

Bridge Builder

Fall 2011



community foundation
Holland/Zeeland Area



TNT Roofing Fits With Foundation Vision

This year The Community Foundation of the Holland/Zeeland Area received an unexpected and amazing gift. Art and Mike Tolsma, brothers and co-owners of TNT Roofing, Inc. started an Unrestricted Fund in their company's name. Unrestricted funds allow the Foundation's Board of Trustees the flexibility to direct grant dollars to impact areas that meet the community's most current and ever-changing needs. This truly is a gift that keeps on giving – in far more than dollars and cents.

Both Mike and Art believe in giving back to the community. They realize their connection with the Saugatuck/Holland/Zeeland communities has made their business what it is today – a reputable and established company comprised of a hardworking and loyal crew, some of whom have worked there for 14 to 16 years. Art and Mike entered the roofing business in 1992 after Mike worked a variety of construction jobs and Art worked as a mechanic utilizing his auto/diesel technology degree. They are proud to say TNT will be celebrating it's 20th year anniversary in 2012!



Art shared that initially he wasn't familiar with the work of the foundation until a close friend made the suggestion. When asked what motivated them to start a fund at the Foundation, Art replied, *"The Community Foundation of the Holland/Zeeland Area has great vision and is a great fit to help TNT Roofing be a part of a never-ending donation process. The money given will have an impact for generations. We so appreciate the professionalism, ease and guidance of the Foundation and are thankful the Lord has blessed us so that we can be part of this vision."*

Other examples of their giving nature include the fact that TNT Roofing has been donating roofs to Habitat for Humanity for 14 years and has reached the point where they are now able to provide all the materials and labor at no cost to Habitat. TNT Roofing is also in its third year of participating in the MDOT highway cleanup program, cleaning the two mile stretch of US31 between Holland and Saugatuck.

Art and Mike were born and raised in a Christian family on a farm in Drenthe, attended Zeeland Christian and graduated from Holland Christian School. Unfortunately, their father passed away in a farming accident when they were young. The family grew to six children when their mother Patricia remarried, however, tragedy struck again when their stepfather died of a heart attack a few years later. Having been rather rebellious in their younger years, Art and Mike settled down when they married and started a relationship with Christ.



Art as Town Crier

Family has always been important to the Tolsmas, illustrated by their regular get-togethers with immediate and extended families. Art and his wife Tonya have two daughters, Nola and Areal. Art is the small group leader of 10th grade boys that he has been with since they were in 2nd grade in addition to being a Kids Hope USA mentor for 10 years. Art and Tonya have been foster parents to eight children and are currently hosting an international student, Annabell, from South Korea. Art has also enjoyed serving as the Town Crier of Saugatuck for 10 years. Mike has two children, Mitch and Victoria, and is married to Teresa who has Jamie, Selena and Scott.

Although Art enjoys traveling, he likes it best when he comes back home to West Michigan. *"The lake, the changing of the seasons, the great people that make up this community..." Art says, "...I believe this is the best place in the world to live."* In this 60th anniversary year of the Foundation, we would like to thank all donors, like the Tolsma's, who have made our work of positively impacting community needs possible.

Foundation Trustee Receives Philanthropy Award

Congratulations to Taiyoh Afrik on being honored as a Community Involvement Program Volunteer Spirit Award winner!

Taiyoh works for Johnson Controls as Manager of Global Business Process Involvement and was presented with the award in September. In addition to the crystal prism award, Johnson Controls will donate \$1,000 to a charity of his choice in the areas of arts, education, social services or the environment.



Taiyoh Afrik

JCI's spirit of giving policy is ongoing and demonstrates the commitment their employees have to volunteering and how their financial giving is



making a difference in our communities. JCI recognizes the dollars gifted and the hours employees volunteer as first steps in bettering our world.

Thank you Taiyoh for sharing your gifts in our community!

Last Chance to \$ave

The Michigan State Tax Credit is going, going.... almost gone. As of January 2012, the tax credit will no longer apply to donations made to community foundations. **However**, you can still save this year with the following parameters:

The law permits a taxpayer to reduce Michigan income tax or Michigan Business Tax liability by a credit of 50 percent of the amount contributed to the endowment funds of a community foundation, subject to a maximum credit of:

- \$100 for an **individual** filing single (based on a \$200 donation)
- \$200 for a **married** couple filing jointly (based on a \$400 donation)
- \$5,000, or 10 percent of tax liability before claiming any credits, whichever is less, for a **resident estate or trust** (based on a \$ 10,000 gift)
- \$5,000 or 5 percent of tax liability before claiming any credits, whichever is less, for taxpayers filing **Michigan Business Tax** returns (based on a \$10,000 gift).

For good. For ever.®

MSU Bioeconomy Institute Appoints New Director

Thomas F. Guarr, Ph.D., has been named Research and Development Director for the MSU Bioeconomy Institute in Holland. Dr. Guarr, the former Vice President of Chemical Research for Gentex Corp. and a faculty member of University of Kentucky, will assist in the Institute's goal of increasing Michigan's economic diversification while attracting both private sector and government collaboration on projects.

The director's position will be supported by the interest income from a \$5.2 million endowment fund locally raised and administered by The Community Foundation of the Holland/ Zeeland Area. A selection committee comprised of MSU and Holland community representatives chose Dr. Guarr after a national search. Dr. Guarr will work with Operations Director William Freckman, who oversees the pilot plant operations, tenant relations and infrastructure development.

Dr. Guarr led the Gentex team that developed the dimmable aircraft window assembly on the new Boeing 787 Dreamliner. Previously, he earned tenure at the University of Kentucky with research in conductive polymers, electrocatalysis, fullerenes, inorganic photochemistry, electron transfer reactions, amperometric biosensors, intercalation processes in layered materials, organic photovoltaics, and artificial photosynthesis. Dr. Guarr received his Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of Rochester and held a postdoctoral research fellowship at the California Institute of Technology.

The Foundation wishes Dr. Guarr the best in his new appointment and next phase of adventure.



Dr. Thomas Guarr

2nd Round Grants Total \$70,617

The Community Foundation of the Holland/Zeeland Area's Board of Trustees is pleased to announce the awarding of over \$70,000 in grants to area non-profit organizations in its second grant round of 2011. These fourteen grants, ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000, will support critical programs and innovative community efforts that address local needs and improve the quality of life for residents of the Holland/Zeeland area.

Holland Area Arts Council	\$2,617	Viva la Vida!: Annual Latino Celebration
Holland Historic Trust	\$5,000	Van Raalte Farm Civil War Muster
Latin Americans United for Progress	\$3,000	Citizenship Classes
West Michigan Strategic Alliance	\$5,000	West Michigan Internship Initiative
Outdoor Discovery Center	\$6,500	Fillmore Discovery Park
City on a Hill Ministries	\$7,500	Continuing Care Clinic Services
Ottawa County Health Department	\$5,000	Miles of Smiles Mobile Dental Unit Outreach
Community Action House	\$10,000	Homelessness and Foreclosure Prevention Program
Lakeshore Habitat for Humanity	\$10,000	Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative
American Red Cross of Ottawa County	\$3,000	Disaster Relief
Beacon of Hope	\$2,000	Counseling Office Remodel/Expansion
Grand Rapids Symphony	\$5,000	Holland/Zeeland Area Lollipops Music Education Program
Latin Americans United for Progress	\$5,000	Critical Thinking and Communication Youth Training
Macatawa Area Residents in Action	\$1,000	School Supply Distribution in Neighborhood Watch Areas

F.Y.I.

**2012 competitive grant
application deadline dates are:**

January 16, 2012

June 4, 2012

September 17, 2012

Wuskowhan Players Club Caddie Scholarship Awarded

The Wuskowhan Players Club Caddie Scholarship is awarded every year to qualified caddies who meet the eligibility requirements to assist them in their pursuit of an academic career.

Candidates for this scholarship must have at least two consecutive years of service to Wuskowhan as a caddie. All candidates must have a minimum of 12 loops per year for the past two years. Outstanding character, integrity and leadership are also requirements for the scholarship.

Congratulations to **Matthew Van Meeteren**, recipient of the 2011 Wuskowhan Players Club Caddie Scholarship, who is currently attending Grand Valley State University.





Up, Up & Away!

May 3, 2011 kicked off a series of celebrations for the Foundation as it recognizes 60 years of community foundation work in the greater Holland/Zeeland area. As part of this 60th Anniversary, the Foundation hosted a community celebration at the Tulip City Airport to simply say "thanks" and remind people that the Foundation would not be where it is today without the vision and generosity of community members who believed in the power of endowments.

Simply stated, we have...

60 Years Down... Forever to Go!



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Janet DeYoung
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**The View
 from Here...**

Sandra Swinney is credited with saying "It is amazing how much people can get done if they do not worry about who gets the credit." So true.

The Ready for School Initiative is a bright light not only in the Holland/Zeeland area, but is being recognized by regional and state leaders as an early childhood model with great promise. The magic is the highly collaborative nature of the project and involvement from all sectors.

That said, and though they have not sought the spotlight, we need to acknowledge the central role that Hope College plays with the initiative.

- From leadership and advocacy by President Bultman personally to providing space for the Ready for School administrative offices at Hope's beautiful Anderson Werkman building on 8th Street...
- From the involvement of nursing students to participation by faculty members, Sonja Trent-Brown (Psychology), Linda Jordan (Education) and Choonghee Han (Communications)...
- From meeting space and event support to evaluation of the initiative by the Carl Frost Center for Social Science Research...



Every individual and organization involved with Ready for School is critically important, but Hope College stands out as a partner that is key to the success of Ready for School at every level.

Sincere thanks, colleagues and friends,

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 web at cfhz.org*



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