

Looking  
Forward,  
Giving Back

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# Community Connection

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## Isaak Mount Named 2018 Lilly Scholar



One Scott County student has been named recipient of a full-tuition, four-year scholarship as the Scott County Community Foundation 2018 Lilly Endowment

Community Scholar.

Isaak Mount of Scottsburg High School will receive full tuition to an accredited public or private nonprofit college or university in Indiana of his choice, and a \$900 yearly stipend for required books and equipment. He joins 36 other Lilly Scholar recipients from Scott County since 1998.

Isaak is the son of Jason and Shannon Mount of Scottsburg. He is active in the Band of Warriors, Student Council and several Indiana Academic Teams. He is the President of the Scott County Youth Grantmaking Council, where he serves the community through numerous service projects.

Isaak is unsure where he wants to attend college but plans to major in mathematics and possibly economics.

“I am extremely honored and proud to be Scott County’s Lilly Scholar,” said Isaak. “This opportunity will open doors for me that I never imagined.”

“The Scott Community Foundation is very excited for Isaak and the opportunities that this scholarship will provide him in his educational pursuits

and career choices,” said Josh Stigdon, the Community Foundation’s scholarship committee chairperson. “Isaak has proven himself to be an exceptional student and active participant in school and community projects.”

Students were judged based on financial consideration, community involvement, extra-curricular activities, work activities, academics, honors and awards, letters of recommendation and two essays. Eight 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 Scott County recipient. ICI is a nonprofit corporation that represents 30 regionally accredited degree granting, nonprofit, private colleges and universities in the state.

The primary purposes of the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship Program are to help raise the level of educational attainment in Indiana; to increase awareness of the beneficial roles Indiana community foundations can play in their communities; and to encourage and support the efforts of current and past Lilly Endowment Community Scholars to engage with each other and with Indiana business, governmental, educational, nonprofit and civic leaders to improve the quality of life in Indiana generally and in local communities throughout the state.

There were 143 scholarships awarded statewide, and there have been 4,340 students who were awarded scholarships since the inception of the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship Program. Lilly Endowment has invested over \$372 million into this initiative.



## Nina Keown Memorial Fund Established

Grants from this fund will support the Lexington community and other charitable organizations, as recommended by Nina's family.

A young mother who was tragically killed several years ago will continue to have her memory live on through the establishment of a fund at the Scott County Community Foundation. The Nina Keown Memorial Fund will provide support for charitable causes, and offer a little bit of peace for her friends and family, knowing that good work is being done in her memory.

Nina was born May 23, 1984, in Louisiana, the daughter of Debbie and Elmon Ray Keown Jr. She and her brother, Mitchell Keown, grew up in Lexington. She graduated from Scottsburg High School in 2002, and later had a son, Jalen, and a daughter, Bailey. She was a member of Lexington Presbyterian Church.

After Nina was senselessly killed in an act of domestic violence by her ex-husband in 2010, her family has struggled through the trial and the loss of their loved one who was taken way too soon. However, instead of focusing on the heartbreaking end to her life, her mother would like to remember the good times and the meaning that will now come through her memorial fund.

"She loved her kids dearly," said her mother, Debbie Conover. Debbie and her husband, Lloyd ("Johnny") are now raising Bailey. Debbie shared how Nina loved watching Jalen play t-ball with the Lexington Little League. She enjoyed spending time with her friends and family, and was very social.

"She loved the little town of Lexington," shared Debbie. "She wanted to see it grow."

It was because of this love for Lexington and the desire to have something Nina's children could have to keep her memory alive that Debbie chose to establish a fund at the Community Foundation. As a donor-advised fund, the family will be involved in the decision-making and can support the Lexington community and other charities through earnings from the fund.

Debbie has started thinking about potential fundraisers to help the fund grow, including an annual yard sale, 5K walk/run, a fishing tournament and perhaps even an auction this spring. If anyone would like to donate items or help with the planning, they can contact Debbie through Facebook.

"We are honored to be a part of ensuring that Nina's memory will live on," said Community Foundation Executive Director Jaime Toppe. "Her death has affected so many people in our small community, but through this fund there will be so many organizations that will be impacted by grants for years to come."

To help this fund grow and support our community, you may send your tax-deductible contribution to the Community Foundation at PO Box 25; Scottsburg, IN 47170.

## Photo Gallery



Scott County Community Foundation board members Steve Gwaltney and Jami Parks present a grant for \$589 to Englishton Park Executive Director Kristi Rowell. The grant was awarded from the Chief John Memorial Campership Fund and will be used for a summer camp academic remediation program. This is the first-ever grant awarded from this endowment fund, which was established two years ago by Tami Wittich in memory of her husband, John, who was a former camp counselor.

Shannon Borden with Blue & Co. presented a session on financial audits for nonprofit organizations. The Foundation also sponsors a quarterly lunch-n-learn session for nonprofits through the Indiana Nonprofit Resource Network. Our goal is to assist local nonprofits with building their capacity. Through networking and learning best practices, nonprofits are able to grow their organizations and better serve their donors, allowing our entire community to benefit!

The next nonprofit session will be held March 15 from 11-1 at the Lifelong Learning Center and will take a closer look at fundraising.



## Professional Advisors Invited to Learning Session

Attorneys, CPAs and other professional advisors are invited to attend an informative session, "Successful Strategies for Charitable and Estate Planning."

Attorney Phil Purcell will present the information on Wednesday, March 14 from noon until 3:30 p.m. at Mid-America Science Park, 821 S. Lake Road South, Scottsburg. Lunch will be provided, and there is no cost to attend. The session is underwritten by Mason Investment Services.

Phil will give tips on how advisors can talk to clients, what giving ideas are popular for clients, as well as ethics issues in estate and charitable planning. Continuing education credits will be available.

Phil Purcell currently serves as Senior Counsel for Philan-

thropy on behalf of the Fellowship of Catholic University Students and currently assisting in a \$200 million campaign. Formerly, he was Vice-President for Planned Giving and Endowment Stewardship at the Ball State University Foundation where he assisted with completion of a \$200 million campaign of which \$65 million in planned gifts were raised. Phil held prior position as director of gift planning for the Central Indiana Community Foundation, director of development and planned gifts for the St. Vincent Hospital Foundation, and director of planned giving and development counsel for Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology. He is senior consultant for Heaton Smith Group providing charitable and estate planning services. Phil is a certified fundraising executive (CFRE). He is an attorney and member of the American and Indiana State Bar Associations.



## Scott County Community Foundation

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### Mardi Gras Masquerade Theme of Casino Night Fundraiser

Save the date for our second annual casino night fundraiser! On Saturday, March 3, we will host another fun night with our Mardi Gras Masquerade. The special event will take place at Mid-America Science Park in Scottsburg from 6-10 p.m., and is the Community Foundation's only special event fundraiser this year.

Small Time Napoleon, a band from Louisville will perform again this year, with jazzy tunes to entertain our guests. Dinner will be catered by Country Classics and includes authentic New Orleans food, including beignets, crab dip, shrimp cocktail, muffaletta salad, shrimp gumbo, bourbon pecan chicken, bourbon bread pudding and Mardi Gras King Cake!

There will be a silent auction this year, with items including tickets to Walt Disney World, Holiday World, Belle of Louisville, Louisville Zoo, Health Centered Chiropractic and more. Each guest is also eligible for door prizes.

Duke Energy and Blue & Co. are our Carnival Court level sponsors. For information on sponsorship opportunities,



please contact us. We are also accepting donations for our auction and door prizes.

You are welcome to wear a mask or your Mardi Gras best, but it is not required!

The cost to attend is \$20 per person, with reservations due Friday, Feb. 23. Any reservations made after Feb. 23 will be \$25 per person.

Please call 812-752-2057 or email [info@scottcountyfoundation.org](mailto:info@scottcountyfoundation.org) to reserve your spot!