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For Immediate Release

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Clear Lake Township Land Conservancy Establishes Operating Endowment

The Clear Lake Township Land Conservancy, Inc. recently established a new Operating Endowment at the Steuben County Community Foundation with a \$50,000 gift. The Conservancy, established in 1991, plans to build the endowment in the coming year as they celebrate their 25th anniversary in 2016. The principle gift will never be spent while earnings will be granted to the Conservancy each year to help with their general operating expenses.

Bridget Harrison, the Conservancy's first full-time director hired seven months ago, stated: "We established this fund to help with the Conservancy's long-term financial sustainability. We plan to be here for Clear Lake and the Township forever. Most people don't realize that Clear Lake is just one small piece of our purpose. We work to protect portions of two different watersheds, one that feeds into Lake Erie and the other into Lake Michigan. The Conservancy is here to preserve and protect natural areas, provide environmental education, monitor water quality, and maintain the preserves that impact our watersheds."

Board Treasurer George Schenkel says, "Hiring Bridget was a big decision for our organization's future. Working with her has been absolutely fantastic and we have a lot of big projects coming up in the coming year. Most people are familiar with our Kasota Island preservation project, but we do so much more. This new Operating Endowment will help with our long-term goals and success."

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About the Steuben County Community Foundation

Through philanthropic services, strategic investments and community leadership, Steuben County Community Foundation helps people support the causes they care about, now and for generations to come. The Steuben County Community Foundation is a nonprofit organization with assets totaling more than \$25 million. Our vision: Serving as a community leader and improving the quality of life by assessing, supporting and coordinating philanthropic giving and endowment building. Our mission: Connecting people who care with needs that matter to our community. For more information on the Foundation, visit www.steubenfoundation.org.