Inside This Issue

A Great Way to Double the Impact of Your Gift!

Now through the end of 2018, Gary and Glenda Labadie have offered a 1:1 match for every dollar committed to the Pere Marquette Depot Endowment Fund, up to a total of $50,000. This fund helps preserve this historical landmark to ensure it remains a part of our community forever. See inside for more details. Thank you, Gary and Glenda!

Connecting to Arts through a Donor Advised Fund

Guy Greve set up a fund to honor his mother’s passions and bring public art to the community.

Bay Commitment Success Story Highlight: Mark Guettler

Awarded the Bay Commitment Scholarship in 2017, Mark has received a certificate in welding.

More Than 1,500 Kids Clothed for First Day of School

Three BACF funds collectively awarded $7,500 to the United Way’s annual Helen Wirt Lee Back to School Clothing Program.
Connecting People to the Causes They Care About

Although the Bay Area Community Foundation has been serving this community since 1982, there are still many who don’t quite understand who we are or what we do. This is not unique to the Bay Area Community Foundation. It is something that community foundations across the country struggle with.

It is our job to make the Bay Area an outstanding place to live. We exist to meet the current and future needs of our community, and do so by managing a community endowment for the benefit of Bay and Arenac counties. Each year, we invest the earnings from the endowment back into the community in the form of grants and scholarships.

We build these community resources by connecting donors with the causes they care about most. For some, it is the environment. For others, it is health and human services, or arts and culture. Yet others are most interested in education, community initiatives, recreation, or our youth. We help donors realize their philanthropic vision while creating their community legacies.

In this newsletter, we highlight how Guy Greve honored his mother’s memory through the establishment of The Rita Greve Fund for Art in Public Places. This is just one example of the many donors who have turned their passions into good for the community by establishing funds that will impact our area forever.

If you would like to learn more about how the Bay Area Community Foundation can help you achieve your charitable dreams, let’s talk about how we can work together.

Better together,

Diane M. Fong, President & CEO

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To learn more about becoming a Bay Area Community Foundation Business Sponsor, please contact Lisa Bourdon-Krause at the BACF office at 989.893.4438
Rita Greve had always been artistic, starting with painting as a young child. But once she discovered the feeling of clay in her hands—soft, malleable, and ready to mold—her focus changed to sculpting. It was her way to connect directly with the arts, in a literal hands-on way. She loved to share her passion and to include signs with her sculptures that said, “Please DO touch.” Her art has been displayed at innumerable shows, fairs, and public spaces and has inspired her son, Guy Greve, to take up photography.

When she passed away, Guy wanted to make sure her spirit of sharing art with others would live on. He created The Rita Greve Fund for Art in Public Places with the intent of beautifying outdoor spaces with artwork in our community. “Art enriches people’s lives,” Guy said. “For me, interacting with art has provided a source of great enjoyment, and I want to share that with others. My hope is for public art to inspire and connect with the people of our community.”

The fund has recently awarded its first grant to support a large sculpture by a local artist in Realtor Park in Bay City.

Guy is passionate about growing this fund so that it can have an even greater impact and share art with more people. He is offering a 1:1 match for all donations up to $5,000, a 1:2 match for the next $5,000 in donations, and a 1:4 match for the following $10,000. Donate online at www.bayfoundation.org or call us at 989-893-4438.

Honoring a Mother’s Passion for the Arts and Community

After his mother passed away, Guy Greve created a donor advised fund to honor her memory and their shared love of the arts. The Rita Greve Fund for Art in Public Places awards grants to projects meant to beautify and enrich our community’s outdoor spaces.

Mark graduated from Western High School and was awarded the Bay Commitment Scholarship in 2017. In June 2018, he graduated from Delta College with a welding certificate and is continuing on to earn his associate degree in welding.

Because his father is a body shop mechanic, Mark Guettler had an early introduction to skilled trades. While helping his father work on a car when he was fourteen, he got his first taste of welding. He discovered he enjoyed it and wanted to learn more.

In high school, he took welding classes at Bay-Arenac ISD Career Center to further develop his skills and explore the craft. When he graduated, he went for his welding certificate from Delta College.

Although he was able to live at home with his father and siblings while he went to school, he didn’t have much else for financial support.

“The Bay Commitment Scholarship really helped me to get through the program,” he said.

Now that he has the certificate, he’s able to start looking for work. He says since he had a great experience, he plans to continue his education to earn an associate degree in welding. “It’s definitely a good trade to know,” he said.

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During the 10th Anniversary of the Bay Commitment Scholarship, we are sharing 10 stories of success from past recipients. Read them all at www.bayfoundation.org/BCsuccess
Help Us Preserve Our Permanent Home

The Great Lakes Center Foundation generously donated the Pere Marquette Depot and $100,000 in maintenance funds to the Bay Area Community Foundation.

The Pere Marquette Depot has been a part of our community’s history since it opened for the railroad in March of 1904. Today, we are honored to have it be the permanent home of the Bay Area Community Foundation and Great Lakes Bay College and Career Resource Center. Now it is essential to grow the Depot’s endowment fund so that, like the foundation, the Depot will be here forever.

The Depot was closed by the railroad in 1951 and two years later renovated for use by the Greyhound Bus Company until 1969. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Structures in 1982 to protect it from demolition. However, after many years of neglect, the Depot slowly deteriorated.

The Great Lakes Center Foundation purchased the Depot in 2003 and began an extensive $6.2 million restoration, spearheaded by Charley Curtiss. During the process, the watch tower, canopy, and porte cochere were reconstructed and the waiting room returned to its original two-story design. In June 2008, the Depot was opened for the first time in nearly 40 years.

This year, the Great Lakes Center Foundation gifted the Depot and a $100,000 donation for maintenance to the Bay Area Community Foundation.

Now, we look to grow the Depot’s endowment fund to continue to protect, preserve, and prepare for the future of this Bay County landmark. Based on operating costs, maintenance, and repairs, an endowment fund of $650,000 is needed. We are so close, but we need your help to ensure the Depot’s future.

The Great Lakes Center Foundation generously donated the Pere Marquette Depot and $100,000 in maintenance funds to the Bay Area Community Foundation.

THE LABADIE CHALLENGE

For the remainder of 2018, Gary & Glenda Labadie have offered a 1:1 match for every dollar committed to the Pere Marquette Depot Endowment Fund, up to a total of $50,000.

*Don’t leave money stranded at the station—$13,690 in match funds are still available! Send in a donation or call us today!

Based on annual operating costs, maintenance and repairs, we need:

- Endowment Target: $650,000
- Commitments Received: $452,072
- Challenge Funds & Labadie Match raised to-date*: $72,620
- Remaining amount to raise: $125,308

Help us protect, preserve and prepare for the future of the historic Pere Marquette Depot.

Pere Marquette Depot | 1000 Adams Street, Suite 200 | Bay City, MI | 48708 | 989.893.4438 www.bayfoundation.org
$1 Million Awarded to Support Recreation and Healthy Living in Bay and Arenac Counties

In June, Bay Area Community Foundation was a proud recipient of $1 million from The Dow Corning Foundation as a part of a $3 million grant to the Great Lakes Bay Region for healthy communities. Midland Area Community Foundation and Saginaw Community Foundation also received $1 million. The grants are meant to enable projects that provide recreation and healthy experiences to residents of and visitors to the Great Lakes Bay Region.

Each community foundation awarded the first of its grants through the Healthy Living Fund to playgrounds and parks. By improving these recreation spaces and adding new ones, the gifts from The Dow Corning Foundation will provide exciting recreational opportunities for our residents and promote a vibrant destination for our visitors.

From the Bay Area Community Foundation Healthy Living Fund, two playground projects have been awarded $50,000 each.

- **Riverview Discovery Island**: This grant will help steer this community-driven, grassroots project to completion. Riverview Discovery Island is designed as an all-inclusive, ADA accessible playscape with universally accessible components. It will be a place where children and families of all abilities can come together in the spirit of play to explore, create, and imagine. Site preparation will begin in the fall of 2018.

- **Bay City State Park Playground**: This funding will help with the park’s upcoming playground rebuild in which the wooden play structure will be replaced with a new, accessible playscape. This grant represents the first community dollars committed to the project. It will supplement a $400,000 allocation from the State of Michigan. Groundbreaking will occur in 2019.

**Applying for This Grant Funding**: Letters of Intent for the Healthy Living Fund will be accepted online beginning in January 2019. From those submissions, a committee will select projects to continue on to the full online grant application, due Monday, March 11, 2019. For more information, please contact Program Officer Joni King at 989-893-4438.

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**More than 1,500 Kids Clothed for First Day of School**

Bay Area Community Foundation’s Youth Advisory Committee, Civic League, and Northern Bay County Fund committees awarded a total of $7,500 this year to the United Way of Bay County’s annual Helen Wirt Lee Back to School Clothing Program. Thanks to these grants and other generous donors, the United Way was able to outfit more than 1,500 Bay County students for their first day of school. Each student received a bag with a full outfit including underwear, socks, and shoes. The average cost is around $65 per child. Thank you, Bay County, for giving these kids confidence on their first day!
MISSION

The mission of the Bay Area Community Foundation is to fulfill a wide array of donors’ charitable wishes throughout Bay and Arenac counties by building permanent endowment funds and serving as a leader for community improvement through effective grantmaking and collaboration.

Bay Area Community Foundation Staff

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Bay Area Community Foundation Staff

Arenac Community Funds awarded $1,200 to the Northeast Michigan Arts Council to help make tuition for their Youth Fine Arts Camp affordable for more children and their families. Youth were able to participate in drawing and painting, performing arts, and mixed media projects.

FOUNDATION FEATURE:

This month, we will introduce a new website design (same URL: www.bayfoundation.org). If you have feedback, we’d love to hear it! Call Lisa Bourdon-Krause or Kirsten McIlvenna at 989-893-4438.

Out New Website is Coming Soon!