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FRED AND BARBARA ERB LAUNCH \$100 MILLION FAMILY FOUNDATION

Erb Family Foundation to Advance Sustainability in Metro Detroit

BIRMINGHAM, MI — December 22, 2008...Longtime business and civic leaders Fred and Barbara Erb have funded a \$100 million foundation focused on nurturing environmentally healthy and culturally vibrant communities in metro Detroit and supporting initiatives to restore the Great Lakes basin. The Fred A. and Barbara M. Erb Family Foundation President John Erb made the announcement.

“My parent’s philanthropy is strongly influenced by their desire to create a better world for both current and future generations,” said John Erb. “This desire, coupled with their successful family business experience (Erb Lumber), their shared love of the outdoors and their deep commitment to fairness and justice naturally led them to view their gifting through the lens of sustainability. Sustainable development harmonizes economic, environmental and social interests while meeting the needs of the present and the future.”

A highly successful entrepreneur and businessman, Fred Erb has always operated ahead of the curve, unafraid to take risks, but doing so in an intelligent and deliberative way. The Erb Foundation has adopted this approach and will aggressively support the efforts of others to do so.

Foundation grants will support initiatives to help restore the Great Lakes, especially Lake Huron and the watersheds impacting metro Detroit and the Bayfield area of Ontario; promote environmental health and justice; support community arts, youth arts education and the region’s anchor cultural and arts institutions; and fund leading research regarding the prevention and treatment of Alzheimer’s disease.

The Erb Family Foundation’s assets currently total nearly \$100 million, with another \$100 - \$150 million to be funded in the future, placing it on the top 20 list of the largest private foundations in Michigan.

Foundation board members include Fred A. and Barbara M. Erb and three of their children, Wendy Elaine Erb, Leslie Erb Liedtke and John M. Erb. Chaired by long-time family friend and attorney, Ira J. Jaffe, the board also includes two other non-family members, Robert C. Larson and Susan E. Cooper.

When Fred Erb sold Erb Lumber Company in 1993, it was a multi-state enterprise covering 45 locations with 1,300 employees and \$280 million in sales.