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Special thanks to *Kathleen Kilgallon*, for assisting in publishing this newsletter.

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March, 2009

Helping Other People Excel

Your Darke County  
Community Foundation

**AMI McCLURKIN COMMUNITY FUND**

*Fund established to honor daughter each year on her birthday*

Following the establishment of the Ami McClurkin Scholarship Fund in 2006, Gini and Verd Stuckey of Greenville, devoted parents of Ami, established a new separate fund with the HOPE Foundation. With the donation of \$100,000, this fund is to benefit any non-profit 501-(c-3) organization in the community and will be given out on September 7, which is Ami's birthday. The first applications will be available in the spring of 2009

A quadriplegic since an automobile accident in 1985, Ami resides in the Brethren Retirement Community's (BRC) medical unit where her parents visit often and stimulate her as much as possible. The Stuckeys appreciate the opportunities to get Ami out and involved in the community. She enjoys & supports the Darke County Center for the Arts productions, particularly, drawing on her numerous musical accomplishments while in high school and college. The outdoor concerts in Greenville Park are one of her favorites.

Ami was a strong clarinet player and played in the Greenville High School Marching Band and the Greenville Municipal Band. At 10 years old, she was the Municipal Band's youngest player. Ami served as Section Leader of the High School Marching band all four years. She graduated from Greenville High School in 1980. She was also a member of the Ohio Northern band. Steve Roach, former Greenville High School Marching Band Director for many years, was in his first year of teaching when Ami was a senior. He commented, "Ami won the John Philip Sousa band award that year, which is a national award given to an outstanding senior bandsperson. Ami exemplified an outstanding band member through both her musicianship and her excitement for the activity. She is the type of individual that any band would love to claim as a former member."

Her mother, Gini, remarked about the establishment of this fund, "If we can help someone feel better and enjoy life a little bit more through one of the many organizations that help people feel better and enjoy life more then we've accomplished our goal with this fund in honor of Ami." She added, "People have been so good to her and accommodate her whenever we are out in the community with Ami. People are so caring."

Both Verd and Gini were long time board members of the Annie Oakley committee. Gini was also on the Chamber of Commerce board and the Downtown Greenville Inc. Promotions Committee for years. They are involved in the community and recognize their daughter's love of the community, so chose to establish this fund in her honor.



**Website: www.hopedarkecounty.com**  
**E-Mail: hopefoundation@woh.rr.com**

**Return Requested**  
**HOPE Foundation**  
201 W. Main St.  
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Greenville, OH 45331

**GREENVILLE NATIONAL BANK ESTABLISHES NEW FUND**

Greenville National Bank and the HOPE Foundation of Darke County announce the establishment of a new scholarship fund. The initial contribution to this fund has been established with a donation of \$50,000.



Greenville National Bank President, Steve Burns, and Ray Laughlin, HOPE Board Chairman

The new scholarship is intended for graduates of Darke County schools majoring in college in finance and banking. The first award will be for the Spring of 2010.

Steve Burns, President of Greenville National wants to encourage other locally owned businesses to follow their lead. They understand the importance of helping in the area of education and are hoping this will encourage students to relocate back to Darke County.

Steve noted, "Our overriding thought is that never in our history has there been a more important time for good post-secondary education and we recognize how much a good education costs." He further added, "We want to help our students in this county do something good for themselves by receiving a higher education and we recognize that these are pretty tough financial times. We have looked past that and know the need is greater than the difficult financial times."

It is the hope that these students will return to our county and be able to find employment here upon their graduation. Steve added, "I want to see those kids come home and have a good job here in our county."

**SHAWN STEBBINS MEMORIAL FUND ESTABLISHED**

The loving widow of Shawn Stebbins, Tiffany Barnes Stebbins, and children, Brooke, 12 and Chase, 5 months established this fund in Shawn's memory.

The son of Steve and Sharon Stebbins, Shawn graduated from Greenville H.S. in 1994. He loved being outdoors and being involved in farming. He was in FFA while in H.S.

Shawn was a member of the Greenville Eagles and Darke County Farm Bureau. With his daughter, he was active in 4-H, Greenville Girls Softball and the Butterflies Junior Garden Club.

Shawn was killed while on the job as a construction worker at the I-70/I-75 project on July 9, 2007. Tiffany noted, "Shawn was a care-free, fun loving, family oriented man", she said, "I have set up this account through the HOPE Foundation in his name to help fund organizations in Darke County that were close to Shawn's heart."



## MIKE THIEME IN LEGACY SOCIETY

Drawing on his continued philanthropic interests for Darke County, Walter (Mike) Thieme has become a part of the Legacy Society of the HOPE Foundation. This Darke County community foundation will receive part of his IRA.

Mike noted, "This endowment fund of my IRA will be funded on my death, and my wife, Jean Louise, will suggest the distribution of the income. Upon her passing, our daughter Rebecca Hartnagle will continue to make the suggestions to the Foundation. After that, it will be up to the Foundation Board". There are many foundations that set up funds this way."

He added, "We have been supporting various organizations for years in Darke County. This arrangement continues that support and allows Jean Louise and Becky to be a part of the process also. The HOPE Foundation is a good vehicle to be able to support any organization as long as they meet the qualifications of the Foundation. (501 (c ) 3 organizations)."

Mike noted, " If an individual is likely to have undistributed funds left in his IRA at the time of death and if the individual may be subject to estate taxes, the total tax can be confiscatory. (The full amount is first taxed as ordinary income. The remainder is then added to the estate and taxed again. This "double whammy" can result in most of the IRA going for taxes.) If the original sum is willed to a qualified non-profit, such as the Hope Foundation, no taxes are due and the full sum goes to the non-profit.

Mike was the CEO of American Aggregates for many years. He and Jean Louise in their retirement also became residents of Jackson Hole, WY where they supported the building of the new arts center there and the productions in the center. That went along with their previous help with restoring Memorial Hall in Greenville and helping the Darke County Center for the Arts. The renovation of Memorial Hall educated them both as they pursued the arts center, particularly, the theatre in Jackson.

Jean Louise is the granddaughter of a very strong philanthropy oriented individual. Her father was Fred D. Coppock, the developer of the Treaty Memorial Park, the Girl Scout "Little House", the suspension swinging footbridge and the lagoons for the City Park, as well as the fountain on the Greenville traffic circle, among many other civic projects. She was instilled with a sense of philanthropy from early on. "If you can do it, you have the responsibility to do it. It never occurred to me any other way," said Jean Louise of the effect of her grandfather's philosophy. The Thiemes would like to believe that this idea of responsibility and philanthropy will grow in Darke County. With the naming of the HOPE Foundation as the beneficiary of Mike's IRA, they are contributing to that objective."

## DARKE COUNTY TRI-COUNCIL DONATES TO HOPE FOUNDATION

The Darke County Tri-Council made a donation to the HOPE Foundation of Darke County to assist in scholarship expenses for students. Serving as a combination of three former committees: the Health Education Committee for the Darke Co. Health Fair, the Human Services Council, and the Council on Aging, this group meets quarterly to share information and network. They have a speaker at each meeting and then roundtable about services available to citizens in Darke County. It consists of retirees, hospital social workers, administrators from area nursing homes, assisted living facilities and home health care agencies as well as representatives of other County agencies. These funds came from the previous Health Education Committee.



Mike and Jean Louise Thieme

## FRIENDS OF HOPE DONORS WITH THANKS!

*This community foundation, the HOPE Foundation, helps donors meet their charitable objectives and helps non-profit organization and students in our community. Friends of HOPE funds are used to offset administrative costs, enabling the community to receive the most money it possibly can for the good of our community and its residents. Because of the generosity of the Friends of HOPE, the Foundation has the lowest administrative fee on funds in the region. Thank you!*

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Rodney Oda

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### Other Friends of HOPE Gifts

Richard and Marilyn Graeff

## HOPE WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBERS



HOPE FOUNDATION BOARD, Dec. 2008

Front row (L to R): Julie Boring, Rodney Oda, Patty Lavy, President, Jean Young, Tom Guillozet, Eileen Litchfield

Back Row (L to R): Dick Troutwine, Mike Gray, Ray Laughlin, Steve Burns, Kent Zechar, Bill Baumann and Fred Bernhard

Missing from photo: Caroline Blinn, Tim Booher, Nick Cox, Jon Hein, Matt Jordan, John Marchal, Jr.

**Tom Guillozet**--Tom was born and raised in nearby Russia, Ohio. He is a partner with the law firm of Hanes, Schipfer, Cooper, Graber, Guillozet & Detling, Ltd. and operates the Versailles office for the firm. Tom graduated from Marietta College in 1981 and from the University of Dayton with his law degree in 1985. Tom is married to Melanie Ellis Guillozet. In joining the board of trustees of the Hope Foundation Tom has expressed his desire to help the people of Darke County continue to excel in their civic and humanitarian endeavors. In addition to joining the HOPE Board of Trustees, Tom also serves as a trustee of the Versailles Foundation, is a member of the Board of Directors of the Versailles Savings & Loan Association and is a trustee of the Annie Oakley Foundation.

**Mike Gray**--Mike received his bachelor's degree in education from Bowling Green State University. He received his Master's degree in Educational Administration from the University of Dayton. He has been in education for thirty-one years, having served as Superintendent of Schools at Mississinawa Valley Schools, Ansonia Local Schools and is currently Superintendent of the Darke County Educational Service Center. Mike is a lifelong resident of Darke County. He is married to Diane and they have three children. Mike currently serves on the Darke County Red Cross Board and numerous educational boards on the regional and state level.

**Caroline Blinn**-- Caroline was born and raised in Darke County. After graduating from Arcanum, she received her undergraduate degree from the Ohio State University and graduated cum laude from Capital University Law School in 2001. After law school, she returned to her hometown to practice with her father, Phil Garbig at Garbig and Blinn, LLC. She currently serves on the Darke County CASA Board, Friends of Bear's Mill Board and the Darke County Law Library Board. Caroline and her two young daughters reside in Arcanum. Organ donation awareness is a cause that

is very near to Caroline and her family. The Zachary Garbig Memorial Fund was created through the HOPE Foundation to spread knowledge about the importance of organ donation. The fund honors Caroline's young brother who passed away in 1999.

**Matt Jordan**-- Matt was born in New Paris, Ohio. He is an agent with Nationwide Insurance in Sidney, Ohio and a resident of Greenville, Ohio. Matt holds a BA from Muskingum College and a MFA from Tulane University. Matt is married to Andrea Jordan and has two children. Matt looks forward to helping the HOPE Foundation in its endeavors. Matt also serves as President of the Greenville Rotary Club and President of the West Central Ohio Football Officials Association.

**Bill Baumann**--Bill, who was born and raised in Shelby County, has been a resident of Greenville since 1996, when he, his wife Ty and daughter relocated from Cincinnati. Currently both Bill and Ty are involved with Rebsco, Inc., a local business concern. Prior to relocating to Greenville and his "mid life" career change, Bill was employed as a Psychotherapist and directed a small Family Service branch office in the Cincinnati area. In addition to his involvement with Rebsco, Bill continues to maintain a small, private Psychotherapy practice in the Greenville area and also provides these services in the Sidney area through an affiliation with Catholic Social Services. Bill attended Miami University where he graduated in 1973. He also attended the Ohio State University where he received his Master's degree in 1981. Prior to joining the HOPE Foundation, Bill was a 9 year member and past Chair of the Tri County Board of Recovery and Mental Health Services.

*The HOPE Foundation, your Darke County community foundation, can help meet your charitable organization's needs*



BETH BOLEN WARNER FUND

Kim Stewart of the Darke County Humane Society, and an adoptable cat, receive funds from the HOPE Foundation