

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



*This architectural rendering shows planned improvements at North Star Community Park. The Darke County Foundation is administering the project fund.*

## North Star Community Raises Funds for Park Improvements

In the sky overhead, the "North Star" is an anchor around which the northern sky moves. The landmark shines brightly to guide travelers to a fixed destination. Symbolically, one's "North Star" is a reliable pillar on which you can depend, a beacon of inspiration and hope.

For the northern Darke County village of North Star and its rural neighbors, this definition is fitting. Established in 1852, North Star is known for its community-minded spirit, thriving businesses, and robust agricultural operations.

With new housing developments and strong family values, North Star is attracting young families and bringing people home, said Rachel Bergman, board member of the North Star Community Association.

"Our residents greatly value their quality of life and hometown pride," said Bergman.

At the center of town is the North Star Community Park, home to the 2-day Community Picnic, Auxiliary Legion Bean Bake, Craig Stammen Classic Baseball Tournament, and Fall Fest. The park is often bustling with family reunions, baseball games, and playground activity.

After decades of use, the park is in need of major repairs or replacement of its shelter house, restrooms, storage facilities, parking lot, walkways, and other structures. The North Star Community Association set up a project fund at the Darke County Foundation to help raise \$1 million. Already, over \$700,000 has been pledged. DCF helps with accounting and distribution of the funds.

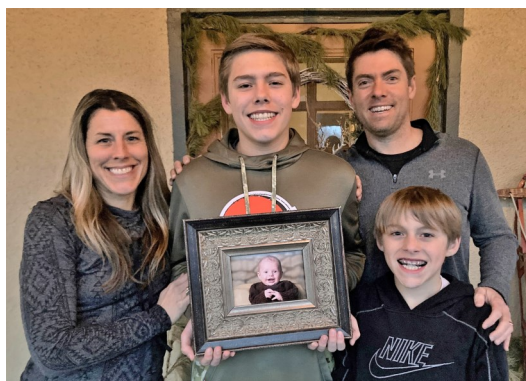
"Our residents see the importance of investing in our community, making it one we can continue to be proud of and grow with," said Katie DeLand, board member of NSCA.

Major league baseball player and North Star native Craig Stammen is honorary chair of North Star Park's facility committee. "Whether you make a gift in honor of your family, in memory of loved ones, to celebrate the spirit of our wonderful community, or you volunteer manpower, any support you can give will be greatly appreciated," said Stammen.

Donors giving \$5,000 or more will be recognized on a donor wall at the park. To make a donation, visit [www.darkecountyfoundation.org](http://www.darkecountyfoundation.org) or e-mail [northstarcommunityassociation@gmail.com](mailto:northstarcommunityassociation@gmail.com) with your questions or gift intention.

## Greyson Steyer Memorial Fund Brings Joy to Local Children

Matt and Mindy Steyer of Greenville established the Greyson James Steyer Memorial Fund at the Darke County Foundation in 2011 after the death of their infant son Greyson.



*The Steyers: Mindy, Gibson (holding photo of Greyson), Matt, and Grady.*

“Our thoughts at the time were that we wanted a way for Greyson’s name to live on and his love could be shared with our community,” said the Steyers. “Looking back, it’s hard to

believe it has been 12

years. We’ve been blessed to be able to grow his fund through our own contributions and donations by our family and friends.”

Donors have given nearly \$200,000 since the fund’s inception. From this amount, the fund has distributed \$88,000 to local non-profit organizations to benefit children and their families. Some of the recipients include:

- Darke Co. Center for the Arts (Family Theatre Series)
- Darke Co. United Way (Dolly Parton Imagination Library)
- EUM Church (playground)
- Greenville Public Library (summer reading program)
- City of Greenville (Christmas lights for downtown)
- The House that Lulu Built (programs and housing for grieving families)

YOLO of Darke County (urban park downtown Greenville) Greenville Citizens Baseball (ice machine and split unit)

The Steyer family was deeply touched in 2021 when contributions came in from 85 donors who made gifts in memory of Greenville residents Dana Holzapfel and Dick Powers, who both unfortunately passed away that year. The Holzapfel and Powers families are friends with the Steyers and thought that supporting Greyson’s fund would be a fitting tribute to their loved ones.

“Words will never be able to say how grateful and thankful we are to both families for choosing Greyson’s fund to direct contributions to honor Dana and Dick,” said the Steyers. “We cherish our friendship with both families.”

The Steyers continued, “We are very thankful the Darke County Foundation exists in our community. Christy (Executive Director) and Beth (Finance Manager) and the entire Board of Trustees continue to do such excellent work. We’re honored that Greyson’s fund is one of the now 100 funds within the Foundation. We live in a generous community.”



*The Greyson Steyer Memorial Fund supports the summer reading program entertainment at Greenville Public Library.*

## New Scholarship for Ansonia Honors Wayne Detling

A new scholarship at the Darke County Foundation honors a 1957 Ansonia High School graduate who was committed to his community. The Wayne K. Detling Scholarship awards \$1,500 to an Ansonia graduate in his or her second year of college. Preference is given to a student who participated in FFA. Students apply during their senior year in high school through the general application for Darke County Foundation scholarships, available at [www.darkecountyfoundation.org](http://www.darkecountyfoundation.org). Deadline is April 1, 2023.

Detling’s family established the scholarship after he died in 2021. Respected as a successful farmer and business



*Wayne Detling*

owner, Detling generously supported Ansonia school projects and student need during his lifetime, providing scholarships to Ansonia graduates for many years. He served on the Ansonia School Board of Education and was a member of Kiwanis and Adult Farmers. Detling began his farming career by raising tomatoes at the age of 14. He then moved into grain farming, and at one time had the largest privately owned poultry farm in Darke County.

The Darke County Foundation is proud to pay tribute to an extraordinary man with scholarships that will assist Ansonia students for many years.

## DCF Welcomes New Trustees



*Jim Detling*

**Jim Detling**, attorney with Flinn & Detling Law Group, has been practicing law in Darke County since 1995. He specializes in estate planning, probate and real estate. Jim grew up on a farm in northern Darke County, graduated from the Ohio State University and the University of Toledo College of Law. He has served on boards for the YMCA, Wayne Industries, Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Shelby/Darke Counties, and the Red Cross. Jim has also been a business law instructor at Edison State Community College. Jim lives in Greenville with his wife Rebecca. He has four adult children and two grandchildren.



*Terri Flood*

**Terri Flood** is vice president of business development at Wayne HealthCare, serving as one of its principal storytellers, employee engagement/development champions and brand management leaders. Terri has 20 years of experience in healthcare marketing, communications, public relations and business development. As a civic-minded servant leader, Terri prioritizes her role as community advocate, philanthropist and mentor. Terri has a master's degree in healthcare administration, bachelor's in family studies, and certificate in leadership studies from Western Kentucky University.



*Nathan Hosek*

**Nathan Hosek** is a partner with the law firm Rudnick, Hosek & Pendl, having practiced law in Greenville since 2009. Nathan focuses on estate planning, business planning, trust administration, real estate, and bankruptcy. Nathan is a licensed title insurance agent. Nathan was a past president of the Darke County Bar Association, and serves on the boards for the Boys and Girls Club of Greenville and Greenville Public Library. Nathan grew up in nearby St. Marys and now resides in Greenville with his wife Roslyn and their three children. He graduated from Ohio Northern University and ONU's Pettit College of Law.

## Are You Age 70 ½ or Older ?

If you are 70 ½ or older and have an Individual Retirement Account (IRA), you can achieve tax savings by making a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) to the Darke County Foundation! Moreover, if you are at least 72, the QCD counts as your required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year. You benefit by avoiding income taxes on the disbursement. Your donation can support existing scholarships or community grant funds at DCF, or you may be able to set up your own charitable fund. Consult your tax advisor or call DCF at (937) 548-4673.

## Thank You, DCF Board!

Talented and dedicated trustees volunteer their time to oversee the Darke County Foundation. All from Darke County, the trustees ensure that each donor's charitable intent is honored, and they maximize Foundation resources to enrich our community. Pictured are trustees and the year they joined the board.



*Dennis Baker 2010*



*Susan Barker 2012*



*Tim Booher 2004*



*Ryan Cox 2017*



*Diane Evans 2018*



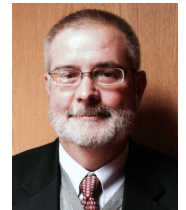
*Mike Gray 2007*



*Jon Hein 1989*



*Holly Hill 2017*



*Kent James 2014*



*R.E. Laughlin 2006*



*Susan Laux 2010*



*Eileen Litchfield 1996*



*John Marchal 2009*



*Carrie Schmidt 2009*



*Jean Young 2005*



*Kent Zechar 2004*



*Christy Praker  
Exec. Director 2009*



*Beth Serraino  
Finance Mgr. 2017*



323 S. Broadway St.  
P.O. Box 438  
Greenville, OH 45331  
(937) 548-4673

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
GREENVILLE, OHIO  
PERMIT #6

Website:  
[www.darkecountyfoundation.org](http://www.darkecountyfoundation.org)

E-mail:  
[dcf@darkecountyfoundation.org](mailto:dcf@darkecountyfoundation.org)

Address Service Requested

## Board of Trustees

Dennis Baker	Nathan Hosek
Susan Barker	Kent James
Tim Booher	R.E. Laughlin
Ryan Cox	Susan Laux
Jim Detling	Eileen Litchfield
Diane Evans	John Marchal, Jr.
Terri Flood	Caroline Schmidt
Michael Gray	Jean Young
Jonathan Hein	Kent Zechar
Holly Hill	

## Staff

Christy Praker, *Executive Director*  
Beth Serraino, *Finance Manager*



Representatives of the Cancer Assoc. of Darke County receive \$3,000 from DCF's Sunshine 5K and fundraising partner Team AddieGirl (led by Beckie Shumaker and Connie Harshbarger).

## Thanks to Lead Sponsors of the 2022 Sunshine 5K



## Sunshine 5K Benefits Local Groups

The Darke County Foundation hosted its 10th annual Sunshine 5K in September in Greenville City Park. The event raised \$18,000 for local non-profit organizations, thanks to 435 registrations and 65 sponsors. Beneficiaries included the Cancer Association of Darke County, DeColores Montessori School, Edison Foundation, and Bridges 2 College.

The 2023 Sunshine 5K is Saturday, Sept. 16, in Greenville City Park. Registration will begin in March at [www.darkecountyfoundation.org](http://www.darkecountyfoundation.org).

