



March/April 2013

# NEWS & Views



## Mission

The mission of The Founders Fund, Inc. is to provide financial assistance to young men and women from Collier County as they pursue an undergraduate degree. Recipients are selected on the basis of need and merit from eleven area high schools.

The Founders Fund was created in 1991 by the Founding Golf Members of The Club Pelican Bay and is classified as a 501 (c) (3) non-profit, tax-exempt charitable organization.

The Founders Fund is supported by Golf and Social Members of The Club Pelican Bay, as well as many corporate sponsors which include prominent local and national businesses that are very generous in their support of The Founders Fund. Income from reserve assets and fundraising activities support annual scholarships that now total over \$200,000 per year. Fund scholarship awards have totaled more than \$2.6 million dollars since the beginning of the Fund.

## Annual Scholars Luncheon Held

Students home for the holidays, along with trustees, sponsors and benefactors gathered for The Founders Fund Annual Scholars Luncheon on January 2, 2013 at The Club. The luncheon, held each year to celebrate student accomplishments, gave everyone a chance to mingle and chat.

It has become a luncheon tradition for each student to speak briefly about their college studies and current college activities. The stories are more and more impressive each year. The number of students carrying a 4.0 GPA seems to be growing, as well as the many impressive honors and degrees sought.



Jim Henderson – William C. Huff Companies, Holly Weinstein, Juliana and George Phillips



Lee Dayton and Kyle Talko



Billie Porter – BMO Private Bank, Stephanie Wolf and Roger Moen – BMO Private Bank



Erica Martinez

## A Student Says Thank You!

I am honored to be a 2012/2013 Founders Fund - Karen Pulte named scholarship recipient. Thanks to the foundation's generous support, I am the first of forty-some grandchildren to attend college. Growing up as a migrant student, in a less privileged community, was never easy. However, with The Founders Fund

financial support I have broken the circle of poverty and the lack of education for my family.

I am fortunate enough to be attending the University of North Florida which has one of the finest public health programs in Florida. While at the University, I have been able to achieve great academics without having to worry about my financial standing. Above all, with the Fund's assistance, I will soon be able to assist individuals and communities in adopting healthy behaviors for the improvement of overall wellness. It means a lot to students like me that you believe in our efforts of attaining our higher educational goals. Once again, I offer my sincerest thanks for your continued generosity.

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

Tom Lear



As we move into spring, we start to realize that in only one year another The Founders Fund, Inc. "event" will take place. The Ed Brennan Memorial Golf Tournament with raffle and auctions is scheduled for Monday, April 7, 2014. Mark your calendars now... whether old fashioned or high tech, just get the date written down and make plans to attend. This is our major fundraiser that allows us to provide college scholarships to deserving Collier County high school students. We hope to count on your support again

this coming year.

On the scholarship side, the Board is preparing to interview local students selected by each school, with the final selection scheduled for April 22nd. Then, on May 2nd, The Club will host a reception for the new scholarship recipients and their families. It's an exciting time.

For new members, or anyone not familiar with The Founders Fund, please feel free to contact me or any other Board member for information. We would love to have you join with all The Club members and corporate sponsors who have supported The Founders Fund in the past.



THE CLUB PELICAN BAY  
*A Tradition of Excellence*

The Club Pelican Bay in Naples, FL, which opened in 1980, a 27 hole private golf club consisting of 450 golf members and 350 social members, is located within the residential community of Pelican Bay. As the original sponsor of The Founders Fund, scholarship recipients thrive through the philanthropic generosity of the many members of The Club Pelican Bay who recognize outstanding academic excellence in Collier County high school seniors and provide annual support that helps them fulfill their potential and achieve their goals. The Club Pelican Bay is proud to continue its tradition of more than 33 years.



For more than 100 years, the experienced professionals at BMO Private Bank have been helping affluent individuals and families preserve and protect wealth. From

growing wealth, managing debt, and preserving retirement income, to ensuring a client's legacy and transitioning affluence to younger generations, the company offers individualized service through local offices and advisors throughout Canada and the U.S., including Naples.

Please contact Billie Ann Porter, CFP®, CTFA, at (239) 592-2474 or via email at [Billie.Porter@bmo.com](mailto:Billie.Porter@bmo.com) for more information.



The PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. ([www.pnc.com](http://www.pnc.com)) is one of the nation's largest diversified financial services organizations providing retail and business banking; residential mortgage banking; specialized services for corporations and government entities, including corporate banking, real estate finance and asset-based lending; wealth management and asset management. Follow @PNCNews on Twitter for breaking news, updates and announcements from PNC. For more information, contact Robert Saltarelli, Naples Managing Executive at [Robert.Saltarelli@pnc.com](mailto:Robert.Saltarelli@pnc.com) or 239-254-4200.

PNC's commitment to The Founders Fund is a strategic investment in Collier County. By supporting young men and women in their pursuit of educational success, we help build a solid foundation for the future of this region.

## 2012/2013 Board of Trustees

Tom Lear, *Chairman*  
Rick Ermler, *Treasurer*

Karla Albanese

Dick Censits

Lee Dayton

Wayne Kent

John Levy

Rob McNaghten

Mollie Moffatt

Gene Murphy

Maureen O'Gorman

Schuyler Peck

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Michael Weir, *Board Rep.*

Pidge Weir

### Major Sponsors

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### The Founders Fund

239-593-0124 or

[thefoundersfundinc@gmail.com](mailto:thefoundersfundinc@gmail.com)

The Founders Fund, Inc.

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## 2013 High School Counselors Breakfast Is Well Attended

The Annual High School Counselors Breakfast was held on January 30th at The Club with Collier County High School guidance counselors and several Founders Fund board members in attendance.

The main purpose of the annual breakfast is to meet with area high school counselors, review the current scholarship application process and gather information about the needs of local students. The Founders Fund members and counselors exchanged information in order to best prepare students for the process.

Tom Lear, Founders Fund Board Chairman and Joan Thomas, Scholarship Committee Chair, asked counselors for their input

about upcoming scholarships and the needs of their particular students. Counselors anticipate the financial needs of their students will be greater this year as the Florida Bright Futures scholarship has reduced the amount of money each student now receives.



Amanda Edson - Barron Collier High School and Karen Pulte - Founders Fund Board Member



Sandy Consolino - Golden Gate High School, Tom Lear - Founders Fund Chairman of the Board, and Samantha Dahl - Lely High School



Joann Cassio - Lorenzo Walker, Joan Thomas - Founders Fund Scholarship Chair and Pamela Berryman - Naples High School

### A Special THANKS from Tom Lear

As The Founders Fund Board undertakes the task of selecting the next group of students to receive scholarships, I want to acknowledge those who make it possible. We currently have 132 Benefactors, 33 Sustaining Benefactors, 29 Named Scholar Donors along with numerous corporate and business supporters. In addition several members of The Club have chosen to provide additional financial support to assist students. Special thanks to Susie and Frank Morley, and Penny and Schuyler Peck for their extra efforts. To all of you, thank you so much for caring.

## Founders Fund Scholarships

Year	\$ Awarded	New Scholarships
1992	\$7,500	3
1993	\$13,500	11
1994	\$25,368	17
1995	\$35,488	16
1996	\$70,477	32
1997	\$89,250	25
1998	\$113,875	30
1999	\$122,290	26
2000	\$108,250	22
2001/02	\$133,750	26
2002/03	\$136,000	28
2003/04	\$156,000	27
2004/05	\$161,000	30
2005/06	\$157,000	27
2006/07	\$183,000	29
2007/08	\$178,000	26
2008/09	\$174,000	26
2009/10	\$162,000	27
2010/11	\$170,000	25
2011/12	\$183,500	26
2012/13	\$221,500	29

The Founders Fund has awarded \$2,601,748 in scholarships since 1991 to a total of 508 students.

Total students in college this year receiving Founders Fund Scholarships: 102

**THANK YOU** to our members, supporters, sponsors and benefactors - a great accomplishment!

## What Degrees Are Getting Attention And Preparing Students For Their Careers?

According to online research, the five best and hottest in-demand degrees to have in 2013 and beyond are bachelor degrees in:





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## Watch for it!

You will be receiving your first  
**2014 Golf EVENT**  
invitation letter in November.

We hope you will join us for  
another successful event. If you would  
like to help solicit auction donations or  
sponsorships, please let us know by  
emailing or calling Tom Lear at  
golferlear@gmail.com or 239-592-5285.

With your help,  
we can make this  
an even bigger and  
more successful event!



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR



*The Founders Fund Annual  
Scholarship Awards Reception  
& Ice Cream Social*



**Thursday, May 2, 2013**



**7:00 PM at The Club Pelican Bay**

*Please make plans to attend and meet our  
new scholarship recipients.*

Board members, benefactors, supporters,  
sponsors and area high school guidance  
counselors are encouraged to attend.

## Colleges 2012/2013

*We currently have 102 students  
attending 23 different colleges*

Ave Maria University  
Duke University  
Edison State College  
Emory University  
Flagler College  
Florida Atlantic University  
Florida Gulf Coast University  
Florida International University  
Florida State University  
Hope College  
North Carolina State University  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
Ringling College of Art & Design  
Savannah College of Art & Design  
Stetson University  
University of Central Florida  
University of Florida  
University of Miami  
University of North Florida  
University of Pikeville  
University of South Florida  
University of Tampa  
Yale University