

# DECEMBER NEWSLETTER



*Spotlight Sponsor of the Month - County National Bank*

*Returning Programs and Partners in 2022*

*New Program and Partner in 2022*

*Beck Bridge Completion Update*

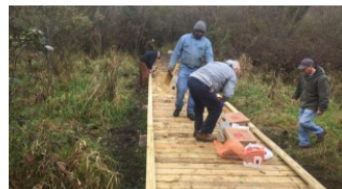
*Dahlem's Five Year Infrastructure Improvement Program*

*Infrastructure Improvement Project Planned for 2022*

*New Members*

*October, November, December Donors*

*Year End Tax Advantaged Donations*



### **Sponsor of the Month - County National Bank**

**“County National Bank is proud to be a Maple Sponsor for the Dahlem Conservancy! We value Dahlem’s efforts to provide meaningful environmental education and outdoor experiences for our community.”**

### **Returning Partnership Programs in 2022**

As 2021 is coming to a close, the staff has been busy planning for 2022. We are very excited once again to be partnering with these great Jackson organizations.

Returning Programs and Partners:

- A new Explore the Night with Ella Sharp Museum
- A new Story Walks, and Trails and Tails with the Jackson District Library
- Community Gardens project with Vista Grande Villa

### **Other Returning Programs and Events in 2022**

- Chocolate Sensation February 1st at Ella Sharp Museum
- Beekeeping Course taught by volunteers John and Kim Haynes
- Outdoor Summer Camp June 6th to August 12th
- Golf Scramble
- Spring Work Bee, Saturday May 7th
- Return of Birds, Blooms, and Butterflies Festival (BBB) Saturday August 13th
- Fall Work Bee, Saturday October 1st
- Goblin Walks Friday and Saturday, October 21st and 22nd
- Poinsettia and Bake Sale Thursday and Friday December 1st and 2nd
- We are hoping to bring back some of the school field trips, Environmental

Education classes and programs taught by Dahlem’s Naturalist Educator, Carrie Benham, in the second half of 2022. This is dependent on what happens in the Jackson County School Districts regarding COVID

### **A New Program and Partner**

Dahlem is very pleased to be partnering for the first time with Jackson School of the Arts! Dahlem will be hosting "Fairy Walks" on site during the week leading up to JSA's very successful Fairy Festival on Saturday, April 30th and Sunday, May 1st. We look forward to partnering with Executive Director, Carolyn Ramp Moser, and her staff for a long time.

### **Beck Bridge**

The new Beck Bridge became a reality with its completion on December 23rd when Cross Lake Construction workers finished the job that was started on December 17th. There were over two years spent in planning and funding the new bridge. The new bridge is made from all natural materials and is wider and far stronger than the old bridge. It will also be able to handle heavier loads going over it. There will be a special ribbon cutting ceremony on Thursday, January 13th at Noon to celebrate this achievement and honor those who made this possible. A special thanks to the following whose donations made this possible:

### **Individual Donors**

Three Anonymous Donations  
John Bacon  
Sara Benedetto  
Tim & Denise Bigham  
Shirley & Steven Chu  
Charles & Marguerite Clevenger  
Ben & Sandra Dandrow  
Robert & Cynthia Davey  
Betty Desbiens  
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Thomas Draper  
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John & Cathie McLaughlin  
Ellyn Meyers  
Linda Rehor  
Roy & Betty Rider  
Margaret Riggle  
Jim & Pam Rossman  
Rule Family memorials  
Roberta Sexton  
**Foundations**  
Speckhard-Knight Charitable Foundation  
\$20,000  
Bill & Vi Sigmund Foundation \$5,000  
Consumers Energy Foundation \$5,000  
Phil & Pat Willis Foundation \$5,000  
Walton Family Foundation \$1,000  
James & Faith Knight Foundation \$20,000  
**Businesses**  
Working Solutions Group \$1,000

### **Dahlem's Five Year Infrastructure Improvement Projects Update:**

#### **2016-2021**

The replacement of the Beck Bridge was the latest infrastructure improvement project completed during the last five years. These projects were selected to ensure the safety of our visitors, students, and staff; and to enhance the learning experience of our students and visitors. The projects that have been completed since 2016 are:

1. Replaced the Boardwalk over the Nature for all Trail – 2016
2. Completed the second addition to the Playscape – 2017
3. Did a restoration of the Aquatics Study Pond to a useful state – 2018
4. Replaced the Boardwalk over the Reflection Pond – 2018
5. Renovated the North Building's restrooms and added a restroom in the Little Acorns Nature Preschool classroom – 2019
6. Resurfaced and added spaces to the Community Gardens parking lot - 2020
7. Replaced the old Beck Bridge – 2021

#### **Planned Projects for 2022**

1. Replace the Boardwalk over the Vernal Pond. This project is planned for the fourth quarter. We are seeking donations and grants to fund this project. The cost for this project is \$63,000. Thank you to the Speckhard-Knight Foundation who has donated \$25,000 to the project.
2. Prescribed burn in the Prairie
3. Resurface the Nature for All Trail

### **Welcome New Members!**

Mary Jo Cox  
Asa Fleming  
Brandon Frey  
Debra Lyon  
Tamara Reed  
Sandra Richards  
Bobbi Snow  
Ashley Willbee

### **Make an End of the Year Donation by December 31!**

You still have time to donate and enjoy tax advantaged benefits while helping Dahlem and yourself. Please donate now by clicking on the Donate Button below. While on the donate page you can click on and view the new Dahlem video if you have not seen it.

[Donate Now](#)

### **Thank you October, November, and December Donors!**

Barbara Anderson	Jon & Donna Lake
Matthew Aubin	John Lane
Sam Barnes	Kathy Laughlin
Robert Basore	Jim Lefere
Calvin Battles	Carlene Lefere
Larry & Nancy Bayer	Carol Lester
Jennifer Best	Tamyra MacFarlane
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Dave Bosio	Victor Marquardt
Tom & Kathryn Boyer	Fred & Deborah Marshall
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Shirley Chu	Lois McGauley
Bruce & Pegg Clevenger	John & Catherine McLaughlin
Gerald & Sonja Colcun	Rebecca Mehall
Nancy Connell & G. David Foster	Meredith Meston
Diane Crosley	James and Betsy Meyers
Tim Cullen	Joe Moglia & Family
Johanna Curson	Carolyn & Andrew Moser
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Betty Desbiens	Craig Newman
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Sheryl Fagin	Steven & Jill Patch
Reginald Fennell	Justin Phelps
Alton Ferry	Ron & Joy Phillips
Asa Fleming	Jerry & Mary Sue Proudfoot
Travis and Georgia Fojtasek	Tony & Liz Raduazo
Brandon Frey	Jim & Pam Rossman
Martha Fuerstenau	Kurt & Lisa Rudolph
Suzanne Gaertner	Sandra Schultz
Jason & Lyndsay Galicki	John & Mary Jo Schultz
Edythe Gilbert	James & Janet Seitz



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Robert Henning	Zachary Williams
Carolyn Hoelzle	Carol Woodhurst
Jerry Holmes	
Margaret Holtschlag	The Dorothy Dyer Family
Dorothy Huffer	The Lavery Family Foundation
Mike & Judy Jors	Jackson Host Lions Club
Kim & Valerie Kennedy	Bill & Vi Sigmund Foundation
Mark Kenyon	Jackson Community Resource Guide
Victoria Krause	Power Drive Systems, Inc.
Cynthia Krauz & Mike Brown	Michigan International Speedway -
Gary & Jann Krupa	MIS \$10,000 Cares Grant to support
Aaron & Larissa Laidler	school field trips to Dahlem

Dahlem can't survive without your help! We need your support to continue our community partnerships, our excellent programs and to protect our beautiful land and trails. Your donation directly impacts our mission to provide environmental education and outdoor experiences to the people of South-central Michigan. Thank you for making Dahlem a priority in your year-end giving. Stay well!

*Thank you for your Support in 2021*

*Wishing You and Your Loved Ones a Very Happy and Healthy 2022*

**Sincerely,  
Ben Dandrow, Executive Director**



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