

TAEF

2012

# VOLUNTEER

# *Voice*

*"Your  
Hometown  
Charitable  
Organization"*



On the Web at

[www.thornapplefoundation.org](http://www.thornapplefoundation.org)

A Geographic Affiliate of  
the Barry Community Foundation

# A Letter from your Board President



If I had to describe my first year as President of the Thornapple Area Enrichment Foundation (TAEF) Board in one word it would be fulfilling. Thanks to the dedication of the Board of Directors, volunteers and donors, TAEF continues to make contributions and advancements within the Thornapple Kellogg Community. Our schools, like many schools throughout the country, have faced unique challenges during the past year. As a result of our endowed funds, TAEF is able to consistently provide grants and scholarships, even during trying financial times. TAEF is truly making a positive impact in the community, of which all stakeholders can be proud. This legacy of the past allows us to continue our work for the future.

During this past fiscal year, I have spent a great deal of time reflecting. This year marked the 10th anniversary of the passing of my Grandpa, Bill McKeown, and my good friend, Travis Wenger. Both of their legacies live on in part because of their relationships with the Thornapple Area Enrichment Foundation.

Bill McKeown was the 2001 Hometown Hero recipient and has a memorial bench on the Paul Henry Trail. The bench was purchased through TAEF thanks to contributions to his memorial fund. Located at the back of the McKeown farm on the banks of the Thornapple River, the bench provides a place to rest, relax and enjoy the natural beauty that stretches across our community.

Two scholarships are awarded each year in memory of Travis Wenger. Many of the relationships that were important to Travis were formed by participating in 4-H activities and living on his family's farm. It is very moving to witness his legacy established in his memory come alive in students who want to further their education. It is a great tribute each year for funds to be used to carry on his positive spirit and memory.

The Thornapple Area Enrichment Foundation is personal to me. It is 'Your Hometown Charitable Organization' and we sincerely hope it is personal to everyone that supports it and has benefited from it. We will continue to touch lives in positive ways, but this can only be accomplished with continued support from our community.

Thank you so much for all you have done in the past, present and future.

Kyle McKeown

2011-2012  
Board of Directors

\* Joanne Dipp \* Shelley Erb \* Annie Halle \* Krissta Hannapel  
\* Diane Weatherhead \* Bob Williams \* Don Williamson \*

# Volunteer Feature

## TK Class of '57 Fund

Shortly after our 50th class reunion, a classmate and I were reminiscing about our high school experiences. When we graduated, all those years ago from Thornapple Kellogg, scholarships weren't available! We greatly appreciate all the TK faculty members who gave us such a good start in life. It was these fond memories of our educational experience that was the catalyst for our TK Class of '57 Scholarship Fund.

My classmate and I began by making the first contributions, and many of our class members followed with unbridled generosity. Many gave because of their passion for the teachers and the "head-start" they gave to us in life. Even more gave in memory of our beloved classmate, Bill Harrison. The fund finally reached the minimum level to award our first scholarship this past school year. We are so proud to be part of the fund that presented its first scholarship to Zach Comeau. I cannot express the joy and satisfaction that comes from knowing that this award will continue on, in the name of our class, forever.

Bob Williams,  
TK Class of '57



Thank you to all the volunteers who have generously donated their valuable time to the Thornapple Area Enrichment Foundation.

Lisa Brown	Voni Lucas
Rick Buller	Char McKee
Mindy Cutlip	Gary McKee
Holli Dickman	Kathy Ranes
Bill Dipp	Dawn Reigler
Jodie Elles	Jon Simpson
Janis Fitzgerald	Char Thomas
Susan Foster	Aletha Titus
Candace Holsted	Terry Titus
Deb Jensen	Heidi VanAman
Patricia Johns	Vonnie Verlinde
Jim Keller	Steve Williams
Brad Lamberg	Karen Williamson
Melissa Losey	Celeste Wolverton

The TAEF Board of Directors would like to extend their appreciation to all of the Fund Holders, whose dedication and generosity is the driving force behind this foundation.



\* Judy Hendrickson

\* Kyle McKeown

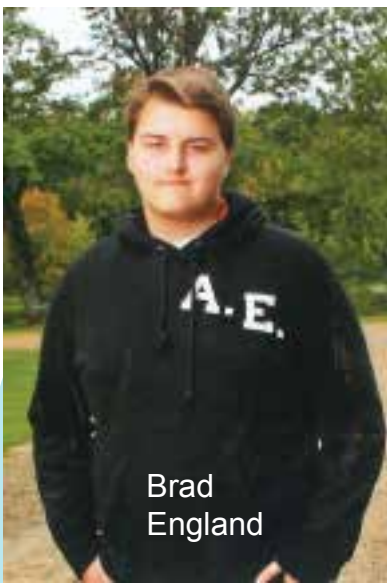
\* Gary Rider

\* Gary Thaler

Jeff Wolverton

\*

BCF/TAEF Staff: Laurie Black



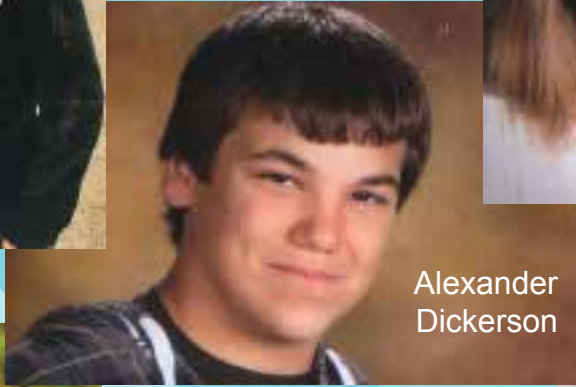
Brad England



Lindsay Genter



Kimberly Johnson



Alexander Dickerson



Erin Leach



Sara Densberger



Kenneth Stahl



Zachary Comeau



Joshua Bremer



Benjamin Myers

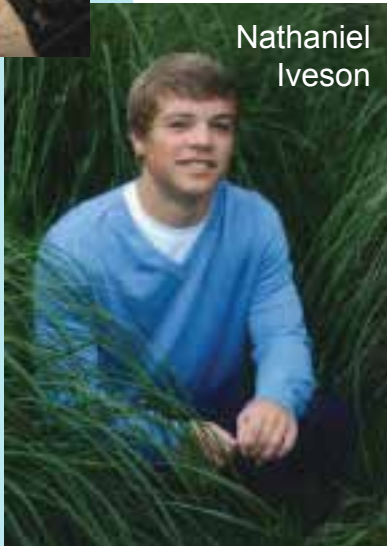


Allyson Finkbeiner



Shannon Hamilton

# Thornapple Area Enrichment Foundation 2012 Scholarship Recipients



## **Adam Dipp Memorial Scholarship**

Brad England

## **Alecia Lorraine Holst Memorial Scholarship**

Alexander Dickerson

## **Beth Helrigel Wester Memorial Scholarship**

Lindsay Genther

## **Dr. Wayne and Marie Finkbeiner Scholarship**

Kimberly Johnson

## **Eugene and Edna Hendrickson Memorial Scholarship**

Sierra Sigler

## **Francisca C. Vrona Memorial Scholarship**

Kimberly Johnson

## **John and Maxine Robertson Scholarship**

Alyson Lynn

## **Jon and Kay Simpson Scholarship**

Alyson Lynn

## **Katherine and Edward Wieringa Friendship in Community Scholarship**

Erin Leach

Sara Densberger

## **Lois Ann Nagel Seppanen Memorial Scholarship**

Sara Densberger

## **Lynn Helrigel Summers Memorial Scholarship**

Lindsay Genther

## **McCullough Family Scholarship**

Kenneth Stahl

## **Millicent Grace Knox Teacher Scholarship**

Gayle Lofquist

## **Ray Page Scholar-Athletic Memorial Scholarship**

Nathaniel Iveson

## **Rodney and Rena Schad Memorial Scholarship for Industrial Arts**

Joshua Bremer

## **Samuel McKeown Memorial Scholarship**

Alexander Dickerson

Allyson Finkbeiner

Erin Leach

Benjamin Myers

## **Tad Thatcher Memorial Scholarship**

Shannon Hamilton

## **TK Class of '57 Scholarship**

Zachary Comeau

## **TAEF Matching – RKW Working Student Scholarship**

Sierra Sigler

## **Terrie Yoder Memorial Scholarship**

Alaina Spencer

## **Thomas R. Hamilton Tennis Memorial Scholarship**

Shannon Hamilton

## **TAEF Traditional Scholarship**

Sierra Sigler

Kenneth Stahl

## **Travis Wenger Memorial Scholarship**

Aimee Ellinger

## **Travis Wenger Memorial 4-H Scholarship**

Marie Feldpausch

## TAEF Funds

Adam Dipp Scholarship Fund  
Alecia Lorraine Holst Scholarship Fund  
Beacon Society, Friends of the Thornapple Kellogg  
School & Community Library Fund  
Beth Helrigel Wester Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Calvin C. Plummer Memorial Fund  
Charles & Margery Williams Youth Activity Fund  
TK Class of '57 Scholarship Fund  
Donald & Catherine Williamson Visual and  
Performing Arts Scholarship Fund  
Dr. Wayne and Marie Finkbeiner Scholarship Fund  
Dykstra EMS Matching Fund  
Eugene & Edna Hendrickson Memorial Scholarship  
Fund  
Frank Tichvon Memorial Fund  
Gerald & Ceta Williams Fund  
Jeffery Lehman Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Jessica Coe Memorial Fund  
JK Simpson Scholarship Fund  
John & Maxine Robertson Scholarship Fund  
Katherine & Edward Wieringa Friendship &  
Community Scholarship Fund  
Lois Ann Nagel-Seppanen Scholarship Fund  
Lynn Helrigel Summers Memorial Fund  
McCullough Family Scholarship Fund  
Middleville Women's Club Scholarship Fund  
Millicent Knox Teacher Scholarship Fund  
Mom's Scholarship in memory of Virginia Hoover  
Harrison Root Fund  
Ray Page Scholar-Athlete Memorial Fund  
Richard & Eric Lee Reyff Memorial Fund  
Rodney & Rena Schad Memorial Scholarship for  
Industrial Arts Fund  
Samuel McKeown Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Tad Thatcher Memorial Scholarship Fund  
TAEF Board Discretionary Fund  
TAEF General Fund  
TAEF Matching - RKW Working Student  
Scholarship Fund  
Terrie Yoder Memorial Fund  
The Francisca C. Vrona Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Thomas R. Hamilton Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Thornapple Area Enrichment Foundation Fund  
Thornapple Kellogg Public Library Fund  
Travis Wenger Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Travis Wenger Memorial 4-H Scholarship Fund

## Thornapple Area Enrichment Foundation's Grant and Mini-Grant Awards

**Two TK Odyssey of the Mind Teams received a \$500  
TAEF grant to participate in World Finals**

Odyssey of the Mind (OM) is an international educational program that challenges students to use creative problem solving and team work to solve complex problems. This year two elementary teams from Thornapple Kellogg qualified for the OM World Finals. At the OM World Finals teams compete along side thousands of teams throughout the U.S. and the world. The teams used the funds awarded to them from the TAEF to help cover registration and dormitory fees during the four day competition at Iowa State University.



**Kiley Hilton received a \$450 TAEF grant to attend two  
Grand Rapids Civic Theater Courses**

Kiley Hilton, a Thornapple Kellogg 8th grade student, was awarded a \$450 grant to attend Theater Wheel and Broadway Bound at the Grand Rapids Civic Theater in the fall of 2012. The Thornapple Area Enrichment Foundation grant was provided by the Donald and Catherine Williamson Visual and Performing Arts Fund, which was developed to provide Visual and Performing Arts opportunities to students in Thornapple Kellogg Schools.

### **A \$1,000 TAEF grant was awarded to the TK High School Robotics Team to attend World Competition**

Thornapple Kellogg High School Robotics Team received the "Design Award" at the VEX Robotics Gateway Competition held at MSU and advanced to the World Championship Competition in Anaheim, California. The team was selected because it demonstrated an organized and professional approach to the design process, project management, time management and team organization. The \$1,000 TAEF grant helped to cover travel and registration expenses for the team.

### **Page Elementary received a \$500 grant to purchase books for 1st Annual Battle of the Books**

Battle of the Books, a nationally recognized program, encourages students to read books through friendly competition. Page Elementary started the program to help increase student reading comprehension. The \$500 TAEF Grant was used to purchase "battle books" for students. In total the students at Page Elementary read 840 books in preparation for the competition.

### **TAEF helps to bring diversity to Lee Elementary by awarding a \$500 grant for diverse reading material**

Lee Elementary began a Diversity Through Literature Program this year, which will expose students to differences in our community. The program will focus on a wide range of differences including racial, cultural, economic, physical and mental health. The \$500 grant provided by TAEF helped Lee Elementary purchase age appropriate books which will introduce these differences to students to instill understanding and tolerance of others.

### **Thornapple Area Enrichment Foundation contributes \$2,500 to Lee Elementary for a walking path**

Lee Elementary received a TAEF Grant for \$2,500 for the construction of a walking path that will be located on the playground. The walking path is being developed to encourage an understanding of lifelong fitness and health.

It will be used by Lee Elementary students at recess and PE class as well as the members of the Fit Girls program which practices at Lee Elementary. The community will also be welcome to use the path during "off school" times. The walking path is scheduled to be completed during the 2012 - 2013 school year.

### **Thornapple Kellogg Cognitively Impaired Classrooms received a \$2,880 TAEF grant to provide therapeutic horseback riding lessons**

Thanks in part to a Thornapple Area Enrichment Foundation grant, thirty-one Thornapple Kellogg students from kindergarten to 12th grade with cognitive impairments, Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Down Syndrome and other health impairments can participate in therapeutic horseback riding at Camp Manitou-Lin. Thornapple Kellogg Cognitive Impaired classrooms received \$2,880 to assist with the cost of the program. Through these riding lessons students gain self esteem, emotional worth, core strength and verbal skills as they work toward learning how to direct and care for a horse. TAEF awarded a total of \$2,000 with the additional \$880 granted through the Calvin C. Plummer Special Needs Fund. The Calvin C. Plummer Special Needs Fund is a TAEF fund developed for the purpose of providing grants to enhance the lives of mentally and/or physically challenged individuals.



# Tom Enslin



The Thornapple Area Enrichment Foundation and the Thornapple Kellogg Schools have a long-standing partnership dedicated to supporting students in educational pursuits. In my new role as Superintendent of TK schools, I will be committed to preserving this tradition as we collaborate on those endeavors specific to the students of this great community.

As a teacher of 20 years and a school administrator the last eight here at TK, I am eager to continue the tradition of excellence we have come to know in this district. Among those traditions will be to maintain current programs in spite of cutbacks at the state and federal levels, to continue with extracurricular opportunities for all students, and to build on our standing as one of the highest achieving districts in the Kent Intermediate School District.

Please feel free to contact me at (269) 795-5521 if you have questions regarding Thornapple Kellogg Schools.

Tom Enslin  
Superintendent, Thornapple Kellogg Schools

TAEF \* PO Box 164 \* Middleville, MI 49333 \* Phone: (269) 795-5524 \* Email: [taef@barrycl.org](mailto:taef@barrycl.org)

TAEF  
PO Box 164  
Middleville, MI 49333

THORNAPPLE AREA ENRICHMENT FOUNDATION