



## GPCF Receives First Real Estate Donation



Here's some exciting news: For the first time in its history, the Greater Polson Community Foundation has received a gift of real estate. Donors who wish to remain anonymous have donated to GPCF a two-bedroom house on a corner lot on the south side of Polson. The property was valued at \$168,000.

The house has since been sold, and the new owner plans to completely renovate the house and make it available as an affordable low-income rental.

"Not only did the original owners give us the property, but a local real estate agent and a local attorney oversaw the transaction with no charge to the foundation," GPCF President Toni Whealon said, adding, "This gift will allow us to help make a difference in our community by providing much needed affordable housing. The proceeds, of course, will be used for future grants."

## GPCF to Award \$57,306 in Grants in 2022

Earnings on GPCF investment funds allow GPCF directors to allocate a total of \$57,306 in Trust Based Grants (TBGs) and annual grants this year. \$30,000 has been awarded in TBGs already with the remainder to be divided among annual project grant recipients when final selections are made this month.

TBGs go to organizations with which the GPCF has worked for years: organizations that have added tremendous value to our community's well-being, have earned our community's trust and deserve support for

general operations. Trust Based applications are by invitation only. Organizations receiving Trust Based funding may still apply for annual project grants. The application process and reporting for TBGs is kept simple. Our 'trust' reflects confidence in an organization's board, management, and programs.

This process requires GPCF grant committee members to interact with non-profit organizations regularly, to learn, and to keep in touch with community needs. GPCF has made 28 TBGs since this

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## Polson High School Students Make Career Connections

Those who don't have a teenager in high school will be pleased to know about the eye-opening PHS Career Connections Day. On May 16, all students attended a keynote address from motivational speaker Michael Leach in the auditorium. Then students attended 30-minute sessions, with the opportunity to select from over 60 volunteer presenters from Polson and beyond who described their career journey and their current work.

Students heard of the education and skills required, and the rewards and challenges they would face.

During lunch, the annual Senior Decision Day was held in the gym where

the 111 graduating seniors were honored for their post-secondary plans, involving college, trade school, completing an apprenticeship, or entering the military or the workforce. The entire student body was in attendance to celebrate them, and the event was live streamed for parents/guardians to watch.

GPCF is proud of its partnership with PHS, providing funding for the Career Connection program. Students may take advantage of this opportunity throughout the school year. Students are paired with a local volunteer who serves as a mentor and provides more hands-on advice and guidance through one-on-one coaching and job-shadowing.



PHS grad Ethan McCauley who plans to attend Embry Riddle Aeronautical University to study Aerospace Engineering.

## Annual Passion For Polson Thursday, July 14

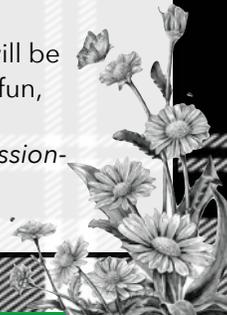
We are excited to host our annual Passion for Polson Dinner, Dance, and Auction again this year. We've missed seeing you the past two years!

Morrison Catering will serve delicious appetizers and dinner. Barton and Caselli will provide music and entertainment at a beautiful site, Flathead Lake Forever, 28275 Skipping Rock Lane, Big Arm. A short live auction will be followed by dancing. Reservations are required

as no tickets will be sold at the door. Cost is \$100 per person. Please make checks to Greater Polson Community Foundation and mail to P.O. Box 314, Polson, MT 59860.

An **online** auction benefitting GPCF will be held July 14 until July 24. Check out the fun, exciting items at:

<https://gpcf.betterworld.org/auctions/passion-polson-22>.



## We Our Donors



GPCF received two very generous anonymous gifts recently, and we want to share this good news.

One of the gifts amounted to \$50,000. The donor has directed that \$10,000 be passed on to the North Lake County Library remodeling fund and another \$10,000 be used to fund the swim program for our 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade children in the Polson Schools. The remainder will be invested for future projects.

The second anonymous gift, a \$10,000

transfer of stock, was recently received in honor of founding GPCF member and past president Penny Jarecki.

"GPCF donor retention rate is 47% higher than the industry average. No wonder we are thankful."

- Penny Jarecki

GPCF is humbled and extremely grateful for these gifts just as our officers and directors are thankful for those donors who have supported GPCF efforts for the past 14 years.

GPCF donor retention rate is 67%. That is 47% higher than the industry average. No wonder we are thankful.

## GPCF Officers, Directors

- Toni Young Whealon, President
- Jake Baumann, Vice President
- Dorothy Ashcraft, Secretary
- Kathy Kuberka, Treasurer
- Sarah Beck     Ronald Bone
- Linda Fisher     John Mercer
- Jeanette Phillips.     Garry Pitts
- Jim Simpson     Cheryl Maldonado
- Penny Jarecki, Past President
- Jennifer Rolfsness, Foundation Administrator

*Newsletter layout and graphics contributed by Clarity Communications  Carmine Mowbray*

*Flag photo: One of Polson's colorful community flowerbeds, by Jennifer Rolfsness*

## GPCF Awards, continued from page 1

program began in 2020 for a total of \$81,000.

TBG recipients this year are: North Lake County Library, Boys and Girls Club, Mission Valley Aquatics, FLIC, Mission Valley Animal Shelter, Polson Loaves & Fish Food Pantry, Mission Valley Live, Miracle of America Museum, Helping Hands, Ninepipes Museum, and Flathead Lakers.

Recipients of the 2022 annual project grants will be announced in the fall issue of LEGACY.

Since 2009 when the first grants were awarded, GPCF has awarded over \$1,000,000 to community non-profit organizations. We are grateful for our many donors who have made this possible, and we are particularly thankful for the endowment legacy left by John Cowan which enabled GPCF to nearly double the amount granted in 2021 and in future years.

## GPCF Vision Statement

We facilitate and invest in the development of a robust and welcoming community where all have the opportunity to be healthy, educated, creative, productive, and prosperous.

## Mission Valley Live; It's Much More Than Concerts

– Mac Swan, President, Mission Valley Live



Mission Valley Live (MVL) provides our Valley's only regular performing arts series. With the GPCF support, we have committed to contracting with artists for educational outreach programs to foster interaction between the artists and folks in the community, particularly kids.

We believe that in a time of scarce resources for arts programs that this is vital to our community's health. I just wanted you and your donors to know that your support is making a difference. In March, MVL hosted The Fretless, a quartet of top-notch musicians. In addition to their evening performance, The Fretless was contracted for three outreach programs in local schools. The value of your continued support of our efforts is best expressed in this unsolicited letter from a mother in Ronan:

Hi Mission Valley Live crew,  
I just wanted to share with you how much my son enjoyed The Fretless group when they came to the Ronan schools on March 11. When a 14-year-old freshman in high school comes home and raves (actually talks about something other than wrestling) to his mother, then someone needs to be thanked. MVL is providing wonderful opportunities for kids to engage in music they may never get the chance to experience otherwise. I just wanted to share, thank you, and congratulate you on a job well done.

Thanks again, Jennifer

Our community is enhanced and strengthened through its art, and we at MVL appreciate the GPCF's support. In our upcoming 8th season, we have a wide variety of performances with over twenty education outreach programs scheduled for schools and venues across the Mission Valley.

Thanks for all you do to support the many non-profit organizations and others who knit together this great place to call home.

## \$100,000 Pledged to Library's Next Chapter Campaign

GPCF is thrilled to support the North Lake County Library Foundation's *Next Chapter* Campaign with a pledge of \$100,000. A \$50,000 donation has been given to the project, with another \$50,000 pledged after groundbreaking and the project is well on its way.

"The services the library provides to our community are vital," said GPCF President Toni Whealon "We are honored to grant this support to improve the children's area, technology resources, accessibility, and more."

The \$2 million project focuses on renovating the library's existing footprint to make key improvements. The entrance will move to 1st Street East and the interior walls of the former Sandpiper Art Gallery will be removed, creating an



additional 2,000 square feet of usable space. ADA-compliant modifications include removing the ramp and increasing the space between shelves and doorways.

Service improvements to the library's technology resources are integral to the *Next Chapter* Campaign. Space will be dedicated for children's computers, and three additional public computers for adults.

For the creative members of our community, the renovated library will provide a Maker's Space, complete with 3-D printer. A Community Meeting Room will also be included.

Currently, the *Next Chapter* Campaign has raised \$1.5 million toward its \$2 million goal. If you are interested in supporting this important effort, please contact Connie Brownell, North Lake County Library Foundation President at [nlclfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:nlclfoundation@gmail.com) or (406)261-2389.

## Please Consider This

*Naming the Greater Polson Community Foundation (GPCF) in your will establishes your permanent legacy. Every gift to the GPCF permanent endowment fund benefits the community you love forever.*

## Here are the people who help us realize our vision:

### Donors – November 1 to May 20, 2022

|                                  |                            |                                   |                                   |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| David & Lois Abell               | Sandi Hamm                 | Carmine Mowbray                   | Bill & Irene Sego                 |
| Jacob & Jami Bauman              | Greg & Kate Hertz          | Fred & Sherry Nelson              | Peggy Seifert                     |
| Monte & Kate Beck                | Paul Hladky                | Alan & Nancy Nicholson            | Jim & Joanne Simpson              |
| Sarah Beck                       | Cynthia Hoelscher          | James Noon                        | Roger & Libby Smith               |
| James & Pat Binger               | Kristin & Terry Hughmanik  | Kathi & Ron Normandeau            | Jim & Barbara Sohm                |
| Blue Goose Aviation              | Jane Irwin                 | Sharon Northridge                 | Judy & Anais Starr-Preston        |
| Paul & Kathy Briney              | Chuck & Penny Jarecki      | Dermot O'Halloran                 | Francis & Lulu Stock              |
| Joe & Gerry Browning             | Kathryn Johnson            | David & the late<br>Nona Overcast | James Strainer<br>& Julie Moffitt |
| David & Terry Calahan            | Mary Ann Jones             | Terry & Patt Payne                | Mac & Karen Swan                  |
| Richard Christopher              | Marvin Kaschke             | Kitty Pedersen                    | Ron Tjaden                        |
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| John & Elaine Cowan Trust        | Dick Kreidel               | Elizabeth C. Preston              | Keith & Sue Urbach                |
| Jack & Diane Cummings            | Joe & Kathy Kuberka        | Robert & Donna Radtke             | Mary Janet Vail                   |
| Davidson Family Foundation       | Jane Laraby & David Swayne | Dr. Dan & Katrina Rausch          | Marc & Becky Vergeront            |
| Ginny DuBrucq & Marc<br>Gelenter | Valerie Lindstrom          | Charles & Jean Rigg               | Robert & Marsha Vick              |
| Joyce Erickson                   | Don & Denise Loveless      | Agnes Rinehart & Ken Siler        | Steve & Karen Vinal               |
| Fidelity Title Agency            | Tom Mavity                 | Dave & Suz Rittenhouse            | Margo & Jim Walesby               |
| Bob & Sharon Fulton              | Malcolm McCallum           | Kitte Robins                      | Chuck & Natalie Wall              |
| Ryan & Krista Gage               | Debra McClenahan           | Edward Rodden                     | James Whaley, C.P.A.              |
| John & Nancy Glueckert           | Greg & Sue McCormick       | Jennifer Rolfsness                | Lois Williams                     |
| William & Jeannette Gregg        | Lynn McNamer               | Sid & Lynette Rundell             |                                   |
| Roger & Joan Grimes              | Rod & Gwen McRae           | David & Dee Sample                |                                   |
| Joe & Carrie Grover              | Marcia Richwine Moen       | Robert & Donna Sauers             |                                   |
|                                  | Bob & Betty Moore          |                                   |                                   |

### Designated GPCF Memorials

*Memorial gifts honor those who loved our community, and are invested in the GPCF permanent endowment fund.*

|                     |                         |                    |                     |
|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Bill Amass          | Mildred Weber Hanson    | Janet A. Kaschke   | Donna Jean Rolfson  |
| Ken Avison          | Vickie Perry Hanson     | Dan Morrison       | Tom Ryan            |
| Joyce Cadieux       | Sonia Jarrett           | Lou Marchello      | Nancy Irwin Stewart |
| Jules Clavadetscher | Dr. Erling K. Karlsgodt | Enoch Richwine     | Issac Swan          |
| John & Elaine Cowan | Kurt Karlsgodt          | Lucille Richwine   | June Syvrud         |
| Thomas Doherty      | Molly Karlsgodt         | Shane Richwine     | Gordon Wilson       |
| Don & Joan Hanley   | Vernette Karlsgodt      | Dr. Patrick Robins | Donald "Buck" Young |

### Scholarships

- Buck Young Scholarship Fund
- June Syvrud Music Scholarship Fund

### Planned Gifts, Bequests

John S. & Elaine Cowan Trust  
Arn & Lois Hart  
Charles M. & Henrietta M. Jarecki  
Matt & Evonne O'Neill  
Donna Jean Rolfson  
Bob & Marsha Vick

### Contact Us

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