Several weeks ago when Donna Benson and Nicki Elsberry asked me to speak I didn’t realize that this was a new program. Now that I know more about it, I feel a little out of place. If you were water people or cattle people, I would be more in my element.

I believe I was asked because I have always lived in Greeley and Weld County. To me this is the best place in the country to live.

I grew up as a young boy on 11th Avenue just below the #3 ditch. I went to South Ward School located in the corner of 11th Avenue and 12th Street where the downtown Safeway is now. Greeley also had an East Ward, North Ward, and a West Ward which was really a one room country school on the corner of 10th Street and 35th Avenue.

Edith Heath was my first grade teacher. A wonderful lady who taught all her life in Greeley. The present Heath Junior High is named in her honor.

Below the ditch on each side of the avenues there were either an open ditch or a well where each house could help themselves to the ditch water for their lawns and gardens.

I mention those things to show how new the area really is. Greeley was founded in 1870 so we are now 130 years old. I have been here for 90 of those years.

I have known and worked with many, many great people through the years many of them left legacies of being fine merchants, public servants, and good citizens. No one had much money to leave to anyone.

Greeley was the first big irrigated agricultural area in the U.S. and at the same time we were on the edge of the great early day cattle country to the east and north of us.
Greeley had the first beet sugar factory in the U.S. and it is still operating. We had one of the best flourmills in the west for many years. The University provided culture and developed many highly well known educators.

Times have changed Greeley and Colorado have survived two world wars, the great depression, the dust bowl days of the 1930’s and the drought years of the fifties.

We are a maturing state our population is growing. DIA is destined to be a great world airport. Denver is now accepted as one of the better large cities.

All this history is why we are here today to talk about leaving a legacy.

Most people give yearly to worthy causes, charities, United Way, etc. but they don’t follow up and perhaps leave something to that favorite charity.

In the last few years we have developed many foundations for these purposes. The University of Northern Colorado Foundation was the first. My wife, Judy Farr, was the first president and served for twelve years. Then the hospital started a foundation, which today has grown immensely.

About two years ago the Community Foundation was established. It is a very unique organization. They receive gifts from people who want to support certain activities in Greeley and Weld County. They also manage funds for many small foundations. This Community Foundation really fills a local need.

The United Way also has it’s own foundation. Last year the Greeley Rotary Club established a foundation.

In most cases the money received by a foundation is invested and only the income is spent. This means that over time great things can be accomplished.

Part of the growth of the university is because of the scholarships offered by dozens of people and companies. These scholarships have helped build the business school, the nursing school, the music and performing arts colleges as well as the whole curriculum.
The same is true of the growth of the hospital foundation. Their funds buy specialized equipment which provides all the new heart care, the special burn unit, the new imaging departments, etc.

In closing I would mention a few personal friendships with people who have been very generous. Mildred Hansen sold the Tribune. She and her uncle, Charlie Hansen had worked very hard all their lives to build a fine newspaper. Charlie had devoted much of his time and money to the Colorado Big Thompson project. Mildred Hansen wanted to leave those proceeds to the city and county that had grown so much. She specified the University Foundation, The North Colorado Medical Center and other charities.

Another great friend was Arthur Johnson of Denver. He had developed an oil fortune at Teapot Dome near Casper, Wyoming. When he was gone he left everything to the Arthur E. Johnson Foundation. He loved the outdoors and wildlife. Today the reason Denver has a great zoo and the wonderful Denver Botanical Gardens are largely funded by the Johnson Foundation.

My lifelong friend, Harold Winograd, supported all these worthwhile organizations in Weld County. His philosophy was don’t give till it hurt, but give until it feels good.

Ken Monfort and his family are the largest supporters of all these great activities in Greeley and Weld County. His father, Warren Monfort, and I were very close friends for fifty years. Warren wanted to be the largest cattle feeder in the U.S. and he accomplished that goal.

When they built the packing house and established the Monfort, Inc. Company he also established the Monfort Family Foundation and put a large block of stock in the foundation.

A few years later when the idea of the Union Colony Civic Center drive for funds was established Ken Monfort was selected as chairman of the committee. He asked me to co-chair the responsibility to raise the funds for that great facility. My response was OK but I cannot make a large gift. Ken’s answer was “Bill it is
our turn”. Ever since then the Monfort Family have been the largest supporters of all worthwhile causes in this area. A great lesson in leaving something to the area where the wealth comes from.

I sincerely hope the “Leave a Legacy” program continues to grow. I assure you that there is a lot of satisfaction to giving to worthy causes.
Dear Mr. Fair:

On behalf of the Leave a Legacy Committee, I want to thank you for your inspiring speech at the Leave a Legacy kickoff. It was our distinct honor to have you as our featured speaker. You are a very special person and we are all very proud to know you.

Thanks again,

Dana Lemno
Chairman Leave a Legacy Committee
March 2, 2000

Mr. W.D. Farr
1914 14th Avenue
Greeley, CO 80631

Dear Mr. Farr:

I hope the knee rehabilitation is going well for you and that you’ll be up and around soon. I wanted to thank you for having lunch with Nicki and me last week. I apologize for selecting Potato Brumbaugh’s, it was much too loud to carry on a conversation.

I have been told that you are a great speaker with passion and wit, and we are excited that you agreed to be our featured speaker at the Leave A Legacy kickoff on May 11th. We felt that you would be the perfect individual to speak about what this community means to you, the importance of giving back to the community, and the personal satisfaction you have derived in making philanthropic gifts.

Other ideas may want to include in your speech:
1. Mildred Hansen’s Legacy since you knew her personally.
2. That a gift to charity does not have to be large to make a difference.
3. If you support a charity now that you have a passion for their mission, it is important also to leave something in your will to that charity to carry on their work.

We’ll be in touch as the date gets a little closer. Please let me know if you have any questions. I can be reached by phoning 350-6773.

Thanks again!

Sincerely,

Donna Benson
Greeley Leave A Legacy Chairman
April 14, 2000

Mr. W. D. Farr
1914 14th Avenue
Greeley, CO 80631

Dear Mr. Farr:

Few communities in America are as generous as the Greeley community. People here volunteer regularly and give financially to the charities of their choice. But what will happen when these individuals are gone? Will their support truly be missed? You bet it will, unless we take the time now to do a little planning. All we need to know is how to do it.

The NCMC Foundation, together with other sponsoring partners listed on the back panel of the enclosed brochure, is bringing an educational and informational program to this community that we hope will make a lasting difference in the lives of thousands of people in Greeley and Weld County, not only for today but for generations to come.

This program is called Leave A Legacy. It's a community-wide collaborative effort to encourage people from all walks of life to remember their favorite non-profit organization in their estates. The Leave A Legacy program has been introduced in nearly 120 communities across the United States and will be launched in Greeley, Denver, and other Colorado communities this spring. You may receive a number of these brochures because we have almost thirty Greeley charities participating in this effort. Please pass duplicates along to friends or family.

By leaving a legacy through a gift in your will, you can help perpetuate programs that are making an important difference in our Greeley community. Bequests from individuals to the NCMC Foundation have become most important over the years. While some gifts have been large, others have been $500 or less....yet all help continue the vital work of the NCMC Foundation.

Below is a listing of just a few of the many services that are provided by the NCMC Foundation that exist because of, or have benefited from, charitable bequests:

- Quality healthcare to children of low-income families through the Monfort Children's Clinic.
Spiritual and emotional comfort to patients and families by the Will Rothman Family Chaplaincy.

- Prescription drugs for those that cannot afford them. (Med-Aid)
- The Mildred Hansen Scholarships which provide approximately $50,000 in nursing and physical therapy scholarships annually to individuals in the community.
- Continuing medical education for NCMC employees.
- Numerous Medical Center departmental needs such as the Hyperbaric Unit for the Burn Care Center and specialized equipment for Air Life of Greeley helicopter.
- Assistance to local non-profit organizations in the delivery of health related programs.

It is our hope that the Leave A Legacy program will raise awareness in our community about how important gifts from estates are in bringing important healthcare services to our community and its citizens. We urge you to consider the “North Colorado Medical Center Foundation, Inc.” in your estate plans as well.

We have enclosed an invitation to the Leave A Legacy Kickoff on May 16, 2000. The featured speaker will be W.D. Farr. We hope that you will be able to attend this community educational seminar.

If you have any questions about the Leave A Legacy program or how to include the NCMC Foundation in your will or other estate plans, please call me at 350-6773.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Donna Benson
Director of Planned Giving
Consider this...

- Only 30 percent of Americans die with a will.
- Only 6 percent of Americans include charitable bequests in their will.
- It can be simple to create a will and to leave a legacy by contributing to an organization that means a great deal to you.
- Enormous personal satisfaction results from leaving a legacy.
- There may be tax advantages for doing so.
- A gift to charity does not have to be large to make a difference.

Colorado is a great place to live. Many people volunteer regularly and give financially to the non-profit groups of their choice. By also leaving a legacy through a gift in your will, you can continue to help organizations that are making an important difference in Colorado and elsewhere.

Leave a Legacy™ is a volunteer initiative of the Colorado Planned Giving Roundtable to promote interest in charitable giving through your estate plans. Leave a Legacy™ works hand in hand with non-profit groups including social service and arts organizations, churches, hospitals, educational institutions and other philanthropic groups.
Sponsoring Partners

NORTH COLORADO MEDICAL CENTER FOUNDATION

UNC FOUNDATION, INC.

Aims Foundation

The Community Foundation

United Way of Weld County

Community Partners

Investment Management & Trust

To The Nth Degree

Union Colony Bank

Trust and Investment Services

LEAVE A LEGACY™

You can make a lasting difference in the lives that follow
create a Will

The truth is, all of us leave our assets behind, but 70 percent of Americans do so without knowing to whom. If you die without a will, the state decides who receives how much of what you leave behind — you forfeit the right to decide who will raise your children and how to distribute your property.

Creating a will is an excellent way to ensure that you are able to make your most important decisions...decisions that will impact the people, places and things you care about most.

How do I draw up a will?

Creating a will does not need to be complicated or expensive. We suggest, however, that you ask an attorney to help you.

Must I have an “estate” in order to create a will?

“Estate” is simply a word used to describe any property, money or belongings that you have at the time of death. Most people leave an estate when they die, whether or not they feel they have great wealth.

consider a Gift

Charitable, non-profit organizations play an important role in our lives. They help people in many ways — from giving seniors a hot meal to providing mentors for children, from funding disease research to bringing beauty into our community through the arts.

These organizations need financial assistance from people like you in order to continue their good deeds.

How do I leave a gift in my will for an organization that I admire?

Leaving a gift to charity is a decision that is entirely yours to make.

Many individuals set aside a certain dollar amount through their will; others leave a percentage of their estate or any assets left over after their family has been provided for. Some people give a charity something they own, such as a car or their home. Others leave a paid-up life insurance policy.

It is important that you provide the correct legal name of the charity, as well as its federal tax identification number if available, to make sure the proper charity receives your gift.
Without a will, your property and finances are settled according to state laws, whether or not they coincide with your or your family's wishes. With a will, you can make a lasting difference in the lives that follow.

If I wish to leave a gift to a specific organization, do I need to express that in my will?

To be certain that the group receives the gift, you need to state your intention in your will.

Do I need to tell the charity that I have left the gift in my will?

This is up to you. Charities often like to know in advance to recognize your generosity, plan for the future and make the most of your gift. They may also suggest specific giving opportunities.

How do I leave a gift in memory of a person or for a specific purpose?

This kind of memorial gift can be arranged in your will. A gift like this is a wonderful way to recognize someone who has made a difference in your life, or honor a specific cause such as research or a new building.