

■ First the Vision; Next, Positive Change

Last fall, GPCF directors began asking themselves, “How can our grants make a bigger impact on the greater Polson community, really ‘move the needle’ for positive change?” We are proud of the grants that we have provided through the years and confident that our recipients and their projects have been worthy, but the board recognized that some important issues in the community remain unfunded and unaddressed.

Positive change is very difficult to achieve without a vision. GPCF’s vision is to sustain and grow an endowment fund that supports important needs in our community. But the Polson community also must have a vision in order for GPCF to best identify and support those important community needs.

Through the directors’ community networks, they learned that other organizations in our community were thinking along the same lines, believing that Polson needs a vision in order for them to effectively target their efforts and funding. GPCF decided to take on the role of convener, and the Envision Polson! project was born.

Community leaders and interested citizens met multiple times this winter, as GPCF director Darlis Smith facilitated the process of analyzing Polson’s strengths, opportunities, and needs. Their work culminated in creation of a draft Polson Vision Statement and a list of possible goals (action items) that would positively impact attaining the vision. The next step is to obtain wide-spread community input into the vision and goals before finalizing them and moving forward. *(Please see related article on the Envision Polson! survey.)*

By lending process and leadership skills to a collaborative project with the Polson Chamber of Commerce, city management,



service organizations and community members, GPCF is better positioning itself to ‘move the needle’ in our community. We look forward to keeping you updated on our progress and welcome your participation.

Marie Mahugh (l.) and Penny Jarecki post names of community volunteers who have signed up to work on the Envision Polson! project. Others are invited to participate through the Community Survey available on the GPCF website: polsonforever.org.

■ Be A Part Of Envision Polson! Take The Survey And Share Your Ideas

At its heart, the Envision Polson! project is a grassroots community movement. In our role of providing leadership and guidance to the movement, GPCF feels strongly about ensuring that the project includes and engages as many community members as possible. We know that the success of the project, and our goal of making Polson the gem of Flathead Lake, depends on it.

One of the engagement tools Envision Polson! is using is a community survey. We invite you to go to the GPCF website home page and click on the “Take the Survey” link to have your opinions and ideas be heard: www.polsonforever.org.

The survey, which is being publicized widely in the greater Polson community, asks for input on the Envision Polson! Steering Committee’s draft of eight points of a Polson Vision Statement and some possible projects associated with those vision items. Vote for what you think is most important among the listed vision and action items, and feel free to add comments and ideas of your own.

We look forward to receiving your input on this important project. Thank you, in advance, for your participation!

Treasurer's Corner

You did it! The endowment fund reached \$114,000 after only two and a half years. The yearly goal is to have a 5% return to be used for future grants and projects. The inventory of GPCF not only includes the permanent endowment, but life insurance policies, legacy gifts, and directed gifts.

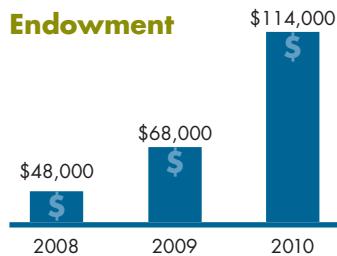
Montana Renaissance Endowment of the Montana Community Foundation just awarded GPCF a \$6,000 Leadership Grant to be used in the Envision Polson!

project. We also have received the endowment contribution match of \$6,169 thus far to be used for granting purposes.

Goals: Raise \$19,000 by June 30th (see article Wanted \$19,000).

Odds and Ends: These are challenging times for everyone financially. Thank you for your support, whether it has been monetary or in kind. Have a good, healthy and prosperous year.

GPCF Endowment



Penny Jarecki (left), President of the Greater Polson Community Foundation (GPCF), and Jackie Gran, Chairperson of the Board of Trustees for the North Lake County Public Library District, swing open new doors recently installed at the library. Two sets of glass doors, partially paid for with a grant from GPCF, are the first of several renovations planned for the library.

Envision Polson! Project Inspires Clean Up! Green Up!

The Beautification/Infrastructure Committee of the Envision Polson! project has organized the Clean Up! Green Up! community-wide spring cleaning effort set for all day Saturday, April 30 and Sunday afternoon, May 1. The purpose is not only to make Polson more attractive, but to invite volunteers to improve where we live, take ownership of how neighborhoods are cared for, build neighborliness by helping each other, and make Polson more welcoming to our summer visitors.



Another goal of Envision Polson! is to provide various opportunities for people to gather downtown for fun. Clean Up! Green Up! volunteers will be invited to a "job well done" celebration at Riverside Park beginning at 5 p.m. on Sunday, May 1, for food and fellowship.

While this is one of the first projects undertaken by an Envision Polson! committee, many more will follow as our community becomes more involved.

SAVE THE DATE!

**SATURDAY,
AUGUST 20, 2011**

**PASSION FOR POLSON
CELEBRATION**



Last year friends and donors of the Greater Polson Community Foundation enjoyed an evening of "Diamonds en l'Air" at beautiful Bird Point surrounded by sparkling water, music, conversation, and laughter.

**WANTED
\$19,000.00**

The Montana Community Foundation has issued a challenge to those local community foundations that increase their permanent endowment up to \$50,000 before June 30, 2011, a 20% match. Your GPCF has raised a little over \$31,000 toward this goal, and is in need of an additional \$19,000 before June 30th.

Where else can you get a 20% return on an "investment"? If you are considering a gift to the foundation, please do it NOW!!! Help us get 100% of the match. If the goal of \$50,000 is reached, GPCF will have \$10,000 to re-grant for needs in our community. Donations need not be cash, as we can receive appreciated stock or other forms of property.

■ Estate Planning Workshop Set For June 2

After you have worked diligently your entire life, have you wondered what would happen to your property or how your children would be cared for if you died? Are you aware of the impact of how your property, such as your home, land or financial account is titled determines who will receive it? Do you want to avoid family squabbles and even possible battles over the distribution of your property?



(Left) Dr. Marsha Goetting, MSU Extension Professor and Extension Family Economics Specialist, has received national, regional, and state awards for her financial management and estate planning programs.

Dr. Marsha Goetting, Extension Family Economics Specialist at MSU, will be in Polson Thursday, June 2, to help you find the answers to your estate planning questions. The Greater Polson Community Foundation, Community Bank, Grogan Funeral Home, Farm Bureau Insurance, St. Joseph's Retirement Community, and Montana State University Extension are providing the support to bring this outstanding program to our community. These sponsors and others will make up a panel to explain how they can help you with your estate planning needs and will be available to answer some of your questions.

There will be two sessions of the same program offered. The afternoon session will be held from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The evening session will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Both sessions will be held at the KwaTaqNuk Resort in Polson.

The cost of either session, which includes a comprehensive packet of estate planning materials and refreshments, is only \$10.00. Register by mail to:

Greater Polson Community Foundation (GPCF)
P. O. Box 314
Polson, MT 59860

Please include a check for \$10.00 made payable to the GPCF, by Monday, May 23 so that enough materials will be available. Questions: call John Cowan, 883-4198 or Penny Jarecki, 883-2248.

GREATER POLSON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



OUR VISION

To create a permanent endowment fund to support community needs.



OUR MISSION

Gather Permanent Funds

Offer Donors Various Gifting Options

Award Grants

Develop Partnerships Through Collaboration With Others

Promote Philanthropy

Inspire Community Pride And Unity

■ GPCF Welcomes Newest Member

GPCF is pleased to welcome Darlis Nordhagen-Smith to our board of directors. Darlis served on the Foundations' Events Committee last year and was one of the talented people who breathed life into our wonderfully successful and enchanting *Diamonds en L'air* event in August 2010.

A native of Opheim, Montana, Darlis is a graduate of Montana State University (BS, Marketing) and the University of St. Thomas (MBA)- which she points out is in Minnesota not the Caribbean. With a career that features marketing positions at businesses ranging from start-ups to Fortune 100 companies, and as a person who has always found it difficult to stand on the sidelines when it comes to worthy causes, Darlis brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to our board.



Darlis Nordhagen-Smith

Darlis's husband Daniel, who is also a GPCF volunteer, grew up on a ranch outside of Polson. The Smiths moved their family from Seattle to Polson a year and a half ago to be closer to extended family and enjoy the benefits of living in a rural area. "Our children are thriving here," stated Darlis, mother to Azia (14), Dayne (12) and Reeve (7). "I'm thrilled to be involved with the Greater Polson Community Foundation and contribute to its growth and successes in this wonderful community."

■ GPCF Awarded Leadership Grant

The Greater Polson Community Foundation recently received notification that it is a recipient of a \$6,000 Leadership Grant from the Montana Renaissance Endowment of the Montana Community Foundation. These funds will be used for possible leadership training and operating expenses needed in the the community visioning project, Envision Polson! The long-term goals of the grant is to encourage GPCF to become a leader and non-partisan convener in addressing community issues and opportunities, build partnerships to accomplish community goals, make the foundation more visible, and increase GPCF's capacity to help our community.

Greater Polson Community Foundation Sustaining Founders' Circle 2010

Those members of our original FOUNDERS' CIRCLE who continue to donate annually are honored as Sustaining Founders.

George and Joleen Barce
William D. Barron
James M. and Patricia S. Binger
Joe and Gerry Browning
Jules J. and Ann E. Clavadetscher
Catherine Cooney
John S. Cowan
Jack and Lianne Cross Family
Duford Family Trust
Bob and Sharon Fulton
John and Nancy Glueckert

Jens and Jacqueline Gran
Hib and Mildred Hanson
Arn and Lois Hart
Charles M. and Henrietta M. Jarecki
Gregory T. and Susan R. McCormick
Lou and Irene Marchello
Jon and Liz Marchi
Bob Marsenich and Karen McMullen
John and Tina Mercer
Mauri and Barbara Morin
Carmine Mowbray
William E. and Margaret A. Olson
Matthew H. and Evonne S. O'Neill
Mickey Rosa and the Estate of
Richard Rosa
Peggy Seifert

Dr. Gayle and Helen Siemers
Jim and Barb Sohm
John R. and Patricia M. Stene
Stene Aviation
Michael A. and Janna J. Taylor
Marcus A. and Becky S.
Vergeront
Good Shepherd Lutheran
Church
Montana Community
Foundation
Polson Rotary Club
Soroptimist International of Polson
First Citizens Bank
First Interstate Bank
Glacier Bank

GPCF Donors

October 1, 2010 to March 1, 2011

Ken and Tamara Avison
Hu and Patsy Beaver
Dr. Richard and Bernice Beighle
Ann Belen
Ben and Anne Binger
Jane Irwin
Jack and Lieann Cross
Jules and Ann Clavadetscher
Davidson Family Foundation..Ian
and Nancy Davidson
Donald and Sherril Davis
Duford Family Trust
Boyd and Peggy Foster
Debra L. McClenahan
First Citizens Bank

Glacier Bank
John and Nancy Glueckert
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Gray-Williams Foundation
Charles and Henrietta M. Jarecki
Kathryn Johnson and Richard
Beauchamp
Lyons Concrete, Inc....Mike Lyons
Liz Marchi
Malcom E. McCallum
Greg and Susan McCormick
Donald and Helen McMillan
Barbara and Mauri Morin
Carmine Mowbray
William and Margaret Olson

Matthew and Evonne O'Neill
Daniel and Katrina Rausch
Patrick R. and Kitte Robbins
Polson Rotary Foundation
Steve and Darlene Schiefelbein
Peggy Seifert
Dr. Gayle and Helen Siemers
Joanne and James Simpson
Polson Soroptimists
John and Pat Stene
Stene Aviation
Mike and Janna Taylor
Marcus and Becky Vergeront
James and Lucinda Willis



Greater Polson Community Foundation
Making Polson the Gem of Flathead Lake

P.O. Box 314
Polson, MT 59860