It has been said that landmarks define their communities.

What is Paris without the Eiffel Tower; Athens without the Parthenon; Rome without the Colosseum?

Closer to home, what is Mount Union without Chapman Hall?

Or, the unthinkable – Alliance without Glamorgan Castle?

The Castle's history is certainly interesting enough, but beyond the history, and beyond the multiple uses that have taken place since its original intent as a residence, the Castle represents the lifeblood of the community.

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Every spring, area high school students head to the Castle for their prom pictures to create lasting memories; and in the fall, music fills the air as the Alliance High School marching band and the Mount Union band get their practices in on the vast Castle grounds in preparation for their fall band shows. Each August, Carnation Festival events are held here and since 2013, the landmark has been home to Alliance’s annual “Shakespeare at the Castle” event which draws larger crowds every year.

Events that occur at Glamorgan Castle bring out the best in us and create a lifetime of memories.

It is for this reason that various individuals, since the Castle’s inception 113 years ago, have invested an inordinate amount of time and money to assure the preservation and well-being of Alliance’s distinguishing landmark. In fact, recently an interested group of citizens got together to form the Glamorgan Castle Campaign Committee with the sole purpose of raising funds to preserve the Castle.

The $1.5 million in improvements and repairs of the infrastructure, which are the focus of this campaign, don’t necessarily tug at your heartstrings. It is hard to get passionate about pipes, ducts and sealants.

Yet, without the waterproofing, heating and air conditioning, elevator replacement and other critical repairs that are essential, the Castle will quickly fall into disrepair and those fond memories will fade along with the structure.

With this in mind, the Greater Alliance Foundation has joined this worthy cause, too, by issuing a matching gift challenge to raise the funds necessary to preserve our community gem.

$50,000 Matching Gift Challenge

To assist with the fundraising for the $1.5 million needed, the Greater Alliance Foundation has issued a $50,000 matching gift challenge. The GAF will match gifts up to $5,000 per individual or business, dollar for dollar up to $50,000 in community donations (your $500 donation, for example, will be matched by GAF’s $500).

You Can Help

To preserve the castle for your children and grandchildren and the generations to follow, the time is now. A successful community campaign will demonstrate to those responsible for awarding future grants a commitment by a large number of citizens who view their landmark as inextricably linked to their lives as residents of Alliance.

In the remaining months of 2017, it is the hope of the Greater Alliance Foundation trustees that a community matching gift challenge will help secure additional gifts to preserve the Glamorgan castle.

In order to have your gift matched, please make your check payable to the Greater Alliance Foundation or go online to www.GreaterAllianceFoundation.org. Please be sure to indicate on the check or on the online form that the gift is for “Glamorgan Castle.”

As you contemplate your charitable contributions in the remaining months, please consider the important role Glamorgan Castle plays as a treasure in our community. We need you to help keep the castle strong, and in turn, we will be a stronger community.