



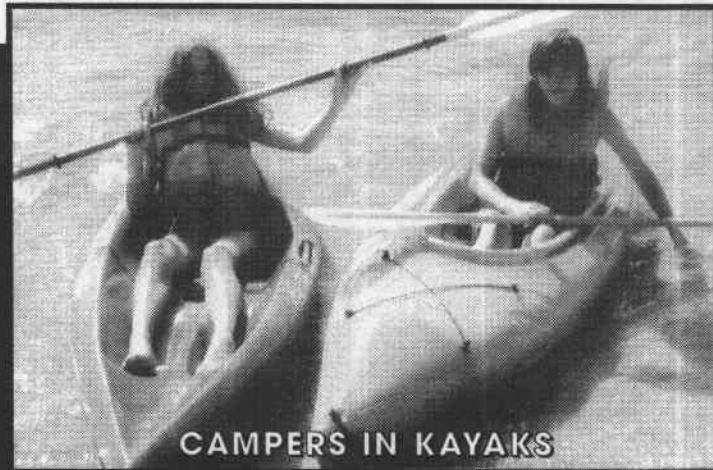
### Mission Statement

The mission of the Osceola County Community Foundation (OCCF) is to make Osceola County a better place in which to live and work by enhancing the quality of life and building a strong community spirit.

NOVEMBER 2008

# THE DREAMCATCHER

## \$2,740 Grant ROSE LAKE YOUTH CAMP



CAMPERS IN KAYAKS

Rose Lake Youth Camp (RLYC) was able to purchase two kayak packages improving the Aquatic Programs. The savings from the quoted price and actual price for kayaks was applied to an additional camper sponsorship. We sponsored twelve campers with OCCF money. We funded a thirteenth camper with donations from our "60 years of camping - 60 campers sponsored fund raiser." RLYC was able to be open four weeks this year by having so many sponsorships. Thank you very much for your continued support.

*Julie Peterson*

*Rose Lake Youth Camp Board of Directors*

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ROSE LAKE YOUTH

# GRANT UPDATES • FALL 2008

## \$3,000 Grant • City of Reed City Music and Art in the Parks, 2008

The Reed City Recreation Commission conducted the Music and Art in the Parks program as a part of the ongoing implementation of the Reed City Recreation Plan 2006-2011. The program was managed by Kevin Rambadt, Project Director, under the direction of the Reed City Recreation Commission. The program ran from June 7, 2008 to August 30, 2008. Funding for the program was received from the following: Reed City Downtown Development Authority (\$10,000), General Mills Foundation (\$3000), Osceola County Community Foundation (\$3000), Wheatland Music Organization (\$500), Cash Donations (\$100) and in-kind support (\$2,000).

Events included concerts, movies, and art workshops. These events were held in the city parks or downtown. A total of six art events, 37 concerts and six movies constituted the program. One hundred eleven artists participated of whom 74 were Michigan artists. The audience for all of the events totaled 3,079, a decrease of 2% from 2007. Attendees represented all age groups. Audience members completed an evaluation at each event. Average scores for the events and all locations were between Highly Satisfactory and Excellent.

Thanks to OCCF for their generous donation in assisting our city's art awareness programs.



## \$1,500 Grant • Reed City Public Library

With the \$1,500 grant provided by OCCF, the Reed City Public Library was able to purchase 87 new children's books for a variety of ages. Many of the titles were geared toward the theme of the 2007 summer reading program, 'Get a Clue at the Reed City Public Library!', a mystery theme. The books were displayed in April through June as classes from G. T. Norman Elementary came to visit the library and learn about the summer reading program. The librarian explained the grant money, showed the children the books with the donation plates attached, and allowed them to browse the new volumes. The kids were so excited but disappointed when the librarian explained that the books would not be available for checkout until June 1. The children vowed to come back promptly on that day to check out the special books they wanted to read!

The summer reading program in 2007 was very successful. Fifty children registered and thirty completed the program. Circulation numbers were up 15% in the summer of 2007 compared to the summer of 2006. The average number of new patron registrations rose from twenty-four per month in 2006 to thirty-two per month. Circulation statistics and patron satisfaction with the library continues to improve thanks to the generosity of organizations like Osceola County Community Foundation. Thank you!

*Tracy Logan, Director  
Reed City Public Library*

## YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL (YAC)

The YAC members are beginning their new year and have elected their officers for the year. Co-chairmen are Rachel Ruppert, Pine River High School and Kathleen Quinlan, Reed City High School; Secretary is Joyce Wirth, Evert High School; and Treasurer is Tiffany Erickson, Reed City High School.

The Youth are donating \$250 towards the 'Be a Santa Program' this year. They had their first meeting in September. At their next meeting plans will be made for this year's special projects. During October and November members are distributing educational mini-

grant application forms to teachers and paraprofessionals working with students at each of the Osceola County school buildings.

**YAC: Members**  
**EVART HIGH SCHOOL**  
 Ashlie Hoffmeyer  
 Josh Wirth  
 Dylan Lang  
 Joyce Wirth  
**Advisor: Cathy Wirth**

**MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
 Elizabeth England  
 Jarrod Brown  
 Britianie Nowland  
 Janae Todd  
**Advisor: Vicki Schutte**

**REED CITY AREA SCHOOLS**  
 Nate Kailing  
 Scott Tilmann  
 Tiffany Erickson  
 Kathleen Quinlan, Treasurer  
**Advisor: Cindy Zost**

**PINE RIVER AREA SCHOOLS**  
 Jessica Hoaglund  
 Neil Motzer  
 Logan Galloup  
 Rachael Ruppert  
**Advisor: Shawn Ruppert**

**OCCF Advisor:**  
**Larry Neiderheide**

OCCF continues to thank the YAC members and school advisors for their time and commitment to this program.



# MARCH 2008 GRANT AWARDS

During the April 10, 2008, OCCF Board meeting the Grant Committee made recommendations to award the twelve grants listed below. After discussions and specific amounts, the OCCF Board voted approval of the following grant amounts to organizations in Osceola County for the 2008 OCCF Spring Grant Round. In these brief summaries of the grant request, one will note the specific OCCF funds being distributed in the four quadrants of the county. OCCF has many funds that are targeted for specific and/or general purposes. Updates and usage of these 2008 Spring Grants will appear in future issues of The Dreamcatcher.

## **\$500 GRANT**

### **City of Reed City**

Fund: Reed City Parks  
& Civic Improvement

Purpose: The city of Reed City uses this money for maintenance and improvement of its city parks as well as for the purchase of flowers, shrubs and trees.

## **\$5,000 GRANT**

### **Evert Area Joint Fire Department**

Funds: Davy Family Memorial  
& Dr. and Mrs. R.C. Prugh Fund

Purpose: The Evert Fire Department wants to obtain two mobile compressed air systems. This would allow for continuous filling of the Self Contained Breathing Apparatuses worn by firefighters in hazardous conditions. Currently, the air bottles have to be sent to Ashton, the county's air compression refilling system, and then brought back to the scene thus wasting valuable time. The new systems will allow the firefighters to have a means to fill the compressed air bottles right at the emergency scene. The townships of Osceola, Orient, Sylvan, Evert and the City of Evert as well as other departments with Mutual Air Agreement would benefit from this system.

## **\$2,000 GRANT**

### **Love INC of Wexford and Osceola Counties**

Fund: Kent-Bonsall Family

Purpose: Love, INC has been operating a store in Reed City since July 2006. Love INC works with agencies, organizations and churches to screen, verify and find help for the poor, lonely and disadvantaged. Their store, The INC Spot, provides a way to give vouchers to the very needy. It also provides a site for community service people to serve out their hours. The store has been a very successful business

and has outgrown its location. They consistently receive large donations of merchandise and need a new location i.e. the former Ben Franklin store. The funding from this grant will help Love, Inc move into their new location.

## **\$1,664.72 GRANT**

### **Reed City Public Library**

Funds: Leach Memorial and Lyle P. Seger  
Purpose: The funding from this grant will assist the Reed City Public Library with improved advertising of the library programs thereby increasing attendance and library usage among the economically disadvantaged within the library's service area. The number of people below the poverty line in this community is best estimated at 725 people.

## **\$1,000 GRANT**

### **Pine River Watershed Enhancement Fund**

Fund: Lake Osceola State  
Bank Community Support

Purpose: The Pine River Watershed Restoration Project is focused on preventing the erosion of sand into the river channel and removing excess sand that has entered the river. This project would address existing sand erosion sites located on river banks in Osceola County. Repairing erosion at these upstream sites would help prevent sand drift problems for many miles downstream on private and public lands alike. Sand erosion potential will be reduced by means of using erosion control techniques such as whole tree revetments and the toe of the bank along the waters edge. Native vegetation will be placed on the upper bank to stabilize the soil and to prevent sloughing. The funding of the OCCF will go toward the purchase of plantings, materials, signs and brochures needed for this project.

## **\$3,000 GRANT**

### **City of Reed City**

Fund: Kent-Bonsall Family

Purpose: The funding from the grant is to preserve and stabilize the Linear Park trail for several years. This will be achieved by spraying herbicide to prohibit the growth of vegetation on the trail surface and dressing the surface including adding limestone chips where needed. Landscaping berms will be preserved and stabilized by placing stone or brick edging around them. The mural under the Chestnut Street Bridge will be cleaned and repaired.