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For Immediate

The Founders Fund, Inc. *Announces 2012/13 Board of Trustees*

(May 19, 2012 – Naples, FL) The Founders Fund, Inc. is proud to announce the 2012/2013 Board of Trustees. The newly elected Board will begin serving this month with Tom Lear as the new Chairman of the Board. Lear will serve as Chairman for a two year term.

Lear is no newcomer to the Board; he has been a member since 2008 and has served as Chairperson of Scholarship Committee for the past several years. He is a former high school teacher and administrator with 39 years of educational experience in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. He holds a B.S. degree in Biology from Mount Saint Mary's University in Emmitsburg, Maryland and a Master's Degree in School Administration, M.Ed., from Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey. Along with his wife, Mary, he currently serves as a tutor at Boys and Girls Club of Collier County and also, volunteers with Habitat for Humanity in Immokalee.

Lear has been a member of The Club Pelican Bay since 2005, where the Founders Fund is supported and was founded.

"As Chairperson, I look forward to continuing the fine effort of so many members of The Club Pelican Bay who have made the Founders Fund such an important part of who we are and what we do," says Lear.

The Founders Fund 2012/2013 Board of Trustees are: Tom Lear (Chairman), newly elected Trustees - Karla Albanese, Rick Ermler (Treasurer), Rob McNaghten and Karen Pulte. They will serve along with current Trustees - Dick Censits, Lee Dayton, Wayne Kent, John Levy, Mollie Moffatt, Gene Murphy, Maureen O'Gorman, Schuyler Peck, Joan Thomas and Pidge Weir. Michael Weir will act as the Club Pelican Bay Board representative.

The first call to duty for the new Board of Trustees was to welcome and congratulate 29 students from 11 area high schools who received renewable four-year scholarships from the Founders Fund at the Annual Scholarship Awards Reception held in early May at The Club Pelican Bay.

Since scholarships are renewable for students maintaining a B average, the total number of students to receive scholarship funds this fall is 100. The non-profit/tax-exempt charitable organization, founded in 1991, has many original founding members still active in the fundraising efforts that guarantee new scholarships are awarded annually. To date, over two million dollars in scholarships have been distributed to more than 500 local students.

For more information about scholarships or the Founders Fund, Inc., contact Sue Davenport at 239-593-0124 or visit www.thefoundersfundinc.org.

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