

PLANNED GIFT FUNDS SCHOLARSHIP FOR PROMISING STUDENTS

Are there special people you'd like to remember in a significant way?

Is there a community project you'd like to start...a legacy you would like to leave?

Are you looking for a way to continue improving the health and welfare of families in your community long after your own retirement?

Consider how Kathy Rosema, D.O., and Mark Fazakerley chose to make a difference.

"Kathy and I both grew up on Wolf Lake and attended Oakridge High School in Muskegon," remembers Mark, who is vice chairman of the Foundation board of directors. "Kathy was asked to speak at the high school's commencement a few years ago and decided she wanted to do something special for the school. When I joined the Foundation's board, I began thinking about different ways we could pool our resources and channel a gift for the school through the Foundation.

Kathy and Mark learned from discussions with teachers at Oakridge that there are many scholarships available for students with flawless grades. They also learned that there isn't much assistance for those who have struggled academically but show promise.

The result: they created the Late Bloomer's Scholarship, designed for senior students who may have scored poorly in the first two years of high school but have demonstrated determination and improvement in their last two years—students who need and deserve the kind of encouragement that a scholarship can provide.

Mark and Kathy approached the Foundation with their plan and made an initial \$10,000 donation, which funds an annual \$500 scholarship for an Oakridge senior. Each year, three teachers at the school are asked to recommend three students who qualify for the scholarship, and those students are asked to write a paper on why they deserve the award. Kathy and Mark make the final choice.

Mark is very excited about the first two recipients.

"Both students came from difficult circumstances that they've worked hard to overcome," he says. One student is attending MCC. The other attends Baker College.

Putting the fund in the name of James Rosema, Kathy's father, was an easy decision. "He was a past president of the Oakridge school board," says Kathy, "and he felt a good education was essential to success later in life."

"He was a great guy," adds Mark, "and he was very active in Egelston Township. This is a wonderful way to honor him."

Kathy and Mark's tax-deductible donation is mingled with the other assets of the Foundation, which keeps the administrative fee for the fund very small, since the fee is based on the total assets of the Foundation. And while a portion of the fund provides a scholarship each year to a worthy student, the remaining assets grow in value, helping to insure both the longevity and lasting impact of the Foundation.