



Legacy fund launching

There are few things more important than planning for your future. The biggest gift we can give our future generations in the Wayne area is the opportunity to thrive!

The month of June will launch the Wayne Area Legacy Fund (WALF) helping put dreams to work for our area communities. "The steering committee has been meeting now since last October and we are excited to bring this opportunity for those who want to invest in the future of Wayne and our area communities," commented Bill Dickey, council chair.

"I didn't hesitate when asked to be a part of the steering council. It brings a unique opportunity to provide a non-for profit, tax-deductible way for individuals or businesses to give forward and for organizations, individuals and special un-foreseen needs to be realized." said Eric Knutson, Wayne County Attorney and council member.

The Wayne Area Legacy Fund is an affiliated fund of the Nebraska Community Foundation (NCF), a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. The NCF provides financial management, strategic development and support for communities across the state.

"Part of our process since October was visiting and talking with other communities who have similar funds and learning about how their communities have benefited," explained Dickey. "Wayne is a little behind. We've done a good job of one-off projects in the past and we hope having an endowed fund will benefit the area communities and organizations with a plan and we can start to look for opportunities to promote progress."

Throughout the month of June, the Wayne Area Legacy Fund council will be talking with groups and individuals sharing the structure, concepts and asking for foundation members.

Dickey explained that the foundation members, those first individuals, families or businesses who first contribute are critical to the start of a successful fund (Wayne Area Legacy Fund).



According to Dickey, foundation members will be recognized per their wishes and these are the individuals who will help kick-start a strong endowment fund that will benefit the area communities for generations to come.

The Wayne Area Legacy Fund will have both an endowment and on-going projects. "The Majestic Theatre is our first project that we will be helping support and raise funds for," explained Dickey. "The theatre is enjoyed by many throughout Wayne and our surrounding communities and they need roof repairs and technology upgrades."

Ken Marra, Board Member for the Majestic Theatre said, "We are thrilled to have the Wayne Area Legacy Fund structure and governance. This is a great way for those who enjoy the Majestic to give back and help us continue to make the needed improvements so we can provide state-of-the-art entertainment to our area. We are looking forward to raising \$100,000 over time with the oversight of the WALF".

There will be more information coming. The WALF has partnered with Arnie's Ford for a "Drive 4 UR Community" event to be held at the Wayne fire station on June 9 from 10 am to 2 pm.

Ford Motor Company will be donating \$20 per family who comes and test-drives one of their vehicles. The WALF council will be serving hot dogs and answering questions at this event as well.