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News from your Whatcom Community Foundation
<http://www.whatcomcf.org/>

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Welcome! There is much activity at the Foundation thanks to the generosity of donors and the many creative community members working to strengthen and enhance our collective quality of life.

Witter Pavilion: From a Rendering to Three Dimensions



Highlights

Foundation to Celebrate Life of Much Loved Former CEO, Board Establishes Calene Cameron LeBeau Memorial Fund

Please join the Foundation Board, staff and many of the other friends former Foundation CEO Calene LeBeau made during her time in Whatcom County as we celebrate her exceptional and inspiring life. The celebration will be held on Thursday, October 16th at 4:00 pm at the Chrysalis Inn. We will share favorite memories of Calene over appetizers and drinks overlooking Taylor Dock and Bellingham Bay. Everyone is invited to end the evening with a short walk along Taylor Dock, one of Calene's favorite places to take a stroll in Bellingham. Please call (360) 671.6463 or e-mail us at wcf@whatcomcf.org to RSVP or if you have questions regarding the event.



To ensure that Calene's passion for the Foundation and Whatcom County live on forever, the Foundation Board established the Calene Cameron LeBeau Memorial Fund. The Fund is endowed and, as such, will generate income in perpetuity to support important nonprofit activities. "Calene knew the immense power of unrestricted gifts to the Foundation," noted Foundation Board chair, Glenn Butler. "She understood that unrestricted funds give the Foundation the latitude to satisfy community needs and seize opportunities. On a personal level, it was heartbreaking for the Board to establish this fund. However, we had the benefit of Calene's counsel and there is some comfort in being able to do so according to her wishes. As was her nature, she wanted to set an example."

his woodworking and his sense of community," said Jeff Arvin, co-owner of Cascade Joinery and the Foundation's advisor to the project. The new landmark venue is expected to be completed in the next few weeks. Artwork by well known local artist Tom Wood will be added in early 2009. Arvin noted, "We look forward to dedicating The Porch in the spring and then celebrating with the first concert."

Susan Witter, Mark's wife, said, "The pavilion looks marvelous. Even with orange fencing tape up around it, I can see how it'll blend into its spot in the park, though it's also got a real eye-catching quality to it. Thanks, everyone for all you've done for The Porch."

Fundraising for the project continues. Arvin remarked, "Our hope is to continue to add to the Fund at the Community Foundation. We want to see it grow. The advisory committee is already considering the kinds of things we would like to see it support. Mark was a doer. The best way to pay tribute to his life is to keep doing things that he would have supported." Contributions to the Witter Pavilion Fund may be made to Whatcom Community Foundation, 119 Grand Avenue, Suite A, Bellingham, WA 98225. The Foundation is the fiscal sponsor for the project. Please include Witter Pavilion in the memo section.

Campaign for the Arts Prepares for Public Launch



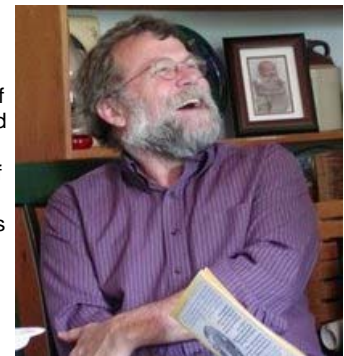
After a successful "silent" campaign garnering more than \$5.2 million, the Campaign for the Arts (CFA) is preparing to invite the community at large to be part of the fun. CFA fundraising benefits the capital projects and endowments of the Mount Baker Theatre and Whatcom Museum as anchors of downtown Bellingham's Arts District. "Now is the time for the community at large to join the effort and be part of bringing this project to

The Foundation has already received more than 70 donations to the Calene Cameron LeBeau Memorial Fund totalling more than \$25,000. Contributions from Calene's family and friends have come from Washington, Texas, California, Florida and elsewhere. "We are hopeful that the Fund will reach \$50,000 before the end of our fiscal year in June of 2009," noted Butler. "Nothing would make Calene happier than to know that her devotion to philanthropy in Whatcom County continues to bear fruit after her passing."

If you are interested in making a contribution to the Calene Cameron LeBeau Memorial Fund please make your check payable to: Whatcom Community Foundation, 119 Grand Avenue, Suite A, Bellingham, WA 98225. Please note *Calene Cameron LeBeau Memorial Fund* in the memo section. Credit card donations may be made by calling the Foundation at 360.671.6463 or electronically through the Network for Good at <https://www.networkforgood.org/donation/MakeDonation.aspx?ORGID2=911726410>; please include the Fund name in the designation field.

Friends Begin Fundraising Effort to Support Hunter Family

Co-founder and former Foundation board member Tom Hunter passed away in June following a short illness. Tom left all of us a legacy of celebration, music, compassion and community giving. Throughout his lifetime, Tom worked with people of all ages and backgrounds to teach new ways of learning and living. His many friends are committed to "keeping it going," as Tom would say, by remembering his smile, music and voice



There has been a tremendous outpouring of support for the Hunters during this transition for which the family is deeply grateful. A fund drive is now underway to raise money to provide financial support for Tom's family for the future. A fund has been set up with the Whatcom Educational Credit Union* to be used exclusively for mortgage payments on the Hunter home, which will provide for the family's financial security over time.

The goal is to raise \$50,000. "The goal is big, yet small donations add up to larger sums," said former Foundation Board member Sue Webber, a long time friend of the Hunter family. "We are all proud to be *keeping it going* in many ways in our work, play and home lives. We're hopeful that Tom's many friends and fans will be able to share in this labor of love."

If you would like to contribute to this fund, please send a check to: Tom Hunter Memorial Account @ WECU, PO Box 9750, Bellingham, WA 98227. For more information, please contact Tom Thornton at (360) 815-4150.

*Foundation bylaws prohibit grantmaking to individuals.

Philanthropy Day Awards Ceremony Tickets on Sale Now



life,” said CFA Board president Ken Culver. “In addition to raising funds for bricks and mortar, the endowments will help to support both organizations in perpetuity. When the Campaign is complete, the community will have two spectacular facilities, one historic and one new, and both will offer an abundance of opportunities for entertainment and education, as well as serving as an economic engine for the community.”

For more information about the Arts District redevelopment and the CFA, please visit <http://www.artsdistrictbellingham.net/> or call the Foundation at (360) 671.6463. Contributions to the CFA may be made to Whatcom Community Foundation, 119 Grand Avenue, Suite A, Bellingham, WA 98225. The Foundation is the fiscal sponsor for the project. Please include “CFA” in the memo section of your check.

Foundation Begins New Community Partnership: RE Sources Works with Neighborhoods on Park Project

The Foundation is serving as the fiscal sponsor for a collaborative venture between RE Sources, a local nonprofit organization supporting sustainability, and three adjoining neighborhood associations, Columbia, Cornwall Park and the Lettered Streets. RE Sources recently relocated from Bellingham’s Old Town to the Fountain District. The goal of the partnership is to bring Fountain Plaza back to life as a gathering spot for the district. The park is located at the corner of Meridian, Broadway and Girard Streets, which is the confluence of all three neighborhoods and across the street from RE Sources new location.

RE Sources executive director, Robyn du Pré, explained, “We are excited to be in our new home in the Fountain District. When we moved in, several neighborhood residents asked if we could help re-create the Fountain Plaza. We’re thrilled to be working with the neighborhood associations on this project but we needed another entity to handle the private contributions and provide administrative support to the fundraising campaign. RE Sources has its own capital campaign underway to complete its remodel and make the building fully functional. The Foundation’s participation is the final piece of the puzzle for the Fountain Plaza project.”

The design work for the project was completed thanks to a Small and Simple grant from the City of Bellingham. Plaza fountain and plantings will be enhanced, as will the lighting, interpretive signage and more. “The group plans to complete the project in 2010,” added du Pré. Contributions may be made to Whatcom Community Foundation, 119 Grand Avenue, Suite A, Bellingham, WA 98225. Please include “Fountain Plaza” in the memo section of your check.

Innovation Notes: New Approach to Local Homeless Issue



Whatcom County attendees of the 2007 AFP Awards

In the last issue of *Foundation Focus* we announced that Anders Crabo and Colin Flynn, founders of the Bellingham Youth Philanthropy Fund of the Whatcom Community Foundation, and Chuck and Dee Robinson of Village Books will be honored at this year’s annual Philanthropy Day awards ceremony. The Washington Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) has sponsored the annual awards since 1989. The awards recognize outstanding philanthropic

achievement in our state by an individual or couple, family, corporation, small business, foundation, organization and youth. This statewide recognition is an immense honor, acknowledging the value and impact of the contributions the Robinsons and the Youth Philanthropy Fund founders have made to our community, in addition to raising the profile of philanthropy here in Whatcom County.

We hope you will join us at this year’s awards luncheon on Thursday, November 20, 2008, from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Sheraton Seattle Hotel. Earlybird tickets (\$65 per person) are now on sale for the luncheon. Ticket prices will go up to \$75 per person after October 31st. Transportation via charter bus may be purchased through the Foundation. For more information please contact us at (360) 671-6463 or wcf@whatcomcf.org.

Fairhaven Fund Grant Supports Art Purchase

The Foundation recently made a grant from the Fairhaven Fund to the Whatcom Museum for a heroic bust of Fairhaven builder and Bellingham benefactor C.X. Larrabee. The Foundation’s Fairhaven Fund was established in 2003, in part, to provide funds to purchase artwork for the Fairhaven District. The bust celebrates the important role the Larrabee family played in the history of the Fairhaven District and Bellingham as a whole. It will be placed in the 11th Street entrance to McKenzie Alley adjacent to the recently redeveloped Waldron Building (next to Flats Tapas Bar). Fairhaven Village Green organizer and Fairhaven Fund advisor Brian Griffin noted, “We have a tremendous local talent in sculptor Bob McDermott. His bronze of Dirty Dan Harris is already an icon on the Fairhaven Village Green. Working with the Foundation makes it possible for donors to make tax deductible contributions to support public art in Fairhaven. Then, when an opportunity arises, the funds are available. It’s been a great working relationship for everyone.”

The sculpture will be unveiled at a celebration at the Waldron Building on Saturday, October 18th at 3pm. The ceremony will take place on-site at the entrance to McKenzie Alley off of 11th Street with a reception to follow in the luxury condominiums on the fourth floor of the newly renovated building. The event is being co-hosted by the Fairhaven Village Green Advisory Committee, Whatcom Community Foundation and Whatcom Museum of History & Art. Special thanks to event sponsors Ebanal Construction and Hagen and to the Fairhaven Fund’s numerous donors. Lastly, the event co-hosts appreciate the always gracious hospitality of the merchants of Fairhaven.

Local Homeless Issue

According to National Project Homeless Connect (PHC), it is not a service fair, not an information and referral event, but rather an innovation: "a one-day, *consumer-focused* one-stop." Its a new way of doing business, focused on immediacy, hospitality, and results for homeless neighbors.

The innovation of PHC fuses political and civic will in a one-day, one-stop array of resources to provide the hospitality and the support to create a trajectory out of homelessness. PHC is equal parts welcoming homeless neighbors into the life of the community, changing the way resources are accessed, and achieving quantifiable results for people experiencing homelessness. Public and private sector resource providers work side-by-side in a new configuration, with a focus on problem-solving results.

PHC events vary in size, content and frequency in each community, but share a common intent - to remedy the homelessness of their neighbors. The "under one roof" offerings for consumers and the "mobile hospitality" of volunteers who act as escorts and conductors for their homeless neighbors help lower their barriers and achieve results. Events catalyze community involvement, generating new partnership, commitment, and investment to end homelessness. PHC gives people and organizations that have never been involved in homelessness before a way to make a difference in their community.

PHC is considered a best practice in addressing the issue of homelessness. Bellingham/Whatcom County is one of more than 170 PHC communities nationwide. More than 1,300 homeless Whatcom County citizens were counted in January 2008, suggesting an actual population of 4,000 homeless annually. The most vulnerable of our homeless citizens make up nearly 50% of the total:

- 22% are children under 10 years of age
- 14% are veterans, with disabilities present at significantly high rates: 56% report mental health distress, 37% indicate substance abuse disorders, and 36% cite a permanent physical disability
- 12% are chronically homeless: 42% report mental health distress, 26% indicate substance abuse disorders, and 32% cite a permanent physical disability as a factor

It is an unfortunate, but common myth that some people prefer to be homeless. Nothing could be further from the truth. Even among people with severe housing barriers, most become good, stable tenants with a modest amount of help.

The Bellingham/Whatcom County program is coordinated by a coalition of local service providers. To learn more about PHC, make a contribution or volunteer for the event, please contact Greg Winter at (360) 255-2091.

The majority of funds in the Fairhaven Fund have been provided by people purchasing engraved pavers and stones in the Green and anyone wishing to make a contribution in that manner can pick up a application at Village Books or by contacting the Whatcom Community Foundation. For non-paver contributions, please make contribution checks payable to Whatcom Community Foundation, including "Fairhaven Fund" in the memo section.