

# Community FOUNDATION NEWS

The Greater PineBelt Community Foundation  
Building Better Communities Through Philanthropy

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<http://www.PineBeltFoundation.org>

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## NEW FUNDS FOR THE GREATER PINEBELT COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

### EXTRA TABLE

One of the most disturbing aspects of life in this country is the persistence of hunger.

Approximately 49 million people live in "food insecure" households (up from 36.2 million in 2007); 32.4 million are adults and 16.7 million are children.

Mississippi has the highest food insecurity rate in the United States.

Almost 500,000 Mississippians do not have enough food to support a healthy lifestyle. In addition, there are senior citizens throughout Mississippi who must decide whether to pay the water bill or buy groceries.

These statistics keep Robert St. John awake at night, so he is doing something about it. He has started "Extra Table" which is a partnership with Sysco and The PineBelt Foundation to supply mission food pantries using a very simple order/delivery system. 100% of all food-package donations go directly to mission partners.

Restaurants and interested businesses can sponsor an "Extra Table Package" to help feed the hungry. For more information on this project, please visit [www.extratatable.org](http://www.extratatable.org). ▲



extra  
table

### SAFETY IN NUMBERS

One of the Area Development Partnership (ADP) Leadership Pine Belt

groups identified the need for clear, visible, uniform numbers on each home in the Palmers Crossing Community. This is essential in assisting police, fire and other emergency responders to accurately locate homes.

On September 11, 2010, the Safety In Numbers group will host a Community Day in Palmers Crossing. Volunteers will assist homeowners with the installment of the house numbers. Their goal is to help raise awareness about the importance of having numbered homes. ▲



### DOMESTIC ABUSE FAMILY SHELTER PARTNERS WITH THE PINEBELT FOUNDATION FOR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

It is estimated that every 15 seconds a woman is beaten in the United States. Domestic abuse occurs in every race, socioeconomic group, religion, and profession. Last year, 70 women and 76 children called our local Domestic Abuse Family Shelter (DAFS), a United Way agency, home as they escaped domestic violence in their own homes. To address the needs of these families, DAFS has begun a capital campaign to build or purchase a larger facility in the Hattiesburg area.

"My step of faith led me to the Domestic Abuse Family Shelter," said Darnell Larremore, a survivor of domestic abuse. "I found a sanctuary where I was able to heal physically, mentally, and spiritually from a very abusive relationship. It was a place where I regained my self-esteem, gained the strength and courage to break a vicious cycle, and began

rebuilding a new life with my children." Victims of domestic abuse are fortunate to have the services of DAFS; however, the place they call their "temporary home" is not ideal. The shelter is over 100 years old and is in constant need of costly repairs and maintenance. In addition, some families have to be relocated due to overcrowding.

In addition to temporary housing for women and children, the Domestic Abuse Family Shelter offers the following services: individual and group counseling, a 24-hour toll-free crisis line, referral information and advocacy, childcare for clients, education and aftercare case management.

Hal Kittrell, District Attorney, Fifteenth Circuit Court District, added, "The Domestic Abuse Family Shelter provides an invaluable service to the victims of domestic violence in our community. This Shelter not only provides a safe haven for victims and their families, but it also helps in the fight to break the cycle of domestic violence through its education and counseling services. Victims of domestic violence need a safe, protected place to go in their time of need."

The Domestic Abuse Family Shelter partnered with The PineBelt Foundation for their capital campaign. The shelter hopes to raise approximately \$550,000. For more information about the Domestic Abuse Family Shelter, visit [www.DomesticAbuseFamilyShelter.org](http://www.DomesticAbuseFamilyShelter.org). ▲



Front Row: Jerra Runnels, Board President; Becky Sims, Executive Director. Back Row: Theresa Erickson, Dan Kibodeaux.

### You can help any of these great causes!

To help with the Domestic Abuse Shelter Capital Campaign, feed the hungry, or assist the Palmers Crossing community, contact The Greater PineBelt Community Foundation at 601.583.6180 or email us at [contact@PineBeltFoundation.org](mailto:contact@PineBeltFoundation.org).

## PRESIDENT'S *Pen*

Just like a baby we started off lying down, rolling over, crawling, walking and then it all starts! So just like a baby we've gone through our beginning growth stages and now we are off and running.



Foundation President, Ed Langton

Our outreach has been successful and the Pine Belt area knows how The Greater PineBelt Community Foundation (PineBelt Foundation) can assist with all types of charitable giving that enables donors to see THEIR compassionate desires become legacies. What is truly great is that the PineBelt Foundation does not promote any specific charity but instead assists donors to help THEIR charitable interest. Thus far, donors have established 65 charitable funds that serve the Pine Belt and beyond!

Now we are in strategic planning mode to grow endowments. This will truly have a long-lasting effect upon the Pine Belt region and provide perpetual funding for so many deserving charities. For example, we have endowments set up for some United Way agencies, including United Way itself (Family Y, DuBard, and Domestic Abuse Family Shelter). Our long-term goal is to endow many more deserving agencies to help with sustainability.

Our efforts will focus upon educating the Pine Belt about the benefits of planned giving and tax planning (see insert). Too often we find that people who do not do any estate planning or tax planning, leave their families with burdensome tax liabilities that can create financial disasters for their loved ones. The IRS can demand immediate payment for exorbitant estate taxes that can precipitate stress sales of estate assets to satisfy tax liabilities. Through proper planned giving, donors can have a win-win situation (your estate can be preserved by reducing tax liabilities and at the same time, leave a legacy for your charitable interest).

We look forward to providing a valuable service to our area by providing educational opportunities regarding planned giving and tax planning. Our servant leadership stands ready to assist you and we appreciate all of the wonderful support we have received from our Partners. Call us today to find out more! ▲

## ENDOWMENTS – THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

### Community Foundation grants \$23,500 to Family YMCA

The legacy of a local man continues as The PineBelt Foundation granted \$23,500 to the Family YMCA as a part of an annual disbursement established through the Alex Katrishin Endowment.

"The funds generated from The PineBelt Foundation give the Family YMCA the ability to provide financial assistance to families and individuals who cannot afford our services," stated Dan Henley, Executive Director of the Family YMCA.

This endowment has contributed over \$300,000 to the Hattiesburg Family YMCA since 2000. We estimate that in twenty years we will have disbursed approximately \$1 million to the Family YMCA. This is the advantage of establishing a Donor Designated Fund – it is a perpetual fund – a gift that keeps on giving.

Anyone can contribute to this endowment – the more we add to the principle, the more we can give back annually to the Family YMCA. ▲



Hayden Mitchell, PineBelt Foundation Board Vice President; Theresa Erickson, Executive Director of The PineBelt Foundation; and, Joe Gibson, President of the Board of Directors Family YMCA.

### Community Foundation grants \$2,300 to Southern Pines Animal Shelter

The PineBelt Foundation recently granted \$2,300 to the Southern Pines Animal Shelter (SPAS) as a part of an annual disbursement set up by the Richard C. Vreeland Endowment.

"The annual disbursement from the Vreeland Endowment is invaluable to Southern Pines Animal Shelter and is used each year to help with basic shelter operating costs. Our funding comes from only a few sources: municipal contributions and program services (adoption fees, etc.). A majority of our budget has to be raised from fund raisers, events, and, of course, wonderful resources such as this endowment," states Karen Reidenbach, President of the SPAS Board of Directors.

Anyone can contribute to the Richard Vreeland endowment or start one for the Southern Pines Animal Shelter. ▲



Theresa Erickson; Karen Reidenbach, Southern Pines Animal Shelter Board President; Hayden Mitchell, PineBelt Foundation Board Vice President; Virginia Cheatham, Shelter Manager.

# RECENT ACTIVITIES OF THE PINEBELT FOUNDATION

## PARTNER APPRECIATION DINNER

Over eighty community leaders, *Partners of The PineBelt Foundation*, enjoyed a special evening at Southern Oaks in their honor.

Board Members Ed Langton, Hayden Mitchell, Andy Mercier, Iris Easterling, Michael Shemper, and Robert Jackson reviewed the year's activities and sincerely thanked all Partners for their support. In addition, Dr. Maureen Martin, with the DuBard School for Language Disorders at The University of Southern Mississippi, talked about the Donor Designated Fund established at The PineBelt Community Foundation for the DuBard School.

"We sincerely appreciate our Partners and could not do our work without them," stated Ed Langton. "Partners help us support many worthy charitable causes throughout the Pine Belt."

*Partners of The PineBelt Foundation* allow us to do our philanthropic work. Funding through the Partners program covers the annual operating needs of The PineBelt Foundation. The annual tax-deductible contribution to become a Partner is \$750 for an individual and \$1,500 for a business. If you are interested in helping support the community in this way, please contact us. ▲



Some of the new PineBelt Foundation Partners.

## UNITED WAY AGENCY DIRECTORS HEAR ABOUT LONG-TERM PLANNING

Hayden Mitchell and Theresa Erickson recently spoke to the United Way Agency Directors regarding long-term planning for non-profit agencies. "Some of our non-profit organizations have seen a reduction in donations and several have seen grants reduced," stated Dan Kibodeaux, Executive Director of the United Way of Southeast Mississippi. "I know that non-profit organizations need donations to help with their day-to-day needs and we don't want to interfere with that type of giving. However, we need to look at the big picture and the permanency and sustainability of endowments."

"Endowments, either donor advised or donor designated, are a dependable, continued source of income with no burden of management for the non-profit agency," stated Hayden Mitchell. "In addition, these funds provide a convenient and flexible tool for individuals, families, or businesses, who want to be involved in making donations to charitable causes."

Theresa Erickson reviewed the process for setting up an endowment with agency directors. "The process is easy, less costly and less complicated to administer than many other forms of philanthropic giving (such as a family or corporate foundation)."

If you would like to know more about setting up a fund to support the charitable cause you are passionate about, please contact us at 601.583.6188. ▲



## THE PINEBELT FOUNDATION HOSTED EVENTS IN COLUMBIA AND LAUREL

Several Board Members recently met with community leaders in Laurel and Columbia to discuss The PineBelt Foundation's mission, *building better communities through philanthropy*. They talked about our history, how we operate, and how we can help improve their community through charitable giving.

Laurel Board Members Ralph Simmons and Skippy Haik, and past Board Member Chris Wilson, were actively

involved in organizing the successful Laurel event with over 30 participants. Skippy Haik stated, "Jones County residents have a long history of giving back to their community and The PineBelt Community Foundation is the perfect vehicle for charitable giving that leaves a legacy."

Columbia Board member Drew Foxworth, in addition to David Fortenberry and Lucy Parkman, both natives of Columbia, were actively involved in planning the successful Columbia event. This event also had over 30 participants. "I was extremely pleased with the turnout. I know many people in our community who are very philanthropic. The PineBelt Foundation is the perfect vehicle to use without the need for tax expertise and avoid arduous process and cost of setting up their own non-profit entity," said Drew Foxworth. ▲



Langton talks to community leaders in Columbia.

## DIRECTOR'S *report*

We have experienced strong philanthropic activity this quarter. We have had several successful outreach events, opened funds and have had Partners join us. It is a blessing to live in the South where so many community residents understand the importance of giving back.

In addition to this work, we have begun a 5-year strategic planning process. Southern Miss Professor Dr. William Smith contributed many hours of research and study preparing for the process. We appreciate his efforts and expect to finalize the plan during



Executive Director,  
Theresa Erickson

the coming weeks. The Board of Directors and I look forward to leading this organization with a clear and focused sense of direction.

A big "thank you" goes to The Don Suber Fund for a grant which enabled me to attend a course on Community Foundations, presented by the National Council on Foundations. This course provided me with invaluable information that will help guide us in the future. The Don Suber Fund also funded our membership in the Council on Foundations. The Council on Foundations has many resources for community foundations including legal support, access to community foundation directors, and guidance on the various functions of community foundations. I am pleased that this resource will provide our Foundation with expertise from across the country.

If you are interested in finding out more about charitable giving through The PineBelt Foundation, please call me at 601.583.6180. ▲

## NEW FACE AT THE PINEBELT FOUNDATION

**B**renda Patterson recently joined us as a part-time administrative assistant. After a 30-year banking career, Brenda joins us with an extensive background in customer service, branch operations, training, business development, and marketing. She retired from Deposit Guaranty National Bank to travel world-wide with her late husband, Judge Howard Patterson, in his position as President of Lions Clubs International. Brenda also worked with United Way of Southeast Mississippi as Service Community Coordinator and continues to work part-time at Moore Funeral Home. She will focus on office assistant duties and Eliska Schilling will continue her part-time bookkeeping duties. We are fortunate to have the assistance of these professional women. ▲



Brenda Patterson

## CONTACT THE FOUNDATION

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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 Editor

**Eliska Schilling**  
 Bookkeeper

**Brenda Patterson**  
 Administrative Assistant

**Olivia Bushardt**  
 Intern

## 2010 OFFICERS

**President** .....Edward J. "Ed" Langton  
**Vice President**.....Hayden Mitchell  
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**Secretary**.....Robert Jackson, Sr.

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**Skippy Haik** – *Publisher, Laurel Leader-Call*  
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**Stace Mercier** – *Accountant, USM Foundation*  
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**Gene Owens** – *President, Owens Business Machines, Inc.*  
**Lucy Parkman** – *Community Leader*  
**Bob Pierce** – *Executive Director, Southern MS Alumni Association*  
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**Michael Shemper** – *Attorney, Michael J. Shemper, PLLC*  
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