

President's Message



Bob Carmean
Board President

As the Oxford area emerges from the pandemic, community needs will persist, and new needs will rise to our focus.

Nurturing and educational needs will continue. By creating a scholarship or fund within the Greater Oxford Community Foundation, you will assist a Talawanda student with their education

or help a community member succeed.

Health concerns within our community will continue. By giving to the Foundation, grants to assist with food insecurities and healthcare support those in need.

We create a diverse, safe, and supportive community while promoting the mission of the Greater Oxford Community Foundation through our Diversity Committee.

We maintain a strategic plan that reflects our community. The opportunities are endless; limited only by our imagination.

Service and contributions can change the life of our fellow community members. Be a leader for change.

Leaving a Legacy

As we advance, remember that others follow. As you have received, also give; as you have profited from the wisdom and loyalty of those who preceded you, be mindful of your responsibility to those who follow.

What is important to you and what do you want to do with your life? Our time is a gift. The greatest fulfillment in improving ourselves is our empowerment to effectively reach out and help others.

Through a legacy gift you create the future. Help make your passions come true by emailing or calling us.

Foundation Celebration Station

By Molly A. Monson, intern

On a sunny day in late May, the Foundation offices were bustling with Talawanda High School seniors attending "Foundation Celebration Station." The event celebrated the recipients of this year's 47 Foundation scholarships. The previous evening, the scholarship winners were announced at Talawanda High School's annual senior awards night.

The first-time event followed social distance and masking regulations to ensure a safe and enjoyable in-person experience. The class of 2021 missed out on many face-to-face interactions in the last year due to the pandemic.



Foundation volunteers and staff at Celebration Station, from left to right: Warren Mason, Jim Robinson, Missy Friede, Mary Bennett, and Betsy Hope.

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Cheers to 25 Years!

Imagine Greater Oxford with no community foundation...



Graduating Talawanda seniors would be without thousands of scholarship dollars, vital projects meeting basic human needs would go unfunded, and our area just would not be as beautiful ... from arts performances to outdoor flower baskets to the area parks that so many of us enjoy.

It all started in 1996, when local attorney **James Robinson's** vision set in motion the establishment of the Greater Oxford Community Foundation. Others joined in, rolling up their sleeves to create a foundation with the goal of improving our community's quality of life.

Today, 15 talented members of the community serve on our board, and two professionals in our offices at 22 E. High Street, Oxford, lead our daily operations.

Your community Foundation turns 25 on October 23, 2021! We are one of Ohio's 68 community foundations. In collaboration with our community, the investment earnings on our \$13 million endowment are used to award grants and scholarships throughout our 144 square mile service area.

We say, "Cheers to 25 Years!" as we celebrate YOU, our donors, volunteers, and grantees, who have helped us make an impact for a quarter of a century!

#Impact25 #Cheerst25years

Announcing the Paving the Way Award

One way we will celebrate our birthday is by bestowing the inaugural **Paving the Way Award** to a member of our community who helps carry out our mission:

*To serve Oxford and the surrounding community
by identifying, addressing, and improving
the evolving needs of the community
now and for all time*

The award will recognize a member of the City of Oxford or the Townships of Oxford, Hanover, Milford, or Reily, who makes a significant impact through their contributions of "time, talent and treasure" to the Greater Oxford Community Foundation.

The Foundation board will select the recipient and present the award at our Annual Celebration on November 3, 2021.

Grants in Action

Spinning Some Fun at Somerville Community Park

A \$5,300 grant to Milford Township has made possible the purchase of a large, colorful piece of playground equipment called a Ten Spin.

The Ten Spin at Somerville Community Park is an inclusive motor spinner, on which up to 10 children may play at once sitting, kneeling or standing. It allows children to play together while enjoying a safe, sensory motor experience.

"The Ten Spin was installed in December and has been spinning ever since," says Milford Township Trustee **Amy Butterfield**. "This new equipment has generated lots of excitement and is providing hours of enjoyment to local children." The grant was made possible from the Dome Endowment Fund of the Greater Oxford Community Foundation.



Let the Show Go On

As the Talawanda High School band began their transition back to in-person rehearsals last school year, they found themselves in need of additional PPE gear in order to safely practice together. The Greater Oxford Community Foundation granted the Talawanda Band Boosters funds to purchase bell covers, made with special fabric that fits over the opening of trumpets, tubas, and other instruments, reducing the possible spread of COVID-19 to ensure safety for both students and directors.



Remembering Reily Township Patriots

Flip through the pages of "Reily Township Patriots..." and you can almost hear voices from the past, telling us their stories....

One of those voices is Rubye J. Harris. Originally from London, Kentucky, Rubye is a 1941 graduate of Reily High School, who served in the US Navy. She is buried with full military honors in Millville Cemetery.

Compiled for the families of Reily Township, this thick book was made possible through a grant from the Greater Oxford Community Foundation. Reily Township Historical Society spent more than a year gathering photos and information about the veterans, then printing and distributing the books to the public, including libraries and museums. It's intended for those inside and outside Reily Township with an interest in genealogy and military history and will be continually modified to include future Township Veterans.

Each of the 400 plus entries in the book contains birth, death, and as many details of their military service and family life as possible, as well as some antidotes and stories of the Veteran's lives. Most of



the entries have photos.

It begins with Thomas Boone, a Revolutionary War veteran buried at Indian Creek Pioneer Church and Burial Grounds Metro Park in Reily Township. The entries begin with those born in the late 1700's to this century, some of who are still living.

"These current and former service members are dads, mothers, sisters, brothers, aunts, uncles, neighbors, friends and work associates," says **Roger Koch**, board member of the Reily Township Historical Society.

"Some left the area after their discharge," says Koch. "Many became farmers, teachers, coaches, architects and engineers. Their military record traces these individuals through their service and to their burial and cemetery location."



Author/editor Deborah Gross presents a copy of "Reily Township Patriots: The History of Their Sacrifices and Bravery" to Roger Koch, board member of the Reily Township Historical Society.

Please mark your calendar for these upcoming GOCF dates to remember:

ANNUAL CELEBRATION CHEERS TO 25 YEARS!

Wednesday, November 3, 2021
Hanover Reserve Event Center

More details to come

UPCOMING GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINES

August 15, 2021
December 15, 2021

Application available on Foundation website

For more information on the Greater Oxford Community Foundation's activities, visit us online at oxfordfdn.org or call us at **(513) 523-0623**.



Investing in the Future with Scholarships

Each spring, The Greater Oxford Community Foundation is pleased to award scholarships to outstanding local high school seniors. Our donors make it possible! This year, we awarded more than \$55,000.

Jim Beaton Memorial Scholarship

Grant Monson

This scholarship is awarded to someone who gives freely of their time through selfless service to school and the Greater Oxford community.

J.K. (Jnanendra) and Tripti Bhattacharjee Math and Science Scholarship

Kaliyah Shannon

This scholarship, established by the Bhattacharjee family, is designated for a student pursuing a career in global science and technology.

Dorothy Blankenship Memorial Scholarship for Music

Grace Francis

This scholarship is awarded to a graduate intent on furthering their career in music or performance arts.

Robert W. and Mary Louise Bogan Scholarship

Linzie Rae Gabbard

Established by Robert and Mary Louise Bogan, this award recognizes students who will major in education.

Marge and Al Cornett Scholarship

Rita Barclay-Hart

Established by Cher and Tom Uhl, this memorial scholarship recognizes a student with demonstrated academic achievement and dedication to furthering their education.

Early Intervention Scholarship

Sara Jones

This scholarship is designed to provide a monetary incentive for those who achieved academic success throughout their high school career.

Captain David C. Foley Scholarship

Jada Tegge

This scholarship was established by friends and family of Captain Foley, a career Naval Intelligence Officer, as a tribute to his enthusiasm for life, love of nature, and devotion to family and friends.

Jeff Gross Memorial Scholarship

Kylie Brosey

This scholarship was created by the family of Jeff Gross to honor his memory. Jeff was a graduate of Talawanda High School and the University of Cincinnati Business School and believed that education is the key to opportunity.

Nancy Kane Continuing Education Award

Ashlee Hooker

This scholarship honoring longtime educator Nancy Kane supports students who do not follow the traditional route to complete high school.

Logan David Keebler Memorial Scholarship

Austin Weekley

This scholarship is given in memory of Logan David Keebler, a 2016 Talawanda High School graduate who tragically lost his life in an industrial accident just after his 21st birthday. Logan attended Marshall Elementary School, Talawanda Middle School and Talawanda High School. This scholarship will forever help graduating Talawanda seniors pursue a degree from a technical or trade school leading to a productive career.

Tammy McCartney Memorial Scholarship

Joe Marie Blair

Ava Wetzel

As a career teacher for 24 years in the Talawanda School District, Tammy McCartney exemplified a tremendous work ethic. This scholarship honors her determination and positive attitude.

David Osborne Memorial Scholarship

Arius Collier

Itzel Espinoza

Family and friends created this scholarship in memory of David Osborne, a well-known restaurateur. This scholarship recognizes students who participate in sports, plus work at a job, while attending high school.

Oxford Chamber of Commerce Scholarship

Grant Monson

Jonathan Richter

Natalie Roosa

Clark Daniel Tilton

The Oxford Chamber of Commerce Scholarship supports individuals working toward a degree in a technical or vocational field, with the hope that in the future they will bring their new knowledge and expertise to local businesses.

The Dale Plank Award

Jens Bartel

Katie Keeler

The Dale Plank Award honors longtime Talawanda track coach and teacher Dale Plank. This award recognizes students who have demonstrated outstanding character—through doing the right thing, role modeling and leadership.

Foundation Celebration Station

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Music, a photobooth with props, and festive decorations set the tone. Students were greeted with balloons and congratulations at the door and treated to cookies and other goodies. The soon to be graduates mingled with classmates, posed for fun photos, and hand wrote thank you notes to their scholarship donors.

"I'm very thankful that the Oxford Rotary Club has chosen me to be a recipient of their scholarship," said **Arius Collier**. "As I further my education at the University of Cincinnati in biomedical engineering, my goal is to help build prosthetics for those in need."

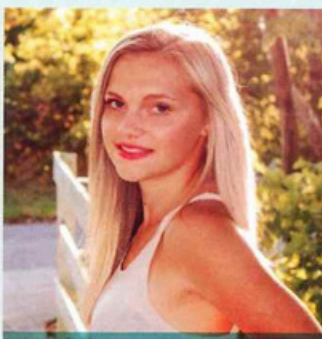
Kylie Brosey received the **Jeff Gross Memorial Scholarship** and will study business at Miami University. "With it, I'm entering college better financially. It means the world to me to be honored with such an award and to be carrying on the legacy of Jeff Gross himself," says Kylie.



Chayse Redpath



Arius Collier



Kylie Brosey



Austin Weekley

Rotary Club Scholarship

Jens Bartel
Kimberly Clark
Arius Collier
Madeline Nocole Iden
Sarah Lee
Blake Madden
Jean Pateman
Emma Schrimper
Sophia Thompson
Clark David Tilton
Olivia Woodruff
Natalie Roosa

The Oxford Rotary Club Scholarship is provided by the club's Hefner Fund to recognize students for their academic achievement, good citizenship, and service to school and community.

Snyder Career Development Scholarship

Jimena Espinoza-Medina
Established by Deb Snyder to recognize the partnership between Talawanda and Butler Tech, the Snyder Career Development Scholarship helps to demonstrate the benefits students receive by completing coursework through Butler Tech.

Robert F. Southard Memorial Scholarship

Claire Fox

Mitzie Statum "Spirit of Goodwill" Memorial Scholarship

Itzel Espinoza

Talawanda Athletic Boosters Scholarship

Molly Curry
Maxwell Gregg
Chayse Redpath
Tyler Teeters

Charles Warren Memorial Scholarship

Jean Pateman
Brianna Philpot
Olivia Woodruff

Eric Wasser Memorial Scholarship

Allison Pennington

Marjorie and Ned Webb Writing Award

Katya Fisher
Lilly Persinger

James "Red" Wilcher Scholarship for the Arts

Ava Wetzel