



# Giving Back

with the Battle River Community Foundation

Volume 8, No. 2

Camrose, Alberta

Spring 2006

## Flagstaff Dinner Honours Harry and Fredella Anderson



*Fredella and Harry Anderson*

East Central Alberta celebrated two special citizens on April 1, at the Battle River Community Foundation's Community Builder's Dinner honouring Harry and Fredella Anderson.

More than 300 people gathered at the Forestburg Community Hall to share a meal, a laugh, bid on various auction items, listen to music, and pay tribute to these two long time, well respected residents whose personal philosophy so closely reflects the priorities of the Community Foundation – to provide strong and healthy environments for children, be flexible and positive in helping the community, and to offer help to those facing a difficult time.

Proceeds from the event were used to create a Battle River Community Foundation Endowment Fund in Harry and Fredella's name. A total of \$16,350 was raised on this special night for the Fund which will support projects throughout Flagstaff County for years to come.

The Battle River Community Foundation extends its thanks to Harry and Fredella for their willingness to partner on this event, as well as to all of those who attended. See page 4 for information on the upcoming dinner to be held in Camrose on October 20.

### Join us!

The Battle River Community Foundation will hold its annual Open House on Wednesday, May 17 at 7:30 p.m. at the Norsemen Inn in Camrose. The Foundation has granted over more than \$120,000 back to local projects in the last year.

Join us as we celebrate the successes of 2005, release the 2005 annual report, introduce new members of the Board and look toward the future.

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# New fund established in memory of Frank and Mamie McMillan

Frank and Mamie McMillan were transferred to Camrose in 1956 and chose to never move again.

Over the next 50 years the couple, who arrived in the community when Frank was named local manager of McDonald's Consolidated, made Camrose their own.

Mamie was born in 1912 and raised in Edmonton. She was a hockey player who was part of a team that won a championship at the age of 15 and remained a lifelong hockey fan. As a young woman Mamie held secretarial positions with the Alberta

Government and A.P. Grain before becoming private secretary to "the boss" of Canada Safeway in Edmonton.

Frank was born in Lethbridge in 1914. His family moved a bit, living in Stony Plain, Gleichen and then Edmonton. During the war Frank served at various RCAF bases as an aircraft inspector. When he joined McDonald's Consolidated Frank moved a bit more – Camrose was his eighth community.

During her years with Safeway Mamie met Frank, whose company was the major supplier of goods for the grocery chain. The couple wed in 1953, just as they both were approaching middle age.

Mamie left her employment with Safeway and followed Frank to Grande Prairie, then to Camrose.

The couple were sports enthusiasts and loved to travel. They always kept current with the news and both were avid readers with at least one book on the go. Frank was active in Air Cadets, Mamie grew plants and vegetables and both enjoyed being part of their neighbourhood.

The neighbourhood enjoyed them, too. According to George McIver, who lived across the street and met the couple the day they moved in, "they were fine people. They loved



*Frank and Mamie McMillan*

to travel and help people out. Frank was very handy. He had all the tools in the world and could make anything you needed."

Bev Penner's father, Ben Pearson, lived next door to the McMillans for years. After Bev's mother passed away Frank made a point of "checking in" with Mr. Pearson and years later Bev returned the favour – she called them every morning for several years and is now taking care of the McMillan's estate.

Despite marrying later, the couple Bev describes as "soulmates" were blessed to have more than 50 years together. Mamie passed away in November 2004 and Frank followed in February 2006.

During their last years Frank and Mamie made the decision to leave a portion of their estate to the Battle River Community Foundation. In written instructions, the couple explained "we enjoyed living in Camrose. It was good to us and we made a good living. We are pleased to be able to return to the area some form of "thank you" for the opportunities made available to us.

George McIver, who knew of the gift, says "it's an ideal thing for them to do."

The Battle River community Foundation is honoured by this gift and to establish the Mamie and Frank McMillan Memorial Fund.

# Foundation supports housing project

The Rose City Residential Support Society has been working for 10 years toward the development of a sheltered housing complex for mentally or physically challenged adults.

Now that dream is about to become a reality and the Battle River Community Foundation is playing a part.

After years of bake sales, raffles, other fundraising and with the assistance of a federal / provincial government grant, the new 20-suite Sparling Manor is expected to open this spring. The building is equipped with external security doors, common visiting areas, elevator access and private apartments. It is designed to be handicapped accessible.

A grant of \$5,000 from the Battle River Community Foundation has assisted with the purchase of appliances for the building.

"This whole project has been a community effort," says Rose City Residential Support



*Ken Drever, Past Chairman, Battle River Community Foundation, and representing Rose City Residential Support Society are Margarethe Banack, Director, Rosemary Broen, Board Member, and Dale Bowal, President.*

Society President Dale Bowal. "But the support of the Battle River Community Foundation has helped us get the building ready for occupancy."

Sparling Manor will meet a housing need that has not been addressed in Camrose before, according to Bowal. It is intended to offer decent, affordable rental accommodation for people whose combined health and financial challenges made it difficult to live in a "regular" rental unit.

Sparling Manor is also part of a larger affordable housing neighbourhood that features both rental and home ownership programs to assist lower income families working toward independence.

The Battle River Community Foundation is pleased to have been able to contribute to this very special development. Congratulations to the Rose City Residential Support Society on bringing this project to life.

For more information on the project contact Dale Bowal at 672-7474.



# Introducing new Board members

Two new members joined the Battle River Community Foundation Board of Directors in January, as two "old-timers" finished their terms.

Coming on to the Board are Pat Downs and James Mayer, both of Camrose.

Pat is a Sales Manager in Business Markets for the RBC Royal Bank, overseeing a territory that stretches from Drayton Valley to the Saskatchewan border. She has resided in Camrose for several years.



*Pat Downs*



*James Mayer*



*Blain Fowler*



*Bob Bell*

James is a lifetime resident of Camrose and an active second generation member of Central Agencies, his family's insurance and real estate business.

Stepping out of their roles on the Board are Blain Fowler and Bob Bell.

Blain has been on the Board since the Community Foundation began in 1995 and has served the last three years as Chair. Blain will continue to work with the Foundation in an ex-officio capacity. Bob joined the Foundation Board in 2000 and has completed six years of service.

The Battle River Community Foundation thanks Blain and Bob for their dedication to fulfilling the vision of the organization.



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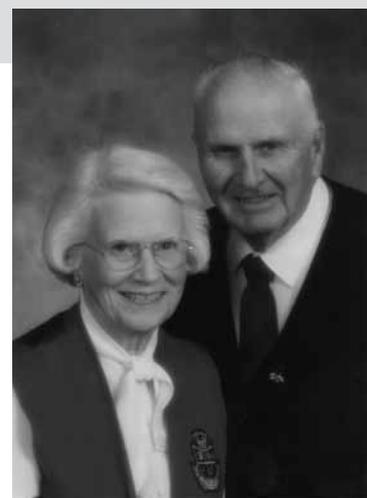
### **Executive Director**

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## 2006 Community Builders' Dinner will honor the Elliotts

The Battle River Community Foundation will host its third annual Community Builders' Dinner in Camrose on Friday, October 20. This evening will celebrate the contributions to our community of long-time residents Dr. Red and Fran Elliott. The Elliotts are well known throughout the area for their support of education, agriculture, health and third world initiatives. Watch for details later this summer.

Two other Community Builders' Dinners have been held in Camrose; the first in 2004 honouring Joe and Phyllis Voytechek and the second in 2005 recognizing Berdie and the late Bill Fowler.



*Fran and Red Elliott*