



Connections

A Quarterly Communication from the Communication Foundation of Volusia & Flagler

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Upcoming Event:

- **Thursday, May 7, 2009**
18th Annual Herbert M. Davidson Memorial Award for Outstanding Community Service honoring Bert Reams at the Ocean Center (for reservations, contact ward@unitedwayvfc.org)

Board Members

- Kathy Crotty, Crotty & Bartlett P.A., Chairperson*
William Grigat, Anchor Certified Planners Group, Vice-Chair
David Jones, Past Chairperson
Kathy Catron, WriteResult Marketing & Communication
Eileen Dittbenner, The Root Corporation
Thomas H. Dargan, The Floridian Bank
Michael Duranceau, CPA, Weston, Gregory & Duranceau P.A.
Forough Hosseini, Intervest Construction, Inc.
Dan Houser, International Speedway Corp.
Lori Kopp, Daytona Beach News-Journal
Ed Lacey, Founder
Preston Root, The Root Company
Ted Serbousek, Jon Hall Chevrolet
Robert G. Tate, DVM, Flagler Animal Hospital
Bruce Teeters, Consolidated-Tomoka Land Co.
James N. Wetherell, Don Bell Signs

Why a Community Foundation?

Ray Salazar, President of United Way of Volusia & Flagler Counties, uses a simple analogy to help him communicate the role of the Community Foundation of Volusia & Flagler.



Ray Salazar

"United Way's annual campaign is like a checkbook," he says. "We raise monies through the annual campaign, and what we raise we distribute to fund our United Way partner agencies and programs.. It's important to have a checking account, but you also need a savings account. Our Community Foundation is like a savings account. Having the Foundation allows United Way, along with local philanthropists, to plan for our long-term needs."

Managing this savings account is a group of trusted experts; volunteer advisors who all bring very specific and necessary expertise to the Foundation. Board members include area financial planners, bankers, accountants, attorneys, and business leaders who provide thoughtful counsel and money management skills to the United Way staff.

Salazar says that many people are familiar with the role of a foundation, but in most communities, the United Way does not run a foundation.

"Here in Volusia & Flagler, we were uniquely positioned and qualified to provide The Foundation with the administration and management that was needed," he explained. "It was United Way's reputation for good work and sound fiscal management that led to our role in administering the Community Foundation of Volusia & Flagler."

The Community Foundation of Volusia & Flagler connects people who care with causes that matter. Established in 1983, the Community Foundation of Volusia & Flagler is a tax exempt, public charitable organization and a division of the United Way of Volusia & Flagler Counties. By providing a gateway to giving, we empower charitable individuals to realize their personal philanthropic goals and strengthen our community forever.

Satisfy your charitable passion at www.LiveUnitedInVolusiaFlagler.org, or contact Community Foundation Director William Ward at 253-0563, ext. 246 or via email at ward@unitedwayvfc.org.



Connecting people who care with causes that matter.



Local Philanthropists Pursue their Passion with Donor Advised Funds



Daytona Beach Police Chief Mike Chitwood knew his officers could reduce crime and solve more cases if they had access to state-of-the-art equipment and technology, as well as more training and education.

With the involvement of businessman Bob Davis and Daytona Beach Mayor Glenn Ritchey, Chief Chitwood is pursuing his goal of enhancing law enforcement through the Community Foundation Donor Advised Fund. Through fundraisers, like the recent open house for the new Daytona Beach Police Station, private dollars have been raised to enhance Daytona Beach law enforcement.

Principals at area public schools knew that some children were not reaching their full potential for one simple reason: they came to school hungry each day and didn't get enough healthy, nourishing food in their daily diet.

While feeding children and equipping police officers are two very different issues, both have been addressed thanks to the personal philanthropic passions of local residents.



In 2006, businesswoman Forough Hosseini was approached by the principal of Hinson Middle school about local school children and hunger. A consummate problem solver, Forough worked with the Community Foundation and United Way staff, the Volusia County School district, and other area business and civic leaders to address the issue with a meaningful, strategic, and long-term business-plan. Food Brings Hope is the result of her passionate commitment and an initiative of the Community Foundation of Volusia & Flagler.

Through a Donor Advised Fund, Hosseini was able to establish a foundation to specifically meet the needs of children in Volusia

and Flagler. The Donor Advised Fund is administered through the Community Foundation of Volusia & Flagler Counties, and Food Brings Hope is now serving children in six schools, providing meals, transportation, enrichment activities and tutoring assistance. "Donor Advised Funds are like a foundation in a box," explains Ray Salazar, President of United Way. "For people who care about a cause, the Foundation's Donor Advised Fund offers a sound and flexible way to fund their specific passions long-term."

With a Donor Advised Fund, you can have ongoing involvement in the use of your gift. Charitable individuals work with the Community Foundation's professional staff and expert advisors to address the issues and needs they care about most.



Westside Elementary School Principal Judi Winch awards Kids' Zone graduates

Establish a Fund in Your Name

Donor Advised Funds can be established in your name or the name of your family, your organization or anyone you wish to honor. All grants distributed from the fund you establish – today and in the future – are then awarded to charities in the name of that fund. It's a great way to always be involved with, and remembered for, your community investment.

Income for Life for You, a Benefit for Future Generations

Are you looking for secure sources of fixed income for now or future retirement? If you own appreciated securities or personal properties, you don't have to live at the mercy of the fluctuating stock and real estate market.

A charitable gift annuity is a way to make a gift, increase your income and slice your tax bill, all in one transaction. The Community Foundation's charitable gift annuity program is a contract for which you exchange a gift of cash or securities for a fixed income each year for the rest of your life. There are several advantages to the donor as well as benefits to the charitable organization.

- **Income for Life** – an attractive payout rate for one or two lives
- **Capital Gains/Tax Savings** – a large part of what you transfer is a deductible charitable gift
- **Tax-Free Income** – a large part of your annual payment is a tax-free return on principal
- **Capital Gains Tax Savings** – when you contribute securities for a gift annuity, you minimize any taxes on your paper profit.
- **Personal Satisfaction** – achieve the satisfaction that comes with making a gift of lasting significance.

Let us help you satisfy your charitable passion. Contact William Ward, Director, Planned Leadership and Giving, Community Foundation of Volusia & Flagler, at (386) 253-0563, ext. 246 or e-mail wward@unitedwayvfc.org.

Is Your Estate Vulnerable to Litigation? By Kathy Crotty, Crotty & Bartlett, PA

You have an attorney. You've drafted a will. But could your estate still be vulnerable to litigation? Attorneys in the area of estate planning, like myself, are seeing an increase in the number of contested estates. Consider the following questions. If you answer yes to one or more, your estate may be vulnerable to litigation.

- Have you or your adult children remarried and entered a blended family?
- Have you had children late in life or are some of your children grown while you still have very young children at home?
- Does your family have a business in which one or more of the adult children work?
- Is your estate worth more than \$3 million?
- Does a member of the family struggle with addiction?
- Are some of the adult children significantly more successful than their siblings?
- Do you have "emotional assets?"

Families today are more complex than ever before. Baby boomers and the generations that followed are likely to have marriage, remarriage, children from different relationships, and blended families. For attorneys in the area of estate planning, complexity is key; and the process of estate planning needs to take into account emotional as well as the financial concerns.

Have you specifically left your great-grandmother's antique diamond ring to your first born daughter? If you haven't made decisions about the distribution of assets like this, your family must make them after you're gone. Such emotional assets are the basis of thousands of dollars in litigation fees.

The best estate attorneys are a mixture of lawyer, psychologist, and tax specialist. The absence of litigation in settling an estate is the mark of a truly excellent estate attorney, and today's complex modern families are challenging this expertise like no one else.



Kathy Crotty

Kathy Crotty, a partner in the firm Crotty & Bartlett, PA, is chairperson of the board of the Community Foundation of Volusia & Flagler, specializing in estate law.

Community Foundation of Volusia & Flagler Counties Receives \$673,000 Gift from the Estate of Dr. Ralph Oleson

The Community Foundation of Volusia & Flagler received a \$673,000 endowment gift from the estate of Dr. Ralph Oleson, funded by the Ralph D. Oleson Trust, of which Eugene Rhodes, Esq. served as attorney-of-record.

This legacy to the community was established by the late Dr. Oleson for the purpose of "serving the poor and needy of Volusia and Flagler Counties." Income from the endowment will be used to support the discretionary grantmaking programs of the Community Foundation of Volusia & Flagler.



Students preparing dinner during Teen Zone

Food Brings Hope

Osceola Elementary Principal Earl Johnson has an after-school tutoring program for low-performing students. However, without school bus transportation, his program was only serving 24 students. Food Brings Hope stepped in and provided the school bus, nutritious meals and incentives for student performance. Now 72 children take part in Kids Zone; FCAT scores in math and reading for this group improved by more than 70 percent and behavioral problems are decreasing.

48 children – that’s only one example of the difference a donor advised fund can make.

Food Brings Hope (FBH), a Donor Advised Fund (DAF) of the Community Foundation of Volusia & Flagler counties, is making real progress in breaking the poverty cycle for homeless and economically disadvantaged children by delivering collaborative solutions.

“Government funding and foundation grants come with many restrictions. These restrictions limit the principals’ abilities to respond to the needs of their students” said Forough Hosseini, founder and chairwoman of Food Brings Hope.

“Through our Donor Advised Fund, we fill the gaps created by grant and government restrictions. We help principals reach the maximum number of students in need with available resources by removing potential obstacles” she added. In addition to providing tutoring and transportation, FBH offers incentives to encourage students to succeed and a sound nutrition program to provide the fuel for success.

“Food and nutrition are key,” said Hosseini. “Students who miss meals, find it difficult to do their homework and concentrate on their projects when they are hungry. By feeding students in the after-school program as well as teaching them about nutrition, they learn to better care for themselves.”

A secondary result of FBH has been an increase in students’ self-esteem. The feeling of belonging they gain from being a part of Kids Zone, an exclusive club, has helped them stay out of trouble at school.

Key components of this program include:

- Tutoring Programs and Transportation
- Snack and Dinner during the FBH after-school programs
- Learning activities and trips to museums, ball games and cultural programs
- Rewards for citizenship, attendance, grades, etc.
- Lectures or meet/greets with influential members of the community

“Food Brings Hope and Mrs. Forough Hosseini continue to be an extremely helpful and supportive partner and patron to Westside Elementary and the Night Alive program,” said Thom Moss, Director of Westside Night Alive. “Through their support, the students and families have received family dinners, nutrition and health education, lunches for FCAT camps, rewards and speakers for our awards programs, special presentations, and cultural and educational field trips.”



Forough Hosseini

Participating Schools:

- Hinson Middle School, Ormond Beach
- Osceola Elementary, Ormond Beach
- Campbell Middle School, Holly Hill
- Westside Elementary, Daytona Beach
- New Smyrna Beach Middle School, New Smyrna Beach

Measurable Results:

- Improved Test Scores and Grades
- Higher Homework Completion Rate
- Reduced Sickness and Absenteeism
- Reduced Disciplinary Referrals
- Improved Self Esteem
- More Cultural and Social Participation

Community Foundation of Volusia & Flagler

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