Greetings Tigers! It is hard to believe that 2016 is upon us. Your support and dedication to the University is greatly appreciated and one of the many reasons we look forward to ending 2015 on a positive note.

November, also known as Legacy Month at Clemson, was filled with events that highlight the importance of giving back to the University. The month culminated in a formal ceremony under the trees at Fort Hill where Roy '51 and Marge Pearce of Columbus, S.C. were recognized with a bronze leaf dedication and induction into the Fort Hill Legacy Society. We also inducted a number of passionate and visionary Tigers into the Clemson Legacy Society. View a video of this very special ceremony.

In 2000, Steve ’65 and Ann McCrory established an endowed scholarship in memory of their daughter, Maggi ’95, who passed away during her senior year at Clemson. This endowed scholarship benefits multiple students including freshman Jacob Wright who has been inspired by the McCrory’s generosity to pay-it-forward. Read more about how this endowed scholarship has made a difference in Jacob Wright’s life.

Mike McBride ’81 and his wife, Lynne, have given $1 million to expand and improve the Children’s Garden of the South Carolina Botanical Garden at Clemson. “The McBride’s gift ensures that families will benefit from the unique beauty of the Botanical Garden for generations to come,” said President James P. Clements. We are thankful for the McBride’s generosity.

A luncheon was held on November 24 to recognize the chairman of Cox Enterprises, James C. Kennedy, and his $3.3 million gift to Clemson to establish and endow the James C. Kennedy Waterfall and Wetlands Conservation Center. The center will provide students with the experiential learning opportunities they need to become future leaders in waterfowl and wetlands conservation. Learn more about the impact of the gift.

On December 31, be sure to tune-in to ESPN at 4:00 p.m. to watch our #1 Tigers take on Oklahoma in the Orange Bowl. For those of you who plan to attend the game in Miami, wish us safe travels.

Just yesterday, the Senate passed the tax extenders package which included a permanent extension of the IRA rollover. Once the President signs the bill into law, contact your IRA plan administrator to take advantage of this opportunity and make your gift by the end of the year. If the legislation is signed by the President, donors aged 70½ or older who move up to $100,000 from their IRAs directly to qualified charities will not have to pay income tax on the gift. Click here to view updates as developments occur. For more information, please visit our website, call 864-656-0663 or email joannaj@clemson.edu.

I am very grateful for the Clemson family and for the opportunity to work with donors like you every day. Please consider making a gift by December 31 to help us reach our alumni participation goals and to make a remarkable difference in the lives of our students, faculty and staff.

Best wishes to you and your family for a wonderful holiday season. Watch this video greeting of light and hope from President Clements and his family.

GO TIGERS!

Gratefully yours,

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