



Whatcom Community Foundation

CONNECTING PEOPLE WHO CARE
WITH CAUSES THAT MATTER

Foundation *focus*

Personalized Service
Local Expertise
Community Leadership



News from your Whatcom Community Foundation
<http://www.whatcomcf.org/>

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October / November 2011

Welcome!

During the week of November 12-18, 2011, Whatcom Community Foundation will join more than 700 community foundations across America for *Community Foundation Week*. For 15 years, we have raised awareness locally and regionally about the increasingly important role of philanthropy in fostering local collaboration and innovation to address persistent civic and economic challenges. We are proud to be part of a field that is known for its collaborative approach to working with the public, private, and nonprofit sectors to address community issues. We thank each of you for making it possible for our community foundation to thrive in Whatcom County. Governor Gregoire has issued a [proclamation](#) honoring the work of community foundations around the state.

End of Year Giving

Now is the time to think about year-end giving to help those in need and to keep your tax bill from getting out of hand. Your Whatcom Community Foundation (Foundation) is a 501(c)3 charitable organization which provides flexible giving options as well as donor advised granting opportunities. You may visit the Foundation's [Ways To Give](#) to find out how you can donate to or through the Foundation.

If you want to find out your tax savings and how much you can afford to give try out this charitable giving calculator provided by AARP. Simply enter the amount you'd like to give and your federal tax bracket into the [calculator](#) - it will display the net cost of your donation and your tax savings.



Charitable IRA Rollover

IRS regulations require anyone with an IRA who is 70 ½ or older to take a Required Minimum Distribution by year end. If you are not in need of all or part of this income and would like avoid paying taxes it, please ask your tax preparer about rolling over all or part of your 2011 distribution to a 501(c)3 charitable organization, such as the Foundation. Read the entire [fact sheet](#) for more information.

Does Your Private Foundation Need Help?

As the end of the year approaches, don't forget that the Foundation can help your private foundation meet its payout requirement. We offer a range of services for your private foundation. To find out more, download our private foundation [prochure](#).

[Lynden Tribune](#) and [Ferndale Record](#) Readers' Care Funds Kick Off Season of Giving



This year these two local newspapers will raise funds to benefit Project Hope, New Way Ministries and the Ferndale Food Bank. Since 2006, *Lynden Tribune* and *Ferndale Record* readers have donated over \$50,000 to organizations serving their respective communities. The Foundation manages the Funds for these

Highlights

Anna Brulotte Inspires Family and Community

The Anna Brulotte Memorial Fund was founded to advocate for safer, aware driving and transportation systems for vehicle drivers and passengers, bicyclists, and pedestrians through education on the dangers of distracted driving.

The goals of the Fund include educating local and state law enforcement, leaders, and lawmakers as well as the media on the growing problem of distracted driving and advocate for a culture of safety that protects pedestrians and bicyclists, especially children in school zones. The Fund will support efforts that strive to reduce deaths due to pedestrian/vehicle crashes, promote a higher level of aware, responsible, and educated driving, protect children in school zones, and bring about a culture of awareness and responsibility on the part of drivers.

Distracted driving is a life-threatening practice and the Brulotte family is leading the community in addressing it. These local efforts complement national initiatives from the Department of Transportation. Additionally, a Presidential Executive Order has established a new way to approach driving, by asking people to put down their electronic devices and paying attention to the task at hand. Federal agencies are working together to share knowledge and promote a greater understanding of the issue, and identify additional strategies to end distracted driving. A new website has been created to address these issues: <http://distraction.gov/index.html>



(Photo courtesy of TMitchellPhoto.com)

The Brulotte's held the first annual Anna's Walk and Half Marathon in October to bring the community together around these issues, raise funds to support their efforts, and to remember their two year old daughter, Anna who tragically lost her life in an

generous local newspapers.

Make a Donation

(Please list the fund name in the special instructions section)

Perspective & Positioning: Thoughts from the National Community Foundation Conference

In September, I was fortunate to attend the annual gathering of community foundations from around the country. This conference opened my eyes to the wide world of community foundation philanthropic practice and left me with some key takeaways I wanted to share:

- The world is changing: Resources are scarce, donors have more choices, and the needs of communities are complex. Yesterday's ways may not meet tomorrow's needs.
- There is no one "right way" for community foundations to grow. Successful community foundations are responding in unique ways to meet the unique needs of their local communities.
- Community foundations play a distinctive and irreplaceable role within the philanthropic landscape. Tom Steyer, billionaire member of Warren Buffet and Bill Gates' Giving Pledge (members pledge to contribute at least half of their fortunes to charitable organizations) told us that he and his peers will be looking to community foundations' distinctive knowledge base to guide and inform their giving.

Last, I was struck by how many funders are poised to support good work. Just as the Foundation seeks and supports excellence, the success of the Whatcom Community Foundation itself has in turn been recognized and funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Convergence Partnership (a national consortium of funders including Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, W. K. Kellogg Foundation, Kaiser Permanente Foundation and others) and like others. I came home from the conference grateful for the first-rate work the Foundation does – and fascinated by the opportunities and possibilities before us.

Sati Mookherjee
Whatcom Community Foundation Board Member

Evolving Philanthropy: Kickstarter

Social media and the Internet are changing the way we learn about and support projects. One site that is just catching on locally is www.kickstarter.com. It claims to be the world's largest funding platform for creative projects. Every week, tens of thousands of people pledge millions of dollars to projects from the worlds of music, film, art, technology, design, food, publishing and other creative fields. Both individuals and nonprofits can have their project featured.

A unique aspect to Kickstarter is that it is all or nothing funding. On Kickstarter, a project must reach its funding goal before time runs out. Projects are big and small, serious and whimsical, traditional and experimental.

Currently Kuntz and Company, a local nonprofit, has a project up for funding to create a short film to generate awareness about the critical need for more research to find cures for neurological disorders such as Parkinson's disease. If you're curious about Kickstarter you can view their project [here](#).

Local Organizations get a Boost from Medina Foundation

The Medina Foundation announced grant awards of more than \$200,000 to nonprofit organizations in Skagit and Whatcom Counties. These grants, designated for organizational capacity building, are intended to further strengthen eleven nonprofits in Skagit and Whatcom Counties by helping these organizations undertake activities such as purchasing a new database, hiring a grant writer, or engaging in a strategic planning process. [Read more...](#)

Conoco Phillips Supports Employee Involvement in Ferndale

A total of 18 ConocoPhillips employees and 19 family members and friends volunteered to help plan, set up, and staff the Ferndale Chamber of Commerce Ferndale Street Festival last August. The employees alone accounted for nearly 200 volunteer hours, enough to qualify for four \$1,000 ConocoPhillips employee volunteer grants.

These grants were awarded with help from the Whatcom Community Foundation to the Ferndale Chamber of Commerce, the Chamber's Dollar for Scholars program at Ferndale High School, the Ferndale Food Bank, and the new Ferndale Library capital campaign. Each recipient received \$1,000 in a surprise announcement at the Ferndale Chamber's monthly membership meeting on Wednesday, November 16th.

Share the News!

We hope you found much of interest and inspiration in this issue. If you found items that might be of interest to families, friends and associates, we encourage you to forward *Foundation focus* News about many of the great things happening in our community is one more thing for which we can be thankful.

accident involving distracted driving in the fall of 2010.

Community members are invited to support these efforts with a gift to the Anna Brulotte Memorial Fund of the Whatcom Community Foundation

Make a Donation

Alcoa Honored as Outstanding Philanthropic Company by AFP Washington Chapter



It is with great pleasure that the Whatcom Community Foundation congratulates Alcoa of Washington for receiving the 2011 Outstanding Philanthropic Corporation award. This honor is bestowed annually by the Association of Fundraising Professionals – Washington Chapter in recognition of a corporation's philanthropic excellence and dedication to community well-being.

"We are thrilled to be this year's award recipient and take great pride in fulfilling our role as a generous and caring corporate citizen and neighbor," said Barry Hullett, Alcoa Intalco Works Plant Manager. "This tribute is a testament to the company's strong culture of giving whether through volunteer hours, employee contributions, corporate gifts or foundation grants. It's such a pleasure to extend a hand and help out." [Read more](#)

New Board Member Profiles

Sati Mookherjee

grew up in Bellingham.

She is a graduate of the University of Washington and the UW School of Medicine. She was formerly Special Projects and Policy Manager for the City of Bellingham, and is presently founding Chief Operating Officer of Sendan Center, an



interdisciplinary, evidence-based mental health center for children and adolescents.

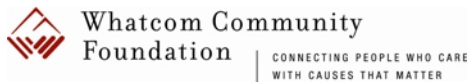
Sati believes that complex community needs are best approached by collaboration and partnerships, across and within sectors. She says, "Such synergies and efficiencies create a whole that is, in fact, greater than the sum of its parts. We live in an amazing community, with so many good people engaged in such good work. I am honored to be part of Whatcom Community Foundation, whose work I have long admired, in the service of thoughtful and meaningful philanthropy in our community."

Mark McCampbell, CFRE

joined the Board of the Whatcom Community Foundation in 2011 when he moved to Bellingham to take the position of Chief Development Officer at PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center.

Mark oversees the Office of Development for the hospital and





CONNECTS people who care with causes that matter

SERVES as a leader, catalyst and resource for philanthropy

PLAYS a key role in identifying and solving community challenges

CONDUCTS strategic grant making that benefits all of our community in fields such as social services, education, health, the environment and the arts

PROVIDES flexible and cost-effective ways for generous individuals, families, and companies to contribute to their community now and for all time

SUPPORTS capital projects benefiting Whatcom County

MANAGES charitable funds on behalf of individuals, families and businesses

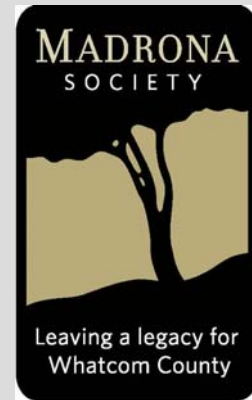
WORKS with individuals, families and companies to leave a legacy of giving

BUILDS and holds a permanent and growing endowment for the communities changing needs and opportunities.

provides leadership and support for volunteers serving on the St. Joseph Medical Center Foundation and Whatcom Hospice Foundation boards. Mark came from Seattle, where he served as Interim Executive Director for the Seattle Symphony. Prior to joining the symphony in 2008, he served in several fund development capacities at Virginia Mason Foundation, Northwest Hospital Foundation and CRISTA Ministries.

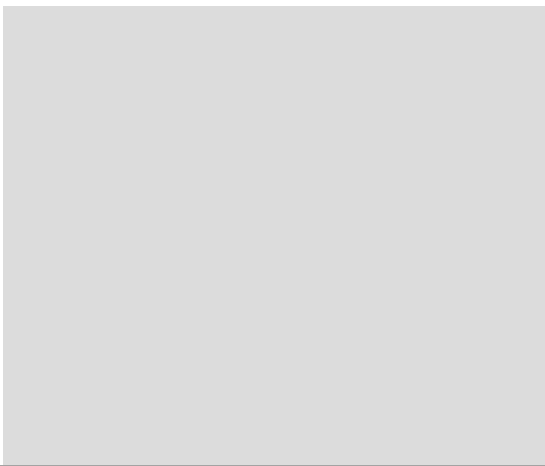
Mark and his wife of 36 years, Bonnie, have two children. Carrie, age 28 and Courtney, age 22, are both graduates of Western Washington University. It was during their children's college years that Mark and Bonnie developed a fondness of Bellingham and Whatcom County. Mark enjoys personal mentoring and life coaching, swimming, bicycling and running.

Larry Berghoff
Gary & Ann Blanken
Fredericka H. Bond*
Tim & Connie Buckley
Glenn & Janice Butler
Art & Marti Caputi
Frank & Pam Champagne
Mike Cohen & Pamela Jons
Joe and Judy Coons
Carrie Coppinger Carter
Thomas W. Crowell*
Margaret & Marc Curtis
George & Mary Ann Drake
Lee Eberhardt & Mauri Ingram
Katti & David Esp
Marian Exall
Tim & Leslie Farris
Roy Georgeff*
Jean Gorton
Brian and Marya Griffin
Martin & Gail Haines
Terry & Myra Harmer
Libby Hazen
Philip Humphries & Cynthia St. Clair
Brenda-Lee Karasik
Daniel Kirkman
Karl & Edwina Kleeman
Marge Laidlaw & Scott Wallace
Francis Joseph & Dorothy Lang*
Estate of Eugene Williams
Rick & Linda Luke
Laurie McClain
Meg Metzger
Fred & Milissa Miller
Owen Olsen
Joyce & John Pedlow
Stephen A. Peters
Bill & Jan Polinkus
Chuck & Dee Robinson
Sibyl W. Sanford
Genevieve E. Sharp*
John D. Stephens
John Watts & Joan Casey
Gail Weiss & Dennis Smith
Naomi Wilkins



6 Anonymous

*Deceased



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