



# THORNAPPLE AREA ENRICHMENT FOUNDATION

## 2021 VOLUNTEER VOICE

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a geographic affiliate of the Barry Community Foundation



# MESSAGE FROM THE NEXT PRESIDENT

Dear Community,

2021 has been another challenging year for many of us in the community, including teachers, administrators, support staff and kids. It's difficult enough with the effects of Covid-19, but then add in politics and it can become almost unbearable. In spite of the difficulties, we were able to do a lot of wonderful things over the past year.

The Thornapple Area Enrichment Foundation distributed nearly \$ 46,000 in scholarships to TK graduates and over \$14,000 in community and classroom grants. \$5,000 was used to support local businesses as they worked to stay afloat during government shutdowns and other difficulties brought on by the pandemic.

Mike Bremer was selected as our 2021 Hometown Hero. Mike chose the Imagination Library as the charity to benefit from the annual Hometown Hero celebration. Unfortunately, we were forced to delay the celebration for Mike and the Imagination Library until sometime in 2022. We look forward to celebrating in person very soon. For more information on Mike's charity or to donate, go to [www.barrycountyreads.org](http://www.barrycountyreads.org).

THANK YOU for your continued support to the Thornapple Area Enrichment Foundation over the past 28 years, making the TK community a wonderful place to live, learn, and grow. As we move forward, I pray we see humanity in one another and offer grace and patience to everyone we encounter, especially to those we don't feel deserve it.



Craig Stolsonburg

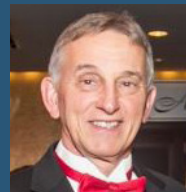
## FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBERS



Kristen Cove  
President



Craig Stolsonburg  
Vice President



Mike Bremer



Becky Zellmer  
Treasurer



Annie Halle  
TAEF Liaison



Debbie Tomko  
Secretary



Krissy Hooson



Paige Zellmer  
YAC Representative



Emily Welker



Karen Kennedy



Kay Griffith



Travis Alden



Beth Hannapel

\*Not pictured: Matt Palmer.



WE STILL HAVE THE  
SAME OPPORTUNITY FOR  
**HAPPINESS**  
THAT WE DID BEFORE...

# TAEF GRANT HIGHLIGHT



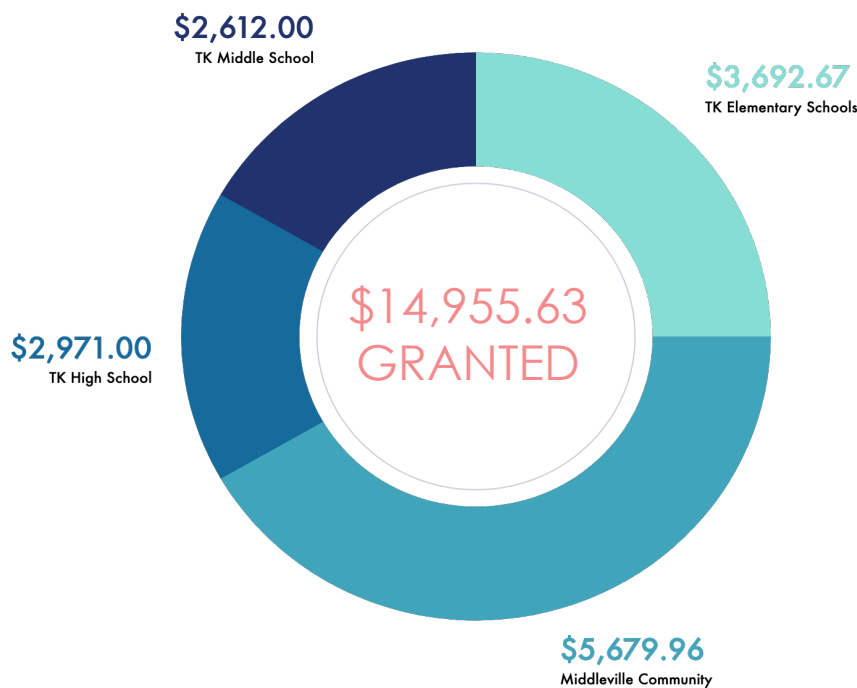
An annual tradition, Thornapple Kellogg School District has fun with March Book Madness!

March Book Madness is an online bracket-style tournament that matches books in one-on-one "games" in alignment with NCAA's Division 1 Basketball Championship game.

Students from around the world nominate books which are pitted against each other in duels until a champion is crowned. The games are decided by students who vote individually or through their classroom. After each round of voting, the bracket is updated and the next round of voting begins.

A TAEF grant supports March Book Madness and the goal to share and foster a life-long passion for reading!

## TAEF 2021 GRANTING



# GRANTING 2021

## 2020-21 GRANTS AWARDED \$14,955.63

In 2020-21, the Thornapple Area Enrichment Foundation supported its community through the release of grants totaling \$14,955.63.

These grants were funded through the TAEF General Fund and went toward supporting and improving all aspects of the Thornapple Kellogg Schools and Community.

## THORNAPPLE KELLOGG ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS \$3,692.67

\$539.00 – Several young English Languages Learners were struggling with effectively recording notes and writing papers in English. These funds directly supported them by offering a comprehensive program focused on teaching ways to take notes and write papers as they continue to learn a new language.

\$140.00 – Each week, this grant supported elementary students by funding a regular character building program, focusing on deeper level thinking and improved social-emotional health, that continued throughout the school year.

\$313.50 – Some Fourth Grade students had been reading the book *Front Desk* by Kelly Yang. Students enjoyed the opportunity to read the book aloud and discuss the story and its themes with their peers. This grant allowed the students to continue their reading by purchasing a number of copies of Kelly Yang's sequel, *Three Keys*.

\$75.00 – This grant purchased a U-shaped table to improve small group learning among elementary students.

\$480.03 – When it's winter, some elementary students don't particularly want to go outside with their recess time. These funds provided a "Marble Run Board," which allows students to construct indoor courses for them to experiment during their free time learning.

\$552.00 – Up until 2020, elementary students did not have a drum curriculum. The program was not able to be taught due to lack of instruments. This grant purchased 30 drums and mallets to be used by all TK elementary students. Learning how to play the drums assist students in identifying and repeating beat and rhythm as well as improving musical literacy.

\$300.00 – Students with Autism love to move and sometimes need to be more active throughout the day than their neuro-typical peers. This desire for movement led to this grant which purchased sensory items aimed at increasing student focus. These items also can assist students with autism in calming down, should they become overwhelmed during the day.

\$251.28 – After a year of incredible success, teachers hoped to bring back their "March Book Madness event." This grant funds 16 books needed for the bracket-style tournament to increase student interest in reading throughout the month.

\$317.00 – Rubik's Cubes have become part of the problem-solving curriculum for students to increase critical thinking, hand-eye coordination and perseverance. This grant purchased 25 cubes for students to utilize after finishing work, between classes or during free time.

\$524.86 – The reign of the plastic chair as the primary seating option is fading away for some elementary students. These funds were aimed at increasing seating options for students who may need to move around more as they receive instruction. While the normal chairs aren't going anywhere soon, students also can choose to sit on exercise balls or "wobble stools."

## THORNAPPLE KELLOGG MIDDLE SCHOOL \$2,612.00

\$2,462.00 – Middle School students now have an increased opportunity to explore the earth and its many different environmental systems. These funds purchased 16 light and color sensor probes and 16 temperature probes to allow students to better investigate the world around them.

\$150.00 – The TKMS market encourages the Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program that allows students to earn points for good behavior. Every month, students convert their good behavior points into "cash" to be spent at the market – where students can purchase snacks, school supplies, and TK apparel – funded by this grant.

## THORNAPPLE KELLOGG HIGH SCHOOL \$2,971.00

\$471.00 – Some special education students require different teaching methods when participating in regular physical education classes. This grant funded items like a large set of Jenga and "Giant Checkers" that encourages movement through games familiar to these students. This project also was supported by \$450 paid from the Jeff Lehman Fund.

\$2,500.00 – Students at TKHS can now add "Mountain Biking" to their list of possible extracurricular activities. This grant funded a trailer to transport equipment and additional bicycles for students who did not have access to their own. The club aims to promote healthy living among high school students.

## COMMUNITY GRANTING \$5,679.96

\$5,000.00 – Paid from the TAEF General Fund to support the Nook, the Broken Smoker, Left Field Coffee, the Thornapple Area Parks and Recreation fund and My Sister's Closet as they continued to provide for the Thornapple Kellogg community throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

\$679.96 – Young people interested in baseball and softball have a new way to improve their craft as this grant funded two batting cages for the community.

# 2021 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Paige Zellmer

GFWC - Gun Lake  
Women's Club  
West Michigan Viking  
Group



Rebecca Getter

McCullough Family TK



Sam Morton

Rodney and Rena Schad  
Memorial  
Lydia Cole  
Samuel McKeown  
Memorial



Samuel McKeown

Ray Page Scholar-  
Athletic Memorial



Shaniah Fedewa

Eugene & Edena  
Hendrickson



Tyah Jefferson

Gerald & Lois Page



Wyatt Helzer

Adam Dipp



Zane Walters

Samuel Mckeown

## \$48,800

in scholarships granted to local students.



Anna Elliott

McCullough Family DK



Amelya Thorne

Jon and Kay Simpson  
Katherine and Edward  
Wieringa



Blake Monroe

Alecia Lorraine Holst  
Memorial  
Travis Wenger 4H



Brennan Lutz

Thornapple Kellogg  
Aulumni Association



Caedon Zube

RKW Working Student  
GFWC - Gun Lake  
Women's Club



Carly Snyder

Dr. Wayne and Marie  
Finkbeiner



Chloe Noorman

Millicent Grace Knox  
Julie Bender Women's  
Athletic  
Terri Yoder



Courtney Haveman

Lynn Helrigel Summers  
Beth Helrigel Wester  
Memorial



Ellie Essenberg

Tad Thatcher



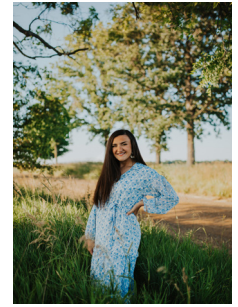
Ellie Rogers

Adele & Arnold Parker



Emma Fabiano

Gerald and Ceta Williams  
Lois Ann Nagel Seppanen



Grace Snyder

John and Maxine  
Robertson



Gram Price

TK Class of 1957  
GFWC-Gun Lake Women's  
Club Skilled Trade



Haven Beyer

Ethel Denton Groos  
Village Players of  
Middleville  
Don & Catherine



Hudson DeHaan

Brian Appel  
GFWC-Gun Lake Women's  
Club Skilled Trade



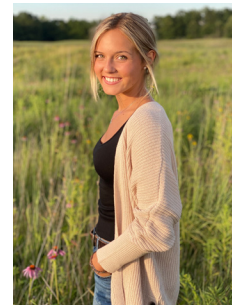
JamieLee Lancaster

Virginia Hoover Harris  
Root



Jersee Balcza

Samuel McKeown  
Memorial



Josephine Nickels

Robert Evans Memorial  
Scholarship



Kylie Smith

Marshall Seger



Lila Nelson

Samuel McKeown  
Memorial  
Thomas Hamilton  
Lydia Cole



Madeline Coe

Jody Helrigle Pratt  
Education



McKenna Bazon

Lorraine Dahlgren  
Memorial



Megan Chinavare

Middleville Women's  
Club



Mitchell Middleton

Emil Tyden Founders

# FUNDS

Adam Dipp Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Adele & Arnold Parker Family Fund  
Alecia Lorraine Holst Scholarship Fund  
Beacon Society, Friends of the TK School & Community Library  
Beth Helrigel Wester Memorial Scholarship  
Board Discretionary Fund  
Brian Appel Scholarship Fund  
Calvin C. Plummer Memorial Fund  
Charles & Margery Williams Youth Activity  
Clay Hills Farm Fund  
Donald & Catherine Williamson Visual and Performing Arts Fund  
Dykstra EMS Matching Fund  
Eugene & Edna Hendrickson Memorial  
Finkbeiner Scholarship Fund  
Fitzgerald Odyssey of the Mind & Arts Fund  
Francisca C. Vrona Memorial Scholarship  
Frank Tichvon Memorial Fund  
TAEF General Fund  
Gerald & Ceta Williams Fund  
Gerald and Lois Page Education Fund  
Jeff Lehman Memorial Fund  
Jessica Coe Memorial Fund  
JK Simpson Scholarship Fund  
Jody Helrigel Pratt Scholarship  
John & Maxine Robertson Scholarship Fund  
Julie Bender Women's Athletic Scholarship  
Katherine & Edward Wieringa Friendship & Community Scholarship Fund  
Kickstart to Career - Saving Matters

Lois Ann Nagel-Seppanen Scholarship Fund  
Lorraine Dahlgren Scholarship Fund  
Lynn Helrigel Summers Memorial Fund  
McCullough Family Scholarship  
Middleville Rec Center Fund  
Middleville Women's Club Scholarship Fund  
Millicent Knox Teacher Scholarship Fund  
Mom's Scholarship in memory of Virginia Hoover Harrison Root  
Promote Pickle Ball Team Fund  
Ray Page Scholar-Athlete Memorial Fund  
RKW Student Working Fund  
Robert Evans Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Rodney & Rena Schad Memorial  
Samuel McKeown Memorial Scholarships  
Tad Thatcher Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Terrie Yoder Fund  
Thomas R. Hamilton Memorial Scholarship  
Thornapple Area Parks and Recreation Commission Fund  
Thornapple Kellogg Alumni Association  
Thornapple Kellogg Public Library  
Thornapple Kellogg Tradesman Scholarship  
TK Class of 1957 Scholarship Fund  
Travis Wenger 4-H  
Travis Wenger Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Village Players of Middleville Art Scholarship  
William McGee Memorial Scholarship  
The Richard Reyff, Eric Lee Reyff & Chris Banash Memorial Fund



# VOLUNTEERS

Courtney Appel  
Bob Bender  
Rob Blitchek  
Tammy Borden  
Mike Bremer  
Lisa Brown  
Tammy Burbridge  
Christyl Burnett  
Andy Cove  
Damon Cove  
Kristen Cove  
Maddie Cove  
Amanda Davis  
Jaimee Desjardins  
Randy Eggers  
Shelley Erb  
Michelle Fabiano  
Kim Finkbeiner  
Lisa Finkbeiner  
Janis Fitzgerald  
Mary Fransisco  
Michael Gaertner  
Diane Gaertner  
Cyndi Gerbasi  
Catherine Getty  
Michael Gormley

Kay Griffith  
Richard Hamilton  
Beth Hannapel  
Cathy Hart  
Karen Heath  
Krissy Hooson  
Patricia Johns  
Morgan Johnson  
Karen Page-Kennedy  
Stacie Knorr  
Misty Knox  
Andrea Landon  
Deb McKeown  
Cindy Middlebush  
Sue Morton  
Marisa Ostrowski  
Matt Palmer  
Gretchen Parsons  
Jessica Phillips  
Heather Pratt  
Jody Pratt  
Jon Simpson  
Leah Smith  
Kelly Sporer  
Megan Staple

Craig Stolsonburg  
Duane Thatcher  
Pat Thatcher  
Shirley Thompson  
Debbie Tomko  
Sarah Turner  
Heidi VanAman  
Robin Walters  
Deb Weatherhead  
Diane Weatherhead  
Jim Weatherhead  
Emily Welker  
Becky Wenger  
Phil Wenger  
Steve Wiersum  
Don Williamson  
Karen Williamson  
Stacie Willshire  
Celeste Wolverton  
Jeff Wolverton  
Shelly Wolverton  
Stephanie Woods  
David Yoder  
Becky Zellmer  
Paige Zellmer



THORNAPPLE AREA  
**ENRICHMENT**  
FOUNDATION

P.O. Box 164  
Middleville, MI 49333-0164  
[www.thornapplefoundation.org](http://www.thornapplefoundation.org)

Cultivating a strong community now and forever.