

We are a rope — individual fibers braided together to make a stronger whole.

Giving Matters



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Celebrating Giving, Growing and Granting

More than 175 people gathered at the Salina Country Club May 17 to celebrate another year of giving, growing and granting by the Greater Salina Community Foundation.

Foundation President Betsy Wearing shared highlights of the past year with those in attendance. One of the most significant changes

for the Foundation this year has been incredible growth in terms of assets.

Generous gifts from a variety of donors, including the rollover of a private foundation into a donor advised fund have helped the Foundation to grow to our current level of \$26.8 million. One year ago at

this time, the Foundation had assets of \$14.8 million.

Wearing attributed the growth not only to the generosity of the Salina Community, but also to the outstanding leadership of the Foundation's board of directors, and the dedication of the Foundation staff.

In addition to adding assets, the Foundation also added 25 new funds, bringing the total number of funds to 200. Perhaps the most exciting revelation of the day was that the Foundation has made more than \$1.7 million in grants in the past year.

Scholarship Awards

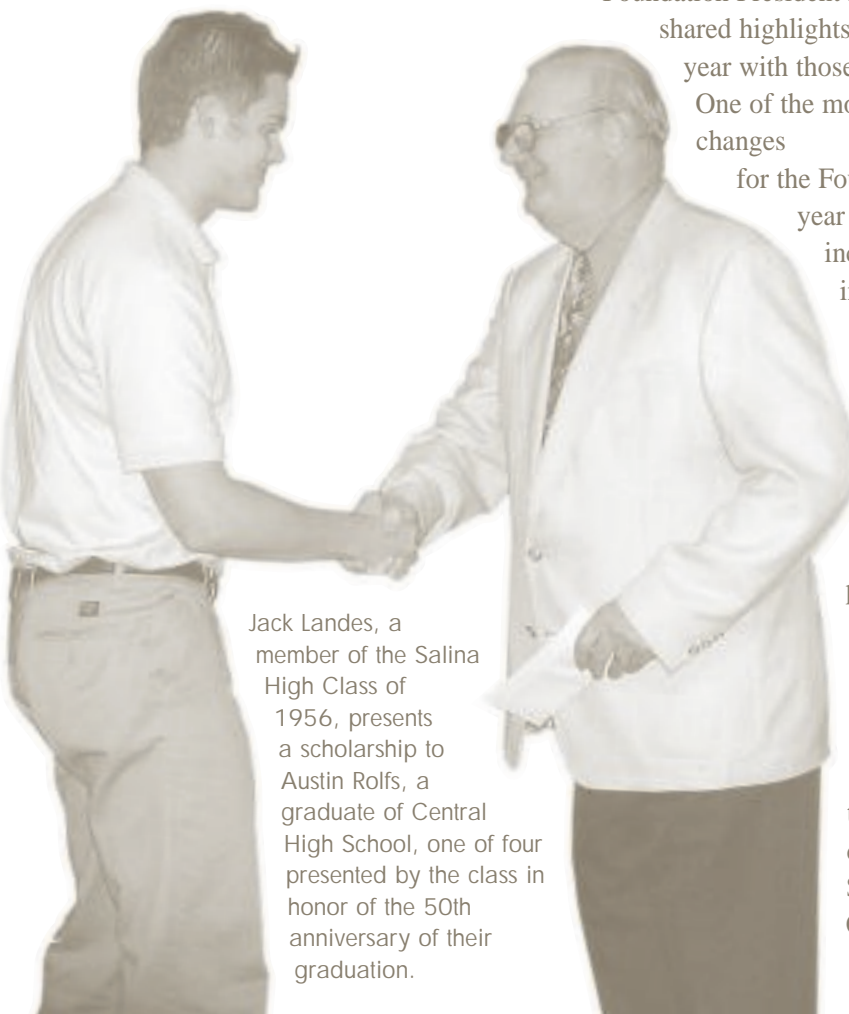
The Foundation is pleased to have awarded \$23,000 in scholarships to worthy students this year.

Booker T. Washington Scholarship

Asza Davison
Zach Humphrey
Terah Leepers (renewing recipient)

Evelyn R. King N.H.S. Scholarships

Alva Aguirre
Brook Eichelberger
Chandra Francis
Jannell Johannes
Anne Kelly
Lindsey Parker

A black and white photograph showing a young man on the left, Jack Landes, shaking hands with an older man on the right. Jack is wearing a light-colored polo shirt and khaki pants. The older man is wearing a suit and glasses. They are standing in front of a background of a large, braided rope.

Jack Landes, a member of the Salina High Class of 1956, presents a scholarship to Austin Rolfs, a graduate of Central High School, one of four presented by the class in honor of the 50th anniversary of their graduation.

See Scholarships page 4

Salina couple shares their talents with those in need

2006 Salina Award for Outstanding Citizenship

Traditionally, nominations for the Greater Salina Community Foundation's annual Salina Award for Outstanding Citizenship are written by someone who is very close to the nominee, a family member or co-worker. Not so this year. The nomination form reads:

"It's funny that I do not know either of the nominees particularly well, and in fact have never worked directly with or volunteered along side them, but their handprints seem to be all over the community."

It is an accurate description of this year's recipients, Ted and Vera Zerger. Two people who are unassuming and unpretentious, the Zergers share their gifts with others, particularly the most needy in our community. And they do so with no thought of recognition or personal gain.

In fact, when they received the letter letting them know of the award, they called the Foundation office saying they thought maybe it was some sort of hoax- like the publisher's clearing house.

Ted taught math at Kansas Wesleyan University for more than 35 years, and was named an exemplary teacher in 1990. His commitment to his students is legendary. He often provided individual instruction, a listening ear, meals and on occasion lodging as well. He was a frequent sponsor for student organizations and extra curricular activities. After retirement in 1998 he



Foundation President Betsy Wearing congratulates Ted & Vera Zerger for being honored with the 2006 Salina Award for Outstanding Citizenship at the Foundation's annual luncheon.

was awarded Faculty Emeritus status. He left the classroom, but continued serving others and in 2000 received the Distinguished Service Award from Kansas Wesleyan University for his service to the school and the community.

Twice during his tenure at the school Ted took a leave of absence to do volunteer work through his church. In 1975-76 he taught mathematics to Spanish speaking students in El Paso, Texas. In 1988-89 he and Vera worked in Oklahoma City where he did home maintenance and repair for the underprivileged and she worked at an inner city medical clinic.

Vera was a school nurse for the Salina School District for 24 years. Her work in Oklahoma inspired her, and upon their return to Salina, she teamed

up with two other Salina nurses and began the work that eventually became the Salina Cares Clinic, now the Salina Family Healthcare Center. Once the center opened, she volunteered each night the clinic saw patients. Still today, she volunteers her skills at the clinic 3-4 times every month, usually bringing homemade cookies to share with the staff. She has served as the historian for the clinic, maintaining a scrapbook of clippings and pictures. She was also very involved in establishing the Cinco De Mayo fundraising event for the clinic.

Ted is a master gardener. Two years ago, he started a garden at the Emergency Aid Food Bank, and works to teach others how to garden, and sharing the fresh produce with clients of the Food Bank. ■

Spring Grants Announced

Partnership expands grant making capacity

A new partnership with the Salina Regional Health Foundation's Community Health Investment Program (CHIP) has enabled the Foundation to better respond to the many requests for funding we receive each spring and fall. A generous contribution from CHIP funded grant requests that met their criteria to serve children and youth. This enabled the Community Foundation to stretch our unrestricted grant dollars and serve more of the community.

The Foundation awarded the following grants this spring:

\$1,000 Smoky Hill River Festival — Festival Button Scholarship program for those who otherwise could not afford to attend the Festival. Buttons will be distributed by local service agencies.

\$1,600 SANE/SART — Purchase of an ultraviolet light to aide in examination of and collection of evidence from sexual assault victims to be used in sexual assault trials.

\$2,000 Salina Education Foundation — Provide support for the Loan Initiative for Future Teachers (LIFT). The LIFT Program is designed to encourage talented students to enter the teaching profession and then return to teach in Salina Public Schools.

\$2,000 DVACK — Provide direct client assistance for domestic violence victims in crisis, such as purchasing food, gas vouchers, clothing, transportation, prescriptions etc.

\$1,000 Hospice of Salina — Purchase of small appliances and other kitchen items for the new Kay Pogue Hospice Center.

\$1,000 OCCK — Funding to establish a monthly support group for young people between the ages of 14 and 22 who have disabilities. Topics will include budgeting, leadership skills, using credit cards and basic first aid, all in a social environment.

\$200 Consumer Credit Counseling — Purchase software for the organization's budget counseling program.

\$800 Ashby House — Purchase parenting curriculum videos and workbooks for use in a program to teach homeless families positive parenting skills.

\$1,000 Community Housing Development Corporation — Funding for the strategic planning process for a new non-profit organization with the mission of developing affordable housing.

\$1,000 Salina Community Theatre — Assist with transportation costs for Salina elementary and middle school students to attend STYP productions.

\$2,000 Bethany College Criminal Justice Department-CSI Camp — Provide funding for a new hands-on crime scene investigation camp for high school students.

\$500 Salina Parks and Recreation Senior Games — Purchase a computer program that will simplify the registration process and record keeping for the Salina Senior Games.

\$1,500 Market Place and Saline Apartments — Purchase of a computer and printer that will be used by staff and residents in an affordable housing community serving elderly and disabled persons.

\$500 Southeast of Saline After Prom — Provide funding that will assist with a drug-free event following the 2006 prom.

\$2,000 TeenTown — Provide funding for an after-school program that will focus on at risk-students and help them find success both academically and socially.

\$1,000 St. Michael's Episcopal Church — Assist with the "Retreat in Daily Life" workshops—a series of retreats that will focus on the spiritual practices of prayer, community and healing.

\$2,000 Salina Child Care — Purchase of child-sized furniture and toys to replace worn out materials for the infant/toddler play area.

\$1,400 Boy Scouts of America — Provide assistance with the Juvenile Diversion Program assisting youth ages 10-14 who are first-time offenders.

\$1,700 St. Francis Academy — To purchase supplies and materials for St Francis Academy's Creative Arts Therapy Program. This program will help youth in residential treatment to learn appropriate communication and social skills through the exploration of creative arts.

\$1,600 Grace E. Stewart Elementary School — To purchase Literacy Bags. Literacy Bags provide reading, writing, math and science activities in conjunction with a particular story for students K-2.

\$2,000 Assaria Summer Youth Program — Provide funding for K-8th grade summer camp.

\$1,500 Cottonwood Elementary School PTA — Furnish funds to implement the "Character Education Program".

\$1,900 St. John's Missionary Baptist Church — Funding for Kid's Kare after school program designed to help school-age children improve their behavior and academic performance.

\$1,800 Southeast of Saline Education Foundation — Funding to purchase landscape items for an outdoor learning lab that will benefit students K-12.

\$1,200 Sunrise Presbyterian Church — To purchase movable storage units for the CASTLE project, serving children of low income, families, with adult-supervised activities during the summer.

\$1,900 Heartland Programs — To support a licensed dietician that will oversee the summer lunch program. The program provides at-risk students a free and nutritious lunch.

\$1,500 Central Kansas Foundation — To develop a family friendly indoor and outdoor play area for children that are visiting family members in treatment.

TOTAL \$38,600



Members of the Youth GrantMakers Council greet Salina City Commissioner Debbie Divine and others as they arrive for the YGMC year-end celebration.

YGMC members wrap up another successful year

“I learned how important it is for everyone to work together as a team” said Molly Martin.

“Definitely, responsibility is what I have learned through YGMC” notes Kellan Arpke.

These are just a few of the comments made by members of the Youth GrantMakers Council with regard to what membership in YGMC has meant to them personally. YGMC members wanted to share what they have learned and/or gained by being on the council with members of the Greater Salina Community Foundation board of directors, the YGMC funding partners and the members parents gathered at an appreciation reception in their honor on Tuesday evening May 16th.

“To be myself and speak my opinions, YGMC has helped me to gain much more self-confidence.” Shared Caitlin Cox, secretary for the Council.

Throughout the evening YGMC members were able to spend time getting to know those in attendance, along with taking time to inform them of all the Council has accomplished this year.

Also at the event, a member of Hispanics In Progress (H.I.P.) spoke about the benefits to their organization from a grant they received from YGMC.

Finally, YGMC took this time to say goodbye and recognize their five senior members who will be leaving the council and heading to college next year.

The council will be accepting

YGMC Spring Grants

Members of the Youth GrantMakers Council are pleased to announce the following recipients of their Spring 2006 Grant Cycle:

\$1000 Lakewood Middle School- Students Assisting Students — To educate students about bullying and work on preventing it

\$1000 Christ Episcopal Cathedral Youth — To assist with building a church playground for use by youth at the church and by children staying at the Ashby House

\$500 Jennifer Cassleman — To assist with remodeling of a facility for a new after school program at the Higher Praise Church

\$500 Chloe Seim — Landscaping and repainting of playground equipment at Assaria park

\$300 Southeast of Saline High School Student Council — Revamp student lounge

\$200 Salina South High School Drama Department — To assist with the purchase of a safety ladder for use in the costume/prop room

Funding for the Youth GrantMakers Council comes from donations, memorials, and from Foundation investment income. Gifts of any size are welcome additions to this important community grant fund.

applications for new members early this fall. For more information on YGMC or how to apply to become a member, visit them on the web at www.ygmc.org or call Kelli Schwarz-Rump, Youth Coordinator at 785-823-1800. ■

Scholarships from page 1

Class of '56 Scholarships

Erin Benson
Britta Homelvig
Austin Rolfs
Jess Wilson

Brian Clarke Garnett Memorial Scholarships

Krista Langley
Austin Rolfs
Jess Wilson

David & Marguerite Parker Scholarship

Melissa Bailey
C.L. Clark Scholarship
Erin Wright

James L. Ogden Memorial Scholarship

Chad Charest

First Bank of Kansas Scholarship

Sarah Montoya

Florence Evelyn Westhoff Scholarship

Sarah Kresge

Mary Olson & Viola Gustafson Scholarship

Recipient not yet named

Kansas Federation of Republican Women Scholarship

Ginger Niemann

Alma Olson & Michael T. Olson Scholarship

Kyle Vering
Kennedy & Coe Art Scholarship
Lauryn Haas

PET Project to support violence prevention program

A program designed to assist Salina's public high schools create a more positive culture for all students and reduce harassment and racial tensions will be funded by the donors of the Community Foundation's PET Project. The program will be administered by Child Abuse Prevention Services (CAPs).

PET is an acronym for Philanthropy, Empowerment and Transformation. The PET Project brings together younger donors to fund a significant program or project in the community. This is the second year for the Project. More than 40 individuals or couples are participating.

Thanks to the generosity of these donors, the project grant is \$8,800. An additional \$2,200 from the donors will be added to the PET Project endowment. The endowment was started with an anonymous gift last year. Within a few years, the endowment will generate additional income to support the PET Project grant. The Foundation pays for 100% of the administrative costs for the Project, ensuring that all of the donations go to support grantmaking.

Twenty eight of the donors gathered for a grant selection luncheon on May 16. They listened to four different presentations for nonprofit organizations. The four were selected from eleven applications reviewed by the PET Project steering committee.

Vicki Price, the presenter for Child Abuse Prevention Services noted that the agency usually works with programs for younger children, including a bullying prevention program offered in the elementary schools. This is an extension of that work on a level appropriate for high school students and provided by experts who typically work



Vicki Price, Education Director for Child Abuse Prevention Services speaks to PET Project donors.

with older students.

Price shared statistical information about acts of violence in the schools, and about the opportunity to work with the students and faculty to change the culture. A professional from the Center for the Prevention of Hate and Violence located in Portland, Maine will spend five days in Salina in late August, Early September to coincide with the start of a new school year.

The mission of the Center for the Prevention of Hate Violence is to work with young people and adults to prevent and respond to bias, harassment and violence by providing training, education and advocacy in schools, colleges, government agencies, nonprofit organizations and communities.

For more information on the PET Project, visit the Foundation's website at www.gscf.org, or give us a call at 785-823-1800. ■

We're on the move...

The Foundation has outgrown our current office space and we are excited to share with you our plans to relocate late this summer or early fall to a new office in downtown Salina.

Planning is underway and construction should begin soon to remodel a portion of the second floor of the office building at 115 North Seventh Street. (The former Lyons Coffee House.)

In addition to much needed office space, the new location will also have a large conference facility. This space will be a permanent home for our Youth GrantMaker's Council, currently meeting in a variety of locations around the community; our own Foundation board meetings; and for the Blueprint for Leadership Course. In addition, we will use the space for Foundation workshops and special events. Our hope is to make this facility available to the nonprofit organizations we work with for meetings, programs, and other needs.

Watch for more information as moving day gets closer!

Want to be a part of the Foundation's growth?

We have a wish list of items to furnish the new facility. If you would like to see a copy of the wish list, contact us at the Foundation office at 785-823-1800 or by email at communityfoundation@gscf.org.

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The Russell County Area Community Foundation
The Smoky Valley Community Foundation, serving Lindsborg
The Community Foundation for Cloud County



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Affiliate News

In less than four short years, the members of the board of the **Community Foundation for Cloud County** have reached a major milestone in the life of their foundation. In March, their assets reached \$1 million. According to Chairman Bob Steimel, “They may not stay there very long, because we plan to give grants away soon, but we did make it!”

The Community Foundation for Cloud County is one of four affiliates of the Greater Salina Community Foundation. The others include the Smoky Hills Charitable Foundation, serving Ellsworth County, the Smoky Valley Community Foundation, serving the Lindsborg area, and the Russell County Area Community Foundation.

The affiliate program provides an avenue for smaller communities to establish and manage a community foundation with minimal expense. Local boards of directors raise funds and make grant decisions. The Salina Foundation provides consultation, administration, accounting and investment services.

In other affiliate news, the Kansas Health Foundation, Wichita, has invited the **Russell County Area Community**

Foundation to become a participant in the GROW (Giving Resources to our World) Healthy Kansas initiative. This initiative is designed to help build and support community foundations in Kansas, enabling communities to improve the health and well-being of their citizens.

A generous \$100,000 donation by Senator Bob Dole will put the Russell County Area Community Foundation well on its way to meeting its first fundraising goal of \$300,000—an amount that will be matched by the Kansas Health Foundation. “I’m pleased to be able to partner with the Kansas Health Foundation and help the Russell County Area Community Foundation better serve the needs of Russell area citizens. I’ll always remember how the people of Russell County helped me along the way,” said Senator Dole. “It will be exciting to look back in a few years and see what a difference this program will have made in developing the capacity and growing the assets of the Russell County Area Community Foundation.”

For more information on the Foundation’s affiliate program, call Foundation President Betsy Wearing at 785-823-1800. ■