

FLATHEAD COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Generous Legacy - May 2016 Newsletter

Greetings!

Enjoy our beautiful springtime in Montana! Thank you for your support of the Flathead Community Foundation.

THERE IS STILL TIME TO GIVE!



Thank you for raising thousands of dollars to support local nonprofits at the heart of our community!

Give Local Flathead 2016 was a heartwarming celebration of community philanthropy . . . even when technical failures in the national online giving platform brought Give Local events across the country to a halt. That's when Give Local Flathead hosts, nonprofit participants, and the Flathead community rallied to keep on giving!

THERE IS STILL TIME TO GIVE!

Give Local Flathead has been extended through midnight, May 10

with the following donation options:

- Online at www.unitedwaycares.org (Click on red donate button or Give Local Flathead image. Indicate nonprofit recipient in Memo section)
- Credit card by phone: 406-253-0911 or 406-471-4902
- Checks and cash accepted at Northwest Montana United Way - Gateway Community Center, 1203 Highway 2 West, Kalispell and Flathead Community Foundation - 345 First Ave East, Kalispell
- Credit card swipe at Northwest Montana United Way - Gateway Community Center
- Checks may be mailed to Give Local Flathead, PO Box 8045, Kalispell 59904. Must be postmarked by May 10.

Questions? Email givelocalflathead@gmail.com or call 756-7622 or 756-9047

Thank you for supporting the community and the causes you love!

The final tally for Give Local will be posted on May 25!

SHOP to HELP!!!!



20% Donation Drive for the Flathead Community Foundation
Supporting Give Local 2016

Kettle Care Organics is a locally owned, family-run business and they are passionate about taking care of YOU and supporting their local community.

Together with their wonderful team, they handcraft highly effective and therapeutic skin care that is as naturally made as possible. With simple ingredients that are sourced directly from our local community and nature, it is one of the cleanest body care lines in the industry.

For the month of May, 20% of ANY purchase of Kettle Care Organics products will go towards the Flathead Community Foundation if you mention the organization at the register! Please support this generous donation drive and enjoy visiting their beautiful retail store.

[DOWNLOAD A \\$5 GIFT CERTIFICATE HERE!](#)

**Kettle Care Organics is located just north of the Humane Society at 3575 US HWY 93 N, Kalispell, MT 59901 | 406.257.6622
Open Monday-Friday 9am-5pm and Saturdays 10am-3pm
Offer Valid May 1-May 31, 2016**

Upcoming Events

May 11

Hockaday Museum of Art
Talk by artist Dwayne Wilcox
6:00 - 8:00 pm
Free members/\$10 non-members

May 13

Crown of the Continent Choir and Headwaters Ensemble
One Voice Season finale and Fundraising event
O'Shaughnessy Center, Whitefish
6:00 Doors open wine bar/silent auction; 7:00 Concert starts
Free

FCF Board Member Spotlight Gina Benesh



How long have you lived in the Flathead?

We found and bought a home here about 2 years ago. The Flathead was one of the communities we thought we might like to settle in. We picked well.

Where do you live?

Southwest Kalispell

What does the Flathead Community Foundation mean to you?

It is a means of helping the community. I've lived in other communities with very strong community foundations and they have been the financial backbone for local non-profits. That's what I would like to see this one be. I think it's doing wonderful work helping non-profits raise more money. It's a great resource for donors for giving, particularly when they are uncertain where they want to put their money. A donor can tell us, "My focus is environmental" and we share with them some environmental needs that are being met strategically by charities because we know their interest and they know we are looking out for good matches for them. As the foundation's endowment and our grantmaking capacity grows, we can be responsive to broad community needs.

Why have you committed to serving on this board? What do you see as your special gift or contribution to the Foundation? To the community?

I have 15-20 years of experience in the non-profit world as a chief development officer. I wanted to have very broad impact across the valley, not just one non-profit sector or organization. I felt my best vantage point was the Community Foundation, which has all their interests at heart.

What do you see as the Foundation's role in the community?

A pillar of support. This is the long-term goal and we are growing into that. It is akin to an individual looking at how their retirement is going to sustain them. Like legs on a stool you have Social Security as one leg, your retirement accounts as another leg, and maybe you have investment income or a part-time job and this is how you are going to manage for the next 30 or 40 years. I see the Community Foundation as one of those legs on a stool of support for the whole community that lasts forever and grows in size along with the community.

What would you like the public to know about the Flathead Community Foundation?

Until we are a large enough Foundation to be self-sustaining, we need community support to operate. We are also a non-profit and a charity. We would prefer to be a large, endowed endeavor that isn't seeking operational dollars, but right now we also must fundraise to keep our entity going. We are grateful for donor support.

We are also grateful for our non-profit partnerships. They participate in Give Local, take advantage of NpDP, and many have the Flathead Community Foundation manage their endowments. A number of the non-profits have small endowments that are sitting in a bank or are an extra step that their boards have to contend with...how do we invest this, what are our investment policies, what are our distribution policies... and they don't necessarily have processes in place to properly manage an investment or steward a donor's wishes. The Community Foundation does. It's always the non-profit's money, but the Community Foundation is investing it and acting as the fiduciary arm. Donors who

May 14

CASA for Kids
Searching for Super Heroes
A spring evening social dinner, and art and wine auction at the home of Peter Busch, Whitefish
5:00 pm
Advance ticket purchase required \$100 per person
Call 755-7208 for more details

May 14

Foys to Blacktail Trails/ Herron Park Endowment
Herron Hammer mountain bike race
Contact Sheli Thomas for details

May 17

NWMT Forest Fire Lookout Association Benefit Brews Night
Kalispell Brewing Co.

May 19

Hockaday Museum of Art
Opening reception for Native Sons of the American West, Indian portraits by Paul Surber and Above the Fruited Plaine by Dwayne Wilcox
5:00 - 7:00 pm
Free for members and \$10 for non-members
Exhibit runs May 5 - June 25

May 24

Sunburst Community Service Foundation
Sunburst staff and volunteers do another awesome Community Soup Night. Great food and live music. Get it on your calendar. And if you want to help us with cooking or serving, give a call at 297-0197

May 28 & 29

Foys to Blacktail Trails/Herron Park Endowment
Mini Event and Equitation
Contact Flathead Combined Training for details

If you have an Upcoming Event or news about your organization, please send it to the newsletter editor Mona Charles at mcharles@centurylink.net or call 261-9163.

FCF Staff & Board

Staff

[Lucy Smith](#), Executive Director
[Lisa Schnee](#), Director of Operations

Board of Directors

Mike Smith, President
Gina Benesh, Vice President
Ty Weber, Treasurer

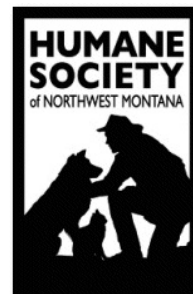
are looking to make large gifts or calculating how to use a charitable donation to their greatest tax benefit, the Community Foundation has the expertise to advise in that regard.

Thank you Gina for your dedication to the Flathead Community Foundation!

Fund of the Month

Humane Society of Northwest Montana

The Humane Society of Northwest Montana, home of the Charlotte Edkins Animal Adoption Center, is a limited admission, no-kill organization that provides a caring and safe environment for dogs and cats until they can be united with a caring, loving forever home.



All kittens and puppies, cats and dogs that are adopted are spayed or neutered and micro-chipped prior to adoption.

The facility, located off Highway 93 between Kalispell and Whitefish, opened its doors publicly on July 1, 2004. The approximately 7,000 square foot horseshoe-shaped building sits on fourteen acres and provides 39 kennels for cats and 17 kennels for dogs.

In addition to their private kennels with heated floors and air-conditioning, dogs also have access to a one-acre outdoor fenced dog park where they can run, jump, dig in the dirt or play in their own plastic swimming pool. John Krimmel's kindness and generosity are credited for the creation of the dog park.

More than 1,900 animals have been adopted since the adoption center opened. "We plan to be here in perpetuity," Executive Director Lori Heatherington said. "And we'll happily take any animal who needs a home and we will feed them until the end."

Heatherington said the number of animals at the Humane Society is always changing, but there is a definite cycle. More kittens and puppies are born in spring as part of the natural mating seasons. Holidays generate an increase in animals because people often will think a pet would be a great gift.

"It is if there is agreement and commitment with everyone involved, but err on the side of caution," Heatherington stressed. She said first time home buyers are the largest group of people who want a dog, perhaps because "it completes the picture."

Heatherington spends a great deal of her time talking with and counseling potential adopters concerning the importance of choosing the right breed and age of pet and explaining the expenses and lifetime commitment pet ownership requires.

Belle Needs a Home

When explaining that adopters span the spectrum of people, from those who want a dog to dress up and sleep on their bed to someone looking for a border collie to work their animals, Heatherington spoke of Belle, a sweet senior border collie who loves chasing and retrieving a tennis ball "until she is too tired to move."

Belle needs an adult home without other dogs because, although she is very obedient, she does have an issue with guarding her food. Like 98% of most dogs, Belle just wants to be a companion."

Melinda Morton, Secretary
Marc Lorenzen
Jeffrey Lewis
Heidi Escalante
Jim Rafferty
Clint Ekern



FLATHEAD
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

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406.756.9047

info@flatheadcommunityfoundation.org

www.flatheadcommunityfoundation.org

Your donation to the Flathead Community Foundation supports our mission to ensure the good of the Flathead forever, by strengthening local nonprofits and connecting generous donors with the causes they care about most. Make a difference.

Current Funds at the FCF:

- Abbie Shelter Endowment
- CASA for Kids Endowment
- Care Farm Challenge
- Center for Restorative Youth Justice Endowment
- Child Bridge Endowment
- Crown of the Continent Community Choir
- Flathead Community Foundation Endowment
- Flathead Food Bank Endowment
- Glacier Symphony & Chorale Endowment
- Foy-Herron Park Endowment
- Hockaday Museum of Art Endowment
- Humane Society of NW Montana Endowment
- Kalispell Boulder Project
- Kalispell Golf Association
- Lighthouse Christian Home
- NpDP Endowment
- NW MT Forest Fire Lookout Endowment
- Paws to Play Dog Park Project
- Ravenwood Outdoor Learning Center
- Sunburst Community Foundation Endowment
- Women Who Wine of the Flathead (Giving Circle)

Donate



Like us on Facebook

Anyone interested in giving Belle a forever home can contact the Humane Society at 406/752-PAWS (7297) to meet her and maybe play a little 'tennis ball' with her.

Other Humane Society Services

In addition to facilitating pet adoptions and providing temporary housing for homeless cats and dogs, The Humane Society offers service programs to provide animal welfare education and pet ownership assistance.

Hetherington said the Humane Society works to help families in need in myriad ways.

Community service programs are designed to reach students and adults and include an Educational Outreach Program, Pet Food Assistance Program, Injured Animal Fund, and Microchip Clinics.

The Educational Outreach Program every year teaches hundreds of elementary and middle school students about animal welfare and animal safety. In conjunction with area retailers and the Flathead Food Bank, the Humane Society distributes pet food to families in need and to local animal rescue groups. The Injured Animal Fund helps pay emergency veterinary care expenses for pet owners who may not otherwise be able to seek medical treatment for their pet. Low-cost microchip clinics are offered to the public to help pet owners permanently identify their pets.

How to Help

"Adopt, donate, volunteer! If you do that you've helped the entire Flathead Valley community," said Heatherington. Donors and volunteers can contact the Humane Society at 406/752-PAWS (9297) or email volunteers@humanesocietypets.com.

You make the difference. We make it happen.