MARCH 2023

ARKANSAS Community Foundation HOT SPRINGS VILLAGE

Our CONNECTION

Smart Giving to Improve Communities

EYECARE SPECIALTIES GIVES BACK TO COMMUNITY

Drs. Mike and Susan Semmler have enjoyed their 28 years of marriage and are now returning some of their profits to help local nonprofits. She came from Louisiana and he came from Nebraska. They met at the University of Houston Optometry School. Oddly enough, both sets of their parents were retiring to the Village area. So in 1996, when they got ready to establish their practice, they chose Hot Springs Village.

The Semmlers have raised two sons, Johnathan, soon to become an optometrist and Jacob, who is studying to become a pilot. Although the Semmlers have a full practice, they also manage to enjoy a multitude of friends, love camping, boating and mountain biking. They are members of Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church, the Chamber of Commerce and the Lions Club.

Last December, the Semmlers decided it was time to give back some of the profits from their practice. They decided that 3-4 times a year they would donate to local nonprofits. They awarded the initial donation to Compact Family Services. Following that was the Lions Club and recently Hot Springs Village Community Foundation. Throughout the month, they have a sign in their office which announces the next recipient.

It has been said that charity begins at home and the Semmlers are the perfect example of having success and using this success to help others!

KASDORF'S ESTATE PLANNING WILL HELP SUPPORT MANY LOCAL NONPROFITS

Following in the steps of friends, Bill and Penny Kasdorf visited Hot Springs Village in 2002. This resulted in what they describe as the "best decision" to buy their future retirement property and "they have never looked back!" As with so many who have retired to this beautiful Village, they find it hard to believe they have been here 18+ years.

Prior to arriving here, these two native Ohioans spent their work careers employed in the Telecom industry starting at Ohio Bell and then onto several others in the industry. Bill retired in 2002 as senior vice-president of sales and marketing. Their jobs took them to North Carolina, Colorado, Texas and Louisiana.

Shortly after arriving in the Village, they set about organizing their estate planning with a local lawyer who suggested they consider using Hot Springs Village Community Foundation for one of their charitable distributions along with Parkinson Disease and St. Jude's Hospital. And, as long-time animal lovers, it was natural to include the Garland County Animal Shelter.

Penny recently joined the Grants Committee of HSVCF and says, "We now know there are so many more in need and plan to support those needs with Arkansas Community Foundation." The Kasdorfs are another of the growing list of families who see the value of leaving a portion of their estate to help support nonprofits.

If you would like to know more about this process, please contact Jane Browning, Executive Director of HSVCF, at 501-372-1146.

HSVCF
MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA & CONCERT DINNER
TUESDAY, MARCH 28
Live Bands! 3 p.m. Matinee!
7:30 p.m. Evening Concert!
5:30 p.m. Pre Concert Dinner!
TICKETS ON SALE!
**See article inside*

WE ALL NEED A LITTLE MUSIC

HSVCF has supported the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra's Annual Children's Concert for grades 3 through 6 with our Giving Tree grant cycle each year. The HS/HSV Symphony Guild prepares a Student Journal about the music, composer, instruments and historical context. Teachers receive Teacher Guides which help them integrate the experience into their lesson plans, where appropriate.

The kids are prepared in advance for the concert, initially through the use of CDs provided to each participant. In our current world, these preparations are now YouTube clips, a great time saver for the teacher and a format second nature to the youth of today.

There are four different concerts which rotate yearly–each with a different theme: Story-Time, Super Heroes of the Orchestra, Images of America and Safari. Approximately 2,500 students attend these concerts which consist of excerpts of famous works.

Combining arts and education in this setting is a win-win for all involved, and HSVCF is pleased to help make this a reality.

To become a member, start an endowment, or just make a donation, visit us online at arcf.org/hotspringsvillage or call 501-372-1146.

HSVCF Hard at Work Helping Those That Are Helping Others in Our Community

Grantmaking is a highlight of our Foundation and its mission each year. And 2022 was no exception. A total of $59,569 in grants were awarded to 42 organizations, four of which were scholarships.

In November, the Grants Celebration hosted 75 individuals from our non-profit community to brunch to make grant awards and recognize those who work tirelessly to serve our less fortunate neighbors. Early Literacy and Food Insecurity are a major focus when making grants. Extra weight is given to organizations applying for grants that address these important issues. But our endowment portfolio is well rounded and allows us to support the arts, animal welfare, veterans and emergency services to name a few.

In 2022, we were fortunate to work through two local nonprofits to assist our two emergency services of the POA: Police and Fire. LifeNet was awarded $2000 to purchase new smoke detectors for installation in seniors' homes in HSV by Fire Department personnel through their "Alarm the Village" initiative. HSV Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association was award $998 to purchase 24 rigid tourniquet cases (duty belt attachment) for the medical tourniquet carried by each HSV POA police officer. In each case, Villager lives were positively impacted by these grants. The Foundation is thankful to have nonprofits who act as the vehicles to helping our local Police and Fire Departments help Villagers, and we take this opportunity to salute them!

A Musical Extravaganza for Village Music Lovers

On Tuesday, March 28th,

Hot Springs Village Community Foundation will present its 17th Annual Benefit Concert at the Woodlands Auditorium.

This year's Benefit Concert will offer two live shows. Starting at 3 p.m., **Steve Kelly and the Tribute Kings Band** will perform *"The Best of Country"* during the first half of the matinee show and will feature classic country hits from Waylon and Willie, among others–all the way to the Eagles. The second half of the matinee show, entitled *"Mainstreet,"* recreates an evening with Bob Seger and includes such favorites as *Night Moves, We've Got Tonight, Against the Wind* and *Like a Rock*. Steve Kelly and the members of the Tribute Kings Band have been stunning audiences for years with their country classics and haunting ballads, as well as their version of Old Time Rock 'n Roll megahits.

Starting at 7:30 p.m., the evening performance will feature a tribute to Neil Diamond. **Steve Kelly and the Tribute Kings Band** will present *"Cherry Cherry,"* which is always a sellout and is considered a "Neil Diamond Experience" that replicates the live show that Neil Diamond himself performs.

The Foundation will host a Concert Dinner at 5:30 p.m. in the Ouachita Room at the Woodlands Auditorium. The dinner will be provided by Melinda's Coffee Corner & Café and sponsored by RE/MAX of Hot Springs Village.

Best of Country Music —MATINEE CONCERT— Tribute to Bob Seger

Concerts sponsored by State Farm® Ike Eisenhauer Insurance Agency, Inc.
4705 N. Hwy. 7, Hot Springs Village, AR 71909 Telephone: 501-984-4100

EVENING CONCERT— The Neil Diamond Experience

TICKETS ON SALE NOW AND CAN BE PURCHASED VIA
Thunder Tix at hotspringsvillage.thundertix.com or at the Woodlands Auditorium box office.
Matinee Concert 3 p.m. - $30 Evening Concert 7:30 p.m. - $35.00
Concert Dinner: 5:30 p.m. - $15

CASINO NIGHT SUCCESS

In our continuing efforts to achieve a $50,000 match opportunity, HSVCF hosted its first annual Casino Night.

Nearly 200 people enjoyed delicious food and tasty beverages while trying their luck at blackjack, roulette, Texas hold 'em and craps. A silent auction offered handmade items by local artists, numerous collectibles and treats offered by local establishments. Topping off the evening were opportunities to acquire one-of-a-kind jewelry pieces and a relaxing weekend in exceptional accommodations in Hot Springs.

Our thanks to all who attended, our HSVCF Board, and especially our sponsors and donors. As always, we are forever humbled and blessed by those that support our mission of helping those less fortunate in our community.

By leaving just 5% of your estate in Arkansas, you will ensure a brighter future for your community

Some people are passionate about a particular issue, like education or conservation. Other people are dedicated to a particular place and all the interconnected needs of its people and organizations. Consider what matters most to you.

Many of us have chosen to live in Arkansas after retirement, but have never updated our philanthropic objectives. We still tend to support the causes we did before retirement. Perhaps we should reassess and consider giving something back to the community that we enjoy during retirement. By leaving just 5% of your estate to the Community Foundation, you can ensure our local communities will have a permanent source of funding for economic development, local nonprofits, schools, churches, and other projects that will have a lasting impact on our state.

No estate is too small to leave a lasting impact. Almost all of us have the potential to make a greater contribution through our estate than we do out of our retirement budget. Estate gifts can be as simple as a bequest in a will or a beneficiary designation of an IRA. They can also be more complicated and actually become part of your retirement planning. Gifts can even provide you additional retirement income.

Consider giving where you live. Consider leaving just 5% of your estate to the HSV Community Foundation. For more information, contact our Executive Director at 501-372-1146.

FOOD INSECURITY

HOW DID ARKANSAS RANK IN 2022?

NEXT TO LAST: 50 OUT OF 51!

Average in Arkansas:

17% of families are food insecure

Saline County: 12% Garland County: 17%

The USDA defines food insecurity as the lack of consistent access to enough food for every person in the household to live an active, healthy life. It's how we measure how many people can't afford food. The root cause of most food insecurity is low income. This can mean the family may have to choose between buying food or paying their rent or fixing their car so they can get to their jobs. No one should have to make these choices.

Consequences of Food Insecurity

- *Without food, and specifically nutritionally adequate food, children will not grow as they should and it can limit their ability to learn. Their brains will not develop fully without nutrition.*
- *Food = medicine. We eat food so we can be healthy. When you can't afford "good" food, you eat what you can afford, and that's rarely healthy choices.*
- *Diet is a key component in managing many chronic health conditions such as diabetes, high blood pressure, obesity and heart disease. Low income families may not be able to afford the healthcare they need or must use their limited financial resources to deal with health issues. This can make their health condition deteriorate. Loss of jobs or work days due to illness can also be a consequence of food insecurity. No job means even lower income, and the vicious cycle continues.*

Skill Building Workshop

Hot Springs Village Community Foundation supports local area nonprofits not only with financial grant awards, but also with assistance in building organizational capacity. On January 10, 2023, Hot Springs Village Community Foundation Grants Committee conducted a two-part seminar at the Garland County Public Library. About 20 nonprofit leaders representing early education, food insecurity, child safety, animal welfare and more gathered to obtain grant writing instruction from HSVCF Executive Director Jane Browning, and guidance in succession planning from management expert C.W. Miller. The success of this workshop resulted in requests for future training sessions on marketing strategies and financial management practices.

BE A COMMUNITY FOUNDATION CORPORATE SPONSOR

One of the greatest assets that a local community foundation can have is the support and partnership of its local business community. In 2017, Hot Springs Village Community Foundation began a Corporate Sponsor Program in addition to its ongoing general membership and endowment members program. The purpose of the Corporate Sponsor program was to encourage local businesses to partner with the Foundation by not only providing financial assistance in the form of their membership dollars, but to also be seen as visible, local leaders in assisting the foundation in its philanthropic work to provide much needed grant monies to local non-profit organizations who desperately need our help. In the past year alone, the HSV Community Foundation has granted $59,500 to area nonprofits.

Please consider becoming one of our 50+ HSVCF Corporate Sponsors. Your $100 annual membership fee allows you and your business the following Foundation member benefits:

- ***Your business will be listed as a "Loyal Corporate Sponsor" in all of our Foundation publications and events, including our Annual Benefits Concert program and social media.***
- ***You will receive a HSVCF Corporate Sponsor Certificate to display in your business.***
- ***Recognition in the end of year "THANK YOU" ad in the* Hot Springs Village Voice *newspaper.***
- ***Advanced ticket purchase eligibility to our annual benefit concert.***
- ***Invitation to our end of year Member Appreciation Dinner.***
- ***Advanced opportunity for ad placement in the Annual Concert Program seen by over 1000 Hot Springs Village households.***

As you can see, your annual $100 membership fee not only buys you tremendous advertising exposure in our publications and events, but it also identifies you as a loyal, committed member of the Hot Springs Village Community dedicated to helping others in need. If interested, please complete the membership form below and submit with your tax deductible contribution.

2023 HSVCF CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP FORM

COMPANY NAME _____

COMPANY ADDRESS _____

COMPANY CONTACT _____

TELEPHONE # _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

SIGNATURE _____

MAKE YOUR TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION CHECK PAYABLE TO:
HSVCF and mail to: 100 Calella Road, Hot Springs Village, AR 71909
or contact 501-372-1146 for further information

Thank You All for Smart Giving to Improve Our Community!

THIRD GRADE READING LITERACY

The Children's Reading Foundation has set a goal that by the end of the third grade, 90% will be reading at or higher than third grade level. In Arkansas, only 35% of third graders read at this level. If we can achieve this goal, we could eliminate illiteracy. Reading skills lay the foundation for learning. In the third grade, children transition from learning to read to reading to learn. Nearly all curriculum (85%) comes straight from reading assignments. This means each year, and in every school subject, students will fall even further behind. One in four won't graduate from high school. *This means third grade reading literacy is the single greatest predictor of future success.*

What Can We Do?

- ***Read** with young children 20 minutes every day*
- ***Sign up** for the Imagination Library. Children receive one age-appropriate book each month*
- ***Volunteer** to read at children's programs*
- ***Support** adult literacy programs so parents can read to their children*

HOW DID WE RANK IN 2022?

Overall Arkansas: 35%
Jessieville School District: 52%
Fountain Lake School District: 24%
Mountain Pine School District: 20%

www.AspireArkansas.org