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Anceney Leaves Legacy for Montana

\$400,000+ Bequest to Montana Community Foundation Benefits Gallatin Valley

Helena, Mont., June 9, 2016 – A Montana cowboy from a family with a strong and storied past has left an incredible gift to benefit the state he loved. Charles (Chuck) L. Anceney created a trust in 2001, establishing a legacy gift to the Montana Community Foundation (MCF) to benefit charitable and conservation purposes in the Gallatin Valley. The more than \$400,000 gift will create a permanent endowment which it's estimated in three years will produce \$20,000 annually in grants for the Gallatin region.

Chuck's grandfather Charles Angelique Anxionnaz emigrated from France in the late 1800s and settled in the Gallatin Valley. He soon changed his name to Anceney, as many found the original French too difficult to pronounce. Through incredibly hard work, determination and the help and faith of others through the years, the family was able to found and cultivate what became the more than 100,000-acre Flying D Ranch – one of Montana's most beautiful and famous.

Chuck spent the first 20 years of his life on the Flying D. He was a competitive and medal-winning skier for alpine jumping and slalom racing in Montana and Sun Valley in 1939-40 and had a life-long love affair with the sport. Chuck married his wife Polly in 1941 and served as a naval aviator in the Pacific Theater during World War II, winning several distinguished flying medals. He later served at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., returning to Big Sky country in 1960 where he lived until his passing in 2006.

"This gift is a testament to the power of legacy and legacy giving," said Mary Rutherford, MCF President & CEO. "The Anceney family has been part of the fabric of Montana for generations and through this donation, their legacy will continue to benefit the Gallatin Valley and Montana forever. We're grateful and humbled to be entrusted with this gift and the important work of ensuring Charles' wishes are carried out."

Competitive grants from the Charles L. and Polly Anceney Fund to benefit charitable conservation purposes in the Gallatin Valley will begin in fall 2017.

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About Montana Community Foundation

Montana Community Foundation's (MCF) mission is to cultivate a culture of giving so Montana communities can flourish. Founded in 1988, MCF manages more than \$80 million in assets and administers more than 900 philanthropic funds and planned gifts. Since 1988, MCF has reinvested more than \$37 million in Montana through grants to charitable organizations and causes across the state. MCF serves as a center for philanthropy in Montana, working with donors, charitable organizations and communities to provide simple and effective ways to give back to Montana.

For more information and to learn how you can support Montana communities, visit www.mtcf.org or call (406) 443-8313. Find us on [Facebook](#).