



Donor Spotlight

Margaret Rose Giltinan

Margaret Rose Giltinan, a member of the Nature Center's Great Blue Heron Society and the newest trustee of the Shaker Lakes Regional Nature Center Endowment Foundation, has a long history with the Nature Center. She grew up in Cleveland but has lived in Shaker Heights most of her life. As a young girl, Margaret had a close friend whose parent's house would have been

in the path of the proposed Clark-Lee Freeway, and she remembers the parents joining the fight to stop the development of the freeway. Margaret attended Hathaway Brown School, which also would have been destroyed by the freeway.

When her daughters Betsy and Lynn (now 26 and 22, respectively) were young, she often brought them to the Nature Center. During the summer, she would watch them run around in their shorts and rain boots and play in the Doan Brook for hours. It is one of her fondest memories of their childhood and launched their life-long love of nature.

Since 2009, Margaret has served as President and CEO of the Gebauer Company, an internationally recognized medical device manufacturer, based in Cleveland for over 100 years and family-owned since 1957. She is also very involved in the community. She serves on Cleveland Clinic's Taussig Cancer Institute Leadership Council and is active with Playhouse Square. As a breast cancer survivor, Margaret passionately supports Studio 51, a wig boutique at the Taussig Cancer Institute, and the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure.

Recently when her long-time friends Cynthia Bassett (Endowment Foundation Board President) and David Fulton (Endowment Foundation Treasurer) asked her to serve on the Endowment Foundation Board, Margaret stumbled upon two historic letters concerning opposition to the Clark-Lee Freeway. The first was a 1965 letter from the Country Club Garden Club urging Governor James A. Rhodes to bypass Shaker Heights and the Shaker Lakes area in building any freeways. The second letter was from Lady Bird Johnson to the Garden Club indicating that it is the President's hope and hers that "America's highways can be planned with full and sensitive consideration of all natural values." Margaret took this as a sign that it was her turn to make a difference, and she agreed to serve on the Endowment Foundation Board of Trustees. "Serving on the Endowment Foundation Board is a great way to contribute by investing my time and resources to a cause I love," Margaret said.

The Shaker Lakes Regional Nature Center Endowment Foundation was established in 1981 by the Mortensen family and was originally called The Mortensen Foundation. Its sole purpose is to support the Nature Center in perpetuity, providing stable and predictable support to operations while protecting the spending power of the Foundation. The Trustees of the Foundation are responsible for the oversight of investments and Foundation assets, currently valued at just over \$2 million. The Nature Center receives an annual distribution from the Foundation representing four percent of the average market returns over three years.

We are so grateful for Margaret's time, energy, passion and investment and look forward to working with her in the coming years to build an even stronger Endowment – and therefore a stronger Nature Center.

News of Note



On November 7, Sharon Wilson Seaton, Senior Community Affairs Representative of the Dominion Foundation, presented a check in support of the ASK! (Applied Science for Kids) program to Executive Director Kay Carlson during a visit from kindergarten students and their teachers from Adlai Stevenson Elementary School, Cleveland.



On December 14, area birders participated in the annual Christmas Bird Count that identifies resident winter birds and provides critical data on bird population trends.



Over 100 children and adults enjoyed the "Elemental Magic" of Mr. J.R., the magician, and his exploration of earth, wind, fire and water at the annual Family Fireside Night held on January 31.