

Billings Community Foundation 2013 Winter Newsletter



President's Letter

First I want to express my appreciation to Doug Osborne for his leadership in 2012. It was a great year that concluded with BCF receiving the 2012

Outstanding Foundation award from the Association of Fundraising Professionals. Second, it is a pleasure to announce that BCF began 2013 with the hiring of Suzanne McKiernan as Development Associate.

Suzanne has hit the ground running and is proving to be a valuable addition to the BCF team. More about Suzanne is included in a separate article.

Finally, as the first "non-founding" member to serve as President of BCF, I want to say what an honor it is to serve on the BCF

BILLINGS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

This spring, the Billings Community Foundation will once again award grants to non-profit organizations. These grants will cover a wide variety of charitable purposes, with a focus in the following areas: animal welfare, education, basic human needs, arts and culture, natural resources and conservation, bricks and mortar improvements, economic development and endowment building. Grants awarded will range from \$200.00 to \$1,500.00 per request.

board of directors. All members are talented volunteers dedicated to assisting individuals and other non-profits in making Billings an amazing place to live. If you want to do something that will benefit the Billings area, the BCF can assist you with ideas or by serving as your board of trustees and investment committee. As noted in a separate article, March 31st is the deadline for submitting requests for grants that will be awarded in early June. These distributions, along with distributions from our individual funds, allow us to help people do "good work" in the Billings area.

New BCF Officers and Directors

The Billings Community Foundation recently elected officers for 2013 at its annual meeting in January. They are Ralph Spence, oil and gas exploration, president; Kathryn Maehl, attorney with Moulton Bellingham, vice president; Colleen Weast, retired tax practitioner, treasurer; Carolyn Yampradit, Anderson Zurmuehlen, secretary and Doug Osborne, CPA, past president. Other Board members include; Don Allen, retired CPA; Doris Barta, St. Vincent Healthcare; Lisa Reid Perry, PPL Montana; Obert Udem, Director of Planned Giving at Rocky Mountain College; Teresa Darnielle-Morse, RBC Wealth Management and Jack Nickels, farm and ranch realtor.

During the same granting period, a significant grant of up to \$5,000 will be awarded for permanent Billings community improvement projects of charitable organizations. This is funded by the Wilkin's Trust established by Tom and Amo Wilkins who were long time residents of Billings and wanted to benefit Billings in perpetuity.

The Billings Community Foundation provides methods and opportunities for charitable interests to grow and thrive in this region, benefiting communities in Yellowstone, Carbon, Stillwater, Big Horn, Treasure and Musselshell counties.

Applications for the grants are available online at billingscommunityfoundation@gmail.com or by calling 406-839-3334.

Applications are due by March 31, 2013.



New BCF Development Associate

The Board of Directors of the Billings Community

Foundation is pleased to announce the hiring of Suzanne McKiernan as Development



Andrew Youlden Scholarship

BCF has just established the Andrew Youlden Memorial Scholarship fund with a transfer of over \$16,000 from another foundation. Andrew Youlden was a West High student who graduated in May 2007. He was tragically killed in a longboarding accident soon after his high school graduation. Andrew was an independent thinker with great creativity who set an example of leadership and character. He would have encouraged you to be a leader, accept responsibility, get involved, make good choices and have fun doing it. The purpose of the scholarship is to honor and assist students like Andrew Youlden, who make the most of the gifts they have received and bring happiness to their friends as well as the broader community.

The music and drama department directors from Billings West High School choose a recipient each spring from West High and the award is presented at the Pops Concert and Student Awards night in May. The

Associate. Suzanne brings a background of community involvement and non-profit experience. She will be serving as staff to the board of directors and will be responsible for establishing good donor, client and community relations. Her work will include assisting with fundraising strategies, presentations and the grant program of the foundation.

Suzanne has two wonderful grown daughters, a husband who is trying to retire but is still consulting and an old English Sheepdog named Oliver. Her two avid interests are knitting and the Denver Broncos.

Ask Suzanne about the BCF and she answers "what could be better than working for a terrific foundation that believes in our community and works to promote charitable giving and philanthropy?" The board looks forward to her involvement in the foundation.

Suzanne's background includes a history of Girl Scout work, from Brownie Leader to Board President and later, a national volunteer for Girls Scouts USA. She has served on 2 different school boards, has been involved with BikeNet, YWCA of Billings, the Volunteer Center of United Way, and the Blue Creek Elementary School Foundation. Most recently,

scholarship is awarded based on merit to the student that has excelled in theatre, drama, choir, orchestra or band and demonstrated leadership, character, made good choices and had a positive influence on others and enthusiasm for life. The scholarship is given in the form of a check payable to the college or university the student will be attending upon graduation from high school. This is a permanent scholarship and 5% of the fund balance will be distributed each year to the one selected student.

Gifts to this scholarship fund should be made out to the Billings Community Foundation - Andrew Youlden Scholarship Fund.

IRA Rollovers

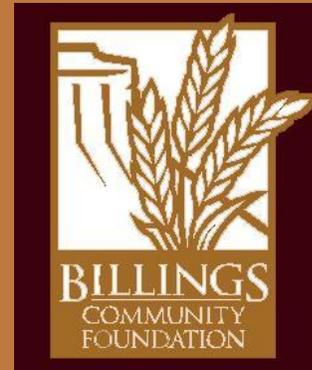
On January 2, 2013, President Obama signed the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012, extending the IRA Rollover provision until December 31, 2013. The extension allows donors to make distributions directly to eligible charities. A qualified charitable distribution is money that individuals who are 70 ½ or older may direct from their traditional IRA to eligible charitable organizations.

Distributions to almost all types of funds typically held by community foundations such as scholarships, field-of-interest, and designated funds qualify. The law allows donors to exclude from their income the amount of the donation up to \$100,000 to a qualified charity. For more information contact Obert Udem at 657-1142.

Donor Advised Fund Program

Two new donor advised funds were opened

Suzanne co-chaired the successful initiative campaign for the new Billings library and is currently co-chairing the grand opening of the new library, scheduled for February, 2014.



*Let your good work
begin with us*

Billings Community Foundation Community Sponsors

Anderson ZurMuehlen
Data Corp, Mary Stickney
Foundation for Community Vitality
PPL Montana
RBC Wealth Management
Rocky Mountain College,
Prescott Hall

Board of Trustees

Ralph Spence - President
Kathryn Maehl - Vice President
Colleen Weast - Treasurer
Carolyn Yampradit - Secretary
Doug Osborne - Immediate Past
President
Obert Udem - Vice President of
Planned Giving
Teresa Darnielle - Assistant Vice
President of Planned Giving

at BCF in 2012. A donor advised fund is a great vehicle for donors who want the flexibility to take their Federal Tax deduction all in one year, yet retain the right to advise the fund by recommending grants to qualified charitable organizations over time at their discretion. Donor advised funds are far more simple and less expensive to establish than a private foundation and are accessible to a much wider range of donors. They are particularly attractive to people in transition - Selling a business? Receiving an inheritance? Just had a great year? Consider talking with us about a donor advised fund. Minimums can start as low as \$10,000 if you anticipate additional contributions.

New BCF E-Mail Address and Web Page Updates

BCF has recently established a new e-mail address. Please use the following for all your correspondence:

billingscommunityfoundation@gmail.com

Also, please check out the new look of our Web Site and the new page describing "BCF Services". This page gives a comprehensive overview of all the services that BCF offers to individuals and other non-profits in the Billings area. It also includes a list of groups we are presently working with along with links to their web pages.

www.billingscommunityfoundation.org

Don Allen
Doris Barta
Jack Nichels
Lisa Reid Perry

Advisory Committee

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Bill Milton
Sarie Mackay
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