



# LEADiNG

*the Way*

Alexis de Tocqueville Newsletter  
September 2020



Please view our  
Leaders in Giving  
book at  
[uwstark.org/leaders](http://uwstark.org/leaders)



*As you know, this is normally the time of year we would be planning to visit with each other at our annual Alexis de Tocqueville appreciation event. We loved having you in our home last year and are very sad that, due to the pandemic, we have had to cancel our October event. Please read through this newsletter and know how much you are appreciated by Laura and me for joining us in the Alexis de Tocqueville Society, by United Way of Greater Stark County for all you give, and by our community for creating long-lasting change. You are raising the quality of life for all of us in Stark and Carroll Counties, and we thank you!*

Dave and Laura Grabowsky,  
Co-Chairs of Alexis de Tocqueville Society  
of United Way of Greater Stark County

2020 Alexis de Tocqueville Society Members

<sup>M</sup> 2020 Mentorship Gift \* Deceased Member

*Welcome to our new members!*

David and Kristen Beck  
Mark and Bev Belgya  
Greg DiNarda  
Jeff and Sandy Doll  
Mark and Michelle Fedor  
Ryan T. and Evrim B. Fulmer  
Robert and Nancy Gessner  
Christine Olivieri Hackett<sup>M</sup>  
Joe and Nancy Halter  
Geoff and Amy Karcher  
The Kempthorn Family and  
Employees of Kempthorn Motors<sup>M</sup>  
Christopher and Kristine Maggiore  
Michael and Amy Mast  
Christine and Don Peterson, III  
Doug and Sandy Rapp  
Scott and Cheryl Robertson  
Gerald Schroer, Jr.  
Chris and Nicole Todaro

Dr. Michael J. Bernard  
The Biery Family  
Dave and Candee Bishop  
Paul and Jane Bishop  
Dr. Gregory and Carol Bonavita  
Cricket and Ted Boyd  
Michael and Dawn Conny

Chris and Teri Coughlin  
Jacqueline DeGarmo  
and David Beasley  
Bob and Linda DeHoff  
The Dan DeHoff Family  
Scott and Karen Fitzpatrick  
Joan and Philip Fracassa  
Mary Ann and Art Garfield  
Chris and Michele Goff  
David and Laura Grabowsky  
Vicki and Rick Haines  
Larry and Nancy Hoover  
Rosemarie and Chuck Hoover  
Mike and Holly Jeffries and  
The Jeffries Family  
Stacey and Rich Kyle  
William and Pearl Lemmon  
Kathi and Dick Maggiore  
Gerard and Laura Mastroianni  
Larry\* and Pat Merriman  
Ronald C.\* and Patricia A. Miller  
Dean and Grace Olivieri  
Virginia and Fred Olivieri  
Steve and Sondra Perry  
Jack and Madge Peters  
Lucia and Joe Pileggi  
Todd and Anna Pugh

Susan and Larry Ray  
Christopher and Stacy Remark  
The Michael and Elaine Reolfi Family  
Terri and Ed Roth  
Lisa and David Schauer  
Gerrard Schmid  
Gary and Linda Sirak  
The Johnny & Susan Sirpilla Family  
Larry and Ginny Smerglia  
Linda and Kevin Smith  
Sally and Carl Sorenson  
Mark and Amy Sterling  
The Swaldo/Blackery Family  
Drs. Michael and Julie Thomas  
Jane and Tim Timken  
The Tolerton Family  
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph F. Toot, Jr.  
Jim and Evelyn Valentine  
Robert Vitale  
The W. Henry Hoover Fund  
Harvey and Linda Wagner  
Howard and Sandy Wenger  
Robert and Rhonda Woodhall  
Mark and Tonya Wright  
Harold E. Ziegler, Jr.  
Six Alexis de Tocqueville Society  
Members wish to remain anonymous

# ALEXIS DE TOCQUEVILLE SOCIETY

## MENTORS

Alexis de Tocqueville Mentors are honored for their contributions to the community and their impact on the lives of people close to them.

Those affecting change in either the personal or public realm have done so by example – their unselfish commitment

to giving back is a shining beacon in our community.

An additional \$10,000 was donated in their name to United Way as a way of recognizing the mark they made on the individuals paying tribute to them and on Stark County as a whole.

If you are interested in honoring someone who has impacted your life with a gift to United Way in their name, please contact:

Terri Bate  
Director of Philanthropy  
330-491-9969  
[terri.bate@uwstark.org](mailto:terri.bate@uwstark.org)

## 2019-20 MENTORS



**Fred and Virginia Olivieri are being honored by Dean and Grace Olivieri, Christine Olivieri Hackett, and the Olivieri Family.**

**Fred and Virginia Olivieri** founded the Fred Olivieri Construction Company in December of 1959 in the basement of their home. What started as a home building business, quickly turned into commercial contracting when the company landed its first commercial job, an addition to a church in McDonaldsville, Ohio.

"Philanthropy has always been important to our parents," say their children, Chris and Dean. "They say 'modeling is the best way to teach children.' Mom and Dad showed us by doing. It was simply instilled in us to give back from a young age." They have been life-long members of St. Michael's Catholic Church which has nurtured the enduring faith that has guided them throughout their lives.

Their desire to put their faith into action has led them to be very generous to causes they love in their community, including Walsh University, Aultman Hospital, Mercy Medical Center, and The American Heart Association. They have been Alexis de Tocqueville Society members for nearly 25 years, and have passed that spirit of giving and making a difference in their community on to their family and entire company.



**Dick and Lynn Kempthorn are being honored by their sons, Eric and Jim Kempthorn, their daughter, Dana Parker, and the Kempthorn Motors Employees.**

**Richard and Marilynn Kempthorn** were lifelong residents of Canton Ohio, settling on a farm in Jackson Township after their marriage in 1956. In 1964, Dick bought his father's Dodge-Chrysler auto dealership and went on to develop one of the largest auto malls in northeast Ohio comprising of 10 auto franchises at one location. Until his passing in February 2019, he reported to work at 1449 Cleveland Ave nearly every day.

Lynn was always at Dick's side with support, and was the backbone of the family, keeping the "trains running on time." Having had three children within 4½ years, the hectic schedules of school athletics and a farm full of animals was not a job for the faint of heart. Eric recalls, "Dad never walked in the door from a day of work without finding his beloved 'Lynn' and planting a kiss on her." As the kids recalled, "She was his world during those crazy busy years, and he showed us by example how great marriages work."

Dick and Lynn taught the family that "to whom much is given, much is expected" and they didn't just say it but lived it. They gave generously to hundreds of causes but near and dear to their hearts were the United Way of Greater Stark County, YMCA, and their beloved church family, Bethel Temple Assembly of God. Revered by his employees as a leader, coach and counselor, he lived by the bible verse, "Do unto others as you would have done unto you." The legacy that Dick and Lynn left their family and company is one of setting goals, persevering, and caring for family and their community.



# LEADERSHIP



This season has all of us feeling uncertain. The pandemic has forced many of us to make extremely difficult decisions, and we have seen many of our neighbors suffer as they have not before.

Recognizing the incredible need in our community due to the economic impact of the virus, United Way set up the COVID-19 Impact Fund, a dedicated resource for working families affected by job loss or reduced work hours caused by this unprecedented public health emergency.

The fund provides financial assistance to help meet families' basic needs during this time of crisis. With the community's help, we have assisted more than 230 families including 325+ children.

The demand continues as our community struggles to recover and rebuild from the pandemic.

Once again, we have been truly inspired to see the outpouring of support from our neighborhoods. As our community has pressed pause, many have had to find new ways to keep going and you have stood side by side with your neighbors and helped at a time when, for many, help seemed far away.

Even apart, we are united in kindness, united in service and united in hope. It has been inspiring to see gifts come in daily and to hear from families who have been so appreciative.

In addition to the work we are doing in response to the pandemic, we are very excited to partner with the Dismantling Racism Coalition of Stark County and create transformational change! August 10 was the day we, as a community, began to change the narrative! The Unity Challenge to Dismantle Racism had over 2,000 participants in a challenge that helped them explore their unconscious attitudes about race, power, privilege, and leadership. Including us, almost 40 workplaces and organizations have endorsed the challenge!

Benevolence and commitment are what make Greater Stark County a better place to live and work.

You have made a difference and strengthened our community's life.

We are most thankful for you.

On behalf of United Way of Greater Stark County:

*Maria Heege,*  
CEO & President

*Michael L. Howard,*  
Chair, Board of Directors

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thank you for the hours of counsel that each of you volunteers so willingly.

**Elsa Cave**

**Kay Conley**

**Ken Douglas, CPA**

**Philip L. Francis\***

**Christopher Goff\***

**Dave Grabowsky**

**Laura Grabowsky**

**Christopher Henson**

**Cindy L. Hickey**

**Michael L. Howard\***

**Ann Hunt**

**Geoff Karcher\***

**Joe Liolios**

**Don McCord**

**Eric Murray**

**Lucia M. Pileggi**

**Todd Pugh**

**Sandra L. Rapp\***

**DeAnn Riley**

**Taylor Schauer\***

**Ryan Schmidt**

**Gary Schumacher**

**Denise Seachrist, Ph.D.\***

**Onwar Shaheer**

**Kevin Smith**

**Sara Stratton**

**Fonda Williams**

**Mark Wright**

*\* Executive Committee member*



*Judge Michael L. Howard, Retired  
Chair, Board of Directors*



# IMPACT VOLUNTEERS IN THE COMMUNITY

Thank you for giving back. Look at the difference you make when you donate to United Way of Greater Stark County. There are many opportunities for volunteers to give their time and talent: assemble literacy kits, create senior care packages, read to children, and join Women United.



## Day of Caring 2019

732 volunteers, 42 service projects, 40 nonprofit or school locations and 39 workplaces participating in 12 cities = the largest Day of Caring ever on May 17.



## Stone Soup

This past year, 2,800 meals were created by more than 350 community members through workplaces or individuals. Meals were distributed to area shelters, housing and community centers.



## Literacy Kits

79 volunteers created 250 fun, engaging literacy kits for children to take with them over winter break.



## Handmade Cards

691 cards were crafted with personal notes for agencies to distribute at holidays, birthdays and to lift the spirits of their clients.



## Purse Kits

320 purse kits were assembled by more than 100 volunteers at the Massillon Purse Project. The kits were filled with donated personal care items and distributed to local women.



## Read Across America

32 volunteers promoted early literacy and Kindergarten readiness with three events over two days. They encouraged a love of reading with storytimes and family activities.



81

total Alexis de Tocqueville Society members



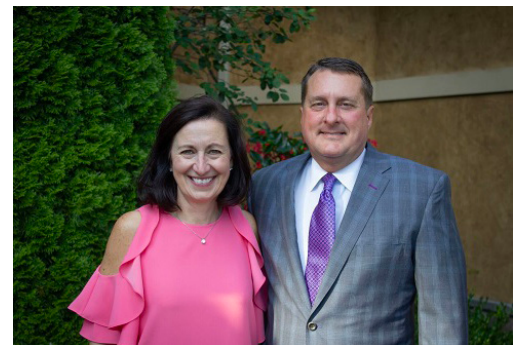
18

new Alexis de Tocqueville Society members



\$1.3M

invested by Alexis de Tocqueville Society members



*"At Employers Health, we value healthy lifestyles, school readiness, job training and preparation. United Way offers our colleagues an effective way to advance our values in a mechanism that helps those in need. Once a colleague understands exactly how United Way helps our community, he or she is eager to provide financial support."*

Christopher V. Goff, Esq.,  
CEO & General Counsel Employers Health  
United Way of Greater Stark County  
2020 Campaign Chair