



THE Marquee

From the Desk of Vonnie Corsini, Executive Director

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Only \$16,900 to go! Please join the wonderful people spotlighted in the attached 1920 CIRCLE Donor Honor Roll by making your own gift. To-date, **The 2nd Annual 1920 CIRCLE Drive** has matched 63% of its \$45,000 year-end challenge grant with donor gifts from 32 communities across four states. The challenge grant was issued to motivate and inspire support for our annual year-end drive. Our challenge grant provider **DOUBLES** your donation.

The 1920 CIRCLE commemorates the year, 1920, the Colonial Theatre opened in downtown Pittsburg. It would become the Fox Theatre in the late 1950s. Renovated historic theatres across Kansas - Wamego, Arkansas City, Emporia, Salina and McPherson - have become anchors for their downtowns, each year bringing thousands of visitors, building commerce and a sense of community and civic pride. Your gift makes this vision possible for Pittsburg and Southeast Kansas!

Historic Tile Brought Back to Life! Replication of the historic tile gracing our entrance was fraught with frustration. After working for over a year with a manufacturer who was not up to the task, we approached North Prairie Tileworks in Minnesota. Roger Mayland and his staff are careful about the jobs they accept, Roger explained. "We are very selective. We may take one project a month. It takes a lot of expertise in order to do a project like this and we only take the projects that we feel we can match and where we can have a positive impact." Their process to accurately



replicate our historic tiles started with forensic observation of the original tiles. Knowing what year the tiles were produced, as well as what materials were used, is crucial to a successful outcome. Production methods and materials used in the early 1900s are either no longer available or prohibited in today's tile work industry. Therefore, tile manufacturers must be well versed in ways to achieve the historic look with current technology. North Prairie Tileworks took great pride in successfully replicating the Theatre's historic tile. "It's heartwarming when we hear that a group of people care enough about an older building to put a lot of heart and soul into restoring it. It's always a pleasure to be able to do our part in that process," said Mayland.

The PSU Gorilla Gatherings

have hardly missed a beat and thanks to the ingenuity of Dr. Jon Bartlow and his staff, Gorillas are able to gather virtually and share that famous “Once a gorilla, always a Gorilla” message. *Come Home to Pittsburg* was the theme of a recent virtual Gorilla Gathering, which focused on the Town & Gown partnership which has invigorated downtown Pittsburg. Jon’s guests, Joe Dellasega and Shawn Naccarato, presented a



very interesting overview of the various investments that have been made to revitalize downtown. During the meeting, they made very kind comments concerning the role of the Colonial Fox Theatre Foundation in advancing downtown Pittsburg. Thank you! We appreciate the shout-out!

The Foundation accepts gifts of securities. If you have appreciated securities (stocks, bonds, mutual funds, etc.), please know that the CFTF accepts these as charitable gifts. We maintain a clearing account to make gifts of securities easy and convenient for you. Please call if you would like to make such a gift (620-235-0622) or email me at vonnie@colonialfox.org.

A Gift from your IRA. Yes. You can do that too! With the change of federal tax laws in December 2017, more and more people age 70 ½ and older are making charitable donations through their retirement funds. The benefits are many. At age 70 ½ a person must take required distributions from their retirement funds. Law allows a person to gift up to \$100,000 annually from their retirement funds to 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations. It is called a “Qualified Charitable Distribution” or QCD. Depending on your tax situation, QCDs will likely provide additional tax benefits. Call on your investment manager about a QCD Form and investigate why you should use this gift-giving vehicle and how to do it.

Did you know? *If you take the standard deduction on your 2020 tax return (the one that you’ll file in 2021), you can claim a brand new “above-the-line” deduction of up to \$300 for cash donations to the Colonial Fox Theatre Foundation this year. Married-filing-jointly will get an “above-the-line” deduction of up to \$600. Normally, you have to itemize on Schedule A to get a tax break for charitable donations. In this case, though, it’s the other way around – if you itemize, you can’t take this new deduction. Contact your accountant!*

QUESTIONS?

Please call us at (620) 235-0622 or e-mail us at info@colonialfox.org
Our website – www.colonialfox.org Our address - P.O. Box 33 / Pittsburg, KS 66762

The MARQUEE is provided to individuals and businesses who help advance the cause of philanthropy through the renovation and operation of the Colonial Fox Theatre.