

# Community FOUNDATION NEWS

The Greater PineBelt Community Foundation  
*Building Better Communities Through Philanthropy*

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## How does an organizational endowment help a non-profit?

Individuals or nonprofit organizations can establish an endowment for a specific nonprofit beneficiary. Organizational endowment funds are particularly valuable in assuring long-term financial stability and independence for the non-profit. Many times they are established by nonprofits as part of their overall fundraising strategy.

## What are the advantages of having an organizational endowment?

1. The PineBelt Foundation is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization and can receive many types of gifts (cash, stock, bequests, real estate, etc.). Donors are eligible to receive **maximum allowable tax benefits** in the year the gift is made.
2. The PineBelt Foundation strives to offer a **better investment return** to each donor through (1) the pooling of assets, (2) the diversification of investments, (3) the reduction of costs to any one fund through shared expenses, and (4) professional investment management.
3. **Speed and convenience** for donors. This can be especially important for year-end contributions and situations when stock or real estate is in the process of being sold and time is of the essence.
4. Organizations receive an **exemption from filing a tax return** or reporting on this fund since the fund's financial transactions are consolidated with those of other funds on the PineBelt Foundation IRS Form 990.
5. Organizations can receive **access to donors** who structure all their gifting through one source (the PineBelt Foundation).
6. The PineBelt Foundation has **access to the legal staff** at The Council on Foundations and our own community legal experts for assistance when structuring complex gifts such as property.
7. Contributions to charitable funds within the PineBelt Foundation grow tax free. This means that donors are able to **build charitable reserves without incurring additional taxes**.

To learn more about The Greater PineBelt Community Foundation, please visit our website at [www.PineBeltFoundation.org](http://www.PineBeltFoundation.org) or become a fan of our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/PineBeltFoundation](http://www.facebook.com/PineBeltFoundation). ▲

## AN ENDOWMENT ESTABLISHED FOR ARC *The Association for the Rights of Citizens with Developmental Disabilities*



An anonymous donor recently provided initial funding which allowed ARC to establish an organizational endowment at the PineBelt Foundation. "Theresa Erickson, Executive Director of the PineBelt Foundation, came to our Board meeting to discuss how an endowment could benefit ARC," stated Cindy Pennington, Director of ARC. "Our Board then discussed it, and a willing donor gave us \$10,000 to begin the fund. We know that other donors will help grow this endowment because so many people support the services we provide." "Nonprofit organizations enhance our communities in so many ways," stated Erickson. "Organizational endowments are particularly valuable in assuring long-term financial stability and independence of non-profits."

### About ARC

ARC is a United Way non-profit agency devoted to providing community-based services to individuals with mental challenges and their families. In addition, ARC promotes and encourages the acceptance of those with mental disabilities by exposure to, and interaction with, people in our community.

### Who ARC Serves

ARC serves clients from Lamar, Perry, Marion, Greene, Jones, Wayne, and Stone counties. Clients range in age from birth until the individual's death. The scope of disabilities includes: hearing impaired, visually impaired, physically impaired, multi-disabled, mentally disabled, medically fragile and autism. Annually, ARC serves approximately 500 individuals with disabilities.

To learn more about ARC, please visit their website [www.hattiesburgarc.com](http://www.hattiesburgarc.com). ▲

### ARC PROGRAMS

- After School Care
- Seasonal Social Activities
- Mother's Day Out
- Adventures Summer Program
- Day at the ARC / Weekend Respite
- Sunday Church Service Participation
- Adult Male Respite / Adult Female Respite
- Parent Support Groups

# PRESIDENT'S *Pen*

As I finish my Presidency, I reflect and say... "Wow, what a tremendous group of Servant Leaders who have led The Greater PineBelt Community Foundation to new heights!" The superb leadership and eagerness exhibited by our staff, officers, board, committees and our wonderful Partners has provided fantastic growth for the PineBelt Foundation and has enhanced our community. They all have made it possible both financially and by advocacy to support the foundation.



Foundation President, Ed Langton

It has been a privilege to serve with each and every one of them, and it fills my heart with fond memories of camaraderie. There is not a finer community spirited area than the Pine Belt. We are all blessed to live here.

As The Greater PineBelt Community Foundation continues to evolve, you will see its assets grow due to many reasons, including:

1. Individuals and Corporations can leave a legacy and do so affordably with only \$83.33 a month or \$1,000 a year for 10 years which will establish a \$10,000 endowment.
2. There is a multitude of ways to give: through a will bequest, cash, insurance policies, stocks, real estate, etc.
3. Tax benefits will be more important than ever beginning in 2011.
4. The donor can choose the charitable cause or organization that they desire to benefit, and with a Donor Advised Fund, they can change their charitable beneficiaries allowing flexibility.
5. Scholarships can be established.
6. Gifts can be made tax deductible **now** and donors can decide later what charity or charitable purpose will benefit.
7. Starting a fund is as simple as completing a fund agreement without the cost prohibitive expense of a private foundation or other complex planning.
8. The Foundation is managed by trusted community leaders who are prudent and wise with the investments made by the Foundation.

So as you are read this newsletter, think about making a lasting difference in your community by planting a mustard seed to benefit your charitable passion.

Make Your Legacy... Today!

May you be a blessing to one and all and leave this earth a better place!

I appreciate the opportunity to have served.

Edward J. "Ed" Langton  
President ▲

## Thank You for Years of Service to Our Outgoing Directors

The Greater PineBelt Community Foundation has been blessed by a very active, committed and generous Board of Directors. This year will mark an end to many years of service and dedication for several of our Directors. We truly appreciate each and every one of them.

The following Directors have served on the Board since the inception of the PineBelt Foundation in 1997. Listed from Left to Right:



• **Robert T. Jackson, Sr.**, Jackson, Bowman, Blumentritt, and Arrington, PLLC

• **Gwen James**, Coldwell Banker Realty  
• **Andy Leslie**, Founder of the PineBelt Foundation, Trustmark Wealth Management



• **Dr. Aubrey K. Lucas**, President Emeritus, The University of Southern Mississippi

• **Andy Mercier**, Founder of the PineBelt Foundation, Merchants Foodservice

• **Wanda Simpson**, Founder of the PineBelt Foundation, Department of Human Services



Additionally, terms of service will end for the following Directors.

• **Dr. Richard Clark**, Retired Physician  
• **Judith D. "Skippy" Haik**, Laurel Leader-Call

• **Bob Pierce**, The University of Southern Mississippi



• **Lou Ann Poynter**, Retired Bank Executive

• **Mike Ratliff**, Johnson, Hall & Ratliff PLLC

• **Andy Stetelman**, London and Stetelman Real Estate



• **Dr. Christy Thornton**, Southeast MS Rural Health Initiative

• **Larry B. Watson**, BancorpSouth Trust & Asset Management

• **James N. Yelverton**, Retired Business Executive

## PineBelt Foundations Welcomes Our New Board of Directors

Each of the following new Directors have committed to serve on the PineBelt Foundation Board. This commitment entails being active on our committees and helping grow the PineBelt Foundation. We appreciate their acceptance of this service. We look forward to working with the following new Directors:

- **Alex Agnew**, Hattiesburg Clinic
- **Mike Axton**, Michael Axton Insurance
- **Jim Compton**, South Mississippi Electric Power Association
- **Dr. Frances Karnes**, The Frances A. Karnes Center for Gifted Studies
- **Paul Laughlin**, Trustmark Bank
- **Michelle Mabry**, Wealth Management Consultants
- **Joshua Mars, JD, LLM**, Copeland, Cook, Taylor and Bush, P.A.
- **Dr. Steve Ramp**, Westminster Presbyterian Church
- **Jon Mark Weathers**, The University of Southern Mississippi ▲

# NEW FUNDS AT THE PINEBELT FOUNDATION

## HATTIESBURG CHILDREN'S MUSEUM FUND

A group of committed volunteers are dedicating their time and energy to establish and support an interactive Children's Museum in Hattiesburg. Their mission is to nourish learning through the power of play, inspire discovery, spark imagination and create a lifelong love for learning. The creation of a Children's Museum is intended to enhance the community by providing a multi-use facility with exhibits and programs that integrate the arts, science, history and culture.

The fund was opened by the Hattiesburg Children's Museum Advisory Board: Toby Barker, Greg Callender, Justin Heskew, Dr. Frances Karnes, Dorothy Lucas, Svetlana Lucas, Michael Marks, Grace McLean, Glenn Nobles, Betsy Rowell, Andrea Saffle, Lhay Thriffiley, Lee Walker, Jutta White, Tom White and Kelly Williams.



## PINE BELT PATHWAYS FUND

Pine Belt Pathways recently partnered with the PineBelt Foundation. As a result, financial support through sponsorships or donations will be tax deductible. "It



was incredibly easy and convenient to work with the PineBelt Foundation instead of forming our own 501(c)(3)," stated Chris Carr, President of the Pine Belt Pathways group.

Pine Belt Pathways is a citizen lead advocacy group whose mission is to enhance the quality of life for all residents and visitors of Hattiesburg, Forrest and Lamar counties by developing an integrated network of sidewalks, bicycle lanes and routes, and multi-use land and water trails.

"We received input from Hattiesburg residents to help develop recreational, health, educational and alternate transportation opportunities throughout the Pine Belt," stated Carr. "With this input we worked hard to develop a master plan for the proposed pathways." For more information and to see the master plan, please visit [www.pinebeltpathways.org](http://www.pinebeltpathways.org). ▲

## EDWIN H. COLE, M.D. AND WILLIAM E. MOAK, M.D. SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Perry County Hospital partnered with the PineBelt Foundation to open a Scholarship Fund honoring Drs. Edwin H. Cole and William E. Moak. This endowed fund provides scholarships to students in Perry or Greene County who are pursuing higher education in the medical field.

Dr. William E. Moak served the Richton community for 60 years, not only as a physician but also as President of the Rotary Club, Richton School District School Board member, Medical Director of the Perry County Hospital and numerous positions at the Richton United Methodist Church.

Dr. Edwin Cole, Dr. Moak's medical partner for 50 years, also practiced medicine in Richton for 52 years, beginning his career at South Mississippi Charity Hospital in Laurel. In 1965, he joined Dr. Moak, and they established the Richton Medical Center. He worked as a surgeon at Perry County General Hospital until December of 2007. Dr. Cole passed away in February of 2008.

Perry County Hospital and many Richton residents have donated to this special scholarship fund which creates a legacy for Drs. Cole and Moak. ▲



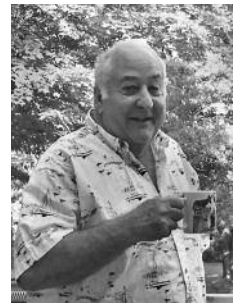
*Dr. Moak Retirement Reception*

## THE GUIDROZ FAMILY DONOR ADVISED FUND

A life-long philanthropist, Charles Guidroz, established a donor advised fund to benefit the DuBard School for Language Disorders at The University of Southern Mississippi and to help with the needs of other children.

"Thank you so very much for giving me and my family the ideal giving program," said Guidroz, of Foley, Alabama. "A Donor Advised Fund is a highly individualized giving program that gives both me and my children the flexibility to support different charitable organizations through one main source, the PineBelt Foundation. I am passionate about the DuBard School, and my family holds children's programs as their passion. Donor advised funds can help families bequeath one of life's most valuable inheritances: a concern for charitable causes and a habit of supporting them. I am excited to help teach my family about the world of charitable giving."

"A Donor Advised Fund mimics the benefits of a private foundation but without the burdensome and expensive legalities of setting up a private or corporate foundation," said Theresa Erickson, Director of the PineBelt Foundation. "And for those individuals who haven't decided which charity to support, the donor advised fund is a perfect vehicle. They can set up a fund, get an immediate tax deduction for the gift (cash, stock, property), and postpone the decision regarding which nonprofit to support until they are ready." ▲



## SUMRALL DEVELOPMENT FUND

An advocacy group in Sumrall opened the "Sumrall Development Fund" to assist with development in the town of Sumrall. Their mission is to assist with the growth and development of the town's industries and businesses, assist with educational opportunities and to enhance the quality of life for all citizens in Sumrall.

Officers and board members of the Sumrall Development Foundation include Dr. Stephen Beam, Hank Lott, Robert Thomas, Melinda Lott, Joan Weatherford, Ricky Lee, Kyle Bass, Mayor Gerolene Rayborn and Buddy Morris. ▲

## You can help any of these great causes!

To support any of the PineBelt Foundation's funds, please write a check to The Greater PineBelt Community Foundation and name the fund you wish to support in the memo section. For more information on all of the managed funds at the PineBelt Foundation, please visit our website at [www.PineBeltFoundation.org](http://www.PineBeltFoundation.org). ▲

## THANK YOU to Our New Partners!

The PineBelt Foundation is truly a service to our community with its mission to build better communities through philanthropy. Part of our service is to maintain a low fee structure and to assure that a high percentage of gifts reach the charity of interest. We could not meet this objective without the support of our Partners, who support our operating expenses. Recent new Partners include:

- Ward and Mary Moore Conville
- Mary Vic Dantin
- The First – A National Banking Association
- Allison and Drew Foxworth
- Charles “Hubby” Griner, *Griner Drilling Service*
- Jones Companies
- Dr. Frances Karnes
- Michelle Mabry, *Wealth Management Consultants*
- Charlie McCaffrey, *Blendco, Inc.*
- Merchants Foodservice
- Dr. Charlie and Lucy Parkman
- Bob and Lynne Rhodes
- Tom Shows
- Ralph T. Simmons
- South Mississippi Electric Power Association
- Howard and Suzanne Stroud
- Joe F. and Dr. Virginia Tatum
- Treasure Hunt / Dirt Cheap
- Lt. Col. (Retired) Frederick and Col. (Retired) Sheila Varnado
- Randy Wallace, *Pearl River Valley Electric Power Association*
- T. L. Wallace Construction, Inc.
- Patrick and Terri Ward

Partners donate \$750 for an individual Partnership or \$1,500 for a corporate or organization Partnership. The full *Partners of the Foundation* list, and a sign up form, is available on our website: [www.PineBeltFoundation.org](http://www.PineBeltFoundation.org). ▲

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## 2010 OFFICERS

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**Treasurer** ..... James N. Yelverton  
**Secretary** ..... Robert Jackson, Sr.

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**Skippy Haik** – *Publisher, Laurel Leader-Call*  
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**Andy Mercier** – *President, Merchants Foodservice*  
**Stace Mercier** – *Accountant, USM Foundation*  
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**Mike Ratliff** – *Attorney at Law, Johnson, Hall & Ratliff, PLLC*  
**Michael Shemper** – *Attorney, Michael J. Shemper, PLLC*  
**Ralph Simmons** – *Retired Vice President, Sunbeam-Oster Corporation*  
**Wanda Simpson** – *Director, Department of Human Services*  
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