



# SCOTT COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

## Community Connection

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## Debbie Heacock Joins Staff as Program Assistant

The Scott County Community Foundation would like to welcome Debbie Heacock to their staff. Debbie will be serving as Program Assistant. In her new role, she will provide administrative support, assist with grants and scholarships, help with the Imagination Library, and the Youth Grantmaking Council programs. She has attended Ivy Tech and Indiana University Southeast, and has work experience in manufacturing and nonprofit organizations.



She is a lifelong resident of Scott County and has been involved in the community in various roles including membership in the Scott County Sheriff's

Posse where she served several years as Secretary/Treasurer.

Debbie and her husband Steve have three children, four grandchildren, and are members of Fisherman's Paradise Christian Church in Underwood.

"Working in the nonprofit field has given me a different outlook on my community and a new appreciation for all the effort and hard work our community members put into making Scott County a better place to live and work," said Debbie. "I am really excited about the opportunity to work with the Scott County Community Foundation in fulfilling their goals of looking forward and giving back to our community."

"We couldn't be more pleased to have Debbie join our staff," said Executive Director Jaime Toppe. "We are very impressed with her qualifications and feel she will be a wonderful addition to our Community Foundation family."

## Thoughts From Our Chairman

Dear Friends of the Foundation,

I currently have a small pile of scrap pine boards at home sitting atop the counter in my living room. Nearly twenty years ago, the individual planks were placed together with a specific purpose in mind, and represented something useful: a foot stool built during my 7th grade year in Mr. Busick's class at Scottsburg Middle School. While I followed Mr. Busick's instructions closely and carefully, some minor modifications might have extended the life of the stool had we anticipated the rigorous stress and multiple uses the stool would one day become subjected to, being pulled from room to room by my two young daughters.

A proper foreshadowing of the stool's fate exists in words penned by John C. Maxwell, who once wrote that "Every asset that you're entrusted with—whether it's money, procedures, materials, technology—all of it is depreciating. All of it is

becoming obsolete." In the case of the stool, Mya, my youngest daughter, helped expedite the process of obsolescence, as an off-centered stance (while checking the growth of her flowers sitting on the windowsill) proved more than the stool could handle.

In their current state, sitting idly atop the counter, the pine boards hold relatively no great value other than serving as a tangible reminder of lessons learned, and of what used to be. The pine boards take up space and don't provide any type of decorative benefit to the room, yet I hesitate to dispose of the boards. The boards once had a purpose, and when I near the point of discarding the boards, I convince myself that if proper care is provided, those boards may once again have purposeful meaning for years to come.

While the Foundation may not be able to help repair your broken home furnishings, members of the

Foundation board and staff welcome conversations regarding charitable giving and community needs. As a trusted resource for over 15 years, the Community Foundation remains committed to the care and purposeful meaning of your donations, ensuring that all donations to the Foundation prove beneficial for years to come—without encountering risk of obsolescence. As the needs of the community change, the Foundation continues to work diligently in order to provide opportunities for your donations (and stories) to live indefinitely through charitable grants in Scott County. On behalf of the Foundation, thank you for your continued support!



ADAM GIBSON  
CHAIRMAN

## Family Establishes Nathan and Alice Bridge Memorial Fund

We would like to thank Matt LaMaster for sharing this story with us about his grandparents and why he decided to honor their legacy with an endowment fund. Not only will the impact of this fund be felt for generations to come, the entire family will become involved with the philanthropic process by helping make the decisions on where the grants should be awarded.

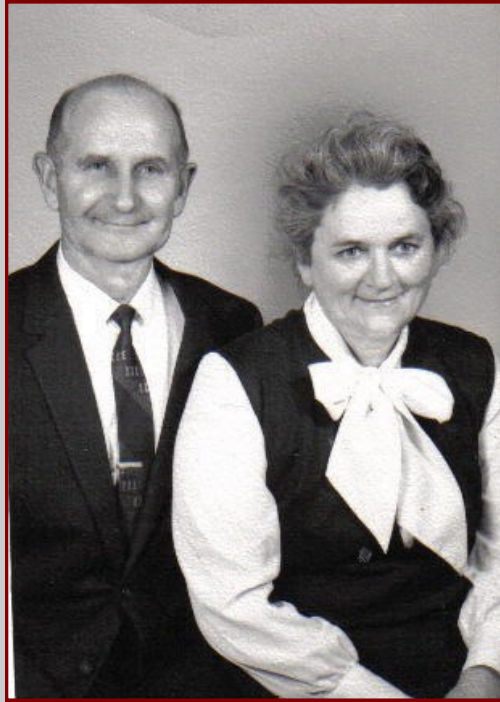
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"As many of you know, I have been working with family members to establish an endowment fund in the memory of my grandparents, Nathan & Alice

Bridge. I am excited and proud to announce, that an acorn endowment fund has been established in their name, and will be managed through the Scott County Community Foundation.

My grandparents were lifelong residents of Scott County. They loved the land, and were committed to their faith, family, and community. Some of my fondest memories are of Sunday evening meals, where the extended family (including my uncle, four aunts, and an ever increasing amount of cousins) would discuss events of the day. Often these conversations would end with Grandpa Bridge exclaiming, "I'm going to get a board 8 feet long, and 20 feet wide", or (much to my Grandma Bridge's disdain) "I'm going to Louisville and am going to find a ....." the rest cannot be repeated here.

They both had an unending curiosity and devout commitment to multiple causes. Grandpa Bridge was a farmer, Mason, and Scott County councilman who was always willing to lend a helping hand (along with an earful of politics) to his fellow neighbors. Grandma Bridge was involved in everything including church events, correspondent for the local paper, Sunday school teacher, and lay minister at Wesley Chapel. She



also served on the Scott County Library board of directors, was a Farm Bureau Women's Leader, and a member of the old Harmony Chapel Extension Club. She was one of the first members of the Scott County Hospital's Guild when it began in the 1950s.

Beyond their causes, they were the root and trunk of a mighty tree that has reached far into the world. Each one of us is an acorn from that tree, which carries along, and keeps alive the brilliant memories of Nathan and Alice.

Like the mighty tree that was built by my grandparents, your donation to this endowment fund will serve as the root and trunk of the endowment "tree." The donation will not be gifted, but will grow as contributions are made. As the fund grows and generates interest; grants will be provided to charitable organizations within Scott County supported by Nathan and Alice. In this way, the fund will live indefinitely providing charitable grants or "acorns" to those in Scott County.

Once the endowment grows to a size that can support grants, significant donors will have the opportunity to vote on the specific Scott County charity to support.

Your gift is fully tax deductible. I invite you to join in contributing to the memory of an unforgettable couple to honor their enduring legacy."

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*With a donor-advised fund, individuals and families can decide where they would like to make an impact. Each year, the needs of the community may change, and this is a perfect way to get involved in determining those needs so you can help to fulfill them. Plus, what better way is there to nurture a giving spirit than getting the whole family involved in philanthropy?!*

## Hyeree Ellis Selected as 2014 Lilly Scholar

One Scott County student has been named recipient of a full-tuition, four-year scholarship as the Scott County Community Foundation 2014 Lilly Endowment Community Scholar.

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

Hyeree is the daughter of Michael and Inok Ellis of Lexington. She is the Student Council President and Class Vice President. She is the editor-in-chief of the school newspaper, a member of the Sunshine Society, and volunteers at Lexington Church, among other activities.

Hyeree plans to attend DePauw University to major in biochemistry with a minor in communications. She hopes to eventually attend medical school to become an oncologist.

"I am so grateful to be selected as the county's Lilly scholar," said Ellis. "I really didn't anticipate on receiving it, so it's a bit of a shock. I'm so excited to start my journey with the help of this scholarship!"

"I remember sitting in class my freshman year and hearing about it...I never thought it would happen to me. It's really a dream come true."

"Hyeree Ellis will represent Scott County as an excellent Lilly Scholarship recipient," said Scholarship Committee Chairperson Barbara Broady. "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. Five 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 143 scholarships awarded statewide.

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

**Barbara Broady,**  
**Scholarship**  
**Committee**  
**Chair**

## YGC Awards Grants for Youth Programs

The Scott County Youth Grant-making Council had a busy night on Friday, April 4. After receiving 15 requests totaling over \$11,000, they had a hard job of narrowing down finalists for an interview.

Eleven organizations discussed their requests with the YGC members, several bringing youth along to share why their program should be funded.

After hours of interviews and deliberation, the YGC decided to fund the following organizations: Austin Middle School, Greater Scott County Chamber of Commerce, Lexington Good Faith Preschool, Scott County 4-H, Scottsburg



**Leah Anne Becker and a few youth appear to request funding for equipment and supplies to reorganize and start a Special Olympics in Scott County.**

High School Pep Band, Scottsburg High School Show Choir, Scottsburg Kiwanis Club, Special Olympics, United Way of Scott County and Vienna-Finley Elementary School.

The grantees will be honored at the YGC's annual dinner, to be held Monday, June 2 at the Mid-America Science Park. Stay tuned for more details on what these organizations will be doing for youth in our community.

In other business, the YGC also welcomed two new members to their Community Service Committee, Makalynn and Hannah Brown.



## Scott County Community Foundation

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## Looking Forward, Giving Back.

# Focus on a Fund: Austin Beautification Endowment

The Austin Beautification Committee was started by a group of people in 1994, and received ideas and help from the Scottsburg Beautification Committee. Their mission has always been to make Austin a better place to live and work.

“Together we can make it happen!” said Janie Alexander.

Special projects that the committee supports include perimeter lighting on the downtown buildings. This was one of the first major permanent projects the group tackled.

“By showing how attractive our small city can be if everyone works together makes it apparent the future can be brighter,” said Janie.



Each year, the seasons are marked throughout Austin with different displays and events. Summer is highlighted by colorful flower pots placed through the business district to brighten everyone's path. Autumn is welcomed by displays placed around the welcome signs, Main Street and U.S. 31 of straw, pumpkins, mums and whimsical signs. To usher in the holiday season, the Committee sponsors and hosts an Open House following the Christmas parade on the first Saturday in December. The event is held in the old gym at the Austin School with refreshments, entertainment and visits with Santa and his elves.

The Austin Beautification Endowment Fund was established in 1999 at the Scott County Community Foundation to support these projects. Members have a goal of growing the endowment fund to continue funding these projects, and are asking for the community's support. To send a tax-deductible contribution to the fund, please mail to the Community Foundation at PO Box 25; Scottsburg, IN 47170. You may also stop in the office at 60 N. Main St., Scottsburg.