



COMMUNITY MATTERS

a newsletter of the Community Foundation of Calhoun County

Vol. 3 Fall 2005

Foundation Receives \$1 Million Estate Gift

The Community Foundation has received one million dollars from the estate of Andrew J. "Hank" and Bette Saks. The entire gift is designated to provide renewable scholarships for graduates of Saks High School, which is part of the Calhoun County School System. "This is a tremendous and generous gift," comments Terry Childers, Chairwoman of the Board. "The amount of the gift is only enhanced by the reputation, esteem and respect this community had for Mr. and Mrs. Saks."

Mr. and Mrs. Saks made their first gift in 1999 when they originally established the scholarship fund in honor of Mr. Saks's parents, Joseph and Amelia. This recent bequest continues a family tradition that originated in 1910 when Joseph and Amelia Saks donated the land for the first public school located north of Anniston. The one room schoolhouse has grown to include three campuses, with more than 1,500 students.

Mr. Saks was born in Anniston on April 10, 1909. He graduated from Georgia Tech in 1931 and later served during World War II as an engineer. After completing military service, Mr. Saks married Elisabeth "Bette" Bryan Wilkinson in 1946. Together the couple managed their land surveying business and the Model City Land Company. They shared 68 years of marriage until Mr. Saks died on October 3, 2003 at age 94. Mrs. Saks died January 3 of this year at age 90. Mr. and Mrs. Saks had no children of their own; however, their life's work will perpetually assist many young people in achieving their educational and professional aspirations. The great

misfortune is that the graduates of Saks High School will never have the experience of knowing these two tremendous individuals who together were an inspiration to our community.

The **Joseph and Amelia Saks Scholarship Fund** made its

first award to Ms. Jessica Anne Estep, a May 2005 graduate who is a freshman at Harvard University.



Hank & Bette Saks

"I am deeply grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Saks and for the incredible opportunity they have afforded me. Their generosity is almost impossible to fathom."



Jessica Anne Estep



Joseph & Amelia Saks

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Mary Katherine "Katy" Williamson Scholarship Fund

John and Susan Williamson and their son **Ben** established the scholarship after the death of their daughter and sister in June of 2005. The Fund both honors Katy's memory and reflects the love and admiration of her family, friends, classmates and co-workers. This Fund supports very specific scholarships but these activities only capture a small portion of Katy's life, talents and broad interests.

Katy enjoyed sunflowers and constantly planted more and more of them each year at the family farm in Wellington; she cherished creation and the wonders that surrounded her and she welcomed all the seasons of the year and deeply trusted that the fall included the promise of spring.

Katy also loved every form of animal both wild and tame. She worked as a Veterinarian



Katy Williamson



Technician, where her compassion was complimented by her work ethic. It is not certain where Katy's talents would have led her but all who knew her were certain that she would contribute to the well being of others. Her picture truly reflects the fullness of life she lived for twenty years, bringing the same joy and exuberance to her family and friends.

The Mary Katherine "Katy" Williamson Scholarship Fund benefits individuals pursuing an Associate in Science Degree (AS) in the following: Emergency Medical Technology, Emergency Medical Services, Pre-Veterinarian Medicine, Nursing Assistant, Practical Nursing or Registered Nursing.

Applications are due by **February 1, 2006**; complete guidelines are available from the Foundation.

Sunrise Scholarship Fund Benefits Foster Children

In August of this year, the **Kiwanis Club of Anniston Sunrisers** ended their charter with Kiwanis International. The Sunrisers were active for more than twenty-five years and provided thousands of dollars in scholarships and hundreds of volunteer hours to our community. Kiwanis International's primary goal is to develop future generations of leaders through programs and services benefiting children and young adults.



Ms. Donna Fathke, Treasurer for the Sunrisers, commented, "This award furthers the goals of Kiwanis International, recognizes the generosity of our members and pays tribute to the dedication and selflessness of foster parents. We hope others will help contribute to this fund as a means of investing in the lives of many wonderful children who need the opportunity of this scholarship."

The Sunrisers had an active scholarship program and an endowment with the Community Foundation for the purpose of sustaining their scholarships. Prior to their last meeting, the membership voted to donate their remaining assets of more than \$10,000 to create a permanent scholarship fund benefiting children who live with foster parents. The goal is for the Fund to reach a minimum of \$50,000 before scholarships are awarded.

Contributions to support the Sunrise Scholarship Fund can be made directly to the Community Foundation. Deferred gifts in a will or trust can be made to the Community Foundation for the benefit of the Sunrise Scholarship Fund.

Fall 2005 Grantee Awards and Reception

The Community Investment Committee reviewed \$885,000 in grant requests for the biannual awards. At the grantee reception held at Consolidated Publishing Company, the Board of Trustees awarded \$206,000 in new distributions. **Mrs. Betty Hill Jackson**, Chairwoman of the Community Investment Committee, clarified that the Foundation never announces the individual award amounts to avoid jeopardizing other contributions. She stated, "a Foundation grant should not penalize an organization or communicate that you do not need funding from many sources. We hope our grant will prompt others to invest in your good work." She then distributed checks in support of the following projects:

All Saints Interfaith Center of Concern: to provide direct health or medical assistance for low-income residents.

Boys and Girls Clubs: to implement the *Triple Play Program* designed to teach youth, ages 6-18, how to make healthy choices.

Calhoun/Cleburne Children's Center: to employ a counselor to assist victims of child abuse.

Concern for Children: to implement a tobacco prevention program targeting children in grades K-5.

Housing Enterprise of Central Alabama: to support the funding, expansion and availability of mid-range affordable housing.

Interfaith Ministries: to provide daily home delivered nutritious meals to low-income seniors in the Anniston area.

Jacksonville Meals-on-Wheels: to provide daily home delivered nutritious meals to low-income seniors living in the Jacksonville and Piedmont areas.

The Learning Tree: to conduct a study measuring the correlation between exercise and a reduction in maladaptive behavior in children.

Nonprofit Resource Center of Alabama: to establish a satellite office in Anniston to implement a long-term capacity building and technical assistance training program for nonprofit organizations in Calhoun County. This initiative is

also made possible through the generosity of the **Alabama Civil Justice Foundation, Anniston Community Education Foundation and United Way of East Central Alabama.**

Rainbow Omega: to assist in the building and equipping of a long-term healthcare facility for adults with developmental disabilities.

United Cerebral Palsy: to purchase age and skill appropriate specialized equipment to lend clients and their families.



Grantees attend award reception at Consolidated Publishing

In addition, the following organizations received grants to support operations and general program services:

ANNISTON CITY SCHOOLS FOUNDATION
ARC OF CALHOUN/CLEBURNE COUNTIES
COOSA VALLEY YOUTH SERVICES
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF CALHOUN COUNTY
JACKSONVILLE CHRISTIAN OUTREACH CENTER
JACKSONVILLE COMMUNITY CHEST
LINC PROGRAM
RAINBOW OMEGA, INC.
UNITED WAY OF EAST CENTRAL ALABAMA

These grants were funded through the generosity of the following funds established with the Community Foundation:

E.C. LLOYD & J.C.U. JOHNSON FAMILY FUND
E.D. KING FAMILY FUND
JERRY AND JUDY KLUG CHARITABLE FUND
PREVENTATIVE HEALTHCARE FUND
STRINGFELLOW HEALTH FUND
SUSAN ARTEMIS SPECTOR AND CONNOR JACOB CHARITABLE FUND

Community Foundation Elects New Trustees

The Board of Trustees elected four new trustees to serve three-year terms at their Annual Board Meeting held on November 1. They include Mrs. Vikki Floyd, Mrs. Esta Spector, Mr. Leon Garrett and Mrs. Martha Vandervoort.

Mrs. Vikki Floyd holds a bachelor and a master's degree from Jacksonville State University. She is assistant administrator at Jacksonville Medical Center. Mrs. Floyd is very involved in numerous public service and charitable activities in the area. She is president of the Jacksonville Kiwanis Club and a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority. Mrs. Floyd was born in Calhoun County and graduated from Anniston High School. She and her husband Sabastian have three children.



*Front Row from left: Esta Spector, Vikki Floyd & Martha Vandervoort
Back Row: Leon Garrett*

Mrs. Esta Spector has lived in Calhoun County for the past thirty years. She is a graduate of Jacksonville State University and has worked as an agent with Alfa Insurance for the past twenty years. Mrs. Spector has been involved

with numerous community and civic groups; she is married to Dr. Daniel Spector. The Spectors established a family fund in 2000 after the death of their daughter Susan, and their grandson, Connor Jacob.

Mr. Leon Garrett is an active member of several civic and educational associations from the Piedmont Lion's Club to the Southern Association of Schools and Collages. He retired from Anniston City Schools where he served as superintendent. He has dedicated his life to mentoring and encouraging young people in identifying and refining their talents. Mr. Garrett has lived in Calhoun County for the past forty years. Prior to being elected to the Board, he was a community representative on the Foundation's Scholarship Committee.

Mrs. Martha Vandervoort dedicates nearly all of her time to community activities. First United Methodist Church of Anniston named her volunteer of the year; she is also active on several boards. Mrs. Vandervoort's background is in counseling. She holds both bachelor and master degrees from The University of Alabama. She and her husband, Dr. Kenneth "Buddy" Vandervoort, have lived in Anniston for the past eighteen years; they have three children.

Leadership and Transitions

Also at the Annual Board Meeting held on November 1, the trustees recognized the following new officers: **Mrs. Terry Childers**, J.D., Chairwoman of the Board; **Dr. Wes Smith**, Past Chairman; **Mr. Joseph B. Freeman**, CPA, Vice-Chairman and Chairman Elect; **Mrs. Betty Hill Jackson**, Secretary and **Mr. Forrest French**, Treasurer.

The trustees honored the service of **Mrs. Jo Rhea Ford** and **Mrs. Anne Jackson**. Both women served six years and were recognized for their volunteer contributions.



From Left: JoRhea Ford, Dr. Wes Smith, Anne Jackson and Terry Childers

In presenting framed resolutions, **Mrs. Terry Childers**, Chairwoman stated, "Anne and Jo Rhea, all of us are grateful for your work these past years as you helped translated \$4.7 million dollars into aid, resources, jobs, programs and services that have made a direct impact in the lives of our neighbors or helped strengthen our nonprofit partners. Thank you for the hundreds of hours you spent in preparing for meetings, reviewing applications, attentively giving advice and ultimately governing the Community Foundation. We are indebted to you and we offer our sincere appreciation."

A One-Time Window of Opportunity for Tax Planning



Steve Bailey, CPA, Attorney at Law
The Bailey Law Firm
1518 Leighton Avenue
Anniston, Alabama
(256) 236-6380

On September 23, 2005, President Bush signed the Katrina Emergency Tax Relief Act which contains not only provisions for affected people in the disaster areas but also some important tax planning tools for the rest of us.

Generally, for individuals, contributions to charitable organizations are limited to 50 percent of the taxpayer's

contribution base (Adjusted Gross Income) for the tax year. The new law changes the 50 percent limitation to 100 percent for qualifying contributions made by individuals between August 28, 2005, and December 31, 2005. Corporations, including closely held corporations, also had their contribution limitation raised from 10% of net income to 100% of net income.

Additionally, the Act also exempts qualified contributions from the application of the phase-out of itemized deductions for high-AGI individual taxpayers (those with adjusted gross incomes over \$145,950 for a married couple and \$72,875 for a single person).

A qualifying contribution under the Act is one that is made (1) in cash (property does not qualify); (2) to a public charity (excluding gifts to supporting organizations or to a donor advised fund); and (3) between August 28, 2005 and December 31, 2005.

How can we use these rules to our tax benefit? Consider just a couple of examples.

Indirect IRA Rollover

IRAs are a tax deferred way to save for retirement but they are ineffective vehicles to pass wealth to our loved ones if we do not consume them during retirement. Between the

application of estate tax and income tax, it is not uncommon to find that almost all of our unused IRAs end up in the hands of Uncle Sam instead of our loved ones. Since Uncle Sam is not our favorite relative or beneficiary, many individuals would prefer to leave their IRAs to a charity, such as the Community Foundation. Moreover, many individuals would like to give their IRA to a charity during their lifetime. Thus, they can avoid the minimum distribution rules, but they are prevented from doing so because the charitable deduction limitation and itemized deduction phase-out rules produce a tax liability.

Thus, from now until December 31, 2005, only, we (who are over 59½) have the opportunity to donate all or a portion of our IRAs to a charity with a zero to a maximum tax cost of about 2%. The determination of whether the cost is 0 or 2% is beyond the scope of this article, but the point is: this is a limited one-time opportunity to rollover our IRAs to a charity while taking advantage of unlimited deductibility. To use this option, we should immediately consult our individual tax advisors to calculate the actual cost, if any.

Deduction Shifting

Obviously, if someone cannot normally receive a benefit from their charitable deduction because of either the 50% limitation rule or the itemized deduction phase-out rule, this limited window provides an opportunity to take a full deduction for charitable contributions. For example, if you plan to make a charitable pledge in 2006 or you have been wanting to make a significant gift to a favorite charity, then you may wish to accelerate your contributions or plans to make that gift before December 31, 2005.

Remember...

“The avoidance of taxes is the only intellectual pursuit that carries any reward.”

—**John Maynard Keynes**,
English economist (1883 - 1946)

Memorial Gifts (June 1, 2005 thru November 15, 2005)

Jerry Wayne Amberson

Foster & Shelba Freeman
Larry & Jane Gowens

Wayne Barlett

Larry & Jane Gowens

Eric Flor

Larry & Jane Gowens

George Ford

W. G. (Scott) Burleson, Jr.

Shelba Freeman

Larry & Jane Gowens

Foster Freeman

Larry & Jane Gowens

Preston Goforth

Larry & Jane Gowens

Dock Goodwin

Larry & Jane Gowens

Joseph Highfield

Larry & Jane Gowens

Frank Hulsey

Larry & Jane Gowens

Leathie Henderson

Larry & Jane Gowens

Kenneth Hunt

Larry & Jane Gowens

George Ingram, Jr.

Larry & Jane Gowens

Margaret Jenkins

Peggy Burleson

Coach Freeman Johnson

Judy Mabry

Delmus Johnson

Larry & Jane Gowens

Eddie Jones

Larry & Jane Gowens

William F. Koehler

Jacksonville Exchange Club

David Law

Larry & Jane Gowens

Janice Lockridge

Larry & Jane Gowens

Homer McNaron

Ralph & Sherry Butler

Rollie Morgan

Larry & Jane Gowens

Edward Pitts

Donald & Ann Sprayberry
Linda Johns

Mark Ray

Mr. & Mrs. Larry E. Gowens

Robert Rentschler

Alice Powers
Branch 448 National Assoc.
of Letter Carriers
Brookmont Estates, Birmingham
Dan & Delia Bradley
Dr. & Mrs. W. H. Talbot
Jerre & Jane Ford
John & Suzanne Hobbs
Joseph W. Cotlin
Lauren L. Blake
Martha C. Baker
Mr. & Mrs. Les Pair
Norma Wooley
Peggy Burleson
Theodore & Janice Sekela
W. G. (Scott) Burleson, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. James L. Williams

Nathan Jackson Sparks

Guy & Inez Howell
Jerry & Tawana Bonds
Justin J. Goodwin

Linnie Spears

Larry & Jane Gowens

Gerdie Studdard

Larry & Jane Gowens

Angie Thompson

Waylan & Theresa Kisor

Lucy Turpin

Angela & Garry Banks
Susan & Craig Waldron

Earl Ward

Mary Lane Burris
Mr. & Mrs. Frank L. Lambert
Terry Burris Family

John Ward

Mary Lane Burris
Mr. & Mrs. Frank L. Lambert

Carol Weatherbee

Larry & Jane Gowens

Edna West

Larry & Jane Gowens

Helen L. Weymouth

Dr. & Mrs. Richard A. Curtin
Eugene & Nancy Grace
Kirby & Patricia Jackson
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph B. Freeman

Katy Williamson

Alabama Hospital Public
Relations & Marketing Society
Alex & Elaine M. Overstreet
Alice Adams
Allen & Sara Henry
Amelia T. Paschal
Andy Turner
Anita Stedham
Ann C. Owen
Annette M. Perkins
Bartlett & Gunter, CPA's, PC
Bettie Gunnells
Betty J. Gallegly
Bill & Ellen Brock
Billy Chalk
Bob Hooper
Charles & Nancy Lee Herlong
Charles & Collie Dickinson
Claude Kitchin, IV
Cynthia Ann McMinn
Debbie Henderson
Deborah B. Mangham
Denise Lindquist
Dennis Stanard
Dereth C. Vardaman
Dot DeBardeleben
Dr. and Mrs. Daniel S. Fockele
Dr. John Hollingsworth
Dr. Kenneth Vandervoort
Dr. Sherri Ray
Elizabeth J. Crowell
Erin Deason
Eugene & Evelyn Evans
Euta Tatman
Gary M. Ray, M.D.
Gena & Andrew Jackson
Harold Hollingsworth
HBA Women's Council
Isaac L. Prickett
J. Henry Smith, III
J. L. Morgan & Associates Inc.
Jadie M. Boozer
James & Angela Lindsey
Janice Hudson
Jay & Phyllis Dill
Jay Ingram
Jean Flanders
Jennifer L. Behm
Jim & Nancy Ariail
Jody Speer
Joseph & Hillary Folsom
Judith S. Gould
Kay Harden
Ken & Joy Warren
Kenneth & Jimmy Nell Seals
Kenny & Ann Owen

Katy Williamson (continued)

Kim Wigley
Kristen Pesnell
Lillian H. Everett
Linda & John Sopkanich
Linda B. McAllister
Linda G. Harvey
Linda Pointer
Lorie Brown
LTC Jane T. Wood
Mack Martin
Magdolna R. Sarver
Marceline R. Owens
Marcia L. Stiles
Margaret Hall
Martha & Doyle Bumpious
Mary K. Seidel
Mickey, Beth & Courtney Walker
Mike and Rhonda Monroe
Mr. & Mrs. E. Thomas Malone
Mr. & Mrs. James D. Prickett
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Bice
Mr. & Mrs. William H. McDonald
Mr. and Mrs. Andy Soleman
Mr. and Mrs. Gary K. Smith
Mr. and Mrs. Thurman L. Bryant
Neal Ballard, Jr.
Noreen Pettitt
Northeast Alabama Regional
Medical Center
Oak Bowery Baptist Church
Patricia & Henry Smith
Phyllis Brimer
Quintard Mall, Ltd.
RMC Auxillary
Robert & Judith Everett
Robert & Ridgely Smith
Ron Newton Pontiac-Cadillac-
GMC-Volvo
Rosemary & Harold Hollingsworth
Sacred Heart P.T.O.
Sam H. Hamner
Steve Price
Susan Hart
Susan Marney
Tammy M. Noland
The Bud Jones Family
The Surgery Center, LLC
Thomas Coates
Tim & Donna Barton
Tina Tims
Tommy & Eileen Lee and Family
Tommy Buzan
Top O The River
Tyson Family and Model City
Glass Employees
Union United Methodist Church

Memorial Gifts continued

Katy Williamson (continued)

University of Alabama Museums
Vickie Simmons
Victoria J. Turner
Virgie Hurst
Wade A. Monroe
Walt & Naomi Williamson
Wayne & Nicki Carmello-Harper
Wildes Air Conditioning
Company, Inc.
Willkes & Elaine Scarbrough

Katy Williamson (continued)

Windy A. Perkins
Women's Executive Network
Vangie Smith

Percy Williamson

Jim Tyson's Model City Glass Company, Inc.
Jody Speer
Linda & John Sopkanich
Lucy Knight
Nell H. Adams
Charles & Collie Dickinson

Percy Williamson (continued)

Judy Gould
Northeast AL Regional Medical Center
Wayne & Nicki Carmello-Harper
Wildes Air Conditioning Company

Betty Wisdom

Larry & Jane Gowens

Susan Artemis Spector & son

Connor Jacob

Dr. Daniel & Mrs. Esta Spector
Business & Professional Women

Honorariums (June 1, 2005 thru November 15, 2005)

Juanita Harris Jairrels

William H. Jairrels
Louise Ramsey
Eula Tatman

Kason Owen

Kenny & Ann Owen

Carol Ann Watson

Mr. & Mrs. H. M. Burt, Jr.

Animal Shelter Endowment Memorials

Abby Rose

(Pet of Gene & Sherry Blanton)
Dr. & Mrs. Jerry Kiser

Belle, Phoebe & Kayla

Betsy West

Duncan

Mack & Rebecca Burt

Misha

(Pet of Genie Sparks)
Mack & Rebecca Burt

Murphy

(Pet of Lynne & Jerry Smith)
Wayne & Nicki Carmello-Harper

Scholarship Applications Due February 1



The Community Foundation has several scholarship funds that will be accepting applications no later than February 1, 2006. For information on available awards, written guidelines and complete application instructions, please visit the Foundation's website at www.yourcommunityfirst.org. Scholarship awards range from \$1,000 to \$8,000 annually.

New Tax Act Breakfast Seminar

Mr. Steve Bailey, a local accountant and attorney, will provide a seminar on the giving opportunities available due to the Katrina Emergency Tax Relief Act of 2005, which will expire on December 31, 2005. Please see Mr. Bailey's article about this timely issue on page eight.

To learn more about how this legislation could benefit you, the Foundation is providing a free seminar on December 8 at Classic on Noble (8:00 a.m.). Seating is limited. To RSVP, please call the Foundation.

*Please remember the Community Foundation in your will
and please allow us to recognize your generosity.*