

Winter/Spring 2023

# BRAG BOOK



James C. Acheson • 1936 - 2023

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# Community Foundation

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Est. 1944

# CONNECT WITH US

Community Foundation  
of  
St. Clair County

Call

810 - 984 - 4761

Email

[info@stclairfoundation.org](mailto:info@stclairfoundation.org)

Find us online

For more information on our giving center, scholarships, and grants, please visit our website at:

[www.stclairfoundation.org](http://www.stclairfoundation.org)

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# Lets Celebrate....



80<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary  
CELEBRATION

Save the Date!  
**THURSDAY,  
MAY 16, 2024**

Celebrating 80 years  
OF PHILANTHROPY

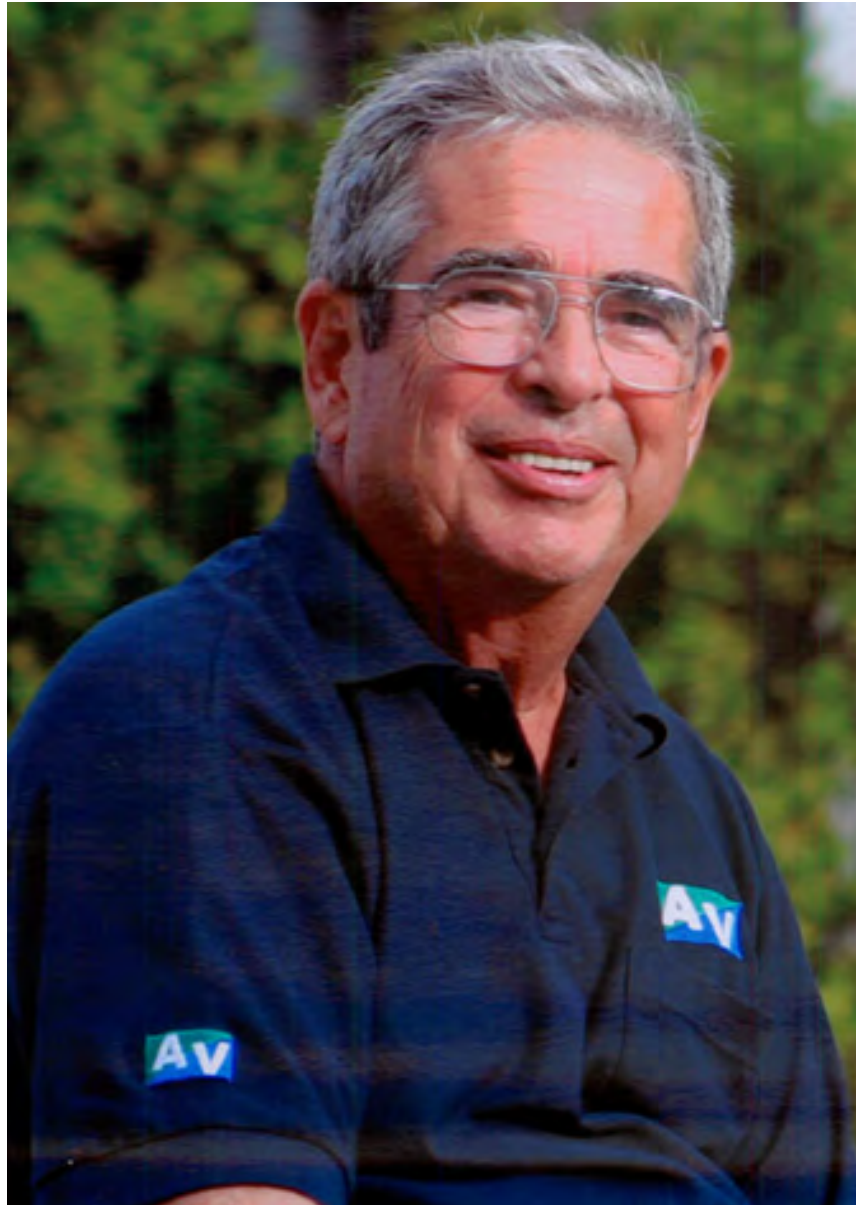
Formal invitation with  
details to follow.

**Community Foundation**  
Est. 1944



# The life and legacy of Jim Acheson

April 3, 2023



**We are saddened by the loss of our very good friend, James C. Acheson of Port Huron, who passed away on Sunday, April 2, 2023.**

Jim had a love of three things: his family, boating, and giving back to his favorite communities of Port Huron, Michigan and Lighthouse Point, Florida. He leaves behind a powerful legacy of enjoying life while ensuring that those programs, projects, and organizations he treasured will endure.

Some of his happiest days were spent cruising the Great Lakes with family and longtime friends, or heading south out of Florida to the Bahamas with more friends.

Jim's Father Howard was one of the founding fathers of the Community Foundation of St. Clair County (known as the Port Huron District Foundation) back in 1944, and was one of its longest serving board members.

Jim carried on his father's legacy of philanthropy and served as a trustee of the Community Foundation from 1972 to 1990. In the late 1990's, Jim began a decades-long period of giving back that is unprecedented in the Foundation's 79 year history.

In recognition of his incredible spirit of philanthropy, Jim received the Russell Mawby Award from the Council of Michigan Foundations in 2004 and then in 2009 he received the Distinguished Service Award (DSA) from the Community Foundation of St. Clair County. Both awards are meant to honor extraordinary lifetime achievement in philanthropy.

He and his team, led by Donna Niester, began an intentional and deliberate plan to dramatically bolster the capacity and professionalism of the Community Foundation. They were a driving force behind recruiting and hiring the first full-time professional CEO, Randy Maiers, in 2002. He also made significant gifts to grow the Foundation's Operating Funds and its Operating Endowment.

Although quite modest in his giving, his support and generosity were responsible for community assets which will endure for generations to come, such as Desmond Landing and the Maritime Center; the Performing Arts Centers at each high school in Port Huron; the Blue Water River Walk, which he gifted to the Community Foundation at Christmas of 2010; Studio 1219, the Youth Home, Community Renaissance Program, and Community Capital Club. He was also passionate in his support for McLaren Port Huron Hospital, Port Huron Police Department, Blue Water YMCA, Port Huron Museum, SONS, Mid-City Nutrition, the Tall Ship Festival, and everything that improved life on the south-side of Port Huron where he grew up.

If you would like to honor Jim's life and his passion for giving back, [click here](#). All gifts will go into the James C. Acheson Fund to support those programs, projects, and organizations he cared about.



Jim and Sue Acheson



**DA MOOSE ROBOTICS - FRC TEAM 5926**  
 28787 30 Mile Road - Lenox MI 48050  
 email: contact@team5927.org  
 www.team5926.org  
 Facebook and Instagram: @frc5926

Dear Community Foundation of St. Clair County,  
 Da Moose Robotics - FRC 5926 would like to thank you for being a sponsor of our FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) team and for helping us reach our goal of giving area youth the experience of a lifetime! Because of your generosity we are able to provide local students STEM education and leadership development opportunities.

We would love to invite you to come and see our robot in action. We will be competing in Muskegon on March 17-18 and at Macomb Community College - South Campus on March 31-April 1. Events are free of charge.

Thank you again for your support in helping create the leaders of the future. We couldn't do it without your help!

Da Moose  
 Ruby Walker  
 Alan  
 Gabrielle Hudson  
 Isabel Kemp  
 Jonathan Mauschild  
 Arden Switzer  
 Gage Garinger  
 Katy Kohl



KIDS



Thank You!

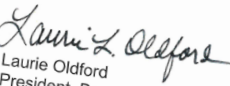


**Port Huron Schools**  
 Advocate Innovate Educate  
 2720 Riverside Drive, PO Box 5013 • Port Huron, MI 48061-5013  
 (810) 984-3101 • Fax (810) 984-6606 • www.phasd.us

March 14, 2023  
 Donor  
 500 Water Street  
 Port Huron, MI 48060

Dear Community Partner,

During their regular meeting on February 27, 2023, the Port Huron Area School District Board of Education accepted a gift of \$10,000.00 to the Big Red Marching Machine Band Boosters to support new equipment purchases and scholarships for band camp. Your generosity and interest in enhancing the learning experience of our students is truly appreciated.

Sincerely,  
  
 Laurie Oldford  
 President, Board of Education

/sj

THE  
**ATHLETIC**  
 Factory



Grants Committee,  
 Thank you for believing in our organization and the impact that we are focused on making. Your kind-hearted grant of \$16,056 will help us continue to strive to be the hub for the needs of our youth in our community. Kind Regards, (H) T.

Sigyn Smith !!  
Cat Taylor !!  
Aarset Lawson !!

Olivia !!  
Rondy, Thank You

JUSTIN !!  
ROGER !!  
ROAN

Chaylus. E !!

To YAC Students -  
Thank you for all the help in  
loading/unloading/setting up  
of the MYOI Christmas Party!  
It would have not been  
possible without your support.

Sincerely,  
Sunshine Ratliff  
MYOI-DITHS

THANK YOU !! + thank you !!!  
Thank you

Dear friends from the Community  
Foundation,  
On behalf of the clients + the  
staff at the Harbor, I'd like to  
thank you for your donation.  
Our youth appreciate that  
you've thought of them.  
Thanks! Meghan Harris

Dear Women's Initiative,  
Thank you for once again supporting  
early childhood with the Tuition Assistance  
grant. I appreciate your continued trust  
in the Great Start Collaborative and for  
staying with us as we wait anxiously  
for Universal Preschool.

Thank you!  
Riley Alley



You Help  
us Grow!



You help  
us  
Soar!

Have a  
Happy !!  
Easter...

XOX

Dear Rerdy, Jekie + The Community  
Foundation Family, !!

We are so very grateful for your  
faithful support of SOCS Outreach and  
the children + teens we are honored to  
serve! You help us to dream our biggest  
dreams and then help them to come to  
pass! May The Lord Bless You All for  
your giving hearts and consistent en-  
couragement to strive for the best  
community we can be! Love Jaylene + Laura  
The SOCS Family

# Port Huron Northern gets new weight room thanks to anonymous donor

May 2, 2023



Thanks to a generous donor from the Community Foundation, the Port Huron Northern High School (PHN) weight room has been refurbished into the Bates-Armstrong Fitness Room. Jim Bates and Barry Armstrong were the 1960s and 1970s football coaches who made a very large impact on students and the athletic climate within PHN.

“The spirit of giving back is very important to this (anonymous) donor who wanted to acknowledge the positive and life-long influence both Coach Bates and Coach Armstrong had on them as a person,” said Jackie Hanton, vice president at the Community Foundation. “This once-in-a-lifetime gift to the school district is a testament to the importance this donor feels about supporting our schools, providing access to fitness equipment for all students and honoring those faculty and staff who do so much.”

PHN’s original weight room was organized by Coach Armstrong and Bates. They were able to persuade the administration to add a “weights and agility” class to the schools’ curriculum. Changing weight lifting from an informal activity done outside of school hours, to a distinctive class period meant for exercise, was a first for the district at the time. This allowed for more students at the school to have access to gym equipment, and for more time to be spent training and learning through exercise.

“The new Bates-Armstrong Fitness Room will allow a more inclusive workout environment,” said Jason Kasparian, athletic director at PHN. He is excited to be able to expand from just weights, into cardio equipment, light workout gear, a low-pressure Woodway Curve treadmill, Kenzie balls, budgie ropes, and turf ground to allow a more realistic training environment.

Jim Bates coached at Port Huron High School before being hired at PHN. He coached for 18 years, retiring with a record of 142 wins for the Huskies. He also helped the Huskies win EML championships in 1970, 1975 and 1976. After resigning from his position as head coach, he became an assistant helping the Huskies win two more championships in 1986 and 1988.

Leading by example, Bates’ positive influence extended to the players, students, teachers and staff. Bates held deep values, maintaining honesty and integrity within his football plays and actions with others. Individuals around Bates admired and respected him. One of Bates many achievements was starting PHN’s junior varsity (JV) football team, allowing for participation in the program to double. Bates helped players spend extra time in the gym and helped host informal games so players could improve.

Later on, Coach Bates became an inaugural member of the Michigan High School Football Coaches Hall of Fame, both in Port Huron and Farmington.

Under the leadership of Jim Bates as head coach, Barry Armstrong became a defense coordinator in 1967. Serving in this position for 14 years, he helped bring great enthusiasm and knowledge to the PHN program. He was greatly respected and admired by his students and colleagues for the changes he implemented into the program, such as changing the Huskies’ defensive scoring tactic from a prolific rushing offense, where the huskies were occasionally outscored, to a tactic 52-slant defense.





This showed immediate results when Huskies won the championship in 1970. The traffic performance on both sides of the ball showed just how profound Armstrong's changes had been. Continuing throughout the '70s his defensive tactics continued to shine, being the best in the league and contributing to two more championships in 1975 and 1976.

Coach Armstrong was inducted into the Upper Peninsula Sports Hall of Fame, and the Soo High School Hall of Fame.

"Jim Bates was the first head football coach and for someone to feel the need to honor him and Coach Armstrong was truly special," Kasparian said. He hopes to continue to expand on the coaches' ideals of "more opportunities within the weight room, and helping people make healthy choices for themselves."

"The new fitness center will allow more students and staff to utilize the expanded space and new equipment that allows for a full range of exercises." Kasparian believes the room is well thought out for all individuals of varying fitness levels. "I am very eager to be able to represent our former football coaches in this way."

The fitness room is utilized multiple times a week by various students and student athletes. PHN's Women's Wellness and Weight Lifting (W3) club, run by advisor Stephanie Cruciano and student President McKenna Kiteley, host exercise time to help increase women's involvement in exercise.

"There are so many more varieties of conditioning and training techniques that we will be able to be put into place because of the new equipment," Cruciano said. "We are super excited about the variety of fitness goals this transformation will be able to help our students meet."

Kiteley added, "I couldn't be more excited and grateful for the incredibly generous gift that will fund the expansion and modernization of our weight room. When I founded Women's Wellness through Weightlifting last year, we identified a small list of equipment that we felt would encourage more female members to the club and now we have that equipment to utilize."

PHN teachers, students and athletes are very happy to honor these amazing coaches and their legacies in the new Bates-Armstrong Fitness Room.

The Community Foundation is proud to be able to connect passionate donors to opportunities that will impact hundreds of student athletes in the years to come.



Not be the great family we are today.  
 Thank you so very much,  
 M/24/2022

Dear Randy, Jackie & Grants Committee,  
 On behalf of the Boat the Blue committee,  
 I wanted to thank you for your  
 support of our community event. The  
 boat show is growing & our goal  
 is to make it into a major  
 event for not only Port Huron  
 but for our whole area -  
 Without your support we would



WE WANTED TO THANK YOU,  
 Thank you for the two grants the  
 Marysville Police Department received  
 from the Community Foundation for the  
 Fire Explorers (\$1,000) and the  
 C.A.P.S. Program (\$5,000). Your generosity  
 is greatly appreciated!

DIRECTOR OF  
 PUBLIC SAFETY

DEPUTY CHIEF OF  
 PUBLIC SAFETY

Dear Doug & Carol,  
 Thank you for your generous  
 help with the accessibility  
 ramp repair at our McLaren  
 site. We couldn't provide our  
 services without your gifts  
 you bless so many! Gratefully  
 Taylor Land

Many women seeing an ultrasound choose life for their  
 preborn babies, despite difficult and challenging situations.  
 We help empower women, men and families through life  
 affirming education and confidential care with the  
 encouragement and support of donors and volunteers.  
 Donations help Spero Pregnancy Center provide FREE  
 pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, abortion alternatives,  
 Christian care, material goods, educational information, and  
 community referrals to 700 young women and men  
 each year in our Blue Water Area.  
 Spero Pregnancy Center is the ONLY  
 prolife medical clinic in St. Clair County.

12-2022  
 Dear Anonymous for Spero ☺  
 We are very grateful for your gift  
 to Spero thru the Community Foundation  
 for car seats! These are so critical  
 for our clients & such a high priced  
 item. Your gift for these make an  
 enormous impact!  
 Eternally grateful,  
 Jennifer MacDonald  
 Executive Director



ST. CLAIR ART ASSOCIATION  
Alice W. Moore  
Center for the Arts

March 9, 2023

Community Foundation of St. Clair County  
St. Clair Foundation Fund  
500 Water Street  
Port Huron, MI 48060

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
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201 N. Riverside Ave. Ste A6  
St. Clair, MI 48079  
810.329-9576  
info@stclairart.org  
www.stclairart.org

Dear Audrey:  
Thank you to the Community Foundation and the DSLT Fund for their generous grant of \$1,500 (Check #134242) to the St. Clair Art Association.

Your gift was received on 2/28/2023 and has been designated as restricted funds to support the art wave program during our 2023 Art Fair. We will promote the outstanding work that you do on our social media and our 52nd Art Fair art wave/art in action program promotional material.

We are proud to offer opportunities in the Arts including Art Education, community enrichment, public art, the annual St. Clair Art Fair and support for area artists.

On behalf of the St. Clair Art Association, thank you for your support and dedication to SCAA and the Arts in our community.

Sincerely,

David L. Fry  
SCAA President



**Clyde Township Fire Department**  
4545 Broff Road • Ruby, Michigan 48049  
(810) 924-2360 Non-Emergency

April 6, 2023

Community Foundation of St. Clair County  
500 Water Street  
Port Huron, MI 48060

Mr Totty:

On behalf of the Clyde Township Fire Department, I would like to express our appreciation to the Community Foundation in awarding our department a grant to support our Community Outreach Training Program. These funds will be used to purchase training aids that will allow our department to offer free CPR classes in our community. We will be sure to share this information on our social media page in the new future.

Sincerely,

  
David Dortman  
Fire Chief  
Clyde township

Jan. 18, 2023

Dear Audrey,  
On behalf of St Paul Lutheran Church I would like to thank you for the \$500 donation from the Community Foundation and the taken the donor advised fund. It will most definitely be used to help purchase a much needed stove for our church kitchen. A thank you note is also being sent to taken. Thank you again for your generous and thoughtful gift.

Sincerely,  
Kathy Strauss  
Financial Secretary  
St Paul Lutheran Church

# Marine City Receives Grant for Marina Project

May 9, 2023



Plans for a new Marina, with transient docking, in downtown Marine City have received a significant boost from the Community Foundation of St. Clair County with \$393,000 grant. This latest major funding leverages other recent grants from the DNR Trust Fund, SEMCOG, St. Clair County and the Community Foundation.

“Support for this new marina project in Marine City just keeps growing,” said City Manager Scott Adkins. “The City is excited about how relatively quickly funding and support from our partners has come together – it’s a great asset for the whole community,” he added.

In 2021 the marina project was voted as one of the region’s most important new developments by the Blue Meets Green coalition, which is a large regional group of stakeholders from every sector of the community.

“It’s not very often that a community along the shores of Michigan gets to build a new marina,” said Hale Walker, who is both Board Chair of the Community Foundation as well as Co-Chair of Blue Meets Green. “I recall very strong support from a lot of stakeholders as soon as this project was announced,” he added.

The Community Foundation of St. Clair County attributed this latest grant to their friends and partners at the Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation in Detroit, which has been a significant partner on multiple projects in and around Port Huron and St. Clair County.

The Marine City Marina District Initiative represents a major investment in the region's future creating lasting benefits for the community, environment, and the local economy," said Jim Boyle, vice president of programs & communications, Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation. "The new marina will add another significant waterfront asset to the region and connect it to the larger Bridge to Bay Trail system, further enhancing the area's natural beauty and recreational opportunities. We are proud to partner with the Community Foundation of St. Clair County and the DNR in supporting this project."

The new marina project is a multi-phase initiative with an expected total budget of more than \$1 million. It began in partnership with Six Rivers Land Conservancy and a grant of \$272,000 from the DNR Trust Fund to support the initial purchase of the waterfront property on the south end of downtown Marine City. The City then received funding from both the County and Community Foundation to help cover the costs of demolishing the existing house on the property.

"This latest grant from the Community Foundation and the Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation will help us pay for the upcoming phases of work," added Adkins. He noted that future new amenities such as a pavilion, restrooms, parking lot, seating, walkways and lighting will help to make the space more community friendly and compliment the newly installed ADA kayak/canoe launch across the Belle River. "This generous funding will also allow us to advance our plans to connect the new marina to the Bridge to Bay Trail which runs through our downtown the marina property can be used as a dual trailhead for both non-motorized and waterways trails," he said.

The Bridge to Bay Trail system is the region's largest pedestrian trail and stretches from Algonac up to Lakeport. Several years ago a large coalition of stakeholders, led by the Community Foundation, St. Clair County Parks & Recreation, and multiple municipalities along the trail, launched an ambitious multi-year plan to complete the remaining gaps in the trail system.

"This new project in Marine City will add another amazing waterfront asset and also help us complete the remaining gaps in the Bridge to Bay Trail," said Hale Walker. "This really is an example of the public, private and philanthropic sectors coming together to build up the prosperity and unique assets in our downtowns."



Hale Walker



**SACRED HEART**  
MAJOR SEMINARY

April 21, 2023

Community Foundation of St. Clair County  
500 Water Street  
Port Huron, MI 48060-5441

Dear Community Foundation of St. Clair County,

Please accept my gratitude, and that of the entire Sacred Heart community, for your gift of \$14,700.00 to Sacred Heart Major Seminary. As you have instructed, your contribution has been designated to the Fr. Bartone Fund. Know that you will be remembered in the Masses celebrated daily here at the seminary.

Through your gift, you directly participate in an essential mission: preparing the future priests, deacons, and lay ministers who will one day serve not only throughout the Archdiocese of Detroit, but throughout the state of Michigan, the nation, and in countries across the globe.

In a very real sense, you become a part of a great tapestry of grace through your act of faith, helping to bring the love of Christ to untold souls for generations and beyond. Thank you for being a part of the Sacred Heart family.

Trusting in the Sacred Heart of Jesus Christ,

Very Reverend Stephen P. Burr  
Rector/President

2701 Chicago Boulevard | Detroit, Michigan 48206



**ST. CLAIR**  
HISTORICAL MUSEUM

April 24, 2023

Audrey Sochor  
Community Foundation  
500 Water Street  
Port Huron, MI 48060

Dear Audrey,

On behalf of the volunteers of the St. Clair Historical Museum and Research Center, please accept our sincerest gratitude to the Community Foundation, the St. Clair Endowment Funds Committee and the DSLT Fund for the \$795 grant. The grant funds will pay half the rental cost of a charter bus which will be used for three historic tours of St. Clair Aug. 26. This will allow us to keep ticket prices low and enable the maximum number of people to participate.

We will provide an update of the event after it takes place in August.

On a separate note, the historic wood doors for the Museum were installed last Thursday and should be completely functional by the end of next week. The Foundation's \$7500 grant certainly helped offset the estimated \$15,000 cost. We have more finish work to do in the next two weeks so we should have a final accounting by early May. Covid and weather issues made this a much longer project than anticipated.

Sincerely,

Robert Freehan  
Chairman, St. Clair Historical Commission

*St. Clair Historical Museum & Research Center*  
308 S. Fourth St., St. Clair, Michigan 48079  
Telephone: 810-329-6888 Website: [www.HistoricStClair.com](http://www.HistoricStClair.com)

Audrey & Foundation Team -  
Thank you for accepting the anonymous gift on our behalf at the end of 2022!  
We happily will apply this towards our tower project in 2023.  
We appreciate you ALL 😊  
Stacy Fankner



Yale United Methodist Church  
 2 South Main Street  
 Yale, Michigan 48097  
 810.387.3962

Reverend Dr. Joseph R. Baunoch  
 Pastor  
 810.841.4745

January 31, 2023

Audrey Sochor, Program Officer  
 Community Foundation  
 500 Water Street  
 Port Huron, MI 48060

Dear Audrey:

On behalf of Yale United Methodist Church, I am writing to thank you for the wonderful grant that was provided from the Community Foundation and the Mary B. Andreae Fund. We sincerely appreciate receiving this monetary support from the Foundation.

Be assured that this grant will be used to support the continued ministry we provide in the community of Yale.

Thank you, again. And my God bless you all.

Sincerely,

*Dr. Joseph R. Baunoch*  
 Dr. Joseph R. Baunoch, PsyD  
 Pastor  
 Yale United Methodist Church  
 drjoe@yaleumc.org  
 810.841.4745

**We are Open...Open for God's Business!**

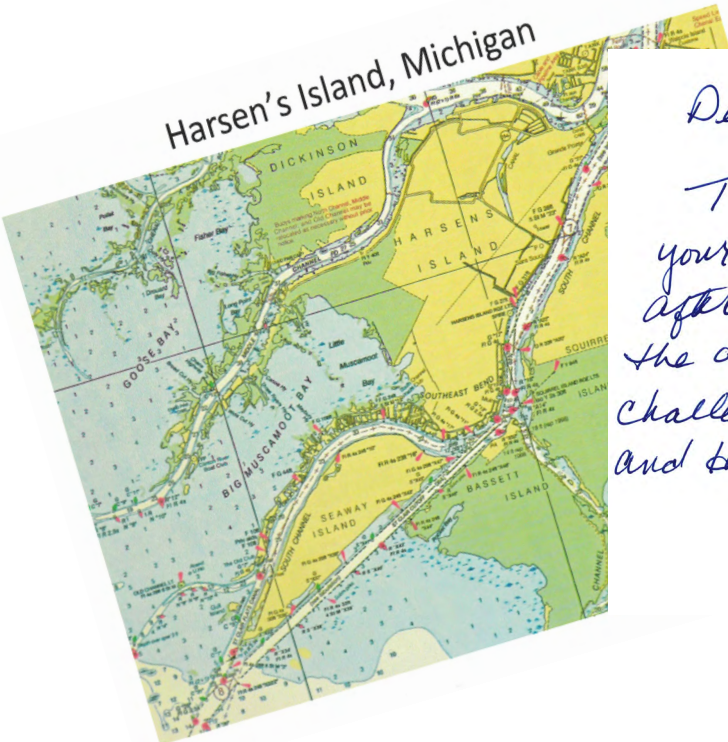
...from the  
 bottom of ~~my~~ <sup>our</sup> heart

Thank you so much for  
 sponsoring the PHS Alumni  
 Challenge. And thank you to  
 Will Rogan and will Pearson  
 The check will definitely go to  
 good use for the kids of Port  
 Huron.

Thank you  
 Tress & Treeds

Justine White  
 Secretary

Harsen's Island, Michigan



Dear Jackie

Thank you for taking time out of  
 your busy schedule to spend the  
 afternoon allowing our committee  
 the opportunity to introduce our  
 challenges along with the beauty  
 and history of our island.

Kind regards  
 SS Downtown, Inc.

# TOP SECRET: LICENSE TO SPY WILL OPEN APRIL 29 AT KNOWLTON MUSEUM

March 7, 2023



The Community Foundation is excited to announce an exciting, hands-on and family friendly exhibit coming to the Knowlton Museum in downtown Port Huron.

“This is an excellent opportunity to engage the community in a different way in the Knowlton Museum space generously donated a couple years ago by the Knowlton family,” said Hale Walker, Community Foundation board chair. “This is our first effort at rotating exciting and hands-on exhibits into the Knowlton Museum space.”

For many years, the Knowlton Museum has housed the Knowlton family ice collection which has been carefully put into storage to make room for Top Secret: License to Spy. The new exhibit is based around a James Bond-style fantasy of exotic locations, high-tech equipment and, of course, a mystery to solve.

Through the task of breaking codes, using spy satellites and creating elusive disguises, this exhibit explores the science and technology of the undercover world of spying and espionage.

Equipped with a Spy File, visitors are presented with a scenario and six suspects. They will be challenged with gathering intelligence from selected exhibits to uncover information on the suspects, leading them on a journey of discovery into the life-like world of what it is like to be a secret agent. Kids and adults alike will be amazed by the behind-the-scenes glimpse into this world in Top Secret: License to Spy.

“We wanted to bring an opportunity to downtown Port Huron for families, school groups and visitors alike,” said Patti Manley, vice chair of the Community Foundation. “The exhibit will build on the entertainment options available downtown, including the new Wrigley Hall.”

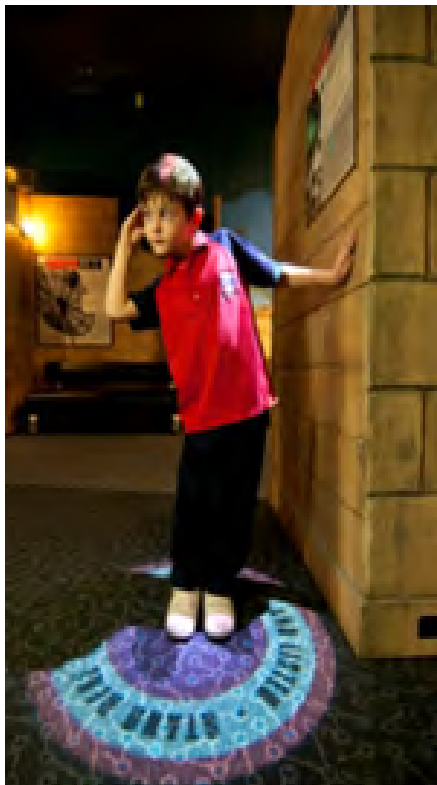


The visiting exhibition is a demonstration of how scientific thinking can be used to solve problems in many aspects of everyday life with 21 interactive experiences that explore the science and technology of espionage, including

- Navigating a room full of laser beams without setting off an alarm
- Finding the hidden microphones in a room that has been bugged by watching the reactions on an oscilloscope while tapping various objects around the room
- Using a thumbprint scanner to gain access to satellite technology to pinpoint geographic locations with suspicious activity
- Cracking codes by aligning sections of a transparent combination lock
- Creating a disguise to go undercover
- Using voice-changing technology to confuse enemy agents

“Our hope is to attract school groups from all over our St. Clair County school districts and in neighboring communities that don’t often have a chance to experience a world-class exhibit close to home,” Manley said.

“The STEM focus of the exhibit makes it easy for teachers to match with curriculum requirements and the Community Foundation is working with classrooms who need assistance to afford the trip.”



The Community Foundation is partnering with the Port Huron Museums to ensure an enjoyable experience at Top Secret: License to Spy.

“I couldn’t ask for a better team to help the Foundation bring this exhibit to fruition,” said Jackie Hanton, vice president at the Community Foundation.

“Port Huron Museum staff has been working closely with us to inventory the Knowlton family ice collection and will now help us transition the space for this exciting new exhibit. We’re grateful to have their experience and partnership to bring Top Secret: License to Spy to town the end of April through September.”



Top Secret: License to Spy opens Saturday, April 29, 2023 at the Knowlton Museum, 317 Grand River Ave, and runs through Sept. 5, 2023. Hours and further details can be found at [www.knowltonmuseum.org](http://www.knowltonmuseum.org) The public is encouraged to pre-purchase their tickets online. Teachers can also get information and book a field trip online. Admission is \$10 per person, 3 years old and under are free.

#### About Imagine Exhibitions

Imagine Exhibitions is currently producing over 40 unique exhibitions globally in museums, science centers, zoos, integrated resorts, and non-traditional venues, with millions of people around the world visiting our exhibitions each year. In addition to developing successful traveling exhibitions, Imagine Exhibitions designs, opens, and operates permanent installations and venues, and consults on building, expanding, and directing museums and attractions. With decades of diverse experience in the museum and entertainment industries, Imagine Exhibitions consistently develops exhibitions that educate and excite while exceeding attendance goals. For more information, visit [www.ImagineExhibitions.com](http://www.ImagineExhibitions.com) or find us on Facebook.

#### About Scitech

Explore your world through wonder! Scitech is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to increase awareness, interest, capability and participation by all Western Australians in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Randy + Jackie,

We want to express our sincere appreciation to the Community Foundation for the wonderful preview party of the License to Spy exhibit. We were completely awestruck by the transformation of the museum from "ice" to "spy". The sponsor recognition banner, the amazing ice carvings and the cool spy displays were incredible! Then the red carpet, the nice dinner and the tour of the Whigley Center ... wow!

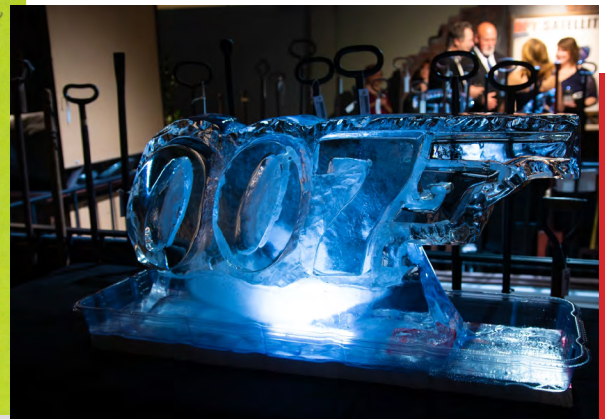
The time and care that was put into the exhibit and the entire event was very evident and we truly appreciate it.

The way you honored our mom + dad with your kind words was heartfelt and your nice comments about our family was humbling.

A huge thank you to Randy + Jackie and your entire team! And a special thanks to Shelley, Emily and Connie for the loving care that they put into our museum.

We are forever grateful that our museum is in the right hands.

Chuck + Vicki Stutz + Don Judy



# WELCOME TO THE KNOWLTON MUSEUM



Norman F. Knowlton, also known as Mickey, was born on August 25, 1919 in Port Huron, Michigan. While working at the local roller rink as a skate boy, he met Agnes and they were married on April 25,



During his career, Mickey developed a passion for the unique history of the ice industry. He wanted to preserve and share artifacts he and Agnes collected over the years with the community. The collection began in Mickey's office, moved to a larger space near the Party Time plant on Yeager St, then in 1987 the Knowlton's Ice Museum of North America was officially opened. The Knowlton Museum you see today was created in 2009 to be able to share with the public the vast and unique collection created by Mickey and Agnes.

The Knowlton Museum serves as a living legacy to the Knowlton family's passion and contributions in the ice and dairy industries. Because of their devotion to preserving an industry gone by, the collection will benefit visitors of all ages for generations to come.



# Impact investing is win-win for community

January 11, 2023

The Community Foundation is in the business of investing into our local community- downtowns and neighborhoods throughout the county. While best known for grants to nonprofit organizations, another facet of the Foundation's work is through investments into for-profit businesses and economic development in the region.

Known by the industry terms "impact investing" or "mission-related investing", these investments seek a profitable return on the money invested as well as some form of local community impact.

"Most of our assets are invested in the stock market," said Hale Walker, board chair of the Community Foundation. "Which in turn means we're invested in companies and projects throughout America and the world. Those investments then feed our grant and scholarship programs. But one of the most exciting things we do, that not everyone is aware of, is our impact investing; where we take some of those funds out of the market and we invest them locally."



Hale Walker

Investing them locally means in businesses throughout St. Clair County.

"We're investing in real people and places... that we can actually see and touch and talk to," Walker said. "People that we know, with businesses that serve our local community and with families that go to our schools."



Dorms in downtown Port Huron

Past investments have included loans to downtown staples like Anchor Point Bistro and Casey's, as well as larger investments like the \$750,000 loan to St. Clair County Community College (SC4) which helped support the construction of new student dorms in downtown Port Huron.

More recently, the Foundation made a significant investment into the Wrigley Center to support the redevelopment of the former Art Van building in downtown Port Huron into a mixed use residential and commercial gathering place. A \$175,000 pledge from the Community Foundation was matched by our friends at the Ralph C. Wilson Foundation, for a total \$350,000 investment toward the project.

The Wrigley Center, set to open this May, will be home to a variety of businesses and attractions- from food to entertainment to shopping- all under one roof.



“I love how the Wrigley Center is focusing on bringing exciting and unique things to Downtown Port Huron,” said City of Port Huron Downtown Development Authority Director Natacha Hayden. “The Community Foundation’s investment will have a vast economic impact, as it will generate more foot traffic and keep our Downtown vibrant and relevant.”

One of those unique new businesses coming to Wrigley, RenMan Whiskey, is also the beneficiary of the Foundation’s latest impact investment. Aaron Weideman and John Fitzgerald, co-owners/founders of a veteran-owned, patent-pending, online whiskey operation, are opening their first in-person distillery and tasting room at the Wrigley Center. To help with the startup costs of their transition to a brick and mortar establishment they applied for funding from the C3 group, which approved a \$100,000 investment in their enterprise.

While Weideman and Fitzgerald don’t currently live in the city, they say they have always been drawn to Port Huron’s waterfront and are committed to investing in the local community. As a business they are focused on pursuing what they call true profit- a threefold benefit of money, resources and people. For them, that means planting thousands of trees, using grains from local farmers, empowering their employees to give back, and helping to build up other local small businesses.

“The fact that the C3 invested in our company really validated our goal of being influential partners in the community and our mission of rebuilding Port Huron,” Weideman said. “It confirmed that the community is behind us in those efforts, as we pursue the

economic betterment of our community through the sale of whiskey, one glass at a time.”

Like Anchor Point, Casey’s and SC4 dorms, the Wrigley Center and RenMan Whiskey investments have potential for significant impact on the local economy, adding to the development and prosperity of our downtowns, attracting tourists as well as residents. “It’s a win-win for everyone involved,” Walker said. “We’re still investing, we’re just doing it in a more creative, strategic way. Yes, we’re earning revenue, but we’re also gaining the benefits from the local businesses we’re investing in. We’re making our cities and neighborhoods a better place to live in, helping draw more people to the area to eat and drink and shop, and ultimately to live and work.”



Aaron Weideman and John Fitzgerald of RenMan Whiskey

Thank you for being a Gold Sponsor for the Lady Flames & Fire Squad Competitive Gymnastics Team. Your generous support and donation to the Wildfire Challenge helps raise money to pay for meet fees and coaching costs for the team.

Our meet this year hosted 23 teams from Michigan and Ohio. There were over 850 gymnasts competing at the McMorran Place Arena. We had some snow, but everyone had a great time and we managed to wow everyone with the exciting opening march in, the interactive awards and even Flicker competed at the FUN MEET.

I hope you will consider sponsoring our team again in the future. Because of you this was all possible. The sponsor banner will be up all year in the viewing loft in the gym, so your generosity is visible year round.

Thank you again!

Flames Booster Club & Holly Albany, Meet Coordinator

Thank you for supporting us this year!



**Thank You for Supporting  
The Lady Flames and Fire Squad**

Thank-you so  
Much!  
Melissa Fahay

Thank you  
Lisa Perry

Thank you  
for your  
generosity!  
-Ashley Gilbert

Jean Herzog  
Thankyou!

Jen Creager  
+ The Community  
Foundation -

Nice things just seem to  
bloom from you.

Thanks so much.

Thank you for funding  
the grant for Avoca PTO!  
♡

THE  
**ATHLETIC  
Factory**



Women's Initiative,  
Thank you for your generous  
grant of \$10,000 to support  
our at-risk student-athlete  
tutoring program. This grant  
will allow us to continue to  
help student-athletes overcome  
obstacles in the Classroom.  
Kind Regards, C/MT.

Dear Anonymous Donor, 😊  
 Thank you, Thank you, Thank you! What a wonderful surprise it was when we got the news that someone had picked us for a grant. We can't wait to go purchase new socks & underwear for the children we help. It's such a tiny thing to most people, having new socks and underwear, but to the children we help it means the world. Thank you for helping to make sure no child has to go without.

In Gratitude,  
 K.I.D.S.

Kids In Distress Services, Inc.  
 "We exist so that no child will go without."  
 1114 South Seventh Street  
 St. Clair, Michigan 48079



**HARBOR IMPACT**  
 — MINISTRIES —

3/23/2023

Audrey Sochor and Grant's Committee  
 Community Foundation  
 500 Water Street  
 Port Huron, MI 48060

Re: Grant's Committee Check in the amount of \$5,000!  
 Dear Audrey and all involved:

Thank you for the check that will immediately be used to help us buy meat during a time that prices have skyrocketed! We are more grateful than you will ever know. Those who come to the Harbor for assistance do not pay anything for the help they get. Our staff is made up of volunteers who are ready to pitch in at any time to do whatever is called for.

Again, thank you for the wonderful blessing we have received from Community Foundation. We are going to tell everyone about it!

Very truly yours,

*Michael Weaver*  
 Michael Weaver  
 Co-Director

*Barbara Hanneke*  
 Barbara Hanneke  
 Co-Director

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