

### Creating Legacies in Darke County

Summer 2020

The Darke County Foundation is a community foundation dedicated to improving the lives of Darke County residents by receiving, managing and distributing charitable gifts.

# Oliver Establishes Fund for Versailles Students Attending Wittenberg Univ.

David Oliver of Miami Lakes, Florida, recently established a permanent scholarship endowment at the Darke County Foundation for Versailles High School graduates attending Wittenberg University. Investment income from the fund will provide an annual scholarship award with the intention of keeping Oliver's original gift intact.

The first recipient of the Oliver Scholarship is 2020 VHS graduate Isaac Grilliot, who received a \$1,500 award.



David Oliver

Isaac Grilliot

Oliver graduated from VHS in 1958 and from Wittenberg in 1962, where he was captain of the varsity wrestling team and member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity.

"Two of the many blessings I experienced in my life were 1) to grow up in the terrific Versailles environment with a remarkable family, and 2) to experience four enjoyable and rewarding years at Wittenberg University in Springfield," said Oliver.

Oliver spent his entire professional career with the Miami Herald newspaper and its parent company, Knight Ridder. He managed the Data Services Department for 24 years until his retirement in 1998.

Since the late 1940s, Oliver has been a major collector of sports and entertainment cards and memorabilia, which he is selling to help fund the scholarships.

"When I was a youngster, Ed Barga and I peddled our bikes all over Versailles, Brock, Frenchtown and Russia to buy baseball, football and entertainment cards," said Oliver. "Over time these cards proved to

be prudent purchases. My mother and father didn't throw anything away."

Oliver's collection includes many thousands of vintage items from baseball, basketball, football, and other sports and entertainment. Anyone interested in Oliver's items may contact the Darke County Foundation at (937) 548-4673 or dcf@darkecountyfoundation.org.

"A great amount of the current value is the result of what transpired in Versailles many years ago," said Oliver.

The Foundation is grateful to Oliver for making the most of his collection to assist students at his alma maters for years to come.



Volunteers at the Ansonia Food Pantry organize items purchased with a grant from the COVID-19 Relief Fund at the Darke County Foundation. Pictured (I to r): Judy Collins, Bill Collins, Doug Shellhaas

## COVID-19 Relief Fund Assists Local Charities

Darke County residents responded generously to a request to assist neighbors in need from the COVID-19 crisis. Donors gave over \$25,000 that the Foundation is directing to non-profit groups that provide basic needs for local residents (like food, shelter and medication).

The Ansonia Food Pantry received a grant to buy groceries and food vouchers to give away.

"We get clients from all over Darke County," said coordinator Don Moyers. "Last year we served 995 clients and gave away \$7,000 in food vouchers."

DCF also sponsored 400 meals to elderly shut-ins, with trustees driving meals to recipients.

Other groups receiving funding were FISH Choice Pantry, Grace Resurrection Community Center, Greenville Community Unity, NextStep Ministries at EUM Church, and Catholic Social Services of Miami Valley.

Donors may send checks payable to Darke County Foundation to P.O. Box 438, Greenville, OH 45331.



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The Darke County Foundation helped deliver hot meals to elderly shut-ins, provided by a grant from the Foundation's COVID-19 Relief Fund. Pictured (I to r): Christy Prakel, Susan Barker, Diane Evans and Eileen Litchfield.



## Sunshine 5K Run/Walk

Sat., Sept. 19, 2020 Greenville City Park start anytime between 8-8:45 am

Benefiting:
Cancer Association of Darke County
Bridges to College • Edison Foundation
DeColores Montessori School
Friends of Darke County Parks
St. Mary's Catholic School

For information and registration: www.darkecountyfoundation.com







Congratulations to 70 recent graduates from 8 Darke County high schools who received nearly \$100,000 in scholarships for their first year of college. Another 44 upperclass students were eligible to receive \$58,000 in awards. Money for the scholarships came from 54 funds managed by the Foundation. Read about the donors to each fund in our List of Funds at www.darkecountyfoundation.org.



**Hunter Buckingham** Ansonia



**Brock Shellhaas** Ansonia



Dylan Rhodehamel Arcanum



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Tara Tankersley Tri-Village



Hannah Bey Versailles



Alexander Brewer Versailles



**Grace Carman** Versailles



Ian Gehret Versailles



Alexander Grilliot



Isaac Grilliot Versailles



Deanna Hesson Versailles



Makenzie Knore Versailles



Trent Langenkamp



Jenna Mangen Versailles



Caitlin McEldowney Versailles



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