

Because Nurses Make The Difference

A New Scholarship to Support Nursing Students

The F.A. Mason Penwell Scholarship will help future nurses reach their career goals thanks to the generosity of Mark and Jean Penwell. The first scholarship will be awarded this year to a Lake Michigan College nursing student.

“We have all been impacted by nurses,” Mark said. “They touch people’s lives at such a vulnerable time. They are the people we see every day. They play such an important role - hospitals, home care, traveling nurses - and we want to contribute to that.”



*Frances Abbie
Mason Penwell*

The scholarship is named for Mark’s mother, Frances Abbie Mason Penwell who was an artist and a teacher. “She believed in the professions, getting a good education, and being well-rounded” Mark said.



Mark & Jean Penwell

Jean’s mom had always wanted to be a nurse. But, in the early 1940’s she was forced to leave school with just three months to go when the administration discovered she was married. “You couldn’t be married and be a nurse or a teacher at that time,” Jean said. “My mom always held nurses in such high regard.”

Jean and Mark, both Whirlpool retirees, have lived in St. Joseph for most of their lives and are thrilled to be able to give something back. “We can do something here because we have a local college with great expertise and we have Lakeland that needs even more great nurses,” Mark said. “We are just glad to be able to pay it forward to the next generation.”

“And we are happy to know we can hand it off to Berrien Community Foundation and know it is all taken care of and will continue on,” Jean added.

The F.A. Mason Penwell Scholarship is a \$1,500 award for a student enrolled or accepted at Lake Michigan College’s nursing program. The student must have a 2.5 GPA or higher for the most recent three semesters and demonstrate financial need. The application is available at the Berrien Community Foundation website at www.berriencommunity.org.



It’s Scholarship Season!

Do you know a student in need of financial assistance to attend college in the fall? The Berrien Community Foundation scholarship applications are online now!

“There are scholarship opportunities for students in every school district in Berrien County,” said BCF President Lisa Cripps-Downey. The Berrien Community Foundation awarded just under \$200,000 in scholarships to deserving students from all over Berrien County last year. The application deadline for 2019 is March 4. For more information visit www.berriencommunity.org/scholar.

BCF 2019 Grant Tour

Berrien Community Foundation is hosting a grant tour *throughout Berrien County* to help nonprofit organizations with funding questions. BCF is the home of several funding sources for area nonprofits, but sometimes the number of deadlines and opportunities can get confusing. To clarify the process, BCF is offering **a series of five meetings** to provide information on funding opportunities and answer questions. Non-profit representatives or those interested in learning more about the grant process can attend whichever meeting is the most convenient for them.

“We have multiple funding programs flowing through the Berrien Community Foundation each year including programs that we administer from corporations and other foundations,” said BCF Program Manager Susan Matheny. “To make a plan for funding, it’s important to understand the requirements. We also wanted to get out to all corners of Berrien County to make sure nonprofits from all parts of Berrien County have a location that is convenient for them to come and talk to us.”

BCF Upcoming Due Dates for Grant Programs



January 21 - Golden Acorn Classroom Mini Grant applications due

February 13 - Heart of Cook Foundation Grant applications due

February 25 - BCF “For Good” Grant applications due

March 15 - Frederick S. Upton Foundation Grant applications due

April 8 - Frederick S. Upton Foundation Big Idea Proposal Letters due



FREDERICK S. UPTON
Foundation



To learn more about applying, go to: www.berriencommunity.org/grants

2019 Grant Tour Dates & Locations

#1 NILES

Date: Monday, January 28, 2019

Time: 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Place: Niles District Library
(620 E. Main St., Niles)

#2 BERRIEN SPRINGS

Date: Wednesday, January 30, 2019

Time: 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Place: Berrien Springs Library
(215 W. Union, Berrien Springs)

#3 BENTON HARBOR

Date: Tuesday, February 5, 2019

Time: 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Place: Benton Harbor Library
(213 E. Wall Street, BH)

#4 COLOMA

Date: Wednesday, February 6, 2019

Time: 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Place: Coloma Library
(151 W. Center Street, Coloma)

#5 NEW BUFFALO

Date: Thursday, February 7, 2019

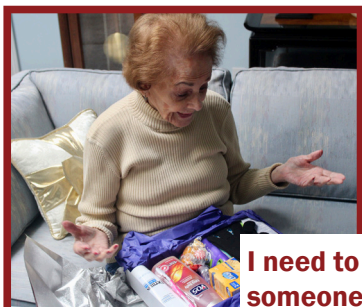
Time: 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Place: New Buffalo Library
(33 N. Thompson Street, New Buffalo)

Volunteers Kicked It Into *High Gear* for Giving Tuesday

On Giving Tuesday a group of 60+ volunteers joined forces to pack, wrap and write personal notes for **750 winter care kits** for our community’s most vulnerable seniors. The packages contained care items such as lotion, gloves, shampoo and toothpaste. BCF joined forces with Honor Credit Union Foundation, Heart of Cook Foundation, sdonor advised fund gifts and Bradford Insurance Agency to fund the project. Area Agency on Aging and Meals on Wheels distributed the boxes to clients in need.

Thank you to all of our volunteers and sponsors who helped make this happen for our seniors!



I need to thank someone!

-Beverly



“Oh! I’m SO spoiled!”

-Gertrude

