

the Nature Foundation of Will County

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Wednesday, May 26, 2021

5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:

<https://fpdwc.zoom.us/j/81755792999?pwd=WVpOSWxBWF1IaUZROUZLUTRRZk1wUT09>

Password: 945461

Or Telephone:

Dial: USA 216 706 7052

USA 8665282256 (US Toll Free)

Conference code: 776300

AGENDA

** Indicated item is included in this packet.*

- A. Call to Order
- B. Pledge of Allegiance
- C. Roll Call
- D. Approval of Minutes
 - 1. Minutes of January 27, 2021*
 - 2. Minutes of March 24, 2021*
- E. Reports of Officers
 - 1. Chairperson's Report
 - 2. Treasurer's Report
 - i. Financial Report
 - 1. *Balance Sheet – April 30, 2021**
 - 2. *Budget vs Actuals – May 19, 2021**
 - 3. *Quarterly Statement of Activity – May 19, 2021**
 - ii. *Schedule of Bills – March 18 through May 19, 2021**
- F. Committee Reports
 - 1. Fundraising and Projects Committee
 - i. Status Report (Verbal) – Bringing Nature Home Online Native Plant Sale, Spring Raffle and Native Plant Seminars
 - 2. Finance Committee
 - 3. Board Development Committee
- G. Old Business
- H. New Business
 - 1. Resignation of Foundation Chair and Information on the Process for Taking Nominations from the Floor to Elect Officer(s) and Fill Any Vacancies.
 - 2. Nominations from the Floor
 - i. Presiding Chair calls for nominations from the floor for the office of Chair of The Nature Foundation of Will County.

- ii. Presiding Chair calls for nominations from the floor for any other offices in which there is a subsequent vacancy, in the following order: Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer, as is applicable.
 - 3. Elections
 - i. Presiding Chair calls for election of officers and conducts the elections in the following order: Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, as is applicable.
- I. Reports
 - 1. Article of Interest: *"A Marvel Like No Other" from The Heron, 2021 Edition 1, The Conservation Foundation*
- J. Presentations
- K. Comments by Directors
- L. Comments by the Public
- M. Comments by the Executive Director
 - 1. Dates & Upcoming Programs and Events
 - i. Thursday, June 10 – Check Presentation
 - ii. Thursday, June 10 – Native Plant Seminar, Asters & Goldenrods with Heather Holm
 - iii. Saturday, June 19 – Summer Blooms Online Native Plant Sale Launch
 - 2. Reminder to complete your 2021 Annual Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest
- N. Next Meeting Dates
 - 1. Wednesday, July 28, 2021
 - 2. Wednesday, September 22, 2021
- O. Adjournment

**The Nature Foundation of Will County
Minutes of the January 27, 2021 Regular Meeting
Conducted by Zoom Conferencing and Conference Call**

Chair Jamie Donovan called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

Donovan led the pledge to the flag.

Roll was called and a total of nine Directors was present. A quorum of eight voting Directors was present.

Voting Directors Present: Marcy DeMauro, Secretary; Jamie Donovan, Chair; Ann Dralle; Jim Flax, Treasurer; Ed Garner; Ragan Pattison, Vice Chair; Donna Theimer; and Jeff Tuminello.

Non-voting Directors Present: Meta Mueller.

Others Present: Cindy Harn, Executive Director.

Approval of Minutes

Pattison moved to approve the minutes of the December 2, 2020 annual meeting, seconded by Donovan. The motion was approved.

Reports of Officers

Chairperson's Report - There was no Chairperson's report.

Treasurer's Report

Harn reviewed three financial reports provided in the agenda packet: the Balance Sheet Financial Report (dated December 31, 2020); Quarterly Statement of Activity (dated January 19, 2021); and the Budget vs. Actual Report (dated January 19, 2021). Dralle moved to accept the three financial reports as presented, seconded by Pattison. The motion was approved.

Harn presented the schedule of bills for the period December 3, 2020 – January 20, 2021 as provided in the agenda packet. Dralle moved to approve the schedule of bills, as presented, in the amount of \$1,978.03, seconded by DeMauro. The motion was approved.

Committee Reports

Fundraising and Projects Committee – Harn summarized the discussion from the January 6, 2021 committee meeting, and reviewed the 2021 Partnership Opportunities for Online Native Plants Sales materials provided in the agenda packet.

Finance Committee Report - There was no Committee report.

Board Development Committee - There was no Committee report.

Old Business

There was no Old Business.

New Business

Approve the Re-Appointment of Three Existing Directors, Each for a Two-Year Terms

DeMauro presented the Board Development Committee's recommendation to re-appoint three existing Directors, Jamie Donovan, Ann Dralle and Ed Garner, each to a two-year term that will expire in December 2022, as outlined in the agenda packet material provided. Pattison motioned to approve the three Director re-appointments as presented, seconded by Theimer. The motion was approved.

Authorize Release of Funding to the Forest Preserve District of Will County for its 2021 Projects and Programs

Harn recommended the release of funds in the amount of up to \$13,250 to the Forest Preserve District for seven projects already approved and funded in the current year's budget, as detailed in the agenda packet materials. Harn reviewed the new administrative process and forms she will use from this point forward, which will provide for reimbursement of actual project expenses rather than an upfront transfer of the total estimated project cost to the Forest Preserve District. Theimer motioned to approve the release of funding in the amount of up to \$13,250 to the Forest Preserve District of Will County for disbursement in 2021 as presented, seconded by Garner. The motion was approved.

Reports

Harn reviewed the 2020 year-end campaign report and annual fundraising summary, as provided in the agenda packet.

Presentations – None

Comments by Directors - None

Comments by the Public - None

Comments by the Executive Director

Harn reviewed scheduled dates for upcoming programs and events as provided on the agenda.

Next Meeting Dates

The next meeting dates of the Foundation are Wednesday, March 24, 2021 and Wednesday, May 26, 2021.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m. on a motion from Pattison and a second by Garner.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcella M. DeMauro

Marcella M. DeMauro
Secretary

**The Nature Foundation of Will County
Minutes of the March 24, 2021 Regular Meeting
Conducted by Zoom Conferencing and Conference Call**

Treasurer Jim Flax called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

Flax led the pledge to the flag.

Roll was called. Ten Directors were present. A quorum of seven voting Directors was present.

Voting Directors Present: Marcy DeMauro; Ann Dralle; Jim Flax; Ed Garner; Ragan Pattison; Donna Theimer; and Jeff Tuminello.

Non-voting Directors Present: Don Gould; Meta Mueller; and Ralph Schultz.

Others Present: Cindy Harn, Executive Director.

Approval of Minutes

DeMauro motioned to defer approval of the January 27, 2021 minutes to the next Board meeting as a portion of the minutes were not included in the agenda packet. Tuminello seconded the motioned. The motion was approved unanimously.

Reports of Officers

Chairperson's Report - There was no Chairperson's report.

Treasurer's Report

Harn reviewed three financial reports provided in the agenda packet: the Balance Sheet Financial Report (dated February 26, 2021); Quarterly Statement of Activity (dated March 16, 2021); and the Budget vs. Actual Report (dated March 16, 2021). Dralle moved to accept the three financial reports as presented, seconded by Theimer. The motion was approved unanimously.

Harn presented the schedule of bills for the period January 20 – March 17, 2021 as provided in the agenda packet. Harn also reported that \$45,000 was transferred from the checking account to the money market account, and the Foundation's CD was renewed for six months at an interest rate of 0.140% with a renewal date of August 7, 2021. Theimer moved to approve the schedule of bills, as presented, in the amount of \$2,633.20, seconded by Dralle. The motion was approved.

Committee Reports

Fundraising and Projects Committee – Harn reported on the status of the upcoming on-line native plant seminars, and the on-line native plant sale including marketing materials, sponsors, and raffle sale. Harn noted that the first on-line native plant sale is on the same trajectory as previous in-person sale events in terms of the number of sales' tickets; we will sell out of plant material.

Finance Committee Report - There was no Committee report.

Board Development Committee - There was no Committee report.

Old Business

There was no Old Business.

New Business

Approve Grant Awards for the 2021 Restore Will County Land Stewardship Small Grants Program as Presented in Exhibit A

Harn reported that four grant applications were received, reviewed by the Forest Preserve District, and are recommended for funding. Sufficient funds are available. Garner motioned to approve the four grants totaling \$2,408, seconded by Theimer. The motion was approved. Harn also proposed funds be held in reserve for new stewards and the repair of equipment over the next year. Pattison motioned to approve the reserve of up to \$2,000 as recommended, seconded by DeMauro. Motion was approved.

Reports

Harn reported that a Serve Will County Youth Services Grant application was submitted by Eagle Scout Peter Mars to build an 18th century period replica of a flower cart/wheelbarrow for the Isle a la Cache Museum. As this request was received between Board meetings and there were timing issues, Harn administratively approved the grant of \$491.01, which is 75% of the total project cost (\$654.68).

Presentations – None

Comments by Directors - None

Comments by the Public - None

Comments by the Executive Director

Harn reviewed scheduled dates for upcoming programs and events as provided on the agenda. Flax commented that he is a judge in the Foundation-sponsored art show that is currently ongoing at the Plum Creek Nature Center. Thirty-five entries were submitted. You can view the great art pieces created for the show as the nature center is open to visitors.

Next Meeting Dates

The next meeting dates of the Foundation are Wednesday, May 26, and Wednesday, July 28, 2021.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:54 p.m. on a motion from Theimer, a second by Dralle and approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcella M. DeMauro

Marcella M. DeMauro
Secretary

**The Nature Foundation of Will County
Financial Report**

Balance Sheet - April 30, 2021

Assets	Total
Checking	\$50,365
Money Market	\$112,031
Flipcause Merchant Account	\$29,379
Petty Cash & Raffle Change	\$1,100
Investment - CD	\$75,870
Accounts Receivable	\$0
Gov't Grants Receivable	\$0
Pledges Receivable	\$450
<i>Subtotal Current Assets</i>	\$269,195
Total Assets	\$269,195
<i>Donor Restricted Assets</i>	\$69,886
<i>Unrestricted Assets</i>	\$199,309
Total Assets	\$269,195
Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	\$18,442
<i>Subtotal Current Liabilities</i>	\$18,442
Net Assets	
Total Assets	\$269,195
Total Liabilities	\$18,442
Total Net Assets	\$250,753
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$269,195

DETAIL - DONOR RESTRICTED FUNDS**Detail - Donor Restrictions**

Project/Item	1-Jan-21			Remaining
	Beginning Balance	2021 Paid To Date	Accounts Payable	
Restore Will County Small Grants Program	\$10,148	\$0	\$0	\$10,148
Serve Will County Small Grants Program	\$9,738	\$0	\$0	\$9,738
Nelson/Lily Cache Project - Phase II	\$25,000	\$0	\$0	\$25,000
Nelson/Vermont Cemetery Restoration	\$25,000	\$0	\$0	\$25,000
	<u>\$69,886</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$69,886</u>

DETAIL - LIABILITIES (CAPITAL PROJECTS)

\$0

2021 Capital Project/Program (Unrestricted Funds)	Request	Paid	Accounts
			Payable
Preserve the Moment Photo Contest	\$1,500	\$0	\$0
Willy's Wilderness	\$1,000	\$0	\$0
Sculpting Wild Juried Art Competition	\$1,050	\$0	\$0
Woods Walk	\$1,500	\$0	\$0
National Parks Endangered Animals Quilt Exhibition	\$3,000	\$0	\$0
Don't Be a Zombie Exhibition	\$3,700	\$0	\$0
Care & Feeding of Live Animals	\$1,500	\$0	\$0
	<u>\$13,250</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

Remaining Project Funding**\$13,250****DETAIL - ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

\$578.30	First Midest Bank Credit Card	See Disbursements for Expeniture Detail
500.00	Heather Holm	Native Plant Seminar Speaking Fee
\$150.00	Creating Sustainable Landscapes, LLC	Drew Lathin Rain Garden Seminar
\$920.34	First Midest Bank Credit Card	See Disbursements for Expeniture Detail
12,606.18	Pizzo Native Plant Nursery	Native Plant Material for Spring Sale
\$2,000.00	Cynthia Harn	March & April Consulting Fee
\$1,687.35	Illinois Department of Revenue	Special Event Tax Payment - Native Plant Sale

\$18,442.17**DETAIL - ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE****0****DETAIL - PLEDGES RECEIVABLE**

\$250.00	Natural Resource Management, Inc.	Native Plant Sale Sponsorship
\$100.00	Ann Dralle	Summer Blooms Plant Raffle
\$100.00	Cynthia Harn	Summer Blooms Plant Raffle

\$450.00

The Nature Foundation of Will County

Budget vs. Actuals: 2021 Budget - Nature Foundation - FY21 P&L

January - December 2021

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	REMAINING
Revenue				
Donations - Unrestricted	9,679.83	10,900.00	-1,220.17	1,220.17
Native Plant Sale	13,900.00	46,000.00	-32,100.00	32,100.00
Prior Year Carry Over		174,814.00	-174,814.00	174,814.00
Total Revenue	\$23,579.83	\$231,714.00	\$ -208,134.17	\$208,134.17
GROSS PROFIT	\$23,579.83	\$231,714.00	\$ -208,134.17	\$208,134.17
Expenditures				
Auditing Services	12.99	515.00	-502.01	502.01
Bank Fees	59.00	59.00	0.00	0.00
Capital Projects		28,750.00	-28,750.00	28,750.00
Contingency		15,000.00	-15,000.00	15,000.00
Contractual Services	2,559.85	9,830.00	-7,270.15	7,270.15
Legal Counsel	315.00	1,250.00	-935.00	935.00
Liability Insurance		1,000.00	-1,000.00	1,000.00
Misc. Expenditures		250.00	-250.00	250.00
Miscellaneous Commodities	410.66	24,100.00	-23,689.34	23,689.34
Office Supplies	54.38	300.00	-245.62	245.62
Other Business Expenses	1,687.35		1,687.35	-1,687.35
Other Miscellaneous Service Cost	3,000.00	12,000.00	-9,000.00	9,000.00
Postage		150.00	-150.00	150.00
Projected Carry Over		138,335.00	-138,335.00	138,335.00
Uniforms		200.00	-200.00	200.00
Total Expenditures	\$8,099.23	\$231,739.00	\$ -223,639.77	\$223,639.77
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$15,480.60	\$ -25.00	\$15,505.60	\$ -15,505.60
Other Revenue				
Interest Income	9.83	25.00	-15.17	15.17
Total Other Revenue	\$9.83	\$25.00	\$ -15.17	\$15.17
NET OTHER REVENUE	\$9.83	\$25.00	\$ -15.17	\$15.17
NET REVENUE	\$15,490.43	\$0.00	\$15,490.43	\$ -15,490.43

The Nature Foundation of Will County

Quarterly Statement of Activity Summary

January 1 - May 19, 2021

	JAN - MAR, 2021	APR 1 - MAY 19, 2021	TOTAL
Revenue			
Donations - Unrestricted	9,644.83	35.00	\$9,679.83
Native Plant Sale	6,400.00	7,500.00	\$13,900.00
Total Revenue	\$16,044.83	\$7,535.00	\$23,579.83
GROSS PROFIT	\$16,044.83	\$7,535.00	\$23,579.83
Expenditures			
Auditing Services	12.99		\$12.99
Bank Fees		59.00	\$59.00
Contractual Services	880.87	1,678.98	\$2,559.85
Legal Counsel	315.00		\$315.00
Miscellaneous Commodities		410.66	\$410.66
Office Supplies	54.38		\$54.38
Other Business Expenses		1,687.35	\$1,687.35
Other Miscellaneous Service Cost	3,000.00		\$3,000.00
Total Expenditures	\$4,263.24	\$3,835.99	\$8,099.23
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$11,781.59	\$3,699.01	\$15,480.60
Other Revenue			
Interest Income	7.07	2.76	\$9.83
Total Other Revenue	\$7.07	\$2.76	\$9.83
NET OTHER REVENUE	\$7.07	\$2.76	\$9.83
NET REVENUE	\$11,788.66	\$3,701.77	\$15,490.43

The Nature Foundation of Will County
 Schedule of Bills
 May 26, 2021 Board Meeting

Disbursements & Transfers - March 18 through May 19, 2021

DISBURSEMENTS

Foundation Checking Account: \$50,365.30 Balance (April 30, 2021)

Type	Disbursement Date	Vendor	Amount	Detail
Debit	4/5/2021	First Midest Bank Credit Card	\$578.30	See Credit Card Detail
Check 1216	4/24/2021	Heather Holm	500.00	Native Plant Seminar Speaking Fee
Check 1217	4/29/2021	Creating Sustainable Landscapes, LLC	\$150.00	Drew Lathin Rain Garden Seminar
Debit	5/3/2021	First Midest Bank Credit Card	\$920.34	See Credit Card Detail
Check 1218	5/26/2021	Pizzo Native Plant Nursery	12,606.18	Native Plant Material for Spring Sale
Check 1219	5/26/2021	Cynthia Ham	\$2,000.00	March & April Consulting Fee
Check 1220	5/19/2021	Illinois Department of Revenue	\$1,687.35	Special Event Tax Payment - Native Plant Sale
Total Disbursements			\$18,442.17	

Credit Card Detail

4/5/2021	Mailchimp Email Service - March	\$23.39	
	Adobe Creative Cloud Service - March	\$31.86	
	Canva (Printing-Thank You postcards)	\$49.00	
	Canva (Printing-Native Plant Sale Rack Card)	\$270.00	Native Plant Sales
	Growers Solution Plant Stakes for sales (5Kqty)	\$204.05	Native Plant Sales
		<u>\$578.30</u>	
5/3/2021	Annual Fee	\$59.00	
	Mailchimp Email Service - April	\$32.39	
	Adobe Creative Cloud Service - April	\$31.86	
	Uprinting Bookmark Giveaway (400 QTY)	\$161.68	
	Avery (Labels for plant sale orders)	\$69.06	Native Plant Sales
	CANVA - Plant Sales Rack Card Re-Print (500)	\$145.00	Native Plant Sales
	Avery (Labels for plant stakes)	69.06	Native Plant Sales
	Uprinting Sponsor Banner (72"x24")	52.72	Native Plant Sales
	7 A-Frame Signs	\$231.08	Native Plant Sales
	Ecoenclose (recycled flap/seal bags; 1,000)	\$68.49	Native Plant Sales
		<u>\$920.34</u>	

Foundation Money Market Account: \$112,030.53 Balance (April 30, 2021)

Type	Transaction Date	Vendor	Amount	Detail
Interest	3/31/2021		\$3.04	
Interest	4/30/2021		\$2.76	
Total Transactions			\$5.80	

(Interest paid year to date: \$9.83)

Foundation CD: \$75,870.11 (Renewal amount on 2/7/2021)

Initial Deposit (8/8/19)	\$75,000.00	6 months at 2.00%; maturity date 2/7/2020
Payment at Maturity (2/7/2020)	\$756.16	
	<u>\$75,756.16</u>	Renewed: 6 months at .160%; maturity date 8/7/2020
Payment at Maturity (8/7/2020)	\$60.44	
	<u>\$75,816.60</u>	Renewed: 6 months at .140%; maturity date 2/7/2021
Payment at Maturity (2/7/2021)	\$53.51	
	<u>\$75,870.11</u>	Renewed: 6 months at .140%; maturity date 8/7/2021



the **Nature Foundation** of Will County

MEMORANDUM

To: THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NATURE FOUNDATION OF WILL COUNTY

From: Cindy Harn, Executive Director

Date: May 19, 2021

Subject: Resignation of Foundation Chair and Information on the Process for Taking Nominations from the Floor to Elect Officer(s) and Fill Any Resulting Vacancies

Background

On March 25, 2021, Harn received notification from the Foundation's current Chair, Jamie Donovan that she was resigning her position as Chair for personal reasons. Donovan was elected Chair at the Annual Meeting on December 2, 2020. Donovan expressed interest in remaining on the Board as a Director.

The following is an excerpt from the Foundation's By-Laws concerning resignations:

Resignations

As per the Foundation's By-Laws, any Officer may resign from office at any time by giving written notice of such resignation to the Chair, or the Vice Chair in the case of resignation of the Chair. The resigning Officer may still remain on the Board of Directors. Any vacancy occurring in any office of the Foundation shall be filled by the Board of Directors.

The Foundation does not have any succession plan or procedure outlined in its By-Laws should the Chair resign his/her duties. Furthermore, this vacancy is outside the Foundation's typical election cycle with elections normally being held at its Annual Meeting.

At this time, the Board of Directors must take action to fill the vacancy of Chair (created upon the resignation of Donovan) and fill any other vacancies in other offices in the event that filling the vacancy of the Chair creates a vacancy in another office.

This process is guided by Robert's Rules of Order and vacancies in any offices can be filled by taking nominations from the floor.

Nominations from the Floor

Robert's Rules of Order provides guidance for taking nominations from the floor. The process will be as follows:

1. Nominations for Chair will be accepted from the floor. In this process, the acting Chair at the meeting calls for nominations from the floor.
2. A member need not be recognized by the chair to make a nomination.
3. A member can nominate himself or herself.
4. The presiding officer can continue presiding, even if he or she is one of the nominees for the office.
5. A member can decline the nomination during the nominating process.

6. No second is required, but members may second a nomination as a show of support.
7. The chair calls for nominations from the floor with the following:
 - a. "Nominations are now in order for the office of Chair of The Nature Foundation of Will County."
8. Members nominate as such:
 - a. "I nominate (insert name)."
9. The chair confirms:
 - a. "(Insert name) is nominated. Are there any further nominations for Chair of The Nature Foundation of Will County?"
10. The chair repeats each nomination in this way until all nominations for the office have been made.
11. When it is apparent that all nominations have been made, the Chair should ask again if there are any further nominations. If there is no response, he/she can declare that nominations for the office of chair are closed, without waiting for a motion to that effect.
12. The same process is followed for all other offices in which there is a vacancy. Nominations for different offices are thus called for in the order in which they are listed in the bylaws. (Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer)

Once all the nominations are made for each office in which there is a vacancy, the meeting Chair may proceed to electing the officers.

Viva-Voce Election

The Foundation's By-laws do not specify the requirement to hold a ballot election. Typically, the Foundation falls under the category of viva-voce elections in Robert's Rules of Order. This method of election is used when an election is not strongly contested, and the bylaws do not require an election by ballot.

When the nominations have ended, the chair repeats the nominations and continues:

As many as are in favor of (insert name) for Chair, say aye. Those opposed, say no. As soon as one of the nominees receives a majority vote, the chair declares him/her elected and no votes are taken on the remaining nominees, if applicable.

This process would continue for each office in which there is a vacancy to fill in the order in which the officers are listed in the bylaws: Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer.

Should you have any questions about this agenda item, please do not hesitate to contact me.

A Marvel Like No Other

I've never known anyone with a more fitting name than the one given to the late Marvel Davis, for a marvel is exactly what she was! Marvel lived in the Big Rock area in Kane County her entire life, as did her late husband Harley. John Pierce, one of Harley's ancestors, settled their Big Rock farm in 1836 along the banks of the then-and-still pristine Big Rock Creek, and the property's huge oak trees grew right along with the family.

Devotion to community, family and land were the guiding principles of Marvel's life. She made her career as a schoolteacher, placed all the farmland she owned in Kane County's Farmland Preservation Program, brushed aside the greater fortune being offered to her by developers to sell 155 acres of her land to the Forest Preserve District of Kane County so it would be kept in its natural state and available for public enjoyment, donated a corn crib and nearby family home to the Big Rock Historical Society and the library, stopped the rather lucrative rental of her barns for weddings because she wanted them to be available to local community groups, and a host of other simply astounding generous acts. And as she was widowed early, she was doing this all on her own!

Marvel was a visionary, understanding the importance of clean water and the care of soil in agricultural practices long before these issues were part of the mainstream conservation and food security conversation. She vehemently fought against the Prairie Parkway, and was ever generous with her money, time, and property.

At the suggestion of her attorney, Marvel created a charitable remainder trust with the proceeds from her aforementioned land sale to the Forest Preserve District of Kane County. Charitable remainder trusts are irrevocable structures established by a donor to provide an income stream to the income beneficiary, while the public charity or private foundation receives the remainder value when the trust



Marvel Davis on her beloved Big Rock farm, pictured here and below.

terminates. The trust allowed her to avoid a large tax bill on the sale of the land, and invest the cash for growth. Marvel included The Conservation Foundation in her estate planning, and with her passing last summer, gave a substantial gift through her Charitable Remainder Trust. Marvel's actions in life preserved the natural and historical heritage of the Big Rock area, and her estate gift will allow us to preserve that same heritage throughout our service territory.

The legacy of Marvel and all of the Davis family in Big Rock will carry on as these preserved acres nurture families and help organizations like The Conservation Foundation to carry out our mission for generations to come.

If you are inspired by Marvel's story and interested in learning more about how you can serve your community through estate planning, please call Abby Beck at 630-428-4500, Ext. 135 or email abeck@theconservationfoundation.org.

*By: Jill Johnson
Communications Manager*

