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Chris Kurzweil

J. Christopher Lang, FACHE

Richard Price, MD

Linnette Pugh

Ed Roberts

Carol Welborn

Toni Wiseman



Directors Emeriti

Cricket Kroenke

Carol Looney

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Sonya McLelland, CFRE
Administrative Director

Groundbreaking Held for Community Trail

Cass Regional Medical Center Foundation held a small groundbreaking ceremony for The Floyd and Franceline Parris Community Trail on Thursday, June 18.

Construction of the trail began the week of June 22 on eight acres behind the Cass Regional campus. When completed, the trail will have a small parking area off Healing Way, and will feature two quarter-mile loops, a gazebo, and several benches placed along the path for resting points. The trail will be paved, allowing access for those who use assistive devices such as walkers and wheelchairs. Howco Utilities of Pleasant Hill is the contractor overseeing its construction.

The trail is slated for completion in late summer/early fall. More than \$385,000 has been donated for the project. Many thanks to the Franceline Parris Trust and all the donors who have made the trail possible!



Back row, left to right: **Richard Price, MD**, foundation board member; **Linnette Pugh**, auxiliary and foundation board member; **LeAnne Dickerson, RPh**, foundation president; **Chris Kurzweil**, chairperson of the Cass Regional board of trustees and foundation board member. Front row, left to right: **Tonya Preston**, PTA, Cass Regional Employee of the Year; **Judy Bowman**, mayor of Harrisonville; **Toni Wiseman**, board of trustees and foundation board member.



Get to know our Foundation Board Members

“The Cass Regional Medical Center Foundation Board of Directors works hard to make lives better for the people in our community. They are unsung heroes who give willingly of their time, talent and treasure to ensure that our projects, from the Patient Assistance Fund to The Floyd and Franceline Parris Community Trail, are successful. I am grateful for all they do, and I hope you enjoy learning a little more about these wonderful volunteers!”

Sonya McLelland, CFRE, Administrative Director



LeAnne Dickerson, RPh, (president) is a native of Miami, Oklahoma, and graduated from the University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy. She worked in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and Pittsburg, Kansas, before joining the staff of Gillen Pharmacy in 1997. In 2002, she bought Gillen Pharmacy from John and Barbara Gillen, fulfilling her dream of owning a pharmacy. LeAnne joined the board in 2014. She and her husband, Jess, live in Archie and have two sons.



Tracy Sloan (vice president) grew up in Creighton and now lives in Harrisonville. He majored in economics and business administration at Southwest Baptist University, and is a fourth generation community banker in his role as president of Sherwood Community Bank. Tracy has been a member of the board since 2006. He is also an active member of the Harrisonville Kiwanis Club, and volunteers on mission trips to Mexico with his church. Tracy and his wife, Michelle, have three sons and one granddaughter.



Ethy Christman (immediate past president) has lived in Harrisonville since 1995. She grew up in Sparta, Tennessee, and Indianapolis, Indiana. Ethy worked in New York for what is now Novartis Pharmaceuticals for 30 years, retiring as a supervisor. She joined the Cass Regional Medical Center Auxiliary in 2008, and was appointed by the auxiliary to the foundation board in 2011. Ethy also volunteers as the hospitality coordinator at Harrisonville United Methodist Church. She and her husband, Don, have two children and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



Gina Smith (secretary) has been a member of the board since 2010. She retired from Harrisonville Schools after 26 years, starting as a business teacher and finishing as the administrator of Cass Career Center. Gina then worked as a national school consultant for Southern Regional Education Board for four years, and is currently an adjunct instructor for the University of Central Missouri. She has also served on the Harrisonville school board. Gina and her husband, Chuck, have four children and eight grandsons.



Larry Pfautsch (treasurer) joined the board in 2018. He received his journalism degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia, and served in the U.S. Army as a public information specialist before becoming editor of the Cass County Democrat-Missourian newspaper. He then spent 13 years in public relations at FleishmanHillard, and 12 years in corporate communications at American Century Investments, before retiring in 2014. Larry and his wife, Donna, who is the 33rd District State Representative, live in Harrisonville and have two children and two grandsons.



Carole Arnold, of Archie, has served on the board a total of 20 years, and was a member of the hospital's board of trustees for seven years. She graduated from Archie High School and majored in business at the University of Central Missouri. Carole works at Community Bank of Harrisonville and is also a member of the Harrisonville Kiwanis Club and Archie 2000. She and her husband, Jim, have three daughters, five grandchildren, and two great-granddaughters.



Denise Ashby-Cohen, RN, BSN, lives in Raymore and joined the board after retiring from Cass Regional Medical Center earlier this year. The daughter of an Air Force officer, she grew up in several states and overseas, and received her bachelor's degree in nursing from the University of Central Missouri. During her nursing career, Denise also worked at Menorah Medical Center, St. Joseph Medical Center and St. Mary's Medical Center. Her late husband, Dr. Marvin C. Cohen, was the medical staff representative on the board from 2007-2011.



Ivan E. "Butch" Beeman, CPA, lives in Harrisonville and joined the board in 2009 after serving as a volunteer on the fundraising campaign for the new hospital. A graduate of Harrisonville High School, he received his bachelor's degree in accounting from Missouri State University, and has worked as a certified public accountant with Troutt, Beeman & Co., PC, for more than 40 years. Butch and his wife, Delores, have two sons and two grandchildren.



Get to know our Foundation Board Members (cont.)



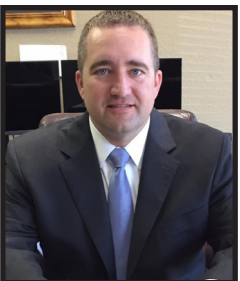
Janet Burlingame lives in Harrisonville and has served on the board since 2018. Her family moved from Lee's Summit to Garden City when she was in high school, and Janet has called Cass County "home" since then. She worked in the Cass County Clerk's office for 34 years, serving 12 of those years as Cass County Clerk. Janet has also served in appointments as city clerk for Garden City and Peculiar. She and her husband, Chad, have four children.



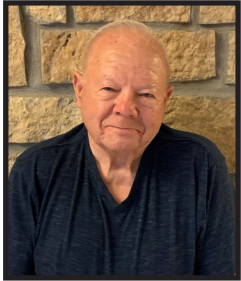
Stacey Dahlman, of Harrisonville, joined the board earlier this year, but her connection to Cass Regional started when she was born at what was then Cass County Memorial Hospital on Mechanic Street. She has enjoyed a 32-year career in banking, beginning at Allen Bank & Trust Co. on the Harrisonville square, where she worked while completing her associate's degree in business at Longview Community College. Stacey is currently the branch sales manager at Arvest Bank in Belton, and also serves on the advisory board for Calvary University. She and her husband, Darrell, have one son.



T.R. Hoefle has been a member of the board since 2012. He grew up in Iowa and attended Northwest Missouri State University, where he majored in business management and marketing. T.R. then attended the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law, and practiced in Harrisonville for 10 years before starting his own law firm in the Raymore/Belton area. He is also an instructor for paralegal students at Grantham University. T.R. and his wife, Erin, live in Grandview with their two sons.



Clayton Jones lives in Pleasant Hill and joined the board in 2019. He grew up in California, Missouri, and holds a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from the University of Missouri-Columbia and a Juris Doctorate from Washburn University School of Law. He began his legal career as a prosecutor in Cass County before starting his own law firm. Clayton also serves as a municipal judge, special prosecutor, and municipal prosecutor. He and his wife, Becky, have one son and one daughter.



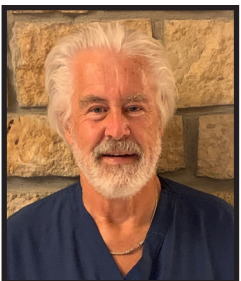
Fred Kidd traces his connection to Cass Regional to the early 1970s, when his late wife, Gerri, began working on the nursing staff. Shortly thereafter, he became a volunteer chaplain, and joined the foundation board in 2001. A graduate of Peculiar High School, Fred was on active duty with the U.S. Navy for 12 years, and then he and Gerri returned to Peculiar to raise their four children. He farmed and worked as an electrician before joining National Starch Company, where he was the construction and utilities manager for 20 years prior to retirement.



Chris Kurzweil is chair of the Cass Regional Medical Center Board of Trustees and serves as one of two trustees who are appointed to the foundation board. He grew up in the Garden City area and joined the U.S. Army out of high school. Following his time in the service, Chris started working at Kurzweils' Country Meats, and now runs the family business. He also serves on the Cass County Emergency Services Board and is involved with several community organizations. He and his wife, Lora, live in Harrisonville.



Chris Lang has been the CEO of Cass Regional Medical Center, and a member of the foundation board, since 2003. He holds a bachelor's degree in biology with minors in chemistry and history from Marquette University, and a master's degree in health care administration from Washington University School of Medicine. Chris is a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives, and has served on the Missouri Hospital Association board for six years. He and his wife, Laurie, live in Raymore, and have two children and one grandson.



Richard Price, MD, has been a family physician in Harrisonville since 1981, and has served as the medical staff representative on the board since 2019. He grew up in Brush, Colorado, a town that he describes as being "about the size of Drexel," and received his medical degree from the University of Colorado. He currently practices at Cass Regional's clinics in Harrisonville, Archie and Garden City. Dr. Price and his wife, Linda, live in Harrisonville and have three children and six grandchildren.



Get to know our Foundation Board Members (cont.)



Linnette Pugh has served as the Cass Regional Medical Center Auxiliary representative on the board since 2019. She grew up in Augusta, Kansas, and holds a bachelor's degree from Phillips University and a master's degree from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Linnette's 35-year teaching career included 28 years in the Harrisonville school district. She is an active member of the hospital's auxiliary, and also volunteers with Bright Futures, the Harrisonville Thrift Shop, and her church. Linnette lives in Harrisonville and has two sons, three grandchildren, and one great-granddaughter.



Ed Roberts is the retired director of bands for Harrisonville Schools, and is a member of the Missouri Bandmasters Association Hall of Fame. A U.S. Army veteran, he served in Vietnam and was recently honored by the Harrisonville Rotary Club and the Harrisonville Chamber of Commerce for his work in bringing the Moving Wall, a replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, to the community last year. Ed joined the board in 2018, and also serves on the Harrisonville Parks & Recreation board. He and his wife, Gail, have two children and two grandsons.



Carol Welborn grew up on a dairy farm between Harrisonville and Archie. She holds bachelor's degrees in elementary education and business, and taught in the Lee's Summit school district. In 1979, she and her husband, Jim, purchased his family grocery business in Drexel, and operated it until their retirement in 2016. Carol has been a member of the board since 2006, and has also volunteered with the Cass County Library, the Drexel Community Betterment Corporation, and the Drexel Lions Club. She and Jim have two daughters and six grandchildren.



Toni Wiseman was appointed to the foundation board in 2016 following her election to the Cass Regional board of trustees. Toni grew up in Kansas City and Odessa, Missouri. In 1979, Toni went to work for the Missouri Department of Corrections, which motivated her to return to college. She graduated from Park University with degrees in criminal justice administration and social psychology, and worked her way up to Corrections Supervisor I before retiring in 2004. Toni and her husband, Sonny, live in Harrisonville, and are blessed with a large blended family.



Employee Assistance Fund Provides Vital Assistance During Pandemic

The Employee Assistance Fund has helped 24 Cass Regional employees so far in 2020, many of whom have experienced a financial crisis related to the coronavirus pandemic. The amount that has been granted to date this year is \$20,800, far exceeding what is typically granted during a seven-month period.

Employees who are seeking assistance submit a brief application that explains their need, along with bills to be considered for payment on their behalf. The requests are reviewed by an elected committee of six employees, who make a determination on how much to grant based on the information provided. The bills are then paid directly to the creditors by the foundation. All requests are confidential, and the maximum that is typically awarded per request is \$750. In some cases, assistance with food and household supplies is also provided.

The fund was started 20 years ago, and for most of its history, it has been primarily funded by regular payroll installment donations from Cass Regional employees. This spring, the number of assistance requests increased significantly, and several community donors also stepped forward to help. Special thanks to everyone who reached out to support our Cass Regional staff during this challenging time. We are deeply grateful!

Owens Takes on Additional Duties to Support Foundation

Cass Regional Medical Center Foundation is pleased to announce that Tracy Owens, the executive assistant to Cass Regional's CEO and CFO, is now also serving in a support role for the foundation.

Owens brings 20 years of experience in administrative support to Cass Regional. Prior to joining the Cass Regional family, she worked at Avila University in Kansas City, as the executive assistant to the

president of the university.

Owens works with the board of directors and Sonya McLelland, administrative director of the foundation, to support administrative functions, including the maintenance of donor and financial records. She can be reached Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at (816) 380-5888, extension 4810. Her email address is towens@cassregional.org.





Annual Celebration Basket Raffle Week is October 5 - 9

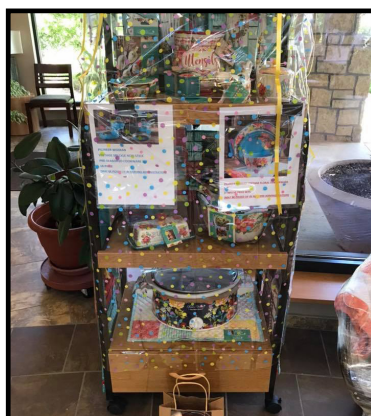
Cass Regional Foundation will host the Celebration Basket Raffle October 5-9, in the Cass Regional Medical Center Rotunda. Tickets will be sold on site each day.

Please look on the foundation's Facebook page for updates and ticket sale times.

Proceeds will benefit the Patient Assistance Fund.

Tickets: 1 ticket for \$2 or 3 tickets for \$5

ALL RAFFLES WILL BE DRAWN ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, AT NOON. NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN!



Upcoming Events

Note: The Plant Sale that was scheduled for September 25 and 26 has been cancelled.

Celebration Basket Raffle

Proceeds benefit the Patient Assistance Fund

October 5 - 9

Cass Regional Rotunda

Spring into Action for Patients Dinner and Auction

Thursday, April 8, 2021

Beck Event Space, Harrisonville

"Like" Cass Regional Medical Center Foundation on Facebook to keep up with the latest information and upcoming events.

Our Mission

The mission of Cass Regional Medical Center Foundation is to support the medical center in its quest to provide exceptional quality health care for the community. The Foundation encourages private philanthropy to further the vision, values, and goals of the medical center, especially in community outreach.



Cass Regional Medical Center Foundation is an IRS-designated 501(c)(3) charity (EIN 43-1501416).



Please remember Cass Regional Medical Center Foundation in your will.



We hope you have enjoyed this issue of "Making a Difference." If you wish to be removed from our mailing list, please email smclelland@cassregional.org or call (816) 380-5888, extension 4650.