

# Community Connection

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### Board of Directors

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Kevin Jentzen

Jami Parks

Chris Routt

### Staff

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*Executive Director*

Charlotte Boswell,  
*Financial Officer*

## SCCF Awarded \$50k Community Planning Grant

We are excited to announce that we are the recipient of a \$50,000 community leadership planning grant from Lilly Endowment Inc. The Endowment's goal is to help community foundations explore how they can effectively play a leadership role in their local communities. The planning grant amount is based on county population.

We have contracted with the Applied Research and Education Center at Indiana University Southeast ("AREC") to conduct a community needs assessment. Our goal is to identify and prioritize Scott County's needs and assets in several areas, including economic development, the aging population, education, income and poverty, substance abuse, health, mental health, infrastructure, recreation, and housing. The resulting study will provide a roadmap for community

development in Scott County.

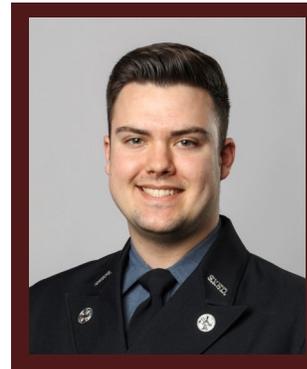
A task force has convened for this "Looking Forward Scott County" initiative. AREC, with direction from the task force, plans to conduct listening sessions, focus groups, and surveys to get feedback from Scott County residents. The survey will be distributed in the fall.

"We are very excited to take the lead in conducting a community needs assessment," said Community Foundation Executive Director Jaime Toppe. "To the best of our knowledge, a comprehensive community needs assessment has not been done in 15 to 20 years. We want everyone's voices to be heard throughout this process. Our task force members believe this assessment will assist us to not only seek grants in the future, but also help with the overall economic development of our community."

## Kevin Jentzen, Chris Routt Welcomed to Board

We are pleased to welcome new board members Kevin Jentzen and Chris Routt. They began their terms Oct. 1, the start of the Foundation's new fiscal year. We also said "so long" to outgoing board members Mike Everett, Josh Stigdon, and Denny Wilson. We are thankful for their service!

Eleven years ago as an eighth grade student at Scottsburg Middle School, Kevin Jentzen joined the Scott County Youth Grantmaking Council, a program of the Scott County Community Foundation. With a purpose of nurturing young philanthropists and encouraging youth to continue their community service beyond high school, those goals are being realized as the YGC alumnus has now joined the Foundation's Board of Directors. The Community Foundation is a charitable organization that enables donors to support the community through scholarships and grants from en-



dowment funds. Kevin is the son of Henry and Ann Jentzen of Scottsburg, and the brother of Kelly Thompson. His dad was a former board member for the Community

Foundation, and his mom works in accounting. Kevin graduated from Scottsburg High School in 2014, where he served as Class Secretary. He graduated from IUPUI in 2018 with a major in information systems. Kevin served on the Foundation's grants committee as a college student, volunteering since 2015.

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## Amy Cowles Hired for Internship

We are excited to welcome Amy Cowles as our new Career and College Counselor intern. This opportunity has been funded by the Lilly Endowment through the Community Foundation Internships Program (CFI). This program intends to build strong community foundations, as well as provide significant internship opportunities for college students who are eager to advance their educational and personal development.

As the Career and College Counselor intern, Amy will be counseling students at Austin and Scottsburg high schools. Amy will be discussing career and college choices with students, as well as scholarship and financial aid opportunities. Additionally, Amy will be coordinating college visits as well as job shadowing and internship opportunities.

Amy graduated from Scottsburg High School in 2011. She holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from Indiana University Southeast where she is currently in her final year of graduate school pursuing a master's degree in school counseling. Following graduate school, she plans to begin her career as a K-12 school counselor. Amy is married to Scottsburg native, Cody Cowles, and together they have a one-year old daughter, Emery.

"I am thrilled to return to Scott County as the Career and College Counselor intern," said Amy. "This position gives me the opportunity to give back to a community who helped raise me, while assisting the youth of Scott County in becoming successful individuals both during and after high school. College and career counseling holds a special place in my heart because I believe every student has the right to a successful future. I am thankful to the Scott County Community Foundation and Scott County schools for this opportunity."

"We are so grateful to have a partnership with the Scott County Community Foundation that allows us to have a college level intern," said Shannon Mount, Scott County School District 2 K-12

College and Career Counselor. "Amy will be helping with our 21st Century Scholarship program as well as many other projects throughout the year. This is a win-win situation. We benefit from the additional help in the counseling office and Amy will get valuable experience that will make her more competitive in the job market."

"Austin High School is pleased to welcome Amy as our counseling intern," said guidance counselor Cindy Watts. "Amy will be a great asset to our school setting. She is studying to be a school counselor and understands the importance of assisting students in preparing for life after high school."

"She will be closely be working with our 21st Century students," continued Watts. "She will also be involved with the college and career activities with our students. This role is an important role at our school. She will also be assisting Austin Middle School with the recruitment of 21st Century Students in 7th and 8th grades. This internship allows students to have assistance in completing activities for this program. This extra assistance would not be possible without the Scott County Community Foundation."

"The Community Foundation Internship program has been a great opportunity for our community, and we are thankful to Lilly Endowment Inc. for providing the funding," said Scott County Community Foundation Executive Director Jaime Toppe. "Amy is the 20th student to benefit from the internship program during the last several years, and this will be great real-life experience before she becomes a guidance counselor."



## Nonprofit Lunch 'n' Learn Sessions Scheduled

Our next series of nonprofit lunch 'n' learn sessions are scheduled. These sessions are designed to learn best practices, network with peers and grow nonprofits into strong organizations that serve donors in the best possible way! Mark your calendars for the following:

Kandy Wischmeier with Blue & Co. will lead "Tax Law for Nonprofits" on Thursday, Nov. 21 from 11-12.

Steven Shattuck with Bloomerang will present "Share the Love" Us-

ing Social Media to Engage Donors" on March 3 from 11-1.

June Miller, nonprofit consultant, will discuss "The Keys to Volunteer Management" on June 16 from 11-1.

June will also lead "The Nonprofit Board of Directors That Works" next Sept. 15 from 11-1.

The sessions will be held at the Lifelong Learning Center in Scottsburg. The cost is \$10 per person, which includes lunch and materials.

# YGC Welcomes New Members, Elects Leadership Positions

The Youth Grantmaking Council ("YGC"), our program that teaches youth about philanthropy, has had a busy month leading into the new school year! Interviews were held for youth who wanted to become members of the Community Service Committee. It took a lot of courage for these students to interview with a room full of middle and high school students!

The YGC is excited to welcome these new YGC members: Lia Payne, Luci White, Lyla Walker, and Kaden White, all of Austin Elementary; Sloane Barrett and Madalyn Stallings of Austin Middle School; Kylie Walker of Austin High School; Raeann Baker, Brynley Culley, and Tucker Doriot of Scottsburg Middle School; Olivia Fugate, Chloe Myszak, and Johnathon Perkinson, all of Scottsburg High School; Porter Banister, Audrey Bishop, Addison Elliott, Hudson Garten, Kendra Higdon, Jarin Luttrell, Hayden Thomas, and Michael Wolf, all of Vienna-Finley Elementary School! This makes 96 youth who are YGC members!

The following week, the voting members held interviews for current members of the Community Service Committee. They selected 10 finalists based on the hours of participation, number of projects, and leadership potential. Their decisions at this meeting were much more difficult, as all the finalists are active and worthy YGC members, but there were only five positions to fill from graduating seniors. This year's new voting members are Kellan Carter, Kinlee Craig, Braelyn Kleehammer, Melea Luttrell, and Ella Siekman.

YGC voting members also gave speeches and held elections for leadership positions. Congratulations to the new officers and chairpersons for the 2019-2020 fiscal year: Logan Weilbaker, President; Abby Colson, Vice President; Gavin Borden, Treasurer; Ally Justice, Secretary; Grants Committee co-chairs: Elle Fleenor and Hannah Brown; Governance Committee co-chairs: Addie Borden and Rachael Mount; Community Service Committee Chair: Eric Marcum; Asset Development co-chairs: Macy Funk and Brinley Soloe.

There are now 175 youth who have been or are currently involved with the YGC in the past 12 years! These students are our current and future board members, volunteers, community activists and world-changers!! We are so grateful that they care about making our communities better.



YGC members donated goodies for our police officer appreciation service project, then delivered to the officers at the City of Scottsburg Police Dept., City of Austin Police Dept., Scott County Sheriff's Dept., and Indiana State Police.



*Governance committee co-chairs Addie Borden and Rachael Mount led the icebreaker activities at the first meeting of the new fiscal year. Youth had to come up with a hand motion and recite everyone's name along with all of their hand motions. They also had to find a picture in their phone that best described them or something they like to do.*





## Scott County Community Foundation

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## *Looking Forward, Giving Back.*

### **Kevin Jentzen, Chris Routt Welcomed to Board**

#### **(Continued from front page)**

Kevin has been employed as an IT administrative assistant at the City of Scottsburg since June 2018. He has also owned Light It Up Inc. since March 2016. Kevin is a 12-year member (and 4-year secretary) for Scottsburg Fire and Rescue, and a member of the Scottsburg FFA Advisory Board. He enjoys spending time with friends and family, and being outdoors.

"I joined the Board because I believe in the mission of the Community Foundation," said Kevin. "I have loved being a past Youth Grantmaking Council member and SCCF Grants Committee member. To see needs in our community being met by projects at SCCF is amazing. I look forward to working with the Board to keep up the standard set in previous years for SCCF to help Scott County."

"I am so excited that the youth who were members of the YGC are carrying on their passion for giving back to the communities wherever they live," said Foundation Executive Director Jaime Toppe. "With several former YGC members returning to Scott County, we hope the community will join us in engaging them in service. They bring a great perspective and fresh ideas. Kevin is a



great addition to our Board and has a deep knowledge of the community that will be very helpful in our efforts."

Chris and his wife, Jennifer, live in Scottsburg. They have twin daughters, Claire and Grace. Chris is the principal at Scottsburg High School and also owns his own business, Mr. Foto. He is a member of the Grace Covenant Church of God

and serves as an adjunct business professor for Ivy Tech Community College and Indiana Wesleyan University. Chris served as a member of our Finance and Investment Committee before joining.

"I am looking forward to serving in the Community Foundation and Scott County," said Chris.

"Chris has a lot of expertise in several areas that will be a great benefit to our Board and community. He is a great leader in our schools and with his prior nonprofit experience he is a great fit for the Foundation," said Toppe.