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Dollingers honor Br. James Gaffney with legacy



Ed Dollinger, chairman of the WCCF (right) and his wife, Gloria.

The name “Dollinger” is associated with more than a dozen major local community initiatives and charity endeavors. The list begins with, but is not limited to chambers, hospital and college boards, church, schools, Boys & Girls Club, Rotary and the YMCA.

And you might wonder: who is this power twosome? And how do they fit 30 hours of living into every 24-hour day? Add in three teens and their sports schedules, their careers, managing their home (including one dog) and the mix becomes even more inspiring! Do they ever sleep?

But when you meet Ed and Gloria Dollinger of Joliet, you realize they don’t have super powers; they’re just super organized. And super energetic!

Fortunately for Joliet, the Dollingers believe in sharing the fruits of their labor -- whether it’s time, talent or money.

Among the many organizations Ed is

involved with, none means more to him than chairing the Will County Community Foundation.

Ed and Gloria have made two types of contributions to the Foundation. One is to the unrestricted endowment fund; the other is a scholarship fund in the name of Lewis University’s president, Brother James Gaffney. “He is an incredible leader in our community,” said Ed. “He has done so much for Lewis University and the entire Will County area. Gloria and I truly believe in the importance of a good education and feel fortunate we can fund the scholarship in his name.”

Ed and others like him want more people – even those of modest means – to understand the value of philanthropy, especially through a conduit like the Foundation. It’s something the Dollingers both grew up with and would like their children to model.

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Growing strong: WCCF names new executive director

By Sandra Cowgill

RETIRING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Much has been accomplished in the 14 months since the Will County Community Foundation was launched. We have assembled a strong, dedicated board of directors, secured pledges and contributions of \$750,000, held four community events, created marketing materials, met with hundreds of individuals and made ten grants totaling \$147,000 to fifteen community organizations that will improve the lives of thousands of individuals in the county.

The job of executive director began as a part-time position but has grown during the year to the extent that the foundation needs a full time director. I have enjoyed working to get the foundation off and running and I am happy to go back to “retirement” and introduce to you the newly hired full time executive director, Sandor “Sandy” Brattstrom.

Sandy comes to WCCF with over 25 years of

professional experience in the private and public sector. He spent 15 plus years in the pharmaceutical/medical industry in positions of sales, marketing and management. He also served more than 12 years working in government, on various political campaigns as a finance director, on the federal, state and local levels in Illinois, Maryland and Washington D.C. Sandy has a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Dubuque in Dubuque, Iowa.

Sandy is anxious to get started and is looking forward to meeting formally with each of our board members and our donors to discuss the future of the WCCF and to keep moving forward.

Please join me in welcoming the next “Sandy” to WCCF. I look forward to continued involvement as a volunteer as we all work to make Will County stronger, now and forever!

Choosing community over taxes



CHARITABLE BENEFICIARY DESIGNATION

Naming the community foundation as a beneficiary of your retirement plan is not only easy to do, it is also a way to make a significant and lasting gift to our community that may not be possible during your lifetime.

How it works

- You designate the community foundation as a full or partial beneficiary of your qualified retirement plan using a form supplied by the policy underwriter or plan administrator.
- When you are no longer living, the benefit comes to the community foundation. We set up a special fund in your name, in the name of your family or in honor of any person or organization you choose. Or, you may choose to have the assets contributed to an existing fund.
- We handle all the administrative details.
- Your gift can be placed into an endowment that is invested over time. Earnings from your fund are used to make grants addressing community needs. Your gift is a permanent source of community capital, helping to do good work forever.

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“I am a community person, it’s our passion,” Ed stated emphatically. “It’s what we love. We like to know what’s happening and get to know everyone we can I can’t imagine not being involved or not giving back.”

Ed, a Joliet Catholic High School graduate who is from a local farm family, married Gloria, of Aurora, in 1986. They met while seniors at the University of Illinois.

Gloria helped Ed establish his business, went back to college

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for another degree and works as a nutrition supervisor and personal trainer.

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Besides managing many clients’ assets, Ed oversees 50 Edward Jones Investments branch offices and is a General Partner for Edward Jones Investments. Also, he co-manages various farm partnerships with his family and developed the Dollinger Executive Center,

As a Financial Advisor, he can see how clients can benefit their financial plan, while at the same time, benefit their communities reaching their philanthropic goals. A trust like the Will County Community Foundation works best, Ed believes.

Retired area teacher and coach inspired to continue helping others

If you measure a man by the size of his dreams, Richard C. Dystrup looms large.

If you measure him by his height, Dick is still up there, at 6 feet 3 inches.

And if you measure him by what he’s achieved, it’s all the more amazing, even more impressive than his deep, booming voice that can be heard across the buzz of any gathering.

Dick is a giant in many ways, not the least in his community involvement in the past 40 years.

Dick never intended to climb higher than high school coaching and teaching, yet he is remembered as one of the best mayors his hometown of Lockport ever had. Since retirement, he has headed up a state scholarship initiative called Dollars for Scholars, which has grown from three chapters to 180!

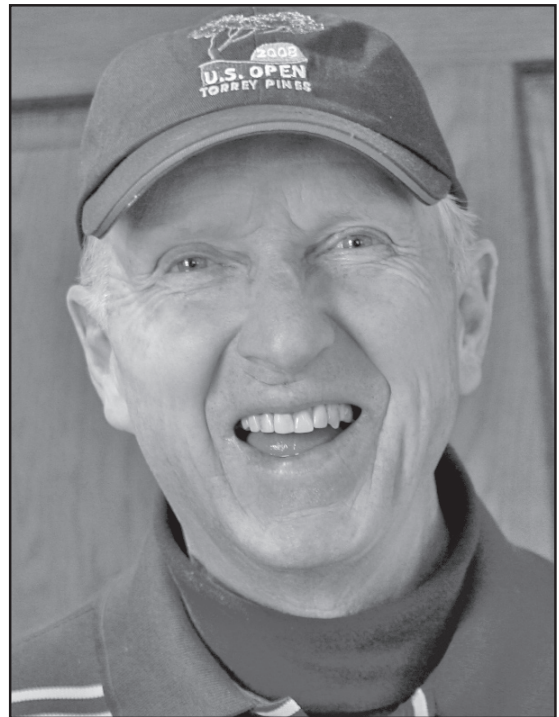
Dick’s enthusiasm and curiosity are relentless. Spend a little time with him and you can imagine he drove his parents nuts with “why?” Now he bombards more than a dozen area boards (including the local junior college) with ideas, articles he’s read and requests for both board members and staff to do more.

He calls the Will County Community Foundation, “one of the most important initiatives I have ever been involved in.” He is a board member, one of the men who promoted the idea from the first and has contributed to its unrestricted endowment fund.

The Foundation is essential as Will County population explodes. “Our socioeconomic structure is in constant need of help,” says the former social science teacher who spent much of his career at Lockport Township High School.

Teaching and coaching were his first loves and especially fulfilling when he got the opportunity to coach his two daughters, who now have five children each. He’s coached “everything imaginable” and says sports “give you direction. You learn teamwork, sacrifice, and discipline. It’s a venue for experience second to none.”

He retired after 33 years of teaching, but it’s not a



retirement in any sense of the word. Maybe he’s driven because of personal tragedy – the death of his 12-year-old son during surgery in 1978.

“It was a tremendous loss,” he acknowledges. “Something like that, I think, gives you more reason to make your life have a purpose. I think it spurred by desire to serve others and to make this place better than how I found it.”

He hopes in 25 to 50 years, “when I’m long gone,” his work with the Foundation is a legacy. “The world is more than just me and my family.”

And philanthropy, he preaches, is not just for the rich. “Nothing could be further from the truth.”



Community giving allows Lorimor to bring lasting change

Nearly two years into his retirement, Larry Lorimor of Plainfield has not found the respite most men crave. Sure, he recently stopped getting up before 6 a.m. every day, but that took a while.

The plain truth is this man likes work, perhaps a curse from his farming forebears. But we are blessed by men like Larry who forsake retirement to make our world a better place.

“My wife says I don’t idle well,” he said with a smile.

One of the most significant ways he has found to help others is starting a donor advised fund at the Will County Community Foundation and serving on its board.

His Joliet financial planner showed him a way to put his money where his heart is, instead of “donating” it to government taxes, when he shifted assets after ending a 35-year career with Caterpillar, Inc. Larry calls it “moving stocks in a giving way.”

With a donor advised fund, the Lorimors can add to it any time they chose. They can use the fund like a family foundation, directing where the money goes.

And now, serving on the grants committee, Larry can also help choose the best ways to bring about lasting change in service agencies throughout Will County.

“I asked to be on the grants committee,” Larry said, “because I wanted to get out and touch the people we will help, see it work firsthand. It’s a rewarding experience.”

Larry graduated from Iowa State University in 1971 with an engineering degree and married a Joliet native, Kathy Lindstrom, in 1974.

As he climbed the ladder at Caterpillar, Inc., between Joliet and Peoria, any free time was devoted to helping raise – and home school – four daughters, and a great deal of church work.

“With a donor advised fund, the Lorimors can add to it any time they chose.”

Then in 2006, he looked at his future: three daughters would be getting married in just nine months and all four faced some pretty big moves. What role could he play?

“I was still enjoying my work tremendously,” he said. “But I wanted to be more involved with my family.”

He and Kathy (who retired nine months after him) have been able to indulge in a favorite shared hobby,



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sailing. They also travel a lot, especially to help out their daughters

He’s involved in a great deal of mission work with his Naperville church, going to Haiti (twice), Mexico and the Gulf Coast just this year. He’s not sure the mission work can last forever because “in my 70s I don’t know if I’ll have the potential,” he said.

That’s another reason why the Will County Community Foundation plays an important role in his life. “They will, for a long, long time after I am gone, continue to strengthen and build Will County by supporting the best of the work nonprofit agencies are doing.”



Foundation's first donor, a longtime community philanthropist

Brent Wadsworth hasn't lived in Joliet for more than 60 years, but it still feels like home. "It was the greatest place in the world to grow up," he said.

The Depression and WWII years were tough on kids like Brent, but those decades also forged an amazing "can do" generation. Brent embraced that spirit as he transformed the world of golf – one hole at a time.

Brent won't be remembered as a great putter or long hitter but as one of the greatest builders of golf courses, with more than 750 to his company's credit in the past 50 years. Many rate in the top 100 lists.

But he has done even more – by giving back.

The Wadsworths helped start the Will County Community Foundation in 2006 with a generous endowment directed to Lewis University and the Will County Community Foundation.

"Will County didn't have a community foundation and it needed one," he said. "People need ways to leave memorials to assist their community."

He is attracted to Lewis University's mission: Knowledge, Fidelity, Wisdom, Justice and Association. "It's a fine university," he said.

Brent and wife Jean, who live in nearby Yorkville half the year, have contributed to several regional endeavors, including his beloved high school, Joliet Township. He also started a national golf charities foundation 10 years ago.

This foundation funds programs for people with disabilities and underprivileged children who otherwise wouldn't get a chance to learn golf. To Brent, the game of golf offers character building that makes the world more honorable and friendlier.

He learned the game from his father, a doctor, and local golf pro "Heine" Sick. He graduated from JT in 1947, majored in landscape architecture at the University of Illinois, worked for a well-known landscape architect and golf course designer, then spent two years in the Air Force.

"The Wadsworths helped start the Will County Community Foundation in 2006 with a generous endowment directed to Lewis University and the Will County Community Foundation."

He started his own golf course design firm with a friend, then sold out his interest to start Wadsworth Golf Construction Co. in 1958 with a small loan from a Joliet bank.

He discovered he liked building golf courses better than designing them. "There isn't one job in the whole company that I didn't do," he proudly proclaims.

Today, the \$150 million firm employs 100 in the winter, many more in summer with four offices, including one in Plainfield.

A member of the Illinois PGA Hall of Fame, his courses are often chosen as PGA tour sites. But out of all the ones he has built or played, Brent doesn't have a favorite golf course. He says there is "no such thing as a bad golf course."

Spoken like a true gentleman of the game!

Founding Donors of the Will County Community Foundation Donations Received through 2007

Unrestricted Endowment Fund

Mrs. Joanne Barber
Mr. and Mrs. Ed Dollinger
Mr. and Mrs. Dick Dystrup
Br. James Gaffney, FSC
Mohra Gavankar
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Hennessy
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Klasing
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Lorimor
Mr. and Mrs. Dave Meiners
Mr. and Mrs. Steve Randich
Mr. and Mrs. J.D. Ross
Ms. Tony Troy
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence and Janet Viano
Mr. and Mrs. John Weitendorf, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wysocki

Restricted Funds

Wadsworth Family Fund established by Brent and Jean Wadsworth to benefit Lewis University and the Will County Community Foundation

Brother James Gaffney Scholarship Fund established in honor of Brother James by Ed and Gloria Dollinger to benefit the Lewis University Scholarship Program

Donor Advised Funds

Tom and Sandy Cowgill Family Fund
Lorimor Legacy Fund
Douglas and Loretta Spesia Charitable Fund
John and Mary Spesia Family Foundation





An affiliate of The Chicago Community Trust

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1st Annual Donor Report



This issue of the newsletter is dedicated to the people who donated to Will County Community Foundation in our first year of operation. These are people who believe in our community and what the foundation means to our community. People who want to strengthen Will County, now and forever.

“It is the mission of the Will County Community Foundation to engage donors in the charitable endeavors that matter to them for the good of our community.”