VISIT:
13 E. George Street, Suite B
Batesville, IN 47006

PHONE:
Toll Free: 877.234.5220

EMAIL:
office@rccfonline.org

WEBSITE:
www.rccfonline.org
Letter From the President

"If you’re going to live, leave a legacy. Make a mark on the world that can’t be erased." Maya Angelou’s words accurately describe the activities of the Ripley County Community Foundation for the year 2022.

Twenty-five years ago a group of concerned and passionate people came together to form the Ripley County Community Foundation. Their vision all those years ago continues today in every corner of the county, in every one of our communities, and in so many hearts of our citizens.

Those founding members of the Board of Directors left a legacy to the Foundation staff, past and present, and to the current Board of Directors. That legacy challenges us to continue to connect people who care with causes that matter.

To celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Foundation, a special committee awarded $100,000 to 12 nonprofit organizations. The grants ranged from $2,500 to $25,000 and implemented projects that will revitalize downtowns, offer educational training, improve services, provide greater handicap accessibility and expand existing opportunities. All four Foundation pillars (Arts and Culture; Environment and Natural Resources; Health, Education, and Well-Being; and Business and Entrepreneurship) were addressed in the grants, and collaboration was encouraged.

Youth continues to be a focus of the Foundation. The seven camps offered by Genesis: Pathways to Success in the Summer of STREAM brought over 400 participants and a number of volunteers together for a variety of experiences from building bikes to cooking camp to stargazing. High school students around the county form the Ripley Youth Outreach and sponsor successful projects such as the third annual Chalktoberfest. Thirteen young artists participated in this year’s event, creating murals of their favorite book covers. Another project driven by our youth is Turnover Hunger. The Batesville and Milan football teams raised over $13,000 to support the Weekend Backpocket Program. Another Lilly scholar was selected from our Ripley County schools, and over $90,000 was awarded to local students through Foundation scholarships.

The Women’s Giving Circle continued its encouragement of programs and organizations that positively impact the lives of women and children by awarding five grants totaling $7,000.

The Foundation launched a new initiative this year with the creation of a permanent fund to “Remember those U.S. veterans who have fallen, Honor those who serve, and Teach the value of freedom to our children.” On and around December 17, over 4,000 evergreen wreaths were laid on veterans’ graves across Ripley County, a part of the Wreaths Across America program. Owen Menchofer and the Ripley County Historical Society were driving forces behind this initiative, which we hope to continue for years to come.

This year we were finally able to come together in June at the Sunman American Legion Post to celebrate our annual dinner, honoring grant and scholarship recipients and presenting awards. We’re so very grateful to the donors who joined us at that annual dinner and at the Day of Giving held in November.

Those generous donors allow us to exemplify the words of Pericles: “What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others.”

Sincerely,
Nancy Durham, President, Ripley County Community Foundation

Give, Grow, Grant

Why Give?
A gift to the Community Foundation to support a favorite charity, community, or cause is a permanent gift that will GROW and produce income TODAY and FOREVER. The Community Foundation’s staff or directors can discuss with you the most appropriate vehicle for your situation and interests. We welcome the opportunity to answer your specific questions at any time.

Why the Community Foundation?
The Ripley County Community Foundation is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization designed for EVERYONE with a focus on making GRANTS that improve the quality of life in all four corners of Ripley County, Indiana.

What to Support?
You can donate to: an existing fund, visit www.rrcfonline.org for a complete list of our funds; a special project; or a fund you establish.

How to Give?
To make an online donation to an established fund, visit https://rrcfonline.org/donate/. You can maximize the benefit of your generosity by donating grain, stock, required minimum distributions from retirement funds, through Trusts, Life Insurance, or bequests.

Thank you to our 2022 Partners

Diamond Level

GREAT PLAINS COMMUNICATIONS

Ruby Level

FCN Bank
Hillborn / Baxter
Margaret Mary Health
The Batesville Leader
The Friendship State Bank
The Napoleon State Bank

Foundation Friend Level

ClearPoint Federal Bank & Trust
Gehring, Inc.
McDonald’s Southeastern IN
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Gary Bailey
Sylvester Bartling
Lynn Bausky
Jennifer Bergman
Doris Beshage
Tom Bruno
Glen Budle
Nicole Christle
Blanche Colborn
Juliana Colyer
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Dale Dyer
Karen Elliott
Elizabeth Eglin
Doug Graham

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Paul Hardy
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Emily Mushes
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Rose Murphy
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"Tanner" Tucker
Bill & Marilyn Van Hook
Jaco Vogel
Arnold Wehe
Ging & Candy Wehe
Ray Werner
Sharon Whelihan
Todd Zinnke

Board of Directors

Nancy Durham
Board President
Dan Harney
Board Vice President
Jim Black
Board Treasurer
Kenton Kneidel
Board Secretary

Honoraria

Veterans laid to rest in:
Adams Lutheran Cemetery
Betzow Methodist Cemetery
Crespi-Faith Church of Christ Cemetery
Hopewell Baptist Cemetery
Johnson Township
Sensen Cemetery
St. Anthony's Catholic Cemetery
St. Charles Catholic Cemetery
St. John's United Church of Christ
Hustinsville Cemetery
St. John's United Church of Christ
Penniman Cemetery
St. Maurice Catholic Cemetery
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Crossroads Cemetery
St. Paul's Lutheran Church-Deer County
St. Paul's Catholic Cemetery

All Veterans of:
Betzow Sons of the American Legion
Post #97
Brown Township American Legion Post #267
Milan American Legion Post #97
Ongondah American Legion Post #267
Some of the American Legion North Dakota
Sunnan American Legion Post #937
Versailles American Legion Post #173

2022 Nue Golding Contest
RCOF’s 25 Anniversary
Arnold Back
Charles Beyer
Anthony Bilkman
Charles Carl Back
Floyd Wayne Bond
Eugene Borgman

Lee Zieren
Charles Bruce
John R. Buck
Clay Cameron
Mike Curtis
Kids Cycling Bike Camp
Robert L. Cress
Robert W. Driver
Bob Dukoro
Florentino Deaver
Richard Dullen
Paul Dayton
William Dose Family
Kenneth Eichman
Richard J. Eisen
C. Donald J. Iwons
James O'Grady
Paul Dugan
Tappenaire High School Vanadium Football
Milan High School Vanadium Football
Odessa Academy of Vanadium
Virgil Fiesh
James Fitch
Henry G. Froyer
Gene Fruhling
Walt Fruhling
George Gardner
Louie Gardner
Great STEM Bike Ride
Bill Haier
Ralph Harney
Ronald Harriman
Walker Hastings
Robert Herbert
Urban Hoff

Paul Hornstein
Max Howard
Robert H. Kudla
Sylvanor Kuehman
James Kennedy
Margaret Kennedy
John R. Keffer
Annie & Susan Knapp's 50th Anniversary
Jim Knapp
Charles Kocher
Stanley Koike
Clifford Kunz
James Lebello
James Lebello, O.A.A.
James Lemmon
Russell Lohrer
Lenny Mang
Shawn Martin
Mike McInally
Herb Manier
Curtis Merwin
Jacob Mengel
Lenny Meschini
Keith Mille
Frances Miko
Anthony Mosier
Albert Myers
Clarence Myers
Harold Myers
Phil Myers
Willard Myers
Harold Neubert
James Nibert
Kenneth Oberwier
Tom O'Grady
Clint Quinlan
Bonnie Ratkovicz
Richard Ratkovicz
Bob Ratkovicz
Bill Ratkovicz
Dan Ratkovicz

Robert Keith Panek, Jr.
Jerome Redmond
Raymond Reine
David Roeder
Maren Roeder
Ohn-H. Schenkel
Alvin B. Scherer
John Sharp
Charles Stadia
Alyssa Skod
Bill Stein
Brian Steinman
Brina Strimpe
Ray T. Tidow
Frei Telke
Del Tofte
Martin Toney
George W. Turner
Raymond Vaneker
Clyde Vreeman
Anthony Waas
Pam Vinstra's Birthday
Clyde Winkler
Robert Wohamn
Owen Wollman
Robert Wold
Robert Wold
Ging & Candy Wett's Anniversary
Bob Werner
Tom Werner
William Werner
Thomas Wilder
Jim Wildo
Mr. Woodall
Ann Wunderlich
Savvry Young
Jane Yoe

* Please note: Some of the above veterans are laid to rest and were honored through the Wreaths Across America program.

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Board Member
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Board Member
Lori Holt
Board Member
Norman Knudson
Board Member

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Board Member
Jill Tunny
Board Member
Dawn Wehr
Board Member
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Executive Director

Clarice Patterson
Director of Genesis

Lexi Brown
Assistant Program Coordinator

Amy Wonnell
Marketing Officer

Interns

Ava Allen
Spring 2022

Amelia Austin
Spring 2022

Emma Weberding
Spring 2022

Caroline Kellerman
Summer 2022

Leila Savage
Summer 2022

Riley Schebler
Summer 2022

Megan Cutter
Fall 2022

Anna Wanstrath
Fall 2022

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M. M. Smith
Judy M. Smith
Jean L. Smith
Smith/Haircut/Kesell Post 235
Dwight G. A Kerri J. Shaffer
Peter & Elsa Sodenberg
Sons of the American Legion Post 173
Sons of the American Legion Ninth District South
Ripley Jr B.P. High School
South Eastern Indiana Marine Association
Southeastern Indiana REMC Service Association
Indiana Wood Turners Council. Southeastern Indiana YMCA, Inc. Southeastern Ruins
Kemmyey Spangler
Steven & Alison Spellman
James L. Sapor Sr.
St. Anthony Catholic Church
St. Charles Catholic Church
St. John Lutheran Church
St. John United Church of Christ
St. Louis Catholic Church
St. Mark Lutheran Church
St. Maurice Catholic Church
St. Nicholas Catholic Church
St. Paul Lutheran Church
St. Paul Lutheran Church Crossroads
Donna Smeary
State of Indiana
StrideRite Funds Remediation, LLC
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Elia Tofa
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The Stilt in Time
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Helen Thomas
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Julie L. Vankirk
Vennaske American Legion Post #173
Vennaske Shrine Club
Vennaske Lodge # 77 PM
Vestal Autoion Service
Jacalir Tiel
Jane Vanlief
Mary Vanvlez

Brian W. & Ann R. Vogel
Geralt & Barbara Vogel
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Vidic LLC
John & Pamela D. Vonderhaar
Brenda Wagner
Howard W. & Roberta L. Wade
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Debra Warriner-Overmyer
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Nancy Watson
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Joni Werner
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Randell Witters
Nic & Amy Wonell
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Abbie Zdjar
Charles & Ji Zimmerman
Mission Statement:
To assist donors in building an enduring source of charitable assets to benefit the citizens and qualified organizations of Ripley County.

Four Pillars
The Community Foundation has four pillars that guide its work. Those pillars are:

ARTS & CULTURE
BUSINESS & ENTREPRENEURSHIP
EDUCATION, HEALTH & WELL-BEING
ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

In the following pages the photo highlight color shows which service area is being supported.

Committees

Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship Committee
Bred Dreyer
David Fischer
Mary McCarthy
Linda Meyer
Julie Murphy
Walter Ruggles
Julie Stephens
Jill Turney
Jeanie Walters

Marketing Committee
Anita Fedderman - Chair
Brent Lee
Sue Siebert

Small Grants Committee
Tim Dietz
Anna Wansstrath
Dawn Wehr

Women’s Giving Circle Committee
Lea Ann King - Chair
Sheri Brougher
Judi Craig
Marie Dausch
Megan Gray
Cassie Nash
Lin Phaneuf
Melissa Tucker
25th Anniversary Grants

2022 marked the Ripley County Community Foundation’s 25th anniversary. In honor of that milestone, the Board of Directors launched the 25th Anniversary Impact Grants. This opportunity made $100,000 available to assist local organizations in implementing a project or program that will: 1) create a sustainable impact amongst one or more communities, 2) establish cross-community or cross-county partnerships, and 3) closely align with at least one the Community Foundation’s four service areas: Arts & Culture, Business & Entrepreneurship, Environment & Natural Resources, and Health, Education & Well-Being.

Big Oaks Conservation Society

$3,000 grant to build a kayak and paddle sports dock at Old Timbers Lake located in Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuge.

Ripley County Humane Society

$5,000 grant for building repairs and upgrades.

Southeastern Indiana Mountain Bike Association

$12,500 grant to finish the Next Level Trail project within the Versailles State Park. Once completed, this project will add 8 miles of additional mountain bike trails which will allow the park to be deemed a “destination hub.”

Food and Growers Association, Inc.

$2,500 grant to provide educational programming to teach families how to enhance their physical and mental well-being through gardening.

Donors

Indiana Virtual Academy

Innovative Teaching Technologies Inc.

Iron Timbers

Jennings County High School

Eva Fox Jackson

Matt Jeffrey

Robbie E. & Sandi J. Jerwell

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Johnson Township Trustees

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Keri Hermanns LLC

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Kinker Enterprises Inc.

Aruld & Karen Sx Klinkner

Kiwanis Club of Batesville

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Laudon Trucking Inc.

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Jan Law

Amber Lecier

Barry & Peggy Leather

Tom & Dorothy J. Leffelt

Cheri & Jennifer Lehman

Leising Excavating, Inc.
Donors

25th Anniversary Grants

Friends of the Gibson
$10,000 grant to support a seat renovation project in the 100-year-old iconic Gibson Theatre. This renovation project will add handicap accessible seating and new theater-style seating for all to enjoy.

Kids Discovery Factory
$10,000 grant to support the expansion of on-site play hours and program development.

Safe Passage
$5,000 grant to provide critical updates and repairs to its shelter. Safe Passage provides shelter, emergency support, and counseling to individuals.

Shelby Christian Church
$2,500 grant to make its facility accessible to individuals with physical disabilities and thereby more accessible to the public during non-denominational community events.
25th Anniversary Grants

American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars Posts
$12,500 grant to outfit the "Color Guard" units from Batesville, Milan, Claygood, Sunman, and Versailles Posts that volunteer their time to provide graveside services at veteran’s funerals, or to present the flag at parades and special events.

Main Street Versailles
$25,000 grant to support the development of a Pocket Park on the Courthouse Square.

Southeastern Indiana YMCA
$5,000 grant to support the construction and installation of a Functional Art Wall in its outdoor complex.

Town of Milan
$7,000 grant to assist with the downtown Milan Miracle Revitalization Project.

$16,500 Granted in 2022
The community foundation hopes to raise awareness for the natural beauty that surrounds us, to preserve our environmental assets, and to plant species that will sustain the local habitat for future generations.

$13,500 Granted in 2022
in support of 210 children for 18 weeks
A partnership between the Batesville High School and Milan High School varsity football teams, Turnover Hunger supports the Weekend Backsack Program. This program sends a backpack of nonperishable, kid friendly food home with Batesville Primary School, Jac-Cen-Del Elementary School, Milan Elementary School, South Ripley Elementary School, and Sunman Elementary School students on the weekends.
Statement of Financial Position

Assets
- Cash $282,473
- Certificates of deposit 72,378
- Receivables 0
- Investments 14,521,164
  Total 14,876,685

Liabilities and Net Assets
- Custodial Funds $1,720,733
- Accounts payable 2,558
  Total 1,723,291

Net assets without donor restrictions
- Operating Accounts 514,221
- Board Designated 1,053,586
  Total 1,567,807

Net assets with donor restrictions
- Restricted for specific purposes 856,199
- Restricted in perpetuity (historical cost of endowments) 8,413,389
- Restricted subject to Foundation’s spending policy 2,634,399
- (accumulated earnings) 0
  Total 12,103,987

Total 14,880,894

Financial reporting in this document is reliable, but unofficial. The Ripley County Community Foundation, Inc. is audited annually by an independent accounting firm, usually completed in the summer. The complete audited financial statements including the independent auditor’s unqualified opinion is available upon request by contacting the Ripley County Community Foundation, Inc.

2023 Calendar

March 4, 2023 - Rube Goldberg Machine Contest
April 3, 2023 - Batesville Middle School
April 4, 2023 - South Ripley Junior High School
April 5, 2023 - Milan Middle School
April 6, 2023 - St. Nicholas Catholic School
April 11, 2023 - St. Louis Catholic School
April 14, 2023 - Jac-Cen-Del Jrf./Sr. High School

April 18, 2023 - Women’s Giving Circle Grants Luncheon
11:30AM-1:00PM @ Erte Cellars Winery

A Summer of STREAM Summer Camps/Activities:
- June 1-2, 2023 - DIY Woodworking Camp
- June 5-8, 2023 - Kids Building Bikes Camp
- June 6, 2023 - Croc Talk Mobile Aquatic Exhibit
- June 7, 2023 - Tide Pool Creatures Mobile Aquatic Exhibit
- June 8, 2023 - Kids Building Bikes Maintenance Session & Alumni Ride
- June 9, 2023 - Science of Sharks Mobile Aquatic Exhibit
- June 12-16, 2023 - Future Ready Robotics Camp - Stage 2
- June 14-16, 2023 - Future Ready Robotics Camp - Stage 1
- June 20-22, 2023 - Game On! Esports Camp
- June 26, 2023 - Explore Health Services Camp
- June 27, 2023 - Explore Public Safety Camp
- June 29, 2023 - Explore Welding Camp
- June 29, 2023 - Explore Construction Camp
- July 5-7, 2023 - The Science Behind Cooking Camp
- July 11-13, 2023 - Star Wars Camp
- July 14, 2023 - Stargazing with Astronomers
- July 18-20, 2023 - Camp Hogwarts
- July 24-27, 2023 - Kids Building Bikes Camp

June 27, 2023 - RCCF Annual Report to Community Dinner
5:30PM - 7:30PM

October 7, 2023 - Chalktoberfest
8:00AM - 12:00PM

November 3, 2023 - Day of Giving
8:00AM - 4:00PM at RCCF Office

December 16, 2023 - Wreaths Across Ripley County
(Wreath Laying Day)
12:00PM Ceremony at Ripley County Courthouse

For more information on any of the 2023 events, visit our website at www.rccfonline.org or www.genesisp2x.org or contact us at 812 933-1098.
Scholarship Recipients

Ava Allen  Amelia Austin  Abigail Bomer  Alyssa Binkman  Karley Bushhorn
Emily Campbell  Luke Cranfill  Aundrea Cullen  Ashlyn Czerniak  Alexandra Dudley
Kayla Effinger  Laura Effinger  Jason Emswiler  Grace Grossman  Victoria Harpning
Joseph Hartman  Max Hartman  Brayden Hornberger  Dillon Hughes  Abigail Kieffer
Kristin Krause  Brody Lack  Sierra Lack  Tiwle Lecher  Ean Loichinger
Maria Lopez Andonegui  Caroline Meer  Benjamin Moster  Lara Moster  Deborah Murphy

#StargazingWithAstronomers

Led by the Boonshoft Museum of Discovery, the portable planetarium was accessed by individuals of all ages from across the region. Attendees learned about current constellations in the sky, the rotation of the earth, and the location of stars and moons in our solar system; attendees left with a free telescope to continue their space exploration at home.

#CampHogwarts

Students who shared a fascination for Harry Potter, a series of seven fictional novels, written by J.K. Rowling, who chronicles the life of a young wizard, participated in Camp Hogwarts. Students attended magical courses related to STREAM concepts, such as Potions Class and Frog Choir Class, played a recreational activity known as Quidditch, and partook in team-building exercises through relay races.
#FutureReadyRoboticsCamp

Students were able to acquire the knowledge of coding, creative design, and engineering concepts as they sat in rotations to understand the basic parts and mechanics of building a robot, utilized coding skills to practice autonomous coding, and constructed a team-built robot. These robots were put into competitions to trial the VEX IQ 2022-2023 Challenge: Slapshot.

32 Students Impacted

STREAM Concepts Included

Jac-Cen-Del High School (Osgood)

#TheScienceBehindCookingCamp

Students performed science experiments by creating various dishes, such as pancakes, eggs, and pizza, to actively see how ingredients impacted the taste or consistency of a dish. Students also recreated the Hassmer House Tavern & Inn's famous mac 'n cheese with Chef David VanArtsdale. Concluding camp, students were provided Family Meal Bags to recreate the recipes they learned.

22 Students Impacted

STREAM Concepts Included

South Ripley High School (Versailles)

Scholarship Recipients

Larie Nicholson  Marcia Nobbe  Sophia Panzer  Brayleigh Patterson  Jayme Pennington

Macy Prickel  Olivia Raab  Thomas Raver  Brent Ricke  Grace Sarringhaus

Dylan Schulte  Kelsey Sebastian  Jacob Sheets  Emerald Simmonds  Cloey Simon

Kayla Simon  Ella Stilton  Desirae Sparks  Corrine Stone  Jessika Thomas

Trysia Vielting  Katelyn Wagner  Alyssa Warstrath  Emma Webbering  Annabelle Williams

“I am sincerely honored to be selected as a recipient of the Hillrom Holdings Scholarship. This scholarship will make a substantial difference and has given me a sense of financial security that will allow me to devote more time to my studies.” ~ Brody Lack
Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship Winner: Emily Meyer

1. Tell us a little bit about yourself.
I am currently enrolled at Purdue University studying Actuarial Science. My parents are Albert and Sandy Meyer, and I was born and raised in Batesville. I went to Batesville Community Schools my whole life, where I found my love for volunteering, art, and mathematics. I continue this love of volunteer work at Purdue as I have found some opportunities to give back, such as volunteering at a dog rescue shelter, campus events, and a local school. College has also given me the time to pick up some old hobbies, like crocheting, bingo, and painting. Now that I think about it, I’m turning more and more into my grandma every day... but I am definitely looking forward to where life takes me!

2. How did it feel to win the prestigious scholarship?
Winning the Lilly Scholarship was an indescribable feeling! Ever since I was little, I was looking forward to the day that I could compete for this scholarship, but actually receiving it felt too good to be true. I was, and still am, so proud of myself and thankful to those who have helped me turn my dreams into reality.

3. How has the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship impacted you?
The Lilly Scholarship has made a world of difference for me and my future. Without such an amazing opportunity, I was looking at the real possibility of not even being able to afford college, let alone have other benefits that come along with it. Because of this scholarship, a huge financial burden has been lifted, and I’ve been given so many opportunities to connect with other Lilly Scholars through programs such as the Lilly Scholars Network. It really is amazing to know that I have such a strong and supportive network such as this!

4. What have you learned about yourself as a student at Purdue University?
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#KidsBuildingBikesCamp

#MobileAquaticExhibits

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A Summer of STREAM enhances the vibrant STREAM Ecosystem that flourishes in Southeastern Indiana by continuing to provide innovative, challenging, and fun opportunities for students. Not only are these STREAM camps positively increasing academic achievement among students, but it also presents the opportunity to meet new peers who share a common passion and promote lifelong friendships.

Women of all ages and means are invited to join the Women’s Giving Circle annually to forever support local nonprofit organizations and programming which work to improve the quality of life for local women and children in need.

Empowering Women to Create Positive Change through Collective Giving.

Key STREAM Concepts:
- Science
- Technology
- Reading
- Engineering
- Art
- Mathematics

5th Grade: 36.4%
6th Grade: 31.8%
7th Grade: 22.7%
8th Grade: 9.1%
Grade Levels Impacted

Collaboration
Creativity
Problem-Solving
Critical Thinking
Key Soft Skills Developed

460 Students Impacted

Gibson Theatre

Batesville Pregnancy Hotline

Samaritan’s Hope Chest

So Loved Closet

Summer Food for Kids
Mission Statement
To create a powerful youth voice in our community in order to improve the lives of those in Ripley County through a philanthropic approach.

Vision Statement
Spread knowledge of philanthropy across Ripley County through service and education, to empower youth to become leaders of their generation.

Boxes of Christmas Cheer contained sugar cookie mix, sprinkles, icing, hot chocolate mix, and candy canes! This is one way Ripley Youth Outreach brightened the holiday season of those families served by Ripley County’s eight food pantries.

Wreaths Across Ripley County
2023 Wreath Laying Day is December 16th and has a theme to “Serve and Succeed”.
Wreaths Across Ripley County

This program is an extension of the Wreaths Across America initiative which has a mission to:

REMEMBER
our fallen U.S. veterans
HONOR
those who serve.
TEACH
your children the value of freedom.

On December 17, Ripley County Historical Society (RCHS) guided volunteers to recognize every veteran laid to rest in Ripley County by placing a wreath on over 4,000 graves across 56 cemeteries.

Through the generosity of our donors, the RCHS updated their records and an endowment fund has been established to perpetually support our veterans and to instill the importance of civics education in our schools.

Beautification of the Courthouse Square

Ripley Youth Outreach partnered with Main Street Versailles to beautify the Ripley County Courthouse Square with seasonal wooden cutouts! These festive decorations were designed by Ripley Youth Outreach, cut by Weberding’s Carving Shop, and painted by the South Ripley High School Art Club.
Change Ripley County Grant

The Change Ripley County Grant gives youth a platform in which to be heard, the confidence to take action, and the resources to enact change.

Sparked by a letter from 8 year old Eva Lou Powaga, Ripley Youth Outreach granted $10,000 to renovate the only playground in Brown Township. A group of local volunteers, with the help of children, installed new equipment and hosted a ribbon cutting in September!

Chalktoberfest

Chalktoberfest is a competition of local junior and senior high school students who create chalk murals based on a provided theme each. This year, the theme was to draw their favorite book covers!

Junior High Winners

1. Who Was Albert Einstein?
   by Billy Cox

2. Storm Wake
   by Leigh Walmsley

3. The Sum of All Things
   by Bella Webbering

High School Winners

1. The Trials of Apollo
   by Megan Bauer

2. The Song of Achilles
   by Anna Herzog

3. It
   by Grace Pettit

Other Participants:
Savanna Abshire - As Good As Dead
Alice Austin - Dewey the Library Cat
Avery Austin - Scythe
Emalee Lake - Avatar

Mackenzie Maple - Wilder Girls
Michael Moffitt - Wicked
Megan Raab - Percy Jackson
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Samaritan’s Hope Chest

So Loved Closet

Summer Food for Kids
Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship Winner: Emily Meyer

1. Tell us a little bit about yourself.
   I am currently enrolled at Purdue University studying Actuarial Science. My parents are Albert and Sandy Meyer, and I was born and raised in Batesville. I went to Batesville Community Schools my whole life, where I found my love for volunteering, art, and mathematics. I continue this love of volunteer work at Purdue as I have found some opportunities to give back, such as volunteering at a dog rescue shelter, campus events, and a local school. College has also given me the time to pick up some old hobbies, like crocheting, bingo, and painting. Now that I think about it, I'm turning more and more into my grandma every day... but I am definitely looking forward to where life takes me!

2. How did it feel to win the prestigious scholarship?
   Winning the Lilly Scholarship was an indescribable feeling! Ever since I was little, I was looking forward to the day that I could compete for this scholarship, but actually receiving it felt too good to be true. I was, and still am, so proud of myself and thankful to those who have helped me turn my dreams into reality.

3. How has the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship impacted you?
   The Lilly Scholarship has made a world of difference for me and my future. Without such an amazing opportunity, I was looking at the real possibility of not even being able to afford college, let alone have other benefits that come along with it. Because of this scholarship, a huge financial burden has been lifted, and I’ve been given so many opportunities to connect with other Lilly Scholars through programs such as the Lilly Scholars Network. It really is amazing to know that I have such a strong and supportive network such as this!

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#FutureReadyRoboticsCamp

Students were able to acquire the knowledge of coding, creative design, and engineering concepts as they sat in rotations to understand the basic parts and mechanics of building a robot, utilized coding skills to practice autonomous coding, and constructed a team-built robot. These robots were put into competitions to trial the VEX IQ 2022-2023 Challenge: Slapshot.

#TheScienceBehindCookingCamp

Students performed science experiments by creating various dishes, such as pancakes, eggs, and pizza, to actively see how ingredients impacted the taste or consistency of a dish. Students also recreated the Hassmer House Tavern & Inn’s famous mac ‘n cheese with Chef David VanArtsdalen. Concluding camp, students were provided Family Meal Bags to recreate the recipes they learned.

Scholarship Recipients

- Larrie Nicholson
- Marcie Nebl
- Sophia Panzer
- Brayleigh Patterson
- Jayme Pennington
- Macy Prickel
- Olivia Raab
- Thomas Rawr
- Brent Ricke
- Grace Sarringhaus
- Dyan Schulte
- Kelsey Seastian
- Jacob Sheets
- Emerald Simon
- Cloey Simon
- Kayla Simon
- Ella Stilton
- Desiree Sparks
- Corrine Stone
- Jessika Thomas
- Trysha Vieeling
- Katelyn Wagner
- Alyssa Wansthal
- Emma Wixerd
- Annabelle Williams

“I am sincerely honored to be selected as a recipient of the Hillrom Holdings Scholarship. This scholarship will make a substantial difference and has given me a sense of financial security that will allow me to devote more time to my studies.” ~ Brody Lack
Scholarship Recipients

Ava Allen  Amelia Austin  Abigail Biemer  Alyssa Brinkman  Karsen Bushhorn
Emily Campbell  Luke Cranfill  Audrea Cullen  Ashlyn Czerwak  Alexandra Dudley
Kayla Ellinger  Laura Ellinger  Jason Ernawer  Grace Grossman  Victoria Harpring
Joseph Hartman  Max Hartman  Brayden Hornberger  Dillon Hughes  Abigail Kiefer
Kirstyn Krause  Brody Lack  Sierra Lack  Travis Lecher  Ean Loichinger
Maria Lopez Andonegui  Caroline Meier  Benjamin Moster  Lara Moster  Deborah Murphy

#StargazingWithAstronomers

Led by the Boonshoft Museum of Discovery, the portable planetarium was accessed by individuals of all ages from across the region. Attendees learned about current constellations in the sky, the rotation of the earth, and the location of stars and moons in our solar system; attendees left with a free telescope to continue their space exploration at home.

100 Students Impacted
STREAM Concepts Included
Jac-Cen-Del High School
(Osgood)

#CampHogwarts

Students who shared a fascination for Harry Potter, a series of seven fictional novels, written by J.K. Rowling, who chronicles the life of a young wizard, participated in Camp Hogwarts. Students attended magical courses related to STREAM concepts, such as Potions Class and Frog Choir Class, played a recreational activity known as Quidditch, and partook in team-building exercises through relay races.
2023 Calendar

March 4, 2023 - Rube Goldberg Machine Contest
April 3, 2023 - Batesville Middle School
April 4, 2023 - South Ripley Junior High School
April 5, 2023 - Milan Middle School
April 6, 2023 - St. Nicholas Catholic School
April 11, 2023 - St. Louis Catholic School
April 14, 2023 - Jac-Cen-Del Jr./Sr. High School
April 18, 2023 - Women’s Giving Circle Grants Luncheon
11:30AM-1:00PM @ Erie Cellars Winery

A Summer of STREAM Summer Camps/Activities:
June 1-2, 2023 - DIY Woodworking Camp
June 5-8, 2023 - Kids Building Bikes Camp
June 6, 2023 - Croc Talk Mobile Aquatic Exhibit
June 7, 2023 - Tide Pool Creatures Mobile Aquatic Exhibit
June 8, 2023 - Kids Building Bikes Maintenance Session & Alumni Ride
June 9, 2023 - Science of Sharks Mobile Aquatic Exhibit
June 12-16, 2023 - Future Ready Robotics Camp - Stage 2
June 14-16, 2023 - Future Ready Robotics Camp - Stage 1
June 20-22, 2023 - Game ON! Esports Camp
June 26, 2023 - Explore Health Services Camp
June 27, 2023 - Explore Public Safety Camp
June 28, 2023 - Explore Welding Camp
June 29, 2023 - Explore Construction Camp
July 5-7, 2023 - The Science Behind Cooking Camp
July 11-13, 2023 - Star Wars Camp
July 14, 2023 - Stargazing with Astronomers
July 18-20, 2023 - Camp Hogwarts
July 24-27, 2023 - Kids Building Bikes Camp

June 27, 2023 - RCCF Annual Report to Community Dinner
5:30PM - 7:30PM

October 7, 2023 - Chalktoberfest
8:00AM - 12:00PM

November 3, 2023 - Day of Giving
8:00AM - 4:00PM at RCCF Office

December 16, 2023 - Wreaths Across Ripley County
(Wreath Laying Day)
12:00PM Ceremony at Ripley County Courthouse

For more information on any of the 2023 events, visit our website at www.rccfonline.org or www.genesisp2ks.org or contact us at 812 933-1098.
25th Anniversary Grants

American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars Posts
$12,500 grant to outfit the "Color Guard" units from Batesville, Milan, Clermont, Sunman, and Versailles Posts that volunteer their time to provide graveside services at veteran’s funerals, or to present the flag at parades and special events.

Main Street Versailles
$25,000 grant to support the development of a Pocket Park on the Courthouse Square.

Southeastern Indiana YMCA
$5,000 grant to support the construction and installation of a Functional Art Wall in its outdoor complex.

Town of Milan
$7,000 grant to assist with the downtown Milan Miracle Revitalization Project.

$16,500 Granted in 2022
The community foundation hopes to raise awareness for the natural beauty that surrounds us, to preserve our environmental assets, and to plant species that will sustain the local habitat for future generations.

$13,500 Granted in 2022
in support of 210 children for 18 weeks
A partnership between the Batesville High School and Milan High School varsity football teams, Turnover Hunger supports the Weekend Backsack Program. This program sends a backpack of nonperishable, kid friendly food home with Batesville Primary School, Jac-Cen-Del Elementary School, Milan Elementary School, South Ripley Elementary School, and Sunman Elementary School students on the weekends.
Donors

A&A Management, Inc.
Bartik Oblonshak
Arcu Doc, Inc.
Adams Lutheran Church
Anita Arnowsk
Mary Allen
Amada’s Well, Inc.
Amazon/prime
American Endowment Foundation
American Legion Auxiliary Post 173
American Legion Post 267
Date & Anne Amthor
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Tessla Andrews
Harvey Asbury
William & Maureen Balbock
Darryl Baker
Rick & Wanda Bates
Miranda Ball
Jamie Balto
Lisa Bark
Mindy Barlow
John & Karen Basler
Batesville Area Arts Council
Batesville Area Historical Society
Batesville Chrysler
Batesville Community School Corp.
Batesville FFA #1130
Batesville Memorial Library
Batesville Tex & Dee, Inc.
Batesville United Methodist Church
Nicholas C. & Faith Battle
Lee Ann Bauer Alpernai, MD
Stephanie M. Bauer CPA, Inc.
Baxter International Foundation
Brandon & Andreaaylor
Charles & Vickie Bayler
Beach Real Estate & Rentals
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Cheryn Beiler
Jackie Beiser
Norbert & Catherine Bodek
Bedel’s Marshon
Caylin & Beth Beisler
Christine Beter
Denise Bergman
Marilyn Bergman
Beth Spera Phi Sorority, Theta Nu Xi, Chp 6
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Ruth Billman
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Wally Bosse
Bill Boyd
Brian’s Service
Penny Bihman
Shelly A. Britton
Traci & Shawn Britton

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Brian C. & Sheri A. Brougher
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Dr. Christopher Brown
Lee Brown
Stephanie Brown
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Mindy Bush
Kris Bushman
Linda Busham
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Drayn Butts
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Center Township Trustees
Chosen Designs, Inc.
City of Batesville
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Linda Combs
Amelia R. & Christopher Corner
Mark & Martha Corner
Mall Corner
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Jacquen Comstock
Richard Comps
Cheryl Corning
Corya Family
Timothy S. & Carole L. Cottingham
David A. & Julie A. Cox
Doug & Rick Cox
Ralph & Judy M. Craig
Victoria Croyer
Paul & Cherri Cronin
Cross Plains Church Of Christ
Cross Plains Methodist Cemetery
Crossroads Family Restaurant
Steve & Jodi Crowell
Crum Trucking
Daffodilys Flowers & Gifts
Mary Daily
Jennifer Damrod
Meri Dauphin
Eliah J. & Crystal Davidson
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Mary Delboum
Sarah Delboum
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Donna Day
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Dennis R. Dickman
Carolyn Dickman
Steve Dickman
David & Vicki Drinkman
Drickman Research LLC
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Sharon Disney
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Peter Dill
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Volone Dunn
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Sam & Nancy Durham
Donald L. & Janet E. Dvss
Mikoh & Chelsa Dvsgor
Zachery & Molly Dvsgor
Donald L. & Barbara J. Eades
Eagle Resource Group
East Indiana HIGC
Frank W. & Rebecca J. Eaton
Rowena Eston
Hope Ettre
Ronne & Mike Sue Eblinger
Steven Erdman
Erika Erfing
Paul Estere
Kalla Eston
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Daniel Fattey
Don & Detty Fedale
Mike & Cathy Fehring
Daniel & Patricia Feltman
Lois Fastbauer
Caroline Feeler
Patricia Chana
Mr. & Mrs. Roger Finner
Pina Financial Bank
Carolyn Fisk
Eric Fopus
Dennis & Nancy Flanney
Eric & Megan Fielder

25th Anniversary Grants

Friends of the Gibson
$10,000 grant to support a seat renovation project in the 100-year-old iconic Gibson Theatre. This renovation project will add handicapped accessible seating and new theater-style seating for all to enjoy.

Kids Discovery Factory
$10,000 grant to support the expansion of on-site play hours and program development.

Safe Passage
$5,000 grant to provide critical updates and repairs to its shelter. Safe Passage provides shelter, emergency support, and counseling to individuals.

Shelby Christian Church
$2,500 grant to make its facility accessible to individuals with physical disabilities and thereby more accessible to the public during non-denominational community events.
25th Anniversary Grants

2022 marked the Ripley County Community Foundation’s 25th anniversary. In honor of that milestone, the Board of Directors launched the 25th Anniversary Impact Grants. This opportunity made $100,000 available to assist local organizations in implementing a project or program that will: 1) create a sustainable impact amongst one or more communities, 2) establish cross-community or cross-county partnerships, and 3) closely align with at least one the Community Foundation’s four service areas: Arts & Culture, Business & Entrepreneurship, Environment & Natural Resources, and Health, Education & Well-Being.

Big Oaks Conservation Society
$3,000 grant to build a kayak and paddle sports dock at Old Timbers Lake located in Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuge.

Ripley County Humane Society
$5,000 grant for building repairs and upgrades.

Southeastern Indiana Mountain Bike Association
$12,500 grant to finish the Next Level Trail project within the Versailles State Park. Once completed, this project will add 8 miles of additional mountain bike trails which will allow the park to be deemed a “destination hub.”

Food and Growers Association, Inc.
$2,500 grant to provide educational programming to teach families how to enhance their physical and mental well-being through gardening.

Donors

- Indiana Virtual Academy
- Innovative Casting Technologies Inc.
- Iron Timbers
- Jenuane Odell High School
- Eye Form Jackson
- Matt Jefferies
- Robert E. & Sandra L. Jetzer
- Walker V. & Laura M. Jolly
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- Kids Discovery Factory Inc.
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- Kent Kuebler
- Leslie Lathe
- Darrell & Roberts Laver
- James & Carol Lavor
- Tom & Mary Laver
- Lori Lambert
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- Mark J. & Brenda L. Lampley
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- Legghe Valley Co-op
- Jon Laws
- Amber Lecher
- Barry & Peggie Lecher
- Tom & Myndi L. Lefhold
- Chris & Jennifer Lehman
- Lehman Excavating, Inc.

25th Anniversary Grants

Food and Growers Association, Inc.
Mission Statement:
To assist donors in building an enduring source of charitable assets to benefit the citizens and qualified organizations of Ripley County.

Four Pillars
The Community Foundation has four pillars that guide its work. Those pillars are:

- Arts & Culture
- Business & Entrepreneurship
- Education, Health & Well-Being
- Environment & Natural Resources

In the following pages the photo highlight color shows which service area is being supported.

Committees

25th Anniversary Grants Committee
Eric Benz
Nancy Durham
Anita Hedderman
Bill Narwood
Ben Peetzel

Finance Committee
Dan Harmeyer - Chair
Bryce Ahaus
Mark Comer
Marie Dausch
Lori Holt
Andy Jasie
John Kolleran
Ron Knueven
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Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship Committee
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Jill Turley
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Foundation Staff

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Jon & Jacqueline Seymour
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Kurti Shapizman
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Dan Shields
John Shields
Joshua Shields
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Holly Siepker
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Indiana YMCA, Inc. Southwest Indiana
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St. Charles Catholic Church
St. John Lutheran Church
St. John United Church of Christ
St. Louis Catholic Church
St. Mark Lutheran Church
St. Mauritius Catholic Church
St. Nicholas Catholic Church
St. Paul Lutheran Church
St. Paul's Lutheran Church Crossroads
Donna Sterney
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Gary Bailey
Sylvester Barta
Lynn Bauck
Jennifer Bergman
Doris Biegeleisen
Tom Biren
Glen Busby
Nicole Christle
Bianco Cofurn
Juliana Colin
George Coyle
Pat Daly
Mark Dickey
Karen Elliott
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Samantha Hansen
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Derek Hilt
Kimberly Hoffman
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Lorrie Hubbard
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Dorene Landwehr
Connie Lampel
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Rose Murphy
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Tod Zimmer

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Honoraria

Veterans laid to rest in:
Adams Lutheran Cemetery
Belknap Methodist Cemetery
Cres Basketball Church of Christ Cemetery
Hopebell Baptist Cemetery
Johnson Township
Salem Cemetery
St. Anthony Catholic Cemetery
St. Charles Catholic Cemetery
St. John's United Church of Christ
Hustonville Cemetery
St. John's United Church of Christ
Penrith Cemetery
St. Maurice Catholic Cemetery
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Crandon Cemetery
St. Paul's Lutheran Church Clean Cemetery
St. Paul's Catholic Cemetery

All Veterans of:
Belknap Sons of the American Legion Post #77
Brown Township American Legion Post #287
Milan American Legion Post #50
Ongond American Legion Post #527
Soldiers American Legion North Dakota
Sumner American Legion Post #337
Versailles American Legion Post #173

2022 Rule Goldberg Contest RCOF's 25 Anniversary
Amanda Black
Charles Beyer
Anthony Bivens
Charles Cecil Black
Floyd Wayne Bond
Eugene Borgman

Lee Stover
Charles Bruce
John B. Buck
Clay Cressa
Mike Jansen
Kids Biking Bike Camp
Robert L. Crise
Robert W. Cross
Bob Dexter
Francesco DiRosa
Robert Foban
Paul Drury
William Disney Family - Kenny Dyer
Richard L. Dyer
C. Dawson
Dawe Ogawa
Damee Ogawa
Paul Ogilby
Savannah High School Varsity Football
Milan High School Varsity Football
Odessa Academy Basketball
Virgil Freeman
James Tuttle
Henry G. Fryer
Gene Fuller
Voyler Fuller
George Gandy
Louie Gander
Great STEM Bike Ride
Bill Haselmeier
Ralph Harsen
Ronald Harsen
Walter Hastings
Robert Herbert
Urban Hoist

Paul Hormel
Max Howard
Robert H. Horst
Spencer Kalman
James Kennedy
Margaret Kennedy
John P. Kiefer
Annie & Susan Klemmer's 50th Wedding Anniversary
Jim Keasley
Charles Klopfer
Stanley Kosak
Duffie Kunkel
James Lemmerg G.A.A.
James Lemmerg
Russell Luedtke
Lenny Luedtke
Sharon Martin

Mike McIntyre
Held Meister
Curtis Merten
Jacob Mencher
Lenny Messerschmidt
Keith Miller
Franzus Mieszko
Anthony Moser
Albert Myer
Clarice Myers
Hanny Myers
Paul Myers
Wilbur Myers
Harold Nolte
James Nolle
Kenneth Ochendorf
Tina Papke

Robert Keith Prewett, Sr.
Jeffrey Prewett
Raymond Rietie
David Roth
Maren Ritz
Olin H. Schenkel
Alvin B. Schenkel
John Shep
Charles Stahl
Alesha Skel
Bill Stens
Brian Stens
Brenda Stamps
Ray F. Teblig
Fred Teiya
Dee Thayer
Martin Thayer
George W. Turner
Raymond Verkind
Clyde Verkamp
Anthony Wayepa
Peter Vondrack's Birthday
Clyde Wahlers
Robert Wahler
Owen Walter
Robert Ward
Greg & Candy Wein's Anniversary
Bob Werner
Tom Werner
William Werner
Thomas Wilder
Jim Wiesel
Mr. Woodfill
Ann Wulfheide
Sakya Young
Jane Yim

* Please note: Some of the above veterans are laid to rest and were honored through The Wreaths Across America Program.
Letter From the President

"If you’re going to live, leave a legacy. Make a mark on the world that can’t be erased." Maya Angelou’s words accurately describe the activities of the Ripley County Community Foundation for the year 2022.

Twenty-five years ago a group of concerned and passionate people came together to form the Ripley County Community Foundation. Their vision all those years ago continues today in every corner of the county, in every one of our communities, and in so many hearts of our citizens.

Those founding members of the Board of Directors left a legacy to the Foundation staff, past and present, and to the current Board of Directors. That legacy challenges us to continue to connect people who care with causes that matter.

To celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Foundation, a special committee awarded $100,000 to 12 nonprofit organizations. The grants ranged from $2,500 to $25,000 and implemented projects that will revitalize downtowns, offer educational training, improve services, provide greater handicap accessibility and expand existing opportunities. All four Foundation pillars (Arts and Culture; Environment and Natural Resources; Health, Education, and Well-Being; and Business and Entrepreneurship) were addressed in the grants, and collaboration was encouraged.

Youth continues to be a focus of the Foundation. The seven camps offered by Genesis: Pathways to Success in the Summer of STREAM brought over 400 participants and a number of volunteers together for a variety of experiences from building bikes to cooking camp to stargazing. High school students around the county form the Ripley Youth Outreach and sponsor successful projects such as the third annual Chalktoberfest. Thirteen young artists participated in this year’s event, creating murals of their favorite book covers. Another project driven by our youth is Turnover Hunger. The Batesville and Milan football teams raised over $13,000 to support the Weekend Backpack Program. Another Lilly scholar was selected from our Ripley County schools, and over $90,000 was awarded to local students through Foundation scholarships.

The Women’s Giving Circle continued its encouragement of programs and organizations that positively impact the lives of women and children by awarding five grants totaling $7,000.

The Foundation launched a new initiative this year with the creation of a permanent fund to “Remember those U.S. veterans who have fallen, Honor those who serve, and Teach the value of freedom to our children.” On and around December 17, over 4,000 evergreen wreaths were laid on veterans’ graves across Ripley County, a part of the Wreaths Across America program. Owen Menchhofer and the Ripley County Historical Society were driving forces behind this initiative, which we hope to continue for years to come.

This year we were finally able to come together in June at the Sunman American Legion Post to celebrate our annual dinner, honoring grant and scholarship recipients and presenting awards. We’re so very grateful to the donors who joined us at that annual dinner and at the Day of Giving held in November.

Those generous donors allow us to exemplify the words of Pericles: “What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others.”

Sincerely,
Nancy Durham, President, Ripley County Community Foundation

Give, Grow, Grant

Why Give?
A gift to the Community Foundation to support a favorite charity, community, or cause is a permanent gift that will GROW and produce income TODAY and FOREVER. The Community Foundation’s staff or directors can discuss with you the most appropriate vehicle for your situation and interests. We welcome the opportunity to answer your specific questions at any time.

Why the Community Foundation?
The Ripley County Community Foundation is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization designed for EVERYONE with a focus on making GRANTS that improve the quality of life in all four corners of Ripley County, Indiana.

What to Support?
You can donate to: an existing fund, visit www.rcfonline.org for a complete list of our funds; a special project; or a fund you establish.

How to Give?
To make an online donation to an established fund, visit https://rcfonline.org/donate/. You can maximize the benefit of your generosity by donating grain, stock, required minimum distributions from retirement funds, through Trusts, Life Insurance, or bequests.

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