

# Montevideo Foundation News

July 2015  
Volume 1  
Issue 1

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## Our Mission

The purpose of the Montevideo Area Community Foundation is to inspire generosity and to promote philanthropy that benefits the Montevideo area, now and into the future....

Established in 1993 by a group of local citizens, the Montevideo Area Community



**MONTEVIDEO AREA  
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**

*An Affiliate of Southwest Initiative Foundation*

Foundation (MACF) was created to be a permanent vehicle to serve the evolving needs of the Montevideo Area. The purpose of MACF is to nurture philanthropy and to provide opportunities for present and future generations to enhance the quality of life in the Montevideo area.

Initially partnering with the Minnesota Community Foundation, MACF's volunteer advisory board

worked tirelessly to create an organization that would inspire not only their

generation, but future generations, to give back and grow their community. In late 2012, the group partnered with the Southwest Initiative Foundation (SWIF), and became a community fund under SWIF's guidance. Working with SWIF has opened many new doors for MACF, who provides many services, including technical assistance, to ensure MACF's success.

*MACF, cont. on page 6*

## Rising to a Challenge

By June Lynne, Past Advisory Committee Chair

William Frederick Halsey, Jr. said, "There are no great people in this world, only great challenges which ordinary people rise to meet."

2014 was our first full year with the Southwest Initiative Foundation (SWIF). One of the first items of business was a challenge by SWIF to the Montevideo Area Community Foundation (MACF) to raise \$25,000.00 which they would match. I think most of the Advisory Committee members felt a twinge of apprehension and they were thinking "hey no one mentioned anything about having to raise money!" One of the first items of business was to formulate a plan. We divided ourselves into four teams, and implemented something similar to the NFL draft. Each team drafted area businesses to personally meet with, to explain who and what the Foundation does, and to ask for a donation.

Those apprehensions quickly faded as we were able to reach our goal of \$25,000.00 in almost record time.

Because we were able to reach our goal so swiftly, we were challenged once again by a group of Montevideo individuals to raise another \$25,000.00 which they would match. I will be honest, we were once again apprehensive but, we had done so well with the first match, we found we also had a great deal of determination in knowing that we could do this.

Over the past twenty years, the MACF was able to raise \$100,000.00. Last year alone we raised \$100,000.00 and effectively doubled our endowment. What does this

*Rising to a Challenge, cont. on page 6*

## Advisory Committee

Todd Ricke  
*President*

Gaynelle Lee  
*Vice President*

Mark Rekow  
*Treasurer*

Krystal Lynne  
*Secretary*

Bruce Bergeson

Lois Hein

Glen Herfurth

Mitch McKay

Brian Reinert

Anna Spray

Kevin TeBeest

"The miracle is this - the more we share,  
the more we have." — Leonard Nimoy

## ENDOWMENT REPORT

This past year has been an *incredible* experience for the Montevideo Area Community Foundation as our Endowment Fund grew by over \$100,000 in 2014, first stimulated by a \$25,000 challenge grant from the Southwest Initiative Foundation, which, amazingly, was quickly matched. Then, three local business people offered another \$25,000 challenge. That, too, was successfully met thanks to wonderful community support. The growth of the Endowment Fund will enable us to nearly double the amount we award in grants each year. Endowment Fund balance as of March 31, 2015 is \$200,749.

In December at our annual grant event during Business After Hours (BAH) at The Crossings. A total of \$10,725 in grants were awarded, including:

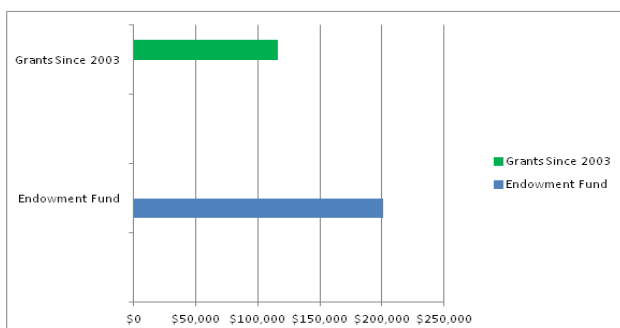


- \$5,000 to adapt a vehicle and increase riding options for people with limited mobility
- \$1,800 to provide food for low-income students in our community
- \$1,500 to help build the disc golf course in Chinhinta Park
- \$1,125 to develop a family center at the Chippewa County Fair
- \$1,000 to purchase hot and cold reusable trays for home-delivered meals
- \$300 for a bowling event for youth and their mentors to build strong, trusting relationships

And that's in addition to a special grant of \$9,500 we awarded earlier in 2014 to support the new Sanford toddler adapted playground!

Here's another number you can feel proud to be a part of: \$116,297. That's the total amount in grants the Montevideo Area Community Foundation has reinvested in our community since 2003.

## Endowment Fund/Grants





## GRANTS



Donations given to the Montevideo Area Community Foundation are placed into endowment funds. A portion of the interest from these endowment funds are distrusted every year to various programs and organizations via grants.

The foundation supports the areas of arts and humanities, community and civic affairs, education, historic preservation, health and human services, social economic affairs, and environmental conservation. Grants may only be awarded to recognized 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations or to government agencies. However, grants are given to all areas of the community.

Applications for grants can be found at [www.montevideofoundation.org](http://www.montevideofoundation.org).



## DONATIONS



One of the great things about the Montevideo Area Community Foundation is that donating to us, is a giving to the community as a whole. Rather than having to choose one area, the Foundation's mission allows us to provide aid throughout the community, regardless of age, whether it rural or urban, disadvantaged, and more. There are several ways that a person is able to donate to the Montevideo Area Community Foundation, and remember all donations are tax deductible.

### **Outright Gifts**

Cash gifts, checks, real estate, securities, and personal property

### **Deferred Gifts**

One of the best ways to leave a legacy is through a deferred gift. Even donating only a small percentage of your probate estate or life insurance can make a large difference to your community. Deferred gifts include bequests, life insurance, qualified retirement plans, trusts, and annuities.

### **Special Purpose Gifts**

A memorial in honor of a loved one or a gift to commemorate special occasions are great ways to make sure that a person or memory will live on and empower future generations.

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# Jerry Tilden: A Community Man

by: June Lynne

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“Time is the greatest gift one can give” is perhaps the greatest understatement one can say when it comes to Jerry and Dixie Tilden. Both Jerry and Dixie have given thousands of hours of their time not only to Montevideo, but to the region as well.

Jerry Tilden was born on January 22, 1942 in Sioux Falls, SD to Jack and Genevieve Tilden. Jerry has four brothers, Dennis, Larry, Randy, and Terry, and one sister Roxanne. He graduated from Washington High School in Sioux Falls in 1959, and married the love of his life Dixie Utesch on November 24, 1963. Two children were born to this union, Bret (wife Angie) who lives in Montevideo and currently works for SpecSys in Granite Falls; and Julie (husband Keith) who lives in Dayton, MN, and is an event planner in the Metro area. They are blessed with eight grandchildren, Brittany, Sarah, Chelsea, Justin, Jaden, Ashley, Taylor, and Kaylee. For the past several years, Jerry has worked as a realtor at Kuhlmann Real Estate. He never could find time for retirement!

Both Jerry and Dixie have been greatly involved in our community and region since 1973. Jerry is the past president and board member of Brookside Senior Living Board of Directors, he served as a member of the Montevideo Area Community Foundation Advisory Committee, and he is a

member of the Montevideo Lions Club. He is the Past President and current member of the Fiesta City Flora Society, Past President and Treasurer of the District 10 Garden Club, and he also served on the Board of Advisors for the West Central Research Center in Morris, MN. Additionally, he was Co-Chairman of the Montevideo Community Playground build in Smith Park. He has been a Master Gardener since 2006, is a past Board member of the State Master Gardener Advisory Board, and also served on the Montevideo City Park Board. Jerry was a mentor for Circle Sentencing, Past President of the Montevideo Chamber of Commerce, and he was a past officer of the Montevideo Jaycees.

Jerry has been very active in the Chippewa County Historical Society as well. In the summer of 2008, he asked about restarting the Historical Society’s Endowment Fund which



had stood at less than \$600.00 since its inception in 1992. By the end of 2008, the Historical Society’s Endowment Fund increased to \$18,000.00! By April 30, 2015, their Fund has increased to over \$211,000.00! All of this under Jerry’s tutelage! The Society’s Endowment Funds are a part of the family of funds of the Montevideo Area Community Foundation. When Jerry became ill last October, discussion was held about beginning a named Endowment Fund to honor all that he has done for the Chippewa County Historical Society and the Society’s Endowment Fund. To recognize this, a new fund was begun, The Founders Fund – In Honor

*Jerry Tilden, cont. on page 7*



# Connecting with the Community

## Committee are Celebrity Servers

by: Mark Rekow



On April 27<sup>th</sup> foundation board members had the pleasure of being the servers at the 16<sup>th</sup> annual Celebrity Dinner for the Caregiver Program of Chippewa County held at Valentino's. The event is a benefit for the program which serves seniors County-wide with volunteer visitation and provides respite care, support groups, and education in Montevideo, Clara City, and Milan.



The Caregiver Program is part of an important support network for seniors in our area and is an excellent example of the type of group the foundation has encouraged through its grant making program. Because of the generosity of our donors, the foundation has helped support the program with grants totaling \$6,100 over the past 12 years.

Thanks Caregiver Program for being a special community asset! Thanks to our donors too!

## Montevideo Foundation Donor Appreciation

by: Bruce Bergeson

For everyone who is familiar with the work of the Montevideo Area Community Foundation (MACF), you are aware that 2014 was a very good year. The generous contributors from the community provided over \$100,000, money that will be used to benefit the entire community.

In acknowledgement and appreciation, the donors from the past year were invited to the country club for a celebration of community. Over 50 people were in attendance at the celebration dinner, which began with Krystal Lynne of the MACF board welcoming everyone. Krystal reviewed the events of 2014 and thanked the patrons of the Montevideo community for stepping up and supporting the vision of the Montevideo Foundation.

While the advisory board felt it was important to thank all of our donors for the amazing year, we also didn't lose sight of the reason the funds were donated. And many will be glad to hear that none of the funds donated in 2014 were used to fund the dinner. The entirety of the 2014 donations was placed into our endowment fund which will aid us in providing additional grants for years to come.

The Foundation board of directors wishes to let everyone know that it is the synergy and giving spirit of the people that makes Montevideo a great Minnesota community. We would also like to give a special thank you to The Crossings Country Club for the superb dining experience; both the service and the meal were marvelous!



*Connecting with the Community, cont. on page 7*

## 2015 Calendar

Fundraising Event  
Fall 2015

Grant Applications Due  
November 2015

Business After Hours/Grant  
Awards Ceremony  
December 2015

*MACF, cont. from page 1*

MACF focus areas include: arts and humanities; community and civic affairs; education; historic preservation; health and human services; social economic affairs; and environmental conversation. Since it's inception, MACF has given more than \$100,000 (taken from interest earned from donations) in grants to different community organizations. These organizations include: The Elementary School Music Program, The Community Playground, Brook side Senior Living Facility, Chippewa Enterprises, The Montevideo Boys and Girls Club, Chippewa County Circle Sentencing, plus many more!

*Rising to a Challenge, cont. from page 1*

mean? It means the MACF will be able to fund more grant projects in our community in the future, and perhaps we will be able to fund more projects in full! The possibilities are exciting! This amazing feat would not have been possible without a dedicated Advisory Committee and an amazing community! Indeed, ordinary people rose up to meet a challenge that will impact our community for a lifetime! Thank you, and to be honest, I am still smiling!

## Start a Legacy. Give a Gift.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone: ( ) - \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make and send donations to:  
**Montevideo Area Community Foundation**  
**P.O. Box 261, Montevideo, MN 56265**

Donation may also be made online at: [www.montevideofoundation.org/giving](http://www.montevideofoundation.org/giving)

## Fiesta Community Picnic

by: Todd Ricke



On Thursday June 18<sup>th</sup> the Foundation Advisory Board Members participated once again in the Community Picnic in Smith Park as part of the 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Fiesta Days. It was a great event with fun activities, good food, and great weather. In addition to the meal, those present also got to enjoy a host of fun activities, including face painting, pony rides, balloon animals and the Kiddie Parade .



The Foundation cooked and served over 500 hotdogs and potato chips, and KDMA served the root beer floats. It was a great event for the community to come together to celebrate Fiesta Days. The food was donated by Bill's Supermarket, the ice cream was donated by Coborn's, and the Root Beer was donated by Jakes Pizza. It has been a great avenue to spread the work about the Foundation, and see some familiar faces from the Community.

We would like to thank everyone who attended, and we hope to see everyone again next year!

of Jerry and Dixie Tilden. Donations to the Fund began in December 2014, and by April 2015, the Fund has quickly risen to almost \$25,000.00!



Jerry was also Chairman of the Historical Society's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration, and served on the Dugout Canoe Exhibit Committee. Over the past decade, he has helped with every

event the Society has hosted, (there have been dozens). He has been a Weekend Host at the Village, he and Dixie have adopted the Barber Shop at the Village. He has helped with spring cleaning, building repair and painting, and he has taken great pride in placing and tending to the flowers at the front of the Gateway Building at the Village. In 2015, Jerry and Dixie Tilden were inducted into the Chippewa County Historical Society's Hall of Fame. In between all of his volunteer activities, Jerry somehow finds time to partake in his passion for gardening and fishing!

Giving of your time is a wonderful gift, but being dedicated goes above and beyond what an average person is willing to do, and without fanfare and without want of recognition! Jerry's passion for the Montevideo community is truly remarkable. Thank you, Jerry, for all that you have done for our community, and for all that you have done for the many organizations that you have been active in! You have helped to make Montevideo an amazing place in which to live, and a better place for future generations.





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If you are interested in saving a tree and receiving this newsletter via email  
please send your email address to: **montefound@gmail.com**

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The Montevideo Area Community Foundation would like to take this opportunity to again thank all the people who have supported this organization in the past, present and future. Through the years we have managed to provide opportunities and changes that have helped our community thrive. However, we would not have been able to help as many people as we have without you. It is only through your dedication to the community that we are able to reach so many people. Thank you!

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Address Service Requested

e-mail: [montefound@gmail.com](mailto:montefound@gmail.com)  
[www.montevideofoundation.org](http://www.montevideofoundation.org)

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