A Note from Davette

Lately making any plans outside has been a challenge -- not will it rain, but how much and how long? And now with a break from the rain, we have the heat. How do we plan for these unknown circumstances and an unknown future?

This year our keynote speaker at Celebrating Community Philanthropy will focus on how important it is for communities to plan for the future -- even when it is unpredictable and especially because it is unpredictable.

Pete Chierocozzi will share his story and his passion for communities to start now planning for their future and how philanthropy can be a vital part of that planning and action.

If you have not been able to join us in the past for Celebrating Community Philanthropy, I hope you will join us this year. It is a great opportunity to interact with other community leaders and hear about some great things going on in our community. I believe Pete will challenge our thinking about community spirit, initiative, and planning.

Celebrating Community Philanthropy will be Tuesday, September 22nd at 11:30 am at Grace Heartland Church. There is much to celebrate in our community this year.

I hope you will join us.

Paddlers with a Purpose brings recreation to all

When people come together, great things happen in our community. The Bob and Ella Mae Wade Canoe and Kayak Dock - the state’s first handicap-accessible canoe and kayak launching dock - is a perfect example of that.

A project of the Elizabethtown Paddlers Association, Paddlers with a Purpose set out to fund and build the dock. With an initial focus on disabled veterans, their passion for their pastime and for giving back drove the project. And with the partnership of more than 40 individuals, businesses and organizations, disabled veterans and thousands of other disabled people have access to paddling.

Continued on Back

Do you know an organization with great ideas?

Heels Together grant applications are now available. We look forward to innovative ways our community can increase opportunities for women and girls! For more information, contact Central Kentucky Community Foundation at 270-737-8393 or info@ckcf4people.org.
Central Kentucky Community Foundation was proud to partner with the association and help make this important project a reality.

“We needed a partner to get this going, and the community foundation was that partner,” said Matt Deneen, who led the project.

Like many organizations, the paddlers association does not have 501c3 nonprofit status, meaning donations to the organization are not tax deductible. Obtaining tax-exempt status can take more than a year and there are costs involved.

Paddlers with a Purpose had an opportunity to accept a significant gift, but the donation needed to be tax deductible. That’s where the community foundation stepped in, acting as the fiscal sponsor and linking donors with this initiative.

“When presented with a great idea, our community is generous and will step up to make it happen,” said CKCF President and CEO Davette B. Swiney. “Helping to make the fiscal connection between donors and initiatives is a need we can fill for start-up organizations or short-term projects, and we were very happy to provide that opportunity to Paddlers with a Purpose.”

On Memorial Day, hundreds gathered at Freeman Lake Park for a ribbon cutting ceremony at the new dock. With an original fundraising goal of $30,000 to buy the dock, the project garnered enough support to raise $56,000, which afforded an attractive kiosk at the dock’s edge.

The dock was dedicated to Bob Wade Sr., who was a Korean War veteran, and his wife Ella Mae Wade, who, standing with Deneen, Swiney and Elizabethtown Mayor Edna Berger, snipped the ceremonial ribbon.

As paddlers and supporters took in the new attraction and cheered for a demonstration by a wheelchair user, the scene was a source of pride for our community.

“It goes beyond veterans. It goes beyond civic organizations. It goes beyond corporate partnerships,” Deneen said. “It’s amazing what can be accomplished when we all pull together.”

Central Kentucky Community Foundation July 2015

Scholarships help students pursue academic goals

Through the generosity of many donors and CKCF, many students in the region will have fewer college financial worries.

“Our community continues to demonstrate a belief in our youth and educational opportunities for them through scholarships,” said Davette B. Swiney, President/CEO. “We are honored to work with people to personalize the scholarships and make them available to students through an online portal, Scholarship Central.”

This year, 63 students from 13 schools received 79 scholarships totaling $100,000 from CKCF. Additionally, 30 upperclass students were eligible to renew previously awarded scholarships for continuing financial support.

Paddlers Continued from front

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Central Kentucky Community Foundation July 2015

Get Ready! 2015

This is the fourth year of Get Ready! and we hope you know why it is so important for our children and our community, but just in case you don’t:

* Good preschool is an economic development tool
* Experiences in early childhood literally shape the brain
* Quality early childhood education costs money
* Poverty can impact brain development

This summer in Hardin County, 380 children attended Get Ready!, a free quality program to help them benefit from these experiences at the most crucial time in their development. Along with these children, 297 adults participated with them learning how they can continue to incorporate learning as part of every day life with their child.

“This is a super fun and engaging way to get kids interested in school and learning. My child learns new concepts and makes connections to what he learns at home.” -- Get Ready! parent.

If you would like to learn more about the importance of early childhood education and opportunities in our community, contact us at 270-737-8393.

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