Sandy Erxleben was gifted with the ability to communicate with clarity and great passion. Whether teaching 7th grade, high school or presenting to school administration, her passion for Language Arts, especially English, was apparent and of benefit to her audiences. Born in St. Louis, Missouri, Sandy graduated with a teaching degree from the University of Missouri—Kansas City and a Master of Arts in Teaching from Aurora University. She taught English at Couloup Middle School in Geneva, Illinois, Harvard High School in Plainfield, Michigan, and Joliet Middle School in Aurora, Illinois. She was also the chair of the English Department at Joliet. Before retiring from Joliet, she moved to her husband’s hometown. She passed away on September 28, 2014. Many have said, “to know Sandy was to love her.” Sandy had a profound influence on the students whose lives she touched, and on the teachers and administrators who called her “friend.”

The Edward and Frances Fauth Endowment Fund provides an income for the Community Foundation’s discretionary grantmaking program. Edward Fauth (1922–2009) was born in Aurora, Illinois. After graduating from East Aurora High School, he began working for the Barber-Greene Company. He then served in the United States Army during World War II. After the war, Mr. Fauth returned to Barber-Greene and continued his employment with the company for thirty-one years. He then became Dean of Community Services with Washburne Community College until retiring in 1987. Frances Fauth (1925–2012) was born in Aurora, Illinois. She was a graduate of East Aurora High School and earned her Registered Nursing Degree at St. Luke’s Hospital in Chicago. Mrs. Fauth worked as a nurse for Dr. Charles Wunsch for many years, then as an assistant for her son in his dental practice until her retirement. Between them, Mr. and Mrs. Fauth served on the boards of directors for many organizations, including the Aurora YMCA and YWCA, Headed House, United Way and the Rotary Club of Aurora.

The Mandy Modic Endowment Fund was created by the McGee Foundation of Dallas, Texas to provide annual grants to the Paramount Theatre in Aurora, Illinois for the theater’s Broadway Series. The fund pays tribute to Mandy Modic, a professional actress who has appeared in several musical productions at the Paramount. Mandy was born in Coppell, Texas, a suburb of Dallas. She received a bachelor of fine arts degree in musical theatre from the Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University. She has performed throughout the country and overseas, appearing in numerous musicals including Hair, Spampalooza, Anything Goes, Pirates of Penzance, Carousel, Les Miserables and A Chorus Line. For the 2015-2016 Season, Mandy is staring in the National Tour of 42nd Street. At the Paramount Theatre, Mandy appeared in The Who’s Tommy, 42nd Street, and Annie. She also had the opportunity to appear on NBC and developed a love for film and television. More information about Mandy and her professional career can be found at www.mandymodic.com.

The Mayor Albert D. & Mary Ann McCoy Advisory Endowment Fund was created by the McCoys to support their philanthropic objectives. Established in 2005, it became an endowed fund in 2015. Al McCoy is a lifelong resident of Aurora. He graduated from Morton Academy and attended Aurora University and the University of Montana. He is a combat veteran of World War II, serving on the aircraft carrier USS Monterey in the South Pacific. Mr. McCoy was Mayor of Aurora from 1965 to 1977. He is past president of the Community Foundation and was a member of the board of directors for twenty-seven years. Mary Ann McCoy (1935–2008) was born in Huron, South Dakota. She graduated from Plano High School and attended Northern Illinois University. Mrs. McCoy was a member of New England Congregational Church and sang in the church choir for forty-one years. Mr. and Mrs. McCoy were married for fifty-three years and were active in numerous civic and charitable organizations.
Sharon Stredde, our president & chief executive officer, is retiring on December 31, 2015 after serving the Community Foundation for fourteen years. During her tenure, the Foundation grew from $25 million to $51 million, received gifts of $75 million and awarded nearly $1 million in grants and scholarships. Since 1995, the number of non-profit organizations maintaining endowment funds within the Community Foundation grew from forty-six. This was the result of a challenge grant program that Stredde launched in 1990 and again in 2014. In 2015, the Foundation expanded its outreach through the opening of a second office in Geneva. During her tenure, she has greatly increased the visibility of the Foundation in the TriCities area.

Finally, it was Sharon Stredde who envisioned the project to produce videos on the lives of our endowment fund donors and on the history of community organizations. Under her direction, twenty-four videos have been produced. In her retirement, she will continue to research, write scripts and oversee the production of new videos for the Foundation.

Mark Triempert, chairman of the board, paid tribute to Stredde after a recent reception held in her honor. "Sharon's talent and dedication to the Foundation have been unsurpassed. She has taken us in new directions and has overseen our dramatic growth in ways we never thought possible. She truly will be missed."

Jeffrey Hartman of Yorkville was named the Community Foundation’s new president & CEO. He will assume his duties on December 1, 2015. Hartman has been with our Foundation since February 2015, first as director of development and currently as executive vice-president.

From 2009-2015 Hartman was the director of development at the DuPage Community Foundation. Since he joined our Foundation, he has significantly raised the visibility of our organization throughout our service area by focusing on increasing the Foundation's relationship with local professional advisors. "I am grateful for the opportunity," said Hartman. "Thanks to the generosity of our donors and the tireless efforts of our local not-for-profit organizations, I am excited for what lies ahead."

Hartman was born and raised in Naperville, Illinois and attended Trinity Christian College in Palos Heights. He currently lives in Yorkville with his wife, Erin, and their two daughters, Alyssa and Rebecca.

Mark Triempert, chairman of the board, made the following comments in announcing Hartman’s appointment. "We are so pleased to have Jeff with us. Over the past two and a half years, he has proven to be a successful and effective leader. We look forward to expanding our presence under his direction."

Sarah Herring joined the Community Foundation on August 3. As executive assistant, Sarah manages the day-to-day operations of the Geneva office. She also assists the president with administrative duties, social media communications, and interactions with current and prospective donors. For the last eight years, Sarah worked as a special education paraprofessional in Indian Prairie School District 204. Sarah is a graduate of North Aurora High School, Wauconda Community College and Northern Illinois University. "Having Sarah join the Community Foundation was an important piece of our strategic plan going forward," said Sharon Stredde, Community Foundation president. "We look forward to the role she will play in our development."
HONORING OUR GRANTEES

We have initiated a new project to honor our non-profit grantees by displaying photographs of their activities in our Aurora and Geneva offices. The purpose of this project is to showcase organizations that have utilized our grants to enrich the lives of local citizens. All of our non-profit partners who wish to be so honored are encouraged to send photographs to Sarah Herring at Sherring@CommunityFoundationFRV.org.

NEW FUND BENEFITS TEEN WILDERNESS PROGRAM

TriCity Family Services Wilderness Challenge Program (WCP) created an endowed fund with the Foundation in 2015. WCP is an annual eight-day canoeing and camping experience for up to thirty teens to prepare them for high school life. The participation of teens selected for the program is made possible through scholarships subsidized primarily by donations from corporations, foundations and community organizations. Modeled after the internationally renowned Outward Bound Program, the physical, mental and emotional challenges of the remote wilderness experience provide participants with character-building experiences. These experiences also enhance the participants’ self-esteem, teach invaluable lessons about working within groups and encourage the development of inner resources needed to accomplish goals. The majority of WCP graduates report that they have improved relationships with others, are more motivated to achieve in the school setting, and are experiencing greater self-esteem.

IN MEMORIAM

The following supporters of the Community Foundation passed away since the last printing of the Memorandum. Memorials continue to be received for placement in the charitable funds listed below. We truly are honored to pay tribute to their lives.

OUR LATEST VIDEO HISTORY

Through a generous grant from the Dunham Fund, we have produced twenty-four videos for the community over the past four years. This is a service available to all who maintain endowment funds within our organization. The latest edition to our Video History Series is the Kiwanis Club. The Kiwanis Club of Aurora was organized in 1916, the 21st club chartered in the world. The club is responsive to community projects that help to make Aurora an excellent community in which to live. Kiwanis sponsors youth service clubs at local middle schools, high schools and Aurora University. Funding is also provided for a special needs camp, learn to swim programs, and youth baseball and softball. Kiwanis matches in local parades, assists the Salvation Army kettle drive, presents an annual God and Fellowman Award and undertakes a special project each year through its President’s Project. The underlying purpose of this fund, established in 2006, is to continue support of the philanthropic purposes of the club. The Kiwanis’ video and all video histories are available to view on our website, www.CommunityFoundationFRV.org.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION WEBSITE

Our Donors

On our website, we now include recognitions of our donors who contribute to one or more of our charitable funds. These lists appear on a quarterly basis so that we can be timely in acknowledging our many faithful supporters. Our sincere thanks to all of you who continue to remember the Community Foundation.

Local Obliteration

As a service to our readers, our communications page includes a link to the obituary pages of all local newspapers and funeral homes. Having these media resources available on one page has proven helpful to professionals in their research and to citizens who wish to access this information on a daily basis.
**LEGACY SOCIETY**

We gratefully recognize the following individuals who remembered the Foundation with a bequest from their estate or who have indicated that the Foundation has been named as a future beneficiary of their estate. These special community benefactors have earned the lifelong gratitude of the citizens of our county. If you have included the Foundation in your estate plan, please consider becoming a member of our Legacy Society. We would sincerely appreciate your opportunity to pay tribute to your thoughtfulness.

Patricia Abell  
Alice A. Allen  
Stephen J. Andrus  
Nanci Sue Anderson  
Identa M. Austin  
Alma L. Bachtel  
Drs. William J. & Donna M. Ball  
Dr. Carl H.H. & Ann M. Baumann  
Margaret F. Glenn  
Colonel Sidney Ginsberg  
Dr. & Mrs. Howard E. James H. & Ione P. Fitzgerald  
Tish Evers  
Viola Erlenborn  
John S. Dunham  
Glenn D. & Howard E. Charles, Sr.  
Lorraine B. Bryant  
Alicemae Brown  
Margaret Brennecke  
John A. Brennecke  
Helen A. Brackney  
William W. Boden  
Dr. Carl H.H. & Dr. William J. Anfinsen  
Nanci Sue Anfinsen  
Patricia Abell  
thoughtfulness. Have included the Foundation in your estate plan, please consider becoming a member of the Foundation’s Legacy Society.

**FRVR**

Marion L. Harmon  
Eileen R. Hart  
Joan C. Hart  
Lawrence P. Halbula  
Donald A. Heinz  
Ronald M. & Janet S. Hem  
Barbara H. Henning  
William P. & Ruth E. Higgen  
Dave A. & Sandy Hopp  
Ellie M. Hoffman  
W. Charle & Shirley L. Hosper  
Mary Virginia Hughes  
Eleanor C. Hunger  
Shirley Miller Hund  
James L. & Grace Gibbs Johnson  
Malcolm L. A. Loys J. Jones  
Darrell D. & Nancy S. Jordan  
Edward & Genevieve Jungel  
Burt M. Kahl  
Phyllis G. Kramer  
Wanda H. Kuhl  
Louise L. Gane  
Mary T. Luthis  
Herbert L. Lester  
Frederick W. Limblad  
Mary L. Luther  
Gary L. & Judy C. McCann  
Albert D. McGoy  
Mary Ann Coutt McGay  
John F. & Gwen H. McKee  
Albert W. Menden  
Audley V. Miller  
William F. Messenger  
Frank R. & Marianne Miller  
Robert G. Mikkelsen  
James K. & Kathrina Navota  
Alan A. Nelson  
Marie E. Oehrower  
Melani E. & Frances C. Olson  
Paul A. Ormond  
Jana Z. Orte  
Louisa R. Pauly  
Martha W. Poffen  
Dorothy L. Perkins  
David B. Perry  
Dorothy Pooley  
Alma A. Price  
Ralph C. Pumam, Jr.  
Evelyn E. Raczkay  
Jason M. Raymond  
Jenny L. Raymond  
Lydia B. Raymond  
Gary A. & Dr. Mary Ruth Roberts  
Edna M. Rollins  
Allan L. Schoberlein  
Fred W. Scholicker  
Lillian R. Schwartz  
Robert G. Schweitzer  
Mildred E. Shumsho  
Elizabeth Knoll Shepard  
Katharyn Simons  
Beverly R. & Ruth H. Skaggs  
Lewis B. & Jeanette A. Spilman  
Paul & Marian Goodwin Stare  
Jeanette A. Spilman  
Fred Vargason & Frank & Frances Voris  
Fred Vargason  
Paul R. Underwood  
Jacques & Francis D. Tighe  
Gary L. & Mary C. Tomlinson  
Austin E. Stoll  
Edward & Sharon Struddle  
Carl R. Swanson  
Henry & Laurinda Theodore  
Lucian A. Thomas  
Francis D. Tighe  
Barbara Tinker  
Jacques & Charlotte Toussaint  
Paul R. Underwood  
Luan N. Vago  
Fred Vargason & Kaye Norris-Vargason  
Frank & Francis Voris  
Robert & Shirley Walds  
Georgi A. & Cindy P. Weis  
S. William  
Bertha Weisman  
Dorothy E. White  
Marla Winteringham  
Jack A. & Jury A. Wise  
Harry & Viola Workland  
Louise C. Zilly  

**$25,000 CHALLENGE GRANTS**

Challenge grants of $25,000 were awarded to sixteen agencies that maintain endowment funds within the Community Foundation. As the challenges are met, the result will be an additional $50,000 in each agency’s fund. These funds then will yield increased levels of needed income for programs and special projects. Congratulations to the following organizations that have met the challenge as of October 1, 2015 or have made significant progress in meeting the challenge.

➢ Aurora University
➢ Aurora Area Interfaith Food Pantry
➢ Aurora East Educational Foundation
➢ Aurora Historical Society
➢ Aurora Public Library Foundation
➢ Aurora University
➢ CASA Kane County

* Have met challenge

**SOUND FINANCIAL PLANNING**

Careful estate planning is important to our family and to the charities we support. It is possible to provide for charity while protecting our hard-earned dollars for the future benefit of loved ones. We sincerely hope that the following gift planning techniques will prove helpful to you.

**Appreciated Assets**: If circumstances permit, individuals should donate appreciated assets when making charitable donations. The donor of such assets can deduct the full fair market value of the gift and avoid a capital gains tax on the appreciated amount of the securities.

**Highly Taxed Assets**: When determining an estate plan, it is preferable that charitable distributions be made from IRAs or other assets on which income tax will be due upon death. Distributions of such assets to charity are not taxed. These same assets bequeathed to heirs will incur income tax. When leaving a bequest to charity, consider distributions from highly taxed assets.

**Gifts of Real Estate**: There are advantages to gifting one’s home to charity while reserving the right to live in the home until death. As with all estate planning, the rules are complicated and require the assistance of qualified legal advisors.

**Life Insurance**: A contribution of life insurance to the Community Foundation is a cost-effective way to ensure the future establishment of a charitable fund in your name, in the name of your family or business, or in the name of a non-profit organization. By contributing an existing policy, which is no longer needed, or through the purchase of a new policy, which designates the Foundation as owner, you will be assured a permanent place in the philanthropic history of our community.

**Funding Charitable Remainder Trusts**: If an individual has substantial funds in an IRA, he or she may wish to contribute a portion of the funds to create a charitable remainder trust. The charitable deduction helps to cover a portion of the income tax due, removes the asset from the estate and generates income in retirement. Upon death, the CRT would create a named fund for the donor and his or her family.

**IRA Charitable Rollover**: Prior to December 31, 2013, donors who were 70 1/2 or older were able to contribute up to $100,000 to charity from their IRAs and avoid paying income tax on the gifted assets. We remain hopeful that this opportunity will be offered in the future and we will include a notice on our website should the privilege be reinstated.