their assistance history. CRN has also established a fund at the High Point Community Foundation that will allow donors to give directly to this unique resource providing basic needs to the most vulnerable citizens in High Point.

The ultimate goal of the CRN is to provide emergency assistance in an efficient and effective manner through each participating organization in their respective neighborhoods. Emergency assistance may include paying a heat or utility bill before it is disconnected, helping with rent, or providing access to food pantries. By providing this help within their own community our hope is that we

can eventually establish trusting relationships and ultimately help our clients maintain their dignity and regain their independence. Connect, Support, Restore. 🙏

THE COMMUNITY RESOURCE NETWORK

Open Door Ministries

Helping Hands

Ward Street Community Resources

West End Ministries

Hope Outreach

Macedonia Family Resource Center

Salvation Army of High Point

the major neighborhoods of High Point. The next step was to define the boundaries surrounding these sites and effectively divide the city into zones. This group of sites was to become known as the Community Resource Network (CRN). The following organizations are part of CRN: Open Door Ministries, Helping Hands, Ward Street Community Resources, West End Ministries, Hope Outreach, Macedonia Family Resource Center, and Salvation Army of High Point.

We wanted to create a system for the separate sites to verify eligibil-

To donate to this fund
send your check to:

High Point Community Foundation
Community Resource Network Fund
PO Box 5166
High Point, NC 27262

or visit

www.hpcommunityfoundation.org
to donate by credit card.

HIGH POINT AND FOUNDATION LOSE BELOVED LEADER

Wade Hampton McInnis 1918-2011

On October 28th, 2011, surrounded by the people he loved, one of High Point's most beloved business leaders and dear friend of the Community Foundation passed on peacefully into the arms of his Savior. Wade was a man of many talents who had a very generous heart and he genuinely enjoyed helping others and truly loved his family and his friends.



Wade & Marion McInnis

"Wade was not only a man who I deeply respected and admired, he was a true gentleman who consistently lived out his faith every single day," stated Paul Lessard, President, HPCF. "He inspired me in the way he always kept his priorities; it was God, family and friends. I will miss him greatly, but his influence will follow me the rest of my life."

Wade was born in Gibson, NC on September 16th, 1918. He had lost his father to the flu four months prior to his birth and his courageous single mother, Leila Liles McInnis raised him and his three brothers, four sisters and two half-brothers amidst the poverty of the Great Depression. Because of the challenges of his childhood Wade developed a genuine compassion for others. Having been on the receiving end of charity he always appreciated the importance of helping others in need.

After graduating from Gibson High

School in 1935 he attended Mars Hill College for one year until lack of funds prohibited further schooling. Wade found work at a drugstore in Gibson where he remained until he was drafted in February of 1942. During the war he served as a Master Sergeant in the United States Army attached to Headquarters Battery 36th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Group in the Pacific Theatre where he was awarded both the Bronze Star and the WWII Victory Medal.

After the war Wade met Marion and they were married in August of 1948 and spent 63 wonderful years as husband and wife and each other's best friend. Eventually Wade joined the family business and opened a warehouse in High Point to serve the furniture industry.

Over the years Wade's businesses prospered and he continued to share his blessings by faithfully giving to his church and many other local charities. He was particularly

generous to the High Point Community Foundation where he served as a valued Trustee and his family established The Cory McInnis "Compassion in Education" Fund to honor his grandson, Cory, who courageously battled a life-long illness that finally took his life in 2005. This Fund, which will perpetuate Cory's memory for generations to come, has served as an inspiration for many other gifts to the

Foundation over the years and has become an invaluable resource for the local schools.

Wade was blessed with a wonderful family who were clearly the greatest joy of his life; his wife Marion, his five children; "Mac," Bud, Stanley, Stephen, and Helen, his eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. He was a devoted husband, a loving father and a doting grandfather. Over the years he and Marion consistently modeled a loving marriage for their children and grandchildren. They also instilled a love for God, a steadfast belief in family and desire to help those who are in need.

Wade has done what so many of us men aspire to do; he has run the good race, been true to his faith, his principals and his family. Like so many of the "Greatest Generation" he gave generously to his community and touched the lives of many with his compassion, grace and kindness. 🙏



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