

a New Name...a New Focus

Effective immediately, the local foundation you know as the Pipestone Area Educational Enrichment Foundation has a new name: Pipestone Area Community Foundation, Inc. (PACF).

The new name is a direct reflection of the foundation's expanded purpose to serve the needs and capitalize on the opportunities of the community...as a whole. PACF Chairman, Kevin Paulsen, says the mission of the group will actually be expanded, and that should be good news to local residents and alumni.

Paulsen said the name change goes with a "broader scope" of potential assistance that can be offered throughout the county. He said the former focus on educational needs, although important, will continue to be a small part of what PACF can benefit. But in the future, he said, the new foundation "will help in other areas of the community, rather than focusing solely on school."

He added, "Now we're looking to help all organizations in the Pipestone area, whether they're involved in education or not, like youth groups, the elderly, beautification, recreation, the arts, and more. Our goal is to fill the voids where there is a need on a much broader scale. We are becoming part of the larger nationwide movement toward community-wide foundations."

The Pipestone Area Community Foundation receives matching dollars from its administrative partner, the Southwest Initiative Foundation (SWIF), which administers 18 other community-based foundations in the 18 counties of southwest Minnesota.

Paulsen added that the local PACF, which is also seeking gifts from residents, past residents and students, has contracted with the Southwest Initiative Foundation to assist with administrative duties and to help meet intricate IRS regulations for nonprofit foundations. Paulsen said the Southwest Initiative Foundation provides key oversight and bookkeeping to assist board members, who are volunteers and local business people and residents.

"That's huge," Paulsen said. "We're all business people on the foundation board and we're donating our time. We all have other businesses to manage. For a reasonable fee, SWIF handles all of the oversight that becomes burdensome for volunteer groups. Our generous donors know that their gift to the foundation will remain in the community."

Paulsen added that having SWIF providing such duties is a "huge advantage," and the matching dollars will help the community build a permanent endowment resource, which will provide grant dollars to our local organizations.

He said individuals wishing to make donations to help their home town or school can be assured their donations are safe and will be kept locally, and that legal requirements are met. "Every penny will be accounted for," he said. "We want to let people know that they can trust us. It's a very highly regulated industry."

Paulsen said he or other board members have received "a number of inquiries" from potential donors wanting to know if a

vehicle is in place to make donations to their home town area. "This is the perfect vehicle," he said. "It's tax-deductible, safe, and will be used to help meet community needs and achieve community goals."

Paulsen said the foundation members are a group that cares about the community. "We are a passionate group committed to making Pipestone a better place, for young and old. We want to improve the quality of life. You can feel the passion of this group. I also know there are people with the ability and desire to give back to their hometown, and this is the vehicle to do it."

Paulsen emphasized that the group has moved away from providing scholarships for students because other groups have stepped up to take that spot. "Rather than duplicating work that's already being done, the new focus of the Pipestone Area Community Foundation will allow us to focus more broadly...and on everything else in the community," he said.

"We want to work in a joint effort with others as a fund raising leg. We will use the Southwest Initiative Foundation's administrative experience. We could benefit all areas. It's just up to people to ask. We want to make these funds available to improve life in our communities, whether it's for recreation, nonprofit organizations, the arts...there are all kinds of things we could help with," said Paulsen.

Pipestone Area Community Foundation Advisory Board Members

Kevin Paulsen
Charles Sendelbach
Matt Taubert
Cindy Hartquist
Greg Cooper
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*Our mailing list and all contributions are kept confidential unless otherwise requested.

"...Time to Pay Something Back"

Jack Sturdevant



Accepting a \$25,000 donation from Jack and Toddy Sturdevant to the Pipestone Area Community Foundation were (far left) Steve Lange and (right) Kevin Paulsen.

Jack Sturdevant's roots run deep in Pipestone; not so much in the soil as one would think of somebody who reached their formative years in southwestern Minnesota, but in the asphalt roadways and in the metal of the vehicles that traverse them.

Sturdevant's father, Art, opened an auto electric and carburetor repair service in Pipestone (1932) amid the Great Depression. Jack obtained his secondary and high school education in Pipestone, and in 1951, he joined his father in transforming the business from one exclusively servicing the electric components of motor vehicles to a business that specialized in the wholesaling of auto parts.

Given this heritage, it's not surprising that the Sturdevants felt an overriding need to give something back to the community.

"I went to school here, k-12, and most of four kids got their education here," said Jack. "The community has been very good to us, and we felt it was time to pay something back."

So, just a few hundred feet from where Art Sturdevant opened a store that grew into an empire (Sturdevant's, in addition to its store in Pipestone, has 38 stores in South Dakota, North Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa and Nebraska), Jack and Toddy Sturdevant recently presented a check for \$25,000 to the Pipestone Area Community Foundation (PACF).

"This is such a great way to begin our campaign with our renewed focus," mentioned (PACF) Chairman, Kevin Paulsen. "It's great to see past residents giving back the community which meant so much to them."

PACF has used some of this donation for immediate impact in the community. \$2,500 was given to the local food shelf to help area families through the holiday season. They also assisted the Pipestone County Senior Citizens with \$600 which will help purchase a new organ. Remaining funds have been placed into an endowment with the SW Initiative Foundation (SWIF). For every dollar placed into this endowment, PACF will receive a 25% matching contribution from SWIF.

To date, there have been 153 donors to the endowment fund and 173 donors to the non-endowment fund. As PACF looks to create a better community for future generations, contributions like that from the Sturdevant family and many others can make all the difference.

Pipestone Area Community Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 332
Pipestone, MN 56164

*Serving
to better our
Community*



Pipestone Area Educational
Enrichment Foundation
is now the
**Pipestone Area
Community Foundation, Inc.**

