



# Grand Haven Area

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## Community Foundation

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For Good. For All. Forever.

6 Sherman Ave, Grand Haven, MI 49417



**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

### **C. Bennett Ainsworth Scholarship**



Ben Ainsworth established this scholarship in memory of his grandson Murphy. Murphy was loved by everyone, had a constant smile, and loved all sports. While he played several sports, his first love was baseball, and he was an all-conference and all-area first basemen and pitcher on his 2009 East Grand Rapids High School state championship team. He also won two state championships playing quarterback. One of his greatest legacies may be that he was an organ donor and he helped save the lives of others. This scholarship will support Ottawa County graduating seniors who are pursuing a career in the automotive industry or a related field, with preference to those with financial need and who are student athletes.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

### **Anonymous Alumnus of Spring Lake High School Scholarship**



Created by an alumnus of Spring Lake High School to honor graduates, this scholarship is for a graduating senior of Spring Lake High School who plans to continue their education at the next level. Particular attention is paid to the students' expertise in their chosen field of study.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

### **Ray and Sue Barrett Scholarship**



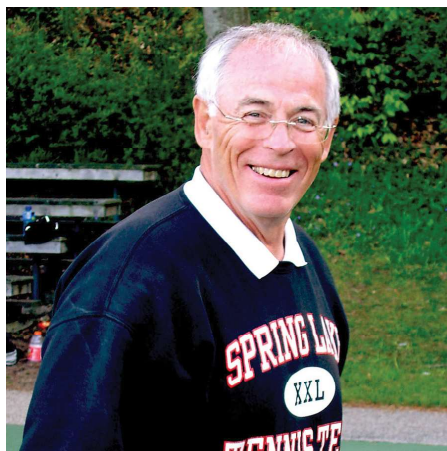
Both Ray and Sue Barrett have strongly supported higher education. Ray, an attorney who passed away in 2012, practiced law and criminal justice and Sue, a former marriage and family therapist who passed in 2022, knew the importance of mental health, social work, and psychology. Together they combined their interests into this scholarship fund that will help many students achieve their goal of obtaining a higher education. This scholarship is intended to support students from the Tri-Cities community as Sue raised and educated her children in Grand Haven.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Charles (Charlie) A. Bassett  
Endowed Scholarship Fund**



This fund was initiated by the tennis players at Spring Lake High School in 2007, led by students Ben McNeil, Nathan Lee, Leo Reap, and Jake Lee. The fund was a tribute to Charlie Bassett, their much-admired coach. The students raised the dollars that started the fund and presented it to Mr. Bassett as a surprise gift at the 2007 Tennis Banquet. The scholarship is given to a student who exemplifies the integrity of Charlie Bassett and the values of positive thinking and hard work that he taught to his teams.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Richard & Annette Bethke  
Education Fund**



The son of Richard and Annette established this fund as a way to honor his parents. Its goal is to support students pursuing a degree or certification at any two or four-year accredited college, university, or vocational/technical school, especially those pursuing a degree or certification in Tool and Die, Machine Build/Repair, or as an Electrician, Plumber, or Auto Mechanic.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**George Bitner  
Scholarship Fund**



This scholarship was started in honor of longtime Spring Lake Golf Coach George Bitner. In his 50 years of coaching, Mr. Bitner positively influenced hundreds of students. In an effort to honor his golfing legacy at Spring Lake, several Spring Lake students started fundraising to make this scholarship fund a reality. This scholarship fund exists to help a fellow golfer, honor Mr. Bitner, who passed in 2023, and inspire others to lead as Mr. Bitner did for 50 years.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Martin-Beverly-Todd Bomers  
Memorial Scholarship Fund**



This scholarship opened in memory of Martin and Beverly and their son, Todd, who preceded them in death. Both Martin and Beverly were deeply involved in the community throughout their lives and known for their dedication to hard work and spreading joy. This scholarship is intended for new graduates from Spring Lake High School and graduates who've completed one year of post-secondary education, who are currently employed and demonstrate a commitment to personally fund their own education.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Janet R. Briegel  
Scholarship**



Janet R. Briegel was an elementary school teacher at Ferry Elementary in Grand Haven for the majority of her career. This scholarship is for a person from the Tri-Cities who will be pursuing a career in education. It was her wish that the recipient of this scholarship be an outstanding individual who not only excels academically but has given back to their community in a way that demonstrates that they are civic minded and involved.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Frederick Brown Fund**



This fund was opened in honor of Frederick Brown by his daughters, Stacy and Bonnie, after his death in 2018. Frederick was a gifted surgeon. He was the first and, for many years, only, vascular surgeon in the Tri-Cities area. He obtained his pre-med degree with a double major in history and biology from Andrew's University and graduated from medical school in 1973. He did his general and thoracic surgery residency at Henry Ford Hospital in Dearborn. Frederick was full of humor, loved to travel, and had a generous presence in ensuring high quality and local health care could be available in West Michigan.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**James W. Jr. and  
Jane T. Brown Fund**



This fund was established in 2006 by Jane and James Brown. James and Jane Brown both chose to return to school as working adults to further their education. They remember firsthand the financial struggle involved in their endeavor and wanted to assist individuals in the Tri-Cities seeking to return to school and further their education. The Browns request that all recipients be encouraged to consider providing the same opportunity for another person as they are able.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Careerline Tech Paraprofessional  
Scholarship Fund**



Established in 2013 by the paraprofessional staff at Careerline Tech, this fund is intended to help and encourage local graduates to achieve their post-secondary educational goals. Because of their strong belief in the potential that lies in every student, this scholarship is awarded to graduating Careerline Tech students for studies at any public or private college, graduate, professional, vocational, art, or music school.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Geri Coccodrilli Culinary  
Scholarship Fund**



Jimmy Coccodrilli, longtime owner of the Grand Haven restaurant Porto Bello; Phil Russell, Ex-NHL hockey player; and his wife Colleen Russell, an educator, organized many successful charity golfing events for local nonprofit organizations. In 2003, they decided to plan a tournament to raise funds to establish a Scholarship for students pursuing a degree in the culinary arts. The fund was later renamed after Jimmy's wife, Geraldine "Geri" Coccodrilli, who passed away in 2007.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Craig Councilor and Valerie  
Guttowsky Scholarship Fund**



Valerie and Craig have both lead successful careers in electrical related fields at Consumers Energy. It was their dream to create a scholarship fund that would be able to help students who were pursuing a similar career. Whether the student is working towards a career in electrical engineering, a Journeyman's license, or gaining skills to be an electrical line worker – this fund supports students who are pursuing their education in Michigan.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Alex Crum  
Scholarship Fund**



This scholarship was created to honor a beloved daughter, Alex Crum, by her parents Todd & Kate. This scholarship gave the first award in 2010 - the year in which Alex would have graduated from Grand Haven High School. Alex loved to participate in all sports and as a sophomore at GHHS she earned her varsity letter. Sports were a big part of Alex's life and she loved the camaraderie she shared with her teammates. This scholarship award is a great way to honor Alex's life and to help a fellow athlete.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Dake Community Manufacturing  
Scholarship Fund**



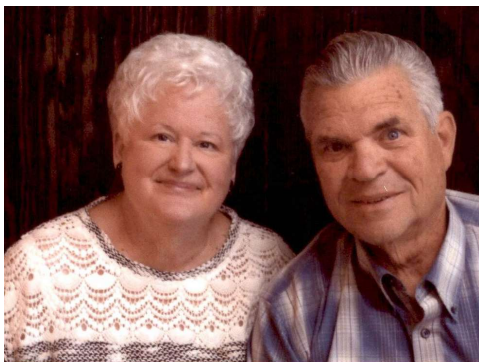
This fund was established in 2007 for the 120th Anniversary Celebration of Dake Corporation, a former local manufacturing company. It was started by employees and management to encourage and support students that want to further their education in manufacturing education. The Dake entrepreneurial spirit lives on through this scholarship by empowering the next generation.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**David and Carol DeBlaey  
Scholarship Fund**



David and Carol's love of the community is evident through the establishment of a scholarship fund. Both are lifelong residents of Grand Haven and graduated from Grand Haven High School. Carol, a retired trust and investment banker, and David, a retired boilermaker, stayed active in their community through many volunteer and leadership roles. The David and Carol DeBlaey Scholarship Fund supports a talented student from Grand Haven High School who is experiencing financial need.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Ken and Barb DeWitt  
Scholarship Fund**



Ken and Barb DeWitt have spent their lifetime as residents of the Tri-Cities. Ken was a Hope College graduate and Barb returned to college after she married and ultimately completed her Master's in Education. This scholarship Fund was created at Ken's death in 2007 by his wife. Barb hopes this fund will honor his memory and their belief in the importance of higher education.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Dennis and Carol Dornbush  
Business Scholarship**



The Dornbush family truly understands the value of education. Dennis and Carol established this scholarship fund to support graduating seniors from any Ottawa County public school pursuing degrees in business or accounting, in order to give a boost to those students demonstrating financial need.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

### **Dennis and Carol Dornbush Healthcare Scholarship**



The Dornbush family truly understands the value of education. Dennis and Carol established this scholarship fund to support Tri-Cities residents who attended a public school and are pursuing a degree in healthcare at a public university or vocational school. This scholarship will support individuals interested in careers as Registered Nurses or Lab Technicians, among other positions, and gives a boost to students demonstrating financial need.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

### **Erickson Education Fund**



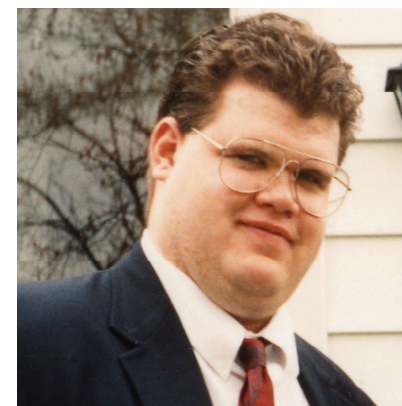
E.V. "Vin" and Alyce Erickson were committed to the cause of education, the progress of the Tri-Cities, and the Grand Haven Area Community Foundation. In addition to many civic and business involvements, Vin Erickson had a keen interest in education and in providing educational assistance to deserving students. They were a couple who set goals and had the determination and ability to achieve them, no matter how difficult. Most importantly, they felt that excellence, commitment, and leadership both in one's life and one's community were goals to seek. When Vin Erickson died in 1985, his family established a foundation scholarship fund to pay tribute to the commitments and affiliations which were so important to him during his lifetime.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

### **Kevin Ernst Memorial Scholarship Fund**



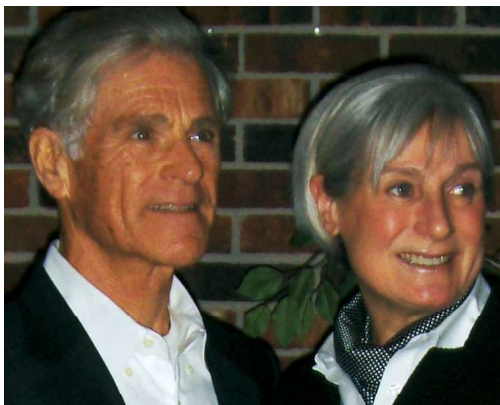
This scholarship was created in 1995 as a lasting tribute to a loving, caring, and compassionate young man. Kevin graduated in 1988 as a Grand Haven High School honor student. At the time of his death in 1994, he was a student at Grand Valley State University majoring in secondary education. Mathematics was a primary interest of Kevin's and, after college, he planned to teach the subject. Kevin's life tragically ended when he came to the aid of a person in distress and was killed by another student. He was only twenty-three years old. Janet Ernst, his mother, believes that Kevin would be very proud to have others benefit from his fund.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Wallace K. and Jane Ewing  
Scholarship Fund**



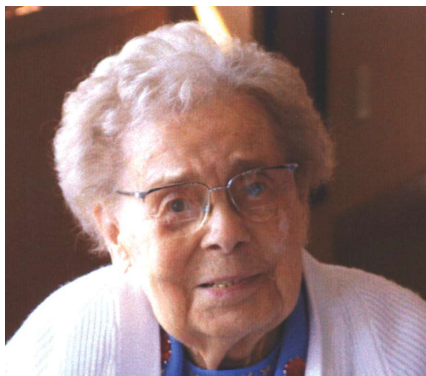
Wally, a former English teacher with a passion for history, and Jane, an accomplished calligrapher, established a scholarship to impact the futures of our local students. This scholarship supports students from the Tri-Cities area who are pursuing an education in English and are involved in cocurricular activities with a concentration in the areas of humanities and arts.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Bertha M. Fase Memorial  
Scholarship Fund**



When his mother Bertha M. Fase, a beloved Grand Haven elementary school teacher, died, Jack Fase wanted to honor her dedication to the education of young people and encourage future educators. With the establishment of this scholarship fund, students interested in pursuing a degree in elementary education receive a helping hand with their college studies. Special consideration is given to a student who has demonstrated an interest in youth through volunteer mentoring. In addition, recognizing Mrs. Fase's involvement with St. Paul's United Church of Christ, a student who is a member is given special consideration.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Jack Feldt Ambucs  
Memorial Scholarship Fund**



This scholarship was established in 1997, in loving memory of Jack Feldt by his widow, Elizabeth Feldt, and the Ambucs. Jack was a member of Ambucs, a national organization dedicated to "inspiring mobility and independence." The spirit of Ambucs is embodied in the idea that great things can be accomplished when many people, working together, give a small amount of their time and talents. This scholarship bene its students in the Tri-Cities area who are planning to pursue a degree in Physical Therapy.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Scott A. Flahive Memorial  
Scholarship Fund**



*Scott A. Flahive 1966-1994*

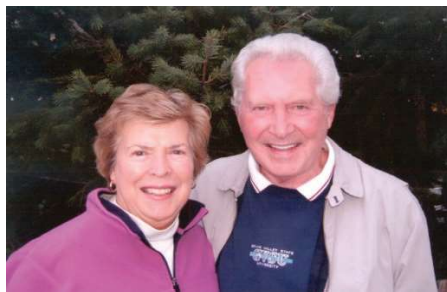
Scott Flahive's dream was to serve his community as a law enforcement officer. After graduating from Grand Haven High School in 1985, he received a degree in criminal justice from Grand Valley State University. Scott worked part time for three summers as a Grand Haven police department foot patrol officer and became a full time Public Safety Officer in May of 1994. On December 13, 1994, Scott was killed in the line of duty by an escapee from the Ottawa County Jail, located in Grand Haven at the time. Scott was only twenty-eight years old. Officer Flahive was lovingly remembered by his family, his community, and his fellow police officers. Scott's family and the Grand Haven Public Safety Department created this fund to assist local high school graduates to pursue studies in the field of law enforcement or criminal justice.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Floto-Peel Family Fund**



This fund was established by Richard and Elizabeth Peel as a way to honor the lives of longtime Tri-Cities area families. They felt passionately about our community and its bright future. Richard had a hand in many community projects, including the Ferris St. location of Grand Haven High School. Each year, an award is presented to a student planning to pursue a career in either business or nursing.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Kenneth & Janis Formsma  
ESL Scholarship Fund**



The Formsma family, who dedicated their lives to the students in our community, created the Kenneth and Janis Formsma ESL Scholarship Fund. Ken was an elementary teacher at Mary A. White while Jan dedicated her teaching to all kindergarten through twelfth grade students who spoke English as a second language. The Formsma family has touched many community projects that have enriched the quality of life in Grand Haven. This scholarship is awarded to a graduating senior at Grand Haven High School who speaks English as a second language and shows strong drive to pursue their education after high school.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**John L. and Victory E. Frantz  
Scholarship Fund**



Education has always been an important part of the lives of John and Vicky Frantz. Vicky was a schoolteacher for 30 years, focusing on the elementary grades. Both were involved deeply in our community and loved the continuous pursuit of learning. When John died in 2002, Vicky set up this as a way to highlight their belief that students are our future and need to be supported. Vicky, who passed in 2014, and John will live on through this fund.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Friends of Loutit  
Library Fund**



Established by the Friends of Loutit Library in 2005, this fund provides educational assistance to a student planning to pursue an advanced degree in Library Science. The Friends work to promote a sense of community identity through the activities of the Loutit District Library. They also work to strengthen the library's resources and services in order to ensure the continuation of the library, a vital resource to the community.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Fugazzotto Scholarship Fund  
for Visual Arts Students**



The joy of making has motivated Barbara Fugazzotto throughout her life and her 25-year art teaching career at Grand Haven Junior High. She shared with young people the challenges, thrills, and satisfaction that come with creating in the visual arts. In Barbara's words: "in our world of high technology, there is an especially vital role for creating visual art. Working with paint, paper, clay, and other media nurtures many of the recesses of our minds, hearts, and spirits that other activities can't reach." This scholarship enables a Tri-Cities resident studying to be a teacher of art or planning to have a career in drawing, painting, ceramics, sculpture, fiber arts, or graphic design to nurture their creative spirit and find their place in the progression of humanity that have shared creative joy.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

### **Wilma Jean Fynewever Nursing Scholarship Fund**



This scholarship fund was established as a memorial to Wilma Jean Fynewever by her daughter, Mary Keeton. Jean was educated as a nurse and enjoyed a long career as a registered nurse in a variety of settings. She was proud to be a part of the health profession and participated in health care research throughout her life. Jean was an encourager who supported others in their pursuit of obtaining professional degrees. This scholarship will forever support a graduating senior or non-traditional student from the Tri-Cities area, Newaygo County, or Muskegon County who is interested in pursuing a career in the field of nursing.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

### **Gauthier Family Fund**



This fund was established in 1998 by Barbara Gauthier in memory of her husband, Donald Gauthier, who believed strongly in giving educational assistance and employment opportunities to deserving individuals. The Gauthier Family Fund Scholarship is awarded to high school graduates from the Tri-Cities area who are pursuing studies in mechanical or electrical engineering, mechanical engineering technology, electrical engineering technology, and mechatronics at Michigan Technological University.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

### **GHACF Scholarship Fund**



This fund was established in 2003 by the Community Foundation as a means to assist local donors in their desire to support area students who wish to continue their education beyond high school. Each year, the Scholarship Selection Committee selects exceptional students to be the recipient of this community supported award.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Grand Haven Offshore  
Challenge Scholarship**



This scholarship fund was established by Grand Haven Offshore Challenge to recognize a student planning to study natural resources, such as fisheries, wildlife, and environmental water quality at any public or private college or university. Grand Haven Offshore Challenge does yearly fishing tournament fundraisers. One of the original organizers of this, Bill Rodgers, was deeply involved in the preservation of local resources and our community and introduced youth to the fishery in Grand Haven.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Barbara and Nicole Heacox  
Foreign Study & Travel Fund**



*Nicole Heacox*

Bob Heacox lost his wife, Barbara, to cancer in 1990. A few months later he lost his daughter, Nicole, in a tragic accident. At the time of her death, Nicole was a Grand Haven High School student. To help fill the void left by a wife and mother, daughter and sister, Bob and his son, Paul, established a unique Memorial Fund at the Foundation in 1992.

While the majority of the Foundation's Scholarship Funds help current graduating high school seniors, the Barbara and Nicole Heacox Foreign Travel and Study Fund assists deserving students, of all ages, who might not otherwise have the opportunity to travel and study in a foreign country.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Marjorie M. Hendricks  
Environmental Education Fund**



Established to honor the life of Marjorie Hendricks, a leading Grand Haven area environmentalist, who received her Nursing Degree in 1943 and worked as an operating room nurse and then later as a reporter. She returned to school to receive her Bachelor of Science in Geography in 1979. She helped found the local Environmental Action Council and played a pivotal role in the development of East End Park and led the referendum to save the north shore dunes from development. This award assists Tri-Cities area residents attending a college or university who is majoring in the field of environmental science.

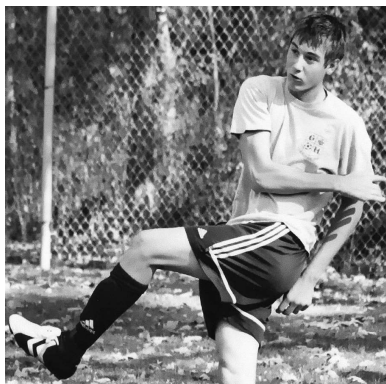
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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Michael Herman  
Scholarship Fund**



Known for his considerable talent as a soccer player, as well as his kindness and respect for others, Michael Herman was just 15 years old when he died in a tragic auto accident in November 2005. That same day Michael was named as an honorable mention to the Division I All-State soccer team. Michael was the son of Mark and Judy Herman. To honor his memory, family and friends established the Michael Herman Memorial Scholarship Fund to recognize a Tri-Cities area young person who played on the high school soccer team and wishes to continue playing in college on an intramural, club, or college team.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Mitz Hammond Hessmer  
Scholarship**



This scholarship was created by the Spring Lake Schools Board of Education as a result of a bequest from Maude “Mitz” Hammond Hessmer. She was born in Spring Lake in 1904 and went to Western Michigan University to study Later Elementary Education. She eventually came back to Spring Lake and taught at Holmes Elementary. Mitz died in 1980. It is awarded to a current Spring Lake High School graduate who shows particular promise in their chosen academic field as they transition to post-secondary education. The award is the acknowledgement of the character, intelligence, and academics of the recipient and their overall impact on Spring Lake High School.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Hierholzer-Fojtik  
Scholarship Fund**



This scholarship was opened by Frances Hierholzer in 2006 as a way to assist students pursuing a law career. Her grandson received a GHACF scholarship years ago and became a practicing attorney in Grand Rapids. She wanted to offer help to students in a similar situation and liked the idea of giving back to the community that generously helped her grandson with his educational dreams.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**J.R. Hilliard Memorial  
Scholarship Fund**



J.R. Hilliard will be remembered for his friendly smile and willingness to help people with anything. He was a sophomore at Grand Haven High School. J.R. was a good student, avid hunter, and fisherman. He loved football. He was a Tri-City Football player for ten years and a willing volunteer for Eagles #925. This was the time he cherished the most, with his family and friends. His parents, Jeff and Tina Hilliard, set up this fund to honor his life. Honoring J.R.'s volunteerism and willingness to help others, the award is given to a student with community involvement, financial need, and a love for football.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Vernon J. and Shirley M. Hipwell  
Family Music Scholarship Fund**



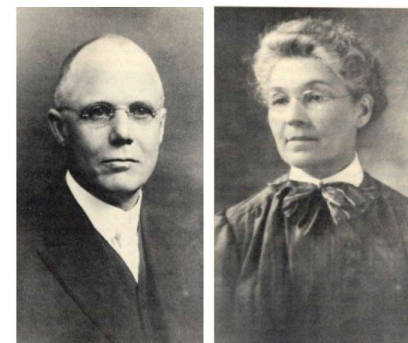
As a very young child, Shirley Hipwell demonstrated musical talent. Coming from a family that was loving, but unable to afford music lessons, camp experiences, or a college education – the Tri-Cities community took her under their wing. The teachers at Grand Haven High School made it possible for her to attend Interlochen in the summer, the Girl Scouts made sure she was able to go to camp, the First Presbyterian Church of Grand Haven nurtured her spiritual growth, the Tuesday Musicale group provided her with special opportunities, and the Grand Haven Women's Club gave her a scholarship so she could attend Alma College in 1956. Shirley became an accomplished musician and has inspired many during her years as a director, teacher, and mentor of elementary, high school, and college students. Shirley has led vocal and handbell choirs and taught classes across the United States, Australia, Canada, England, and Japan. As a way to give back to the community that helped give her a start, the Hipwells have established this scholarship fund that provide scholarships to students pursuing a musical career.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Hofma Scholarship Fund**



Edward and Elizabeth Hofma dedicated their lives to helping others. In 1884, Dr. Edward Hofma started a medical practice in Spring Lake. Elizabeth Pruin was a schoolteacher. After marrying Edward, Elizabeth went to medical school and became the area's first woman doctor in 1891. The Hofmas shared a keen interest in the world around them. Edward joined the early expeditions searching for the North Pole and she worked to build a Carnegie library in the Tri-Cities. They loved gardening and the nature. Hofma Park is the result of their early environmental efforts. The Hofma Trust Fund was established by Doctors Edward and Elizabeth Hofma in 1936. The Hofma Trust became a part of the Grand Haven Area Community Foundation in 1984. A portion of the Hofma Trust Fund is used each year for scholarships to deserving local students.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Hoffman Family  
Scholarship Fund**



Bud Hoffman grew up in Fruitport and attended Fruitport Schools, and his wife Charyn graduated from Grand Haven High School. As an entrepreneur and businessman, Bud founded Lakeshore Automatic in 1980. The Hoffmans have been longtime friends and supporters of this area through the foundation. In 1997, they established a Scholarship Fund to support the educational dreams of students. Special consideration is given to students who are the first in their families to attend college.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Dale Janke Scholarship Fund**



This scholarship fund is a memorial to the life of Dale Janke established by his wife, Mary Beth Janke and his children, Sarah and Eric. Dale's quiet, patient manner characterized his math teaching career at Grand Haven Junior High and as a family man. With his specialized skills and interest in all things mechanical, Dale was a creative problem solver. With his strong work ethic, he funded his own college education, thus acquiring his most valuable asset in life: an education. Dale's true passion since childhood was working on his family homestead. He found great satisfaction in planting, cultivating, and sharing his harvest, actively and patiently participating in Nature's creative process. This scholarship will keep the memory of Dale alive and hopefully inspire the award recipient to live and work with patient and passionate commitment.

[ghacf.org](http://ghacf.org)



**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Paul J. Laninga Memorial  
Scholarship Fund**



*Paul J. Laninga 1967-1995*

Paul Laninga's future looked bright. The young Grand Haven resident had a successful career as a CPA with the accounting firm of Deloitte and Touche. On January 2, 1995, Paul Laninga was killed in a snowmobiling accident. He was only twenty-seven years old. When Tamara Laninga established a Community Foundation Scholarship Fund in memory of her husband, she wanted to make something positive out of a tragedy. "Paul had a zest for life. Life was always new, always changing, and always an adventure. He lived more in his twenty-seven years than most people do in a lifetime." This scholarship fund assists students interested in pursuing a career in the field of accounting or business.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Larson–Veneklasen Outdoor  
Education Scholarship**



During the 1980s, Ken Larson and Diane Veneklasen team-taught a class for eighth graders called “Outdoor Education.” Ken designed the class with the Outward Bound philosophy in mind: “to inspire character development and self-discovery...through challenge and adventure.” Ken and Susan Larson, along with Diane Veneklasen, started this scholarship fund to make awards to individuals wishing to participate in educational, outdoor experiences – like Outward Bound. The Larson-Veneklasen Fund enables individuals of all ages to learn lifetime outdoor skills as well as challenge themselves to accomplish more than they ever thought possible.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Rick and Beverly Lattin  
Education Fund**



Rick and Beverly Lattin know the meaning of dedication and hard work. In 1985, the Spring Lake couple started their own company. Since then, Sac Plastics, Inc. (named for their daughters Suzanne and Christine) has become a success story among area businesses. While they are delighted in their company’s growth and success, Rick and Beverly are grateful for the support and encouragement they received from their Tri-Cities friends and associates during the company’s early years. Their Educational Fund was created to give back to a community that helped them. This scholarship assists deserving students who are pursuing employable skills and share the Lattin’s principles of dedication and hard work.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Laughlin Family  
Scholarship Fund**



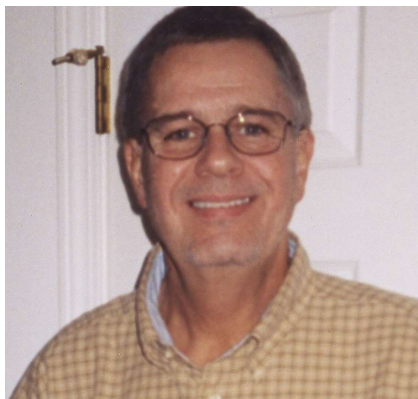
This fund was created by the Laughlin Family, who are longtime supporters of the Community Foundation and the education of youth in our community. Tom Laughlin taught at Grand Haven High School and coached the Boys Cross Country team for 29 years. Jackie Laughlin was a Registered Nurse and gave many volunteer hours to Loutit District Library. Tom and his wife Jackie wanted to do something that would forever support the sport to which Tom dedicated so many years. The Scholarship is given to a graduate of Grand Haven or Spring Lake High School who was on the Cross-Country team.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Jack W. Leatherman  
Family Fund**



This fund was opened in 2006 by Jack Leatherman's family after his unexpected death in order to honor his life. Jack was a resident and local businessman in Grand Haven. He was a caring son, loving husband, and devoted father and a fair and generous man who enjoyed simple living. God, family, friends, and his employees were very important to him.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Leitner Family  
Scholarship Fund**



Jack and Jaynie Leitner were dedicated community members -Jack a local dentist and Jaynie an educator. The Leitner family knew that their legacy would be to help local students pursue higher education. After Jack passed away in 2004 and Jaynie in 2013, the Leitner Family Scholarship Fund was started to fulfill their dream. Now and forever, annual scholarships will be awarded to students graduating from Grand Haven High School. A very fitting legacy for a family that loved the Tri-Cities and embraced education.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Caesy LeMieux Central-Mary  
A. White Schools PTA Fund**



This scholarship fund was established in 1992 by the PTA of Central and Mary A. White Elementary Schools to honor the memory of Caesy LeMieux, a Central Elementary student who died in her first-grade year following a rare illness. Each year, a promising graduating senior who attended Central or Mary A. White School is selected by a committee that includes the principal, parents, and teachers.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

### **Loutit Scholarship Fund**



The Loutit Foundation honors the legacy of the Loutit family by providing grants in areas that were of special concern to the Loutit Family: health, education, and community welfare. Recognizing the importance of helping students realize their full potential and supporting local educational institutions, they established the Loutit Scholarship Fund in 2018. This scholarship is intended for students residing in northern Ottawa County who are planning to attend a college affiliated with the Michigan Colleges Alliance.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

### **Pat and John MacTavish Fund**



This scholarship was established in 2007 by John MacTavish in loving memory of his wife Pat, who was a member of the local PEO and who worked for General Dynamics as a technical writer. John, a former Science Professor at Grand Valley State University, established this fund to honor Pat's involvement with PEO and to encourage young women to advance themselves in higher learning, specifically, in the study of the "hard sciences."

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

### **Mandy's Promise Scholarship Fund**



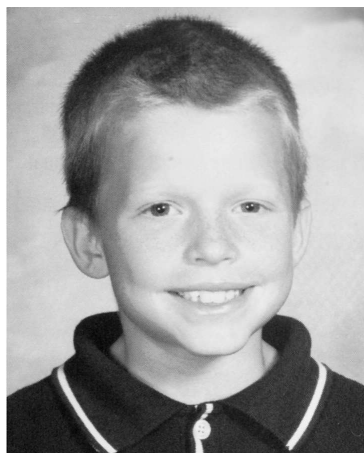
Robert and Patricia Schmidt created this scholarship for students attending public colleges and universities in Michigan and pursuing a course of study in veterinary medicine. With an affinity for our furry friends, this fund is named after a cherished childhood beagle named Mandy who helped inspire a desire to help animals. Robert and Patricia want this scholarship to help produce future Doctors of Veterinary Medicine and Vet Technicians to care for animals.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Ross Patrick McBride  
Scholarship Fund**



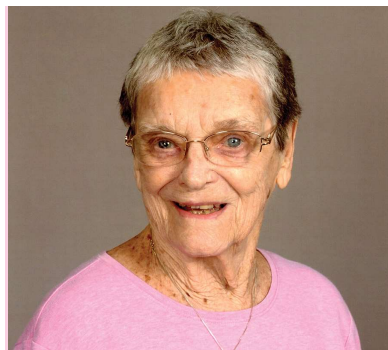
This scholarship was established in loving memory of Ross McBride who died while an elementary student at Peach Plains Elementary School. Born in 1989, Ross was a Spelling Bee Champion, involved in DARE, avid sports player, and enjoyed reading, chess, and cheese pizza. He loved to travel and collect cards, from baseball to Pokémon. He loved life and having fun. This scholarship is presented to a fifth-grade student to be awarded when the student graduates from high school.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Mary E. McGinnis Social Work  
Scholarship Fund**



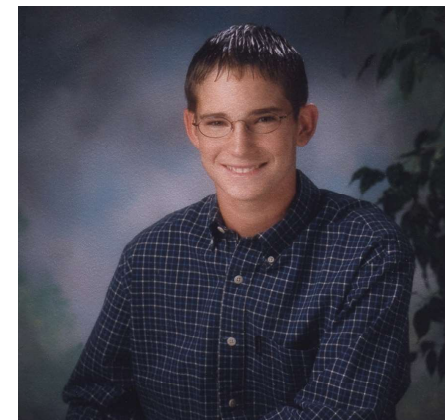
Mary E. McGinnis grew up in Elmhurst, IL and went on to attend Marygrove College and the University of Michigan, where she earned a bachelor's degree and completed post-graduate studies in social work. Mary spent her entire career at Catholic Social Services of Wayne and Oakland County, MI, finding exceptional families for hundreds of wonderful children. She retired in 1996 and moved to Grand Haven in 2014 to be closer to family. When Mary passed away after a courageous battle with cancer, her four children opened this scholarship fund to honor her and her love of giving back. Scholarships are awarded to a Northwest Ottawa County applicant with at least junior status at any Michigan public or private college/university with a declared major in social work.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Kyle R. Moreland Memorial  
Endowment Fund**



Kyle Moreland will be remembered for his smile and good humor, and this scholarship fund will honor those things that were most important in Kyle's life: family, athletics, and his faith. A freshman at Grand Haven High School, Kyle was a 4.0 student, enjoyed playing in the Marching Band, and was a member of both the Varsity Tennis and Golf Teams. Kyle was also active in his church youth group, First Priority of the Lakeshore, and shared his faith with others during two mission trips in New York.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Melissa Skiera Myers**  
**Scholarship Fund**



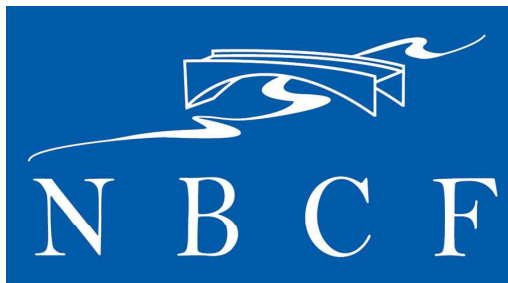
Melissa opened this scholarship fund because she wanted to give back to the community. Understanding the financial challenges of obtaining an education, she wanted to help ease or eliminate the burden of student loan debt for women pursuing degrees in math, science, and business. Melissa plans to grow this fund over her lifetime to help as many Tri-Cities female students as possible, including adults returning to college for undergraduate and graduate degrees.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**North Bank Scholarship Fund**  
*Education. Recreation. Environment.*



The North Bank Scholarship Fund (NBSF) supports the educational needs of eligible students who reside in the north bank communities of Spring Lake Village, Spring Lake Township, the City of Ferrysburg and Crockery Township. The NBSF was established in 2013 by the North Bank Communities Fund Advisory Committee who fund programs that promote education, environment, and recreation. They hope that the scholarship recipients will benefit from the generous community support and, in time, will support their own communities in similar fashion.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**North Ottawa Hospital**  
**Auxiliary Fund**



The North Ottawa Hospital Auxiliary Scholarship Fund has been awarding scholarships to qualified students pursuing medical and medical-related professions for over 50 years. A component of this fund is in memory of Marjorie Hren Blohm, born in Shelby, MI in 1952. She spent her career working as a nurse and achieved several advanced nursing degrees. Marjorie worked at NOCH until 1995 when she suffered a heart attack at work and died. She loved nursing and had a passion for caring for others. was established in Marjorie's memory by her mother – Ellen Hardy.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Kate Olsen Scholarship Fund**



The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 28 created the Kate Olsen Scholarship Fund to honor the memory of Kathryn “Kate” Matilda Olsen (Dickinson), who was a charter member. Kate Olsen, born in 1886 in Coopersville, joined the Auxiliary in 1920 via the service of her husband, George L. Olsen, who saw extensive service in Europe during WWI. Kate was elected the First President of Unit 28 on November 8, 1920, to lead Auxiliary membership. During her three years in office, she took charge of many activities in support of veterans. After 45 years of Auxiliary service, Kate was presented with a gold-plated Lifetime Membership card and pin in 1965. Kate passed away in 1971. This scholarship is awarded to students who embody Kate’s philosophy of “Service, Not Self.”

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Lola M. and Harry C. Olsen  
Scholarship Fund**



This scholarship was opened after the passing of both Harry C. Olsen in 1994 and his wife, Lola Mae (Rosenau) Olsen in 2022. They were married for 28 years. Harry was a 1st Lieutenant in the US Army and served in both World War II and the Korean War, earning the Bronze Star Medal. Lola lived in the Spring Lake area for over 35 years, after moving here from the Detroit area. She graduated from Cooley High School and worked for Ford Motor Company until her retirement. Their legacy supported organizations that assist underserved populations. The scholarship aids student access to education with an emphasis on institutions that promote fundamental values in their students.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Roy and Joyce Overway  
Family Fund**



This scholarship fund will assist current Grand Haven High School graduates who plan to attend Ferris State University and concentrating on a career in manufacturing. Manufacturing is an important industry in West Michigan and it was the desire of the Overway family to continue to encourage local students to consider a career in this sector. Possible majors in the manufacturing area could include design, engineering, industrial technology, and the applied sciences.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Marvin R. and Pearl E. Patterson  
Family Fund**



Marv Patterson always said it was the “positive spirit” of Grand Haven that enticed him to make this community his home. A printer by trade, he devoted more than 50 years of his life to the printing business, meeting all the challenges of new technology with enthusiasm. Pearl Patterson, who held a great love for this community and the natural world, established this fund to honor those things that were important in their life together, education, the arts, and the environment. This fund will provide scholarship assistance to students planning to study graphic arts or fine arts, or for students studying environment, biology, or forestry.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**P.E.O. Chapter DS  
Scholarship Fund**



P.E.O. (Philanthropic Educational Organization), one of the pioneer societies for women, was founded on January 21, 1869, by seven students at Iowa Wesleyan College in Mount Pleasant, Iowa. Originally a small campus friendship society, today, P.E.O. has grown from that tiny membership of seven to almost a quarter of a million members in chapters in the United States and Canada. The P.E.O. Sisterhood is passionate about its mission: promoting educational opportunities for women by providing scholarships, grants, awards and loans. The local chapter, of approximately 60 members, established this scholarship in 2005. It is awarded to a worthy, graduating senior woman from the Tri-Cities area or to a non-traditional female student who is pursuing a degree or certification.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Dr. Larry Poel Field of  
Medicine Scholarship**



This scholarship fund was opened when Dr. Larry Poel retired from his medical career in Grand Haven where he practiced sports medicine for 42 years. He loved being able to support and know the community through his work. This fund is a way to support the educational attainment of future medical professionals and serves as a philanthropic reminder of Dr. Poel and the impact that he had in the sports medicine and family practice field.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Edward and Barbara Post  
Family Scholarship**



The Post family are longtime supporters of the community and the work of the Foundation. They have served on various committees and in various roles to promote community betterment and enrichment. Ed Post served as Chief Circuit Judge of Ottawa County and was a Foundation Trustee while Barb worked for the Foundation from 2002-2015 as Director of Scholarships. Their daughter, Jane, was a YAC member. Sons Thomas and David spent valuable community service hours attaining their Eagle Scout rank in Boy Scouts and John focused his attention on the environment as a team member with Science Olympiad. All attended Grand Haven High School and Michigan public colleges. The family established this scholarship to recognize the vital roles of community involvement, education, and scientific, critical thinking in attaining success later in life and the difficulty students encounter trying to fund their education.

[ghacf.org](http://ghacf.org)



**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Terry Linda Potter  
Scholarship Fund**



*Terry Linda Potter 1949-1974*

Terry Linda Potter was the only child of Cass and Ellen Potter. Ellen was a nurse for the Ottawa County Health Department for many years and she raised Terry after her husband died when Terry was nine months old. When she was 24 years old, the 1967 Grand Haven High School graduate was seeking a master's degree in social work from Western Michigan University and engaged to be married. On March 3, 1974, less than a month before her wedding day, Terry Linda Potter was killed in a hit and run automobile accident. Ellen Potter treasured many special memories of her only child and perhaps the most lasting memorial to Terry is this scholarship fund that is awarded each year to a Tri-Cities resident planning to major in a health-related field.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**David and Mary Race Vocational/  
Technical Scholarship Fund**



This scholarship was established from the estate of long-time residents David and Mary Race, to support Tri-Cities area High School students who graduated from or attended Careerline Tech Center and adult students enrolled in Thompson M-TEC pursuing post-high school college or training in vocational or technical fields. A scholarship award is also awarded to an active-duty member of the United States Coast Guard service member stationed in Grand Haven for additional educational training. The Race's had a strong work ethic and lived a life of modest means. David was a factory worker for a local manufacturing company and Mary was a clerk at Braak's Bakery. Their values of hard work and self-reliance live on through this scholarship and its recipients.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Richard and Barbara Race  
Scholarship**



The Races dedicated their careers to the education of our community's youth. Dick was a school administrator at both Fruitport and Grand Haven Schools, and Barb was a local teacher. This scholarship, started after Dick's death, supports students with their college education costs and is awarded to a traditional high school senior pursuing post-secondary education or a student who is returning to school to finish a degree or to equip themselves with an additional degree that will allow their career to grow and expand.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Frances Claire Reinecke  
Scholarship Fund**



Frances committed a lifetime to her family, education, and the community. Her family wanted to continue her passion for helping others by starting a scholarship in her honor. Recipients would include students who have overcome obstacles or are the first in their family to attend college. This reflects Frances' compassion toward all people and her compassion for those who have faced hardships in their life.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Jacob L. Reinecke Memorial  
Scholarship Fund**



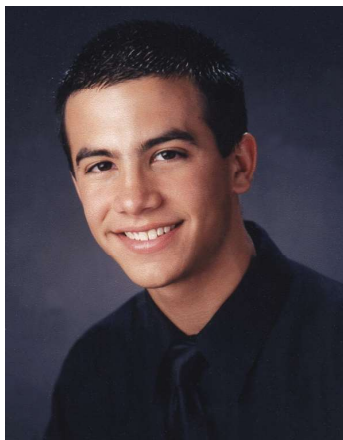
Bill and Tracy Reinecke established this fund to honor the life of their 14-year-old son, Jake, who died unexpectedly in July 2004 and was set to be a sophomore at Grand Haven High School that fall. A good student, Jake enjoyed all sports, particularly baseball, basketball, and golf. His father thought Jake would someday be the greatest sports caster because of his knowledge of and passion for sports. This award is to assist a Grand Haven High School graduating senior planning to attend a two- or four-year college, university, or trade school.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Daniel L. Reiss Memorial  
Scholarship Fund**



Created by Rosanne Reiss to honor the memory of her 19-year-old son, Dan, who lost his life during a tragic drowning accident off the Grand Haven South Pier, this fund offers scholarship assistance to Grand Haven High School graduates planning to pursue an education in Political Science at Grand Valley State University or Aeronautical Engineering at Western Michigan University.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Lupita Reyes Scholarship Fund**



Tri-Cities Puentes Initiative, with support from additional community members, started this fund in honor of community leader Lupita Reyes. A graduate of Holland High School, Lupita was determined to help others and succeed beyond the expectations of those around her. She faced multiple obstacles in her journey to obtain a bachelor's degree in social work, but persevered and went on to obtain two master's. She founded numerous organizations including being one of the key founders of Latin Americans United for Progress and the founder of the radio show *Alegría Latina*, a show that ran for nearly 60 years. Lupita built her life around supporting her community and promoting Hispanic culture. This scholarship is awarded to students who demonstrate a passion for human rights and social justice and a commitment to applying this knowledge to their future career.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Harold and Eleanor Ringelberg  
Scholarship Fund**



To honor Harold "Buss" and Eleanor Ringelberg's commitment to education, specifically Christian education, their family established this scholarship fund as the perfect living memorial. This award is given to a graduating Grand Haven High School senior who demonstrates academic excellence and seeks to pursue a degree from Michigan State University. Students who attended Grand Haven Christian School will be given special consideration.

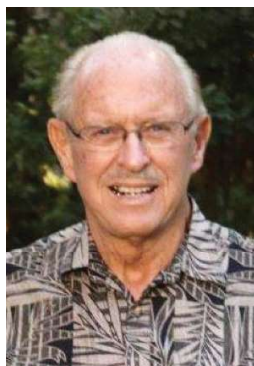
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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Charles Robertson Scholarship  
Fund for Education**



This scholarship fund is a memorial to the life of Charles Robertson, established by his wife and family. Chuck was the woodshop teacher at Grand Haven Junior High School for 36 years. During his life, Chuck's leadership and organizational qualities were always present and active. He took a broad world view and always found ways to do good things for others. This scholarship supports students who have graduated from a Tri-Cities area public high school. Chuck enjoyed working with his hands, he was a creative problem solver, and he had a curiosity about the world around him. This scholarship keeps the memory of Chuck alive and hopefully inspires the award recipients to live a life of passion and active involvement.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Runschke Family  
Scholarship Fund**



Gernot and Anne Runschke established this scholarship fund to assist students who are residents of Northwest Ottawa County and enrolled in a vocational or trades program. They feel strongly about supporting the local community, especially with youth education. Recognizing the importance of a high-quality and specialized education, the Runschke family wants this scholarship to positively impact students, our local workforce, and the community.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Charles and Eleanor Rycenga  
Education Fund**



Charles Rycenga and his wife Eleanor were well known in the Tri-Cities area for their philanthropy and community involvement.

In 1991, Mr. and Mrs. Rycenga established this scholarship fund to assist graduates of Grand Haven, Spring Lake, and Western Michigan Christian High Schools to continue their education.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Millicent Mary Schaffner Endowed  
Memorial Scholarship Fund**



Thomas and Millicent Schaffner were married in 1937 and moved to the Tri-Cities in 1952. They loved to travel and often entertained friends with stories of their trips all over the world. Millicent died in 1983. When Thomas died in 1992, he left a generous bequest to create a scholarship to support exceptional female Tri-Cities residents in memory of his wife, Millicent M. Schaffner.

Determination and motivation are characteristics of selected recipients.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**David and Jinny Schultz  
Family Fund**



Grand Haven resident David Schultz did not go to college. In fact, he never graduated from High School. He started working for his father when he was fifteen and began his tool and die apprenticeship when he was only eighteen years old, becoming president of a tool and die firm when he was 27, turning the company into a successful productions shop. Schultz always had the desire to succeed, but not the formal education. From personal experience, he knew the world would be a better place if a young person's desire could be harnessed with education. This scholarship, established by David and his wife Jinny, is awarded to a student who demonstrates commitment and a strong motivation to succeed.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**David and Sharon Seaver Family  
Scholarship Fund in  
Memory of Timothy D. Seaver**



Lifelong residents of Grand Haven, David and Sharon Seaver established this fund in memory of their son, Tim. Graduating with an engineering degree with a minor in business, Tim was an avid sportsman, family man, father of three children, and President of Seaver Finishing. He worked diligently to preserve the environment and created many good memories while hunting and fishing with friends and family. Both David and Sharon are active in the community. This scholarship is awarded to assist a Grand Haven High School senior wishing to pursue a career in Business.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Ken and Sandy Sharkey Family  
Scholarship Fund**



Long known for community involvement, Ken and Sandy Sharkey established this scholarship with the Foundation in 2000. As local business owners, the Sharkeys recognized that one way to do their part in supporting the community was through this scholarship. Recipients are graduating seniors from Grand Haven High School who demonstrate civic responsibility and plan to be involved in improving their community in the future.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Susan Shattuck  
Scholarship for Future Nurses**



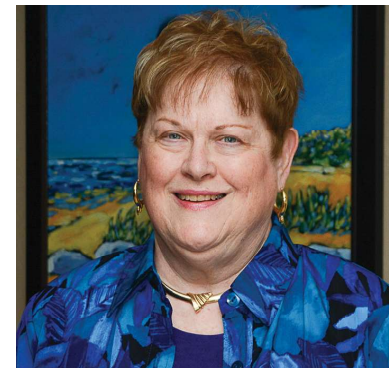
Susan Shattuck, MS, RN, CS-BC, NP, followed her lifelong dream to be a nurse and made sure the underserved and the marginalized receive the highest standards of nursing care. In that spirit, Sue started the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program through Center for Women in Transition (now Resilience: Advocates for Ending Violence) in 2001. Sue's work in this field made her one of the State's top experts in medical forensic sexual assault examination and care of survivors. This scholarship passes the torch to a student who wishes to pursue a career in nursing.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Lynne Sherwood  
Scholarship Fund**



This scholarship started from a portion of Lynne's bequest to the Community Foundation and ensures that youth in our community will achieve their educational goals. Lynne was valedictorian of her 1959 GHHS graduating class, earned a bachelor's with honors from Stanford University, and went on to obtain her MBA in finance from Harvard Business School as one of the first women admitted for the full two-year program. She was deeply involved in many areas of the community, most notably through the Spring Lake District Library, the Rotary Club, various charitable organizations, and as a business leader. While Lynne's legacy will live on in our community in so many ways, her impact on education in our community is noteworthy.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Grand Haven Rotary /  
Lynne Sherwood  
STRIVE Scholarship**



This scholarship is awarded to graduating seniors from Grand Haven Area Public Schools, preferably from Central High School, who demonstrated that they benefited from an adult community member or mentor who assisted and supported them while they were working toward their high school diploma or GED.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Marion A. and Ruth K. Sherwood  
Business Scholarship**



Marion and Ruth Sherwood cared about the community in which they lived and worked. Active in many community organizations, Mr. Sherwood served upon many committees and advisory boards to promote community betterment. Upon his death, a bequest established this scholarship for students who demonstrate evidence of academic achievement and plan to pursue the study of Business.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Marion A. and Ruth K. Sherwood  
Current College Scholarship**



Marion and Ruth Sherwood cared about the community in which they lived and worked. Active in many community organizations, Mr. Sherwood served upon many committees and advisory boards to promote community betterment. Upon his death, a bequest established this scholarship for students who demonstrate evidence of academic achievement and plan to continue their college studies.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Marion A. and Ruth K. Sherwood  
Education Scholarship**



Marion and Ruth Sherwood cared about the community in which they lived and worked. Active in many community organizations, Mr. Sherwood served upon many committees and advisory boards to promote community betterment. Upon his death, a bequest established this scholarship for students who demonstrate evidence of academic achievement and plan to pursue the study of Education.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Marion A. and Ruth K. Sherwood  
Engineering Scholarship**



Marion and Ruth Sherwood cared about the community in which they lived and worked. Active in many community organizations, Mr. Sherwood served upon many committees and advisory boards to promote community betterment. Upon his death, a bequest established this scholarship for students who demonstrate evidence of academic achievement and plan to pursue the study of Engineering.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Marion A. and Ruth K. Sherwood  
Medical Scholarship**



Marion and Ruth Sherwood cared about the community in which they lived and worked. Active in many community organizations, Mr. Sherwood served upon many committees and advisory boards to promote community betterment. Upon his death, a bequest established this scholarship for students who demonstrate evidence of academic achievement and plan to pursue the study of Medicine.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Marion A. and Ruth K. Sherwood  
Michigan Colleges  
Alliance Scholarship**



Marion and Ruth Sherwood cared about the community in which they lived and worked. Active in many community organizations, Mr. Sherwood served upon many committees and advisory boards to promote community betterment. Upon his death, a bequest established this scholarship for students who demonstrate evidence of academic achievement and plan to attend a Michigan Colleges Alliance Affiliated School.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Miller G. Sherwood Family  
Scholarship Fund**



Miller G. Sherwood, a University of Michigan graduate, first demonstrated his belief in the value of education by serving on the Grand Haven School Board in the 1950s. In 1959, he formed a Grand Haven Rotary Scholarship program. Miller was instrumental in starting the Grand Haven Area Community Foundation in 1971, serving as its second president. Later, the Rotary Scholarship program became a part of the foundation, continuing Miller's educational ideals and visions. Because Miller always gave so generously of his time, talents, and resources to the Tri-Cities area he loved so much, the Miller G. Sherwood Family Scholarship Fund was created in 1994 by his wife, Barbara, who died in 2008, and their four children. Mrs. Sherwood was an avid supporter of the environment and social causes, and both she and Miller were strong believers in helping local students achieve their educational goals.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Maryadele Sparks  
Scholarship Fund**



This scholarship was established by Dennis Sparks to honor the memory of his mother, Maryadele Sparks. She was an educator and long-time resident of Spring Lake who was dedicated to the service of others, especially children. This scholarship is for a graduating senior of Spring Lake High School pursuing a career focused on the development of young children. The qualities and traits she demonstrated, service to others, valuing education, and empathetic kindness are qualities the recipient must also demonstrate.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Spartanwill  
Scholarship Fund**



The Spartanwill Scholarship Fund was established in 2017 by James and Karen Schmidt. Jim Schmidt was the first college graduate of his parents' extended families. He worked for seven years at Meijer to pay for his Michigan State University education, and after completing his education, was recruited by Fluor Corporation, an international oil and gas EPC services contractor. Jim steadily progressed to Senior Vice President and company Officer during his 37-year Fluor career. The Spartanwill Scholarship Fund provides MSU scholarships for hometown high school graduates, helping to turn a college degree from a dream into a reality.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Spring Lake High School  
Social Studies Prize**



This scholarship was started in 2002 with a gift from Edward and Laura Grafton. The Graftons wanted to create a scholarship prize to recognize a graduating senior who had done exceptional work in high school social studies and who intended to pursue undergraduate studies and a career in the social sciences including history, political science, economics, sociology, anthropology, international relations, law, and journalism.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**St. John's Lutheran Church and  
School Scholarship Fund**



Congratulations on your achievement! St. John's Lutheran Church and School recognized you as an individual who has continued to show Christian character and values during your high school years. They will continue to lift you up in prayer as you begin this next step into your academic future. May God continue to be a Source upon which you rely on for guidance and purpose in your life. This means knowing God and the life He has for you to live. Blessings on your future.

*Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will. - Romans 12:2*

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**St. Patrick's and St. Anthony's  
Church Scholarship Fund**



We would like to congratulate you for your great character, hard work, and integration of your Catholic faith into your daily life. We trust that your faith in God will remain the core of your future achievements. Please know that the St. Patrick & St. Anthony Catholic Community will remember you in our prayers and will always remain your spiritual home in Grand Haven. A special thanks to the anonymous family from our community that established this wonderful scholarship in 2003 and the many people that have made additional donations. May God bless you as you begin a new chapter in your life.

Sincerely, your faith community.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Frank & Virginia Such  
Memorial Scholarship Fund**



Frank and Virginia Such were pillars of the Grand Haven community. Frank was an educator and elementary school principal and known for his passion of education. Virginia was known for her kind and thoughtful words of strength and love of family. This scholarship supports local students, who share Frank and Virginia's passion for education and children, pursue a college education. The Such family created this scholarship in memory of two very special people.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Edward P. Suchecki Family  
Scholarship Fund**



Ed Suchecki was born and raised in Nunica, attended Grand Haven High School, and graduated in 1957. Ed was a star football player and spent much of his time coaching the Tri-Cities Kids' League, youth football, and playing golf. Although Ed did not have the opportunity to attend college, he was a successful businessman and he made sure his children went to college. When Ed died in 2000, his wife and sons established this scholarship fund which is awarded to local athletes who want to pursue a career in business.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Henry D. and Ruth G. Swartz  
Family Fund**



This fund was established in 1996 by Henry and Ruth Swartz who desired to assist area high school graduates to pursue their post-secondary education. Hank and Ruth were longtime Ottawa County residents. In fact, Hank who was an engineer, graduated from Grand Haven High School in 1939. Ruth was, for many years, the Secretary and Bookkeeper of Spring Lake Public Schools. This scholarship is given to a graduating high school student planning to pursue a career in engineering, computer science, pre-law, or medicine.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Clifford and Hope Taylor  
Scholarship Fund**



Cliff Taylor attended public school in Spring Lake and Grand Haven before serving in the US Navy and then graduating from Michigan State University in 1950. Cliff and his wife, Hope, were active in the community, lifelong golfers, and understood the value of a high-quality education. They established this scholarship fund to impact the futures of our local students. The scholarship is intended for graduating seniors from Spring Lake High School and current college students who previously graduated from Spring Lake High School.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Grace Thatcher  
Scholarship Fund**



This scholarship was created to honor a beloved daughter, Grace Thatcher, by her parents, John and Debra, her family, and many friends. This scholarship made the first award in 2016 – the year Grace would have graduated from Hudsonville Public High School. Grace was a delight and joy to everyone who came in contact with her. She was an excellent student who loved school, soccer, hunting, climbing trees, catching frogs, and creating artwork. This scholarship is awarded to two graduating seniors, one from Hudsonville High School and one from Grand Haven High School, where her father John was Assistant Superintendent for a number of years. The recipients must be pursuing a career in science and demonstrate that co-curricular activities are a part of their high school experience.

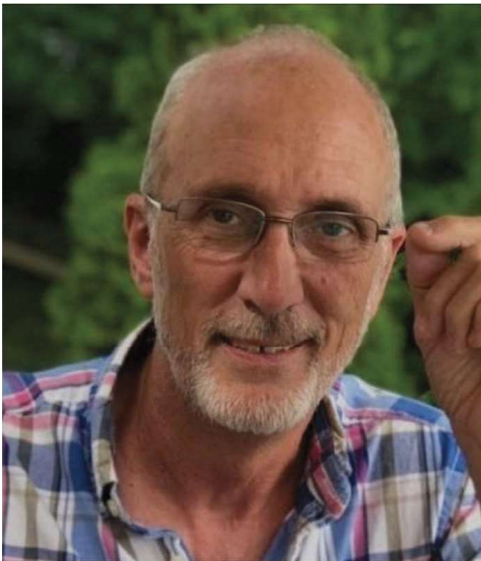
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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

### **J Patrick Twa Scholarship**



Patrick was known for his deep faith, quick wit, a passion to work with wood as well as a genuine care of others. Many knew him because of his home remodeling business and work with Tri-Cities Area Habitat for Humanity. His wife, Bobbie and sons Adam and Ben started this Fund in his memory following his death and many friends contributed to the fund as well. This fund will grant Careerline Tech Center students an opportunity to learn residential skilled trades.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

### **H. Wayne VanAgtmael Cosmetology Scholarship Fund**



Established in 2005 by Wayne Van Agtmael's family to honor his memory and talents. He was a local businessman who was the owner and founder of Wayne & Company. Wayne enjoyed teaching his craft to students who were often the first in their family to succeed beyond high school. This scholarship supports students attending Cosmetology School and will help to continue Wayne's legacy.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

### **Lorraine Van Beukering Scholarship**



This scholarship was established by the Spring Lake Schools Board of Education in memory of Lorraine Van Beukering, a longtime educator and Board of Education member for Spring Lake Schools. She attended Western Michigan College of Education and the University of Michigan and was an English teacher, advisor to the National Honors Society, and sophomore class advisor. This scholarship honors a graduating senior of Spring Lake High School.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Marv VandenBosch  
Scholarship**



Sandra VandenBosch and her children established this scholarship in 2013 in loving memory of her husband and their father, Marv VandenBosch. Marv spent many years volunteering for local governmental entities and helping those in need. Marv's legacy will live through the many students who will benefit from this scholarship and, hopefully, will inspire the recipients to lead a life of caring for all that enhances their community. This scholarship is awarded to a Tri-Cities student who is pursuing a career in criminal justice or law enforcement.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Connie VanSchelven Memorial  
Scholarship Fund**



This scholarship fund was lovingly started by the friends and family of Connie VanSchelven, a lifetime resident and longtime educator in Grand Haven who passed away in September 2022. This fund supports students graduating from Grand Haven Area Public Schools with their post-secondary studies, particularly students who have displayed strength and perseverance to overcome academic, personal, or financial challenges to graduate. Recipients demonstrate both the tenacity to better themselves and a commitment to succeed in life when given appropriate opportunities and support.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Norna Verplank and Tom Knight  
Performing Arts Scholarship**



Tom Knight enjoyed his years of leading, directing, mentoring and coaching hundreds of students at Spring Lake Public Schools. His mother, Norna, enjoyed being Coach Knight's mom and was regularly in attendance watching performances over the years. Tom and Norna established this scholarship fund to help Spring Lake Public School graduates interested in furthering their performing arts careers.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Norna Verplank and Tom Knight  
Swimming & Diving Scholarship**



Tom Knight enjoyed his years of leading, directing, mentoring and coaching hundreds of students at Spring Lake Public Schools. His mother, Norna, enjoyed being Coach Knight's mom and was regularly in attendance cheering on swimming and diving teams over the years. Tom and Norna established this scholarship fund to help Spring Lake Public School graduates interested in furthering their swimming and diving careers.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**VFW Post 2326 Ward-Goff  
Memorial Scholarship Fund**



Mr. & Mrs. Elgin Ward and Mr. & Mrs. Richard Goff gave a donation to the VFW Post 2326 to memorialize their sons, Roger Ward and Larry Goff, who lost their lives in the line of duty during the Vietnam War. In 1970, the Sgt. Alvin Jonker VFW Post 2326 and Auxiliaries created the Ward-Goff Scholarship Fund with this money. This scholarship fund was created to provide financial assistance to outstanding young men and women who are the children or grandchildren of active military personnel, honorably discharged military veterans of any branch of the US Military - whether or not their services involved a war, and members of the VFW Post 2326 Ladies' and Men's Auxiliaries.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Louise Wachter Wickham  
Scholarship Fund**



This Memorial Fund was established in 1997 by Donna Wickham Furth, in honor of her mother, Louise Wachter Wickham, a longtime elementary public school teacher in the Spring Lake and Grand Haven area. This scholarship fund has been established to assist students to obtain a degree in elementary education. Louise valued education. When she and her sister graduated from junior high, their family did not intend to send them to high school. It was only through the intervention of the school principal, who implored their father to permit them to complete high school in Grand Haven, along with both girls working to cover their own living expenses, that allowed Louise to go on to teach. As Louise said, "I am a teacher. I touch the future."

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## Grand Haven Area

Community Foundation

### Bob Warren & Carole Curry-Warren Scholarship Fund



Bob and Carole established a scholarship fund with the idea that it's never too late to seek additional education. Carole herself was fortunate enough to receive financial assistance when she decided to go back to school. Through this, Carole wanted to pass on this opportunity to others over 30 who are looking to further their education or return to school.

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## Grand Haven Area

Community Foundation

### Waters' Family Scholarship



The Waters Family started this scholarship fund to help support students in our community who are pursuing a career in the Fine Arts or Medicine and who plan to attend Central Michigan University. Richard and Kay were thankful that they had been able to assist their two daughters through both undergraduate and postgraduate educations. They decided to open this fund in an effort to assist others in reaching their educational goals.

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## Grand Haven Area

Community Foundation

### Valerie Watson Scholarship Fund



*Valerie Watson*

Thomas and Jayne Osborn celebrated their daughter's retirement from education by opening a scholarship fund in her name. After graduating from Western Michigan University in 1987, Valerie Watson taught elementary school in the Grand Haven District for 30 years. Beginning in 1992, she taught 4th grade for 18 years and 5th grade for one year. In 2011, she became the reading specialist/literacy coach for seven years. Then, she returned to the classroom to teach first graders until her retirement in June 2022. This fund supports students pursuing post-secondary education who attended Robinson Elementary School, have expressed a desire to study Education, or to study at WMU.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

### **West Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association Scholarship Fund**



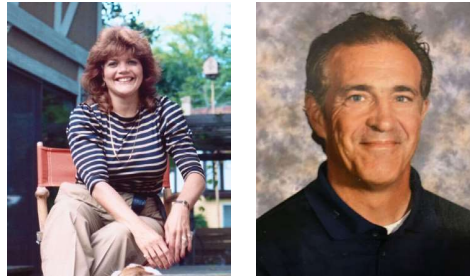
Established by the West Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association in 2001, this scholarship was designed to assist students from Ottawa, Oceana, Newaygo, Muskegon, or Allegan County who desire to pursue a career in horticulture or the green industry. The West Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association is committed to developing and fostering partnerships, access to resources, and education to West Michigan's Green Industry.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

### **Westra Bye Memorial Art Educators' Scholarship Fund**



The Westra Bye Memorial Art Foundation was founded in memory of Donna Westra and Robin Bye, two Grand Haven High School Art teachers beloved by their students and colleagues. This organization, established in 2019 by a volunteer board of art educators and community members, has historically provided financial and educational support for Grand Haven Area Public School students who have developed a reviewed portfolio of work and are pursuing a post-secondary Visual Arts education at an accredited college or university.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

### **Mary E. Wilsberg Scholarship**

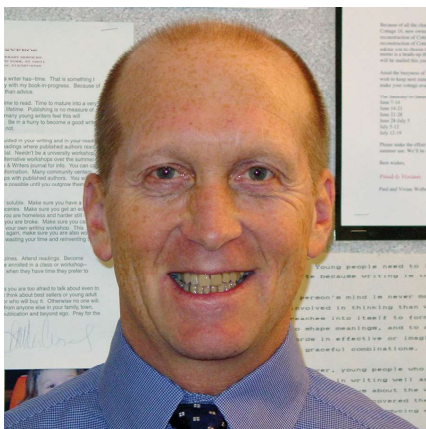


Mary attended school in Grand Haven, graduating high school in 1943. She graduated from University of Michigan with a BA in education in 1947 and an MA in 1952. She received her Doctorate (Ed.D.) in teaching and curriculum development from Columbia University, Teachers College in New York City in 1964. In 1988, Mary established this scholarship to provide financial assistance to a Grand Haven or Spring Lake High School student who not only has excelled academically but has also demonstrated well-rounded community participation and service to others.



**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Paul Wolbrink  
Scholarship Fund**



This scholarship was established in 2003 by a successful Spring Lake High School alumnus, Thomas Higley, to honor his favorite teacher, Paul Wolbrink. The Paul Wolbrink Scholarship Fund pays tribute to a wonderful educator and inspires young people to pursue their dreams by providing assistance to a Spring Lake High School student pursuing a college degree.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Women's Club  
of Grand Haven**



Grand Haven Women's Club  
c. 1930s

This fund was established in 2001 by the Women's Club of Grand Haven. For years during the Grand Haven Coast Guard Festival, members of the Women's Club volunteer many hours toward an annual Used Book Sale and donated the proceeds to this scholarship fund. This scholarship fund presents an award to a non-traditional student, from the Tri-Cities, who plans to further their education.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Zenko Family Fund**



This fund was established in 1990 by Margaret L. Zenko as a means to assist individuals to help themselves become productive members of our community. Her husband, Edward, was a graduate of Pigeon Creek School and a self-educated engineer who started Progressive Engineering, which made parts for airplanes during World War II. They both had a keen interest in the Grand Haven Lighthouse and Pier and in retirement, Edward's energy was funneled into getting the lights installed on the catwalk. The Zenko Family Fund continues to give scholarships to deserving local students who show through their work ethic that education is important.

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**Grand Haven Area**  
Community Foundation

**Leo Zupin Memorial  
Scholarship Fund**



Leo Zupin was a member of the Tri-Cities community for over 40 years. As educators, he and his wife, Marian, had touched the lives of countless youth. This fund was established as a memorial to Leo Zupin who passed unexpectedly in 2006. He was a math teacher and dean of students in the Grand Haven School District and served as chief negotiator for the Grand Haven Education Association. This scholarship is a tribute to his legacy and in recognition of his lifelong dedication to educating the youth of this community.

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