

# Community FOUNDATION NEWS

The Greater PineBelt Community Foundation  
Inspiring Charitable Giving... Investing in Our Communities  
www.PineBeltFoundation.org • www.Facebook.com/PineBeltFoundation

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## WHY DO PEOPLE ESTABLISH DAFs?

- ◆ **A generous spirit:** The main reason why donors establish a DAF is that they are generous and have a passion to help support charitable causes. They also want to improve their community.
- ◆ **Legacy:** DAFs can be used to establish a charitable legacy in your name, your family's name, your organization or business, or to honor a colleague or loved one. They can be set up to give only the income from the principal which allows the fund to continue in perpetuity, allowing future generations to be involved in philanthropy.
- ◆ **Ability to give anonymously.** If a donor desires anonymity, the PineBelt Foundation can make the contribution without identifying the donor.
- ◆ **Tax benefit.** Many types of assets can be received as a donation. The donor receives the maximum allowable tax benefit in the year the gift is made. Additional funds can be received at any time to grow the fund.
- ◆ **Why not give directly to the nonprofit organization?** The DAF is an ideal charitable vehicle for the individual who has variable income. In good years, he or she can make significant year-end gifts to a DAF and suggest distributions from time to time. This permits a "smoothing" of charitable giving.
- ◆ **Parenting tool.** DAFs can involve both parents and children in grant-making which can be a great training ground to pass on family values and establish a tradition of family philanthropy.
- ◆ **Donor involvement.** The donor is involved in all decision-making, unlike a private foundation whose board must be consulted. This can be a time-consuming process. (Note: *The PineBelt Foundation must ensure that all distributions are made to approved charitable organizations by the IRS.*)
- ◆ **Can receive donations from private foundations.** Private foundations must distribute five percent of their income yearly. If they have not made a decision within the year, they can give to a DAF for future decision-making. Also, private foundations who no longer want the administrative responsibility can terminate and roll its assets to a donor-advised fund. ▲

*"We make a living by what we get;  
we make a life by what we give."*

~ Winston Churchill



Tommy Teepell, Jr., Jonathan Jones, Jonathan Duhon, Michael Garrett, Sarah Dixon, Rocky Hash and Stephanie Mayfield. (Homes of Hope is a beneficiary of the Jones Companies Donor Advised Fund.)

## DONOR ADVISED FUNDS Charitable Giving Vehicle Grows in Popularity

Offered by community foundations since the 1930's, Donor Advised Funds (DAFs) have grown in popularity in recent years because they are an organized, inexpensive and flexible way to give to charities.

### What is a DAF?

A DAF is simply what the name implies: it is an option for donors who want to be involved in charitable giving, but prefer not to handle the administrative and organizational tasks. Individuals, families, businesses and organizations can give cash, stock or other assets, claim a charitable tax deduction and recommend grants to support charities they care about. These grants can be spread out over several years.

DAFs are also similar to a private foundation, but with greater tax advantages and fewer administrative burdens than a private foundation.

### Jones Companies opens Donor Advised Fund

Jonathan Jones is owner of Jones Companies, based in Marion County. These family-owned companies have expanded into a conglomerate of successful businesses (manufacturing wooden pallets, recycling, concrete, etc.). With such diversified industries, their charitable interests vary greatly. With the help of The Greater Community Foundation's Donor Advised Fund, it is possible to give to different charities and ministries as needs arise.

We asked Mr. Jones a few questions about opening the **Jones Companies Donor Advised Fund**.

#### Q: Why did you want to open a DAF?

A: I believe in giving back to the community that has done so much for me and my family. It is a great feeling to know that we are prepared to give when a need presents itself. We can give money to the DAF, get the tax deduction in the year the gift is given, and spread distributions over time.

#### Q: What appealed to you about a DAF?

A: Creating a DAF at the PineBelt Foundation was a convenient and easy way for our company to streamline and organize all of our charitable activities through one expertly-managed and cost-effective charitable vehicle. We had thought about opening a corporate foundation, but the DAF was less costly and less complicated. ▲

# PRESIDENT'S *Pen*

I am honored to serve as president of the PineBelt Foundation, and especially proud of the accomplishments our organization has achieved in a very short period of time.

This year, we have been working to refine our strategic direction and have created a bold vision for our future. We know we must have a strong charitable reserve that the community can count on, forever, to meet the Pine Belt region's needs. We will accomplish that in two ways:

- First, we must build a better understanding of the importance of endowment building for nonprofit organizations to help them with their sustainability.
- Second, we will increase the public's understanding of the purpose of their local community foundation and the reason we are building the PineBelt Foundation endowment. This is the Partners of the Foundation Fund and it is the "engine" behind our machine.

You will read in the "Partner" article, that we increased our Partners of the Foundation giving levels. Our long-term goal is to endow this fund so that we are self-sustained.

There has been an amazing growth of community foundations in this country and they have transformed community philanthropy, which demonstrates their value. Gifts to the PineBelt Foundation stay in our community. They are prudently invested and grow over time, building permanent legacies for our donors and a perpetual source of funds for the Pine Belt's changing needs.

Those of us who live here have a great love for our home town. That is why we have dedicated ourselves to nurturing endowments for nonprofit organizations and our local Community Foundation.

None of this would be possible without the hard work of our Board of Directors, a dedicated group of volunteers who tirelessly give back to the communities where they live, our Executive Director, and Hope Manifest, a nonprofit partner who has assisted us.

Because of everyone's efforts, we now have 100 Partners of the Foundation! This shows that the Pine Belt region supports our desire to make our home towns a better place to live. We know that through the generosity of our donors and wise investments, we are contributing to the economic development of the region, thereby making life better for our citizens and friends.

Hayden Mitchell  
President ▲



Foundation President,  
Hayden Mitchell

## COMMUNITY PARTNERS SUPPORT THE PINEBELT FOUNDATION

"The PineBelt Foundation is a public charitable organization created by local citizens to bring caring people and charitable endeavors together for the good of the Pine Belt region," stated David Fortenberry, Chairman, Development Committee of the Board of Directors. "Our mission is to build better communities through philanthropy. Our overall vision is to enhance the quality of life by building a permanent source of charitable dollars to invest in the Pine Belt region."

"We now have seventy Funds that support nonprofit organizations and charitable causes and because we exist to serve donors with their charitable giving, we keep our administrative fees low," added Fortenberry. "But there is one Fund upon which all other Funds rely – the operating Fund. It's the engine that makes the Foundation run, the driving force behind all our efforts."

This "driving force" is the *Partners of the Foundation Fund* – individuals and businesses contribute to this Fund. Every *Partner of the Foundation* directly contributes to the fulfillment of our mission and vision. In fact, we could not invest in the community without our Partners.

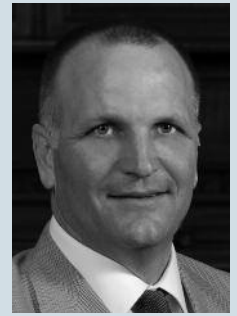
Funds from the Partner program helps us underwrite annual operating expenses and it will eventually provide sufficient funding to allow the Foundation to make grants to the community from among its own resources. This Fund will eventually allow the PineBelt Foundation to respond to a wide range of community needs – from issues concerning the environment, health and human services, education, youth, arts, culture, economic development and animal welfare.

Because this is the engine that makes the Foundation run, the Board of Directors recently increased giving levels and is challenging the community to support their local Community Foundation at a more ambitious level.

### New Annual Partner Levels:

- |                         |                          |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| ◆ Visionary – \$25,000+ | ◆ Patron – \$2,500+      |
| ◆ Innovator – \$10,000+ | ◆ Ambassador – \$1,500*+ |
| ◆ Leader – \$5,000+     | ◆ Benefactor – \$750+    |

\*Minimum level for corporate partner



David Fortenberry,  
Development  
Committee Chairman

### ***PineBelt Foundation Reaches 100th Partner!***

"I am thrilled to announce that I personally have become the 100th Partner!" said David Fortenberry. "The company I work for, Stewart Sneed Hewes, has been a Partner since 2007 (when the Partner program evolved). With regard to our renewed efforts to build up the Partner program, I didn't think twice about personally joining as a Partner because I am passionate about the PineBelt Foundation's mission and purpose – the organization has truly enhanced the quality of life in our area."

***Thank you to all of the Partners of the PineBelt Foundation!  
We couldn't do our work without you! ~ The Board of Directors***

To see the list of all of the Partners of the Foundation, please go to our website at [www.PineBeltFoundation.org](http://www.PineBeltFoundation.org). ▲

## ***The Children's Center for Communication & Development Benefits from Rotary Club of Hattiesburg – Sunrise 5K Race***

"In the Spirit of the Rotary motto, "Service Above Self," the Rotary Club of Hattiesburg – Sunrise works to give back to our community," said Joe Stevens, President of Rotary Club Hattiesburg – Sunrise. "Each year, we donate the proceeds of our Annual Rotary Run to a valuable Hattiesburg area charity. This year The Children's Center for Communication and Development at The University of Southern Mississippi benefitted from our donation of \$4,552."

The Children's Center provides an interdisciplinary team approach to the assessment and treatment of communicatively and developmentally disabled infants, toddlers and preschoolers. ▲

# NEW FUNDS AT THE PINEBELT FOUNDATION

## AREA DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP... Leadership Pinebelt Projects

The PineBelt Foundation has partnered with all three projects derived from the ADP's Leadership Pinebelt Class of 2011 by serving as their Fiscal Sponsor. Fiscal sponsorships are common to community foundations as they help meet a community's charitable needs.

Fiscal Sponsor services include the capacity for charitable projects to receive tax-deductible contributions. In addition, the PineBelt Foundation processes and manages all contributions, authorizes all payment of grants and expenses and handles all administrative aspects of the Fund.

The 2011 Leadership Pinebelt Projects include:

### Kick It To The Curb

Kick It To The Curb aims to promote the importance of recycling in our community and to begin a curbside recycling program in Hattiesburg.

Working in conjunction with the City, this 2011 Leadership Pinebelt project urges people to sign a petition in support of their goal. Recycling will make our community a better place to live in the present and future. For more information or to sign the petition, please visit [www.thepetitionsite.com/1/kick-it-to-the-curb-hattiesburg](http://www.thepetitionsite.com/1/kick-it-to-the-curb-hattiesburg).



### Drive @ Five – The Ultimate School Supply Drive

This Leadership Pinebelt project is planning the ultimate back-to-school



supply drive. On Friday, July 29, 2011, from 5:00 - 9:00 p.m. at Town Square Park, there will be an evening filled with music, food and fun. At this event they will:

- Collect and donate school supplies that can be distributed to Hattiesburg area elementary schools.
- Announce a school supply drop-off site.

This Leadership group will organize school supply drives at work, churches and businesses. For more information about the Drive @ 5 Back-to-School supply drive, please send an email to [schooldriveat5@gmail.com](mailto:schooldriveat5@gmail.com).

### Promote the Vote

Promote the Vote (PTV) is a comprehensive voter education project sponsored by the Mississippi Secretary of State's Office designed to focus on teaching the fundamentals of our democracy to K-12 students and to encourage them to practice enthusiastically their civic responsibilities. This Leadership group will partner with Promote the Vote and the Secretary of State's Office to specifically assist with voter education for local high school seniors, a mock election and voter registration for students who have already turned 18. Promote the Vote Pinebelt will provide grab bags with t-shirts for all students who register to vote. ▲



Janet Jaquith, Kristy Jones, Mandy Busbea and Betty Busbea

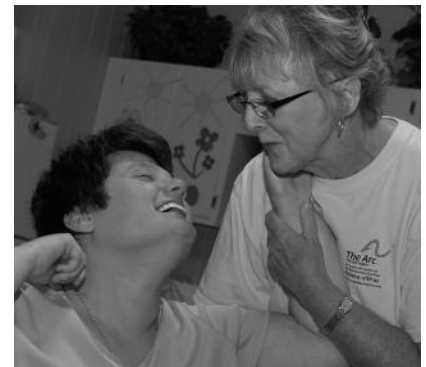
## NOW SERVING JONES COUNTY The ARC – Pine Belt Region Opened an Endowment Fund

(Association for the Rights of Citizens with Developmental Challenges)

The ARC – Pine Belt Region (Jones County) recently opened an *Organizational Fund* at the PineBelt Foundation. The ARC – Pine Belt Region is a private non-profit organization that serves children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.

They provide facility-based respite services at the Respite Center in Laurel. This Center gives family members "time away" from caring for their loved one. They also provide parental support, conduct seasonal parties, and other recreational activities.

"Our Board of Directors understood that an Organization Endowment for ARC should be part of our overall fundraising strategy," said Betty Busbea, Executive Director of ARC. "This vehicle provides a way for donors who believe in us to make planned or legacy gifts for our benefit. This also shows donors we are serious about sustainability."



Even though Mandy is blind, she still sees her mother's love.

### Why do non-profits establish Organizational Funds with the PineBelt Foundation?

- It provides long-term support for the nonprofit organization
- It's a simple and efficient way to build an endowment
- It helps create sustainability
- The Foundation handles the investment management and administrative responsibilities allowing the nonprofit staff and volunteers to concentrate on fulfilling their mission

The minimum contribution to establish an Organizational Fund is \$10,000; however the organization can elect to contribute \$1,000 initially, with the requirement that the minimum (\$10,000) is reached in ten (10) years with annual payments of \$1,000 (or \$83.33 a month). ▲

To monetarily support any of these programs,  
make a check out to The Greater PineBelt Community Foundation,  
noting on the memo-line the project's name.

## THANK YOU to Our New Partners!

You have read throughout this newsletter that there is one Fund upon which all other Funds rely – the operating fund called “Partners of the Foundation Fund.” It is the engine that makes the Foundation run, the driving force behind all our efforts. Thus, we appreciate our latest new Partners.

This is a list since our last newsletter:

- Mike and Judi Collins
- Copeland, Cook, Taylor, & Bush P.A.
- Dr. Jeff and Tracie Hudson
- Morgan and Angela McCarty
- Mike McMahan
- Richard and Debra Topp

To see the list of our 100 partners, please visit our website at [www.PineBeltFoundation.org](http://www.PineBeltFoundation.org). ▲

### “LIKE” US ON FACEBOOK

The Greater PineBelt Community Foundation is now on Facebook. You can visit us on our page at [www.facebook.com/PineBeltFoundation](http://www.facebook.com/PineBeltFoundation).



## CONTACT THE FOUNDATION

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## Unity in the Community

Unity in the Community is a Pine Belt Area initiative that helps unify schools, parents and community members to empower youth to become productive citizens. To fulfill this mission, they coordinate an annual youth education summit and a parent education event that emphasizes the value of education and parental involvement. Their goal is to help reduce dropout rates, increase graduation rates and teach responsible life skills. The event will be held on **October 20 from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. at the Lake Terrace Convention Center.**



If you have questions about this program, please contact any of the Board of Directors' Executive Committee: LaShana Sorrell, commUNITY cares at [lsorrell@mycommunitycares.net](mailto:lsorrell@mycommunitycares.net) // Jarrod Bohannon, Lamar County Schools, Drop Out Prevention at [jarrod.bohannon@lamarcountyschools.org](mailto:jarrod.bohannon@lamarcountyschools.org) // Tawnya Crockett, MSU Extension Services at [tawnyac@ext.msstate.edu](mailto:tawnyac@ext.msstate.edu) // April Lazenby, City of Hattiesburg at [alazenby@hattiesburgms.com](mailto:alazenby@hattiesburgms.com). Or check out their Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Unity-in-the-Community/171101286238418?sk=wall>. ▲

## Christian Women's Job Corp has MOVED

The Pinebelt Christian Women's Job Corps has moved to **106 North 24th Avenue**. The new site is much larger and will enable the ministry to broaden its scope.

Their Mission: To provide a loving environment for hurting women, where self-esteem is restored and real hope is offered. Leaders from this group empower women in need to help them discover and develop a realistic plan to set and accomplish personal, educational and career goals. Self-sufficiency is promoted through a 10-week life and career skills classes.

Their Needs: Furniture for the new location, especially folding chairs. They also plan to start a Men's Job Corp program and need volunteers.

For more information call 601.544.4855. ▲



## Extra Table – Smithville

Donors rallied to help people in Smithville. Close to **\$28,000** was given to Robert St. John's Fund "Extra Table." St. John designated a period of time for donations to go to Smithville tornado victims. The donations allowed seven tons of food to be delivered to the Amory Food Bank. St. John worked with Linda Holden who coordinated efforts to help people recover from the tragedy.

A big "thank you" goes out to Robert St. John and all of the donors who aided this community.

We honor as well the first responders who also helped the tornado victims: The American Red Cross, The Salvation Army and Christian Services. ▲



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