

NOVEMBER 2023



ARKANSAS Community Foundation HOT SPRINGS VILLAGE

# Our CONNECTION

Smart Giving to Improve Communities

## ONE GREAT GROUP OF ENTERTAINERS: TWO FABULOUS CONCERTS

On Tuesday, March 26th, Hot Springs Village Community Foundation will present its **18TH ANNUAL BENEFIT CONCERT AT THE WOODLANDS AUDITORIUM**

For 17 years, the Hot Springs Village Community Foundation (HSVCF) has hosted an annual Benefit Concert that has never failed to offer a night of phenomenal music to those attending the concerts. The upcoming 2024 concert features *The Diamonds*, who are widely regarded as one of the pioneers of the sparkling vocal harmony sounds that were so vital in Rock 'n' Roll's early days. We now bring this fabulous group to the stage at the Woodlands Auditorium for two exciting concerts sponsored by Ike Eisenhower's State Farm Insurance Agency.

The matinee performance, *Bandstand Boogie*, will start at 3PM and will feature 25 songs from *American Bandstand*, America's all-time favorite television show hosted by Dick Clark, on which *The Diamonds* appeared 33 times! Their musical production captures the magic and charm of 4 decades of the greatest Rock 'n' Roll hits ever recorded!

At 7:30PM, the evening concert, entitled *Let's Rock Broadway*, will switch gears to *Broadway with the Diamonds*. Get ready to be entertained by 50 Rock 'n' Roll songs, including hits from *Jersey Boys*, *The Carol King Musical*, *Smokey Joe's Café*, and *Saturday Night Fever*, among others.

The Foundation will also host its annual concert dinner at 5:30PM in the Case de Carta building at the Woodlands Auditorium. The dinner will be provided by Melinda's Coffee Corner & Cafe and is sponsored by RE/MAX of Hot Springs Village.



**MATINEE CONCERT at 3:00 PM ~ \$30.00**

Concerts sponsored by  **State Farm**

Ike Eisenhower Insurance Agency, Inc.  
4705 N. Hwy. 7, Hot Springs Village, AR 71909  
Telephone; 501-984-4100



**EVENING CONCERT at 7:30 PM ~ \$35.00**

## TICKETS ARE ON SALE SOON!

Visit Thunder Tix at [hotspringsvillage.thundertix.com](https://hotspringsvillage.thundertix.com)  
or at the Woodlands Auditorium box office.

Concert Dinner (5:30 PM) ~ \$17.50



## OUR RIVER CRUISE FROM AMSTERDAM TO ANTWERP HAS 28 VILLAGERS AND FRIENDS SIGNED TO JOIN US ON APRIL 19, 2024

The cruise is a ten day river cruise during the spring in Europe. It includes air flights, 10 days of meals, ten included tours. The highlights of the cruise will take us to see the Holland Windmills, plus tulip gardens.

Optional pre-cruise stays in Amsterdam and post cruise in either Bruges, Belgium or Berlin, Germany are available.

There is still space available on our Grand Circle Cruise ship!  
Anyone interested can email Jack Rueter @ [vrueter@icloud.com](mailto:vrueter@icloud.com)  
**BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY!**

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



# WE OUR CORPORATE MEMBERS!

Reliable Propane (HSV's largest propane supplier) and Ouachita Hearth & Patio share the same ownership, **Bruce and Debi Huddleston**. As active HSV property owners, they recognized the need to satisfy their propane customers with a local option for vent-free gas logs, quality BBQ grills and service focused on the needs of HSV residents. This philosophy has allowed their business to have an excellent reputation in the community and grow into what it is today. They proudly sell American made products and provide service on all our products. Bruce and Debi understand the value of excellent customer service, shopping locally and most importantly, supporting their community.

Bruce and Debi have been corporate members of the Hot Springs Village Community Foundation for many years. They also support the annual HSVCF Benefit Concert. Bruce explained, *"We believe in doing what we can to support our community through the Hot Springs Village Community Foundation. Our corporate membership dollars are used to support the work of HSVCF which includes giving out grants to deserving, local non-profits. That is why we became and continue to be members of the Hot Springs Village Community Foundation."*

**For more information on how you can become a member of our corporate family. Please contact Executive Director, Jane Browning at 501-372-1146 or stop by our HSVCF Office located at 100 Callella Rd, Suite 304. You will be glad you did!**



## DIAMOND SOCIETY SPOTLIGHT: DIANE SHAW

One of the newest members of our Diamond Society is also a relative newcomer to Hot Springs Village. Like all Diamond Society members, Diane Shaw has nevertheless decided to include the HSV Community Foundation in

her estate plan. Following the death of her husband of almost 30 years and having nothing to keep her in Kansas, Diane moved to the Village in January 2022, where her sister Melanie Pederson lives. Diane quickly got involved in local activity. A retired internal auditor, she is now the treasurer for Altrusa and the Village Walk for Cancer Research. In addition to the Community Foundation, she is also a member of Sacred Heart Church, Rotary, and Symphony Guild. She is generous with her donations to all of these organizations as she recognizes the benefit of supporting local charities.

The Community Foundation encourages village retirees to "Leave 5 in Arkansas", meaning to leave at least 5% of your estate to support charitable causes in the place you have chosen to retire. She says the primary reason she decided to include HSVCF in her estate plan was so she would know that her money would continue to support causes that were important to her.

Estate gifts cost you nothing, as they use money you never intended to spend. There are numerous ways to include philanthropic goals in your estate, many with significant tax advantages. If you would like more information, please contact our Executive Director, Jane Browning at 501-372-1146, or stop by our office at 100 Callella Rd (Suite 304).

**IF YOU HAVE ALREADY INCLUDED HSV COMMUNITY FOUNDATION IN YOUR ESTATE PLAN, PLEASE LET US KNOW SO THAT WE MAY RECOGNIZE YOU.**

## The Village Walk for Cancer Research (WFCR) recently completed its 22nd Walk with remarkable success!

An amazing number of 500 walkers and sponsors contributed over \$75,000, breaking all goals set! To date, the WFCR raised over \$750,000 which has been given to cancer research and related projects in the state of Arkansas. The cancer research and related projects include the Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute "Seeds of Science", Genesis "Our Promise," CARTI lung cancer screening and the American Cancer Society Patient Transportation Program. Organizations wishing to apply for a grant this year are encouraged to visit our web site at [www.walkforcancerresearch.org](http://www.walkforcancerresearch.org) and fill out the application form, titled "Hope Request."



In addition to using funds to support cancer research and cancer related projects, the WFCR established an endowment with the Hot Springs Village Community Foundation (HSVCF). Endowments live on in perpetuity guaranteeing a return of 4% yearly. The funds from the WFCR endowment will primarily be used to cover the operations of this philanthropic organization. Any additional funds will be added to the grant money for dispersion for additional cancer research and cancer related projects. If you would like to donate to the WFCR endowment, you may send a check to our mailing address at 100 DeSoto Blvd or use a credit card by going to the foundation website at [www.arcf.org/hotspringsvillage](http://www.arcf.org/hotspringsvillage) and select Village Walk for Cancer Research. All donations are greatly appreciated. The generosity of the Villagers is well known and we hope you will consider becoming a part of the WFCR family today!

## Welcome to HSVCF!

### PAM AVILA



I was so excited to join the Board for the HSV Community Foundation after having experienced the generosity of the Community Foundation where I lived BTV (“before the Village”). Needless to say, I’m

looking forward to playing a small role in the success of the HSV Community Foundation as it works with donors to gather funding and then distribute those funds to so many worthy organizations in this place we call home.

## FOOD INSECURITY

*Arkansans concerned about the next meal...*

**Saline County: 12%**

**Garland County: 17%**

For more information visit [www.AspireArkansas.org](http://www.AspireArkansas.org)

# A BANNER YEAR OF GIVING!

The Grants Committee recently completed the 2023 (FY24) Giving Tree cycle where non-profits were awarded grants. The giving Tree endowments netted \$30,401 to 24 organizations and with an additional \$7,000 in matching funds from the Arkansas Community Foundation, our non-profits were awarded a total \$37,401. The remainder of HSV Community Foundation endowment portfolio also granted \$45,735 bringing our grant total to non-profits this fall to \$83,136.

The Giving Tree grants concentrate on local non-profits in Garland and Saline counties. These awards were made at our annual Grants Awards Celebration held on October 18<sup>th</sup> at

# A Season for Celebrating



It was the perfect end of summer evening under the Porte Cochere for the 100 or so best friends of Hot Springs Village Community Foundation who came

out to celebrate a year of accomplishment. Members and endowment holders gathered along with representatives from area nonprofits to share in the celebration. Life Members were guests of honor: their contributions of \$500 sustain their own Life Endowment for perpetual support of community improvement.

Food prepared by members of the Board of Directors and a decorated cake adorned a bountiful buffet in the Woodlands lobby, enjoyed outdoors while President Clara Nicolosi presented awards to outstanding volunteers. Jim Gifford was recognized for developing the Diamond Society, comprised of philanthropic Villagers who have designated 5% or more of their estate as gifts to Community Foundation. Jim Harlow was honored for spearheading the

corporate ad sale campaign for the benefit concert program book, generating \$16,000 in revenue for our Giving Tree fund. Lois Petrosky and Penny Kasdorf received “Volunteers of the Year” awards and the Imagination Library of the Ouachitas was honored for terrific success in growing their Endowment. Clara thanked retiring board members Dr. Michael Murphy and Jim Zahnd for their service.

Development Chair Carolyn Bowers congratulated the group for collectively increasing its holdings to \$2.4 million dollars. Village endowment funds generated over \$83,000 in grant awards this year to improve life in our community. Matt Scroggins described LifeNet’s project, providing smoke alarms to the Village Fire Department for installation in area homes. Miriam Baldwin shared the success of Mid-America Science Museum’s “Science Tots” program with Fountain Lake pre-schoolers.



the Coronado Center before a crowd of 100 who also enjoyed a continental breakfast and inspiring words from Keith Keck, Saline County Quorum Court JP. Beneficiaries from this year’s grants included areas addressing food security, early literacy, adult literacy, education in our local schools as well as scholarships for single adults starting over and ones in the nursing and dental fields, the arts, animal welfare, emergency medical services, veterans’ affairs, cancer research and more.

**Congratulations to all non-profits receiving funding from the HSV Community Foundation. None of this would be possible without the support from our members, donors, and endowment holders. Thanks for your giving spirit in helping the less fortunate among us!**

**“THE SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT ACTIVITY FOR BUILDING KNOWLEDGE FOR EVENTUAL SUCCESS IN READING IS READING ALOUD TO CHILDREN!”**

*(Becoming a Nation of Readers)*

From birth until age 5, children build critical foundational skills that influence their later health, ability to learn, social relationships, and overall success. High-quality environments are critical to supporting child development and learning. Since learning to read begins at birth, parents and caregivers can reinforce and help grow brain connections that will help a child develop the foundation for reading. To accomplish this, families need the kinds of books in their homes that will stimulate discussion and learning. Having as few as 20 books in the home has a significant impact on moving a child to a higher level of education.

Not all homes have ready access to books. The mission of Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library is to support the families of all children, by providing free, high-quality, age-appropriate books through the mail each month at no cost to the families. All children from birth to age 5 are eligible.

The Imagination Library of the Ouachitas (ILO) is the local partner of Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library serving Garland, Montgomery, and Pike Counties. Currently, the ILO provides 4600 children with

Imagination Library books, which helps them develop higher aptitudes for learning, along with a multitude of reading and language skills, before beginning kindergarten. Research in Arkansas has found that participation in the Imagination Library improves students’ performance through third grade.

The ILO registers children and raises money to fund the books and mailing for each child for five years (\$130 per child for the 60 books). To reach these goals, ILO volunteers speak to service groups, partner with schools, libraries, the health department and hospitals, write grants, attend community events where parents can be found, conduct fund-raising events, and maintain an endowment. The endowment helps ensure sustainability of the project for all registered children, contributes to our community by providing money for other worthy projects, and builds community awareness of this program.

**WE ARE ESPECIALLY APPRECIATIVE OF THE SUPPORT OF THE HSV COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AND ITS DONORS!**



**Welcome to HSVCF!**



Dennis Simpson may be a rarity in HSV. He and his wife both are native Arkansas residents who love the Village and the diversity of people that live in it.

Born in Little Rock, he moved to Salem (Benton area) in 1972 and graduated Bryant HS before attending Southern Baptist College in Walnut Ridge, AR. With music and ministerial scholarships, he graduated and moved back to Bryant and started *Best Printing* with his father.

13 years later, in 1993, when the phone was ringing 3 and 4 times more often for tech questions than for printing, Dennis saw a need. He started *Computing Solutions* which later became *WIRED!*, the third largest IT company in Arkansas. Additionally, in 2000 he began buying and selling lots in HSV. Today some 300 sales later he is more sure than ever that HSV is simply paradise.

Dennis is currently president of the HSV Townhouse Owners Association and a proud member of the HSVCF Board of Directors. He lends his IT experience and love for the Village serving on the HSVCF public relations committee, essential in sharing the foundation’s goals with the community.

**YOU CAN HEAR/SEE HIM ON HSVINSIDEOUT.COM TWICE A WEEK OR 10 A.M. SAT. AND SUN. MORNINGS ON KVRE AND KVRE.COM**

**BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!**

*We need your help!*

For the past 39 years, HSVCF has been awarding grants to local organizations. We have disbursed more than \$2,500,000 to local non-profits like Cedar Mountain Boys and Girls Club, Garland County Imagination Library, Faith Fellowship Food Pantry and many others in the Village and surrounding area. With your membership we’ll be able to help even more.

For as little as \$65, your tax-deductible membership contribution will ensure that we can continue to support these vital outreach programs.

For more information, please visit our website at [www.arcf.org/hotspringsvillage](http://www.arcf.org/hotspringsvillage) or contact Jane Browning, Exe. Director at 501-372-1146.

Small acts when multiplied by thousands of people can transform the world! We hope you will consider joining today!

**ARKANSAS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OFFERS \$40,000 MATCH!**

The Board of the Hot Springs Village Community Foundation is proud to be one of the 29 affiliates of Arkansas Community Foundation (ARCF) and is even happier that the organization is being offered a wonderful opportunity to grow two of its endowments with this challenge.

A major goal of the Board is to build the Operating Endowment so that its annual income will cover HSVCF’s operating costs. When that goal is attained, all contributions can be devoted to “gift” out as many grants as possible. Likewise, growing the Giving Tree Endowment makes possible an increase in the amount of annual grants to meet area needs.

In recognition of these worthy goals, the ARCF is offering a \$40,000 matching grant. For the current year running from July 2023 to June 2024, all gifts to the Operating Endowment or the Giving Tree will be matched dollar for dollar. Last year, we had a similar challenge in the amount of \$50,000 and we were able to meet this goal.

The HSVCF Development Committee is confident that the Village community will help meet the current challenge! Our residents have always been generous in its support of HSVCF goals since its inception in 1983 and the committee has no doubt that they will rise to this challenge again!

If you would like to help us, you may either send a check to the HSVCF office at 100 Calella Rd, Suite 304 or go to the website at [www.arcf.org/hotspringsvillage](http://www.arcf.org/hotspringsvillage) to use a credit card.



**Dec. 1 - Donor Reception | Jan. 12 - Casino Night | Mar. 26 - Two Concerts (matinee/evening) and Pre Concert Dinner**