Hilda “Pat” Jones is often called the “Prairie Godmother” because of her enthusiastic support of conservation education. Jones is able to make dreams come true with a $1.6 million donation to support conservation programs within CAFNR.

Jones is committed to getting young people interested in nature and conservation. Her gift will allow current students to benefit from conservation education. The donation creates an endowed professorship in the School of Natural Resources in CAFNR and supports the Prairie Fork Youth Conservation Education Program.

In 1997, Jones created the Prairie Fork Conservation Area by donating 711 acres of her family farm. The area is managed by the MU School of Natural Resources, the Missouri Department of Conservation and the Missouri Prairie Foundation and allows students of all ages an opportunity to have hands-on conservation education.

Her latest gift to CAFNR ensures youth can continue to learn about conservation and natural resource issues. Jones often tells children who arrive at Prairie Fork to “learn, get dirty and have fun.” She believes it is vital that they understand the importance of protecting and preserving natural resources for future generations.

Jones and her late husband, brokerage firm head Edward “Ted” Jones, made it their mission to educate the public about the need to conserve natural resources. They helped establish the statewide KATY Trail, which stretches 237 miles across Missouri.

The Prairie Fork Trust was set up after her husband’s death and is administered by the CAFNR School of Natural Resources and the Missouri Department of Conservation. It provides additional funding for activities related to natural resource education, restoration, management and research.

(Continued on back page)

“Prairie Godmother” Grants Wish for MU Conservation Programs

“Learn, Get Dirty and Have Fun!!”

(top) Pat Jones at Prairie Fork Conservation Area, where a favorite quote has been inscribed on the side of a building.

(bottom) A group of students “get dirty and have fun.”

Photos courtesy of Amber Edwards
Students Connect with Donors at Scholarship Luncheon

The CAFNR Scholarship Donor Appreciation Luncheon is an annual opportunity for CAFNR students to interact with their scholarship benefactors. The 2014 event was held Tuesday, Oct. 21, at the Donald W. Reynolds Alumni Center.

“Meeting donors who have donated to my college fund is a great experience,” said Sadie Kinne, senior in agricultural education. Kinne has received scholarships since she was a freshman. “It is amazing to see how energized they are and how willing they are to hear my story. Donors truly want to benefit students in helping further their education.”

Students like Hli Yang, a junior in science and agricultural journalism, enjoy interacting with donors who are investing in her future. She serves as a student representative on the CAFNR Scholarship and Awards Committee. Yang said she is thankful for scholarships that support her educational goals to work in agricultural communications.

The luncheon was emceed by Amanda Smith, junior in agricultural education, and Kirby Fecht, a junior in agricultural economics. They are a part of the CAFNR Student Development Board, a group of students that fosters relationships between donors and students and helped facilitate the event.
MU graduate Bruce Loewenberg has donated heifers to the CAFNR Ag Unlimited banquet for many years. Now, he is bestowing a whole herd of Salers cattle that will bring a new breed to the MU South Farm.

Loewenberg of Clark, Mo., believes there is an increased need for agricultural research within Missouri’s largest industry. He gave the herd to MU to form a partnership with his Pike County company, Show-Me Salers.

“One of the most important aspects of Missouri agriculture is beef production,” said Loewenberg. “If we want to be competitive with other states and continue our worldwide recognition as a great cattle state, we need to further research to produce the best product and the best students.”

In October, 35 Salers cattle were delivered to the Beef Research and Teaching Farm at the South Farm Research Center. This is the beginning of a continuous collaboration with Loewenberg. Each spring and fall around two dozen weaned heifers will be given to the program at South Farm.

“This donation is going to give us a new opportunity to demonstrate to our students a different breed to work with in our program,” said Justin Sexten, Extension assistant professor. “It allows us to provide something we haven’t had in the past for our state’s producers and to look at different aspects of cross-breeding systems.”

The Salers will be used to demonstrate different management systems and research projects in MU’s beef cattle program. Each Salers is valued at $1,200 to $1,500, and is an important addition to MU’s beef research.

Loewenberg said he has seen the potential of Salers cattle on his own operation and internationally. He believes the breed will be beneficial to Missouri farmers and he committed to seeing the breed prosper in the state.

“They are just a great cow to have for Missouri farmers,” Loewenberg said. “Especially for those who might have two jobs besides farming. They are not as intensive to raise, have high fertility and produce a great carcass. This is why I got into raising these animals back in the 1980s. I have a great love for these animals and that is why I hope to help the research with them improve internationally.”

(top) Bruce Loewenberg out in his field (center) Salers Cattle (left) Loewenberg with Justin Sexten, (right) Extension assistant professor and Kenneth Ladyman, MU beef farm manager and research specialist, discussing the transition of the cattle.
The 14th annual Monticello Society Brunch was held at Reichmann Pavilion at Stephens Lake Park on Saturday, April 26, 2014.

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Membership as of April 5, 2014

* denotes new members
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Red Ribbon Cut on ADM Center

The ADM Center for Agricultural Development represents a $1 million gift from Archer Daniels Midland that will benefit CAFNR students. Vice Chancellor and Dean Tom Payne along with Hank Foley, MU Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs, and ADM representatives opened the center in a ribbon cutting ceremony Thursday, Oct. 9, which was attended by students, faculty and alumni.

“As the global population continues to grow, the world is looking toward agriculture to create viable, sustainable solutions to some of the world’s most pressing needs – like an abundant food supply and advanced renewable fuels,” said Michael D’Ambrose, ADM senior vice president and chief human resources officer.

“To help our industry meet this challenge, ADM is pleased to invest in the University of Missouri and the next generation of agricultural leaders,” D’Ambrose said.

ADM decided to dedicate funds to CAFNR after being impressed with student interns. Agricultural Systems Management Professor Leon Schumacher helped coordinate the partnership and said the center will allow students to become more effective leaders and find solutions faster and more economically.

ASM Club President and senior ASM student Daniel Bonacker thanked ADM for their generosity and for investing in students like himself. Wesley Uhlmeyer, ADM vice president of export trading, gave keynote remarks.

The center gives students more space to work on capstone projects and an opportunity for more one-on-one interaction with faculty. The lab also will be used by food science, hospitality management and agricultural education and engineering students.

The lab is segmented into four areas, which include a computer center, a clean mechanical assembly area, an instructional area and offices where students can plan projects. All areas have multimedia stations where students can access data or communicate with each other throughout the lab.

The center is located in a renovated laboratory area of the Agricultural Engineering Building.
Many CAFNR students remember taking micro and macro economics with long-time professor Jan Dauve. Students still have “Dauve dollars” they received in class and remember looking forward to the days Dauve would explain economic situations with candy. Many remember being welcomed to class with a “Good morning, ag econ fans.”

Dauve estimates that he taught more than 17,000 students throughout his 27 years at MU. And now, he’s retiring.

“First on the agenda will be to spend more time with my wonderful wife, Terri,” Dauve said. “I certainly plan on doing more fishing and a lot of it will be in the smaller lakes in mid-Missouri and I hope it will be very relaxing.”

His retirement has sparked a flurry of events to commemorate his teaching legacy. In April, he was honored at the Missouri state capitol by his former student, Joe Don McGaugh, now a state representative. During his time at MU, Dauve received almost every honor a professor and advisor can receive. He also leaves a legacy of student success.

“Dr. Dauve has a unique ability to connect with anyone,” said Beth Nordwald, graduate student in agricultural economics. “As an adviser, mentor and professor, this means he could help and guide each person he encounters in a way that benefits them the most.”

Norwald said that in a fast-paced world Dauve was able to slow down and connect with students and be fully in the moment.

“I am an MU grad and have been a fan for years,” Dauve said. “My affiliation has lasted for over 44 years and will be with me forever. Go Tigers!”
“Prairie Godmother” (continued from page 1)

Jones has had a passion for conservation since obtaining a soil science degree from MU in 1950. In 2014, she was awarded CAFNR’s highest honor, the Frederick B. Mumford Award for Distinguished Service for her efforts in spreading conservation education. She also served on the CAFNR Campaign Committee during the For All We Call Mizzou Campaign.

Her connection to MU extends beyond her degree and donations. Her grandfather, James P. Jamieson, was the architect for several of the “white campus” buildings, including Schweitzer, Schlundt and Stephens.

Jones’ grandfather left an architectural legacy on campus. Now, Jones leaves her own mark on today’s youth through conservation initiatives.

Welcome Back Home

The CAFNR family is pleased to welcome Mark Langworthy as Senior Director of Advancement. Mark graduated from CAFNR in 1984 with a B.S. in Agricultural Economics. He received his J.D. from the MU School of Law in 1990.

Mark has worked as a private attorney, an attorney in the banking industry and in the Missouri Attorney General’s Office. He has held positions in MU Advancement as a Director of Planned and Major Gifts and in the School of Law. Mark’s diverse experiences will serve CAFNR well as we continue to increase our level of private support for the College.