

in the pipeline

NEWS FROM THE
BURTON D. MORGAN FOUNDATION

FALL 2010

Portage Preserve Dedicated



Deborah Hoover, Suzanne Morgan, and Rick Kellar cut the ribbon.

Portage County's newest and largest park – The Burton D. & Margaret Clark Morgan Preserve – was officially dedicated October 8 in Shalersville.

For years, industrialist and entrepreneur Burt Morgan had envisioned building an international jetport and free trade zone on the property he amassed east of Ohio 44 and south of Ohio 303. But there were too many obstacles, and the plan never materialized.

When Morgan died in 2003, the property became part of his estate, shared equally by the two foundations he started: The Burton D. Morgan

Foundation and The Margaret Clark Morgan Foundation.

Late last year, the Western Reserve Land Conservancy purchased 504 acres of the property for \$2.3 million. The purchase was made possible by state grants designated for environmental protection and clean water preservation and with substantial help – \$400,000 each – from the two foundations.

The 504 acres – much of it wetlands and forests – has been turned over to the Portage Park District, which will now focus on acquiring funding to build trails so the preserve can be

accessible to the public.

However, additional land Morgan owned adjacent to the preserve will continue to be farmed, as it has for nearly a quarter of a century, under the watchful eye of Harold Morrison.

During the October 8 dedication, both Margaret Clark Morgan Foundation President Rick Kellar and Burton D. Morgan Foundation President Deb Hoover told guests that Morgan, who spent summers on his grandfather's farm in Indiana, would be glad to know that some of his proposed jetport land will continue to be seeded and sowed. At the same time, they noted that Burt Morgan and his family have always loved the outdoors and would be pleased that part of the land will be preserved for its natural assets.



“We want this site to be a showcase,” Portage Park District President Christine Craycroft said.

Founded in 1967 by the late industrialist and entrepreneur Burton D. Morgan, the Foundation invests in projects that further its mission of preserving the free enterprise system.

The Foundation supports projects that nurture creativity, invention, entrepreneurship and innovation.

To that end, the Foundation invests in projects that fall into three life phases – starting with childhood, continuing through college and then into adulthood business activity.

For more information about deadlines and applying for a grant, visit our Web site.



Dear Friends of the Foundation...

Burt Morgan was a man who never pursued his interests by half measure! His boyhood experience on his grandparents' farm translated into his lifelong enthusiasm for farming. The Davis family farm, located on 150 acres in Moberly, Indiana, drew Burt and his brother every summer for weeks of hard work growing wheat, corn and vegetables. He spoke fondly of Monday wash days when his mother and aunts would wash the boys' single pair of grimy overalls while they swam – waiting for the clothes to dry.

During his lifetime, Burt purchased hundreds of acres near Ravenna, originally as the site for an international jetport. When jetport plans faded, the land was devoted primarily to agriculture, operating under the working name of Freeport Farms. Of the 1,600 acres in Portage County, about 900 acres were farmed for corn and soy beans under the watchful eye of manager, Harold Morrison. Burt bought a combine to help with the harvest and bragged that the farm hands allowed him to combine corn, but not the soybeans because he left too many beans behind!

After Burt's passing in 2003, the property was transferred to The Margaret Clark Morgan Foundation and The Burton D. Morgan Foundation. The foundations worked together with the Western Reserve Land Conservancy to preserve 504 acres of farm, forest and wetlands for the Portage Park District. The Burton D. & Margaret Clark Morgan Preserve in Shalersville was dedicated October 8, 2010, and will be the District's largest park. Burt predicted that this land might have another use someday – he was right!

Deborah D. Hoover,
President & CEO

Grants Support Junior Achievement

Trustees of The Burton D. Morgan Foundation recently approved funding to help bring Junior Achievement programs to more than 3,700 students in a multi-county area of Northeast Ohio.

A grant of up to \$75,000 to Junior Achievement of North Central Ohio will provide in-school instruction about business, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy for an eight-county area, including Summit, Portage, Medina, and Wayne.

A grant of up to \$25,000 to Junior Achievement of Mahoning Valley will bring programming to students in four counties in the Youngstown-Warren area.

These two grants, combined with earlier 2010 grants approved for Junior Achievement of Greater Cleveland and Canton-based Junior Achievement of East Central Ohio, make the Foundation the largest single funder of Junior Achievement programming in Northeast Ohio.

“During his lifetime, Mr. Morgan urged the Foundation that bears his name to focus resources on entrepreneurship education for all ages,” Morgan Foundation President Deborah Hoover said. “He explicitly mentioned Junior Achievement as a powerful vehicle to reach students with lessons on the world of business.”

Junior Achievement depends on trained volunteers to deliver program content in the classroom. The grants help cover the cost of operating and program materials.

“We are fortunate in Northeast Ohio to have strong JA organizations that provide programs to thousands of young people and dedicated classroom volunteers that make this possible,” Hoover said.

At their September meeting, Foundation trustees also approved grants to:

The Foundation for Teaching Economics – \$44,000 to conduct a weeklong *Economics for Leaders*

program for 35 high school students in Northeast Ohio in summer 2011.

Friends of E Prep Schools – \$50,000 for the entrepreneurship program at Cleveland Entrepreneurship Preparatory School, known as E Prep, in the 2010-2011 school year.

Girl Scouts of North East Ohio – \$20,000 to support the Financial Literacy & Urban Entrepreneurship Program in Summit and Portage counties.

Ideastream – \$30,000 to support the broadcast of *Nightly Business Report* on WVIZ-TV.

Laurel Lake Retirement Community – \$7,500 to conduct a youth education program in philanthropy in conjunction with Seton Catholic School for academic year 2010-2011.

Ohio Business Week Foundation – \$14,000 for scholarships and financial aid for high school students from Northeast Ohio to attend one of two Ohio Business Week sessions in summer 2011.

Western Reserve Public Media – \$56,500 to the station formerly known as PBS 45/49 to help underwrite a second year (39 weeks) of *NEOTropolis*, a Friday night broadcast about the regional economy and local business trends.

The Foundation also provided smaller grants totaling nearly \$24,000 for entrepreneurial endeavors to area organizations, including the Akron Community Service Center & Urban League, the BioInnovation Institute in Akron, Cleveland Scholarship Programs, E CITY, and the Foundation Center.

Small grants also were awarded to the Hudson Heritage Association, the Hudson Library & Historical Society, and the Hudson Players Guild.

Computer Lab Honors Lorain County Couple



Keith Brown with Lake Ridge Academy students.

President Deborah Hoover said.

At the same time, she paid tribute to the Browns, who built a family business into the world's largest manufacturer of drop ceilings. "They did not choose an easy path," she said, before a reading from Robert Frost's poem, *The Road Not Taken*.

Lake Ridge administrators explained that word processing and learning to use the Internet for research are tasks taught at the high school level just a few years ago. Now those lessons are part of the elementary curriculum, so the new lab was designated for the lower school.

"This is a very meaningful gift to us," Lake Ridge President Carol Klimas said.

YOU WILL NEED: Microsoft Word. A Thesaurus. Your Imagination. And of course, a computer.

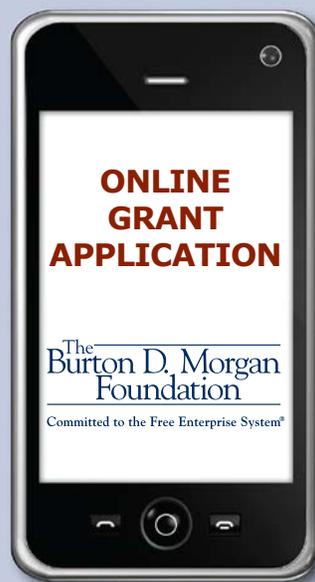
The assignment: Think about the words and pictures that describe you and make a poster.

Third graders at Lake Ridge Academy were doing just that on a sunny September morning. And they were working away on brand new Dell computers.

The computer lab was a gift to the school from The Burton D. Morgan Foundation as a memorial to the parents of Foundation Trustee Keith Brown. Lorain County residents Don and Shirley Brown were killed in a private plane accident earlier this year.

Trustee Brown, whose children attended the independent school in North Ridgeville, had designated the school as a fitting place for a memorial to his parents.

"We honor the memory of Donald and Shirley Brown through the creation of this computer lab that will undoubtedly inspire young minds to build skills and explore new horizons," Foundation



We Have A New App!

Effective November 1, 2010, all Letter of Inquiry and Grant Applications to the Foundation must be submitted through our new online application process. Visit our website at www.bdmorganfdn.org for more information.

New “paws” on board...



Ladybug Hoover and Oscar Frank.

John Frank and Deborah Hoover have more in common than heading The Burton D. Morgan Foundation: They are both owners and big fans of English Springer Spaniels.

In that respect, two new Springers have become greater Foundation fellows – and both came from the same rescue organization.

Ladybug Hoover came on board early



this year after long-time dog friend Oliver died. Hoover, who is president of the foundation, acquired her first Springer in 1985. She said her family got the first one because friends had Springers, and she enjoyed their look and high energy.

Retired Foundation president John Frank got his first Springer Spaniel in 1972, when he was looking for a bigger dog to replace a Cocker Spaniel. Oscar

Frank replaces Andrew who, in dog years, was nearly 100.

Both Hoover and Frank worked with English Springer Rescue America, which has a local presence in Wooster. Rescue dogs haven't necessarily been taken from abusive homes. In some cases, conditions change and owners simply can't care for them any longer. There is a lengthy interview/adoption process to get a dog through the rescue group.

Both Springers came pre-named. Hoover liked Ladybug so much, she put the name on her license plate.

One of Frank's first tasks was to hire a trainer to work with Oscar. Now that the dog can sit, lay and answer commands, Frank is hoping to enroll Oscar in an art appreciation class.