

# Yoe Foundation News

Community foundation established by graduates of C. H. Yoe High School and other friends of Cameron & Milam



*Drayton McLane, Jr., (above) owner of Houston Astros Baseball Club, shares family's gifts with his hometown*



## *C. H. and Caroline Yoe Foundation*

Community Foundation  
Serving Cameron and  
Milam County

The place where everyone  
gives something back  
for benefits received  
long ago

## Philanthropy in Cameron Reaches Historical Highs

### **Drayton McLane, Jr., and Williams Show How Community Charity Works**

Leasing office at 68-unit Williams Trace Apartments could begin signing up future tenants sometime in November, according to Mike Zajicek, director of Lester and Beatrice Williams Foundation. Actual date depends on completion of the office building. The apartment

complex is scheduled to open in Spring 2003 with some apartments ready earlier.

Although the \$3 million project is mainly funded by outside investors, Williams Foundation played a pivotal role by putting up about one-sixth, or \$500,000, of total capital requiring some local investment. General partner is Lankford Interests of Houston. Bulk of assets paying for the project comes from a pool of investors represented by a Seattle bank. Greater Coastal Management Co. of Houston will operate the apartments. The project qualifies for federal tax credits, an inducement that brings in outside money.

Early 2002 saw the opening of McLane Municipal Center, Cameron's new city hall, a history-making event as the McLane project is the largest public building donated by individuals here since Caroline Meyers Yoe built C. H. Yoe High School in 1921. Drayton McLane, Jr., of Temple and his sisters, Kate McLane Dimmitt of Temple and Joann McLane McClaren of Grand Prairie, put up the full cost of \$1 million as a gift to their hometown. Williams Foundation funded purchase of the city hall's furnishings and computer system.

Williams Trace Apartments exteriors will be stone and wood and units will have one, two and three bedrooms. The location is 22<sup>nd</sup> and Fannin, a site once part of Battetown demolished long ago. Williams Foundation corpus (assets) is about \$9 million.

Williams Foundation is the largest charitable engine locally and most grants are confined to Cameron

projects. When agreements are in place, Williams plans to build a \$250,000 building in Wilson-Ledbetter Park for use by both Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. Beatrice Rylander Williams set up the foundation mainly to benefit Cameron, but also two out-of-town entities: Sts. Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church at Marak and Methodist Home in Waco.

Williams has committed to participate in construction costs of a social hall for the Catholic church and will provide \$50,000 for a computer lab in a private school the Methodist Home is building for its K-eighth grade residents.

Meanwhile the foundation continues to operate Bea's Kitchen in downtown Cameron where senior citizens enjoy games and lunch weekdays that they can pay for, or at the expense of the Foundation.

---

*Community  
philanthropy  
makes Cameron  
better place to live*

---

### **Your Money Matters**

Yoe Foundation at the tender age of six years with assets of \$111,000 is too small to fund projects like Lester and Beatrice Williams Foundation. For now Yoe is more like a community savings account than a granting foundation. Its intention is to grow continually.

If you make an agreement with Yoe to grant your gift, Yoe promises to carry out the agreement to the letter. We're already doing this. See page three.

If you want to know where the donations you send end up, and you don't have an opportunity to read our printed materials, don't speculate. Ask. You have the legal right, in fact, the moral obligation, to ask.

Any donor of as little as \$25 has the right to ask for a financial report—or even come to the office to look at the financial records. Since 1996 small membership dues (\$25-35) have been used for fundraising; large membership dues have gone into the Endowment and Endowment savings. That's why we have money in the bank and investments. Special purpose gifts go for that special purpose

Your donations do not go into ordinary overhead or any salary.

# Service to Donors Main Purpose of Community Foundations Nationwide

## Taking a Stand for Public Benefit in Town and Country



How can Yoe Foundation serve donors of major gifts? It has its credentials.

Donor(s) have tax-exempt choices as broad as the communities of Cameron and Milam County, so wide it's sometimes hard to expand your understanding of the possibilities until you've had some practice in philanthropy.

To grasp the scope of a community foundation, see below two lists for consideration by prospective donors of major gifts: the first shows *charitable categories* as stated in U. S. Treasury Regulations; the second lists a few *purposes and projects* actually carried out by community foundations in known locations elsewhere.

Charitable categories approved by tax laws:

- Community benefit
- Relief of the poor and distressed or of the under-privileged
- Combatting community deterioration and juvenile delinquency
- Advancement of religion
- Advancement of education and science
- Erection or maintenance of public buildings [See related story about the McLane Family and Williams Foundation, page one]
- Lessening the burdens of Government [any level]
- Promotion of social welfare by other organizations to accomplish any of these purposes
- Lessening neighborhood tensions
- Elimination of prejudice and discrimination

Short list below shows projects and programs carried out by community foundations over the years:

- Assistance for sick, needy, dependent, neglected and disadvantaged children
- Low-income housing
- Reducing chronic high unemployment
- Revitalizing and beautifying the community
- Scholarships that follow impartial, objective standards
- Grants to colleges and universities
- Removing unsightly, blighted buildings around an industrial perimeter and establishing a greenbelt of lawns, gardens, and parks
- Maintenance of an endowment to conserve, develop, and expand a nature sanctuary
- Construction of an aquarium and hotel for educational purposes
- Acquisition and operation of a museum
- Construction of a fountain in a public space
- Keeping a major league sports team in a community with contributions by private foundations ear-

marked to purchase stock in the corporation declared "qualifying distributions" by the IRS [Kansas City Royals]

- Construction of a large public mall

Major programs like these are complex and demand lead time. Some would require months or years of research and work by the community foundation, attorney, accountant, and other advisors, and the prospective donor(s). If the intended donor decides to fund the program, they also can name it and participate in decisions as it's carried out.

All fund donor(s) choose one of the following four fund categories:

"**Designated fund**" from which distributions are restricted to a public charity that was named by the donor at the time the contribution was made to the community foundation;

"**Unrestricted fund**" where the community foundation has complete discretion to make charitable grants;

"**Field of interest fund**" from which distributions are restricted to a charitable purpose specified by the donor (for example, education or health);

"**Named, advised fund**" where the donor (or a person or committee designated by the donor) can advise the community foundation on charitable distributions. The foundation owns the donation.

NOTE: Yoe Foundation offers this information for educational purposes only. It comes from an uncopyrighted work by Christopher R. Hoyt, *Legal*

*Compendium for Community Foundations* [Washington D.C.: Counsel on Foundations, 1996]. Mr. Hoyt is legal counsel of Greater Kansas City Community Foundation. Prospective donors should consult their own tax lawyer or CPA.

---

**"Major donors have tax-exempt choices as broad as the communities"**

---

Question: *How can we all get together and do something to be proud of? Most of us can't play sports or get report cards.*

Answer: *In the name of the Yoes we can set up a community savings account for the common good.*

Conclusion: *That's what this Community Foundation is. Be a Yoeman. Support the Yoe Foundation. You don't have to be a former student at Yoe High School.*

What about me? I've got three kids to support and educate, a mortgage and credit card debt. Am I still a Yoeman?

Answer: You're just as much a part of this as anyone else. Yoe has to have public support. That's a requirement. Membership dues of \$25 and \$35 yearly are authorized public support. In the end everyone wins.

## Walter Brown Dossett Fund Assisting 5 Upperclasswomen; Griffin Makes One '02 Award

Six university upperclasswomen are being assisted this academic year with scholarship grants from C. H. and Caroline Yoe Foundation's Walter Brown Dossett Scholarship Fund and K. D. (Buster) Griffin Award Fund. Recipients are graduates of Yoe High School.

Dossett Fund grantees are Lindsey Vaculin, senior, Texas A&M University at College Station; Kerry Cahill, junior, Loyola University; Angela Griffin, junior, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor; Carisa Davis, senior, Abilene Christian University; and Adrienne Ehler, junior, The University of Texas at Austin. Griffin Fund's character award went to Amber Amescua, junior, Texas A&M University [see separate story].

Walter Brown Dossett Scholarships, granted in competition, are based on need and scholastic merit according to terms of an advised fund agreement with donor Walter B. Dossett, Jr., of Waco, chairman of Royal Seating, Ltd., and L. L. Sams, Inc., Cameron-based manufacturing companies. The fund honors the memory of the Mr. Dossett's father who grew up in Cameron and graduated Cameron High School before Yoe High School was built.

Applications for both the Dossett and Griffin scholarships will re-open in Spring 2003 for the 2003-2004 academic year.

Announcement letters of the Dossett Scholarships were mailed to all college juniors and seniors in Spring of 2002. Several applicants disqualified for failing to provide required documents showing they completed Free Application for Student Financial Aid [FAFSA] administered by the U. S. Department of Education. Other assistance based on several criteria can be offered by the university the student attends. The Texas Grant program is one source of more financial aid.

## K. D. 'Buster' Griffin Award Fund Established in Yoe Foundation

The Kinnard Durrell (Buster) Griffin [1920-1966] Award Fund is established in Yoe Foundation to give yearly financial aid to a university upperclassman graduated from Yoe High School chosen on the basis of good character as exemplified in his lifetime by Mr. Griffin.

He was husband of the former Frances Nabours, now Mrs. E. L. Barker, and father of Lynda Fran Griffin Lewis, Kinnard Ray [Kin] Griffin, and Rebecca [Becky] Pearl Griffin Hillman. All family members live in Cameron or nearby in Milam County.

Beginning in 1948 Mr. Griffin was a school board member, first of Yarrellton Common School District #55 then Cameron Independent School District when he died suddenly of a heart attack. Many viewed his death at age 46 as a community tragedy. In recognition of his contributions to the lives of others, public donations in his memory came in to create a scholarship fund granted over time under the direction of his widow. When the fund was almost spent the residue was set aside to grow with compounded interest making the Griffin Award Fund possible in 2002.

This memorial honoring Buster Griffin helps recall he was a farmer, rancher-stockman, and merchant who also served as a director of Milam County Farm Bureau, member of Milam County Board of Equalization, distinguished leader in the Yarrellton Baptist Church, a Royal Arch Mason, and chairman of the Elm Creek Watershed Authority.

The Griffin Award is a "named, advised fund" owned by Yoe Foundation while the donor(s) chooses its name and purpose then participates in decisions about its use.

Three persons of good repute must nominate prospective Griffin Award grantees. Nomination forms are

available from Yoe Foundation. Call 697-4098 to request a form.

---

*'Awards based on  
need, merit, and  
character'*

---

*Yoe Foundation is  
the way to show  
your loyalty to your  
roots.*



*Question: Who  
wanted to give  
something back to  
their community,  
and you are one of  
their beneficiaries?*

*Answer: C. H. and  
Caroline Yoe, our  
role models.*

[www.yoefoundation.org](http://www.yoefoundation.org)  
recently updated

*We walk in the  
footsteps of C. H.  
and Caroline Yoe,  
Cameron's first  
known philanthro-  
pists*

## YF Upgrading By-laws, Financial Records to National Standards

Yoe Foundation's upgrades in administration and financial recordkeeping are underway as it reaches to conform with "National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations" drawn up and published for the first time in 2000 by Council on Foundations in Washington, D.C., the nation's foremost organization for private foundations and public charities.

Community foundations are a fast-growing non-profit sector in the U.S. where new tax-exempt organizations of all kinds are being created at the rate of about 87,000 yearly, according to a report to the U. S. Congress published on-line at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov). All community foundations are classified as public charities by the IRS.

Yoe Foundation's original general-purpose by-laws are being rewritten to meet special requirements of community foundation operations.

In May 2002 a new non-profit computer program to integrate with QuickBooks Pro 2002 was released creating an affordable application for small non-profits that, like larger foundations, need financial records based on fund accounting, an accounting system peculiar to tax-exempt entities. This affordable program is new which could mean it may not be perfect, but it's a step in the right direction.

Accounting systems written for non-profits and government entities previously were prohibitively priced for Yoe Foundation, as a single basic package (general ledger only) has been over \$4,000 and ranging sharply upward. Yoe Foundation formerly made do with small business accounting software with a commercial chart of accounts that had to be arduously manipulated usually with mixed results.



### Hall of Honor to Resume in 2003

No Hall of Honor took place in 2002. It will resume in 2003. The awards program is costly and requires about 8 months to carry out from beginning to end.

**C. H. and  
Caroline Yoe  
Foundation**

707 E. 16th St.  
Cameron, TX  
76520

Tel: 254-697-  
4098  
Fax: 254-697-  
4098 (call by  
phone first)

[mtravis@tlab.net](mailto:mtravis@tlab.net)

Address Services Requested  
Forwarding and Return Postage  
Guaranteed

**Yoe  
News**

## Plaques Could Be Displayed in New High School in Two Years

If all goes according to present plans, Hall of Honor plaques will be mounted in the foyer of the new high school on completion in about two years. Meanwhile 13 plaques from Halls of Honor 2000 and 2001 are on display in the lobby of the new YHS gymnasium at 12<sup>th</sup> and Fannin in Cameron.

Sponsors will take nominations for Hall of Honor 2003 early next year. Yoe Foundation is inviting the Cameron Independent School District to participate in sponsorship of the lifetime achievement awards.

"Cooperation with the public schools is appropriate," says president Fred T. Johns. "After all, these honorees are among the stars in the crown of a traditionally proud, long-established public school system."

Present criteria are as follows: donors to Yoe Foundation nominate and select recipients. Purpose of the awards program is to endorse role models for CISD youth and to uphold sources of pride of the communities of Cameron and Milam County.

The awards program began with multiple-plaque awards to "play catch-up" with the schools' long past. It's likely that fewer yearly awards will be made in the future after the current introductory period.

Nonprofit Organization  
U. S. Postage  
Paid  
Cameron, Texas  
Permit number 143