Mequon Community Foundation Mequon Community Foundation Issue 9. October 2019 Issue 9. October 2019



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The Mequon Community Foundation raises funds annually from individuals and other sources to support the Mequon Police Department and their K9 program. The MCF Board is pleased to announce that we received a \$2,500 grant from the Hiram Schmitt Fund of the Greater Milwaukee Foundation to purchase and install safety features on the K9 squad car purchased in 2018. Officer Iron requires a specially outfitted police car for his safety and for the safety of his handler, Sgt. Jake Schiller. Due to the mileage driven annually, and the engine running constantly during their 8+ hour shifts, the squad car needs to be replaced every five years. The car is dedicated to the K9 program, and has a specifically designed climate control system with extra vents to ensure proper heating and cooling to the rear kennel. Specially built-in sensors and alarms alert Sgt. Schiller if the temperature fluctuates above or below the safe setting for Officer Iron.

In 2018, Officer Iron was deployed 162 times and assisted with 53 arrests. He was asked to sniff 108 vehicles; 86 had positive indications for narcotics. Officer Iron was also asked to use his tracking skills four times, and assisted schools in Mequon with 15 searches. The impact of the K9 program goes beyond basic law enforcement requirements. Sgt. Schiller and Officer Iron participated in 15 school events and 11 public appearances last year, building rapport between the community and the police. It is important to give children the opportunity to learn that police officers are approachable and to see Sgt. Schiller and Officer Iron in non-crisis situations.

We are grateful to the Hiram Schmitt Fund and the Greater Milwaukee Foundation for their support of the Mequon Community Foundation and the Mequon Police Department K9 program!

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MEGUON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



# MCF HAPPENINGS

Serving the Mequon Community to Enhance Our Quality of Life

#### 20 YEARS STRONG – AND GROWING STRONGER

We are celebrating our 20th year! Since 1999, the Meguon Community Foundation has partnered with the City, residents and businesses to enhance the safety, recreational, educational and cultural opportunities available to all. Throughout this time, we have been blessed with leaders of great vision, dedication and commitment who have continually taken the Foundation to new levels. We have always been served by volunteer board members who share the gifts of great vision, dedication and commitment and who have made possible all that MCF has done.

The mission of the Mequon Community Foundation (MCF) is to enhance the quality of life in Meguon. MCF has been a part of many successful City improvements and programs over the past two decades, including the expansion of River Barn Bark, various projects by the Meguon Parks Department, improvements at Rotary Park, Garrison's Glen and Highland Woods, Jonathan Clark House, the Mequon-Thiensville Historical Society, Weyenberg Library, the Mequon Police Department K-9 program, and the Mequon Fire Department. In total, over \$750,000 has been granted by the Foundation. Our ability to support these ventures has been accomplished through the generosity of individuals and local businesses through our year-end appeal and our annual Pillars of the Community Luncheon.

Our shared vision moving forward is to substantially grow the amount of MCF funds over the next three years, allowing us to support projects and programs that provide great value to our community each year. We have revised and updated our corporate governance and administrative policies, improved our committee structure and working processes, launched a new website, established new relationships to grow our investable funds, implemented a new grants process and enhanced our investment policies. We continually look for ways to increase awareness of MCF by strengthening our partnerships with residents, within the City and with organizations that support a strong Meguon community.

Our relationship with Richmond Investment Services (RIS) improves our investment opportunities and in return, allows donors to make gifts of appreciated stock, and increases philanthropic opportunities for residents, such as supporting particular MCF projects through donor advised funds. Our relationship with the Greater Milwaukee Foundation (GMF) assists with grant-making and further diversifies our investment portfolio. For our friends who already have a Donor Advised Fund at GMF, or are looking to create a Named Endowment Opportunity, GMF provides convenient means to support MCF.

We are dedicated to meeting the needs of those who choose Meguon as a place to raise their family or run their business. Providing donors with multiple avenues to support our efforts to enhance the quality of life in Mequon will ensure a future filled with excellent parks, programs, and facilities to be enjoyed for many years to come.

We understand that our greatest partnership is with you --- the individuals and businesses who show support for our mission through financial and in-kind contributions. Thank you for your support through the years and in years to come. Should you have questions or need more information about current MCF projects, opportunities, or gifting, please contact us at www.mcfgives.org.

> Save the Date June 2, 2020 9th Annual Pillars of the Community Luncheon

### **ABOUT MCF**

The Mequon Community Foundation (MCF) is a 501(c)(3) that provides grants to community organizations, programs and services that enhance the quality of life in Mequon. Since its founding in 1999, MCF has raised and distributed over \$750,000 through the charitable giving of the generous residents and businesses of Mequon. Thank you to all of our donors!

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

## 2019-2020 BOARD **OF DIRECTORS**

President: Jim Button

**Immediate Past** President: Kathy Pederson

**Board Members:** 

Vice President: Rick Janezic

Treasurer: Lori Lorenz

Co-Secretaries:

Sally Lyne Robyn Slater

Nina Darling

Jane Wierzba

**CONNECT** 

Julie Petri







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# JIM KACMARCIK IS MEQUON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION'S 2019 PILLAR OF THE COMMUNITY



The Mequon Community Foundation honored Jim Kacmarcik, President of Kapko and local philanthropist, with its Pillar of the Community Award at the eighth annual luncheon on June 4th at Concordia University Wisconsin.

"Jim is an inspiration and a tremendous role model. He exemplifies what it means to pay it forward," said Jim Button, Mequon Community Foundation President. "Our communities and countless people have been and will continue to be touched, enriched and forever changed for the better in so many ways by Jim's vision, selfless service, and support."

At the event, Kacmarcik told attendees that he plans to make a contribution to the Foundation to support the Mequon Fire and Police departments. The MPD funds will be used to create a quiet, comfortable room for officers to complete reports and unwind. The fire department plans to use the donation to purchase a mechanical CPR machine.

Kacmarcik's long philanthropic history includes founding a number of nonprofit endeavors including Kids2Kids Christmas, a toy collection drive for low-income families. Founded in 2006, this annual event collects and distributes more than 20,000 toys each year. Several thousand children participate annually by volunteering and donating toys.

In 2013, Kacmarcik co-founded Camp Hometown Heroes, a summer camp for children who have lost loved ones in the armed services. The free camp offers children friendship, healing, and renewed hope. Most recently, Kacmarcik and his daughter, Kenzie, were among the co-founders of Camp Reunite, a groundbreaking program that reunites children with their incarcerated mothers.

Kacmarcik is president and majority owner of the Northwoods League collegiate wood bat team, the Lakeshore Chinooks. In 2012, Kapco Park opened as a collaboration between Concordia University and Kapco. The stadium serves as the home of the Lakeshore Chinooks and Concordia University's baseball team.

"We were very pleased to honor Jim Kacmarcik at this year's Pillars of the Community Luncheon," said Mequon Community Foundation Immediate Past President Kathy Pederson. "He contributes so much to our community as a business leader and a philanthropist."

# MCF BOARD MEMBER PROFILES

#### JIM BUTTON

Jim Button and his family moved to Mequon in 1998, choosing our community over several others because of the excellent school system, the numerous parks and open spaces to adventure and play, community activities and opportunities for involvement, and the overall quality of life it provides. Jim, an attorney by trade, has been active over the years in various organizations, including numerous leadership and other roles at Grace Lutheran Church – Thiensville; Mequon-Thiensville Sunrise Rotary; the Thiensville Business Association; the Grafton Chamber of Commerce; the Mequon Area Swim Team; the Thiensville-Mequon Youth Baseball Association; and the Mequon Meteors. He has served in several capacities as a director for the Mequon Community Foundation since September 2016 and currently serves as President. In his spare time, Jim enjoys competitive sports, the outdoors, reading and spending time with family and friends. He is married to Judy, the proud father of four daughters, and Pop-pop of six grandchildren thus far.

#### **LORI LORENZ**

Lori's love for Mequon started when she got engaged in Virmond Park in 1983 to Eric, whom she met while earning her accounting degree from UW-Whitewater. She and Eric moved to Mequon in 1984 when they married because they loved the large yards, being close to nature and the wonderful school system. A job change forced a move to the Chicago area with their three children in 1998, but they returned to Mequon 2009. Lori and her husband retired in 2012 and she now focuses her volunteer time as an accounting consultant for nonprofits and start-up companies. She also serves on the Gems of Hope Board, UW-Whitewater Foundation Board, mentor for accounting students at UW-Whitewater and leads small group bible studies through her church, Fox Point Lutheran. Lori joined the Mequon Community Foundation board in November 2017. As MCF's treasurer, she has been fundamental in updating their accounting records, developing investment relationships and moving forward MCF's mission. Lori loves to bike, golf, play tennis, and spend time outdoors with her family.

#### RICHARD JANEZIC

Rick relocated to Wisconsin from Atlanta 30 years ago after living the first half of his life in the greater Philadelphia and New York areas. His education in engineering and business led him to a career in sales, technology and business leadership. He and his wife Tammy, a native of Janesville, along with children Jennifer, Andrew and Mitchell, are fans of the Badgers, Packers and Brewers, and enjoy the endless beauty and enduring charm of Wisconsin. Rick had over 20 years of board experience before joining the Mequon Community Foundation in 2016 to help strengthen strategic and financial planning activities. In his spare time, Rick cherishes spending time with family and friends.

The Mequon Community Foundation is so grateful for the donations received from generous members of our community. The names listed below made a tax-deductible contribution to the Foundation between August 1, 2018 – July 31, 2019. We apologize for any errors and omissions. If you need to provide us with a correction, please contact Sally Lyne at sally@linebylyneconsulting.com

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