

FRANCES (HAMELE) MALONE - (PHS 1955)

Frances Malone (nee Hamele) was inducted into the Portage Hall of Fame as a friend of the arts in Portage, a volunteer, a scout leader and an organizer. Mrs. Malone graduated from Portage High School in 1955. One year later in 1956, she married Patrick Malone and she went on to assist him in creating a successful insurance business while raising six children. Mrs. Malone's love of the arts resulted in her being instrumental in bringing the arts to Portage. She was the leading inspiration, head fundraiser and first president for the Zona Gale Center (now known as the Portage Center for the Arts). Mrs. Malone was a charter member of the Portage Area Community Theatre (PACT) and served on its board for 12 years while holding positions as its president, vice president and secretary. She was involved with the Girl Scouts and Camp Fire Girls for over 35 years, and she was a member of the Portage Women's Civic League and served on its board of directors for 14 years. Mrs. Malone was a founding board member of the Portage Canal Society and the Association for Retarded Citizens (ARC). She also served on the board of directors of the Wisconsin Community Theatre Division and the Madison Diocesan Council of Catholic Women. In 1965, Mrs. Malone received the Red Cross Certificate of Recognition for Water Rescue for saving two people at Silver Lake. She was listed as one of "Ten People Who Made a Difference" by the Wisconsin State Journal in 1988. Mrs. Malone passed away in October 2008.