



ARMSTRONG COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Forum

Grants in Action

Building Memories

Excited young ladies sing western songs as they wait for their turn to experience nature on horseback. Mothers and daughters bond over crafts, picnics, and conversations. Families gather to celebrate and neighborhood troops prepare camp for the night.



The gathering place is a multi use pavilion for the Keystone Tall Tree Girl Scout Council (KTTGSC) at the Skymeadow Program Center. The Armstrong County Community Foundation awarded a \$2500 grant to support the pavilion's construction in 2005. The Skymeadow Program Center is located in the southern tip of Armstrong County and specializes in horse programs.

Gretchen Ciccarelli is Director of Communications for the Keystone Tall Tree Girl Scout Council says, "The KTTGSC plans to use the future pavilion to meet a variety of needs."

Under the pavilion's roof brownie girl scouts will complete badge work, have a safe place to wait for riding instructions, and participate in a variety of enrichment activities.

The Foundation is excited about helping the Keystone Tall Tree Girl Scout Council harness opportunities for young women in Armstrong County.

Page Turners

A pink, grey, and green braided carpet cushions quiet spaces where information is given and received. Beige blinds are the backdrop to blue computer screens and Worthington High School memorabilia. A sofa full of leaning teddy bears comforts young readers as their imaginations take a journey into words and pictures.

The Worthington West Franklin Community Library is a space that continues to renovate its resources for the community. Dedicated community members rallied around Julie Kersul's idea to start a community library in 1985. Starting a state funded library required 6,000 books, and 26 hours of operation. Today a collection of 12,383 books and 30 hours of operation welcome local residents.

The Armstrong County Community Foundation has supported the library's continued efforts through the Founders Fund and donor advised grant distribution. Library director Melanie Bowser says, "There are so many needs that we are able to fill for the community with the grants that we receive."

Updating the children's reading room was supported through the Founders Fund, the unrestricted fund of the Community Foundation, and the library receives an annual award from the William E. Blose Family Memorial Fund a component fund of the Foundation. Shelves of best sellers in large print, classic audio books, and a variety of DVD's are being ordered with the monies from the Blose Fund. The Community Foundation understands the Worthington West Franklin Community Library's desire to turn the pages of progress in Armstrong County.

Reaching the Goal Line

The Progressive Workshop is tackling community needs. Their game plan is a combination of productive individuals, quality service, and Armstrong County team players. The Community Foundation is on the roster and brings a shared community vision and grant support to the Progressive line.

Continued on next page

We make it easy to care about our community.

Director's Notes

Small but Mighty. . .

The 2004 statistics that rank the size and growth of community foundations in Pennsylvania just came across my desk. I am pleased to announce that although we rank 31st out of 38 community foundations in Pennsylvania by asset size, we rank 3rd for percentage of growth with a whooping 46.3% increase in assets! The Lancaster and York Community Foundations ranked number one and two.

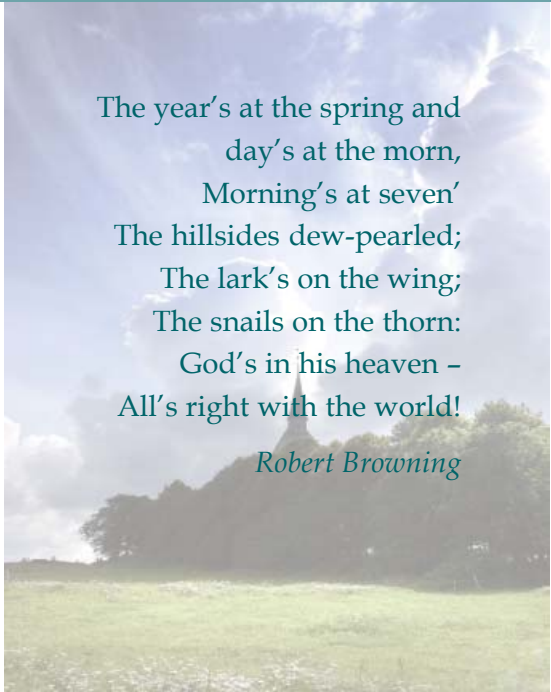
Due to your generosity the size of our community foundation increased \$435,706.00 – allowing us to distribute over \$55,000 to our nonprofit organizations last year. It brought the total of our current assets to \$1.2million. We are on track for the \$5million goal that we have set. I'm convinced that as a community we are committed to creating a legacy that will enrich life here forever. On behalf of the Board of Directors thank you.

I also wanted you to know that we have added our 2003 audit to our website You will find it at www.accfound.org/Financial03.pdf. If you would like a copy of our audit please call our office at 724-548-5897. As soon as the 2004 audit is done we will post it.

Have a wonderful spring!

Board of Directors

Jerry Arbaugh
Frank Baker
Donna Blose
Joe Cippel
Joe Dannels
Kristy L. Green
Bob Hallman
Patricia Kirkpatrick
Jeff Mantini
Chase McClister
John Shoop
Richard Snyder
Jack Steiner
Lance Whiteman
Gail Seifert
Executive Director



The year's at the spring and
day's at the morn,
Morning's at seven'
The hillsides dew-pearled;
The lark's on the wing;
The snails on the thorn:
God's in his heaven –
All's right with the world!

Robert Browning

Continued from page one

The Progressive Workshop team started in 1968 to help people with disabilities in Armstrong County become productive individuals. Applying for grants each year involves assessing programs, brainstorming ideas, and looking for ways to enrich their agenda of services offered to clients. Associate Executive Director, Karen Waugaman says, "Our funding sources allow us to operate and grants enable us to develop and extend resources."

Operating the Armstrong Recycling Center, Career Evaluation Services, Educational Programs, an Industrial Center, and the main office at 301 Oak Avenue., Kittanning keeps the Progressive Workshop going all year long. Marketing Director Roy Cigola is in charge of bringing business into the Progressive Workshop. He says, "Grants allow us to buy new equipment that makes training more realistic and state of the art for clients taking positive steps in life and toward a paycheck."

The Community Foundation has awarded two grants to the Progressive Workshop resulting in yards gained towards community improvement. A new radial saw arm enables skilled hands to guide lumber through a saw blade and a JAZee Clearance mower with a 48" deck allows dedicated drivers to maneuver around objects as air becomes thick with fresh cut grass. Waugaman adds, "The Foundation understands what the community needs and that helps them understand our needs."



- Find an organization you want to help and give them a call, write them a letter, or stop by and express your interests.
- Little things mean a lot. Hold a door, carry something, or give something away.
- Log onto www.volunteermatch.org to find opportunities in the area.

Other Volunteer Ideas:

- Go to www.volunteeamerica.net to check out volunteer opportunities across the globe.
- For volunteer ideas go to www.justgive.org
- For family/teen volunteering go to www.familyeducation.com and type in the word "volunteer" in the search box

Ways to Thank Volunteers

- For ideas according to the month go to www.4h.uiuc.edu
- To energize volunteers anytime go to www.energizeinc.com

"Never doubt that a thoughtful group of committed citizens can change the world- Indeed it's the only thing that ever has" -Margaret Mead

We'll continue to bring you more information about volunteering in upcoming issues.



The V Word

- 1/3rd of the American Public is involved...
- Time and kindness are given...
- A simple commitment is all that is required...
- It creates change...

Every little bit helps when you Volunteer

Connect to Opportunities in Armstrong County:
There are 279 public charities in Armstrong County committed to improving the quality of life in Armstrong.

A legacy of giving Bequest by Will

Including a charitable bequest in your will is a simple way to make a lasting gift to your community. When you make this gift through your community foundation, we establish a special fund that benefits the community forever and becomes your personal legacy of giving.

How it works

- You include the community foundation in your will as a bequest.
- You determine the type of fund you would like to establish with your gift.
- Upon your death, we set up a special fund in your name, in the name of your family, or in honor of any person or organization you choose.
- Your charitable gift is excluded from your assets for estate tax purposes.
- We consider your charitable wishes and determine the areas of community need that would be most impacted by grants from your gift.
- Our board issues grants in the name of the fund you establish.
- We handle all the administrative details.
- Your gift can be placed into an endowment that is invested over time. Earnings from your fund are used to make grants addressing community needs. Your gift is a permanent source of community capital, helping to do good work forever.

The gift of a lifetime

Donna Blose and her husband worked hard and enjoyed a great deal of success here in our community. After her husband passed away several years ago, Donna decided it was time for her to update her will. Part of her plan was to give something back to the community the Bloses had loved. "Not only did Bill and I love Armstrong County, but we felt as though we owed it a lot for the success and wonderful life our family enjoyed here," says Donna. With the help of her professional advisor, Donna revised her will to include an inheritance for her children and grandchildren, with the remainder going to the William E. Blose Family Memorial Fund, a Donor Advised Fund designed to support Armstrong County libraries. Because the fund is endowed, her gift will provide a growing source of community funding for books, computers, and improvements for libraries throughout our county. "I like knowing that when I'm gone, our legacy will be one of helping others strengthen our libraries as a vibrant community resource," says Donna.

We make it easy to care about our community.

ARMSTRONG COUNTY
**COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**

160 North McKean Street
Kittanning, PA 16201



A coalition of donors,
nonprofit organizations
and partners enriching
life and community in
Armstrong County.

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Armstrong County
Chamber of Commerce
Permit # 119

*It's just a
short shot
away...*



Second Annual

**RALPH KNEPSHIELD
MEMORIAL CLASSIC**

*To benefit
The Armstrong County
Community Foundation*

**Friday, June 10, 2005
Lenape Heights Golf Course**

Call 724.548.5897 for reservations or more information.