



# SCOTT COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

## Community Connection

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SPRING 2013

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## Farmers Encouraged to Use Creative Giving Methods

Those in the agricultural community might be surprised to learn that there are creative ways of giving to their favorite charity that may not only offer tax benefits, but can also benefit agriculture and other charitable causes in our community.

Farmers can instruct their grain elevator that you would like to donate "x" number of bushels or dollars worth of grain, or notify the sale barn that you are donating "x" number of heads of livestock to the Scott County Community Foundation. There is a simple form to fill out prior to taking advantage of this creative giving method, and we will work directly with the grain elevator or sale barn to complete the transaction.

You may then choose your donation to benefit any of our 70 endowment funds held at the Community Foundation, including four that are agriculturally-related, the Scott County 4-H Fund, Scott County Soil and Water Conservation District Fund, Robert G. Comer Memorial Scholarship Fund and the Shelley Comer Akers Memorial Scholarship Fund.

We always recommend consulting with your tax advisor, and we are happy to work with you to fulfill your charitable giving.



Scott County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Supervisor Matt Oberlies and Chairman John Hardin present Scott County Community Foundation Executive Director Jaime Toppe with donations at SWCD's recent annual meeting. The donations were collected in memory of Randy Mace, and contributed to the SWCD's endowment fund at the Community Foundation. The fund was established for long-term sustainability of soil and water conservation in Scott County.

## Thoughts From Our Chairman

Dear Friends of the Foundation,

Spring in Scott County means warmer temperatures, green grass and blooming daffodils. Soon the Redbud and Dogwood trees will be flowering. Spring is also an exciting time around the Scott County Community Foundation.

This is the time of year when the scholarship committee has been busy reviewing applications. We recently had the pleasure of awarding the 'full-ride' Lilly scholarship to Caitlin Rice. You can read more about Caitlin's accomplishments on page three of this newsletter.

Spring also signifies the time when we start accepting grant applications. It is exciting to read about all the great projects our community has planned. It is an honor to be able to play a role in those projects.

The Community Foundation is also working on several new projects this spring. The Dolly Parton Imagination Library is a unique partnership with United Way to deliver a monthly book to

children from birth to age five. We are thrilled to have almost 200 children registered for these free books.

We recently hosted an informational seminar to kick off the *Education Matters* collaboration of five southern Indiana counties. Community leaders came together to hear presentations on the importance of educational attainment. The goal of the collaboration is to highlight the need for adults to complete their post-secondary education and to find ways to facilitate their efforts. Speakers were present from the Lumina Foundation, One Southern Indiana, Indiana University Southeast and Ivy Tech Community College.

More information about both the Imagination Library and the *Education Matters* initiative are available on our website at [www.scottcountyfoundation.org](http://www.scottcountyfoundation.org) and in this newsletter.

This is my last news article to you as the Foundation Chairman. It has been a blessing and a privilege to be able to

serve the Community Foundation. I have genuinely enjoyed being a part of this awesome organization.

I want to introduce you to our new Chairman, Adam Gibson. We are fortunate to have Adam on the Board of Directors. He is a graduate of Scottsburg High School, and received a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration as well as a Master of Arts in Teaching from the University of Louisville. He is employed by the Scott County Partnership as their Community Prevention Coordinator. He enjoys working with technology and recently redesigned the Foundation's website. He is married with two daughters and a newly born son. Please join me in welcoming Adam as our new Foundation Chairman.



LYNDA PHILLIPS  
CHAIRMAN

## Foundation Photo Gallery



Our intern Ali Brown, center, was named a finalist in the Indiana INTERNnet IMPACT Awards Luncheon, held Feb. 6 at the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art. The statewide event recognized internship excellence. Ali is the Educational Programs Coordinator at Scottsburg Middle School, where she works closely with guidance counselors Jane Naugle, left, and Barb Decker, right. Ali teaches LifeSkills to students, assists with career field trips, Twenty-First Century Scholars registrations, Reality Store and other programs. We received a grant funded from Lilly Endowment for the Community Foundation Internships (CFI) program. CFI is part of Lilly's goals to help build healthy Indiana community foundations and to provide college students with real-life work experiences.



Intern Hannah Hatton, right, asks questions to a Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship finalist during a mock interview. Hannah, who was a Lilly Scholar in Jennings County, was able to offer her insight on the process and help give advice to the students on how to give the best possible interview.



We hosted our Imagination Library registration event with United Way of Scott County in January at Imagination Station in Scottsburg. Children enjoyed story time, activities and playing with their favorite characters, who in real life are members of our Scott County Youth Grantmaking Council! There are over 190 children registered for free books to be delivered to their homes. To register a child from birth to age five, please visit [www.imaginationlibrary.com](http://www.imaginationlibrary.com) or pick up a brochure located throughout the community. You may also give a tax-deductible donation—it only costs \$25 to sponsor a child each year, and it will take the support of the community to sustain this initiative!

## 2013 Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship Awarded

One Scott County student has been named recipient of a full-tuition, four-year scholarship as the Scott County Community Foundation 2013 Lilly Endowment Community Scholar.

Caitlin Rice of Austin High School will receive full tuition to the Indiana college of her choice and a \$900 yearly stipend for required books and equipment.

Caity is the daughter of Clifton and Tammy Rice of Austin. She is the President of Student Council, Sunshine Society and her Senior Class. She participates in her high school's Dimensions Show Choir, is active on the Scott County Youth Grantmaking Council, annual We Care auction and assists the Austin Beautification Committee.

Caity plans to attend IUPUI to major in social work. After earning her master's degree, Caity hopes to come back to Scott County to work for a local agency.



"I am truly honored to be the 2013 recipient of the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship and I hope to live up to everyone's expectations," said Caity. "I couldn't be happier."

"Caity Rice will represent Scott County as an excellent Lilly Scholarship recipient," said Barbara Broady, scholarship committee chairperson. "In her written application, essays and interview, she continued to demonstrate her leadership skills both in school and in the community."

Students were judged based on financial consideration, community involvement, extra-curricular activities, work activities, academics and two essays. Six students advanced to the interview portion. After the scholarship committee narrowed the field to one nominee and two alternates, the finalists' names were submitted to Independent Colleges of Indiana Inc. (ICI) for the selection of the recipients.

ICI is a nonprofit corporation that represents 31 regionally accredited degree granting, nonprofit, private colleges and universities in the state.

The scholarships are the result of a statewide Lilly Endowment initiative to help Hoosier students reach higher levels of education. Indiana ranks among the lowest states in the percentage of residents over the age of 25 with a bachelor's degree. There were 142 scholarships awarded statewide.

**"I am sure she will accomplish many things and give back to our community in the future."**

**Barbara Broady,  
Chair, Scholarship  
Committee**

## SCCF Joins Collaboration to Address Why Education Matters

We are pleased to announce a collaboration with the community foundations of Clark, Floyd, Harrison and Washington counties to address low educational attainment numbers in Southern Indiana. The goal of *Education Matters* is to help adult workers who started, but for some reason never completed, some form of postsecondary education. We want to find solutions that will help them return to school and finish. This will strengthen our workforce, economy, and attractiveness to lure and keep companies here - hiring Southern Indiana workers.

After several months of planning, we held our first convening session on April 2. For the first time, business, civic, education and philanthropy leaders in our area convened to identify the issues surrounding educational attainment and create a blueprint to help solve the problem. Our guest

speakers included Haley Glover, with Lumina Foundation, who discussed why education matters to our community; Wendy Dant Chesser with One Southern Indiana, who talked about why education matters to our businesses; Dr. Uric Dufrene with Indiana University Southeast, who shared why education matters to the economy; and Dr. Rita Hudson Shourds, who closed with why education matters to each person in attendance as members of the community.

From this session, we hope to create roundtable discussions to brainstorm solutions; and generate funding to support the initiatives identified by the roundtables and community foundations.

Feedback from participants was very positive, and we hope to make a significant impact in our community.

We appreciate support from our sponsors, who believe in this regional initiative, and include: Lumina Foundation, Ogle Foundation, Duke Energy, First Harrison Bank, Horseshoe Foundation of Floyd County, Indiana University Southeast, Ivy Tech Community College, the News and Tribune, Rodefer Moss & Co., Your Community Bank, and the Scott County State Bank.

If you were unable to attend a session but would like to be part of this initiative, whether it is through funding, joining a roundtable, or implementing workplace ideas to help adult workers complete their education, please contact us today. You can also join our mailing list and receive presentation materials and updates on the progress of the initiative.



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### ***Looking Forward, Giving Back.***

## **Youth Grantmaking Council Keeps Students Involved**

Scott County Youth Grantmaking Council members continue to stay active in the community with community service projects (the most recent was to raise money for Big Brothers Big Sisters Bowl for Kids Sake), grantmaking (finalists who applied for grants for youth-related projects will be interviewed in April); and fundraising (their annual tennis open and other fundraisers are being scheduled now). In addition, the youth are in the final planning stages to introduce philanthropy in local elementary schools. They plan to discuss community service and fundraising to fourth grade students, and grantmaking to fifth grade students at Johnson, Lexington and Vienna-Finley elementary schools. They have produced videos to engage the younger students, and the end result will be schools receiving money for projects chosen by the fifth grade classes.

The YGC has an endowment fund and holds fundraisers to support their grantmaking and leadership activities. To support their efforts, please send your tax-deductible contribution to the Community Foundation.



Several members worked as servers at Jeeves & Co. for their very first restaurant fundraiser, where they worked for tips. Not only did they raise \$375 to benefit youth in Scott County, but they earned a new appreciation for restaurant servers!