The Highest Ideals of Human Activity

Having served on the Board of East Tennessee Foundation (ETF) for two terms from 1999-2005, I was thrilled to be asked to serve another term in 2013. By facilitating charitable giving, ETF stands for the highest ideals of human activity. The “Give Where You Live” ETF focus develops our region through student scholarships, grants for institutions aiding underserved children and adults alike, and guidance for individuals and organizations seeking advice for charitable giving. I was greatly honored to be nominated to serve as Board Chair in 2016, ETF’s 30th year of operation.

My parents and my religious upbringing were my inspirations for wanting to give back to my community. My parents single-handedly prepared hundreds of baskets of food that I, as a child, helped deliver to families in need during the Christmas holidays; my Jewish education taught me that charity is really “tzedekah,” a word in Hebrew that means justice. ETF provides the ideal vessel for me to continue the service for which I was raised. Finally, I acknowledge the fantastically talented ETF staff that is conscientious, energetic, and totally dedicated to their work, and the members of ETF’s Board of Directors, who are leaders in the East Tennessee region representing all facets of the community. Serving as Board Chair of ETF is an honor and privilege beyond measure.

A Retirement Celebration

The life and work of our board chair, Jeff Becker, was recently celebrated on the occasion of his retirement as head of the Department of Microbiology at The University of Tennessee. Among many other accolades, Dr. Becker was a Chancellor’s Professor and has held 34 continuous years of NIH grants. ETF was pleased to attend the reception and dinner that included roasting, tributes, and toasts that conveyed how esteemed and beloved he is by all who know him and have had the good fortune to work with him and call him their friend. We are most grateful for his service as our board chair.
**Ed Harmon Provides Lead Gift**

On April 25th in the West Meeting Room of United Way of Blount County, six initial advisory board members signed on the dotted line to establish ETF’s Blount County affiliate fund. Ed Harmon, local community leader and philanthropist, demonstrated his commitment to community and charitable giving by providing the lead gift. Mr. Harmon will serve on the initial fund advisory board, working to both grow the fund and accomplish local grantmaking to benefit Blount County programs and projects.

“As someone who has been very blessed, I want to leave the bulk of my estate to charity. With my attorney Chad Hampton’s assistance, I learned about the benefits of East Tennessee Foundation for our community and charities.”

East Tennessee Foundation affiliate funds serve a specific community, county, or geographic region. Communities choose to affiliate with ETF to create a local presence for endowed philanthropic giving and grantmaking. Affiliates, by design, have local advisory boards that engage in endowment-building, develop their own grantmaking criteria, review applications, make grants, and determine other types of activities to promote philanthropic giving and community building. This local advisory board leadership heightens the likelihood of adding funds to benefit Blount County and secures the services of East Tennessee Foundation’s “Give Where You Live” (GWYL) initiative. GWYL provides specialized services for grantmaking, guidance for fund growth, and community education/awareness.

In appreciation to Mr. Harmon for his lead contribution and as a demonstration of the confidence ETF has in the future success of its Blount County affiliate fund, ETF matched this initial donation. “It is important that the community know these funds have been dedicated to support and benefit all the citizens of Blount County and will continue to do so,” shared Mike McClamroch, ETF President & CEO.

**Founding Members of the Blount County Affiliate Fund Advisory Board**

- Ed Harmon
- Jared Anderson
- Jane Andrews
- Cathy Hammon
- Jonathan Barker
- Jennifer Wackerhagen

**Mike McClamroch receives $5,000 matching donation from Ed Harmon**
On Thursday, April 28th, The Pat Summitt Foundation hosted “Salute for a Cure,” a special event that raised $125,000 for the Foundation’s campaign to create The Pat Summitt Alzheimer’s Clinic at the University of Tennessee Medical Center. This special event, presented by Pilot Corporation and held at The Pavilion at Hunter Valley Farm, included dinner, a live auction led by Sam Furrow, and a program featuring Holly Warlick, Shelley Collier, and Carolyn Peck sharing stories about Pat Summitt and discussing the impact she has had on their lives. “Salute for a Cure” will be an annual fundraiser for the Foundation and will be held again in spring of 2017.

ETF at a Glance
- Total assets over $286.8 million
- Since 1986, $223 million in grants has been awarded
- 16 county affiliate funds serve 25 counties in East Tennessee - $6.48 million has been awarded to support local nonprofits and programs, community driven initiatives, and downtown development
- 411 ETF funds and 10 supporting organizations; 155 designated endowments for 151 nonprofit organizations
- $5.4 million in scholarships has helped over 900 students go to college

ETF 30th Anniversary

ETF 30th Anniversary Plans (#ETF30)
with Upcoming August 23 Events
in Athens, Knoxville, and Johnson City

East Tennessee Foundation’s 30th Anniversary Task Force will launch promotions in the coming month for its signature outreach event celebrating ETF’s 30 years of growing philanthropy and changing lives in this region.

On Tuesday, Aug. 23, 2016, ETF will host a series of expert-led panel discussions on the topic, “East Tennessee Foundation’s Generous Genes: How Family Philanthropy Can Transform a Region.” Pilot Corporation is among the event sponsors.

The day will feature breakfast, lunch, and dinner events in Athens (Tennessee Wesleyan University at 8 a.m.), Knoxville (The Foundry at 12 noon), and Johnson City (Johnson City Country Club at 6 p.m.), where ETF will spotlight national award-winning writer, speaker, and youth philanthropy expert Susan Price, author of Generous Genes: Raising Caring Kids in a Digital Age.

At each event, attendees will hear Ms. Price share her own insights for parents, grandparents, and others who want to teach children and young adults to live compassionately, encouraging them to share the four “Ts”: time, talent, treasure, and ties – with the fourth “T” reflecting the new ways youth are using online tools and social media to generate support for the charitable causes they care about.

In addition to Ms. Price’s comments, local philanthropists from each respective community – and each with a family philanthropy story to share – will chime in during an energetic panel discussion as well as audience Q&A, to shed light on ways they have made philanthropic considerations a part of their family’s own culture and way of life to benefit the local community.

Watch your email for the “save the date” notice and your mail in July for the invitation – or RSVP in advance to Samantha Amick, by emailing samick@etf.org. There is no cost to attend, but reservations are required. Follow upcoming news, progress, and live Tweeting from the events in social media, via #ETF30.
our East Tennessee region have lovely downtowns full of history, culture, and great opportunity. Faced with maintenance of these historic structures, many owners have sold and/or closed them, leaving downtowns to falter and fade. Maryville, Jonesborough, and Bristol are just a few who have dedicated time, energy, hard work, and funding to reclaim and renew their downtowns. Their communities and our region are all the better for this. One commonality across these communities is the restoration of their historic downtown theaters.

Elizabethton is next on the horizon with a similar endeavor: The Bonnie Kate Theatre, which opened in 1926, before Hollywood distributed its first “talkie.” Serving the community well for decades, it experienced troubled operations in recent years, last being owned privately, but falling into foreclosure and disrepair.

John Huber, a local business owner, community volunteer, and member of the Elizabethton-Carter County Community Foundation had a vision…and lots of energy and determination to see that vision accomplished. His vision: restoration of the Bonnie Kate as a community multi-purpose event center, operating for the pleasure and benefit of the entire Elizabethton-Carter County community.

Fundraising began in fall 2015 as did discussions with the bank on a potential purchase. ECCF advisory board members worked diligently to secure funds and pledges, hoping to demonstrate to the bank the commitment to this project. In April 2016, the bank attempted an auction of the theater, and ECCF was present in partnership with the City of Elizabethton to attempt the purchase. While the joint venture was the highest bid, the bank declined the sale. So ECCF just kept on fundraising. Meanwhile, the bank sold the theater to a group of local investors who were intent upon this theater remaining in the control of the community.

May 12th was a landmark day in Elizabethton, as the City Council approved an agreement to purchase the Bonnie Kate utilizing funding via a $111,700 grant from ECCF/ETF. The group of investors is gladly selling the theater to the City. Also, the adjacent vacant lot is being sold and will become additional downtown parking for theater-goers as well as other downtown community events/shopping/dining/etc.

The Butterfly Fund was established at East Tennessee Foundation in August 2008 by the Barger and Harrill families in memory of their daughters, Emily Barger and Maddie Harrill. Both of these beautiful little girls were diagnosed with rhabdomyosarcoma, a rare form of childhood cancer, in 2007. Sadly, both of these girls passed away just weeks apart during the summer of 2008. The fund serves to raise awareness of and funds for childhood cancers. Organizations which were awarded grants and summaries of their funded projects follow:

Austin Hatcher Foundation for Pediatric Cancer
Neurocognitive evaluations will be performed on 40 childhood cancer survivors to determine if their cognitive function was adversely affected by their cancer treatment.

East Tennessee Children’s Hospital
The Pain and Palliative Care program will focus on providing seriously or chronically ill children with relief from symptoms, pain, and the stress of serious illness.

Provision CARES Foundation
In partnership with Knoxville-Knox County Community Action Committee, Provision CARES will help child cancer patients and their families have access to healthy, nutritious meals.

Ronald McDonald House (RMH)
Families with a child who is a cancer patient from outside Knox County may stay at RMH at no cost to the family.

The Dream Connection
Special dreams will be fulfilled for three children ages 3-18 who are faced with life-threatening or chronically-debilitating illnesses.

Total Funding Awarded: $77,075
Consolidated Nuclear Security (CNS), the contractor at Y-12 National Security Complex (Y-12) in Oak Ridge, established the CNS Y-12 Community Investment Fund at ETF in 2015. One of their top priorities was to contribute to the welfare of their local community and to provide opportunities for their employees to do the same.

In March 2016, the fund awarded grants to 30 nonprofit organizations that applied through its first competitive grants process. In keeping with CNS’s Community Commitment Plan and funding priorities, applications were solicited from nonprofit organizations in the 20-county region within which the majority of their employees reside. Grants were awarded to support projects that addressed one or more of the four focus areas identified by employee advisory committee members: education, seniors, veterans, or youth. Summaries of their funded projects follow:

**Aid to Distressed Families of Appalachian Counties (ADFAC)**
ADFAC’s School Supplies Program will expand into Morgan County, and a home repairs program will benefit elderly Morgan County homeowners.

**Anderson County High School**
Several members of the High School Navy JROTC will represent our state in Honolulu at the 75th anniversary commemoration of the Pearl Harbor attack.

**Boys & Girls Clubs of the Clinch Valley**
Membership dues and fees will be partially “covered” for qualifying families who cannot afford the full cost.

**CASA Monroe**
CASA Advocates will be recruited and trained to advocate for abused and neglected children in Monroe County.

**CASA of the Tennessee Heartland**
CASA’s Fostering Futures Program will help empower foster youth to live independently once they have “aged out” of foster care.

**Children’s Museum of Oak Ridge**
Full and partial scholarships will be provided so that low-income, at-risk children can attend the Imagination Station summer camp program.

**Emory Valley Center**
A “smart classroom” will be created in the Early Learning Center to enhance the educational opportunities for children.

**Habitat for Humanity of McMinn County**
Materials and equipment will be purchased to build a home for a veteran in McMinn County.

**HonorAir-Knoxville**
East TN WWII, Korean War, and Vietnam War veterans will be honored by flying them to Washington D.C. to see the memorials built in their honor.

**Hope Reins**
The Healing Hearts program will pair at-risk children with horses rescued from abuse, for a program which will provide hope, healing, and change for the children.

**Jefferson Middle School**
A LEGO Boot Camp will be established for students, and the school will host the Atomic City Invitational LEGO robotics competition later in the year.

**Knox Housing Partnership dba HomeSource East Tennessee**
Children and community artists in the Five Points community will design a logo to use on signs and throughout the neighborhood, thereby instilling community identity and pride.

**Mane Support, Inc.**
“Horses Helping Heroes” is a military program that will provide services for members of the military and their families.

Continued on Page 6
Michael Dunn Center
Children younger than three years of age who have been identified as having developmental delays will benefit from early intervention services.

Mid-East Community Action Agency
Door-to-door transportation assistance will be provided for senior citizens who need help getting to their medical and wellness appointments.

Mid-East Community Action Agency/Roane Imagination Library
Roane Imagination Library will purchase and mail quality, age-appropriate books to enrolled children in Roane County.

Monroe County Boxing Club
Gym equipment, uniforms, and registration fees will be provided for youth who cannot afford boxing fees and travel expenses to compete in tournaments.

Monroe County Health Council
“Monroe on the Move” will provide educational and physical activity programs for children and their families.

Oak Ridge High School
Students will train on state-of-the-art manufacturing technology equipment for mechatronics vocations.

Pellissippi State Community College
The “Manufacturing and Coding Academy” is a four-week summer program which will train rising 6th grade students in electronics, robotics, Internet security, and 3-D printing.

Ridin’ High, Inc.
At-risk boys who are residents of the Helen Ross McNabb Center will participate in the Therapeutic Horse Program to work on their anger management, communication, and other skills.

Roane County Anti-Drug Coalition
The SMART (Skills Mastery and Resistance Training) Moves program teaches substance abuse prevention skills to youth.

Roane State Community College (RSCC) Foundation
Students from Anderson County high schools will be trained for advanced manufacturing jobs by enrolling in mechatronics courses at RSCC.

Scott County Shelter Society
Victims of domestic violence and their families will be provided with educational opportunities and job skills to help them become independent from their abusers.

Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee
The “Healthy Food Initiative” will increase the quantity of nutritional food distributed throughout the 18-county region served by Second Harvest.

Shangri-La Therapeutic Academy of Riding (STAR)
“Heroes and Horses” is an equine-assisted activity which provides therapeutic horseback riding specifically for veterans with disabilities.

Smoky Mountain Service Dogs
Service dogs are acquired and trained to provide mobility assistance for disabled veterans at no cost to the recipients.

Tellico Village Computer Users Club
The “Technology Access Program” refurbishes donated computer hardware and then provides computer systems free-of-charge to school children in need in East Tennessee.

Tennessee Stage Company
Two series of acting and performance classes will be specially designed for senior citizens at the O’Connor Senior Center.

Volunteers of American Mid-States
The “Homeless Veterans Reintegration” program will provide food and transportation assistance to veterans in East Tennessee.

East Tennessee Foundation joins the region in mourning the loss of our friend and partner, Sam Beall, III. May his legacy continue to bless us all.

Blackberry Farm Charitable Fund
www.blackberryfarm.com

Total Funding Awarded: $180,000
Like so many things in life, successful philanthropy, the kind that brings significant and lasting change to both the recipient and the giver, begins with planning and preparation. Change of such magnitude does not happen spontaneously or overnight. Fueled initially by passion, it also demands time, attention, and focus. As a result, the philanthropist should develop and be guided by a written charitable plan. Consider this wisdom:

“A goal without a plan is just a wish.”
Antoine de Saint-Exupery (French writer 1900-1944)

“Plans are nothing; planning is everything.”
Dwight D. Eisenhower

Yet, many philanthropists may have overlooked the written charitable plan as an indispensable tool. Perhaps the rationale for one has been too abstract to appear valuable. I hope to illuminate the utility and importance of a charitable plan.

What is a charitable plan? A charitable plan is a written tool that can be used to focus and guide a philanthropist’s giving and volunteer efforts. This tool can assist in filtering through the numerous requests for contributions and help the philanthropist focus his or her attention and efforts on those requests and organizations that further the plan goals, which are based on the philanthropist’s dreams, motivations, and passions. It is similar in many respects to a business plan or strategic plan for an organization.

Who should have a charitable plan? Anyone who is serious about their philanthropy! The issue is not how much money will be gifted, but how to focus on impact achieved. Serious philanthropists consider their gifts to be investments in the community and focus on the impact or change accomplished as the result of their investment.

When should one develop a charitable plan? Charitable planning is a process and the time and effort put into a particular plan should be proportional to the anticipated philanthropy budget. Moreover, one needs time to reflect and analyze various components of the process. It is generally advantageous to begin the planning process well in advance of the anticipated initial investment, as it is likely to require at least several weeks. The plan should probably be reviewed and updated every five to ten years, because community needs and donor preferences and resources may change over time.

Why should a serious philanthropist develop a charitable plan? The value and purpose of the plan lies not merely in the words recorded on the paper but rather in the planning process. The process ensures that the philanthropist’s passions and motivations drive goal development. It transforms abstract wishes into concrete goals. Once completed, the plan provides a framework for the philanthropist to evaluate and respond to the myriad of contribution requests he or she receives each year.

How and where can I develop a charitable plan? ETF staff offers complimentary consulting services to its fundholders to help them develop a charitable plan for themselves or their families. We will walk you through the process and encourage you to its completion. Interested? Contact Sherri Alley at 524-1223 or sdalley@etf.org to learn more.
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Has your contact information changed? If so, please let us know so we can keep in touch.

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East Tennessee Foundation is a public, nonprofit, community foundation created for the purpose of building charitable resources to make communities stronger and lives better through thoughtful giving.

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