

*A Gathering of People Helping People*

*The*

# ROUNDUP

*Winter 2023*

## Central Montana Foundation loses its “Superhero” Fred Schell

Central Montana Foundation (CMF) lost one of its founding members and its “superhero,” Fred Schell upon his death at the age of 98 on October 23, 2023.

Fred was instrumental in the founding of the first community foundation in Montana when CMF held its organizational meeting in May 1984.

“We will be celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the Foundation at our Annual Meeting in May,” said CMF Executive Director Carrie Mantooh. “It will be a bittersweet celebration without Fred in attendance, but you can bet we will be celebrating his legacy.”

CMF President Dean Comes said, “Fred’s commitment to the Foundation’s growth and success was legendary, and he remained our unofficial advisor throughout his entire life.”

Fred was a long-time Certified Public Accountant (CPA) who educated his clients about the benefits of philanthropic giving. Several of his clients provided funding for CMF from their estates (see related story on legacy donors on Page 6). These are held in permanent endowments where the principal remains intact, and the income used for grant-making for projects across Central Montana.

“Millions and millions of dollars have been granted to local organizations for local projects from these unrestricted endowments over the years,” Carrie said. “Fred was truly a visionary who understood the impacts a community foundation could have upon the quality of life in



*Central Montana Foundation visionary Fred Schell  
March 24, 1925-October 23, 2023*

a region.”

Fred was born in North Dakota but lived most of his years in Central Montana. He loved his country, his community, and his family. He was a World War II Navy veteran, who earned his business degree from Carroll College after his service. He went to work as an auditor with the State of Montana. He fell in love with Lewistown and started his tax firm here in 1954 after being one of the first CPAs to pass the CPA exam and hold a Montana certificate. He sat on the first State of Montana Board of Public Accountants in the early 1970s and helped set CPA practice standards for Montana.

He had many professional and community accomplishments, including being named as the “Friend of the Foundation” in 2003, but the source of his greatest pride was his family. He was married to the love of his life,

Lorraine McCadden Schell, for 74 years. Together they had four children, Linda, Carl, Greg and Nikki, five grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild.

The family will hold funeral services in the Spring of 2024 and are requesting memorials to the Fred Schell Memorial Scholarship with CMF. Fred was committed to education and was also instrumental in helping build CMF’s scholarship program, so the family felt a scholarship in his name would be a wonderful way to honor his memory.

For more information call CMF at 406.538.6130 or see the Giving Form on Page 14. ❖

*Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!*

During the Holiday Season, more than ever, our thoughts turn gratefully to those who have made our progress possible.

And in this spirit we say simply, but sincerely,

*“Thank You,” and may 2024 be filled with Peace, Joy and Success!*

## Thank you to Opportunity Bank for sponsoring this edition's full-color!

Opportunity Bank of Montana is the generous sponsor of the full-color in this edition of The Roundup newsletter.

The Roundup is a joint publication of Central Montana Foundation (CMF) and the Central Montana Medical Center Foundation (MCF).

Opportunity's branch in Denton is the former Farmers State Bank (FSB). FSB was founded when A.C. Edwards, a Stanford area rancher and businessman, bought Denton's First National Bank out of receivership in 1929.

The bank served the community and its area agricultural producers under three generations of Edwards' ownership and management, until a series of mergers culminated in the 2019 purchase by Opportunity Bank of Montana.

Opportunity Bank's core mission is to help communities thrive. One way they've demonstrated that commitment is by providing generous support towards the purchase of a new ambulance for the Denton volunteer service. The Denton bank also served as a major collection point for monetary donations following the West Wind Fire in 2021.

Josh Webber has been with FSB since 2011 and is the manager for Opportunity Bank of Montana's Denton branch. He's been on the CMF Board of Directors since 2011 and a member of its investment committee. Josh is also chairman of the Denton Endowment, which holds its funds with CMF, and is vice president of the Fergus County Disaster Relief Board.

"Opportunity Bank is proud of its support for central Montana, and one of the best parts of my job is my involvement in the Central Montana Foundation and the Denton Endowment," Josh said. "Founder Fred Schell has reminded me on a few occasions that the very first monetary donation to CMF was a \$100 check in 1984 from George Peterson, who was one of CMF's first board members as an appointee of Farmers State Bank. Knowing that our little bank was with CMF from the beginning, and seeing Opportunity Bank embrace that tradition gives me great satisfaction and knowledge that we will continue to be a strong supporter of CMF into the future."

Thank you, Opportunity Bank, for supporting Central Montana projects! ❖

## Hope Close to Home Raffle raises \$48,880 for CMMC Cancer Center campaign!

Central Montana Medical Center Foundation's (MCF) Hope Close to Home Raffle raised \$48,880 for the Cancer Center Campaign, which is doubled to \$97,760 thanks to the Larry and Kathleen Carrell match campaign!

MCF Director Abby Franks said the raffle sales far exceeded expectations with 2,444 tickets sold at \$20 each. "I was hopeful we would raise \$20,000, as that was the value of the prizes, but to have hit nearly \$50,000 is incredible!"

Abby credits the "large and eye-catching" donation of a camper from Anne Leininger in memory of her husband, David, for setting the tone for success. That amazing grand prize, along with the great line up of additional prizes, resulted in strong ticket sales.

The culmination was an event at the Eagles Club on October 18 where the drawing was held. Around 130 people attended in person (although attendance wasn't required to win), with another 50 watching the drawing via FaceTime. "The highlight of the night was having 10 cancer



Jamie and Dr. Michael Sura were the lucky winners of the camper donated by Anne Leininger in memory of her husband David Leininger.

survivors be our VIP designated winning ticket drawers. Each of them was brave to share their stories and be front and center to draw the winning tickets," Abby said. Winners and the prize package descriptions and donors include:

**Car Package:** Bob Lee was the winner of two sets of tires donated by GS Oil of Roy and Montana Tires of Billings and a \$300 car detail provided by 4.5.7. Detail, Travis Chapman.

**Cow Elk Package:** Ken Hord won this cow elk hunt donated by the N Bar Ranch and a \$250 gas card donated by Northwestern Energy.

**Bison Hunt Package:** Lee Maxey is the winner of this bison hunt donated by American Prairie and a \$250 gas card donated by Northwestern Energy.

**Quilt & Furniture Package:** Elaine Sutton won the quilt donated by cancer survivor, Barb Berg, and a \$500 furniture gift card donated by Northwestern Energy.

**Staycation:** Barb Berg won the staycation donated by Judith Mountain Lodge, including two nights in their cabin and a \$250 dining gift certificate.

**2022 Sunray Orange Sport Camper:** Jamie and Dr. Michael Sura were the grand prize winners of the 2022 Sunray Sport camper donated by Anne Leininger in memory of her husband David Leininger.

Abby thanked all who donated or purchased raffle tickets. "This was all to benefit the Cancer Center! So much heart and love for a superb mission and goal!" ❖



**Greetings from  
Central Montana Foundation  
Board of Directors President**

On behalf of the Central Montana Foundation Board of Directors and staff, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

As 2023 is drawing to a close, we're feeling very nostalgic as we mourn the loss of one of our founders Fred Schell, who died at the age of 98 on October 23. Fred was arguably the greatest advocate of the Foundation in its nearly 40-year history, and worked tirelessly to educate all of us on the importance of continuing to build upon the foundation he and other visionaries laid in 1984.

The year of 2024 is going to be a memorable one as the Foundation celebrates 40 years of grant-making, building of its large scholarship program and serving our five-county region as the umbrella organization for nearly 300 permanent endowment and pass through accounts! Fred, Don Pfau, Al McRae, Don Davison, Jim Wilkins, Leonard McKinney and Don Romo were the visionaries who organized CMF, the very first community foundation in Montana, in May 1984. Both Fred and our remaining original founder, Don Pfau, often expressed how gratifying it was to see their vision become reality.

The many Foundation board members, staff and finance professionals through the years have worked hard to improve life across Central Montana, but ultimately, our success must be credited to our donors. Thank you to all who have contributed to CMF's general fund or one of the funds held here. Please take a few minutes to read about our Legacy Donors on Pages 6-7 who gave unrestricted gifts to the Foundation. Their gifts have resulted in millions of grants back to the Central Montana community they loved.

Even as we celebrate the successes, we won't be resting on our laurels. As Fred was quick to point out to our directors, there's much left to do as there are still unmet needs and unfunded grant requests. We hope you will be a part of fulfilling that vision.

- Dean Comes  
Central Montana Foundation President

**A greeting from  
Medical Center Foundation  
Advisory Board Chair**

On behalf of the Medical Center Foundation Advisory Board, I wish everyone in Central Montana a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

As Central Montana community members, we are fortunate to live in an area where people truly care about each other. As your Advisory Board Chair, I have the great privilege to witness where people demonstrate that love and care for each other through gifts to the Medical Center Foundation.

It should warm your heart this holiday season to know that \$143,000 was utilized to support various medical and healthcare related projects at CMMC and in the community this past fiscal year. That included 20 different projects ranging from first aid kits for the Central Montana Search and Rescue to new equipment in the CMMC Cardiac Rehab space. All possible because of your love, support, and gifts to the Medical Center Foundation!

An additional holiday gift is the forward motion on the Cancer Center. This project will bring comprehensive cancer care to Central Montana. Sincere thank you to the many people who have already given. September 13th marked a groundbreaking event and construction has started. Fundraising continues, and we are near the finish line, all with the hopes that we can ring in the New Year with cheers that all funds have been raised!

To conclude I must say that I am very proud to be a part of this beautiful community. As the chaos in the world happens around us, I am so thankful I live here. I pray that all of you have a safe, happy, and healthy new year.

- Derree Kamp  
Medical Center Foundation Advisory Board Chair





*“I can personally relate as a brain cancer survivor who traveled outside Lewistown for radiation treatment in 2021. Having the ability to treat cancer with radiation therapy in our community will enable patients to eliminate many of the hardships associated with traveling for cancer care. The cancer center will be a tremendous asset to our local community.”*

*~ Dr. Michael Sura*

Annually our friends, family, and community members are driving over 165,000 miles for cancer care. That is 647 trips across the state of Montana. The Cancer Center will keep them safe, more comfortable and close to home.

### Cancer Center Campaign

Cancer Center Base Project Cost ..... \$15,600,000

**FUNDS RAISED:**

Helmsley Charitable Trust ..... \$9,000,000

Funds Already Raised by the Medical Center Foundation ..... \$3,731,000

CMMC Debt Financing ..... \$2,000,000

**FINAL FUNDS TO COMPLETE THE BASE PROJECT: \$369,000**

*Above the base project costs are an additional \$2.4 million dollars in significant enhancements. The campaign is working to secure outside campaign dollars (i.e. grants, foundations) to complete this portion of the project.*

SCAN TO DONATE  
LEARN MORE  
OR WATCH THE VIDEO



PLEASE GIVE TODAY  
AND HELP US  
CROSS THE FINISH  
LINE IN 2023!



CENTRAL MONTANA  
MEDICAL CENTER



## Baumans fund deferred gift annuity to benefit the Cancer Center

The year of 2023 has been one of transition for Joe and Laurie Bauman. In March they sold Eddies Corner, the business they have lived and breathed throughout their adult lives, and have spent the remainder of the year adjusting to a retirement lifestyle.

"We have lots of time to make up for since we were so focused on work, work, work and not so much, life, life, life," Joe said.

What hasn't changed for the Baumans is a commitment to give back to their community, and one way they chose to do that is to set up a deferred charitable gift annuity (DGA) that will go the Cancer Center endowment at the end of a deferment period.

Their financial advisor, Joe Eckhardt of Edward Jones, educated them on the advantages of making a planned gift. They decided a DGA would help them reduce their tax bill and be a great way to help the cancer center.

"It's a win/win/win," Joe said. By setting up the annuity for the cancer center with Central Montana Foundation (CMF), the couple can take a Montana Endowment Tax Credit, as well as a federal charitable deduction. Montana is one of just a few states that offers a tax credit of up to \$10,000 per individual for a planned gift for a qualified permanent endowment. (Call CMF Executive Director Carrie Mantooth at 406.538.6130 to learn more about the tax credit and planned giving opportunities.)

"This is a way for us to be able to direct some money to be used locally," Joe said. The DGA held with CMF will be released at the end of the re-



*Laurie & Joe Bauman are enjoying their new retirement lifestyle.*

quired five-year deferment and placed into the CMMC Cancer Center endowment.

Cancer has hit the Baumans close to home. Both of Laurie's parents died from cancer, and they've had other close friends and family members who have battled this indiscriminate disease. One of those family members is Joe's niece, Derree Kamp, who is chairman of the Medical Center Foundation (MCF) Advisory Board Chair.

Derree is a strong advocate for the cancer center and provided the couple with more details about plans for the cancer center project. "We knew we wanted to donate to the cancer center from the very beginning," Laurie said, and funding the DGA is how they chose to help.

"This project tugs at our heart strings," Laurie

said, adding that having the cancer center where patients can get treatment close to home is going to fulfill a huge need.

The Baumans have a long history of philanthropic giving to Central Montana projects. "Giving back to the community where we make our living has always been our desire," Joe said, and something that was instilled in them by their predecessors.

The couple both have deep roots in Central Montana. Laurie's grandparents homesteaded in Roy. Her father, Gene Heil, took a job as the manager of Moore Farmers Oil Company in 1962 and retired from the position in 1996. Joe's grandparents homesteaded in Power, Mont., and his family moved to Moore in 1951 when his father bought Eddies Corner.

Eddies Corner was in the Bauman family for 72 years. Joe began working there in the late 1970s as a teenager, and Laurie worked at the cafe when she was in high school. They lived and worked on site and raised their twin daughters, Rachel and Kayla there. They have since purchased a home closer to Lewistown and will continue to be engaged in community projects.

After so many years where their lives were so entwined with their business, Joe and Laurie are enjoying trips in their RV, outdoor recreational activities, and best of all, spending more time with their daughters and their families, including granddaughter, Sophia.

For more information on giving to CMMC Cancer Center, contact MCF Director Abby Franks at 406.535.6309. ❖

## CMMC Auxiliary member shares her talents to benefit the cancer center

Central Montana Medical Center (CMMC) Auxiliary member Julie Darby finds joy in using her embroidery and crocheting skills to help CMMC's Cancer Center Campaign.

Her embroidered tea towels and crocheted cancer ribbons in a variety of colors are available for purchase in the CMMC Auxiliary Gift Shop, with the proceeds go to the Cancer Center. She also sold them at Farmer's Market this summer and at the CMMC booth during the fair.

Julie said the crocheted ribbons are a way for people to wear a reminder of loved ones' battle with cancer. She's made more than 200 of these and said it's a labor of love.

Julie moved to Lewistown from Kansas City, Mo., five years ago and said she loves living here and volunteering with CMMC Auxiliary. She has a young 3-year-old cousin in Kansas City who has been battling cancer half of her life.



*Julie Darby with her handmade crafts to help the Cancer Center.*

Besides her giving to CMMC, Julie donates ribbons to Kansas City Children's Mercy Hospital. "I want to help ease suffering," Julie said.

Medical Center Foundation (MCF) Director Abby Franks said Julie's handmade items were included in the gift baskets for representatives from Helmsley Charitable Trust when they were in Lewistown for the Cancer Center groundbreaking ceremony in September.

"It will take gifts of all sizes to bring us across the finish line. Julie is just the kindest and sweetest and we are so thankful for her sharing her heart and talent to benefit the cause," Abby said.

For more information on CMMC's Cancer Center Campaign or about how to purchase Julie's crafts, give Abby a call in the MCF office at 406.535.6309. ❖



## Legacy donors provide income for Central Montana Foundation grants

Most Central Montanans realize that Central Montana Foundation (CMF) is in the grant-making business, but perhaps far fewer understand where the funding to do so originates.

Quite simply, grants are funded by the legacy donors who gave unrestricted gifts to the Foundation.

Since its founding in 1984, CMF has granted millions of dollars to not-for-profit and tax-exempt organizations for medical, essential services, educational, civic, cultural and recreational projects from the dividends and interest earned from its unrestricted permanent endowments. The endowed principal provides a source of income into perpetuity!

The following is a brief history of each of the benefactors who loved their community so much that they wanted to provide for its future needs by setting up a permanent endowment with CMF.

**Mildred Bryte:** This is the largest unrestricted gift given to CMF. Mildred Bryte died in 1997 and had worked with her accountant Fred Schell, and attorney Jim Wilkins, to leave the bulk of her more than \$3 million estate to CMF. Mildred was born in Iowa, but spent most of her life in Lewistown. Her father ran Melchert's Bakery until the early 1950s. She was a student at Fergus County High School (FCHS) and enjoyed playing girls basketball there. Following graduation, she attended a music school in Chicago. She was a violinist and showcased her talents in her younger years by playing in the orchestra during intermissions at the Judith Theatre in Lewistown. She married Conway Bryte and worked for many years at Power Mercantile. Her husband was a linotype operator at the Democrat News before becoming a real estate and insurance agent. The couple had no children. Mildred told Fred Schell that she felt that since the money was earned in Central Montana, it should stay in Central Montana. At least 60% of the Bryte income is used to fund major grants at the May annual meeting. Income from the other 40% of the endowment funds the annual \$3,000 gifts to each of the rural endowments and a \$500/month grant to the local humane society (Saving Animals from Euthanasia).

**Housel Family:** Gladys Housel Teigen and Peter Teigen, Jr., worked with their accountant Fred Schell on their estate planning before their deaths in 1998 and 2009, respectively, and provided very generous gifts to CMF to benefit Central Montana. Peter's will instructed that about \$1 million be placed in a permanent endowment with CMF for the Petroleum County Road Fund. Gladys left another \$230,000 to CMF with income earned to be used for grants to Central Montana projects. The Teigen family married in 1954 and lived on the Teigen Ranch until 1959, when they bought and moved to their own ranch near Winnett. Gladys was born in Lewistown in 1922 and raised in the family home on West Boulevard Street. She graduated from FCHS and worked at a local wholesale grocery and then KXLO radio station, where she had the distinction as the first woman radio announcer in Montana.

**John & Alice Janicek:** John & Alice left Series EE Government Savings Bonds with a total value of more than \$230,000 to CMF. The savings bonds were cashed



Central Montana Foundation is able to award grants to local projects thanks to its Legacy Donors who gave unrestricted gifts through the years.

out and placed into an unrestricted permanent endowment, where the income is used for the benefit of Central Montana projects. The Janiceks were long-time farmers in the Moore area. They started farming in the Depression and were known for being hard-working and frugal. They were both born in 1910 and raised

in Central Montana. Alice was a Lodman and grew up on Beaver Creek and John was raised in the Rock Creek area. They married in 1933. John died in 1993 and Alice in 1999.

**Bertha Martin:** Bertha "Jerry" M. Martin died in 1987 and had worked with her accountant and personal representative Fred Schell to transfer her assets to CMF to be used for "scholarships and grants to benefit the young people of the Lewistown public school system." The income from the more than \$250,000 permanent endowment, annually funds \$2,000 in scholarships awarded by the Kiwanis Club of Lewistown, as well as helping fund other grants awarded by CMF. Her preference was that the grants help literacy and recreational programs for youth.

**Rosie Pense:** Rosie was born in 1911 to Roy and Roselia Pense. She graduated from Ingomar High School in 1930. Fred Schell was her accountant and he described Rosie as highly intelligent and an avid reader. She lived an isolated life at the family ranch 20 miles north of Sand Springs, but it wasn't without incident. In 1972, she and her mother, Rose, made headlines when they spent a frightening night exchanging gunfire with would-be robbers who had severed the phone lines! The desperadoes slashed the Pense's vehicle tires and fled, leaving mother and daughter to drive a truck with flat tires to Jordan to report the incident the following morning. Rosie left half of her estate to Fergus County and half to Garfield County Health Center following her death in 2006 – amounting to more than \$800,000 for each.

**Chester Rickner:** Chester Rickner left about \$800,000 through his estate to CMF following his death in 2007. Chester had a history of generosity, having set up a scholarship fund with CMF in 1997. Chester's family came to Central Montana in 1852. He was born in 1919 in Lewistown and attended Castle Butte School, then graduated from FCHS in 1937. His step-daughter, LaVonne (Foss) Wilson, said he was 6'6" in high school! Chester ranched on Alaska Bench in the Snowy Mountains and was a confirmed bachelor until he met Foss's mother, Leora May Splittergerber, whom he married when he was 64 in 1983. Chester raised Gelbvieh cattle and loved to "tinker" with electronics. He built one of the first satellite dishes in the area.

**Gertrude "Trudy" Saxtorph:** Lewistown attorney Bill Spoja presented CMF with a donation from Gertrude Saxtorph in 1985 – a certificate of deposit worth \$25,000. This was the first sizable gift for the fledgling CMF, which had formed the previous year. Trudy Klein graduated from Colorado College in 1923 and was hired to teach in Lewistown. When she married Henrik Saxtorph in 1927, she

CMF Legacy Donors History . . .

Continued on Page 7

## Local woman utilizes employer's payroll match giving to help Trails

Allison (Linhart) Lucas lives an active lifestyle and enjoys the convenience and beauty of the Lewistown Trail System.

That appreciation made it an easy decision to contribute to the Friends of the Trails fund held with Central Montana Foundation (CMF) through her employer's matching payroll giving program. Allison said payroll giving is a great way to contribute to a non-profit she wants to support, especially when her employer matches the gift.

Allison works remotely for the medical device manufacturer, BD, and sells diagnostic equipment to hospital labs for molecular testing for women's health and cancer across Montana and Idaho. She's worked for BD for six years and has been in the medical device sales industry for the last decade.

Allison is a 2005 Hobson High School graduate who earned her degree in exercise science and biology from Rocky Mountain College. She lived and worked in Portland and Seattle before taking a job in Casper, Wyo. It was there that Allison became a dedicated runner, mountain biker, and the owner of



Allison Lucas and Zag on the Lewistown Trail System in Brewery Flats.

Zag, a yellow Labrador retriever. The pair took full advantage of Casper's "phenomenal trail system," and Allison said running is where she also found her group of friends.

Allison was in town for her sister's wedding six years ago when she met her future husband, Michael Lucas, who works at Natural Resource Conservation Service's Lewistown Field Office. Allison hadn't necessarily planned on moving back to Central Montana but is glad to be back home. She and Michael have two children, Beau, who's three, and six-month-old Jack, and she said it's great to have her parents, Rod and Lorrie Linhart, and other family close by.

A torn ACL and a busy schedule juggling travel with her job and raising young children has curtailed her running somewhat. Still, Allison remains a dedicated advocate of getting outdoors for the exercise and mental health benefits. "I love these trails, and I believe having them contributes to community growth," she said, explaining that this type of amenity influences decisions about moving to the community.

Allison encourages others who work for employers who offer a charitable match to get signed up! "It's an easy way to give and help a cause you believe in." ❖

## CMF Legacy Donors' History

*Continued from Page 6*

was automatically laid off by the school system, although she continued to tutor until WWII when she was rehired to teach at FCHS. She retired in 1961.

**Selma "Sally" Wells:** Sally died at the age of 94 in 2002 and left CMF more than \$325,000 in an unrestricted gift. Sally was born in Lewistown in 1908, the daughter of John and Elizabeth Larsen. She attended FCHS. She married Harrington Wells in California in 1935. The couple never had children and Harrington died in 1959. Sally worked as a secretary in California before returning to her hometown in 1971 to care for her aging mother. Sally's neighbor for 15 years, Linda Paulson, described Sally as "a beautiful woman. She was very witty and always made us laugh."

**Margie Wilkins:** Margie Wilkins was dubbed the "fairy godmother" of Lewistown as she generously supported local non-profits in her later years before her death in 2011. Her generosity continues to benefit the Central Montana community, as she provided nearly \$670,000 for an unrestricted endowment with CMF. Margie was born in 1924 to John and Lottie Hughes. She spent her younger years on the family PX cattle ranch near Grass Range and graduated in 1942 from FCHS. She married James Wilkins, Jr. in Grass Range in 1945. She attended college in Billings and the University of Montana in Missoula to her bachelor's and master's degrees in elementary education. She taught for 30

years, most of it at Garfield School in Lewistown. She lost her husband, local attorney Jim Wilkins, in 2000. Jim and Fred Schell worked together to educate clients about how to save money on taxes and leave a legacy by giving to charitable causes. Both Jim and Margie received the Friend of the Foundation award posthumously.

**George Mueller:** George Mueller was a long-time supporter of Central Montana projects. In 2000 he laid the groundwork to provide funding for three of his favorite non-profits by setting up a Charitable Remainder Unitrust (CRUT). Following his death at the age of 94 on Oct. 15, 2016, the CRUT was disbursed with 20% going to CMF, 65% to the Lewistown Public Library and 15% to the local Shriners. George was born in Lewistown and was a 1939 graduate of FCHS. He spent two years at Montana State University before serving with the Army during World War II. He finished college following the war, then began a 27-year career with the U.S. Weather Service in Oregon and Great Falls before returning to his hometown in 1976 when he retired. Besides meteorology, George enjoyed local and state history and wrote articles for regional magazines. His obituary aptly described George as a "historian, rattlesnake hunter, paleontologist, curmudgeon, friend, beloved uncle and philanthropist."

**Terry Bragg:** Terry Tolleif Bragg worked with his

attorney, Jim Stogsdill of Lewistown, to prepare his will when he was diagnosed with Parkinson's and knew the disease would take his life. He died at the age of 69 on Sept. 14, 2011. He left one-third of his estate to CMF as an unrestricted gift, and the other two-thirds to Central Montana Medical Center Foundation. Following the sale of a piece of property in 2018 that he owned near Terry, Mont., which was homesteaded by his father, a \$56,500 unrestricted gift was gifted to CMF. Terry's mother, Hannah Bragg, established one of the early scholarship funds in the 1970s, to be awarded to a FHS senior pursuing education. Terry was a 1960 graduate of Fergus and attended a year of college at Eastern Montana College in Billings before working in construction. He worked at the U.S. Gypsum plant south of Lewistown for 11 years, drove taxi for more than a decade, worked for a security company driving armored cars out of Lewistown, then returned to taxi driving in Lewistown.

"The bulk of our grants are funded by these unrestricted gifts," said CMF Executive Director Carrie Mantooth. "CMF also has a general endowment that donors support that increases our grant-making ability. We receive more in requests than we can grant out to local projects, so our goal is to continue building our unrestricted funds."

For more information about CMF or how you can be a Legacy Donor, call Carrie at CMF at 406.538.6130. ❖



## CMF & MCF support Mental Resilience for Volunteer Emergency Services

The vast majority of Central Montana emergency medical and fire personnel are volunteers who are responding to emergencies that all too often involve their friends, neighbors, and even family members.

These events can create traumatic stress for the responders. Personnel with a paid service may receive counseling through their employer, but volunteers are left to deal with that stress on their own.

Recognizing the need to address the declining numbers of emergency responders due to burnout, a group of licensed counselors and rural EMS volunteers formed Mental Resilience for Volunteer Emergency Medical Services (MRVEMS) a few years ago. Snowy Mountain Development Corporation serves as its fiscal agent.

Both Central Montana Medical Center Foundation (MCF) and Central Montana Foundation (CMF) have granted funds to provide trauma therapy to rural volunteers. MCF provided two \$5,000 grants from its Friends of First Responders and General fund, and CMF awarded a \$10,000 major grant from the Mildred Bryte Estate at its annual meeting in May. The Larry and Kathleen Carrell Donor Advised Fund held with CMF granted an additional \$4,000.

MRVEMS exists solely to provide access to grant funded mental health counseling for around 90 EMTs on eight ambulance services and approximately 260 fire fighters at 18 stations located in Fergus, Judith Basin and Petroleum Counties. Four MRVEMS counselors provide this service to volunteers at a reduced price per session.

MRVEMS President Barb Solf said the first \$5,000



*Pictured (front, from left) are MRVEMS board members Ryan Peterson, Doug Winter, Suzanne Aune, president Barb Solf and Kathy Barta; (back) Diane Brodd of DES, and LCPCs Deanna Stevenson, Teresa Majerus and Kelli Berg. (Not pictured, Monica Braulick LCPC.)*

grant from MCF enabled them to get started, and the success of the program made it evident that they would need more funding. "Without these grants, we wouldn't be able to support our rural volunteers by helping keep them mentally healthy and providing service to our communities."

She said, "We owe it to our volunteers to provide a mental health support system to help them do the job." With permission, she shared a story of one of those volunteers with the audience at CMF's Annual Meeting in May. This individual had been a volunteer EMT for 18 years, and received a traumatic call two years ago that was negatively impacting their mental health. "I was withdrawing from people and was short-tempered with my family and friends. As an EMT, I kept responding, but dreaded the sound of the pager and considered quitting the service."

The volunteer had heard about MRVEMS and it was a lifeline. The volunteer went through the process to work through the traumatic call, and also discovered that the worst secondary trauma was from a run 14 years prior that was a family friend

who didn't make it. "I didn't realize the effect that call was still having on me after all of these years. I was able to process the complex grief of being both a friend and a responder."

MRVEMS Counselor Teresa Majerus said they personally visited rural EMTs and fire personnel in August 2022, sharing research on the decline of EMS personnel throughout rural Montana due to burnout from PTSD. "We then educated on the impact of traumatic events. We defined vicarious trauma which is also

known as compassion fatigue, defined burnout and secondary trauma, and discussed the signs and symptoms of these conditions. To date, we have provided counseling to multiple individuals from various communities and departments in the Tri-County area."

MRVEMS counselors are trained in Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) therapy. "Having completed EMDR, I now feel that I will be able to serve my community for years to come," said the volunteer. "I also feel that I have the tools moving forward to deal with the next bad call."

MRVEMS was the recipient of the Montana Economic Developers Associations Economic Impact award for 2022.

CMF Executive Director and MCF Director Abby Franks said their board members recognize the valuable services offered to EMS personnel through MRVEMS. "These volunteer emergency responders do what they do because they care, so it's very gratifying that our Foundations can do something to help them," Carrie said. ❖

## CMMC grants funding to help co-workers and provide equipment

Central Montana Medical Center Foundation (MCF) Advisory Board recommended another round of grants in the last few months that will benefit both patients and CMMC staff.

Grants awarded include:

• **HOPE fund, \$1,000:** This grant helped a CMMC employee in a crisis emergency. The HOPE Fund is primarily supported through employee giving and is used to help co-workers in crisis or emergency.

• **Home Health, \$500:** This is a grant from a Home Health family who designated their gift for a staff appreciation event. The staff held a paint and eat event at the Civic Center.



*MCF grants included funding for a Virtual Realty for hospice patients.*

• **Hospice, \$3,360:** This grant from the Hospice fund was used for a Virtual Realty (VR) set used to enhance patients' end of life experience. The VR set included equipment, subscription and updates. The library includes 250 VR experiences - travel, activities, arts and entertainment and more.

The MCF Advisory Board considers grant requests on a regular basis. To help support projects like these through giving to MCF funds, see the giving form on Page 14.

Contact MCF Manager Abby Franks at [afranks@cmmccares.com](mailto:afranks@cmmccares.com), or by phone 406.535.6309, for more information. ❖



## Jean Hassler and Marilyn Moore Estate disbursement updates

A number of local organizations recently received a boost thanks to additional disbursements from both the Jean Hassler and Marilyn Moore estates.

Jean Hassler bequeathed a significant gift to Central Montana Foundation (CMF) in her estate; earmarking it for local organizations including Central Montana Shooting Complex, Hilger Fire Department, Hilger Community Hall, the Lyle and Jean (Zelenka) Hassler Scholarship, Fergus FFA Alumni, Lewistown Public Library, Central Montana Medical Center (CMMC) Emergency and General funds, and Council on Aging.

The bulk of the gifts were disbursed following Jean's death on May 27, 2022. Proceeds from the recent sale of the Hassler ranch near Hilger result-

ed in more funding for these organizations.

Jean's niece, Carol Rhoads and her husband, William "Dusty" Rhoads, said Jean chose to gift funds for these causes because they were important to her and the people of Fergus County.

Jean lived her entire life in Central Montana except for a short stint in Alaska in 1957. She married Lyle Hassler in 1959 and they made their home in the Hilger area. Lyle died in December 2011, and Jean remained on their ranch another six years before moving to Lewistown.

The Marilyn Moore Estate provided nearly \$800,000 in 2021, whose designees included Moore Sisters Scholarship (25% of the assets), Winifred Methodist Church (20%), Winifred Cemetery, Central Montana Medical Center Cancer Center, and Council

on Aging, (15% of assets to each), and Lewistown Public Library (10%). An additional distribution of \$20,000 total was given to these designees in September from two years of land payments. The land payments will continue for a total of 15 years.

Marilyn and her two sisters, Margaret and Orpha Moore, lived in Winifred most of their lives and by all accounts, lived a very frugal lifestyle. They chose to forgo most modern conveniences and by the time the last surviving sister, Marilyn, died in 2020, had amassed a small fortune, much of which was gifted for charity.

"These gifts provide a lasting legacy for these donors," said CMF Executive Director Carrie Mantooth. "Contact CMF at 406.538.6130 or your finance professional to learn more about estate planning. ❖"

## CMF grants to three local organizations at its October meeting

Central Montana Foundation (CMF) Board of Directors sent out grant checks to three local organizations in October.

This round of grant awards included:

• **Boy Scouts of America, Troops 1360 and 6360, \$1,370:** This award will help offset the Boy Scout registration fee so no youngster is denied the opportunity to participate in the Scouting program. There are currently 20 Scouts involved in these two troops, and eight of them are working on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout! This request was approved by CMF Board of Directors and funded through the Lewistown Boy Scout endowment administered by CMF.

• **Recycle Our Waste Lewistown, \$1,800:** The grant will be used to help this volunteer recycling group with their rising expenses as they deliver recyclables to Billings, and for marketing efforts to educate the public about what they can accept at its recycling drop-off location just off the Truck-Bypass.

• **Wheatland County Community Mental Health, \$3,000:** CMF Directors approved a \$3,000 grant to be used for emergency funding for mental health patients. These services are provided in Har-

lowton through Catalyst for Change. The grant is funded by Enbridge Inc.'s grant to CMF targeted for at-risk populations.

CMF Board of Directors considers grant requests under \$5,000 at its monthly meetings and requests \$5,000+ at its annual meeting in May.

The grant application and instructions are available on the CMF website at [www.centralmontanafoundation.com](http://www.centralmontanafoundation.com). Call CMF Executive Director Carrie Mantooth at 406.538.6130 for more information. ❖

### Scholarship Season is here!

It's scholarship season! Applications for Central Montana Foundation and other area scholarships and supplemental materials for the 2024-2025 academic year will be available online in early December at [www.centralmontanafoundation.com](http://www.centralmontanafoundation.com) and on the Fergus High School website.

The scholarship deadline for graduating high school seniors is March 15, 2024, and the deadline for post high school graduates is April 15, 2024.

A link to a description of the more than 75 CMF and other scholarship funds is also available on the CMF and FHS websites.

Contact CMF Executive Director Carrie Mantooth at 406.538.6130 for more information. ❖

## Mary Kay Ladies Night Out benefits Cancer Center

Local Mary Kay consultants were pleased to help Central Montana Medical Center (CMMC) Cancer Center Campaign by sponsoring "Ladies Night at the Loft" on Sept. 30. They donated the proceeds to the campaign, and when combined with the dollar for dollar match from Larry & Kathi Carrell, were able to give \$1,321 for the cancer center!

Debby Olson serves on the Medical Center Foundation Advisory Board, and is a Mary Kay consultant. After sharing with her fellow consultant Stacey Martinez about the Carrells' \$1 million challenge grant to for the cancer center, Stacey suggested holding the event,



Mary Kay consultants (from left) Tarah Simac, Stacey Martinez, Debby Olson and Karrie Sramek at their fundraiser for CMMC's Cancer Center campaign.

and Tarah Simac and Karrie Sramek joined in to help. All the ladies agreed that they wanted to use their "Mary Kay businesses to help this amazing place (cancer center) come to be," Stacey said.

The event was attended by nearly 30 people who enjoyed the Mary Kay goodies; from skincare to color to Christmas gift ideas.

The Loft at Central Feed Grilling Co. was the perfect place to hold the event, Debby said. "It was awesome that so many women came because they like Mary Kay and wanted to help the Cancer Center." ❖

# Memorials, Tributes & Donations - Thank You!

Donations to  
**CENTRAL MONTANA FOUNDATION**  
September 25-November 8, 2023

## Permanent Endowments

### CMF General

Kelly & Carrie Mantooth, Geri Stilson, Dwayne & Robyn Bakkedahl, Glenn & Denice Elison  
In Memory of Jack Shields  
George Maruska  
*In Memory of Sigrid Stokken*  
Craig & DeeAnn Buehler

### Central Montana Community Cupboard

Ryan & Erin Hansen, Megan Bartel, Anne Tews & William Gardner  
*In Memory of Mayor Clair R. & Ruth L. Bloom*  
Eric & Sherry Silberhorn  
*In Honor of St. Leo's Catholic Church*  
Samuel Spiering

### Central MT Historical Assoc. (Museum)

*In Memory of Linda Slining*  
Anonymous

### Central Montana Memorial Gardens

*In Memory of Sigrid Stokken*  
CJ & Mandi Bailey

### Council on Aging

Eric & Sherry Silberhorn, Jean Earlee Hassler Estate

### Fergus FFA Alumni

Jean Earlee Hassler Estate

### Fort Maginnis Cemetery

Richard Abbott  
*In Memory of Ruthie Miller*  
Anonymous  
*In Memory of Eleanor Fields*  
Anonymous  
*In Memory of Abbott & Stuart families*  
Chad, Jasmin, Tristan, Liam and Wyatt Abbott

### Friends of the Library

### Dolly Parton Imagination Library

Virginia Woodburn

### Friends of the Pool

Anonymous, Jim & Sandy Fox, Glenn & Denice

Elison

### Friends of the Trails

Payroll gifts from Becton, Dickinson & Co./Alison Linhart Lucas, John Turner, Anne Tews & William Gardner

### Heart of Montana Love INC

Kelly & Carrie Mantooth, Ryan & Erin Hansen

### Hilger Community Hall

Jean Earlee Hassler Estate

### Hilger Fire Department

Jean Earlee Hassler Estate

### Hobson Ambulance

*In Memory of Harry Pospisil*  
Sally McBurney

### Inspire Pregnancy Outreach Center

Ryan & Erin Hansen

### Lewistown Ice Skating Association

Glenn & Denice Elison, Jeff & Lois Shelden

### Lewistown Library

Jean Earlee Hassler Estate

## Community Endowment Contact List & Fund Balances

*as of September 30, 2023*

- **Denton Endowment, \$147,852; Denton Ambulance, \$25,831**  
Josh Webber, Farmers State Bank, P.O. Box 1047, Denton, MT 59430, phone, 406.567.2226
- **Garfield County Endowment, \$26,902; Jordan Swimming Pool, \$10,375; Library Fund, \$1,491**  
Holly Harbaugh, PO Box 395, Jordan, MT 59337, phone, 406.557.2324
- **Grass Range Endowment, \$76,582**  
Debby Olson, 401 7th Ave. So., Apt. 208, Lewistown, MT 59457, phone, 406.366.0370
- **Hobson Endowment, \$33,143; Hobson End. School, \$7,653; Philbrook Cemetery, \$1,922; Pride of the Judith, \$10,033; Hobson Pool, \$1,572**  
Bill Hesselbart, PO Box 433, Hobson, MT 59452, phone, 406.423.5369
- **Judith Basin County/Stanford Endowment, \$227,358; Stanford Pool, \$3,369**  
Tess Brady, PO Box 221, Stanford, MT 59479, phone, 406.566.2633
- **Judith Gap Endowment, \$38,140**  
RoseMary Mitchell, PO Box 127, Judith Gap, MT 59453, phone, 406.366.1654
- **Moore Endowment, \$126,173**  
Gary Greenwood, PO Box 133, Moore, MT 59464, phone, 406.374.2363
- **Petroleum County Endowment, \$160,807**  
Gari King, PO Box 125, Winnett, MT 59087, phone, 406.429.5821
- **Roy Endowment, \$32,757**  
Shelly Willmore, 2350 Birdwell Ln., MT 59471, phone, 406.464.7411
- **Wheatland County Community Endowment, \$57,136**  
Mandie Reed, PO Box 733, Harlowton, MT 59036, phone, 406.240.1954
- **Winifred Endowment, \$116,050**  
Jamie Wickens, PO Box 92, Winifred, MT 59489, phone, 406.462.5612

**Eleven  
Rural  
Community  
Endowments  
Funds  
TOTAL:  
\$1,105,146**

*Helping  
improve  
life  
in our  
Central  
Montana  
Communities!*



*In Memory of Sigrid Stokken*

Jim & Kathy Harris

*In Memory of Pat Umsted*

Virginia Woodburn

*In Memory of Joyce Swanz*

Virginia Woodburn

#### **Lewistown Pickleball**

Dwayne & Robyn Bakkedahl

#### **Petroleum County Community Center**

Nathaniel Ostby

*In Memory of Walt Manuel*

Judie Manuel

*In Memory of Joe Whisonant*

Judie Manuel

*In Memory of Burt Bevis*

Judie Manuel

*In Memory of Hugh Brindley*

Judie Manuel

*In Memory of Bob Pombrio*

Chris & Gari King

*In Memory of Karen King*

Chris & Gari King

#### **Heritage Wall**

*In Memory of Phyllis Hanson*

Chris & Gari King

#### **Small Wonder Child Care**

Megan Bartel, Jim & Cindy Moodie

#### **Supplemental Meals In**

##### **Lewistown Elementary Schools (SMILES)**

Lily Girvin, Zion Lutheran Church, Holly Jensen, Lewistown Insurance Agency, Linda Wier, Greater Montana Land Co., Town Pump Charitable Foundation, All Weather Tech, Central Drilling, Pam Bowen, Bighorn Physical Therapy and Sports Medicine, Dennis & Kris Descheemaeker, Moen Family Dental Center, Gary & Kathy Jenni, American Prairie Foundation, Lewistown Honda, Marvin & Jean Hoffer, Fergus County Medical Society, Wier Furniture, Central Montana Propane, Wade & Debbie Stein

#### **Veterans Memorial Park**

*In Memory of Ruthie Miller*

Anonymous

*In Memory of Eleanor Fields*

Anonymous

##### **Your Neighbor Cares of Central Montana**

Florence Kettering, Tobie Liedes, Ted & Kristen

Cilwick, Glenn & Denice Elison, Peak Electric, Huffine McMillan Arntzen & Ruckman, Century Companies Inc., McKenna Agency, Eyecare Associates of Lewistown, Country Junction, Fergus Federal Credit Union, Creel Funeral Home, Complete Health & Allergy Center, Rosemary Youderian, Karen Karhi, Central Montana Variety, Dennis & Linda Robinson, Super 8

*In Memory of Wallace Otto*

Eric & Sherry Silberhorn

### **Community Endowments**

#### **Denton Endowment**

*In Memory of Joseph Otte*

Susan Poser, Susan Woods, Monte & Sabrina Grove, Wayne & Lorinda Edwards; Ralph Schwieterman, Joe Knapschaefer & John Holdeide families, Carl & Constance Hotvedt, Roger Campbell, Richard Barber

*In Memory of Joyce Jelinek*

Carl & Constance Hotvedt

#### **Garfield County Endowment**

*In Memory of Rose Lehner*

Cleo & Mary Boyce

*In Memory of Scott Guptill*

Cleo & Mary Boyce

*In Memory of Jack Linford*

Cleo & Mary Boyce

#### **Grass Range Endowment**

Fergus Electric Capital Credits

#### **Judith Gap Endowment**

*In Memory of Debra Ramirez*

Jeff & Chris Volf

#### **Moore Endowment**

*In Memory of Betty Simpson*

Clark & Gail Brevig, Chris & Janet Southworth, Don & Janis Williams

*In Memory of Helen Thomas Pratt*

Karl & Marion Hertel

#### **Petroleum County Endowment**

*In Memory of Brett Shaw*

Craig & Leslie Iverson

#### **Winifred Endowment**

*In Memory of Wilson Stulc*

Terry & Donna Econom, Kenneth Foster, David & Vangie McConnell

### **Scholarship Funds**

#### **CMF Community Service**

Kelly & Carrie Mantooth

#### **FHS Class of 1995**

Payroll gifts from Wells Fargo/Jennifer Weeden

#### **Fred Schell Memorial**

*In Memory of Fred Schell*

Russ Schell, Micki Larson, Catherine (Kitty) Foreman, Sherry Hanley, Marica Gans, Allied Investment Advisors, Kelly & Carrie Mantooth, Virginia Woodburn

#### **Grass Range-Hughes**

Jack & Shirley Hughes

#### **Helen Hruska Schultz**

Russ & Carey Jo Horning, Christa Elliott

*In Memory of Frank Fouse*

Lori Watson

*In Memory of Michael Elliott*

Lori Watson

#### **Kiwanis**

Lewistown Kiwanis Club

#### **Lyle & Jean (Zelenka) Hassler**

Jean Earlee Hassler Estate

#### **Petroleum County-Hughes**

Jack & Shirley Hughes

#### **Stewart & Catherine Thomas**

*In Memory of Janet Thomas*

Bill & Cheryl Spratt, Randy & Kelly Bokma, Christopher & Heidi Linhart, Patricia Hodge, Sharon Killham, William Mikkelson, Roger & Nancy Epkes, Ed & Terry Jelinek, Larry & Susan Rice, Dan & Marilyn Deichmann, Joni Oja, Greg & Diane Econom, Gregg & Rosalie Morse, Wade & Mary Kynett, Bob & Jane Wertheimer, Joy Culver, Nell Blair, Daniel & Bonita Lewis

### **Donor Advised Funds**

#### **Rich & Donna Dengel**

Rich & Donna Dengel

### **Pass Through Accounts**

#### **Central Montana Shooting Complex**

Jean Earlee Hassler Estate

#### **Heart of Montana Farm in the Dell**

Paul & Lynda Grass, Jared & Leslie Long, Shirley Barrick, Connie Sweeney, Matt & Judi Martin & family

*In Memory of Rebecca McDaniel*

Scott & Rachel Stansberry

#### **Lewistown Soccer Club**

Glenn & Denice Elison

Donations to the  
**MEDICAL CENTER FOUNDATION**

September 13-October 31, 2023

**Behavioral Health**

Becky

**Cancer Center**

Marilyn Moore Revocable Living Trust, Anonymous, Ryan & Megan Green, Ramatici Family - Aspen Bend Ranch, Anonymous, Joe & Laurie Bauman, Dwayne & Robyn Bakkedahl, McDonalds - Pete & Linda Peterson, Tourism Business Improvement District - TBID, Pat & Evelyn Patterson, Bill & Marilyn Steele, Tim Moline & Karmen Tesarek, Larry & Molly Descheemaeker, Jim & Lois Davidson, Darryl & Pamela Wareham, Shirley M Barrick, Greg & Derree Kamp, Michael Douglas, Benchmark Masonry, Inc, Arnon & Mary Frances Hurwitz, Larry & Kathleen Carrell, Ryan & Megan Green, Mary Rickl, Gatz Ranch LLC, James & Carole Goettemoeller, American Prairie Foundation, Stanley & Mickey Senechal, Richard Opper & Sally Mueller, Barbara Lodman, Gene & Marjorie Erlandson, William Gardner & Anne Tews, Doug & Jerie Stephens, Bradley & Amy Clark, Snowy Mountain Muzzleloader Club, Stephen & Dr. Amy LePage, Teresa Ashment, Shawn & Teresa Bell, Carrie Belstad, Barb Berg, Neil & Deann Blythe, Kelli Byers, Linda Cirolia, Mabelle Crawford, Amy d'Autremont, Annie Davis, Anonymous, Pete & Abby Franks, Kathy Gaines, Nancy Gerdrum, Jennifer Granot, Perry Howell, Lucinda Jorgensen, Deborah Lee, Molly Netburn, Stacie Nicholls, Kristine Ophus, Amanda Pace & Family, Stephanie Prater, Debbie Pratt, Jeanette Sartain, Joanie Slaybaugh & Family, Anonymous, Ron & Barb Walski, Scott

& Dr. Tammy Welsh, Ashley White, Wayne Wildonger, Chad & Beckie Williams, Rosemary Youderian, Brad & Lorrie Johnson, Linda White, Chad & Beckie Williams, Dylan & Megan Bartel, Spika Design & Manufacturing, Patrick & Ashley Morris, Eric & Abbey Wlchman, Derik & Corry Arntzen, Amber Davis, Snowy Mtn Motors, Scott & Diane Lutz, Paul & Debbie Tucek, Dale & Jeanne Godfrey

*Ladies Night in the Loft: Mary Kay event to benefit the Cancer Center*

Tarah Simac, Stacie Martinez, Debby Olson, Karrie Sramek

*In Memory of Jerry Minzel*

Dave & Arlene Mari

*In Memory of Joan Langbehn*

Kelly & Carrie Mantooth

*In Memory of Jack Wickens*

William & Patricia Dengel

*In Memory of Art & Gurneva Dengel*

William & Patricia Dengel

*In Memory of Jackie DeMars*

Billy & Natalie Butler

*In Memory of Frank Koncilya*

Phillip & Pamela Koterba

*In Memory of Jack Shields*

Shirley M Barrick, Phillip & Pamela Koterba

*In Memory of Marilyn Leininger*

Patricia Carroll, RN & RL Torgerson

*In Memory of Ed Lode*

American Legion Aux. No. 70

*In Memory of Evelyn Hansen*

Lynn & Mickey McMillan

*In Memory of Betty Simpson*

Kenneth & Linda Best

*In Memory of Sig Stokken*

Dave & Donna Byerly, Frank Valach & Greg Clark, Sandy Mikeson, Jean Raw, L.D. Werdin, Ed & Mary Althoff, Christine Orning, Austin & Kelsey Sweeney, Tom & Gwen Gehlen, Carolyn Gies, Larry & Vickie Ungefug, Richard & Donna Dengel, William Larson, Kerby & Karen Durbin, Hans Stokken, Renita Lucy-Moline, Robb & Joni Kremer, Nick, Jenelle, & Evelyn Sandford, Jana-lee Stokken & Chris & Vera Marcellino, Moen Family Dental PLLP, Fred & Leslie Colver, Rick & Jan Waltenbaugh

*In Memory of Larry Birdwell*

Albert & Betty Westburg

*In Honor of Don & Susie Pfau*

Bill & Pam Higgins

*In Honor of Larry & Kathleen Carrell*

Craig & Leslie Iverson

*In Memory of Dixie Joyner*

Ed & Mary Althoff

*In Memory of John Stahl*

Ed & Mary Althoff, Lewistown Honda, Michael

Vlastelic Family Trust

*In Memory of Fred Schell*

Frank J Valach

*In Memory of Ronald Nelson*

Mathilda Whiteman

*In Memory of David Brooks*

Mathilda Whiteman

*In Memory of Ron Baumann*

J. Melissa Bell

*In Memory of Jack Bell*

J. Melissa Bell

**Cardiac Rehab**

Neva Crane, Molly Netburn, Barbara Smith, Margaret Smith

**Darci's Gift**

Tim & Cheryl Gillen, Mabelle Crawford, Amber Econom, Elizabeth Howell, Amanda Larson, Deborah Lee, Morey & Laurie Ray, Deb Stein, Scott & Dr. Tammy Welsh, Rosemary Youderian, Linda White

**Healthcare Education Excellence**

Rich & Donna Dengel

**Emergency Room**

Cindy Birdwell, Deb Stein, Carson & Jamie Sweeney, Scott & Dr. Tammy Welsh, Rosemary Youderian, Jean Hassler Estate  
*In Memory of Jack Shields*  
Kelly & Carrie Mantooth  
*In Memory of William Stanton*  
Clark & Gail Brevig  
*In Memory of Joan Langbehn*  
Clark & Gail Brevig  
*In Memory of Sig Stokken*  
Clark & Gail Brevig

**Friends of the First Responders**

Cindy Birdwell, Mabelle Crawford, Amber Econom, Anonymous, Angela Phelps, Joanie Slaybaugh & Family, Scott & Dr. Tammy Welsh,

*The Roundup*

is a joint publication of  
Central Montana Foundation  
& Medical Center Foundation.

*Writing & Design by:*

CMF Executive Director Carrie Mantooth

*Printed by:*

Lewistown News-Argus Printing



Katherine Wier, Rosemary Youderian, Linda White, Marsha Zibell

**General Fund**

Dr. Daniel Hebert, Jeanette Sartain, Shawn & Teresa Bell, Carrie Belstad, Alyssa Bjorkman, Krystal Bold, Jacob Burg, Amy Cauffman, Shirley Climenti, Ashley Descheemaeker, Michael Dow, Elizabeth Fitzpatrick, James Gardner, Amanda Grove, Debbie Hahn, TJ Haight, Holly Hayward, Anonymous, Leann Horacek, Amy Howell, Lucinda Jorgensen, Trevor & Megan LeBrun, Heidi Linhart, Dr. Christina Marchion, Anonymous, Patty Neeman, Kristine Ophus, Janelle Painter, Debbie Phillips, Morey & Laurie Ray, Jeanette Sartain, Joanie Slaybaugh & Family, Barbara Smith, Rhonda Stanley, Anonymous, Jennifer Thompson, Ron & Barb Walski, Scott & Dr. Tammy Welsh, Rosemary Youderian, Anonymous, Jean Hassler Estate

*In Memory of Joan Langbehn*  
Central Montana Medical Center  
*In Memory of Patricia Umsted*  
Central Montana Medical Center  
*In Memory of Delbert Gegley*  
Central Montana Medical Center  
*In Honor of Jerry & Clarice Qunel*  
Pam York

**HOPE Fund**

Jan Allen, Carrie Belstad, Barb Berg, Sarah Boucher, Jacob Burg, Machel Crawford, Anonymous, Michael Dow, Stephanie Drga, Amber Econom, Erica Freed, Megan Garoutte, Nancy Gerdrum, Debbie Hahn, Shauna Halverson-Bruno, Marita Heggem, Kristy Heller, Bailey Howell, Elizabeth Howell, Lucinda Jorgensen, Karen Kleinsasser, Bryan Lund, Anonymous, Angela Phelps, Debbie Phillips, Rick Poss, Morey & Laurie Ray, Geri Rector, Stacey Reno, Anonymous, Julie Rooney, Jeanette Sartain, Joanie Slaybaugh & Family, Erika Stanley, Rhonda Stanley, Dr. Michael Sura, Shauna Trumble, Anonymous, Dr. Tammy & Scott Welsh, David Witt, Rosemary Youderian, Anonymous

**Home Health**

Russel & Debra Slivka, Amber Econom, Shauna Halverson-Bruno, Bailey Howell

**Hospice**

Maddison Dowdy, Amber Econom, Shauna Halverson-Bruno, Amanda Larson, Heidi Linhart, Carson & Jamie Sweeney, Rosemary

Youderian  
*In Memory of Brent Fjeldheim*

Clark & Gail Brevig  
*In Memory of Barbara Roehl*  
Thomas & Heidi Macy  
*In Memory of Marilyn Leininger*

Eileen Hastad  
*In Memory of Larry Leininger*

Eileen Hastad  
*In Memory of Wilston Stulc*

The Wilson Stulc Family: Tina, Tim, Terry, Anita, Nancy

*In Memory of Jeanene Pangburn*

Sharon Andersen  
*In Memory of Sig Stokken*

Terry & Ellen Miller, Jim & Carla Larson, Byron & Carol Swanby

*In Honor of Hospice Nurse, Erin Walsh*

Anita Stulc

**Lab**

James Gardner, Nikki Hartrich, Scott & Dr. Tammy Welsh, Shannon Gardner

**Radiology**

Sara Boucher, Megan Garoutte, Eva Long, Rick Poss, Geri Rector, Stacey Reno, Anonymous, Deb Stein, Rosemary Youderian

**Room Remodel**

Buddy & Shay Wilton, Amie d'Autremont

**Support for Nursing Excellence**

Annie Davis, Kristy Heller, Rob & Jessica Hicks & Family, Courtney Moline, Katherine Wier


**In Support of the Clothes Closet**

Presbyterian Deacon Outreach

**Vision 2000**

Shawn & Teal Miller, Rosemary Youderian



This memorial event offers a touching and visible way to remember a loved one during the holiday season.  
 *Dedicate a "Light of Love" ornament in memory of a friend or loved one.*  
 Following the ceremony, volunteers will be available to help you find your loved one's ornament.

Please print your name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 1.) In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_  
 2.) In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_  
 3.) In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Central Montana Medical Center Hospice, 408 Wendell Ave., Lewistown, MT 59457 or call 406-535-6302.  
 PLEASE SUBMIT MEMORIALIZED NAMES BY NOV. 28, 2023.

## Montana Endowment Tax Credit is great incentive for donors

Central Montana Foundation (CMF) has been intentionally building its planned giving program in recent years.

Donors have appreciated being able to take the Montana Endowment Tax Credit by setting up a planned gift that will ultimately benefit a qualified endowment. The tax credit was established to encourage individuals, businesses and organizations to make lasting investments in their communities by giving to qualified endowments like those held with CMF.

CMF has a software that creates professional illustrations for donors who are considering setting up a charitable gift annuity. "Once we gather the relevant information, we can present information back to the donor that provides a close approximation of their federal charitable tax deduction and Montana Income Tax Credit," according to CMF Executive Director Carrie Mantooth.

"Most of the planned gifts we've set up have been deferred charitable gift annuities (DGA) as a means for the donor to reduce a tax liability from a sale of a business or ranch," Carrie said. "The most recent planned gift we set up was from Joe and Laurie Bauman (see related story on Page 5), who funded a DGA that will eventually go to Central Montana Medical Center's Cancer Center endowment. "It's very gratifying to these donors to

realize they can reduce their tax bill by helping charitable causes."

Another popular planned giving tool is a charitable gift annuity, where the donor can take income before the asset is gifted to charity.

Carrie works closely on the planned giving program with Stacie Arntzen, a CPA with Arntzen & Ruckman, the firm which provides accounting services for CMF.

Planned gifts are a way of giving that can allow donors to maintain access to income during their lifetime, provide estate and tax planning tools, and build permanent wealth for Montana's charities like those in the long list of endowment funds held under CMF's umbrella (see page 15.)

The incentive is 40 percent of the gift's federal charitable deduction, up to a \$10,000 per taxpayer or \$20,000 for joint filers, and a credit of 20 percent of a direct gift by a qualified business, up to \$10,000 per year. This is a direct deduction of the Montana income tax liability!

If you are interested in learning more about planned giving, talk to your financial advisor and then contact CMF at 406.538.6130 to request an illustration. Planned gifts must be funded by December 31, 2023, to claim on 2023 taxes, so don't delay! ❖

## A Gift to Improve Life in Central Montana

A gift to Central Montana Foundation (CMF) helps improve life in Central Montana. CMF holds a long list of permanent endowments for local non-profit organizations, scholarships, pass through accounts, the Central Montana Medical Center Foundation (MCF) and community endowments. (See the list of funds on the following page.) You can give online through EZ-Gift using a credit card, or ACH withdrawal from a checking or savings account by going to [www.centralmontanafoundation.com](http://www.centralmontanafoundation.com) under the "Give a Gift" tab. Please consider setting up a recurring gift for your favorite cause, or, return this form with your donation.

• **To give to a CMF Permanent Endowment or Pass Through Account**, return this form to Central Montana Foundation, PO Box 334, Lewistown, MT 59457

• **To give to a Medical Center Foundation Fund**, return this form to Medical Center Foundation, 408 Wendell Ave., Lewistown, MT 59457

• **To give to a Community Endowment Fund**, return this form to the contact person for that fund listed on Page 10.

Given by \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \*FUND(S) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Name of person  Honored or  Memorialized \_\_\_\_\_

Send acknowledgement card to: Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to remain anonymous

**\* Please write checks to "CENTRAL MONTANA FOUNDATION," and designate to which fund your gift should be deposited in the memo line. You may write one check for multiple funds! Questions? Call CMF at 406.538.6130! [www.centralmontanafoundation.com](http://www.centralmontanafoundation.com) under the GIVE A GIFT tab to make your secure donation online!**



## Funds held with Central Montana Foundation

### Unrestricted Endowments

(Funds grants awarded by CMF)

- Central Montana Foundation General
- Mildred Bryte Memorial  Margie Wilkins
- Bertha Martin Estate  John & Alice Janicek
- Rosie Pense Estate  Chester Rickner Estate
- Gertrude Saxtorph  Jr. Housel Family Fund
- Selma "Sally" Wells Estate  George Mueller
- Terry Bragg

### Permanent Endowments

- A.W. Johnson Family Fund
- Big Spring Creek Watershed Council
- Boys & Girls Club of Lewistown
- Casino Creek Dam Site Maintenance
- Central MT Community Concert
- Central MT Community Cupboard
- Central Montana Fair Calf Roping Prize Fund
- Central Montana Fairgrounds
- Central Montana Family Planning
- Central Montana Head Start
- Central Montana Jaycees
- Central MT Medical Center Auxiliary
- Central Montana Memorial Gardens
- Central Montana Museum
- Central Montana Shrine Club
- Central Montana Youth Mentoring
- Cheadle Community Hall
- Council on Aging  COA Bus
- Creekside Marketplace & Pavilion
- Crooked Creek Chapter, Walleyes
- Devin Moe Memorials:  4-H  FHS
- Elks Lodge #456
- Emma Light Ag Building
- Fergus Community Leadership Partners
- Fergus County Farm Bureau
- Fergus Eagle Boosters
- Fergus FFA Alumni
- Fergus High School (FHS) Activity Fund
- FHS Speech & Drama (Quickenden)
- FHS Track & Tennis Court Maintenance (Kolar)
- First Presbyterian Church
- Forest Grove Cemetery
- Fort Maginnis Cemetery
- Friends of the Hobson Library
- Friends of the Library—Dolly Parton Imagination Library
- Friends of the Pool
- Friends of the Trails
- Garfield County Fire Foundation
- Garfield County Health Center
- Gina Fitzgerald Music Fund for Jordan Schools
- Heart of Montana Love INC
- Heath Rural Fire District
- High Notes for Kids
- Hilger Community Hall
- Hilger Fire Department
- Hobson Ambulance
- Hobson Rural Fire District
- Hobson Public School Montana Bale Trail
- Hobson Tiger Boosters
- Inspire Pregnancy Outreach
- Jawbone Creek Country Club Forever
- Judith Basin Co. Sheriff's Office K9
- Judith Gap Methodist Church
- Judith Mountain Players
- Kiwanis Toys for Kids
- Lewistown Art Center
- Lewistown Assoc. for Mentally Handicapped
- Lewistown Boy Scouts
- Lewistown Ice Skating Association
- Lewistown Library  Book Fund

- Lewistown Pickleball
- Lewistown Redbirds Baseball Association
- Lewistown Sea Lions
- Lewistown Swimming Pool
- Partnering for Resilience
- Petroleum County (Bratten)
- Petroleum Co. Road Maintenance (Teigen)
- Petroleum County Community Center
- Petroleum Co. Comm. Center Youth Program
- Recycle Our Waste Lewistown
- Saint James Episcopal Church
- Saint Paul Lutheran Church
- Save the Barns Maintenance
- Saving Animals From Euthanasia (SAFE)
- Ski for Light
- Softball Hall of Fame
- Small Wonder Child Care
- Snowy Mountain Development Corporation
- Summer Youth Programs
- SMILES (Supplemental Meals In Lewistown Elem. Schools)
- TCT Activities
- TORCH (Together Our Recovery Center Heals)
- United Methodist Church (Gen., Boy Scout, Help, Mission, Youth)
- Veteran's Memorial Park Maintenance
- Winifred American Lutheran Church
- Winifred Cemetery
- Winifred Community Ambulance
- Winifred Methodist Church
- Winifred Rural Fire District
- Young People in Recovery
- Your Neighbor Cares of Central Montana
- Zion Lutheran Church

- Julie Kalin Memorial
- Kiwanis of Lewistown
- Leonard & Edith Brooks
- Lewistown Bowling Association (Triumph)
- Little Belt Snowmobile Club
- Lyle & Jean (Zelenka) Hassler
- Maiden School  Marion Burke
- Maude Del Pimlott Estate
- Moore Farmer's Oil
- Moore Sisters
- Oakley Woody
- Niels & Helen Kirkemind
- Pat Descheemaeker Memorial
- Rachel Schaffer  Ralph Rindal Memorial
- Ray & Nikoline Marr  Roy & Jean Wunderlin
- Russell & Beatrice Murray
- Slater-Arganbright
- Stewart & Catherine Thomas
- Tom & Ellen Moe  Walt & Wilma Kunau
- Willems Family
- Winifred Educational-Norm Asbjornson

### Donor Advised Funds

- Dave & Donna Byerly
- Rich & Donna Dengel
- Horse Ranch
- Koffler Family
- Langbehn Family
- Lawrence & Kathleen Carrell
- Sherry & Eric Silberhorn
- Wells Fargo Bank

### Pass Through Accounts

- Ackley Lake Club
- Central Montana Childcare Alliance
- Central Montana Shooting Complex
- Central Montana Youth Challenge
- COVID-19 Relief
- Denton Swimming Pool
- Fergus County Courthouse Restoration
- Fergus Wrestling Club
- Friends of Head Start
- Friends of Saint Wenceslaus
- Garfield Ambulance Service, Inc.
- Garfield County Museum
- Girls Fast Pitch/Boys Cross Country
- Glitz, Glam & Gowns
- Heart of Montana Farm in the Dell
- Judith Basin Back Country Horsemen
- Lewistown Historic Accord
- Lewistown Police Dept. K9 Program
- Lewistown Soccer
- Montana Cowboy Poetry
- Roy School New Gym/Community Center
- Tri-Co. Crisis Intervention Stress Management
- Winnett ACES-Odd Fellows Hall Rehabilitation
- Winnett Swimming Pool

### Community Endowments

- Denton  Pride of Judith
- Denton Ambulance  Philbrook Cemetery
- Garfield County  Judith Basin
- Jordan Pool  Judith Gap
- Library  Moore
- Grass Range  Petroleum Co.
- Hobson  Roy
- Hobson Pool  Wheatland Co.
- Hobson School  Winifred

### Scholarship Funds

- Augra Hegna  Bill & Diane Brunemeyer
- Brooks School  Central Montana Foundation
- Central MT Manufacturing
- Chester Rickner  Clarence & Mildred Smith
- Combs Family  Dale Godfrey
- David Moodie Family
- Diane & Duane Dengel
- Don Romo  Dorothy Ileene Eklund
- Dr. Frank & Patty Thompson
- Elmer Erickson Memorial
- Ervin Weinheimer  Evelyn Beatty
- Fergus Electric Lineman  Fergus Farm Mutual
- FCHS Class of 1935  FHS/St. Leo's Class of 1964
- FHS Class of 1970  FHS Class of 1995
- FHS Class of 2019
- Gail Fox Memorial
- Germaine Stivers Memorial
- Gibson-Durbin Family
- Glenn Vogl Memorial Ag  Hannah Bragg
- Harold & Bette Coolidge Nursing
- Helen F. Hruska Schultz  Irene Miller
- Jack & Shirley Hughes (Grass Range & Winnett)
- James Lewis Memorial
- James Schultz Memorial
- Jay & Janette Henderson
- Jerry Bergum Memorial
- John & Nan Marty/Joan Marty Smith Memorial

### Medical Center Foundation

- Behavioral Health
- Cancer Center
- Cardiac Rehab
- Darci's Gift  Emergency Room
- Friends of 1st Responders
- General  Home Health
- HOPE Fund  Hospice
- Lab  Radiology
- Respiratory Care  Room Remodels
- Support for Nursing Excellence
  - Healthcare Excellence Scholarship
- Vision 2000  Other \_\_\_\_\_

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Carrie Mantooth

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