

Youth Council Member Fulfills His Dreams and Our Sweet Tooth



Youth Council Advisor
Carole Schul with Luke Heizer

When Luke Heizer, 2017 Edgewood graduate, participated in the Middletown Community Foundation Youth Advisory Council he was already a young entrepreneur. Just five years later he has opened his flagship bakery in downtown Hamilton doing what he loves best.

Heizer is the owner of Luke's Custom Cakes, now open at 221 High Street

in downtown Hamilton. Located in a premium corner spot with lots of windows and even more exposure, Luke is experiencing the reality of location, location, location!

"This has been a great location," he says. "We have a lot of businesses nearby so we get foot traffic for cookies and cupcakes and we also have our loyal customers who followed us here."

Customers followed Luke from his parent's home location which is where he has been operating his business since its inception. Word of mouth about the quality (quality = yumminess in this case!) of his product and a foray into deliveries on Miami's campus helped Luke outgrow his parent's home. His new

location, a former coffee shop, required some renovation and quick expansion.

"The space behind us became available and I was scared to expand so early but we really needed the space," he says.

Luke undertook the expansion project with his dad. The result is an impressive layout with office space, a large area just for baking and a room for the icers/decorators.

He says before he got the additional square footage all the employees were crammed into the same room, storage space was overflowing and there was no office space at all.

Luke says he employs 16, a combination of part time and full time. One of his employees is very familiar with the business and that's his mom who works as a baker after retiring from the field of dentistry. She says she enjoys the work, particularly that it's so different from her professional career.

Luke's Custom Cakes sells cookies, cupcakes and cakes. Orders for specialty cakes should be placed a week in advance, he says, so that he and his staff can ensure the right amount of time is allotted to the order. Of course we didn't leave without purchasing some tasty treats so we can attest to his talent!

Orders can be placed by calling (513) 444-6336. You can visit his website at www.lukescustomcakes.com

Congratulations Luke!



Grants to the Community Exceed \$140,000

The following grants in the category of Arts, Recreation, Events, Festivals and Sponsorships were approved by the Board of Trustees at the April 26 Board meeting:

- 3R DEVELOPMENT** - \$5,000 for Male Mentoring Program
- ART CENTRAL FOUNDATION** - \$6,000 for Art Workshop and Artists@Work
- BUTLER PHILHARMONIC** - \$3,250 for "Mostly Mendelsohn" at the Sorg
- CITY OF MIDDLETOWN** - \$10,000 for a new scoreboard for Rathman Field
- CITY OF MONROE** - \$5,000 to sponsor Light up the Sky
- CITY OF TRENTON** - \$5,000 to sponsor community events
- DOWNTOWN MIDDLETOWN INC** - \$10,000 to sponsor First Fridays, Dog Days Downtown and Hocus Pocus
- EDGEWOOD BAND BOOSTERS** - \$2,500 for new instruments
- FRANKLIN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY** - \$1,940 for outside stairway railing at museum
- GREAT MIAMI VALLEY YMCA** - \$7,000 for safety around water program
- KEY BETTER DAYS SOCIETY** - \$5,000 for events supporting low-income neighborhoods
- KINGSWELL** - \$2,000 to support 4th of July and Memorial Day parades
- KIWANIS CLUB OF MIDDLETOWN** - \$1,000 for golf outing sponsorship
- MIAMI UNIVERSITY REGIONALS** - \$1,500 for STEM lecture series at Middletown campus
- MIDDIE WAY YOUTH BASEBALL** - \$10,000 to support the rebirth of the program
- MIDDLETOWN AREA CHAMBER FOUNDATION** - \$10,000 for Ohio Challenge sponsorship
- MIDDLETOWN ARTS CENTER** - \$6,838.65 for a new kiln
- MIDDLETOWN CIVIC CHORUS** - \$800 for production of Handel's "Messiah"
- MIDDLETOWN LYRIC THEATRE** - \$7,500 for season sponsorship
- PAWS** - \$2,000 for Zombie walk/run
- PERFORMING ARTS ACADEMY** - \$4,000 for fire suppression system replacement
- PORT MIDDLETOWN ARTS AND MUSIC FESTIVAL** - \$7,000 to sponsor event
- SAFETY COUNCIL** - \$7,500 for programming supporting 75th Anniversary in community
- SANTA PARADE** - \$2,500 for sponsorship of parade
- SORG** - \$17,000 for season sponsorship

Thank you to our Distribution Committee members who work tirelessly each quarter to distribute our competitive grant funds. We always have more requests than dollars to award so this is not an easy task. The Committee recommended and the Board approved over \$140,000 in grants!



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MIDDLETOWN COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

We Connect People Who Care



Connections

A Quarterly Newsletter for Our Donors, Members & Friends



Sarah K. Nathan, PhD

**EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR**

Congratulations to our Scholarship Recipients

It's graduation season and *your* Middletown Community Foundation is proud to play an important role in launching young people into the world. About 100 graduating high school students came through our office in March to interview with a panel of volunteer judges seeking a coveted scholarship. They were bright, engaged, community-minded, and enthusiastic about their future. Our volunteers would agree that these students were impressive, making the scholarship decision process a difficult one. We congratulate the 128 winners of MCF scholarships. The future is bright!



John Kiser

**BOARD
PRESIDENT**

Coronavirus Emergency Fund Will Continue to Support Those in Need

On March 24, 2020, Middletown Community Foundation established the Coronavirus Emergency Fund to quickly respond to the global pandemic. MCF provided the initial \$50,000 and hundreds of community members generously gave another \$98,215. Foundation staff acted swiftly to redistribute the funds to organizations addressing the overwhelming human needs early in the coronavirus pandemic. Grants supported food assistance, emergency bill assistance, child care for first responders, digital access for school children, and covid testing devices. As of March 30, 2022, \$21,473 remains unspent in the fund.

Despite the subsequent waves of the Coronavirus pandemic, the immediate human needs of the crisis have subsided thanks to various government stimulus programs and a quick economic

rebound. Since the middle of 2021, MCF has received only one request for Coronavirus-related funding and that proposal was not funded.

Yet, there is no doubt that the community will face another crisis whether it be a natural disaster, a health crisis like the pandemic, or some other unknown danger. The question is not if but when we will collectively face our next challenge.

Reserving the remaining funds – and allowing them to grow as part of our investment portfolio – will provide the foundation an immediate source of funds to address a future crisis. We believe this use is most in-line with donor intent.

The Board approved this measure at the April 26, 2022 Board meeting.

2021-2022 Youth Council Members



Front row l to r: Allison Morris, Monroe, Gianna Frongia, Fenwick, Emma Green, Franklin, Cassie Claxton, Edgewood, Lily Brandenburg, Fenwick, Emma Flannagan, Middletown Christian, Makenzie Johnson, Madison

Back row l to r: Kara Dykes, Monroe, Mason Fugate, Monroe, Maggie Henderson, Edgewood, Taylor Hale, Middletown, Payton Bowman, Middletown, Kate Clevenger, Franklin, Matthew Mellish, Middletown Christian, Ryan Hembree, Madison

Not pictured: Kevin Chairez, Middletown, George Puthoff, Fenwick, Christopher Bond, Franklin, Dylan Kaszubowski, Middletown Christian, Jose Silvas, Marshall

Youth Council Seniors

(l to r) Payton Bowman, Kate Clevenger,
Ryan Hembree, Makenzie Johnson

Not pictured: Dylan Kaszubowski & George Puthoff



Class of '64 Hosts Recipient for Dinner

The Middletown High School Class of 1964 hosted their primary scholarship recipient, Noah Locke, and his parents at a dinner at Brown's Run Country Club on Tuesday, May 10. Thanks to the Class of '64 for including us!



Thank you to the following scholarship funds that feed into the Middletown Community Foundation Scholarship Fund, allowing us to assist more students!

PAUL BELL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

MHS JOURNALISM EDUCATION FUND

EDWIN L TYSON EDUCATION FUND

HELEN TYSON EDUCATION FUND

MILDRED T FISHER SCHOLARSHIP

2022

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We Proudly Announce our 2022 Scholarship Recipients

1971 MHS CLASS SCHOLARSHIP

Logan Flack

ACE SCHOLARSHIP

Athan Bunger
Jaidan Fuller

ALISON HARRIS FIORA SCHOLARSHIP

Payton Bowman

ALISON M SHUEMAKE SCHOLARSHIP

Trista Myers

ALLEN BEACH AWARD

Ethan Wysong-Ward

ALPHA DELTA KAPPA - OHIO PHI CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP

Hannah Oligee

AAUW SCHOLARSHIP

Molly Hayes

AMERICAN HELLENIC EDUCATIONAL PROGRESSIVE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP

Jaden Rogers

ARTHUR HARVEY SCHOLARSHIP

Brody Smith
Erin Phillips
Samantha Phillips
Grace Carpenter
Casey Rilling

AUDOBON SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP

Kaydence Simpson

BETTY HELSINGER AMERICANISM MEMORIAL AWARD

Noah Locke

BETTY WALTERS MUSIC AWARD

Kiley Slone

BEULAH BROWN RN NURSING SCHOLARSHIP

Rylan Baker

BOB GRIMES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Jacob Dameron

CAIN ADKINS FOOTBALL SCHOLARSHIP

Logan Osborne
Elliot Warner

CARL AND FAYE ROBBINS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Carter Miller

CARMON DELEONE MIDDLETOWN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP

Brooks Olson

CEDRIC H GLOVER PERFORMING ARTS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Benjamin Alcantar

CHARLES HOOK CITIZENSHIP AWARD, 1ST PLACE

Heather Esau
Cameron Mann
Julia Capell
Matthew Bare
Ava Forbes
Elliot Warner

CHARLES HOOK CITIZENSHIP AWARD, 2ND PLACE

Erin Burrier
Noah Hesson
Maria Berning
Keenan Norton
Emma Martin
Logan Osborne

CHRISTY MINNIX MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Josiah Nelson

CLASS OF 1964 - MHS SCHOLARSHIP

Noah Locke
Au'Laila Million
Ethan Wysong-Ward
Mason Malicote

CLEVELAND CLIFFS SONS AND DAUGHTERS SCHOLARSHIP

Makenzie Johnson
Mason Malicote

COACH TED STEWART MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Noah Locke

CONSTANTINE (CHARLES) NICHOLAS REVELOS SCHOLARSHIP

Ava Forbes

DAVID AND CAROLE SCHUL FUND FOR THE ARTS

Elizabeth Hobbs
Grace Barnett

DAVID AND WANDA WAY EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP

Stephanie Leon

DAVID T MORGAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Adam Duff

DIANE MEEKS SCHOLARSHIP

Autumn Culp

DOROTHY M BRAYTON SCHOLARSHIP

Margaret Kurtz
Bradie Shibley
Carlos Ortega
John Calhoun, Jr

DR. JAMES RUSSELL MYERS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FOR ENGINEERING

Therese Bell

DR. JAMES RUSSELL MYERS SCHOLARSHIP

Erin Burrier

EBIE AND JOHNSIE BANKS SCHOLARSHIP

Stephanie Leon

EDWIN L MCCALLAY AND LOUIS B MCCALLAY SCHOLARSHIP

Kate Hafer
Lily Knaley
Rosie Komer
Laci Cope
Jaden Rogers

FEARN GERBER SCHOLARSHIP

Bailey Porter

FOSTER BOOTH WALTERS MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP

Edward Furlow, Jr

GENE AND DODEE SAYLOR MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Zach Hagedorn

GEORGE M VERITY MEMORIAL - FOUNDATION IN COLLEGE PREP, 1ST PLACE

Ava Forbes
Mason Malicote

GEORGE M VERITY MEMORIAL - FOUNDATION IN COLLEGE PREP, 2ND PLACE

Crystal Hernandez-Morales
Elliot Warner

HARRY A FINKELMAN SCHOLARSHIP

Jacob Dameron

HERBERT C AND MARJORIE L ROOT SCHOLARSHIP FOR ECE

Frances Vogelsang

HERBERT C AND MARJORIE L ROOT SCHOLARSHIP FOR ENGINEERING

Kaitlyn Jennewine



Grace Barnett



Colin Barker



Mary Liming



Hazel Moon

HOMEMAKER'S CIRCLE NINE AWARD

Hannah Baty
Dakota Grossman
Au'Laila Million

HOUSH FAMILY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Stevan Jiang

JACK GORDON MEMORIAL FOOTBALL SCHOLARSHIP

Logan Flack

JAMES M ANDERSON, MD AND BERTHA ANDERSON FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

Olivia Fening

JANICE E SCHULZ AND JEROME C SCHULZ MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Jaden Rogers

JAY SURFACE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Frances Vogelsang

JEAN VERITY MEMORIAL FOUNDATION IN HISTORY AWARD, 1ST PLACE

Elliot Warner

JEAN VERITY MEMORIAL FOUNDATION IN HISTORY AWARD, 2ND PLACE

Logan Osborne

JEFF WILEY SCHOLAR ATHLETE AWARD

Mackenzie Coffey
Noah Locke

JOHN A MCCCLUSKEY AND HELEN MCCCLUSKEY SCHOLARSHIP

Ahvonni Richardson

JOHN AND KATHRYN HENSLEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Evan Fry

JOSHUA TAYLOR BACK MEMORIAL FOOTBALL SCHOLARSHIP

Cole Payne

KAYLA HARRISON SCHOLARSHIP

Payton Bowman

LARRY BRANDENBURG SCHOLARSHIP

Abby Crim

LES JOHNSON EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

Ahvonni Richardson

LMHS CLASS OF 1964 SCHOLARSHIP

Laura Hale

LOUIE COX MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Andrea Udosen
Au'Laila Million

MARIANNE A DORENBUSCH SCHOLARSHIP

Ben Effler
Kate Clevenger
Sydney Dunbar

MARILYN E DAY FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

Logan Osborne

MARJORIE A JOHNSTON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Heather Esau

MARTIN B AND FRANCES R MILLER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Au'Laila Million

MARY JOSEPHINE K HYATT SCHOLARSHIP

Autumn Martin

MARY M DOBROZSI MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Madelyn Ross

MARY SUSANNE WARE SCHOLARSHIP

Casey Rilling

MATTHEW E FIORA SCHOLARSHIP

Tessa Wood

MHS CLASS OF '66 MIDDIE MAGIC SCHOLARSHIP

Nora McGuffey

MHS ENGLISH DEPARTMENT AWARD

LaTosha Sparks

MICHAEL AND PEGGY MCCCLUSKY EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP

Katie Ballantyne

MIDDLETOWN COMMUNITY FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

Mary Liming
Julia Grandstaff
Nathaniel Paarlberg
Morgan Robinson
Mackenzie Yoho
Evan Green
Gretchen Dineen

MIDDLETOWN DIVISION OF POLICE SCHOLARSHIP FOR SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF EMPLOYEES

Lauren Hoyle



Kate Ballantyne



Morgan Robinson



Payton Bowman



Therese Bell

MIDDLETOWN FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP

Paityn Birk

MIDDLETOWN HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1950 DWIGHT NEILL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Charles Farno

MIDDLETOWN SUMMER YOUTH THEATER SCHOLARSHIP

Aurelio Phillips

MONROE TECHNICAL SCHOLARSHIP

Samantha Cairl

NANCY CAHILL G.I.G.G.L.E.S. SCHOLARSHIP

Gretchen Dineen

NANCY MEEKS SCHOLARSHIP

Grace Barnett

NORMAN AND PAT HAYES SCHOLARSHIP

Austin Faries

OUTSTANDING MERIT SCHOLARSHIP

Elizabeth Allen
Kaydence Simpson
Kadin Miller
Madison Beach
Colin Barker
Cody Stidham
Dylan Kaszubowski
Laura Hale
Vanessa Temple

PAUL BELL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Laura Hale

PAULA BURKE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Kyndall Hensley

RALPH AND SONDR GORDON BAYS SCHOLARSHIP

Samantha Phillips

RICHARD B MONROE, SR SCHOLARSHIP

Jayden Bingham

RICHARD L MEEKS SCHOLARSHIP

Cameron Blair

RMP FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

Hazel Moon

SCOTT COLE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Alex Pitsch

SPC JAMES E HALL, JR SCHOLARSHIP

Andrew Johnson

STEPHANIE MARKHAM MINGE SCHOLARSHIP

Avery Huff

STEVE AND TOMMY GECKELER FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

Faith Dodson

SUE ANN MEEKS SCHOLARSHIP

Cameron Blair

THE LAWRENCE AND JEANNE WOOD MAGYC SCHOLARSHIP

Margaret Kurtz
Evan Green

THE MIKE KINIYALOCKS SCHOLARSHIP FOR MILITARY VETERANS

Hudson Black

THE MY HERO SCHOLARSHIP

Erin Phillips

THE OPBROEK SCHOLARSHIP

Gabriella Rizzo
Delaney Gale

VALDA WILKERSON MIDDLETOWN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP

Lauren Doty

VETERAN'S MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Allison Palmer

VINCENZO AND JOSEPHINE MAZZARELLA SCHOLARSHIP

William Grant

WALTER AND NELLIE EVANS SCHOLARSHIP

Aubiana Campbell
Madelyn Ross
Ashtin Parker
Mallory Wulff
Ryan Hembree

WALTER L BAKE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Molly Hayes

WILDA AND ERNEST STREIFTHAU SCHOLARSHIP

Ryleigh Clemmons
George Puthoff

WILLIAM AND PEGGY VERITY MEMORIAL AWARD

Ethan Wysong-Ward
Logan Osborne

WOMEN'S CENTER OF MIDDLETOWN CULINARY ARTS SCHOLARSHIP

Hudson Black



Kate Clevenger



Sydney Dunbar

