



**THE COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**
of Decatur/Macon County

GIVING BACK, LOOKING AHEAD

THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOCUS

September 2006

125 North Water Street, Suite 200 • Decatur, Illinois 62523

Do Something Great Awards

Presented by Decatur Legacy

The Decatur Legacy group of area nonprofit organizations presented five Do Something Great Awards in August at the group's annual Legacy Luncheon for Professionals. Decatur Legacy is a group of 54 local nonprofit groups and eighteen professional firms working together to encourage local philanthropy and charitable bequests. The Do Something Great Awards recognize outstanding contributions in service or philanthropy. The winners were:

- Ramona Borders, nominated by Scoville Zoo, has been a significant supporter and donor to the Decatur zoo for over 15 years. With her help as a volunteer and a donor the zoo has added an animal contact area, and improved the complex entry, the bald eagle exhibit and the animal care building. She has purchased many animals including the female Bactrian camel.
- Dick Dechert, nominated by Big Brothers Big Sisters of Decatur, has been involved with BBBS since 1992. He has served as a board member and fund raising chair, and last November, with his wife Marilyn became one of the first major contributors to the Dream Big Fundraising Breakfast for BBBS.
- Dr. Nick Vlachos' spirit of generosity made it possible this past spring for Decatur to be a site of an international art exhibit showcasing the work of French symbolist Eugene Carriere. Nominated for the Do Something Great award by the Decatur Area Arts Council, Dr. Vlachos contributed both his private collection and financial support for the exhibit. Dr. Vlachos' efforts have multiplied into a city-wide movement to create an annual International Arts Experience each summer.



Do Something Great Award winner Ramona Borders was nominated by her son Mike Borders, Director of the Scoville Zoo.

- Dr. Clarence and Adele Glenn were nominated for Doing Something Great by Millikin University. They have supported construction projects including the Perkinson Music Center and the Albert Taylor Theatre, provided scholarships, funded programs for international study for students and faculty, and established an emergency fund to help students who encounter hardship. Dr. and Mrs. Glenn have impacted every aspect of life at Millikin.
- T. G. Bolen is an attorney with the firm of Bolen Robinson and Ellis. His work with many clients has impacted philanthropy in this community and has especially benefited Millikin University, his nominator. According to Millikin Vice President for Development Peg Luy, "He is one of the best estate planning attorneys with whom I have worked and is a wonderful liaison between the organization and the donor, helping both to accomplish their goals."

Fall into success

OCT 3 & 10

Building Better Boards
Millikin University, Decatur

OCT 3

**Parallels Between Grant
Writing and Planned
Giving: 4 Basic Steps**
Bloomington

OCT 4

**Proposal Planning and
Writing Workshop, Decatur**

OCT 31 through NOV 2

**Fund Raising for Small
Nonprofits, Mattoon**

Educational opportunities abound this fall for board members, executive directors, and managers of nonprofit organizations. The Millikin University Tabor Center for Entrepreneurship will repeat the Bruce Nims workshop on Board Governance for Non Profits. Lynn Miner from Marquette University in Milwaukee will return to Central Illinois to present sessions on grant writing and planned giving. The Lumpkin Family Foundation will bring the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University's course on fund raising back to Sarah Bush Hospital in Mattoon.

Each of these programs has received the highest possible evaluation by Central Illinois participants. Each event has been priced below cost in order to give everybody a chance to take part. For brochures describing each session call 429-3000 or visit www.endowdecatur.org. To contact the Millikin University Center for Entrepreneurship call 424-6296.

New Incentives: Pension Act

Provision Allows for Tax-free Charitable Transfers from IRAs

Millions of Americans have saved billions of pre-tax dollars in Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs). A new federal law allows IRA owners to share the wealth of their retirement savings by giving directly to charity—without first counting it as income and paying income tax.

This change can help people make major gifts during their lifetimes to the nonprofit organizations they choose to support. Many retirees are interested in giving funds accumulated in IRAs to charity, but until now income tax had to be paid on all withdrawals. A provision in the new federal Pension Protection Act of 2006 creates a new option: transferring IRA assets directly to charity. By going directly to charity, the money is

not included in the IRA owner's income and—most importantly—is not taxed, preserving the full amount for charitable purposes. The law covers all gifts made this year and next.

In 2006 and 2007, holders of traditional and Roth IRAs who are at least 70½ years old can make direct charitable transfers up to \$100,000 per year. As a qualified public charity, The Community Foundation of Decatur/Macon County can help donors execute the transfers and choose from several charitable fund options for their gift. Donor Advised Funds do not qualify for tax-free IRA transfers.

For anyone interested in establishing a permanent legacy in this community, this is the opportunity of a lifetime to make the gift of a lifetime. Contact The Community Foundation for a free brochure entitled "The Charitable IRA".

Communityworks group reviews project report



Bruce Nims is the Chairman of the Communityworks Advisory Committee.

The Community Foundation's Communityworks Advisory Committee reported its findings on three subjects at a public forum August 17, and presented a plan for offering grants and other assistance in the areas of childcare and early childhood education, workforce development, and land use and protection. The group proposes making mini-grants to childcare providers who implement an approved kindergarten readiness curriculum, using earnings from the Communityworks Endowment. The group also plans to seek opportunities to help fund land use planning activities and request proposals from education and training organizations for academic and workplace preparedness programs. Final grant guidelines will be available before year-end. The Communityworks Advisory Committee will report to the public annually of the progress made for each objective.

Decatur School Superintendent Gloria Davis and Community Foundation Board Chairman Larry Haab were among the Decatur citizens who participated in the final Communityworks forum.



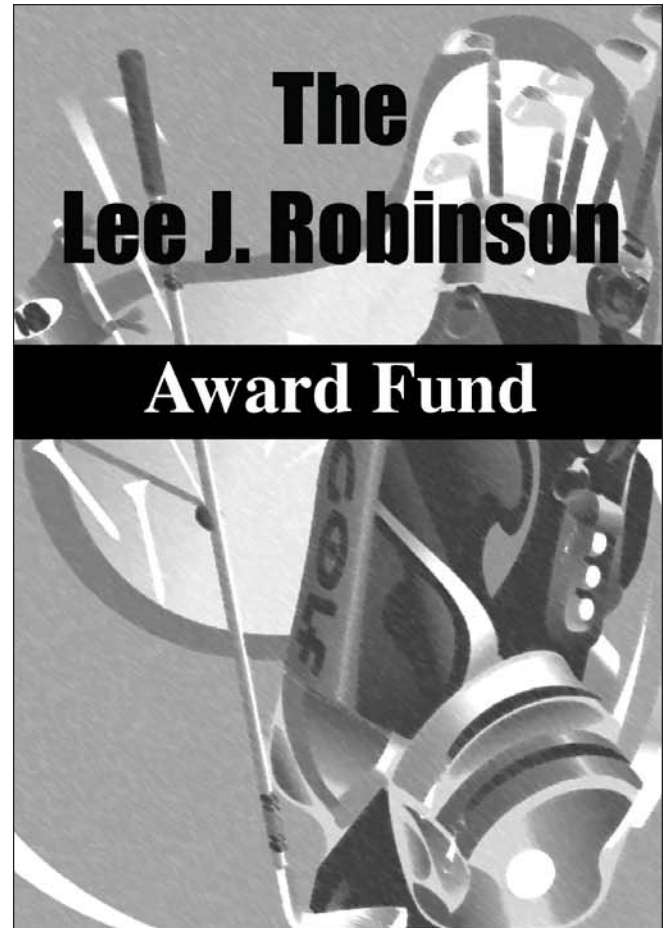
The Community Foundation of Decatur/Macon County seeks to raise the quality of life throughout Macon County by developing and channeling philanthropy to meet the changing needs of residents. The foundation makes grants to nonprofit organizations working in the arts and culture, civic affairs, historic preservation, education, environmental affairs, health, and human services. In its five year history, The Community Foundation of Decatur/Macon County has made grants of more than \$1,000,000 from donor-advised and designated funds. For more information, visit at www.endowdecatur.org.

Variety of Scholarships Awarded to Local Students

Through the generosity of many local donors, The Community Foundation recently awarded twelve scholarships and academic awards.

- From the Cancer Care Specialists of Central Illinois Charitable Fund awards went to Kathy Anderson, attending Richland Community College; Darla Jeffries, Lakeland College; Emily Michels, University of Missouri St. Louis; Diana Pirtle, attending an Advanced Coding and Billing seminar; and Jill Waldhoff, Purdue University School of Pharmacy.
- Two scholarships were given from the Robert G. Turner Memorial Scholarship Fund. The recipients are Christine Blackwell, University of Illinois and Nicole Lutz, Illinois State University.
- The Walter Kirby Memorial Scholarships were awarded in partnership with the Decatur School Foundation to Britany Hocking, Loyola University, and Joel Robinson, Greenville University.
- The Victory Pharmacy Scholarship in partnership with the Decatur Schools Foundation was awarded to Da'Nisha Gause attending SIU School of Pharmacy.
- The Sister Lucy Educational Fund provided a full scholarship for an eighth grade student attending St. Patrick's Catholic School.
- The Charles William Turner Award Fund provided a cash award to Ben Little, who will attend West Point Military Academy.
- The Merrill and Sis Lindsay WSOY Journalism Fund provided a scholarship to Sarah Leach, who will attend University of Illinois.

The Community Foundation will soon be accepting applications for the Lee J. Robinson Charitable Fund. This fund is designed to provide assistance to children ages 6 through 20 participating in school, sports, recreational, and arts activities. Please contact The Community Foundation for additional information or an application.



Established by family and friends in memory and honor of Lee J. Robinson, the Lee J. Robinson Fund makes awards to children in Decatur and Sullivan, Illinois to help them participate in school, sports, recreational, and arts activities, or other areas approved by the fund advisors.



THE COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
of Decatur / Macon County

The Community Foundation Memorial Fund

received contributions in memory or honor of the following people this summer:

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Lynn D. Augustine

Leslie D. Beals

David J. Beyda

Stuart M. Black

Ray William Cole

Marilyn Corzine

Gary O. Craig

Etta Dash

S. Dean Davidson

Leonard Davis

Maureen Dolan

Bill Downing

Connie Gordy

Daisy Graham

Ruth Kempshall

Helen Henry

John L. Hubbard

Bob Johnson

Elizabeth Johnston

Jack and Olive Langsdorf

Jerry Marshall

Donn A. Miller

Rodney Miller

Alverna Nail

Richard L. Nicol

Jean Novak

Richard Peifer

Judy Pilling

Lee Robinson

Kathryn Sanner

Ray Shaw

Jo Sheets

Lindsay Marie Sparks

Betty Stevens

Dorothy Elaine Storm

Helen F. Walker

Brenda Whitsel

Walter E. York



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