GIVING YOUR WAY

THE GIFT OF GIVING BACK

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“Oh, what a night.” Yes, stolen from Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons, but it so accurately describes this year’s Bert A. Polsky Humanitarian Award event on Oct. 7 at the Hilton Akron/Fairlawn. A record crowd of nearly 550 of Joe Kanfer’s and Akron Community Foundation’s closest friends and family came out to celebrate Joe’s selection as the 48th Polsky Award recipient. Kudos to the selection committee of past Polsky recipients, who again chose a community leader who exemplifies Bert Polsky’s selfless dedication to humanitarian causes in Greater Akron. In addition to celebrating Joe’s award that night, we also celebrated that he and his wife, Pam, established our 500th fund — the Kanfer Family Fund. It touched my heart to hear how he plans to use his fund to support vital charities in this community, and that he encouraged others to do the same.

Celebrating seems to be a pattern for Akron Community Foundation these days. Over the Thanksgiving holiday, I received calls from fundholders and donors who were offering congratulations on the 60th edition of our annual report. I’d like to join in by celebrating Tina Boyes and her marketing and communications team, as well as the talented folks at TRIAD Communications, for their hard work in creating our colorful and lively 2015 annual report.

But of all the celebrating we do, we’re most excited to celebrate you, the fundholders and donors who so generously give to our community. Take, for instance, Mary Ann Jackson, a fundholder of 19 years with her husband, Dr. Tom Jackson, who — rather than receiving material gifts — encourages loved ones to give to their donor-advised fund at Akron Community Foundation. Others — like our former board chairman Michael A. Sweeney who gave the gift of a donor-advised fund to his wife, Betty — choose to mark a holiday or other milestone by gifting their loved one a fund. I can think of nothing more rewarding than helping loved ones give back to the causes they care about. And we take such great pride in sharing these stories with you.

In this season of giving, I wish everyone a splendid and happy holiday. I also encourage you to find your place in our community, whether it’s through your gifts of time, talent or treasure. I’ll leave you with the encouragement I’ve often shared with my children ... be generous!

My fond regards,

John T. Petures Jr.
President and CEO
It’s no surprise how important the holidays are to Mary Ann Jackson: She grew up in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, a town nicknamed “Christmas City, USA.” For her, the season evokes memories of nativity pageants, caroling, and traveling house to house exchanging gifts with family. “I close my eyes and I can still smell my grandmother’s ham,” she reflected.

While many traditions remain part of her fabric today, others have changed over time. “I don’t need another KitchenAid mixer,” she laughed. Yet, Mary Ann understands — even embraces — the generous spirit of friends and family seeking the perfect gift for the person they love. So, the day after Christmas in 1996, Mary Ann and her husband, Dr. Tom Jackson, made a gift to one another — and the community — while creating a meaningful channel for their loved ones to honor them: the Dr. Tom and Mary Ann Jackson Fund.

Whether it’s Christmas or another special occasion, the Jacksons encourage friends to forgo gifts and instead make a donation to their Akron Community Foundation fund.

NEW HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS
The fund is a capstone to the couple’s migration from Eastern Pennsylvania to Akron, a move they made in 1971 after Tom, a radiologist, accepted a job at Akron General Medical Center.

“Tom assured me we would be here for no more than two years,” Mary Ann said. “But we quickly realized what a special place this is. It was a perfect location to raise our family.”

Through the Junior League of Akron, she traveled the city, putting on puppet shows for Akron Public Schools students in every part of town. “I had a great big green Buick station wagon and we could fit all of the stuff in it, so I was always the driver. If it wasn’t for that, I wouldn’t have known where Kenmore or Ellet were. It was a fun way to get to know our new community.”

The couple’s fund can streamline how they give back to the causes that introduced — even immersed — them in the traditions of Akron. They can contribute to their fund once a year or as often as they like, then make grants to their favorite nonprofits over time. “It’s a responsible vehicle to give back to the community, but in a way that you can hold the reins,” she said.

There’s still time before the holidays to start your own charitable fund — for yourself or someone you love. You can do it in as little as an hour. Margaret Medzie can help at 330-436-5610 or mmedzie@akroncf.org.
7 TIPS FOR YEAR-END GIVING

By: Margaret Medzie, Vice President, Development & Donor Engagement

As 2015 draws to a close and we all become busy with presents and parties, it’s comforting to know there’s a simple solution for your year-end giving. And when you donate to Akron Community Foundation by Dec. 31, you aren’t just getting a tax break: You’re getting the gift that keeps on giving.

Here are some tips to make the most of your year-end giving:

1. Consider using your credit card. The IRS considers it the same as a cash gift for tax purposes. You gain the tax break for 2015, but you can pay it off later. Plus, you get the benefit of any points offered on your card.

2. Donate appreciated stock. You’ll avoid capital gains tax while still earning a charitable deduction. Some nonprofits are not equipped to accept stock gifts, but through Akron Community Foundation, you can donate them simply and start a fund to support those nonprofits over time. Stock gifts should be initiated by Dec. 22.

3. If you’re 70 1/2 or older, make a charitable rollover from your IRA. It’s a great way to offset your income if you’re required to take minimum payouts. But make sure you roll your gift directly to charity: If Congress passes the tax-free charitable rollover extension, you won’t have to first count your IRA distribution as income.

4. Donate an unneeded insurance policy. You’ll get a charitable deduction for the cash value of the policy.

5. Start a donor-advised fund at Akron Community Foundation. Even if you’re not ready to decide which causes to support, you can still get a tax break for this year by starting a donor-advised fund. Get the tax impact now and take your time deciding which causes to support.

6. Give the gift of charity. For loved ones who insist they don’t need any more “stuff,” consider making a charitable gift in their honor. Give to your fund, establish one in their honor, or give to one of the more than 500 funds already established at Akron Community Foundation.

7. Talk with your professional advisor. They can help you make the most tax-advantageous decisions for your current situation.

It’s not too late to maximize your giving through Akron Community Foundation. Our office will be open Dec. 31 until 3 p.m. to accept cash donations, and you can contribute to any of our more than 500 funds online at any time at www.akroncf.org/GiveNow. You can even start your own fund before year’s end. To learn more, contact Margaret Medzie at 330-436-5610 or mmedzie@akroncf.org. To start the process online, visit www.akroncf.org/StartYourFund.
YOUR FUNDS

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW FUNDS

Akron Community Cemetery Preservation Fund
Established by David R. Venarge to restore historic gravesites and beautify public cemeteries in Coventry Township and/or Ward 7 of the City of Akron that offer free burials for paupers and veterans of the U.S. military.

Autism Society of Greater Akron Endowment Fund
Established by the nonprofit to support local individuals and families living the autism journey by providing education, training, advocacy and support — helping to create an autism-friendly community.

Herbert and Dianne Newman Fund
Established by Herbert Newman, founder of Summit Management Services Inc., and his wife, Dianne, co-founder of Shifrin Newman Smith Inc., to benefit the Akron Art Museum.

Paul Davis Akron Fund
Donor-advised fund established by the Akron branch of Paul Davis, an emergency service and property damage reconstruction provider.

Summit County Historical Society Endowment Fund
Established by the society to preserve and interpret Greater Akron’s rich history and to educate local children and adults.

Halkovich Family Charitable Fund
Donor-advised fund established by Dr. Mari Halkovich, owner of Vintage Vanities Antique Jewelry LLC and a board member of our Medina County Women’s Endowment Fund.

Herbert and Dianne Newman Fund
Established by Herbert Newman, founder of Summit Management Services Inc., and his wife, Dianne, co-founder of Shifrin Newman Smith Inc., to benefit the Akron Art Museum.

Polsky Award Winner Establishes 500th Fund
On Oct. 7, at the Bert A. Polsky Humanitarian Award event honoring Joe Kanfer, Akron Community Foundation President and CEO John T. Petures Jr. announced that the GOJO chairman and CEO had established the community foundation’s 500th charitable fund.

The Kanfer Family Fund is a donor-advised fund that Joe and his wife, Pam, will use to support causes specifically in Akron. During the event, Joe spoke to the crowd, giving advice on encouraging philanthropy in their own families. “It doesn’t matter what you say, it matters what you do. If we want our children to follow in our footsteps, we better watch where we put our feet,” he said.

Donor-advised funds offer individuals, families and businesses the flexibility to give charitably when it’s most feasible and later recommend grants from their fund to support favorite causes and charities. To learn more about starting your own donor-advised fund, visit www.akroncf.org/GivingYourWay. Or, contact Margaret Medzie at 330-436-5610 or mmedzie@akroncf.org.
MEMORIAL & TRIBUTE GIFTS

MEMORIAL GIFTS TO:
Akron Community Foundation for:
Paul & Mary Antalvari by
Laura Harkey
Richard Averitte by
Yvonne Averitte
Maxine Bailey by
Bruce & Sandy Bailey
H. Peter Burg by
Eileen Burg
Robert Burg
Mary Jean Carroll by
Barbara Ann Hudak
Darlene (Dolly) DeYoung by
Bruce & Sandy Bailey
Helen Gould by
John Wilkinson
Anna R. Gudikunst by
John Wilkinson
Dick Herberich by
Robert Malone
Ken Hippley by
Barbara Ann Hudak
Henry & Dorothy Jameson by
Andrew & Linda Grible
Martha Jameson
Larita Marlene Jividen by
American Association of University Women, Medina Branch
Patricia Chaloupek
Loved ones by
John Wilkinson
Jean Marchetta by
Barbara Ann Hudak
Lynn Metzer by
Bruce & Sandy Bailey
Jackie Reed by
Mr. & Mrs. John H. Franklin Jr.
Joan Rog by
Daniel & Mary Louise Hall
Medina Veterinary Clinic LLC
Stacie Pallotta
Bruce F. Rothmann, M.D., by
Lola Rothmann
Edmund G. Siess III by
Barbara Ann Hudak
Barbara Steinkerchner by
Daniel Steinkerchner
Byron Wilkinson by
John Wilkinson
George E. Wilkinson by
John Wilkinson
E.R. Williams by
Joan D. Carlson
Ted Williams by
Susan Kruder
Akron Garden Club Endowment Fund for:
Natalie Cook by
Robin & Marian Olsen
Richard Herberich by
Kathy Keller
Akron Garden Club Frank Fund for:
Natalie Cook by
Dr. & Mrs. Chris VanDevere
Richard Herberich by
Dr. & Mrs. Chris VanDevere
Lynn Metzer by
Dr. & Mrs. Chris VanDevere
Akron-Summit County Public Library Endowment Fund for:
Bill & Trudy Loeb by
Betty Levinson
Bath Community Fund for:
Amanda Lynn Converse by
Marc & Marie Dusini
Grace Dettra by
Bath Gamma Garden Club
Ruth Egbert by
Bath Gamma Garden Club
Beacon of Light Initiatives/Sgt. Brandon Allen Memorial Fund for:
Brandon Allen by
William & Helen Smucker
Kathryn Cooper Memorial Fund for:
Kathryn Cooper by
Dr. Robert H. Bell
Marilyn Meyers Buckey
Sylvia Trundle
Craine’s Cholangiocarcinoma Crew Fund for:
Priscilla Craine by
Margaret Cullen
Kirk Golden by
Melinda Thurman
Lauren Patrice Kunklier by
Thelma Bachman
Mark & Pamela Kunklier
Jeanne Marhofer by
Eileen Chimelewski
Mr. Pat by
Stephen McIntosh
John N. Economou Scholarship Fund for:
Chris A. Economou by
The Pearl Coffee Company
Fighting For Alyssa - FFA Fund for:
Alyssa Apostolakis by
William & Susan Sparks
Friends of the Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library Endowment Fund for:
Freckles by
Barbara Beiling
Armand Gabriele by
Margaret Gabriel
Carolyn Lajzer by
Barbara Beiling
Jane Mead by
Stephen Mead
Delila Sullivan by
Don & Fran Waybright and Sam & Arlene Mckeever
Gardeners of Greater Akron Endowment Fund for:
Chester Lowry by
Frank & Eileen Field
Gay Community Endowment Fund for:
Fran Luna by
Cindy Christman
Medina County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Endowment Fund for:
Margaret C. Allen by
Anita Robertson-Szucs
Millennium Fund for Children for:
Mary Robinson by
Irene Robinson
Marissa Alexandra Norwood Legacy of Kindness Charitable Giving Fund for:
Marissa A. Norwood by
Climon Lee III, Ph.D.
St. Hilary School Mary Jean Carroll Endowment Fund of the St. Hilary Parish Foundation for:

Mary Jean Carroll by
James Braselton
Casey Sons Lawn Care Inc.
Tom & Patti Cleary
Alec & Paula McCallum
Karen Taylor

St. Mary Urban Education Endowment Fund for:

Mary Murphy Fallahee by
The Murphy Family

TRIBUTE GIFTS TO:
Akron Community Foundation for:

Eileen Burg by
Amy Burg & James Cole
Mark & Colleen Reaman
Ed & Maureen Russell, Tim & Linda Fenwick, Laurie Mellion and Kevin Fenwick
Fred & Sandy Ziegler

Nick & Ruthie George by
Michael Sacks
Joe Kanfer by
Rennick & Dee Andreoli
Bruce & Susie Rogers
Berlin Family Foundation Inc.
Mynra Berzon
Mary K. Booth
Ann & David Brennan
Robert W. Briggs
William & Rebecca Considine
Dr. Stephen & Patriccia Crane
John & Betty Dalton
Rev. Ronald J. Fowler
Bill & Mary Ginter
Joyce K. Hamaker
Larry & Esther Hexter
Duane L. Isham
Susan Kruder
Sylvia Lewis
Randal Lowry & Marisa Lowry
The Maynard Family Foundation
Bob & Vicki Merzweiler
Penguin PAC
Judy & Roger Read
Bud & Susie Rogers
Beverly M. Rose
Lola Rothmann
Michael Sacks
Ellyn Schneier & Larry Prigosin
Ilene Shapiro
Stan & Zippy Silverman
Sandra & Richey Smith
Paul Sobel & Leah Ratner
Sue & Marty Spector
Mimi Suroff-Markis
Mark & Teresa Weinberger

Kathy Vidakovics by
Bill and Anne Lowery Fund of Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund

Akron Marathon Sustainability Fund for:

Steve & Jeannine Marks by
Mark Kristy

Bath Community Fund for:

Joe & Jan Hoffmann by
Marcia & John Holcomb

Bob & Joanne Konstand by
Richard & Mary Anne Krejci

Craine’s Cholangiocarcinoma Crew Fund for:

Lisa Craine by
Mary Beth Carroll
Michael & Loraine Craig
Malcolm Gilbert
Jim & Lori Lawrence
Kimberly Murawski

Lisa & David Craine by
Anonymous
Peggy Contrera
Dr. John Fung
Mary Long
Dad by
Jim & Lori Lawrence

Elise’s Corner Fund for:

Elise Bonsky by
Jeanne & Greg Baird
Patricia Becker

Chuck Jones by
Scott & Joanne Armstrong
Marie Covington
Michelle Difiore
Kimberly Haws Falasco
Gregory S. Genega

Great Work! Employment Services Leadership Akron Alumni Association
Jeff & Dee Lowery
Roger & Josie McElroy
John W. McKenzie

Friends of the Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library Endowment Fund for:

Joyce Ferring by
Friends of the Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library

Dorothy Hadden by
Jenny Birnbaum

The ladies in the back room by
Margaret Gabriel

Fran Waybright by
Judy Cohen-Baer

Gay Community Endowment Fund for:

Carol Dezso & Elaine Whiting by
Eric J. Jones
Kris Mikolajczyk & Annette Nicoloff
Mary Margaret Rowlands

Brian Elter & Mark Williams by
Annette Nicoloff

Medina County Women’s Endowment Fund for:

Nancy Pound by
Delcie Pound

Millennium Fund for Children for:

Stacy Wessels by
Taylor Wessels

One-In-Six Foundation Endowment Fund for:

David M. Koly by
Bob & Susan Berk

Witan Endowment Fund for:

Debra Faber Cailor by
Barbara Lubinski

Memorial and tribute gifts made to the Women’s Endowment Fund were listed in WEF’s most recent newsletter. See the full list at www.akroncf.org/WEFgifts.
On Nov. 5, two days after being elected Akron’s first new mayor in 28 years, mayor-elect Dan Horrigan announced the formation of a Blue Ribbon Task Force to help guide his first 100 days in office and tackle the community’s most pressing issues.

Horrigan announced that Akron Community Foundation will be the project’s fiscal sponsor. Days earlier, the community foundation’s board approved a $50,000 grant to fund the project, bringing total nonprofit support to $300,000. Other funders include the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation and the GAR Foundation.

Tom Chema, chairman and founder of The Gateway Group, will serve as an outside consultant to the task force. Tim Ochsenhirt, partner at Roetzel & Andress, will chair the effort. Together, he and more than a dozen leaders from the business, labor, education, nonprofit and government sectors will study a variety of topics, including city finances and operations, personnel and human resources management, economic and neighborhood development, risk management, and the city’s charter. In turn, they will provide recommendations related to processes, procedures, hiring practices, attracting and retaining businesses, and more.

“This is a critical time for the City of Akron — a time filled with challenges as well as remarkable opportunities for growth,” Horrigan said.

Horrigan expects to receive the task force’s recommendations in February, at which time they will also be shared with the community.
On Friday, Nov. 20, Akron Community Foundation’s board of directors approved $495,468 in competitive health and human services grants chosen by the organization’s Community Investment Committee.

An additional $85,500 in health and human services grants were made by the Bonnie L. and Ernest R. Estep Fund, the David R. and Cheryl L. Venarge Fund, and three anonymous funds through the community foundation’s grant co-investment program.

The health and human services grants focused on the issue of homelessness, distributing $86,000 to seven local organizations that provide housing and other services. A grant to Community Support Services will help create a centralized intake and outreach center to direct Summit County’s homeless residents to the services and providers they need. Community Support Services provides comprehensive behavioral and health services to Summit County adults living with severe and persistent mental illness, including outreach programs for the homeless and those at risk of becoming homeless.

“Having all intake services under one roof will assist in reducing the number of individuals who are homeless and don’t know where to go for help,” said Terry Dalton, president and CEO of Community Support Services. “It will also help those who give up after going place to place only to be turned away because the agency doesn’t serve ‘that category of homeless individuals.’”

This new intake center is a collaboration with Info Line Inc. and will serve as a clearinghouse for organizations across Summit County, including Family Promise of Summit County and the Veterans Administration’s Community Resource & Referral Center.

To see the full list of grants, visit www.akroncf.org/HealthHumanServicesGrants.

This quarter, your donor-advised, designated, agency endowment and scholarship funds awarded 229 grants totaling $1,317,997. The following is a sampling of the programs you supported:

Akron Rotary Camp for Children with Special Needs
For capital improvements at the camp, $10,000

Akron Women in Tech Inc.
To support women who are interested in learning to code websites and mobile applications, $5,000

Kent State University Foundation
To support the 2015 Kent Hack Enough event, $5,000

Medina County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
To support the purchase of a new shelter, $2,000

Women’s Network Inc.
For women’s leadership and professional development programs, $5,000
GCEF AWARDS $37,186 TO LGBT INITIATIVES

The Gay Community Endowment Fund of Akron Community Foundation recently awarded 11 grants totaling $37,186 for programs that positively impact the local lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community.

Grants were awarded to programs that provide diversity training to volunteers and professionals serving the LGBT community, including a $1,580 grant to the CASA Board Volunteer Association for specialized training for child welfare workers in Summit County. The grant will help the agency host training sessions for more than 200 professionals from the CASA/GAL program, Summit County Juvenile Court, and Summit County Children Services to educate workers about the unique needs and experiences of LGBT youth in foster care.

“If most children in the child welfare system face challenges, these increase exponentially when LGBT youth are mistreated and spend time in foster care,” said Beth Cardina, CASA program coordinator. “This training will provide professionals with the tools and information they need to be effective working with this special population.”

MILLENIUM FUND MAKES GRANTS, SEEKS GIFTS

Akron Community Foundation’s Millennium Fund for Children recently awarded 32 grants totaling $46,578 to children’s programs throughout Summit, Portage and Medina counties, bringing the fund’s cumulative grant-making total to $623,922.

A grant to Elves & More of Northeast Ohio will help provide bicycles to children in struggling Akron neighborhoods. Typically, the organization picks one neighborhood and gifts 500 bicycles in time for the holidays, but this year, in celebration of its 10th anniversary, they plan to deliver a record 1,500 bicycles in three neighborhoods.

Additional grants will provide books to needy children, teach third-graders about the benefits of oral health, and teach teens about healthy relationships.

To see a full list of this year’s grants, visit www.akroncf.org/MillenniumGrants.

A partnership of the Akron Beacon Journal and the community foundation, the Millennium Fund for Children began in 1999 when local residents donated their last hour’s pay of the millennium. Since then, people have donated gifts of all kinds and sizes, growing the fund to more than $785,000 and making more than 400 grants to help the community’s children.

The fund continues to seek gifts both large and small from individual residents. “Every gift — from dollar bills to stock transfers — helps,” said Akron Community Foundation President and CEO John T. Petures Jr. “Your gift will be combined with thousands of others and will grow over time, helping the fund make a big difference in the lives of our smallest residents.”

To inquire about making gifts of real estate, appreciated securities, retirement assets or life insurance, call Akron Community Foundation at 330-376-8522. Or, you can make a cash gift to the Millennium Fund for Children online at www.akroncf.org/give/Millennium.
SAV THE DATE

Deadline for Initiating Stock Transfers
Dec. 22, 2015
5 PM
Stock transfers must be initiated by Dec. 22. Instructions are available at www.akroncf.org/StockTransfers. Or, for personal assistance, contact Steve Schloenbach, vice president and chief financial officer, at sschoenbach@akroncf.org or 330-436-5621.

ACF Holiday Hours
Dec. 24 & 25; Jan. 1
Our office will be closed Dec. 24 & 25 and Jan. 1 for the holidays. We’ll be open Dec. 31 until 3 p.m. to accept donations. Gifts made or postmarked by midnight on Dec. 31 are deductible for the 2015 tax year. Gifts to existing funds can be made online anytime at www.akroncf.org/GiveNow. To establish a fund before year’s end, call 330-376-8522.

WEF Annual Dinner
March 10, 2016
6:30 PM
Hilton Akron/Fairlawn
The Women’s Endowment Fund will feature Akron Marathon founders Steve & Jeannine Marks at its annual dinner celebrating women and girls. For sponsorship information, visit www.regonline.com/ForWomenForever. Tickets will go on sale in January.

See a full list of community events or submit your own nonprofit event at www.akroncf.org/AroundAkronCalendar.

THIS IS YOUR LAST QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

But there’s good news: You can get all the same timely information about our funds, grants and special events, as well as fundholder stories and tax-smart giving tips, in our new e-newsletter!

Be the first to know about our nonprofit bus tours, Community Issues Sessions and other special events. Get our calls for grant applications and funding announcements before the general public. This new electronic format will save you time and the community foundation money that we can invest in vital community programs.

Register today at www.akroncf.org/enews. Or, contact Tracy Burt, director of marketing, at 330-436-5619 or tburt@akroncf.org for more information.
We strive for accuracy in our mailings. If you find any errors in the address label above, please call 330-376-8522 or send an email to tburt@akroncf.org.

AROUND AKRON
Akron Community Foundation fundholders, staff and grantees in action

Top Left: Joe Kanfer laughs during Dave Lieberth’s speech at the Polsky Award dinner.
Top Center: Fundholders Herb and Dianne Newman chat during the Polsky sponsor reception.
Top Right: Former Polsky Award recipients Rev. Ronald Fowler and Dorothy O. Jackson smile for the camera with Gary Himmel.
Bottom Left: Representatives from the Medina Chapter of Working Women Connection pose with their tree at the Medina County Women’s Endowment Fund’s Festival of Trees on Nov. 5.
Bottom Right: Laura Fink, director of development, presents fundholders Harry and Fran Donovan with the Outstanding Philanthropist Award at AFP’s National Philanthropy Day on Nov. 13.

See it first on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/AkronCommunityFoundation