

SPRING 2011

Forever BEST FRIENDS

Girlfriends gather to establish Carol Edwards Memorial Fund

Anything is possible when you get a group of bright women together, most women would agree. And the newly formed Carol Edwards Memorial Fund is a living example. Carol Edwards was an outstanding psychologist and educator who died last January from cardiovascular disease. But Edwards meant far more to the friends joining together to establish a memorial fund in her name.

"Carol was one of those women you aren't fortunate enough to meet that often. All of her friends were touched and changed by her. In a practical, real life living way," said Joanne Urschel, one of Edwards' many friends. "Carol had true leadership skills. She was the one you wanted involved when you wanted to get things done," said Mary Beth Schultz, another friend. Friends also recall Edwards' sense of humor, her authentic honesty, and her appreciation for a good glass of Riesling.

To keep Edwards' can-do energy alive, these women and others have established the Carol Brabec Edwards Memorial Fund through the Porter County Community Foundation. The fund will go to two causes dear to Edwards – the Women's Fund of Porter County and The Caring Place. "Carol was so involved in our community and we decided that our memorial to her should be in her community," said Urschel. The fund has been initiated with two \$5,000 donations – one to each cause and both in Edwards' name. The fund also has the support of Edwards' family.

"Carol was very generous herself and wanted to see positive things happen. I see an endowment as a vision of the future and Carol was a visionary," said Schultz. "The community foundation makes it so easy to do this. They have all the knowledge and they do it so well. Certainly we'll be soliciting each year to support the fund, but the Foundation is a tremendous help," said Urschel.



To support the Carol Brabec Edwards Memorial Fund or establish a fund of your own, contact the Porter County Community Foundation at 219-465-0294.

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Chairman



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wishes to thank our dedicated
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A DELICIOUS WAY TO GIVE



Shares with Foundation all year

Diners at Strongbow Inn are finding a tasty new item on the menu these days and it benefits the Foundation. Strongbow now features a Charity Choice on both the lunch and dinner menu, with 10 percent of the sale going to charity. For 2011, Strongbow has chosen the Porter County Community Foundation as the recipient of the charity funds for this year.

"We think the Foundation does so many wonderful things for so many wonderful causes that we chose to support their efforts this year," said Russ Adams, Strongbow's owner. "We really believe in giving back to our community and this was a good way for us to contribute," he said. In the past, the restaurant has alternated to a different charity recipient each month and has raised as much as \$1,200 in charity dining selections monthly.

Check out the daily charity choice and be sure to thank Strongbow for their generosity!

Give More. ... Pay Less

New laws for charitable IRAs make gifts tax-free

If you're over 70 1/2 years old, current tax laws give you an opportunity to transfer up to \$100,000 from your individual retirement account to charity this year - tax free. Here's how it works:



- You make a gift of up to \$100,000 by transferring IRA assets to the Foundation or qualifying nonprofit organization. If married, each spouse can transfer up to \$100,000 from his or her IRA.
- Your gift can be placed into a charitable fund in your name, or in honor of any person or organization you choose. You also have many options for how the gift is used. You can choose to have it benefit the Foundation in general or choose a specific organization or community need to support. The Foundation can assist you with all administrative details.
- Your gift will be placed into an endowment that is invested and continue to grow, ensuring that your gift will continue supporting your community forever.
- The special provision is due to expire at the end of this year. Act now to see if this could be a tax-smart way for you to make a difference.

To learn more, contact the Foundation at 219-465-0294
or visit us online at www.portercountyfoundation.org.



TURNING AN IRA INTO AN EDUCATION

While doing her estate plan, Mrs. Smith learned about the charitable IRA. Mrs. Smith is more than 70-1/2 years old and did not really need the mandatory distribution from her IRA for her living expenses. She and her late husband had been long-time members of a local parish and were grateful to have been able to educate all of their children at the church's parochial school. Mrs. Smith wanted to give this opportunity to other local children. The charitable IRA allowed her to achieve this dream. Using \$100,000 from her IRA, she could create a scholarship fund through the Porter County Community Foundation. Mrs. Smith is able to see the benefit of her family's charitable gift during her lifetime, watching many other families benefit from the Christian education her children enjoyed.

**SAVE
THE DATE!
NOV. 12!**



FOUNDATION IS FABULOUS AND 15!

Foundation plans a FUNdraiser for scholarships

The Porter County Community Foundation is celebrating its 15th year with a Fab Fifteen FUNdraiser focused on the future... our children's future! That's right, many local students lack the funds to make their dreams possible so for our 15th, we're planning a special college tailgate party to support scholarships for deserving Porter County students. Our goal is to raise \$150,000 for the Porter County Community Scholarship Fund - that's \$10,000 for each inspiring year since our founding. Here's what's in store:

Fab Fifteen **College Tailgate Scholarship FUNdraiser**

Nov. 12 at the Porter County Expo Center
Wear jeans and your favorite college team gear
Live performance by Second City
Festive food, fun games, grateful students!

Since 1987, the Foundation has awarded 187 scholarships to deserving students. Many of these students have returned to Porter County to put their education to work right here. We'd like to make it possible for more bright young people to pursue higher education.

Your invitation is coming and we hope you'll join the fun. For more information about the event or to make a gift to the Foundation scholarship fund, contact the Foundation at 219-465-0294.