

# community catalyst



Oklahoma City

Community  
Foundation

30 Years

March/April 1999

## Community Foundation celebrates 30 years of community-building

❖ *Foundation success due to endowment focus, participation of a wide variety of organizations and early vision of Kirkpatrick.*



Elizabeth Merrick Coe, John Kirkpatrick and Marion Devore enjoy visiting at a reception celebrating the Community Foundation's 30th anniversary.

**1969.** It was the year of Woodstock, and of Richard Nixon's inauguration.

It was the year that schools were desegregated in Oklahoma City.

It was also the year the National Tax Reform Act was passed, imposing new restrictions on private foundations and highlighting the advantages of community foundations.

It was during this momentous year that John E. Kirkpatrick, local oilman and philanthropist, founded the Oklahoma City Community Foundation.

In those first few years, Mr. Kirkpatrick worked to convince his friends and business associates that the Community Foundation

would be a sound investment in the community, and that it would stand the test of time.

The thirty years' worth of history since that initial year, when the assets at year end were around \$45,000, certainly have proven that it has, and will continue to be a vital resource to this community.

Today, the Community Foundation ranks as one of the top 15 largest community foundations in the nation.

As part of its 30th anniversary celebration, the Community Foundation has assembled a traveling photo exhibit that provides a snapshot

of foundation history and is hosting a series of outreach events in conjunction with the exhibit. We hope each of you will stop to view the exhibit sometime this year.

Though the milestones are too numerous to chronicle and the faces too many to show, we are attempting to capture the spirit of the many donors and organizations with which we work, as well as the Community Foundation's ability to address the evolving needs of the community.

In fiscal 1998, the Community Foundation awarded more than \$7.3 million in grants and other distributions to support the charitable needs in Oklahoma City.

Throughout its history, the foundation has sought to build permanent funding sources, or endowments, that benefit causes supported by donors and address emerging community needs.

This endowment focus was the initial vision of John Kirkpatrick, and has been sustained by the work of the foundation over the past thirty years and is a testament to its success. Endowments have helped strengthen the community in many ways, including specific programs unique to the Community Foundation.

In conjunction with its 30th year, the Community Foundation has identified new programs in the areas of beautification and non-profit support, and is continuing its support of ongoing initiatives including its scholarship

program and After School Options.

The Community Foundation will also continue its fiscal management responsibilities for more than 800 endowment funds that support a wide variety of non-profit activities. ❖

### 30th Anniversary Photo Exhibit Dates:

- **Midwest City Library, April 1 - 19**
- **Edmond Historical Society, April 20 - May 13**
- **First National Bank of Bethany, May 14 - June 7**

### Inside this issue:

- Community Foundation celebrates 30 years of serving the community.
- Kirkpatrick Challenge adds more than \$3.8 million to endowments.
- New funds offer support for range of activities.
- Grants update: Recently approved grants; Parks and Public Spaces and scholarship updates.

## Community Foundation's history forms patchwork quilt of charitable activities

The 30-year history of the Oklahoma City Community Foundation is much more like a patchwork quilt than a lengthy novel. Because the Community Foundation's story is really the story of hundreds of donors and the charities and projects they support, we wanted to find an interesting and inviting way to tell others about what has been built since 1969. What better way to do so than with pictures: the faces, smiles and expressions of the people who really are the Community Foundation.

As part of the outreach effort of the Community Foundation during this 30th year, we have assembled a photo exhibit with more than a hundred photographs of people, events,

projects and places with which the Community Foundation has been involved. The exhibit will travel across the metropolitan area during 1999. It has already been in northwest Oklahoma City and south Oklahoma City, and is showing at the Midwest City Public Library through April 19, when it will move to the Edmond Historical Society. In May, the exhibit will travel to Bethany and in June to Leadership Square in downtown Oklahoma City.

You have received a series of post cards announcing the exhibit at the various locations. The post cards themselves are individual stories from the exhibit and are designed to give you a flavor of the exhibit itself.

For those who are not able to see the photos at some time, the post cards will also provide a glimpse of the variety of ways the Community Foundation works with donors and serves the community.

We want to invite each of you to come by one of the locations during the next few months and enjoy the assembly of pictures and stories. For each of these stories, there are a hundred more, each part of the fabric of the community that the Community Foundation represents. We will look forward to seeing you and hope you enjoy seeing us.



...from the  
Executive  
Director

## Community Foundation Highlights

### ❖ Revised grant guidelines available

The Community Foundation has recently revised all guidelines and application procedures for its five community programs: *The Fund for Oklahoma City*, *the Margaret Annis Boys Trust*, *After School Options*, *Community Gardening and the Agency Capacity Building program*.

New guidelines also are available for grant proposals to the Kirkpatrick Family Fund, an Affiliated Fund of the Community Foundation.

The new guidelines replace all printed guidelines dated prior to January 1999. If you would like a copy of any of these guidelines, contact Susan Eikins at 235-5603.

### ❖ Speakers and video presentation available for group meetings

As part of its 30th Anniversary outreach program, the Community Foundation has produced a video highlighting its programs and services. The video and an accompanying presentation are now available to clubs, community groups or anyone else interested in learning more about

the Community Foundation.

If you would like one of our staff members to speak at your function, or if you would simply like an informational packet, contact Penny Voss at 405/235-5603.

### ❖ New initiative will bolster efforts to enhance non-profit capacity

In February the Community Foundation launched the *Non-Profit Technology and Training initiative*, which will provide grants and training and networking opportunities to non-profit agencies with Designated Endowment Funds.

This initiative is an outgrowth of the Agency Capacity Building program, which has been providing grants for similar activities since 1996.

The focus of the new initiative will be to continue building endowment funds, to help non-profits organize clear long-range plans with board development and management resources, to help establish and support communications networks among agencies, and to promote charitable giving as well as help raise

the standards for non-profit agencies to attract this support.

In addition to continuing the Agency Capacity Building program, new activities will include contracting with technology consultants to provide computer and communications assistance to Designated Fund agencies and developing networking and learning opportunities for non-profit staff.

Watch for more information on this exciting new initiative in upcoming issues of *The Catalyst*.

### ❖ Gearing up for the annual report

This year's annual report will be a special anniversary edition. Work is already underway, and we'd like to offer you the opportunity to update our information on donors and funds.

If you would like to update the descriptive information or photo for a donor profile or fund that you represent, please contact Penny Voss at 405/235-5603, or mail to: Oklahoma City Community Foundation, P.O. Box 1140, Oklahoma City, OK 73101-1146. ❖

# New donor-advised fund memorializes community volunteer

❖ **Donor-Advised Funds provide simple and flexible charitable giving options.**

**A**nnette Karchmer Friedlander, except for a brief period, was a lifelong resident of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. She was



Annette Karchmer Friedlander

an active and devoted career volunteer in educational, civic, cultural, social and political organizations.

Her brother, Al Karchmer, has established a Donor-Advised Fund in memory of Mrs. Friedlander. He established a similar fund in honor of his mother, Rose Karchmer Sugerman, last year.

This type of fund will allow Mr. Karchmer to permanently support the charitable interest of his sister and mother.

Mrs. Friedlander's strong link with the community began with her association with the National Council of Jewish Women, an organization that enabled Jewish women to give service and support to the general community. Later, she worked in an interreligious effort called Women in Community Service (WICS), which recruited and trained disadvantaged young women for a Women's Job Corps in connection with the federal 'War on Poverty.'

A member of the League of Women Voters of Oklahoma County, Mrs. Friedlander served on its Equality of Opportunity Committee and co-authored its study, "Minority Report," a survey of local educational, employment and housing conditions. Her affiliation with the League continued through the 1990s when she participated in a study of "Health Care for the Disadvantaged" in Oklahoma County. Appointed by the League to the Board of the Community Action Program (CAP), Mrs. Friedlander participated in its Education Task Force when the federal Headstart program began.

Mrs. Friedlander helped start a

Sisterhood preschool at Temple B'nai Israel, and later became active in the Oklahoma City Public School System.

For almost 20 years, Mrs. Friedlander worked with the Community Council of Central Oklahoma as chair of its child care program, member of its board, and as its first

woman president in a quarter century. Under her leadership, a coordinated, countywide system of mental health clinics was put in place. She also chaired the Council on Homelessness and participated

on the steering committee of Oklahoma County Substance Abuse Prevention Planning organization.

Mrs. Friedlander also served on the board of directors of the Urban League of Greater Oklahoma City for 14 years, during which she was elected to various board offices and committees.

She also was associated with the Visiting Nurses Association for seven years, and at the time of her death was chair of its board.

Thanks to her brother, Mrs. Friedlander's outstanding community service will be permanently honored through this Donor-Advised Fund at the Community Foundation. ❖

## Lawton Community Foundation to support charitable needs in southwest Oklahoma

The Lawton Community Foundation is the newest Affiliated Fund of the Oklahoma City Community Foundation, which has been serving the charitable needs of central Oklahoma for the past 30 years.

The Lawton Community Foundation was established to support the charitable interests and concerns of the people of the Lawton/Ft. Sill community and surrounding areas, and was founded with initial funding from the community-owned Lawton Retail Merchants' Association.

This new fund is unique among other Affiliated Funds because it is the first "community fund."

Several other Affiliated Funds support communities outside of the Oklahoma City area, such as the Malzahn Family Affiliated Fund that supports Perry. However, unlike these other funds which were established by a donor or a specific organization, the Lawton Community Foundation will have broad donor support from the people of southwest Oklahoma.

Lawton is a place where the opposite ends of the spectrum coalesce into the best of both worlds in Oklahoma — small-town charm meets big city conveniences; long-

ago history coexists with the latest in modern technology.

Lawton is the third-largest city in Oklahoma and is the business and cultural center for southwest Oklahoma.

The Lawton Community Foundation will enable donors in the Lawton/Ft. Sill area to permanently enhance the quality of life in southwest Oklahoma through endowments whose principal is protected for future generations while the interest is used to support current needs in the area.

Lawton is a place where its history and its charitable traditions are strong. The Lawton Community Foundation will ensure that southwest Oklahoma's cultural, artistic, educational and charitable work will have a strong and lasting source of funding from which future generations will benefit.



The annual Arts for All Festival is one of several festivals and other community events in Lawton.



## Quarterly grants approved by Trustees

In December and February, the Trustees of the Oklahoma City Community Foundation approved quarterly grants from community programs totaling more than \$96,000.

### Fund for Oklahoma City:

**Capitol Hill Shalom:** (12/98) \$1,500 to provide registration scholarships for Oklahoma City area participants at the regional conference of the American Community Gardening Association held in Oklahoma City in February 1999.

**Regional AIDS Interfaith Network:** (2/99) \$7,500 for the third and final year of funding for an HIV/AIDS education and prevention program targeted to the African-American community.

### After School Options:

**City Care:** (12/98) \$2,000 for a second year of assistance with materials and teacher training for the Whiz Kids Program. This after-school program is a one-on-one volunteer tutoring/mentoring program that occurs in nine elementary schools in the city.

**Community Oklahoma on the Water:** (12/98) \$2,500 for a second year of assistance with personnel costs, program materials and scholarships for the expansion of the Interscholastic Sailing Program.

**Lambuth Memorial United Methodist Church:** (12/98) \$4,990 for assistance with personnel costs for the Jets Program, which will occur five days a week for students from Shields Heights Elementary School.

**OKC Urban Ministry at Capitol Hill Church of God:** (12/98) \$2,880 for a second year of assistance with personnel

costs for this five day a week after-school program that serves children from Lee Elementary School.

**Westminster Presbyterian SPARK:** (12/98) \$1,000 for a second year of assistance to continue the expanded arts program with instruction provided through City Arts Center. This program serves children from Horace Mann Elementary School.

**Police Athletic League/Urban League/Oklahoma City Parks and Recreation Department:** (2/99) \$6,500 for a spring 1999 after-school baseball league.

### Agency Capacity Building Program:

**City Arts Center:** (12/98) \$4,885 for assistance purchasing a new telephone system to be used by City Arts and Oklahoma Children's Theatre.

**Contact Telephone Helpline:** (12/98) \$2,287 for assistance purchasing an optical Scanner, compatible software and scannable call sheets.

**Deaconess Home:** (12/98) \$3,250 for assistance with the consultant fees for a long-range plan.

**Leadership Oklahoma City:** (12/98) \$2,544 for assistance purchasing a computer, software and a printer to be used for the Youth Leadership Exchange program.

**Meadows Center for Opportunity:** (12/98) \$5,000 for assistance purchasing a shredder and discharge conveyor. The Meadows' employees perform packaging and document destruction of sensitive documents.

**Oklahoma City Beautiful:** (12/98) \$2,600 for assistance purchasing a computer, external tape drive and labor for network conversion.

**Oklahoma Children's Theatre:** (2/99) \$3,636 for three computers contingent on other elements needed being funded.

### Margaret Annis Boys Trust:

**John Marshall High School Foundation:** (12/98) \$4,500 for beautification around the building. *(See photo at right.)*

**Oklahoma Goodwill Industries:** (12/98) \$6,500 for beautification and irrigation for berms on the right of way of I-40; contingent on the Oklahoma

Department of Transportation's announced plan for rerouting I-40.

**Wiley Post Elementary School:** (12/98) \$2,000 to expand the current outdoor classroom and butterfly garden.

**Cleveland Elementary School:** (2/99) \$1,500 for a butterfly garden.

**Lumberman III Neighborhood (SE 44th and Bryant):** (2/99) \$7,000 for trees and irrigation for the median in this area.

**Mayfield Middle School:** (2/99) \$1,000 for a butterfly garden.

**The Ninety-Nines:** (2/99) \$6,000 for a beautification project along Meridian near the Will Rogers World Airport.

**Oklahoma City Public Schools Foundation:** (2/99) \$6,347 for grounds improvement projects at Linwood Elementary and Emerson Secondary School.

**Ski Island Lake Club:** (2/99) \$5,000 for beautification along the MacArthur entrance to the housing area.

### Community Gardening:

**Mid-Del Youth and Family Center:** (12/98) \$1,530 for a garden and outdoor classroom for this 24-hour emergency youth shelter.

**Quayle United Methodist Church:** (12/98) \$1,635 for a community garden on the church grounds that will involve the Parks Estates Neighborhood.



Students pitch in to beautify the John Marshall High School grounds.



Lindsay with her buddy Phillip.

## **Why I became involved**

by Lindsay Hale

Edmond Memorial High School  
Class of 2000  
Red Cross Youth Volunteer

"I first started volunteering for the **After School Options** program because I thought it would be a worthwhile activity to do after school. This program turned out to be so much more than I expected. In the program, I served as a **mentor to fourth and fifth graders** from Oklahoma City elementary schools. We met three times a week **at the Oklahoma City Zoo and the Omniplex**.

"Learning has become fun and interesting because of this program. I **have learned a lot about myself and the world around me** serving as a mentor and working with the children. It has also given me a chance to meet new people and to be involved in my community.

"While working with the kids, I have discovered an interest in teaching. The kids are great and they keep me amused. I love getting to know them better each day. **It's fantastic being a positive role model** for them.

"I love the After School Options program so much I **got my friends involved, too**. They like it just as much as I do. Together **we love being able to do our part to enhance the education** of Oklahoma City's youth."

*--After School Options (ASO) is a community program of the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. In addition to providing grants, ASO staff work with numerous community groups to create positive activities in the non-school hours for children ages 6-13. For more information, call Sam Bowman at 235-4325.*

## **Parks and public spaces, gateways to get beautification boost from community groups**

A comprehensive study of the parks systems in Oklahoma County has recently been completed and was presented to the Community Foundation's Board of Trustees in February.

The study was conducted by Larkin Warner and Steve Smith.

The study identifies common concerns among parks departments, highlights exemplary and innovative approaches to parks programming, beautification and maintenance problems and suggests specific recommendations for an action plan to which the Community Foundation can bring resources and community partners.

*The Trustees approved four activities that were outgrowths of the study's findings:*

- The development of a master plan for gateways and interstates in the county. The VIEWSCAPE project (Visible Interstate Enhancement Work) will involve the cooperation among various municipal, state and non-profit organizations. The recommendations in the study highlight the master plan as a strategic element in the future approach to community appearance issues. The concept of a master plan was also a major recommendation of

the Beautification Summit, which was held last September and included the participation of groups such as the Department of Transportation, the chambers of commerce and Oklahoma City Beautiful, among others.

- The development of a parks department directors' network. A regional approach to facilities was seen by the parks study to be critical.

Currently, there is little cooperation among parks departments of the various cities in Oklahoma County.

- Expansion of the Play in the Park concept to other cities. The Community Foundation has been instrumental in bringing enhancements such as art and reading to this parks department-run summer program, and hopes to foster the same success in other cities.

- The adoption of more parks and public lands by neighborhoods and adjacent business groups.

Interviews for the study were conducted by Warner, Smith, and Community Foundation staff members Dale Levy and Brian Dougherty. Included in the interviews were key parks and recreation department managers and staff in most large communities in Oklahoma County. ❖

## **New developments in scholarship funds to serve the educational dreams of more students**

The Community Foundation is pleased to announce that in 1999, the New Opportunities program will provide more than 100 scholarships to Oklahoma County high school seniors for higher education.

In addition, the program will provide scholarships to non-traditional students and young adults in the state foster care system.

During 1998, the first year of the program, 65 students were named as 'Community Foundation Scholars.'

The increase is due in part to greater participation among county high schools, but also because new funding has been developed to support the program.

Additional funding for Community Foundation Scholars has been pro-

vided by the Irene and Samuel Frierson Educational Trust. This funding also will make second, third and fourth year scholarships available to students who were named as Scholars in their senior year of high school and are now attending school in Oklahoma.

Currently, through all of its scholarship programs, 191 students are enrolled with Community Foundation scholarship funding. This number includes the previously-mentioned 65 Scholars, and also includes 57 students supported by the Survivors' Education Fund and 34 students supported by the Oklahoma Youth with Promise scholarship program. That number represents an increase of more than 100 students over last year. ❖

# Anniversary Scrapbook | 30 Years

The photos below were taken at a Community Foundation 30th Anniversary reception held at 50 Penn Place in February.  
(Photos by Jill Evans.)



Ed Barth (former President of the Community Foundation) and Gene Barth



Sally Jo Langston and B.C. Clark, Jr.



Perry and Mona Lambird with Nancy Anthony (Community Foundation executive director).



John Kirkpatrick enjoys an evening with friends and Community Foundation supporters.



Dale Levy (Community Foundation staff) visits with Penn Woods.



Ruth and Al Sowards with John Belt (Community Foundation secretary).



Penny Voss (Community Foundation staff) greets Pat Chandler and Pearl Means.

## 1999 Community Program Deadlines

**After School Options**  
April 15, July 15

**Agency Capacity Building**  
April 15, July 15, Oct. 15

**Margaret Annis Boys Trust**  
July 15

**Community Gardening**  
April 15

**Fund for Oklahoma City**  
No deadlines; contact staff.

**Kirkpatrick Family Fund**  
May 15, Aug. 15, Nov. 15

- Call **Susan Elkins** to discuss proposals for Agency Capacity Building or Kirkpatrick Family Fund, at 235-5603.
- Call **Dale Levy** to discuss proposals for the Fund for Oklahoma City, Boys Trust or Community Gardening, at 235-5603.
- Contact **Sam Bowman** to discuss After School Options projects at 235-4325.

**Revised grant guidelines are now available. Call Susan Elkins at 235-5603.**



Oklahoma City

**Community Foundation**

30 Years

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**Cover Story:**  
**30th Anniversary Activities**

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Mar/Apr 99

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