

foundation focus

● Fall 2017 ●



Kansas Secured Title Makes Community a Priority

For Tom McBride, community involvement is second nature. Over the years he has been active with numerous organizations – including Topeka Collegiate, Topeka Civic Theatre, YMCA and Topeka High School. He currently serves on the Stormont Vail Foundation board of trustees, and he and his wife, Meef, were honorary co-chairs for the 2016 BIG HEARTS *for little hearts* golf tournament.



Tom McBride

A longtime member of its board of directors, McBride joined Title Midwest actively in 2006 and over time assumed operations responsibility of its subsidiaries in six states, including Kansas Secured Title based in Topeka. In getting to know employees, he came to a surprising finding. While executive and other management staff were involved with community organizations, in large part those from other parts of the company were not.

"I was initially disappointed by this," he said. "But I quickly learned the lack of participation was more a product of not having experience or opportunity."

Not long after McBride and others crafted the company's culture statement, giving back to the community became one of its nine tenets. To encourage this, Title Midwest and its subsidiaries allow two paid days per year for employees to volunteer at an organization of their choosing.

Recognizing that some employees preferred volunteering as part of a group, in May 2017 Kansas Secured Title in Shawnee County plus the corporate staff at Title Midwest

teamed up for "Give-A-Day" in conjunction with Harvesters. Staff worked in several areas of need and led a food drive accumulating 2,040 pounds of food – more than 1,700 meals.

Today, staff at Kansas Secured Title are active participants in organizations including schools, churches, the Topeka Rescue Mission, TARC and Helping Hands Humane Society. Many employees now list two or more groups where they serve on the board, as a member of a committee or in some other capacity.

"McBride's and Title Midwest's work developing volunteer leadership is critical to the success of not-for-profits across the region," said Jane Mackey, Stormont Vail Foundation president and executive director. "We've certainly benefited from Tom's insights and leadership as a trustee," she said. "His desire to instill that sense of responsibility to one's community is sure to have lasting effects."

McBride still asks staff about their community involvement. But today he hears a different story.

"You can hear it in their voices – the joy of giving back," he said. "That's what we wanted them to know. Now they do."

*Kansas Secured Title is a wholly owned subsidiary of Title Midwest Inc., which operates full service title agencies in six states – Kansas, Missouri, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Nebraska and Texas. Based in Topeka, Kansas Secured Title has 22 branch offices located in 17 communities and employs 102. Kansas Secured Title has supported the Stormont Vail Foundation as a sponsor of the BIG HEARTS *for little hearts* golf tournament and as a Kanza Park building campaign donor.*

Mackey Proud of Foundation's Growth During Her Tenure

Jane Mackey, president and executive director of the Stormont Vail Foundation, will be retiring in October 2017. Mackey first served in this capacity from 2000-2005 and re-joined the Foundation in February 2012. Under her leadership, Foundation assets have grown from \$12 million to \$22.5 million.



*Jane Mackey,
president and
executive director
of the Stormont Vail
Foundation*

"I will miss the people," Mackey said. "We have a terrific group of trustees who help lead the Foundation, a small but mighty staff aided by some dedicated longtime volunteers, and exceptional support by Stormont Vail Health and its physicians and staff."

During her tenure, Mackey led the Foundation's first capital campaign, raising \$5.7 million for the Neonatal Intensive Care remodeling in 2005.

"The project was fun, and the remodeled unit was an incredible transformation from the old one," she said. "I remember taking people on tours of the old unit who were so excited about seeing the babies, and then they just were stunned at the small size and medical challenges that the babies were facing."

"They left telling the story and contributing to the success of the campaign. The NIC staff was very accommodating, and I am very grateful and thankful for their support."

Mackey also established the Foundation's golf tournament, an accomplishment she said couldn't have been done without the tremendous support from Stormont Vail Health employees and business partners.

"The golf tournament has grown each year and is truly the premier tournament in the region," she said. "Our generous donors to this and other fundraising efforts have made a lifelong impression on me."

In addition to her work with the Foundation, Mackey has worked as a consultant, as executive director of the Topeka Blood Bank, and with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. She earned both her Bachelor of Science and Master of Business Administration degrees from the University of Kansas.

An Ohio native, Mackey and her husband, Bob, have lived in Topeka since 1976. In retirement, they are looking forward to spending more time with their son, daughter-in-law and granddaughter.

"We have a terrific group of trustees who help lead the Foundation, a small but mighty staff aided by some dedicated longtime volunteers, and exceptional support by Stormont Vail Health and its physicians and staff."

*— Jane Mackey, president and executive director
of the Stormont Vail Foundation*

Stormont Vail Foundation Honor/Memorial List

April 1 to June 30, 2017

George Anshutz*
James Armstrong*
Hazel Badger*
Mildred Baker*
Dr. Marcus Bassett
Chance Bath*
Stella Bean*
Donald Bennett*
Jeanette Berry*
Mary Blackwell*
Gary Braden*
Bertha Bunce*
William Burton*
Nick and Lucille
Calabrese*
Kevin Carter*

Maxine Chester*
John V. Clennan*
Charles Clinkenbeard*
Naoma Davis*
Carl Delcour*
Louise Eichen*
Scott Enos*
Peggy Flouer
John Foster*
Roth Gatewood*
Barbara Sims Gordon*
Lora Guffey*
Irene Hasenbank*
Patsy Holden*
Lois Holscher*
Dale Jackson*

Norma Klahr*
Emmett Kramer*
Melvin Kroenke*
Steven Lolley*
Sally Lowry*
Dr. Ray Lumb
Martha Martin*
NorvaJean Dean-Mills*
Alla Nicolay*
William Orton*
Kay Osinski
Eric A. Palmberg*
James Parrish
Danielle Pollack*
Dr. Richard Polly*
Dr. Robert Porter

Bertha Radabaugh*
Joyce Rhodenbaugh*
Dorothy Rogers*
Dale Ronnekamp*
Jerry Schaeffer*
Carol Scheibe*
Nelda Sidesinger*
John Simpson*
Melvin Sinclair*
Betty Smith*
Jaylee Sowers*
Rosalee Stallbaumer*
Lucy Stein*
Larry Swanson*
Irene Tibbs*
George Tomlinson*

Mark Townsend
Maxine Trefethen*
Lou Wanamaker
Stephen Wanamaker
R. Steven White*
Lanny B. Wilson*
Idella Winn*
Pauline Wisdom*
Bruce Works*
Albert Wright*
Marion Max Yoho*
**Indicates deceased*

Unique Project, Exceptional Results

Every day, Kris Myers sees how innovative thinking is making a difference in the lives of Stormont Vail Health patients.

Myers, an RN at Stormont Vail, took on a new role as an obstetric care nurse navigator in July 2015 thanks to a Stormont Vail Foundation-administered grant through the Kansas Health Foundation and the United Methodist Health Ministry Fund. Now she spearheads the Kansas Breastfeeding Initiative project aimed at giving mothers and their babies a better chance at breastfeeding success.

The project, one of only two known in the United States, has Myers stationed at Topeka's Lincoln Center Obstetrics & Gynecology, where she leads educational efforts for expectant mothers and clinic staff. Prior to this effort, breastfeeding was oftentimes not discussed with new mothers until they came to the hospital for delivery.

"That's not always the best time to have that conversation," said Myers with a laugh. "By meeting with

patients during their pregnancy we can not only provide information but also help offer solutions to any obstacles and support the mother's choice to breastfeed."

Patient Visits Key to Success

Since the start of the grant through June 2017, Myers has seen 3,026 patients. More than half have been one-on-one encounters. Other opportunities include Stormont Vail's Welcome Baby Jubilee and Breastfeeding Basics classes.

Two years into the three-year grant, a significant increase has been achieved in the overall exclusive breastfeeding rates at Stormont Vail Health's Birthplace, from 47 percent at the start of the grant to 61.2 percent at the end of June 2017. However, for the patients Myers sees, the exclusive breastfeeding rate is close to 70 percent.

"I see patients when they come in for their regular exams," she said. "Unfortunately, I can't see everyone because of time and space constraints. However, information is available

and I can follow up with patients by phone."

In addition to her work with expectant moms, Myers also provides training to the Lincoln Center staff.

"Many people assume that the physicians and nurses at obstetrics & gynecology clinics are breastfeeding experts," she said. "Unfortunately, that's not always the case, particularly when it comes to medication use and mothers who are dealing with a chronic condition."

Entering the last year of the grant period, Myers is focused on maximizing her availability to patients in order to achieve the project's goal of 74 percent exclusive breastfeeding, bringing Stormont Vail in line with the top 10 percent nationally.

"We can see this is working," she said. "By providing information and support early in the pregnancy, expectant mothers' confidence levels in not just their ability but desire to breastfeed goes up, making it more likely they will be successful."

Blanket Event Brings Comfort to Pediatric Patients

The Stormont Vail Foundation and the Stormont Vail Health Volunteer Services are teaming up again to host a second Warm Fuzzies for Kids event on Sunday, Nov. 5.

Warm Fuzzies for Kids provides pediatric patients with a Foundation-funded, volunteer-made "no sew" fleece blanket to use during their hospital stay and bring home after discharge. Beverly Rice, Stormont Vail's director of Volunteer Services, said the blankets were well received by the kids, but the inventory is dwindling.

"With the colder months upon us, it's time to re-supply," she said. "We had a great response to our first event and we're hoping our second will be just as successful."

The Warm Fuzzies for Kids event on Nov. 5 offers two, two-hour shifts, 12:30–2:30 p.m. and 3–5 p.m. For more information or to volunteer, contact Stormont Vail Volunteer Services, (785) 354-6095 or email volunteerdept@stormontvail.org. Volunteers age 13 years and younger must be accompanied by an adult.



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Garden Honors Cotton O'Neil Physician

In recognition of a career that has helped shape health care in Topeka and northeast Kansas, Stormont Vail Health and its Cotton O'Neil Clinics have designated a garden in honor of Ray Lumb, M.D.

"It has been my privilege and pleasure to spend my career as a Cotton O'Neil physician and a member of the Stormont Vail family," Lumb said. "While I am personally grateful for this honor, I truly feel this garden acknowledges the history, vision and legacy of the Cotton O'Neil practice and in particular its founding members."

Located at S.W. Ninth and Mulvane, the Dr. Ray Lumb Reflection Garden is a place where patients, area health care professionals and neighbors can enjoy the restorative powers of a serene



Ray Lumb, M.D., left, listens as Kent Palmberg, M.D., addresses the crowd at the Dr. Ray Lumb Reflection Garden dedication in June at S.W. Ninth and Mulvane.

outdoor space. The reclaimed green space features seating areas, a walking path, trees and various plants. The garden also features a memorial plaque dedicated to Larry Patterson, Cotton O'Neil's first full-time administrator. The garden was funded by the Stormont Vail Foundation through a gift from Carol Perry-Lumb.