Many of us are experiencing personal “harvest years.” We’ve worked hard. Now is the time to reap the rewards of what we’ve sown and create lasting memories to be cherished for years to come. We want to live each day in the moment and live without regret. Our goal is a bountiful harvest for us and our loved ones.

Seventy-five people were asked what they would change if they had life to live over again. First, they said they would take more risks – you know, eat more ice cream and less yogurt; walk barefoot in the sand. Second, they would work harder on developing and maintaining healthy family relationships. And finally, they would establish a legacy by which they would be remembered.

A legacy is something you establish now, that will live on. It’s more than a monument, it’s a memory marker. The Washington Monument is a legacy to the life of George Washington. Arlington National Cemetery has monuments in memory of the lives of those who defended this country’s freedoms. A legacy leaves a lifetime of memories lighting the way for future generations. It’s a portrait of our past that hopefully brings inspiration to others.

Harvest time provides an opportunity to reflect on meaningful ways that we can create a lasting legacy. The legacy that we leave could be established through memories, time or our resources. What will be your legacy? Perhaps you will decide to make a difference by participating in your community, making a gift to your favorite charity and spending more time with those you love. Whatever you choose, don’t let this time of harvest pass without thinking about creating your lasting legacy.

~ Online Reading ~
To learn more about how you can leave a legacy, go to our web site www.alaska.edu/foundation/
Legacy Stories

Legacy of Lenore and George Hedla

$1 Million Estate Gift Benefits Accounting

“A life well lived” easily applies to the long life of Lenore Hedla. When she passed away at the age of 91 in 2006, she’d helped inspire several generations of Alaskan gardeners. For some 40 years, she’d experimented in her own extensive gardens, wrote a newspaper column and contributed to national horticultural magazines. Alaskans heard her on radio and saw her on television. Her detailed and enormously helpful Alaska Gardener’s Handbook was reprinted for a fourth time in 2006.

In a final act with lasting impact, Lenore Hedla created a legacy that extends far beyond her outstanding gardening contributions. As a tribute to the memory of her husband of 38 years, George Hedla, she created a $1 million estate gift that will benefit UAA’s College of Business and Public Policy. Of this, $700,000 will create the George M. Hedla Endowment to support accounting professorships and as operating support to fund accounting professorships. The remainder will provide educational opportunities to faculty and students and support excellence in education at the College.

Lenore Hedla left their home and extensive gardens in Anchorage to the Nature Conservancy. Their beauty will remain as a tribute to Lenore and George’s knowledge, experience and persistence. But the Hedlas’ contribution to successive generations of accounting students will be perpetuated in another way – as a lasting legacy, the result of all the work of two gifted and hard-working people who together made Alaska their own.

Visit Our Web Site!

Sign-Up to Receive Our Newsletter Online!

Our web site provides you with helpful estate planning information to assist you in creating the plan that is right for you. We maintain up-to-date gift planning information for you to access via the Internet. We invite you to visit us online at www.alaska.edu/foundation/, go to our Planned Giving page, and sign-up for our eNewsletter. There you can find valuable information including:

Gift Planning Stories - Read actual stories of donors who received tax benefits by making charitable gifts.
Personal Web Presentations - View your personalized web presentation that shows the income and tax benefits of setting up a gift plan using your assets and property values.

Sign-up Now to Receive Our Free eNewsletter
Almost everyone is familiar with the need for an annual physical checkup. Time takes its toll on some other very important parts of our lives as well. And though it does not receive nearly the attention of an annual visit to the doctor, our wills should be reviewed on a regular basis as well.

Less than 50% of the people in the nation have a will. More alarming is the fact that a large percentage of the wills in existence are either invalid or out of date. Regardless of how you choose to schedule the checkup, here is a helpful checklist of things to consider as you determine whether your will is in good health.

1. Have there been family changes? Births, deaths, marriages and divorce can impact the appropriateness of a will. Do you have family members or loved ones who might be disinherited?

2. Have you moved to another state? If you move from one state to another, the move may invalidate your will. Check for different requirements on witnesses, property holdings, etc.

3. Have there been changes in property or income? Do you still own the property gifted to your beneficiaries? Do you possess the funds to satisfy your personal or charitable bequests?

4. Have there been changes in tax law? It is not uncommon for a major review of wills and trusts to be necessary following the passage of tax legislation. Is your will tax-current?

5. Have you had a change of heart? Let’s face it. Things change. Does your relationship with a person or organization require a change in the way you would like your assets distributed?

Like a physical checkup, your will should receive a checkup frequently and certainly in the wake of any significant change in your circumstances. If you don’t have a will in place, start the process today. For more information on will planning, please return the enclosed response card, call or use the “Contact Us” button on our web site. We’re happy to provide free information that can help.

### Preparing for Inheritance

**Questions to Discuss With Your Advisor**

- What is the appropriate level of inheritance for my heirs?
- How will inheritance change my heirs’ lives, values and initiative?
- How might inheritance impact my heirs’ other relationships?
- What can I do to prepare my heirs for a positive inheritance experience?
**THE ADVANTAGES OF GIVING**

**Give Now and Get Cash Back for Life**

Get money back and a tax deduction with certain gifts

Most people are surprised when they first learn that they can give to a non-profit organization and get cash back. Not only can you support the causes that are important to you, but you may also receive valuable tax savings, capital gains benefits and income for life.

It is easier than you might think to make a gift for life income, and there is still time to receive tax advantages this year.

**Gift Annuity**

One of the simplest ways of making a gift and receiving cash back is with a charitable gift annuity. A gift annuity is a contract between you and our organization, where you make a gift and we agree to pay you fixed income for life at a rate based on your age. You will receive an income tax deduction for your gift and may even avoid capital gains tax on a gift of your appreciated property.

**Charitable Remainder Trust**

Like a gift annuity, a charitable remainder trust provides you with a current tax deduction, capital gains tax savings and regular income. You can choose between fixed income annuity trusts and unitrust plans where payouts vary and may increase over time. Certain unitrust plans permit you to make gifts of real estate and unique properties. Call us for help selecting the plan that is right for you.

Whether a gift annuity or a charitable trust appeals to you, now is the perfect time to make your gift. The last few weeks of the year offer you the opportunity to accurately assess your financial successes and needs and prepare for the New Year that’s about to begin. Please return the enclosed response card or call us to discuss any of these or other ways of giving so we can help you get the most from your year-end gift.

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If you are interested in joining the Legacy Society by providing for the University of Alaska through your will or estate plan, or if you wish to learn more about planned charitable gifts, please contact the University of Alaska Foundation at the address below. If you have already provided for the University of Alaska in your will or estate plan, please let us know so we can thank you.

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