The Auburns’ pledge will be fulfilled through their IRAs: Once they reach the age of 70 ½, they will donate the required minimum distributions to their new fund at the community foundation.

It was a natural choice, Sandy said, explaining that she accumulated a portion of her retirement funds as the executive director of a YWCA.

“YWCA’s are organizations that serve women and girls and families,” Sandy said. “It’s a perfect fit to support our fund here.”

Sandy said she encourages everyone to consider a pledge or planned gift, as it’s a way to make a significant contribution without donating the money immediately.

“A planned gift allows us to continue to serve our community, even after we are no longer alive,” she said. “There are many paths to creating a legacy – that’s the beauty of it.”

But for Sandy, the real beauty is found in carrying on her mother’s legacy in the community she loves.

“My mother had very good values and wonderful integrity,” she said. “It makes

See “Auburn,” page 3

“The nice thing about the campaign is it provides an opportunity to support the Women’s Endowment Fund while creating your own legacy.” — Sandy Auburn
Save the Date

Oct. 19
Songbird: The Music of Eva Cassidy
Support the Women’s Endowment Fund while celebrating the life and songs of Eva Cassidy.
7 p.m. at Our Lady of the Elms High School Auditorium, 1375 W. Exchange St., Akron, OH 44313
Donations will support the endowment fund campaign.
To register, contact Laurel Held at 330-436-5612.

Oct. 29 – Nov. 4
Forum 360
Karen Lefton, co-chair of the Women’s Endowment Fund campaign, will be featured on Leslie Ungar’s talk show on Time Warner Cable. Karen will be discussing the fund’s impact in greater Akron and the importance of the endowment campaign.

Channel 23
Oct. 29 at 12:30 p.m.
Oct. 30 at 10:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.
Oct. 31 at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Nov. 1 at 10:30 a.m.
Nov. 2 at 2:30 p.m.
Nov. 3 at 4 p.m.
Nov. 4 at 3:30 p.m.

Nov. 16
Grant Deadline
Grant applications can be downloaded at www.akroncf.org/WEF.

Dec. 31
Year-End Gifts to WEF
Due to the potential for last-minute congressional decisions regarding year-end charitable giving, it is wise to initiate any appreciated stock contributions by early December. Contributions of checks or cash can be made through Dec. 31 at 5 p.m.

On Sept. 14, the Women’s Endowment Fund held its annual retreat at the world headquarters of Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company. At this meeting, the board enthusiastically welcomed Sherry Neubert, vice president of global project management for Goodyear, to the board.
Executives from Goodyear were present to provide the board with an overview of the organization’s current and future business and community development plans. We are grateful for Goodyear’s unwavering commitment to Akron. We also celebrate the company’s worldwide leadership in innovation.

As part of the retreat, the board adopted a new mission statement to reflect the evolution of the fund. Our new statement is “to inspire, empower, educate and strengthen the well-being of women and girls now and forever.” We will use this new mission statement to guide our efforts in completing the endowment campaign we launched in the spring of 2012.

Our bold campaign goal is to raise $2.013 million by 2013 to mark the 20th anniversary of the fund. As of now, we have raised $1.5 million toward our goal. We are at this stage thanks to the incredible generosity of individuals, corporations and foundations.

I want to give special recognition to local businessman and philanthropist Roger Read for his leadership in helping the fund launch our “Few Good Men” initiative, which is geared toward cultivating male supporters for our campaign.

As part of this initiative, the Women’s Endowment Fund has held campaign awareness sessions with select male leaders in our community. These efforts have led to several generous pledges from men seeking to honor the women and girls in their lives.

On Oct. 19, we will host a special program, “Songbird: The Music of Eva Cassidy,” to thank our campaign donors and to introduce the Women’s Endowment Fund to new and diverse audiences. Our goal is to attract new donors and support for our fundraising and planning endeavors.

Thank you for your ongoing support of women and girls, now and forever.

Tracy Carter, president
Women’s Endowment Fund

See the most up-to-date list of campaign contributors at www.akroncf.org/WEFcontributors.
Goodyear’s Sherry Neubert joins Women’s Endowment Fund board

This fall, the Women’s Endowment Fund welcomed Sherry Neubert to its board of directors. Sherry is the vice president of the Global Project Management Office at The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company in Akron. She brings to the board more than 20 years of experience in information technology and operations, as well as a passion for women and girls.

“My grandmother was one of 10 girls, my mother is one of five girls, and I am one of five girls. Throughout my life, I have been positively influenced by strong women,” Sherry said. “The Women’s Endowment Fund affords me the opportunity to reach and affect countless women and girls across a diverse group of agencies and programs.”

Currently, Sherry is a board member and active participant in Goodyear’s Women’s Initiatives in Leadership group, and she actively mentors and coaches women at Goodyear and in the Akron community.

Over the last 10 years, Sherry has held numerous positions at Goodyear, including manager of global collaboration and mobility, and manager of EMEA Regional IT, where she was based in Europe. Most recently she served as senior manager IT for Goodyear’s worldwide Innovation Centers focused on research, development, engineering and quality.

Sherry is a graduate of Leadership Akron’s Class of XXVII and was a 2011 30 for the Future Award winner.

A graduate of both the University of Akron and Case Western Reserve University School of Management, Sherry has a bachelor’s degree in industrial management and a master’s degree in business with a focus on globalization and virtual teams. She is currently pursuing a master’s degree in operational excellence from Ohio State University’s Fisher College of Business.

Sherry is an Akron native and lives in Green with her husband of more than 21 years, Chuck. They have two adult children.

WEF receives $10,000 campaign grant

In July, members of the endowment campaign committee were thrilled to learn that the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation had awarded a $10,000 grant in support of the campaign.

The grant was made on the recommendation of Jim Crutchfield, a Knight Foundation trustee and former board member of Akron Community Foundation. Crutchfield was one of the hosts of the fund’s “Few Good Men” fundraisers held this summer.

“AUBURN, continued

me happy to know that the grants the Women’s Endowment Fund makes are helping girls grow into good people who are assets to their community, just like she was.”

The Pearl Leeper Korman and Sandy Korman Auburn Fund is the Auburns’ second fund at the community foundation. To learn how you can create your own legacy with a fund in your name, call Dr. Suzanne Allen, vice president of development and donor services, at 330-436-5610.

Give now

Cash gifts, also payable by check or credit card, offer you the greatest and most immediate tax deductibility available under IRS law.

Stocks, bonds and mutual funds can translate to a charitable deduction for the current market value of your asset, even if you bought it for far less, and may help you avoid paying capital gains tax.

Real estate gifts of home, business or land offer powerful tax benefits, and the foundation’s separate LLC can handle your transaction simply and efficiently.

Give later

Bequests left via will or trust can help you reduce your estate taxes while supporting your community in a permanent and public way.

Deferred gift annuities offer younger donors the charitable benefits of an immediate gift annuity while allowing time for retirement earnings to build before they begin taking payments.

Charitable remainder trusts are the most flexible life income vehicle, paying you income for life while offering you an immediate tax deduction for a portion of your gift. You can then make additional gifts to the trust as circumstances allow.

Retirement plans, when passed to an heir, are quickly depleted by double taxation. By naming WEF as the beneficiary of your plan, you can avoid taxes, leave more to your family, and preserve your hard-earned assets for the good of your community.

Please consult your financial advisor for more information. He or she can help you determine the best method of giving for you and your family.
Moving is a challenge in any situation, but imagine relocating halfway across the world to escape war and religious persecution. That is exactly what Wafaa Borros did when she moved to Akron in January 2000. When she arrived, Wafaa had no money and no knowledge of the English language. That’s where the International Institute of Akron stepped in. The Institute assists immigrants and refugees in their transition into northeast Ohio, offering language courses, financial aid and employment help. All of these things were crucial for Wafaa, who said she had no idea how to support herself without the help of her husband.

“ In Egypt, men do everything,” she said. “ I didn’t know anything.”

In 2012 alone, the Institute expects to resettle approximately 400 refugees like Wafaa, at least half of whom are women and girls. According to the Institute, one of the refugees’ biggest needs is health education. Women who flee to the United States from war-torn countries are often in desperate need of medical and psychological care.

However, treatment can be difficult because of the language and cultural barrier, along with the refugees’ hesitation to report symptoms related to past physical or sexual abuse.

To help address this issue, the Women’s Endowment Fund made a $5,000 grant this year for a women’s health education program at the Institute. The program will cover topics such as depression, post-traumatic stress disorder and domestic violence. In addition, the grant will help translate Summa Health System’s women’s health website into the refugees’ native languages and provide access to a computer at the Institute so women can research their health questions in a private setting.

This kind of empowerment is critical for women like Wafaa who are trying to rebuild their lives. “ I started from the beginning, from zero,” Wafaa said. “ The Institute changed my life.”

Hear more of Wafaa’s story at Youtube.com/WomensEndowmentFund.

Grant helps teens recognize signs of dating violence

Sept. 11, 2007, is a day Akron resident Nikki Washington will never forget. It was on this day that Nikki took back her independence and walked through the doors of the Battered Women’s Shelter with her five children.

From the outside, Nikki looked like a typical woman, but on the inside, she had become an entirely different person after years of being trapped in a controlling cycle of abuse. “ I felt like another abusive episode – physically or mentally – would kill me,” she said. “ My kids didn’t ask to come into this world like that.”

This year, a Women’s Endowment Fund grant to the Battered Women’s Shelter is helping to make sure future generations of girls don’t find themselves in Nikki’s frightening situation. The fund awarded $5,000 for the Tina Project, which works to prevent teen dating violence by educating both boys and girls in schools and the juvenile court system.

The Battered Women’s Shelter helped design this project to address the growing epidemic of teen dating violence. One recent study showed one out of every five teens has been hit, slapped or pushed by their romantic partner.

Teens who participate in the Tina Project learn about the warning signs of an abusive relationship and have the opportunity to talk with a trained instructor about their own situation. With the help of the Women’s Endowment Fund grant, the Tina Project will reach approximately 2,780 students this year.

“ By offering outreach education to the community, we can diminish or prevent violence from occurring,” said BWS Executive Director Terri Heckman.

The Battered Women’s Shelter’s mission of preserving women’s safety is central to purpose of WEF, as well. In the last five years, the fund has given more than $100,000 to programs that protect women and girls from violence.

Often, as in the case of the Battered Women’s Shelter and the Tina Project, the impact that these organizations have on women lasts a lifetime. “ My kids see how I’ve changed and see that people can change,” Nikki said. “ That’s the best gift I could have been given.”

Hear more of Nikki’s story at Youtube.com/WomensEndowmentFund.
Memorial & Tribute Gifts
For gifts received Feb. 1, 2012, to Sept. 30, 2012

Memorial gifts for:
Kathleen Auburn by
Sandy Auburn
Elise Beattie by
Barbara Beattie
Jane-ann Bell by
The Jansky Family
Thelma Breaux by
Carolynne Breaux
Alma Jean Canale by
The Jansky Family
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Gretchen Laatsch
Ams Auburn Latta by
Sandy Auburn
Rebecca Leeper by
Sandy Auburn
Nina Carmela Lombardo by
Angelina L. Milo
Faye Madison by
Kathy Peterson
Isabel Mascolo by
Carol Garren
Pauline May by
Kathleen Donley May
Beatrice McDowell by
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Willie Culp by
Laura & Robert Culp
June Cunningham by
Carol Garren
Cami Dalton by
Betty Dalton
Betty Dalton by
Mark Dalton
Melissa Dean by
Ruth Dean
Ann Dean by
Ruth Dean
Rosemary Dickerson by
Caroline Parry
Dorothy DiCola by
Ann Congeni
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Pauline Dinuoscio by Sutterley Family
Janet DiSalvo by Pat Kaufmann
Carol Dodd by Ann Congeni
Marguerite Donley by Kathleen Donley May
Susan Dudas by Betty Godard
Barbara Duff by Ann Brooks Duff
Connie Duff by Ann Brooks Duff
Diane Duff by Ann Brooks Duff
Paula Duff by Ann Brooks Duff
Sandy Duff by Ann Brooks Duff
Ann Duff by Kathy Res
Ann Durr by David M. Hunter
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Charlotte Essner by Sandy Auburn
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Nancy Evans by Louise Kuhns Harvey
Kimberly Haws Falasco by Beverly L. Haws
Patricia Feeeny by Joan Wassman
Ben Rudick & Sarah Fink by Dr. Cynthia Rudick
Sarah Fisher by Elaine Sisler
Sue Fister by Ann Congeni
Donna Fitzsimmons by Ann Congeni
Holly Flowers by Dan Flowers
Judith Frantz by Laurie Zuckerman
Lynne Friedman by Marsha Friedman
Marsha Friedman by Lena Heyman
Sara Kinnamon Fritsch by Susan W. Kinnamon
LeeAnn C. Gedeon by Carolyn Reed Hodge
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Patricia Kaufmann by Janet DiSalvo
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Sandy Lin by May Chen
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Heather Magaña by Natalie Magana
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Gay Miller by Libby Jacobs
Lisa Millisor by Anne G. Kaufmann
Patricia A. Milo by Angelina L. Milo
Janet Moore by Laura Ruth Bidwell
Elizabeth Ann Herman
Moore by Joycelynn Herman

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Memorial & Tribute Gifts
For gifts received Feb. 1, 2012, to Sept. 30, 2012

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Thanks to your support, the Women's Endowment Fund raised nearly $1,500 at its Zumba benefit on Sept. 22. Led by Jeananne Siegferth, the event was a fun way to stay fit while helping local women and girls.
More than 200 established and emerging women leaders gathered at Portage Country Club Sept. 18 for the 2012 ATHENA International Women’s Leadership Day Luncheon. Hosted by the Women’s Endowment Fund, the event celebrates female mentoring and leadership in greater Akron. This year’s Akron Leadership Award recipient, Candace Campbell Jackson, spoke about the role models whose character inspired her to excel as vice president and chief of staff at the University of Akron. Top left: Candace (blue, center) joins ATHENA honorary chairs Renee Powell, Dr. Vivian von Gruenigen, Patricia Simmons, Karen Bozzelli, Rev. Diana Swoope, Judge Elinore Marsh Stormer and Judy Joyce. Top right: During her speech, Candace encouraged women to seek out opportunities to guide younger women in their careers. “What is leadership for, if not to help others?” she said. Right: Women’s Endowment Fund supporter Patty Graves and ATHENA honorary chair Terri Heckman greet each other at the event.