



Foundation Focus

Penn Manor Education Foundation Newsletter

Fall 2025

Beautiful noise

Drumming grant brings interactive workshops to all seven Penn Manor elementary schools

Sometimes, it's OK to be loud during the school day.

That was the message of a unique program that brought the staccato sounds of drumming to all seven of Penn Manor's elementary schools.



Called "Drumming Up Character," the program was funded by an \$11,225 PMEF Venture Grant.

Presented in 14 sessions over four days in November, the interactive drumming experience exposed students to music from Africa, the Caribbean, South America and the United States.

During high-energy assemblies, students and staff members could play 80 different drums and percussion instruments or engage in clapping,



Students and staff got to pick up the sticks and try out a variety of drums during the "Drumming Up Character" assemblies.

body percussion and vocal chants to accompany the beat.

In all, more than 2,800 students benefitted from this experience, which

included an opportunity for students to compose their own music.

This collaborative grant was a hit with both students and teachers.

Donor spotlight: Stewarts continue longtime support

If there is a PMEF fundraiser or promotion, Don and Nancy Stewart are most likely on the list of givers. The Stewarts have given an abundance of both time and money to PMEF since its 1997 inception — and for this, PMEF is extremely grateful.

When Don retired as Penn Manor's superintendent in 2009, he took one year off to travel before accepting the position of executive director of Penn Manor Education Foundation, holding that position until 2016. PMEF saw some of its most significant



Don and Nancy Stewart

years of growth under Don's leadership as both superintendent and executive director.

He helped institute important programs such as "Leave a Legacy for Learning" and "Founding Friends of Penn Manor," two initiatives that have significantly increased

More **STEWARTS** on **Page 17**

Strong & Healthy funding increases to over \$67,000

Mental health service needs increase

The PMEF Strong & Healthy Families initiative was established in 2016 to assist Penn Manor students and families facing financial, physical, and/or emotional difficulties. The program is in response to the increasing needs of families in the Penn Manor community.

Strong & Healthy Grants are submitted by school staff, who are "champions" representing the areas of need in the school community, including nutrition, literacy, mental health, athletics, toiletries, household supplies, academic fees, and uniforms/supplies for CTC students.

In 2024-25, S&H funding reached over \$67,000, which represents 25 percent of PMEF total program expenditures. That increase is due to the rising number of students eligible for free- or reduced-price lunches (now over 50

More **FUNDING** on **Page 16**

Recognition Gifts

Gifts given from July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025, in honor or memory of others

*These donors made gifts to the new or existing **scholarships** listed below:*

Aument Family Scholarship Louise W. Aument	Joan Pollock Memorial Scholarship Ellen Pollock	Patricia Texter Scholarship Kyle Texter
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JK Mechanical Scholarship Chris Leaman, JK Mechanical	Olga P. & Spencer Harvie Memorial Scholarship Sylvia Shellenberger	

More RECOGNITION on Page 8

New board members have strong Penn Manor ties

PMEF recently said goodbye to four board members — Matt Blank, JoLynn Drexel, Nicki Nafziger and Becky Spezialetti — who gave over 30 years of service to PMEF.

We thank them for their time and effort supporting the mission of PMEF.

In July, we welcomed five new members to serve three-year terms on the board of directors — Claudia Himes, Wendy Letavic, Michele Sipel, Jason Stover, and Randi Wolf.

Claudia Himes is the former owner and president of Special Occasions



Claudia Himes

Linen, retiring after 34 years. Her husband, Jeff Himes, is a recently retired PM art teacher.

Claudia joined PMEF, she said, because “Penn Manor is an amazing school district. I believe in the mission of PMEF and have witnessed the impact of Strong & Healthy, Venture Grants, and scholarships in the Penn Manor community.”

She believes her business background will enable her to help PMEF “increase our outreach and grow the number of our community supporters.”

Wendy (Smith) Letavic retired in June after a successful career teaching English and ESL in Penn Manor schools. Wendy and her husband, Paul, are Class of 1986 PM grads.

As a teacher, Wendy received both Venture and Strong & Healthy Grants

for her students. She would like to give back to PMEF and continue to support the Penn Manor community by serving on the PMEF board.



Wendy Letavic

“I want to encourage teachers to apply for grants and support them as they create innovative educational opportunities for their students,” she said. “I love seeing the joy this gives to students.”

Michele (Johnson) Sipel and her husband, Matt, are Class of ‘91 Penn Manor alumni.

Michele serves as the director of home and community-based services at Landis Communities.



Michele Sipel

Michele is a lifelong Penn Manor resident and felt the time was right to give back.

“Being a graduate and having my sons recently graduate from Penn Manor gives me more than one perspective on what it means to have Comet Pride,” she said. “I want to volunteer my time with an organization that is helping people in my community, and PMEF is doing that.”

Jason Stover graduated with the Penn Manor Class of 2014, and his wife, Jordan Hess, graduated the following year.

He graduated from Penn State

University in 2018 and currently works as an aerospace engineer.



Jason Stover

Jason describes his motivation to serve on the PMEF board as “an opportunity to give back to the community and help improve learning experiences” in Penn Manor.

He is looking forward to collaborating on shared goals with fellow PMEF board members and plans on getting involved in PMEF alumni events to expand our outreach to alumni.

Randi (Huslin) Wolf is a Class of 2000 Penn Manor alumna. Her husband is Brent.



Randi Wolf

Randi is active in girls’ soccer and basketball booster clubs. She currently serves as director of student services and the learning resource center at York Technical Institute.

She also serves as a director with Celebrate Columbia and Mission Impact.

Randi is joining the PMEF board “to serve and give back to the PM community in a way that assists students and families to achieve their own successes, while actively being engaged with Penn Manor School District.”

We welcome these new members and appreciate their willingness to serve.



Our board and staff: from left, front row, board members Mary Rafter, Claudia Himes, Wendy Letavic, Jason Stover, Randi Wolf, Michele Sipel; back row, director Jan Mindish, board members Steph Keck, Scott Stephan, Katie Hess, Jerissa Warfel, Carole Chismar, Brad Seiger, Don Mowery, Pat Kline and Joe Herman. Not pictured: board member Reilly Noetzel, executive assistant Dianne Smith and bookkeeper Kathy Fish.

Class of 2025 PMEAF scholarships/awards

Thank you to our scholarship sponsors for their commitment to investing in the future of Penn Manor graduates.

Their generosity enabled PMEAF to present 78 scholarships to 2025 graduates, representing 106 individual student awards totaling more than \$136,000.

PMEAF awards are funded by community members, businesses, Penn Manor staff, retirees and alumni. They fall into these categories:

- Technology, trade and agriculture scholarships for students entering the workforce or career training programs.
- Scholarships for students pursuing careers in

healthcare.

- Scholarships for future educators.
- Science, technology, engineering and math scholarships.
- Scholarships supporting art, music, theatre, journalism, and business students.
- Scholarships sponsored by community members and/or organizations.
- Our final group of scholarships are presented in memory of a student or graduate whom we have lost. PMEAF is proud to be able to provide friends and families with the opportunity to offer a special remembrance of a loved one through our memorial scholarship program.

Scholarship/Award	Recipient	Plans after high school
Tech/Trade/Ag Scholarships		
Political Science Scholarship sponsored by Manor Twp.	Akriti Neupane	University of Pittsburgh
Agriculture Study Scholarship sponsored by Manor Twp.	Kylee Hlavaty	Delaware Valley University
Star Rock Farms Foundation Scholarship	Derek Thomas	Millersville University
Willis & Martha Herr Family Scholarship	Kassidy Wilson	Dog Grooming School of PA
August "Gus" Birchler Memorial Scholarship	Rachel Sensenich	Life Institute of Pleasant View
Edgar Funk Family Scholarship	Keith French	Workforce / CTC Adult
Doan Family Trade Scholarship	Renzy Vasquez	Workforce - Belmont Trailers
Beverly Longenecker Scholarship	Bethany Kramer	Entering workforce
Dennis R. Herr Memorial Scholarship	Reese Castaneda	Workforce - Easy Does It Drywall
Jim Livermore Memorial Scholarship	Lily Hess	Thaddeus Stevens College of Tech.
Tony Purcell Sr. Memorial Scholarship	Brady Breneman	Montana Wilderness School of Bible
J.K. Mechanical Scholarship	Calvin Slover	Custom Plumbing & Heating
Pequea Valley Sportsman Association Award	Nicholas Michener	Thaddeus Stevens College of Tech.
Pequea Valley Sportsman Association Award	Lincoln Stewart	Thaddeus Stevens College of Tech.
Lloyd and Ann Boyd Memorial Scholarship	Roxis Groff	Penn State University
Warren V. Lefever ('42) Memorial Scholarship	Madisyn Stoll	Wilson College
Wade Groff Memorial Scholarship	Fabian Guerrero Medina	MTH Home Improvements
Kim Wells Tech/Trade Scholarship	Elijah Brewer	Workforce - Plumbing
Kim Wells Tech/Trade Scholarship	Keith French	Workforce / CTC Adult
Wes McLaughlin Memorial Scholarship	Jay Williams	Thaddeus Stevens College of Tech.
Healthcare Scholarships		
Betty Doan Memorial Scholarship	Sakshyam Chhantyal	Penn State Harrisburg
Linda Jo Newswanger Mylin Memorial Scholarship	Katie Eberts	College of Wooster
Patricia A. Texter Scholarship	Kaleighna Snodgrass	Penn State Scranton
Harold "Skip" & Dora Rhodes Memorial Scholarship	Harper Crowl	St. Joseph's University in Lancaster
Norma Lois Herr Memorial Scholarship	Ishmael Bolorin	Lebanon Valley College
Karen Shenk Memorial Scholarship	Laura Castillo	Penn State University
Dorothy Dart Milliman Scholarship	Haley Hutchinson	Widener University
Joan Pollock Memorial Scholarship	Marina Youssef	York College of PA
Marian B. Davis Memorial Scholarship	Olivia Haldeman	St. Joseph's University in Lancaster
Teaching/Education Scholarships		
Warfel Family Scholarship	Brianna Esh	Shippensburg University
Jere Hoin Memorial Scholarship	Madelyn Stern	Millersville University
Frerichs Family Education Scholarship	Addison Ames	Millersville University
PM Alumni Association Mellinger Award	Ava Wolfersberger	West Chester University



PMEF presented 78 scholarships, representing 106 individual student awards, to members of the Class of 2025.

Scholarship/Award	Recipient	Plans after high school
Dr. Perry Love Memorial Scholarship	Taylor Smoker	Millersville University
Harry Frey Jr. Memorial Scholarship	Dorothy Eachus	Lock Haven University
Richard Hibsman Memorial Scholarship	Emma Koehler	Kutztown University
STEM/Math/Engineering Scholarships		
Rintz Family Scholarship	Jackson Stuart	Penn State University
Rintz Family Scholarship	Jackson Hightower	Emory University
Rintz Family Scholarship	Sophia Nightingale	Carnegie Mellon University
Kim Wells Scholarship	Jordan Chen	Harvard University
Kim Wells Scholarship	Haley Frey	West Virginia University
John R. Milliman Scholarship	Alexander Mowery	University of Pittsburgh
Donald Pollock Memorial Scholarship	Gavin Roberts	Franklin & Marshall College
Michael Hnat Memorial Scholarship	Tyler Book	LaSalle University
Millersville Business Association Scholarship	Soliyana Haile	Millersville University
Art/Music/Theater/Journalism/Business		
William H. Duncan Jr. Memorial Scholarship	Christian Lapp	Lebanon Valley College
Shellenberger-Hosler Scholarship	Sophia Telesco	Shippensburg University
Olga & Spencer Harvie Memorial Scholarship	Zoe Thomas	Penn State University
Christine A. Weidinger Memorial Scholarship	Julitza Medina	Thomas Jefferson University
Nick & Marnice Charles Scholarship	Madelyn Stern	Millersville University
William "Bill" Fisher Memorial Scholarship	Robert Ethan White	Drexel University
James D. Harne Memorial Scholarship	Oleander Yocum	Penn State University
Community Sponsored Scholarships		
Dr. Janice Mindish Scholarship	Alayna Cintron	Messiah University
Dr. Janice Mindish Scholarship	Skyler Janesky	University of Pittsburgh
Dr. Janice Mindish Scholarship	Stella Thomas-Wenger	Franklin & Marshall College
Dr. Janice Mindish Scholarship	Madison Wagner	East Stroudsburg University
Dr. Janice Mindish Scholarship	Julienn Guillermo Severino	Harrisburg Community College
Dr. Janice Mindish Scholarship	Jaidyn Carbaugh	Kent State University
Dr. Janice Mindish Scholarship	Rafail Hattar	Elizabethtown College
Dr. Janice Mindish Scholarship	Sandra Walker	George Mason University
Dr. Janice Mindish Scholarship	Kayli Boas	Millersville University
Aument Family Scholarship	Cristofer Arias-Orozco	Bowdoin College
Stella Caldwell Memorial Scholarship	Emily Mummert	Penn State Harrisburg
David Ober Memorial Scholarship	Kiley Scholl	Penn State University
Abram & Dorothy Sangrey Memorial Scholarship	Bailey Floyd	West Chester University
Rankin & Gregory LLC Scholarship	Brady Mitchell	American University
David L. Murray Memorial Scholarship	Caiden Gegg	Widener University
Mrs. Abner Houseknecht Memorial Scholarship	Samaya Avila	University of Scranton
Mrs. Abner Houseknecht Memorial Scholarship	Daniela Contin	Point Park University

More **SCHOLARSHIPS** on **Page 12**

Venture Grant projects for 2024-2025

Penn Manor Education Foundation provided nearly \$55,000 in funding to support 29 Venture Grant projects for teachers in all 10 Penn Manor schools this past year.

The grants included a wide range of projects, from \$323 for a ceramics collaboration between high school and elementary students to \$11,225 for an interactive drumming experience provided to all Penn Manor elementary schools.

Several of this year's grants involved collaborations between schools and grade levels, expanding the reach of these innovative projects.

Listed below are highlights of the 2024-2025 grants.



Cardboard Regatta

Funds were used to cover pool rental fees for a competition in which 160 high school science students designed, built and raced boats made of cardboard.

Gettysburg Field Trip

Manor Middle School students who met academic and behavioral requirements participated in a field trip to Gettysburg with a licensed tour guide.

Zoo America Field Trip

This grant funded a field trip to Zoo America for kindergarten and first-grade students at Central Manor Elementary.



Ellis Island Field Trip

The entire LeTort sixth-grade class got to experience a field trip to historic Ellis Island as part of their social studies curriculum through funding from this grant.



Lancaster County Parks and Recreation Science Programs

This grant funded a visit by a naturalist specializing in ecology and biodiversity, who provided hands-on learning and critical

thinking experiences for fourth graders at Central Manor Elementary.

Art Pen Pals and Ceramics Collaboration

This project matched high school art students with "art pen pals" at Central Manor Elementary to exchange projects. In addition, high school ceramics students worked with Pequea Elementary students to create three-dimensional sculptures based on their artwork.



Bilingual Mentoring Club

The grant funded materials for a Bilingual Collaboration Mentoring Club in which native Spanish speakers and AP Spanish students served as peer mentors for

English language learners. The grant also was used to purchase large flags of the 33 countries represented by Penn Manor High School students.

Fulton Opera House Field Trip

The grant funded transportation and admission for every student at Pequea Elementary to see *Alice in Wonderland* at the historic Fulton Opera House in Lancaster.

Connecting Classroom to Nature

This grant funded an outing to Kelly's Run Nature Preserve for Marticville Middle School seventh graders, who participated in forestry, birding, mapping and meadow study activities.

Leveling Up Executive Functioning Skills

The grant paid for executive functioning games for all grade levels at Pequea Elementary for students to use at home before returning them to school.

Ukuleles

Grant funding paid for ukuleles and related supplies for music classes at four elementary schools – Pequea, Central Manor, Conestoga, and Eshleman.

Pickleball for Elementary PE

The grant paid for



More **TEACHER PROJECTS** on **Next Page**

Teacher projects

Continued from **Page 6**



pickleball equipment to be used at all seven Penn Manor elementary schools.

Slab Roller for Clay Projects

Funds were used to purchase slab rollers to roll out clay so students at LeTort and Hambright Elementary Schools could experience working with ceramics.

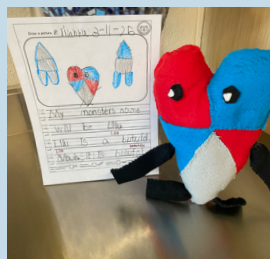
Middle School Color Guard

Funding was used to purchase flags, flag poles and weights for a color guard program at Marticville Middle School so it can expand to include more middle school students.

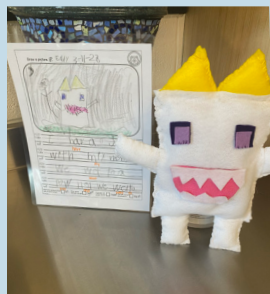
Project Pen Pal & Exploring Lancaster's History

Pen Pals at Conestoga and Eshleman Elementary Schools practiced letter-writing, communication skills, and interpersonal skills before attending *Alice in Wonderland* at the Fulton Opera House together.

Stitching Stories: From Imagination to Embroidery



Students at Letort, Hambright and Pequea Elementary Schools partnered with high school consumer science students on a hand-sewing felt project. The elementary students designed birds or monsters on paper and shared them with high school students, who brought the designs to life.



Daniel's Den Field Trip

The grant paid for a field trip to Daniel's Den Playground by fourth-grade pen pals from Letort and Martic Elementary Schools.

Manor Piano Project

Funding was used to purchase a new digital keyboard for the Manor Middle music program to replace a non-functional piano.

Drumming Up Character

The grant funded interactive Drumming Up World



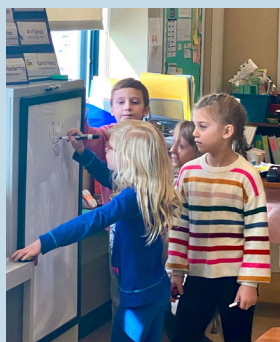
Music presentations at all elementary schools featuring music from Africa, the Caribbean, South America and the United States. Students played 80 different drums and percussion instruments.

Model UN Competitions

The funds were used to pay for entrance fees and transportation to five Model United Nations competitions.

Vertical Learning White Boards

The grant paid for sets of white boards for second-grade classrooms at Central Manor Elementary to encourage students to engage in vertical learning.



Environment Action Outdoor School

This grant paid for 42 gifted students from Conestoga, Eshleman and Marticville to attend the Lancaster Conservancy STEELS immersive outdoor educational experience.

German Student Exchange

The grant helped cover the cost of an exchange trip to Bavaria for German students in grades 10 through 12.

Middle School Sewing Machines

The grant funded sewing machines for creating and repairing costumes for plays at Manor and Marticville Middle Schools.



Educational Games to Enhance AST

Funding was used to purchase sets of word games and other materials for use during academic support interventions for students at Manor and Marticville Middle schools.

Recognition gifts: *Donations in memory or honor of others*

Continued from **Page 2**

Larry & Marjorie Rohm, in memory of
Judy Keiser
Larry & Marjorie Rohm, in memory of
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Marticville Middle School
Jeremy Morrison

Nancy Rohrer Graybill
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Wendy Letavic's retirement
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Willow Breeze Laundromat
Willow Run Veterinary Clinic

Executive director talks about PMEF's role in the community

The role of PMEF is to connect our generous community to our schools so students can benefit. In return, PMEF



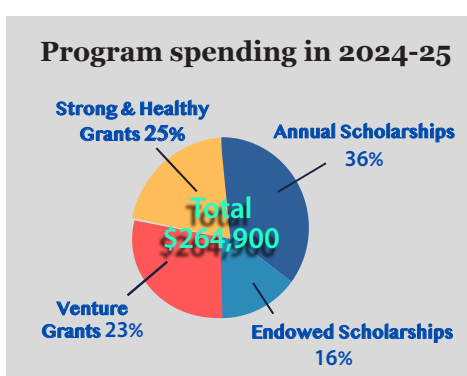
Jan Mindish

updates our community on the good things happening in our Penn Manor schools. We share stories on social media and in our annual newsletter so our donors can see how their donations are making a difference for students.

To advance this connection among community, students, staff, and donors, PMEF funds three main initiatives.

Venture Grants fund innovative teacher ideas to enhance student learning.

This year we approved nearly \$55,000 in Venture grants to teachers, K-12 to support their ideas. Grants focused



on unlocking new opportunities for students while collaborating within or across schools and departments.

PMEF encourages teachers to consider grant ideas that will spark curiosity and creative thinking, to enhance student learning and to provide memories that

will stay with them long after they leave Penn Manor.

Strong & Healthy Families Grants support students and families in need.

This year PMEF funded over \$67,000 in grants — for elementary literacy, CTC costs for students, AP exam fees and dual enrollment classes. But the fastest-growing funding request is support for mental health issues at all grade levels.

Scholarships support the continued education of our seniors.

Penn Manor is envied by other districts because of the number of scholarships we provide to seniors. Thanks to our community, we added five new scholarships this past year, bringing

More **DIRECTOR** on **Page 15**

Donor Recognition

Many thanks to these individual donors for their support!

(July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025)

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Photos from this year's Senior Awards Ceremony depict family members presenting five of our new scholarships, from left, the Harry Frey Jr. Memorial Scholarship, the Lancaster County

Community Foundation Ashton's Light Award, The Wes McLaughlin Memorial Scholarship, the Richard Hibshman Memorial Scholarship, and the Linda Jo Newswanger Mylin Memorial Scholarship.

Scholarship recipients: \$136,000 given to Class of 2025

Continued from **Page 5**

Scholarship/Award	Recipient	Plans after high school
Mrs. Abner Houseknecht Memorial Scholarship	Abigail Michnya	University of Rhode Island
Mrs. Abner Houseknecht Memorial Scholarship	Cheyenne Spidle	Drexel University
Mrs. Abner Houseknecht Memorial Scholarship	Mushna Subba	Penn State Harrisburg
Mrs. Abner Houseknecht Memorial Scholarship	Yadira Aragon Gonzalez	Drexel University
Mrs. Abner Houseknecht Scholarship	Makayla Radzik	Robert Morris University
Sherilyn Schock Memorial Scholarship	James Helm	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Captain Edward Davis Memorial Award	Brady Breneman	Montana Wilderness School of the Bible
Penn Manor Education Foundation Scholarship	Kevin Dawkins	Temple University
Penn Manor Education Foundation Scholarship	Maya Telesco	Penn State University
Penn Manor Education Foundation Scholarship	Claire Sweeney	Elizabethtown College
Penn Manor Education Foundation Scholarship	Lillian Zook	University of North Carolina
PMAA Legacy Scholarship	Emily Gregory	Messiah University
PMAA Legacy Scholarship	Aaron Shertzer	Workforce - Giant Foods
Class of 2018 Scholarship	Ethan Addy	Fordham University
Class of 2018 Scholarship	Abigail Andrew	Thomas Jefferson University
Class of 2019 Scholarship	Wesley Shaffer	Messiah University
Class of 2019 Scholarship	Sydney Gieg	University of Delaware
Class of 2023 Scholarship	Sydney Haldeman	University of Central Florida
Class of 2023 Scholarship	Owen Braas	University of Pittsburgh
Jack & Joanne Herr Scholarship	Andrew Gallion	Penn State University
Geist Family Citizenship Award	Tyler Hudson	Franklin & Marshall College
Geist Family Citizenship Award	Hailey Hutchinson	Widener University
Lee "Todd" Amigh Memorial Scholarship	Ella Cauler	George Mason University
Marsha Gullo Frerichs Memorial Golf Scholarship	Brayden Souder	Millersville University
Marsha Gullo Frerichs Memorial Golf Scholarship	Jesse Shue	Penn State University

In Memory of Penn Manor Students

L.C. Community Foundation Ashton's Light Award
 Sean Moore Memorial Scholarship
 Hans H. Haverstick Memorial Scholarship
 Hans H. Haverstick Memorial Scholarship
 Kevin B. Smith Memorial Award
 Megan Lynn Martin Memorial Scholarship
 Molly Curtis Memorial Scholarship
 Rachel Elizabeth Miller Memorial Scholarship
 Mario-Angelo Russo Memorial Scholarship
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 Juleigh Bowmaster
 Kate Harnish
 Cole Johnson
 Kael Hufford
 Dana Raugh
 Reece Andreychek
 Emily Kemmer
 Joelle Harnish

Penn State University
 University of Pittsburgh
 Lebanon Valley College
 Geneva College
 Berry College
 West Virginia University
 Misericordia University
 Bucknell University
 Rowan University
 Pennsylvania College of Technology
 Millersville University
 Lancaster Bible College
 Juniata College
 St. Joseph University, Lancaster

Valedictorian/Salutatorian

Dr. D. L. Biemesderfer Award (Valedictorian)
 Mary (Filling) Klemmer Award (Salutatorian)

Jordan Chen
 Tyler Hudson

Harvard University
 Franklin & Marshall College

New scholarships honor PM students and staff

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, the Foundation was able to establish five new scholarships in memory of former students and staff members to award to Penn Manor graduates in 2025.

Harry Frey Jr. Memorial Scholarship

On December 9, Penn Manor lost Harry Frey, a beloved coach and health and physical education teacher at Penn Manor for 41 years. Harry served as head varsity boys and girls basketball coach and JV baseball coach for many years.

A 1958 Penn Manor graduate, Harry played soccer, basketball and baseball.



Harry Frey Jr.

The school district honored Harry in December with a dedication ceremony naming of the High School gymnasium after him.

Retired health and

PE teacher Jim Amigh initiated the Harry Frey Scholarship. Friends, family, colleagues, former students and athletes, plus members of the community, were invited to contribute to this memorial to Harry's legacy.

This \$1,000 scholarship is awarded to a deserving senior who plans to major in health or physical education.

Richard Hibshman Memorial Scholarship

On November 20, 2024, Penn Manor lost longtime teacher and coach Richard "Hibby" Hibshman, who taught driver's education and social studies for 30 years.

He also coached wrestling for 23 seasons and golf for 10. After retiring, Hibby also served on the Penn Manor School Board.

PMEF was already included in Richard and his wife, Joyce's, estate planning.

However, donations to PMEF following his death provided enough funds to start a Richard "Hibby" Hibshman Scholarship this year.



Richard Hibshman

This \$1,000 award goes to a deserving senior who plans to pursue a career in education and is committed to community service.

Ashton's Light Award

Ashton Myles Clatterbuck was a fearless advocate for all individuals until his death in February 2024. He believed that the Earth is sacred, and that every human being deserves respect.



Ashton Clatterbuck

The Ashton's Light Award honors a Penn Manor student who has demonstrated a commitment to environmental justice or LGBTQ rights, just as Ashton showed us the power of grassroots

activism.

This annual \$1,000 award has been established through the Lancaster County Community Foundation to celebrate Ashton's legacy by encouraging other young people who share his conviction that joyful, collective, courageous action can change the world.

Wes McLaughlin Memorial Scholarship

Wesley McLaughlin, PM Class of 1983, died in July of 2024.

A lifetime builder, Wes built his first custom home at the age of 19. Since then, McLaughlin Builders constructed or remodeled hundreds of homes over the past 40 years.

Wes helped countless families and multiple generations with their home projects.

Wes and his wife, Tracy, and family enjoyed time spent at the family cabin, where Wes went hunting, hiking, swimming, grilling, splitting wood and building fires. Wes will be remembered as one of the last of the "good guys."

The Wes McLaughlin Memorial Scholarship is sponsored by Lezzer CORE. Two \$1,000 awards will be presented to students entering a career in the trades.

Linda Jo Newswanger Mylin Memorial Scholarship

Linda Jo Newswanger was a graduate of Penn Manor High School who

served many years as a nurse.

Her husband, Larry "Tim" Mylin, established an excavating business in 1971, and their sons, Matthew and Ethan, joined the business in 1999.



Linda Jo Mylin

Linda Jo worked with the visiting nurses association from the Quarryville office and Quarryville Presbyterian Home until her death in 1992.

Her husband established a scholarship in her memory at Solanco in

2023, and had planned to establish a similar scholarship at Penn Manor, but he passed away in October 2023 before he could do that.

The sons are now fulfilling their father's request to set up a scholarship at Penn Manor.

The \$1,500 award goes to a student pursuing a career in the medical field.

With these five new scholarships, PMEF was able to provide financial support to nearly 100 graduating seniors in excess of \$136,000.

We thank the family members, donors, and businesses who helped make this possible.

Did you know ... ?

... That since 2009, PMEF has added 60 new scholarships for Penn Manor seniors, bringing the total to 78 awards.

- Our organization handles the finances, communication with sponsors, selection of recipients and awarding of scholarships.

- The fastest-growing categories of our scholarships are the tech/trades/ag fields, with 16 scholarships.

- Tied for second place are healthcare and arts scholarships.

- About one-third of our scholarships are sponsored by or are in memory of Penn Manor staff.

We appreciate the confidence our community has in our ability to connect resources with deserving Penn Manor students.

In 19th year, Golf Scramble raises \$10,000 for PMEF

Since it began, event has generated over \$200,000

The Foundation's 19th Annual Charity Golf Scramble was held June 10 at Meadia Heights Golf Club, where a packed field of 132 golfers enjoyed lunch, a round of golf, dinner and a chance to win from a selection of nearly 50 raffle prizes.

Special thanks to PMEF Board President Brad Seiger, who took over the reins this year from Pat Kline, who

had chaired the event for 18 years.

Our wonderful golfers enjoyed the camaraderie of playing with friends on a beautiful course, in delightful weather, while raising more than \$10,000. The funds will support Penn Manor staff and students through Venture Grants, Strong & Healthy Grants and scholarships for graduating seniors.

PMEF thanks its major sponsors: GSCO (Scott Stephan), Raymond James Capital Markets (Ken Phillips & Lauren Stadel), Bob and Coleen Kayden, and Crabtree Rohrbaugh and Associates (Larry Levato).

Since 2006, the PMEF Golf Scramble has raised more than \$200,000 to support programs that enrich



educational experiences for all Penn Manor students.

The 2025 winning team, with a low score of 59, was Larry Bellow, Grant Gale, Aaron Gale and Phil Gale, winning a tie-breaker over second-place team Zach Charles, Jarred Texter, Jan Mindish and Connor Rowe.

Many thanks to our generous community members and everyone whose support helped make this event a success.



Mark your calendars for the 2026 Scramble, to be held June 16 at Meadia Heights.

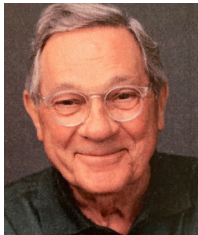


Lost loved ones live on through memorial donations

Each year, sadly, we say goodbye to members of our community who have been loyal supporters of PMEF. Both William Forry and Dell Jackson continued their support of PMEF after their passing by requesting that donations be made to PMEF in lieu of flowers.

William H. Forrey, 80, passed away on January 2, 2025.

Bill grew up in Millersville, attending Penn Manor High School and Millersville University. He excelled in high school athletics, cherishing the camaraderie of his soccer, basketball, and track teammates.



William Forrey

Apart from his time in military service, Bill spent his entire life in Lancaster County, a place he deeply loved. Bill was a dedicated leader and active community member, as well as an active supporter of PMEF.

In addition to his generous donations, Bill also attended fundraisers, like our Spirit Nights, taking a shift with other PM alumni to raise funds for PMEF. His final act of generosity was requesting

that memorial contributions be made, in lieu of flowers, to Penn Manor Education Foundation.

Wardell J. Jackson, 67, passed away at home on May 25, 2025.

Known to many as "Dell," he was a dedicated educator, coach, community member, and friend who built his life around people, purpose, a good sense of humor, and the joy of sharing what he loved.



Wardell Jackson

Dell taught middle school math and coached basketball at Penn Manor. To Dell, basketball was more than a sport – it was a lifelong calling.

He launched LLHoops.com to share news, scores, and stories from Lancaster-Lebanon League boys' basketball, becoming a champion for the game and the students who played it.

In addition to 30 years of teaching, he served as a Penn Manor School Board Director for nearly six years and held leadership roles within the district and teachers' association.

Dell was a strong advocate for

students, teachers, and public education at every level.

We also have a number of annual scholarships that are supported each year through your donations. One of those scholarships has been the Megan Lynn Martin Memorial Scholarship.

Megan Lynn Martin passed away in 2019 after a courageous battle with leukemia.



Megan Martin

Her family established a scholarship in memory of Megan, a LeTort Elementary student and Girl Scout who loved music and basketball.

The Penn Manor community continues to help raise funds for this \$500 award in hopes that it continues as an annual scholarship.

The scholarship is given to a student who has overcome adversity and has made a positive impact by helping others.

PMEF appreciates all the gifts made in honor of folks we've lost, which will impact the lives of Penn Manor students and families for years to come.

Retirees gather for breakfast update on school district

Event draws 80 former Penn Manor employees

The Annual Penn Manor Retiree Breakfast, sponsored by PMEF, was held at the high school in May to recognize retirees for their years of service and continued support of Penn Manor staff and students.

The Manor Singers, directed by Lauren Ciemiewicz, are always a favorite part of the program as they shared a preview of their Spring



Emily Landis

Concert. Superintendent Phil Gale provided an update on the school district. PMEF Executive

Director Jan Mindish thanked the retirees for their ongoing and generous support of PMEF's mission to enhance the educational experiences



of all students.

Our alumni guest speaker was Emily Landis, Class of 1998. Emily shared her journey from PM valedictorian to National Geographic Magazine, where she traveled to 40 countries.

She returned to Lancaster, where she spent a decade as executive director of The Lancaster Science Factory. Emily now serves as director of education & environmental strategy with the Little Conestoga Creek Foundation. She credited



Penn Manor teachers for her success throughout her career.

The breakfast provided an opportunity for 80 retirees of all ages to share memories of their time at Penn Manor and learn about what's current and upcoming in the district.

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Continued from **Page 11**

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Julie Yoder
Julie Yost
Doug & Kathy Young
Robert Young
Cheryl J. Youtz
James & Jacqueline Zanghi
Abigail Zeamer
James Zeigler
Tyler Ziegler
Tina Zima
Gerry Zimmerman-Catonw
Melissa Zongolowicz
Tiffany Zook
Adam & Maribeth Zurn

Director: Foundation's growing role in the community

Continued from **Page 9**

our total to 78 scholarships with 106 awards totaling over \$136,000.

These awards are funded by community members, businesses, Penn Manor staff, retirees and alumni who are committed to investing in the future of Penn Manor graduates.

PMEF is proud to be able to provide friends and families with the opportunity to offer a special remembrance of a loved one through our memorial scholarship program.

The donor lists published in the newsletter allow PMEF to recognize and celebrate our many donors, who enable PMEF to continue to grow in our support of Penn Manor students and staff.

This annual newsletter is filled with photos and stories describing the projects and people connected with PMEF and our mission to support our schools.

Please like PMEF on Facebook and you will regularly see examples of programs that you make possible with your gifts. Thank you for your support!

Funding: Strong & Healthy increase

Continued from **Page 1**

percent), plus the growing need for mental health support for students in all grades.

In addition, nearly 200 students were homeless in 2024-2025.

This past school year, a grant brought motivational speaker Gian Paul Gonzalez to the high school to address the entire student body. High school staff then reinforced his positive message to focus on the resiliency and protective factors that students can use to ensure strong school experiences, both academically and mentally.

Another grant funded the Comet Connections program, which assigns a teacher mentor to students to discuss the challenges they face and how to overcome obstacles. The



Students and their advisors were able to attend the Aavidum Conference with a Strong & Healthy Grant.

grant enabled 20 of these students to see a performance of *The Nutcracker*, followed by lunch to discuss the experience.

Other funds pay for dual enrollment tuition and advanced placement (AP) test fees. Dual enrollment grants enable students who have financial need to take courses at Millersville University or Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology.

Research shows that successful completion of college credits while in high school greatly increases the chance for student success in college.

Students enrolled in AP courses take an exam in the spring to earn college credits, paying \$90 or more for each exam. In 2024-25, there were 28 students taking 69 exams who applied for financial assistance.

Athletics is a new area of need addressed by S&H grants. Thanks to a \$10,000 donation from the DeBerdine family, we were able to fund fees for eight athletes to attend three different camps and a pair of athletic shoes for an athlete who was wearing sneakers with holes in them.

PMEF continues to support our Aavidum programs at Marticville and the high school through grants that enable students to attend the Aavidum Conference, where they learn to cultivate strong and healthy



Motivational speaker Gian Paul Gonzalez talks to students during an assembly.

communities where everyone feels accepted, acknowledged, appreciated, and supported.

The number of youth facing mental health challenges continues to grow. This past year, the Penn Manor staff focused individual counseling on elementary students to achieve the most long-term benefits. Next year, the need for mental health and drug and alcohol counseling will more than double, grades K-12.

Another area supported by grants is uniforms and supplies for students attending Career & Technology Center programs in auto repair, construction, graphic arts and other careers. The number of CTC students with financial needs has grown, and the cost of uniforms and supplies funded by PMEF has increased from \$5,500 in 2023-2024 to \$13,000 for 2025-2026.

Your donations can target any of these categories of assistance.

Two venues to host ExtraGive events

The ExtraGive is an annual, daylong community-wide fundraiser that is an excellent – and easy – way to support PMEF through an online donation.



support charitable organizations.

The 2025 ExtraGive will be held Friday, November 21, and PMEF will celebrate at two local venues.

Last year's event raised \$9.9 million to support nonprofits in the Lancaster County area, including PMEF. Now in its 14th year, the ExtraGive has raised over \$110 million to

EXTRA GIVE™



LANCASTER COUNTY
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION



MURRY
FOUNDATION

We thank Bert & the Elephant and owners Bert and Amy Flores, Penn Manor alumni, for hosting our ExtraGive Happy Hour last year.

We are adding a second location this year for folks to drop by, make their online donation in person, and get some free goodies. PMEF will be at New Town Food & Spirits on Columbia Avenue, Lancaster, from 4 to 6 pm on November 21. We will be at Bert & the Elephant on East King Street, Lancaster, from 6 to 8 pm.

We are encouraging our loyal donors

– alumni, staff, retirees, community members and businesses – to help extend our reach to Penn Manor supporters living across the country.

Please share the link www.extragive.org with friends and family.

In 2024, we raised \$21,839 from 140 ExtraGive donors, plus our share of the stretch pool that was based on our total number of donors. The more who give, the more we get from the stretch pool.

Please take a moment to give wherever you will be on November 21. The minimum donation is \$10.

New donors boost EITC total to \$50,000 for 2024-2025

The Educational Improvement Tax Credit program enables approved businesses to receive a tax credit for their donations to approved school organizations, such as PMEF. We are so grateful to our seven EITC business partners whose 2024-25 donations exceeded \$50,000.

PMEF awards grants to fund innovative teaching strategies, new equipment and materials, and outside educational opportunities for which school district funds are not available. EITC funds are used to support these grants, improving educational outcomes for thousands of students.



Scott Stephan

Four of this year's EITC partners are repeat donors, having made donations to PMEF in the past. PMEF appreciates the ongoing support of Donegal Mutual Insurance, Fulton Bank, Gibbel Kraybill & Hess LLP, and Weis Markets Inc.

PMEF also has welcomed three new EITC partners.

We're grateful for the support of

Garman Builders of Lititz, which has been serving South Central PA for more than 50 Years.

Scott Stephan is a PMEF board member who made an EITC donation through his business, GSCO LLC. Scott's wife, Laura, recently retired from teaching at Central Manor Elementary.

Another board member, Don Mowery, made a generous donation, along with his wife Gail, through Educational Opportunities 69 LLC.



Don & Gail Mowery

PMEF has benefitted from the expertise of Don, a 1996 Penn

Manor graduate who has served as the organization's treasurer for several years. His CPA experience has served him well in this role.

We are so grateful to our seven EITC business partners, whose 2024-2025 donations total \$50,300.

To learn more about the EITC donation program, go to <https://pennmanorfoundation.org/tax-credits-grants/eitc>



Alumni & Friends event supports scholarships

Thanks to everyone who came out for PMEF's Alumni & Friends Spirit Night in February.

It was great to see so many alumni, staff, retirees and friends come together to raise funds for PMEF.

A big thank you to our host, Tobias Frogg, and their staff for all their hard work throughout the evening to support PMEF.

Thank you to all our alumni and friends who served shifts to earn tips for PMEF. Funds raised support the Penn Manor Alumni Association Legacy Scholarship, which is awarded to a male and female senior whose parent(s) graduated from Penn Manor.

Thanks to the generosity of our community that evening, we were able to increase the awards to \$1,000 each.

Join us at Tobias Frogg in February 2026 for the next Alumni & Friends Night.

Stewarts: Longtime PMEF supporters

Continued from **Page 1**

PMEF's ability to fund important projects.

In addition, he and Nancy – a retired elementary school teacher of 38 years from neighboring Lampeter Strasburg – have given financially to other PMEF initiatives such as funding much needed musical instruments for Penn Manor's elementary schools.

When asked why they give to PMEF, the Stewarts shared that "we were blessed to have long careers in public education and to have benefited from working in districts that placed a high value on children's futures by supporting the professionals dedicated to the success of those futures, and giving to PMEF is our way of giving back to a community that has always been a great place to live and to raise our children."

And what distinguishes PMEF

"Giving back to PMEF is our way of giving back to a community that has always been a great place to live and to raise our children."

-- Don & Nancy Stewart

from other education foundations?

To the Stewarts, "PMEF is unique because of its commitment to support students, not just in the classroom, but in all life challenges. PMEF recognizes that if a child is to reach his/her full potential, that child must have all the tools necessary to compete and thrive."

Thank you, Don and Nancy, for your continued generous support of PMEF's mission of enhancing the educational experiences of Penn Manor students.





SAVE THE DATES

2025

**SEPT.
21**

Annual Dinner Gala

Join us for dinner, auctions and drinks at the lovely Drumore Estate. 5:30 p.m. start.

**SEPT.
26**

Homecoming at Penn Manor HS

Stop in at the PMEF tent to cheer on the Comets! Kickoff is at 7:00 p.m.

**NOV.
21**

ExtraGive Happy Hour

Two local restaurants are hosting happy hours to support this online fundraiser.

2026

**FEB.
TBD**

Alumni & Friends Gathering

Join us at Tobias Frogg to shake off the winter chill with friends.

**MAY
6**

Retiree Breakfast

All PM retirees are invited to the HS for breakfast and an update on Penn Manor.

**MAY
21**

Senior Awards Ceremony

Our annual ceremony at PMHS to present scholarships and awards to seniors.

**JUNE
16**

Charity Golf Scramble

Join us for a round of golf, lunch, dinner and bidding for auction items.

**AUG.
4**

Millersville Night Out

Community celebration to support local organizations and first responders.

For more details and updates please visit our Facebook page
<https://www.facebook.com/PennManorEducationFoundation>



Guests listen to a speaker at the 2024 PMEF Annual Dinner Gala. This year's event returns to the beautiful Drumore Estate.

Annual Dinner Gala to be held Sept. 21 at Drumore Estate

"Do You Remember?" the PMEF Gala returns on the 21st night of September!

Thanks to the incredible generosity of our community, the 2024 Penn Manor Education Foundation Annual Dinner Gala was a record-breaking success, raising critical funds to support teacher Venture Grants and Strong & Healthy Grants for community programming.

Featuring spirited bidding and heartfelt connections between guests, the evening was a true celebration of support from the Penn Manor community.

We're thrilled to announce that our gala returns for 2025 on Sunday, September 21, at 5:30 p.m. at the always stunning Drumore Estate.

With a playful nod to the iconic Earth, Wind & Fire song, this year's event will include a special celebration of PMEF's support for music programs that includes instruments, resources and enrichment opportunities for students across the district.

Guests will enjoy a festive evening of philanthropic giving through raffles and silent and live auctions.

An open bar, featuring our signature PMEF cocktail, will also be available for our guests. Please join us in making the 21st night of September truly unforgettable—by uplifting education, strengthening our community, fueling creativity and enjoying a little well-earned fun on the dance floor!

Individual tickets and tables of 10 can be reserved at: www.eventbrite.com/e/penn-manoreducation-foundation-2025-annual-dinner-gala-tickets.

To donate an item or inquire about sponsorships, please contact PMEF board member and gala chair Jerissa Warfel at (717) 203-5817.

See you on the dance floor!

Legacy donors play a key role in ensuring future success of PME F

The “Leave a Legacy for Learning” program recognizes individuals or families who provide funding for students through Penn Manor Education Foundation by means of a variety of planned giving options.

A bequest can be added to an existing or new will.

PMEF can be the recipient of a portion of your estate, be named as the beneficiary of a charitable IRA rollover gift, or a life insurance policy, asset transfer or a charitable gift annuity.

You can also create a Living Legacy gift as a named endowment. Donors who include PME F in one of these planned gift formats are recognized by having their names added to our

Leave a Legacy for Learning plaque.

If you have an interest in supporting Penn Manor students through the PME F Leave a Legacy for Learning program, contact Jan Mindish, executive director, to learn more about your planned giving options.

PMEF thanks the following donors who are Legacy supporters:

Tom & Louise Aument
Jim & Monica Bishop
Lloyd M. Boyd
John & Fay Deibert
Frankhouser Family
Marsha Frerichs
Frank & Joyce Geist
Barbara A. Herr
Willis & Martha Herr



Hibshman Family
Shelly Hodson
Doris Hosler
Bill & Jane Huber
Kathy & Jeff Kirk
E. Ann Klein
Pat & Laura Kline
Marie LeFever
James & Anne Miller Jr.
Dr. Jan Mindish
David Neff
Ellen Pollock

Joan Pollock
Harold “Skip” & Dora Rhodes
Ted & Beth Rosenberg
Jeff & Deb Roth
Karen Shenk
Nancy & Don Stewart
Noel C. & Valerie A. Taylor Foundation
Kim Wells
Glenn Witmer Family
James H. Zeigler

PMEF expands outreach into the community

National Night Out and Back to School events

PMEF was proud to participate in two new events this summer that directly benefit the Penn Manor community.

On August 4, we participated in Millersville’s National Night Out, an event to support local first responders and community organizations.

Night Out featured hot dogs, live music, games and giveaways as PME F volunteers passed out crayons, pencils, bubbles and sidewalk chalk.

The evening promoted neighborhood safety and a sense of community.

On August 10, we staffed a booth at the 14th

Annual Back to School Event, sponsored by state Reps. Ismail Smith Wade-El and Nikki Rivera at Penn Medicine Park.

One of the largest school readiness initiatives in the region, it provides students in grades K-8 with new backpacks, clothes, books, haircuts and school supplies.

PMEF joined with Penn Manor social workers to distribute supplies, water bottles, bookmarks, school calendars and other goodies to over 200 Penn Manor students.

We thank all who stopped by or helped out at these events.



In top photo, PME F board members greet community members at Millersville Night Out. In bottom photo, board members and Penn Manor social workers staff a Back to School booth.



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Millersville, PA 17551

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Students visit NYC for Broadway show through Maine Endowment

More than 40 students in the Penn Manor High School theater program and their chaperones traveled to New York City in April to see a new Broadway musical, *Operation Mincemeat*, thanks to a generous donation by a Penn Manor alumnus.

The trip was funded by the Douglas Maine Endowment for the Arts, sponsored by 1966 Penn Manor graduate Douglas Maine and administered by

PMEF.

The musical is based on a true story of the covert operations that turned the tide in World War II.

"The day was full of exploration, and the Broadway show was the highlight," said Emily Gregory, one of the participating students.

"*Operation Mincemeat* expanded my knowledge of World War II while also having comedic and emotional aspects. I left the theater asking questions and eventually did some research on the events that were explained in the show."

Fellow student Lily Fox said she loved *Operation Mincemeat* "because of its historical relevance to our time, as well as the ample perspective it provided into social issues."

In addition to enjoying the show, the students got to tour Big Apple attractions.

The Maine Endowment funds performing arts experiences that many Penn Manor students would not be able to afford on their own. Mr. Maine



Penn Manor High School theatre students visited New York City in April to see *Operation Mincemeat*.

established the endowment to expose students to arts opportunities outside of Lancaster County.

The high school music and theater programs use funding in alternate years to provide experiences for their students.

PMEF thanks Mr. Maine for providing this opportunity.