

Serving the Mequon Community to Enhance Our Quality of Life

MT HISTORICAL SOCIETY



MCF board members Kathy Pederson and Jim Button were pleased to present a check to the Mequon-Thiensville Historical Society as a grant for purchase of new archival shelving and storage units. Accepting the check on behalf of the Historical Society were President Bob Blazich, along with board members Steve French and Fay Walker.

The Historical Society recently moved to a new location with bright, open concept office space. Displays feature area farm families, Fromm-Nieman Silver Fox Farms, paintings, photographs, newspaper clippings, a furnished Victorian dollhouse made by a local resident, and glass negatives and prints from the 1800s.

Preserving and remembering our history enhances the quality of life in our community.

Save the Date June 6, 2017 **Sixth Annual Pillars of the Community Luncheon**

ABOUT MCF

The Mequon Community Foundation (MCF), formed in 2001, provides a resource to undertake projects that enhance the quality of life in the city. Since its founding MCF has raised and distributed over \$600,000 through the charitable giving of the generous residents and businesses of Mequon.

Save the date Tuesday, **June 6**, 2017: sixth annual Pillars of the Community luncheon.

Visit our website: www.MCFgives.org to learn more about MCF and to make a contribution.

2015-2016 BOARD **OF DIRECTORS**

President: Kathy Pederson

Melissa Nimke Andrew Petzold

Iulie Petri

Immediate Past President: Jim Jurack

Sally Lyne Jane Wierzba Jennifer Flierl James Button

CONNECT







f www.mcfgives.org

Continued

During the award presentation before 140 people at the Concordia Center for Environmental Stewardship on the Concordia University Wisconsin campus, James Jurack the Mequon Community Foundation's immediate past president, said causes such as these were selected because they provided a direct benefit to the ore than 1,300 employees of Leeson Electric Co., which the brothers started.

The Doerr Tradition of Caring award carries on their efforts to support the hospital and community. It recognizes individuals who demonstrated exceptional generosity through volunteerism or financial support of Columbia St. Mary's and the communities in Ozaukee County.

The brothers spoke separately prior to accepting the award. "Mequon, Grafton, Cedarburg – all of southeast Ozaukee County – has been very special in my life and Dan's life," Christopher Doerr said, noting at one point they operated seven manufacturing facilities in the area.

Christopher Doerr said he has lived in Mequon long enough to remember a time when there was not yet an interstate highway, and fox farms lined Highland Road. He said Mequon has come a long way to get to the Town Center development now taking shape.

"I've seen a lot of changes and they've all been positive," he said. "It's been a terrific place to live – and we've been blessed to raise five children here."

Daniel Doerr said the MCF recognition was a bigger deal than he imagined.

"Both of us are very humbled that the Mequon Community Foundation would think enough of us to present this award," he said.

He said he and his brother learned about philanthropy from their parents.

"We've learned to give to those who have nothing when you have more," he said. "One of the greatest things our parents taught us was to give."

Daniel Doerr said he also has supported causes in other communities where they have a business presence, including Saukville, Black River Falls and Neillsville. He said providing scholarships to students at St. Norbert College has been particularly meaningful when he receives letters from recipients who tell him they otherwise would not have been able to continue their education.

"Once you write the check and you give it away, it comes back to you in spades," he said.

The Mequon Community Foundation previously has given its Pillars of the Community Award to the Sommers family in 2012, former Mequon Mayor Christine Nuernberg in 2013, Richard R. Pieper Sr. in 2014 and the Rennicke family in 2015. *More information on MCF and its work is available online at www.mcfgives.org.*

BOARD MEMBER HIGHLIGHT: STEPHANIE COX

Stephanie (Bruce) Cox has deep roots in the community and many generations of family from the area. After graduating from University School of Milwaukee, she headed to California for college and spent the next 35 years moving around the country with her husband, Mitch and their three sons. They returned six years ago, settling in Mequon. Professionally, Stephanie has a BS degree in mechanical engineering from Stanford University and an MBA in finance from The Wharton School. She has worked as an engineer, a financial analyst, and a small business consultant and recently partnered with Mitch to form Transworld Business Advisors of Milwaukee, a professional intermediary for the marketing and sale of businesses. MCF is grateful that Stephanie has brought her numerous talents to her service on the board and to her work on behalf of the Pillars of the Community annual luncheon.

AREAS OF IMPACT & CONTRIBUTION

MCF contributes to the quality of life for Mequon and its residents.



- **1 Rotary Park** is one of the sites in Mequon where many community events are held. MCF was proud to be sponsors of such events as the City of Mequon Concerts on the Green, as well as many other projects held at the Park.
- **2 Katherine Kearney Carpenter Park.** This site was donated to the City in 1967 subject only to the conditions that it be used for public park purposes and that children and pets be given unrestricted access. MCF has donated over \$17,000 towards the upkeep of this park.
- **3 River Barn Park Sommer Pavilion**. MCF was instrumental in the construction of the Pavilion at River Barn Park.

To date, this is the largest contribution we have made to our community, donating \$300,000 to the construction of the Pavilion, upkeep and playground equipment.

- 4 Mequon Nature Preserve. The Mequon Nature Preserve is an ongoing project to restore its lands to the deciduous forests and wetlands that existed prior to European settlement. MCF has donated over \$34,000 to the Nature Preserve.
- **5 Logemann Community Center. LCC** is a gathering place for the recreational, social and educational activities of area residents, businesses, and organizations. MCF has donated to support its events and even acted as sponsors for fundraisers, socials, and other events at the center.
- **6 Weyenberg Library.** Every year the library has a summer reading program for kids. MCF

donated over \$10,000 keeping these kinds of programs going at the Library.

- **7 Rotary Riverwalk.** A joint project of the two sections of the Mequon Rotary Club, the Riverwalk is an endeavor meant to physically improve the area along the river, as well as draw in visitors. MCF has donated over \$10,000 to this project.
- **8 Highland Woods.** Tree planting in honor of US Military
- 9 Mequon Historic Society
- **10 Homestead High School.** Band uniforms
- 11 Jonathan Clark House.

PILLARS EVENT HONORS DOERR BROTHERS

The Mequon Community Foundation recognized Christopher and Daniel Doerr with its fifth annual Pillars of the Community Award.

The brothers followed in their father's footsteps as they launched numerous successful businesses over the years. Even more significant, they consistently shared the fruits of their success with the community.

Those contributions included major gifts to Columbia St. Mary's Ozaukee Hospital. The hospital opened its new addition in 2002, featuring the two-story Doerr Atrium. In 2011 the Doerr Family Newborn Intensive Care Unit opened at the Mequon hospital.

Continued on Page 2

Article reprinted with permission from the News Graphic



Photo by Mark Justesen

The Doerr brothers, Christopher, left, and Daniel accept the Pillars of the Community Award from Mequon Community Foundation President Kathy Pederson at a celebration held June 7.

P.O. Box 52 Mequon, WI 53092

