



# SONORA AREA FOUNDATION

For good. For ever.™

362 SOUTH STEWART STREET  
SONORA, CALIFORNIA 95370

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## *Vision*

The Sonora Area Foundation will be the benchmark for exemplary practices in the philanthropic field.

## *Mission*

The Sonora Area Foundation strengthens its community by assisting donors, making grants and providing leadership.

## *Values*

Be open to learning and listening.  
Act with integrity.  
Make courageous decisions.  
Value our community and respond to its needs.  
Lead by example.

Mailing: W.A.T.C.H. Resources, Inc.

## *Giving* Helping others is a great feeling

As president of the Sonora Area Foundation Board of Directors, Jim Johnson couldn't help but see how easy it is to help others through the Foundation.

That's why he and his wife, Pat, set up a fund with the Foundation last year.

"Seeing what the Foundation did for the community and the various organizations that need help, Pat and I realized it was something we wanted to be a part of," Johnson said.



Jim Johnson

"Helping others is a great feeling."

The Johnsons chose a donor-advised fund, which allows individuals, families and businesses to contribute assets, and choose which organizations or interests they want to support.

This type of fund appealed to the couple because they can give to any cause they feel is worthy, including those

in an area they are especially interested in – education of children and adults.

Johnson, retired after nearly 40 years in the medical equipment industry, lives in Twain Harte and is involved with various community organizations, including the Twain Harte Community Services District and Partners for Twain Harte. He started serving on the Sonora Area Foundation board in 2006.

Johnson wants others – both individuals and businesses – to know that establishing a fund with the Foundation is a simple way to support your neighbors. The Foundation handles administrative tasks, and can suggest community organizations that match a donor's interests.

"When you see what you can do for your community, and that it doesn't take a lot of effort or a huge contribution, it's so satisfying," Johnson said.



## Leave your legacy

We can help you support your passions forever

Designate your favorite charity or area of interest in your will or trust and have the Foundation carry out your wishes. Your Professional Advisor or the Foundation can help you realize your lasting desires: helping children, protecting the environment, enriching the community or other charitable causes.



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## Community YES Partnership benefits from Foundation money

Southern Tuolumne County is now home to a prescription drug take-back event and a group dedicated to helping get kids off drugs and alcohol.

It's thanks to a \$70,000 grant from the Sonora Area Foundation's Lucille Arnold Fund, a bequest made by a retired teacher who left her entire estate to the Foundation to help at-risk youth.

"I'm so grateful to them for helping us with this," said Bob White, YES Partnership director. "This is really important work we're doing. We couldn't do it without their support."

The YES Partnership, active for 28 years in the Sonora area, held the prescription drug take-back in Groveland this year. At these events, residents drop off unwanted medications for proper disposal.

The partnership, along with another community group, also helped establish an organization, Team RAD, or Tuolumne and Mariposa Rising Against Drugs, in an effort to fight drug use in the area.

Prescription drug abuse among teens is a concern in the Southern Tuolumne County, said White, citing data from the Healthy Kids Survey, which asks local young people about substance abuse. Marijuana and alcohol also emerged as issues, White said.

He brought survey results to the attention of Groveland Area Involved Neighbors, or GAINS.

"When Bob called me I said, 'We don't have a drug problem,'" said Barbara Broad, GAINS

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Drugs Sorted for Disposal at Groveland Event



Drug Take-back Event in Groveland

## Legacy Lucille Arnold Fund benefits the community and its kids

If Lucille Arnold could see the list of students and organizations her estate has helped, chances are she'd be over the moon.

Arnold, a retired teacher and renowned basket maker, passed away in 2002. She left her entire estate to the Sonora Area Foundation to be used to help a group close to her heart – at-risk youth.

"She was trying to help kids that are pulling themselves up by their bootstraps," said Mick Grimes, a past executive director of the Foundation.

Born in Hawaii, Arnold spent most of her years in San Jose working as a school teacher. She retired to Tuolumne County in 1972 and happened to catch a basket weaving demonstration at the Twain Harte Craft Faire.

She was hooked, and eventually fashioned pine-needle baskets and hats herself, many of which are on display at the Foundation office. She taught the art for 16 years at Columbia College.

Arnold was spirited and funny, said Grimes, who met with her to set up her fund.

Called designated funds, funds like Arnold's are administered by the Foundation and help make giving to a particular cause quicker and less costly for donors.

Through the years, Arnold's money has awarded scholarships to dozens of students who might not otherwise have had the means to continue their educations.

Through the fund, the Foundation awards \$500 scholarships to high school seniors each year at a breakfast hosted by the Tuolumne County Association of School Administrators. The Arnold Fund also awards another \$10,000 to students of Tuolumne County high schools and Columbia College through a committee made up of high school principals, a representative of Columbia College,



Lucille Arnold

Foundation staff and two to three Foundation board members.

The idea is to pick students who "rise above their circumstances," said Ed Wyllie, the Foundation's current executive director.

Arnold's money has also gone to non-profit organizations like the Amador Tuolumne Community Action Agency, whose YES Partnership aims to prevent substance abuse and suicide among young people. The fund has also supported the organization's Family Learning Center as well as its Friday Night Live program, dedicated to promoting alcohol-, tobacco- and drug-free living for teens.

Grimes used to bring along a few of Arnold's baskets and hats when he was asked to speak to area service clubs about the Sonora Area Foundation. The visual aids help people connect the fund with the donor – in this case, a person with a passion for giving a leg up to young people who need it most.

# Donor Funds

## ADVISED FUNDS— Charitable purposes

Acorns to Oaks Fund  
Bergsund Family Fund  
Boyd Family Fund  
Caletini/Alves Family Fund  
Comazzi Family Fund  
Donald A. and Elisabeth Weber Fund  
Farrell Family Fund  
Foothill Ministry Fund  
Front Porch Charitable Fund  
Geer Family Fund  
Gianelli Family Fund  
Grimes Family Fund  
Hohne Family Fund  
Irving J. Symons Trustees Fund  
Joe Martin Family Fund  
Julie Hulet Memorial Fund  
Kiwanis Club of Sonora Fund  
Marjorie L. Coffill Charitable Fund  
Norbert & Elaine Wilson Endowment Fund  
Ozbiern Family Fund  
Pat & Jim Johnson Family Fund  
Priest Family Fund  
Todd and Cyndi Simonson Fund  
Tuolumne Angel Fund

## DESIGNATED FUNDS

Barbara McClymont Fund – Student needs at Sonora School  
Betty Regelin Fund – Support ATCAA Family Homeless Shelter  
Bill of Rights Fund – Bill of Rights education at Sonora Elementary School  
BOB Health Van – Support of BOB the Health Van  
Brizard Fund for South Side Seniors Inc. – Support programs and needs of the Gathering Place  
Calaveras Tennis Fund – Support Tennis in Calaveras County  
Children's Holiday Party Fund – Programs for children in need in Tuolumne County  
Christmas Partners Fund – Support Christmas programs

Comfort Project Fund – Quilts for children and elders in need  
Comfort Project Endowment Fund – A growing endowment for the Comfort Project  
Community Indicators Project Fund – Measurement and assessment of Tuolumne County  
Dan Imfeld Educational Incentive Fund – Support at-risk youth through educational incentives  
Donald and Renee Paulsen Fund – Charitable purposes in City of Sonora  
Dorothy Daniels Memorial Fund – Endowment for Sonora United Methodist Church  
Duende Drama & Literature Fund – Support programs and projects of Duende  
Economic Prosperity Council of Tuolumne County – Support Programs of Economic Prosperity Council  
Ernest Olivieri Fund: Elks Lodge 1587 – Support Elks Lodge Scholarship program  
Friends of the Children's Park Fund – Park maintenance and youth recreation  
George James Memorial Education Fund – TuCARE fund for teacher education in natural resources  
Graser-Knudson Memorial Fund – Endowment for Twain Harte recreational purposes  
Keep Railtown Rolling – Support for Railtown 1897  
Kiwanis Childspeer – Back-to-school shopping spree fund for children in need  
Leadership Tuolumne County Fund – Support the Leadership Tuolumne County program  
Lucille Arnold Fund – Provide success for youth at risk  
Marjorie L. Coffill Local History Fund – Tuolumne County Library materials on Mother Lode history  
Mary Jo Brereton Fund – Program support for Omega Nu  
Memoir Center Fund – Support Tu. Co. Veterans History Project  
Miller Endowed Fund: Elks Lodge 1587 – Support Elks Lodge Scholarship program  
Minnie Wind Wolfinbarger Fund – Support special education and ROP Health Careers at Sonora High School  
Mrs. Pringle Music Fund – Classical music appreciation for any K-8 school in Tuolumne County  
Smile Keepers Fund – Support dental needs of the underserved in Tuolumne County

Sonora Parent Nursery School Legacy Fund – Non-Profit Nursery School Programs  
SOS/Safety Net Fund for Tuolumne County - Support Safety Net programs in Tuolumne County  
South Tuolumne County Museum Library Fund – Maintenance of the Groveland museum-library  
Stage 3 Theatre Company Fund – Support programs and projects of Stage 3  
Tuolumne County Eye Care Fund – Eye care needs in Tuolumne County  
Tuolumne County GRACE Fund – Assistance for unmet needs of Tuolumne County residents  
Tuolumne County Juvenile Judges Fund – Needs of Tuolumne County youth referred by justices  
Tuolumne Tennis Association Fund – Maintain tennis courts in Twain Harte  
Twain Harte Skate Park Fund – Skate park maintenance  
Vial for Life Fund – Support Vial for Life project  
Wings Fund – Expenses for the non-medical care of ill children  
YES Partnership Fund – Support of the YES Partnership coalition

## FIELD OF INTEREST FUNDS

Elinor F. Brown Endowment Fund – Endowed fund for Tuolumne County educational purposes  
J.R. Christensen Family Fund – Nursing and health education in Tuolumne County  
Jim and Louise Angelo Family Fund – Tuolumne County schools for educational purposes  
Local Emergency Services Support Fund – Disaster prevention and recovery  
Mother Lode Wellness Fund – Support of medical/wellness purposes in Tuolumne County  
Robert C. Jones Fund – Advocacy for those who experience discrimination  
Tuolumne County STEM Fund – Support for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math

## AGENCY DESIGNATED FUNDS

ATCAA Family Literacy Fund  
Calaveras Heritage Council Fund  
Friends of Tuolumne County Library Fund  
Habitat for Humanity of Tu. Co. Fund  
Hospice of the Sierras Fund  
Humane Society of Tuolumne County Fund  
Mother Lode Wildlife Care Fund  
Rose Wolf Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation Fund  
Salvation Army of Tuolumne County Fund  
Sierra Foothills Residential Care Fund  
Sierra NonProfit Services Fund  
Sierra Repertory Theatre Fund  
Southside Senior Services Fund  
Summerville High Foundation Endowment Fund  
Support Sonora School Fund  
WATCH Endowment Fund

## UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

Cunningham Family Fund  
Geiger Fund  
Homer Latimer Fund  
Martha Barnes Tuolumne County Betterment Fund  
Sonora Area Foundation Futures Fund  
Thomas Pugh Fund  
Toni Gibson Fund

## SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS

Irving J. Symons Foundation for Tuolumne County  
Symons Family Fund

## SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

Aaron Baker Memorial Scholarship – Sonora High: athletics  
Andy Fredericks Memorial Scholarship – Fire fighting programs and scholarships

## Message Executive Director

Our Spring 2014 newsletter affords us the opportunity to connect directly with our donors. Whether through individual gifts or by establishing a donor fund, it is our donors that give strength to the work of the Sonora Area Foundation.

This issue of *Giving Voice* highlights how donors make a difference every day in Tuolumne County. One such donor was Lucille Arnold, whose donor fund has resulted in more than \$350,000 in grants and scholarships awarded to provide success for youth at risk, including a \$70,000 grant awarded in 2013 to the YES Partnership. We take a look at the Lucille Arnold Fund and how the YES Partnership grant will help sustain this long-standing



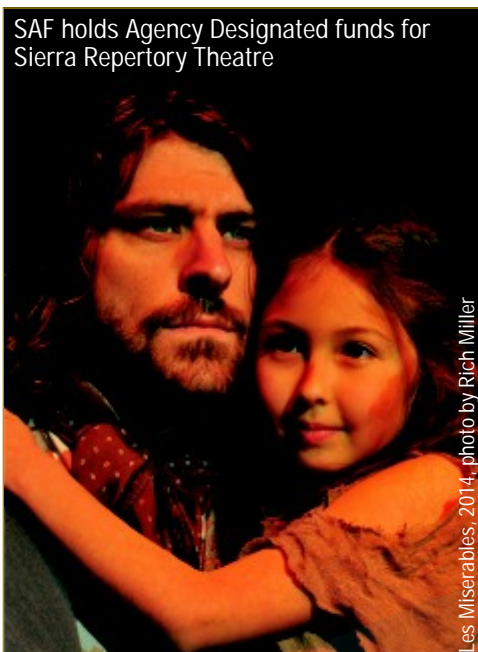
program serving our youth.

We also talked with Jim and Pat Johnson. Jim was recently re-elected president of the Sonora Area Foundation, and he and his wife have a donor-advised fund with us. In the interview, Jim and Pat encourage other Tuolumne County residents to consider the advantages of establishing a fund with the Foundation.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff, thank you for helping to meet the charitable needs of our community through the Sonora Area Foundation. We have awarded more than \$18.5 million in grants since our inception in 1990 and look forward to continuing to work with you to provide grant assistance meeting critical local needs.

Ed Wyllie

Aronos Women's Research Club Scholarship – Columbia College: nursing and/or teaching  
 Bill Gerber Memorial Scholarship – Summerville High: athletics  
 Black Oak Casino Scholarship – Employees and dependents of Casino – higher education  
 Bret Laws Memorial Scholarship – Columbia College: fire science  
 Brockman Family Scholarship – Sonora High: education  
 Bruce Paxton Memorial Scholarship – Tuolumne County high schools: music  
 Class of 1946 Scholarship – Sonora High: academics  
 Community Scholarship – Tuolumne County high schools - higher education  
 Cory D. White Memorial Scholarship – Continuing education  
 Dan Imfeld Scholarship – Tuolumne County high schools – higher education  
 David Paul Grant Memorial Scholarship – Tuolumne County high schools: law enforcement – EMT-fire science  
 Doc Curtice Memorial Scholarship – Sonora High: academics  
 Earl and Mary Purdy Memorial Scholarship – Sonora High: music or physical education  
 Elaine Symons Baker Scholarship – Sonora High: academics  
 Eva Schicke Memorial Scholarship – Nursing or fire science  
 Firefighter Michael Chad Harris Scholarship – Columbia College & Napa College: fire technology  
 Frank Salel Youth Fund – Benefit Tuolumne County youth  
 Front Porch Scholarship – Tuolumne County High Schools: math, engineering, computer science  
 Gardella College Fund – Sonora High: interest in local government or politics  
 Gilbert Poulter Scholarship – Sonora High, Summerville High and Columbia College: higher education  
 Gina Marie Gardella Memorial Scholarship – Sonora High: Agricultural intention  
 Harry A. Riedinger Memorial Scholarship – Sonora High: academics  
 Harvey H. Uhl Scholarship – Sonora High: Trade schools or higher education  
 Highland Oaks Agricultural Scholarship – Columbia College: agriculture & natural resources  
 Homer Latimer Scholarship – Sonora High and Summerville High: academics  
 Jeff Sanders Memorial Scholarship – Bret Harte High: academics  
 Jeff Vassallo Memorial Scholarship – Summerville High: Friday Night Live  
 Jennie Evans Memorial Scholarship – Tuolumne County high schools: business  
 Jerry Ryder Scholarship – Tuolumne County high schools: Korean War Veterans' relatives  
 Jessica Elizabeth Jager Memorial Scholarship – Sonora High: academics  
 Joe Martin Family Scholarship – Sonora High: natural resources  
 John Greeno Memorial Scholarship – for Children of fallen Wildland Firefighters  
 John E. Kelley Memorial Scholarship – Mother Lode Round-Up Queen  
 Kathleen Calestini Memorial Scholarship – Tuolumne County high schools: Sonora Elementary graduate  
 Kristi Francis Memorial Scholarship – Sonora High: academics  
 Larry and Virginia Reed Twain Harte Rotary Scholarship – Summerville High: vocational  
 Leadership Tuolumne County Scholarship – Past Participants of YLTC: academics  
 Lil Dawson, Winifred Black, Big Oak Rebekah Lodge # 259



SAF holds Agency Designated funds for Sierra Repertory Theatre

Les Miserables, 2014, photo by Rich Miller

attendee  
 Mt. Springs Women's Golf Scholarship – Scholarships for women in golf  
 Past American Legion Post 300 Scholarship – Tioga High: general academics  
 Paul and Jackie Mierop Memorial Scholarship – Tuolumne County high schools: Sonora Elementary graduate  
 Pearl Segerstrom Memorial Scholarship – Sonora High: academics  
 Perricone-Hobbin-Hodge Scholarship – Tuolumne County high schools: University of California  
 Ralph and Dotte Francis Memorial Scholarship – Sonora High: athletics  
 Richard A. Franco Memorial Scholarship – Sonora High: academics and leadership  
 Rockwood Scholarship – Sonora High: art  
 Ross Jones Memorial Scholarship – Tuolumne County high schools: fire sciences or law enforcement  
 SUHS Class of '58 Scholarship – Sonora High: higher education

Scholarship – Tuolumne County high schools: academics  
 Lyle R. Scott Scholarship – Vocations/trades education  
 Lynn Gates Nursing Scholarship – Columbia College: nursing  
 Martha Barnes Scholarship – Summerville High: females, non-traditional fields  
 Martin and Bethel Liljedahl Scholarship – Sonora High: agriculture  
 Minnie Wind Wolfinbarger Fund – Sonora High: ROP Health Careers graduate  
 Mother Lode Interagency Training Officers Scholarship/Bass Family Fire Fighters' Memorial Scholarship – Tuolumne and Calaveras high schools: public safety  
 Mother Lode Stanford Club Scholarship – Tuolumne County high schools: Stanford University

Sgt. Bobby Rapp Ski Scholarship – Dodge Ridge Ski Race Team  
 Shaws Flat Scholarship – Sonora High: academics and vocational  
 Sierra Music Scholarship – Tuolumne County student: classical music lessons  
 Sierra Quilt Guild Scholarship – Tuolumne County high schools: academics  
 Sonora Elementary Memorial Scholarship – Sonora High: Sonora Elementary graduates  
 Sonora Lions Varvandakis Scholarship – Sonora High male: academics  
 Stephen H. Manson Scholarship – Sonora High: art and nursing  
 Teresa Mary Thors Scholarship – Secondary education for disabled students  
 Terry Campbell Loshalegro Award – Summerville High: academics  
 Ticket Out Scholarship Fund – Sonora and Summerville High – attending Columbia College  
 Tuolumne County Community Tennis Scholarship – High school students involved in tennis or the arts  
 Tuolumne County Farm Bureau Scholarship – Tuolumne County high schools: agriculture industry  
 Tuolumne County Sheriff's Posse Scholarship – Tuolumne County students: agriculture or related field  
 Tuolumne County Women's Network Scholarship – Women's education  
 Tuolumne Medical Auxiliary-Connie Leonard Nursing Scholarship – Columbia College: Nursing  
 Tuolumne Sunrise Scholarship – Summerville High: academics  
 Twain Harte Chamber of Commerce Scholarship – Summerville High: higher education  
 Vicki White PEO Memorial Scholarship – Sonora High Alternative Ed.: vocational/trade, college or university education  
 Wally Berry Memorial Scholarship – Sonora High: academics  
 Wes and Ruth Wyllie Memorial Art **Scholarship** – Summerville or Sonora High: art  
**William and Doris Morris Memorial Scholarship** – Sonora High: academics  
**Wilma Lindberg Memorial Scholarship** – Summerville or Sonora High: elementary teaching

## Community YES Partnership (continued from page 1)

chairman. “He said, ‘Yes you do.’ We had no idea.”  
 Broad and her group teamed up with the YES Partnership to form Team RAD, or Tuolumne and Mariposa Rising Against Drugs. It took on more members and is now called a community collaborative, or a group with many sectors of the community represented, including school officials and young people.  
 The collaborative helps Groveland meet requirements to get a federal Drug-Free Communities grant, a process that is now underway.  
 Money from the Arnold fund went to efforts in Groveland as well as to help run the YES Partnership during a transition period. The organization, part of the Amador

Tuolumne Community Action Agency, used up federal grant money and was in the process of securing more funding.  
 The partnership was established in 1986 in response to a spike in suicide among area teens and works with families and young people to help prevent substance abuse, child abuse and suicide. Among its activities: an anti-bullying initiative; Girls Circle/Boys Council discussion groups at schools; and prescription drug take-back events.  
 In Groveland, the take-back is only the beginning, said Broad, now a co-chair of Team RAD. Planned for the future is a Friday Night Live club, which helps teens have fun without drugs and alcohol.  
 “We would like to see the kids build some happy young lives,” she said.