

30 Stories, 30 Years of Good

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George S. Mickelson would be proud.

As the South Dakota Community Foundation (SCDF) celebrates its 30th year, friends and family, grantees and donors, have been reflecting on the organization's humble beginning on a special website that celebrates the milestone.

The late-Governor George S. Mickelson launched the South Dakota Community Foundation in 1987 with the backing of a



Linda Mickelson Graham with late husband Governor George S. Mickelson

\$5 million challenge grant from the McKnight Foundation and 3M Corporation. Since then, SDCF has grown into the state's largest philanthropic organization with more than 850 separate charitable funds and more than \$325 million in assets. The SDCF has awarded over \$112 million in grants over the last 30 years.

In honor of the anniversary, SDCF has been visiting with the people who have been part of SDCF's history over the past three decades. The website "30 South Dakota Stories" has rolled out one story, each week, for the past 30 weeks to reflect on the people, communities, donors and organizations that demonstrate how SDCF has helped transform the region.

"If Governor Mickelson could see what has transpired in our state because of the South Dakota Community Foundation during the last 30 years, he would be overjoyed, and he would be confirmed in his belief that the people in our state could come together and

do great things," said Linda Mickelson Graham, who stood beside the Governor when he announced the formation of SDCF 30 years ago.

The featured stories—all online at **www.30southdakotastories.org**—include a variety of donors, grantees, and friends of the SDCF, such as Lakota Funds, Luke Yellow Robe, Bernie Christenson, Children's Home Society and the McKnight Foundation.



William McKnight, founder of the McKnight Foundation

"When we talk about the grants and donations that flow through SDCF, sometimes we forget that there are real people impacted by every one of these dollars," said Stephanie Judson, SDCF President. "But through sharing these stories, and celebrating the contributions South Dakotans make to our state every day, we are able to not only reminisce, but understand the incredible influence this organization has had on our state."

Read the past 30 weeks of stories online at **www.30southdakotastories.org**. Visitors are encouraged to share their South Dakota story with us online as well.

John Porter, outgoing chairman of the board, agreed and said SDCF celebrates with an eye toward the future. "Gov. Mickelson had a vision that the people in this state could do wonderful things with a safe, effective philanthropic vehicle for their generosity," Porter said. "What a great 30 years it has been, and we look forward to the next 30."

Network With Us

Online News Highlights



When you visit **Facebook.com/SDCommunityFoundation** you will have access to videos, links to blogs, and photos of nonprofits and individuals that benefit from the SDCF. While you are there, be sure to "like" our page.







The news section of our website features articles about grant deadlines, recent awards, tips for giving, blogs and stories from our partners. Here's a sample of the stories you will find online at **SDCommunityFoundation.org/News.**We invite you to go there and find out more about SDCF and our partners.

SDCF Announces Round 2 2017 Community Innovation Grant Recipients



Highlighting Community Fund Raising Efforts



Helping Women in Crisis





Vern Jones was a farmer and rancher for 63 years – ever since he was six years old. He had a love of the land but knew when it was time to move on to a new phase of life and allow someone else to carry on what his father had started many years before. Before he retired and sold the family ranch, he sought legal advice from Sturgis attorney Dale Hansen, in hopes of avoiding tax consequences due to increasing land values. Because he had no heirs, and his siblings were able to provide well for themselves. he established a

charitable remainder trust, which would be managed by Pioneer Bank and Trust. Upon his death, the funds would be sent to the South Dakota Community Foundation and placed in the Vern Jones Fund, a fund that would ultimately benefit the Greater Sturgis First Interstate Bank Fund.

Vern's life in Sturgis was full. He was generous with his time and resources and gave back to the community in a quiet and unassuming way. The Meade County Senior Center was the place he spent his mornings and ate his mid-day meals. He was reacquainted with old friends and learned how he could serve others. He joined the Sturgis Kiwanis Club and was eager to help with their fundraising efforts for their Food Pantry, so they could have their own building in the community.

At home, his days were filled with gardening, baking, canning and puttering in his yard. As a single man, he shared what he grew and made with his friends at the Senior Center. While he was passionate about the Senior Center and Kiwanis Club Food Pantry, he also supported many other causes through his monetary donations. According to Thelma Bottum, his sister and

personal representative, "my brother was a simple man with simple needs, but with a big heart who was willing to share his generosity – time or money – with others that needed a little help or maybe a little teasing to cheer them up".

Vern Jones passed away in February 2017 and left an estate of over \$1.2 million. His love of the community of Sturgis will always be remembered through his creation of the Vern Jones Fund. Each year, beginning in 2019, distributions will be made from the fund, and the volunteer Advisory Board will grant money to worthy organizations who apply for assistance.

This was Vern's plan and his wish, and he will forever be remembered for his love of people and his community that brought him so much joy in the last years of his life.



South Dakota Fund Grants

Community Innovation Grants

From May 1 – November 30 the SDCF awarded 31 South Dakota Fund grants totaling \$292,186. The South Dakota Fund supports grants focusing on culture, economic development, education, health and human services. The SDCF Board of Directors awards grants throughout the year to nonprofits that meet both vital and diverse needs across the state. For more information on how to apply, visit: **SDCommunityFoundation.org/For-Nonprofits/SD-Fund-Grants** or call **800.888.1842**.

Friends of South Dakota Public Broadcasting - \$50,000



To better serve the people of South Dakota, SDPB opened their Black Hills Bureau this fall. The new Black Hills Bureau will serve as a hub for storytelling, premiere screenings for SDPB's locally produced programming, lectures, political debates and many other functions. The *South Dakota Community Foundation Gallery* will allow ample space for these events to take place.

Tyndall Baseball-Softball Association - \$10,000



Tyndall did not have field lights which resulted in three teams having to travel to a neighboring town for practice and night games. The newly installed lights allow local teams to play on their home field and use their local practice field.

Ellsworth Heritage Foundation - \$10,000



A short documentary film was produced about World War II hero and Fort Pierre native, Lieutenant Commander John C. Waldron. The film will be seen on SD Public Broadcasting as well as be used by museums, social media and as part of an educator's kit for SD public, private and home school associations.

South Dakota Envirothon - \$5,000



South Dakota Envirothon helps high school students better understand the complexity of natural resource management, thus helping them become better stewards of our state's resources. Funds supported a hands-on environmental education program and team competition for high school-aged students.

The SDCF Board of Directors awards Community Innovation Grants (CIG) in partnership with the Bush Foundation. In 2017, \$400,000 was awarded to support nonprofits using problem-solving processes that lead to more effective, equitable and sustainable solutions. The SDCF offered three rounds of application submissions in 2017 and will again offer three rounds in 2018. For more information, visit: **SDCommunityFoundation.org/For-Nonprofits/Community-Innovation-Grants.**

Webster Area Development Corporation - \$10,000



The Webster vocational education program was closed in 2006 due to budget constraints. It was recently revived, and they have partnered with schools (Webster Area & Waubay), local industry and farms and garnered additional state support. The Community Innovation Grant will be used for planning purposes.

Rural Office of Community Services - \$10,000



Affordable housing emerged as a critical need in the counties served by the Rural Office of Community Services as part of a community needs assessment conducted in 2017. Community meetings will be held in areas determined to have the highest need. Local housing authorities, city officials, landlords, human service providers and community development groups along with the South Dakota Housing Authority will all be engaged in the process.

Mniluzahan Okolakicipayi Ambassadors (MOA) "Rapid City Circle of Friends" - \$10,000



MOA has partnered with the Mayor of Rapid City and with Rapid City Community Conversations to unfold the History of the Sioux San Lands and expand research and create learning opportunities for the community. The grant will provide support as they take the next steps and engage in further research to expand the knowledge base and present a series of community forums open to everyone to share the history.

The Shepherd's Gift - \$10,000



The Shepherd's Gift is about sheep producer families helping Huntington's Disease (HD) families improve the quality of their lives. The Shepherd's Gift is partnering with SDSU in the Research Lab and the USD Graduate Education and Research (GEAR) Center for the pharmaceutical grade manufacturing of GM1. GM1 is a naturally occurring molecule in all mammals with neuroprotective and neurodegenerative properties. It has been shown that patients with HD or Parkinson's and Alzheimer's are deficient in this molecule that protects brain cells.

SDCF New Funds

May 1, 2017 through November 30, 2017

Tommy L. & Sheila R. Baruth Fund - To provide financial support to charitable and nonprofit purposes at the recommendation of the donor.

Black Hills Works Foundation Designated Fund - To provide financial support to Black Hills Works as designated by the donor.

Marvin & Betty Cihak Family Scholarship Fund -To provide financial support to graduates of Philip High School.

Governor Dennis Daugaard Charitable Fund - To provide financial support to charitable and nonprofit purposes at the recommendation of the donor.

Doland Alumni Scholarships Fund - To provide financial support to graduates of Doland High School.

Robert & Emily Entwisle Designated Fund - To provide financial support to organizations in Huron area as designated by the donor.

Gift of Life Fund - To provide financial support to Upper Midwest Procurement Organization as designated by the donor

Barbara & Duane Harms Family Fund - To provide financial support to charitable and nonprofit purposes at the recommendation of the donor.

Huron High School Class of 1967 Scholarship Fund -To provide financial support to graduates of Huron High School.

Huron Regional Medical Center Foundation Endowment - To provide financial support to Huron Regional Medical Center.

Chopper Johnson Foundation - To provide financial support to charitable and nonprofit purposes in the Yankton area at the recommendation of a local Board of Directors.

Vern Jones Fund - To provide financial support to charitable and nonprofit purposes in the Sturgis area at the recommendation of the First Interstate Greater Sturgis Area Fund.

Francis Kawi & Leona Kawi Scholarship Fund -To provide financial support to graduates of Philip High School. William Konold Music Scholarship Fund - To provide financial support to graduates of Deuel High School.

Trent Matt Memorial Scholarship Fund - To provide financial support to graduates of Philip High School.

appointed by the donor.

Ralph & Frances Mitchell Donor Advised Fund To provide financial support to charitable and nonprofit
purposes at the recommendation of an advisory committee

Mt. Pleasant CemeteryArtesian, SD Designated Fund - To provide financial support to Mt. Pleasant Cemetery in Artesian, SD as designated by the donor.

Paul & Charlotte Roseth Memorial Scholarship Fund -To provide financial support to graduates of Philip High School.

Roslyn Lutheran Foundation - To provide financial support to Roslyn Lutheran Church.

Melvin & Paul Sandbo Scholarship Fund - To provide financial support to graduates of Haakon County School District 27-1.

Spearfish Volunteer Firefighters' Association Fund - To provide financial support for fire protection, emergency services, or other causes in the public safety industry.

Spearfish Volunteer Firefighters' Association Scholarship Fund - To provide financial support to individuals pursuing an education and training in the public safety industry.

Linda & Michael Stevens Fine Arts Foundation - To provide financial support to charitable and nonprofit purposes at the recommendation of the donor.

Sully County Community Foundation - To provide financial support to charitable and nonprofit purposes in the Onida area at the recommendation of a local Board of Directors.

Mike & Marcia West Memorial Scholarship Fund -To provide financial support to graduates of Philip High School.



The South Dakota Community Foundation manages more than

850 funds.

Search a full list of our funds online at: SDCommunityFoundation.org/Funds

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Year End at a Glance

Each year, growth is our goal. We aim to grow the funds we manage and the opportunities we provide so communities and organizations can flourish. The information below shows how the SDCF is impacting South Dakotans through accepting and managing donor gifts.



From January 1 through December 31, 2017,



3,271 gifts were received totaling



\$54 million.

Grants Distributed

\$13.5 million

Please visit:

SDCommunityFoundation.org/ For-Donors/Donor-List

to view a complete list of donors from January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017.

Thank you to our donors for your continued support.

Nonprofit Savings Accounts



The South Dakota Community Foundation is committed to strengthening nonprofits though our Nonprofit Savings Account challenge grants. Organizations are selected through a competitive application process and receive a \$20,000 match when they successfully raise \$80,000. The challenge grants will create new designated funds for each of the successful applicants. The SDCF takes care of the investment and administration of the funds, issues IRS receipts and handles all necessary tax filings.

The following nonprofits have accepted the challenge for 2017 and are in the process of meeting their goal. If you would like to donate to one or more of these nonprofits and help them meet their challenge visit the following links:

Black Hills Works

SDCommunityFoundation.org/For-Advisors/Existing-Funds/Black-Hills-Works-Foundation-Designated-Fund

Boys & Girls Club of the Aberdeen Area

SDCommunityFoundation.org/For-Advisors/Existing-Funds/ Boys-Girls-Club-Of-Aberdeen-Area-Designated-Fund

Boys & Girls Club of Rosebud

SDCommunityFoundation.org/For-Advisors/Existing-Funds/Boys-Girls-Club-Of-Rosebud-Designated-Fund

Children's Home Society

SDCommunityFoundation.org/For-Advisors/Existing-Funds/Childrens-Home-Society-Fund

South Dakota Discovery Center

SDCommunityfoundation.org/For-Advisors/Existing-Funds/ South-Dakota-Discovery-Center-Designated-Fund

To Learn More and/or Apply

Visit:

SDCommunityFoundation.org/ For-Nonprofits/Nonprofit-Savings-Accounts

Or Call: 800.888.1842

Applications accepted May 1 through June 30 each year.



CSA Success: Tripp Area Community Foundation



CSA Success: Tripp Area Community Foundation



The TACF supported the creation of this park on main street that since has been utilized for many community gatherings.

Preserving the Small-Town Way of Life

In 2009, a group of Tripp residents decided to create a community savings account (CSA) that would give back to their community and the surrounding areas forever. The South Dakota Community Foundation (SDCF) is in partnership with 78 communities across South Dakota through CSAs.

Tripp accepted a challenge from SDCF to raise \$100,000 within five years. In exchange, they would receive a \$25,000 matching grant from the SDCF. The challenge was completed in 2012 when the estate of Donald Kennedy left \$1 million to the community of Tripp. A gift of \$400,000 was earmarked to support the community through the Tripp Area Community Foundation (TACF) and \$600,000 established a scholarship fund.

Today, the scholarship fund in Mr. Kennedy's name has distributed over \$90,000 to support Tripp area high school and college students. Over the last eight years, the TACF has distributed over \$62,000 in grants to charitable causes in the area.

Bryan Bietz, President of the TACF, says they have supported projects including repair of the city pool, equipment at the community wellness center, a new roof on the shelter in the city park, shelving at the public library, funds for the youth baseball/softball programs, and many

In addition, the TACF has created a park to recognize donors and beautify Tripp's main street. The space provides a nice venue for community events like their summertime picnic and movie nights.

This summer, Bryan and his wife Shawn had the opportunity to attend Dakota Resource's RuralX conference in Aberdeen. Bryan

received a sponsorship from the South Dakota Community Foundation because of his role with TACF. After the conference, they decided to gather input from the community about what they would like to see improved. Through this feedback, their group started to host family friendly events in town supported by the TACF.



Shawn and Bryan Bietz, President of TACF attending the RuralX conference in Aberdeen. Shawn and Bryan were featured in the Dakota Resources RuralX blog post. www.dakotaresources.org/ruralx-inspires-tripp-duo

"These events have provided entertainment and a time for socializing with other community members," says Bietz.



The TACF funds many community gatherings including a community movie night and dinner.

TACF not only benefits community projects, but also community students through the generous gift of former local farmer, Mr. Kennedy. The Kennedy Memorial Scholarship Fund provides all graduates from Tripp-Delmont with a scholarship to further their education every year they attend a college or technical school.

"Our goal with this fund is to help our graduates achieve a degree in their area of interest and hopefully return to Tripp or Delmont to become an active member in the community," said Bietz.

When asked what advice he would give to other communities interested in a CSA, Bietz said, "Get involved in your local CSA or take on the challenge to establish one in your community soon. A CSA, once established, can become a great tool to fund projects that need to get done in the community year after year. Small towns provide a way of life that is second to none, and CSA's can help sustain that way of life long into the future."

Leadership and dedication from community members is key to a successful CSA. "We are fortunate in Tripp to have an active group that is excited and willing to jump in on community events. We have a nice mixture of people that are excited about seeing our communities thrive, which makes planning meetings and events easy. Letting each person lead or take on something that they have a passion for gives all involved a sense of ownership," said Bietz.

Bietz also has his reasons to support TACF. "I have personally enjoyed working on projects like our park on main street that helps beautify our community. Knowing this has also been utilized as a place to bring community members together to build relationships has been a huge bonus!"



Donald Kennedy supported the Tripp area through his estate with a \$400,000 gift to TACF and the Kennedy Memorial Scholarship Fund benefitting Tripp area high school and college students.

Learn More and Donate

To donate or learn more about the Tripp Area Community Foundation, please visit their Facebook page at "Tripp Area Community Foundation" or website at SDCommunityFoundation.org/CSA/Tripp-**Area-Community-Foundation**

To learn more about SDCF's community savings account program, please visit:

SDCommunityFoundation.org/For-Communities



Gift Type Spotlight: Gift of Life Insurance





A gift of life insurance is a wonderful way to benefit your community or charitable organizations of your choosing.

"If only I knew, I would have done this sooner" It's a statement we often hear. Did you know that you can name the South Dakota Community Foundation as the beneficiary and help achieve your charitable goals? A gift of life insurance is a wonderful way to support your community or favorite charitable organizations at a significant level, but at a fraction of the cost of

A Gift of Your Policy

other gifts.

If you own a life insurance policy that is no longer needed for its intended purpose, a gift of life insurance can provide immediate benefits for you. If you decide to make a gift of your policy today, you will receive an income tax deduction.

Annual Gifts to Pay Premiums

A further option is to make annual gifts to us that can be used to pay the premiums or maintain the gifted policy. You can receive an income tax deduction each year you make a gift to us.

Naming Us as a Beneficiary

If you are like many people, you may not yet know if your life insurance policy will be needed and you would like to preserve your options. Another idea to consider is maintaining your existing life insurance policy during your lifetime and naming the South Dakota Community

Foundation as a beneficiary. Your insurance company can provide you with a *change of beneficiary* form that will permit you to name the South Dakota Community Foundation as the sole beneficiary or as the beneficiary of a percentage of the policy proceeds.

Creating a New Policy

If you don't currently own a life insurance policy and wish to help further your charitable goals through the South Dakota Community Foundation, you can create a new policy, name us as a sole beneficiary and give ownership of the policy to us. You will receive an income tax deduction for your gift to us. Life insurance premiums can be surprisingly low. If the policy is not paid up, you can send us a donation for the amount of the premium each year and receive an annual income tax deduction for each of those gifts as well.

Learn More

There are many ways you can achieve your charitable goals through the South Dakota Community Foundation and benefit! Please contact us to learn more about gifts of life insurance and other ways you can help fulfill your goals.

Make the most of your options

In addition to the satisfaction of helping our cause, the following gifts of life insurance provide specific tax benefits.

Option	Benefit
Gift of existing policy	Income tax deduction
Annual gifts to cover premiums	Annual income tax deductions
Life insurance beneficiary designation	Estate tax deduction
Gift of new policy	Income tax deduction

Convright @ 2017 Crescendo Interactive, Inc.

The South Dakota Community Foundation welcomed three new members to the Board of Directors. Roger Deiter of Faulkton, Scott Jones of Pierre, and DeMaris Nesheim of Hill City - each elected to serve a three-year term. The elections were held at the fall board meeting in Deadwood, SD in October.

"We are delighted to welcome three highly-respected individuals to the South Dakota Community Foundation Board of Directors. These individuals were all born and raised right here in South Dakota and have demonstrated their commitment to their community and to this state," SDCF President Stephanie Judson said. "Along with the other 18 members of the SDCF Board of Directors, they will each play important leadership roles as the South Dakota Community Foundation continues to grow and serve South Dakota," Judson added.



Roger Deiter

Roger Deiter is a 4th generation family farmer, along with his brother Doug, near Faulkton, South Dakota. After graduating high school in Faulkton, he attended and graduated from South Dakota State University with a B.S. in Animal Science. His participation on a successful Livestock Judging Team under the direction of Dr.

Dan Gee, fueled his interest in livestock production. Upon returning to the family farm, Roger developed and grew a beef seedstock business which was dispersed in 2008, after growing to become one of the ten largest seedstock operations in the country. Deiter and his brother have continued to expand the crop production portion of their operation. He and his wife, Beth, have two daughters, and are proud of the fifth generation of Deiters now involved in the family business.

Scott Jones is the President/CEO of Delta Dental of South Dakota, a nonprofit dental service corporation. Jones also serves as the President of the Delta Dental of South Dakota Foundation, their charitable affiliate. Jones grew up and graduated high school in Pierre, and then enrolled and graduated from the University of South Dakota School of Business. He also participated in the Central South Dakota Leadership Program and the Stanford Graduate

School of Business Executive Education Program. During his career at Delta Dental, Jones chaired the Delta Dental Plans Association, a national association of Delta Dental member companies, providing \$20 billion in dental benefits annually to more than 75 million Americans. Scott is a past and active member of multiple local and statewide Scott Jones



organizations. He has also been recognized with numerous civic awards, including the Governor's Neighbor Helping Neighbor Award, South Dakota Volunteer Fundraiser of the Year, American Dental Association Access to Care Award, Pierre Area Philanthropist of the Year (along with his wife, Julia), and USD Beacom School of Business South Dakota Business Person of the Year.



DeMaris Nesheim

DeMaris Nesheim grew up on a ranch northwest of Philip and graduated from Philip High School. After receiving her B.A. from Northern State University in Aberdeen and M.A. from the University of Guam, she began a career in education. Nesheim taught in Alaska, England, Guam and Ralston, NE. DeMaris married Chuck Mathison and

together started a successful Taco John's business. with locations in Marshalltown, IA and two stores in Cedar Rapids, IA. She continued to operate the stores after her husband's sudden passing and was with the Taco John's franchise for over 32 years. Nesheim later married high school classmate, Erv Nesheim and has retired in the Hill City area. DeMaris has led a life of service on many local and statewide boards, presently serving on the Children's Home Society and the Foundation Board of Lutheran's Outdoors of South Dakota.

Welcome to the South Dakota Community Foundation Board of Directors Roger, Scott and DeMaris. Thank you for choosing to continue your legacy of leadership and service with us!



Success through community caring

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SDCF Leadership

Board of Directors - Officers

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Dennis Batteen Keith Moore Beth Massa, West River Development & Program Officer

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Charles Hart Stanley Porch Peggy Urquhart, *Administrative Assistant*Jim Hart John Porter Jeff Veltkamp, *Director of Development*

Marilyn Hoyt Doug Sharp

Scott Jones Our Mission

The mission of the South Dakota Community Foundation is to promote philanthropy, receive and administer charitable gifts and invest in a wide range of programs promoting the social and economic well being of the people of South Dakota.