

Looking Forward,
Giving Back

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Scott County Community Foundation Community Connection

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First Grant Awarded From Gladys Berna Education Fund



Shown are SCCF board member Chris Routt, JES Principal Jordan Warner, and top HERO point earners for the year, Aiden Shuler, Scarlett Sebastian, Kynlee Orman, Jayden Donohue, Aubrey Best and Aurelia Randall.

An exciting milestone for the Gladys A. Berna Education Fund was met this month when the first grant was awarded!

This endowment fund was established four years ago in memory of “Miss Gladys,” who taught in Scott County for 38 years from 1937 until 1975. She taught both at Finley Elementary, and at many of the one-room schools within Finley Township. She taught kindergarten through eighth grade, and her students were comprised of many rural kids in Scott County. This included friends, her brothers and sisters, her own children and even her grandchildren.

Miss Gladys taught at a time when teachers filled many roles. She was the bus driver – taking students to and from school. She was the custodian – building the fire to keep the room warm and cleaning the schoolhouse. She was the nurse – helping kids treat everything from colds to head lice. She was the cook – bringing soup for kids who didn’t have any lunch.

Most of the time Miss Gladys would use her own money to buy supplies for the school. She always took special care of those students who didn’t have as much as others. She would buy them clothes and school sup-

plies. Sometimes she even took them to the doctor when their parents were unable.

In the classroom, she taught more than just the ABC’s. Miss Gladys always included character lessons. She didn’t like drama on the playground, and required that recess was filled with activities. She organized many games of softball, and drafted even the smallest child to play.

This fund was established to honor the legacy of Miss Gladys. It can be used to help students in any way that will further their education, while taking some of the burden off teachers.

Applications were made available to both school districts in February, and a committee selected the recipient. Johnson Elementary School received \$500 for their HERO positive behavior incentive program. HERO focuses on rewarding students for displaying positive behavior in four key areas, Honest, Engaged, Respectful, and Organized.

“We believe that these four elements help make a student well-rounded, and ready for the real world outside of school,” shared principal Jordan Warner. “We also believe that if we can focus on the positive behaviors of our students, that this will in return help the behavior of our students who are struggling to make good choices.”

Johnson Elementary allows students to “purchase” items using their HERO points, and they can also cash in points to buy raffle tickets for monthly drawings for big items, such as a bike, basketball goal, camera, and so on. Winning HERO teams with the most HERO points for the quarter get to participate in special events, such as field trips to the bowling alley, movie theater, and skating rink.

“Being a recipient of the Gladys Berna grant changes the educational opportunities we are able to provide to our students, but more importantly changes the lives of our students by providing opportunities we sometimes take for granted,” said Mr. Warner.

Since one of Miss Gladys’ ‘isms’ from 38 years of teaching was ‘Behave yourself and get your lessons,’ the HERO program fits right in with that philosophy.

Estate Gifts from Jane Ann Everitt Benefit Scott County

A move to Florida didn't stop Jane Ann Everitt from remembering her roots and leaving a lasting legacy to honor her Scott County ties. Through several gifts in her estate plan to the Scott County Community Foundation, local organizations will benefit from her generosity for years to come. The Southern Indiana roots of her family run deep to William Conway Everett (before the advent of the "Scott County spelling" of their surname), who settled in Scott County prior to 1840; to the Garriott and Zaring ancestors who settled in Washington County prior to 1820; and to the McCullough ancestors who settled in Scott County prior to 1840.

Jane Ann Everitt was born March 27, 1933 to Robert Weldon and Marietta Garriott Everitt. She was the second child and only sister to her three brothers. She grew up with her family and a large extended family in Scottsburg, the hometown of both her parents. Bob and Marietta grew up going to the same church, attending the Scottsburg schools for 12 years, and graduating together in the Scottsburg High School Class of 1927. They owned and operated Everitt's Grocery on the Square in Scottsburg from 1939 until they retired in 1976. Jane was a lifelong member of Scottsburg United Methodist Church.

Jane Ann graduated from Scottsburg High School in 1951. After earning a bachelor's degree from Indiana University in 1955, where she was a member and served as President of Delta Zeta sorority, she taught in Columbus for two years at an elementary school. Her sorority offered her a chance to return to IU as a counselor, which gave her paid housing to work on her master's degree, which she completed in 1958. She then relocated to Florida and the warmer weather, where she served as a counselor until retirement in 1995. During her career she was named in the

"Outstanding Young Women of America" biographical compilation of women ages 21 to 35. Her selection was based on unselfish service to others, charitable activities, community service, professional excellence, business advancement, and civic and professional recognition. Among her greatest joys in retirement was staying in touch with her former students and colleagues.

"People ask me and say, 'You've got experience at all levels, what is your favorite?'" recalled Jane Ann in an article published in the IU School of Education magazine. "I loved all the levels," she shared. "All of them had something very special for me to learn, and I felt that I could contribute something."

Jane Ann's parents instilled the value of education in her and her three brothers. Her father had a degree from IU (Class of 1931). "Mother and Dad obviously valued education; they sent all of us to school," she shared in the article. "They really didn't have the money, and it would have been really easy for them to encourage us to get a job and go to work." All siblings earned at least two degrees, with two earning law degrees.

To show her appreciation to the university as well as honor her parents' sacrifice, Jane Ann began her philanthropy with the establishment of the Robert W. and Marietta G. Everitt Scholarship Fund at the IU School of Education. The fund supports incoming freshmen who intend to major in education. As of the end of spring semester 2020, eight students have received a total \$40,500 in scholarship assistance from the fund for their undergraduate studies at IU. She was honored with the President's Circle Award at IU in 2015.

Jane Ann passed away June 16, 2020, and is buried at Scottsburg Cemetery.



After Jane passed away, philanthropic wishes as set out in her Will were put into action. Through her foresight, she provided gifts to benefit the Scott County Family YMCA, SHS Alumni Association, and Scottsburg United Methodist Church endowment funds at the Scott County Community Foundation. Jane Ann (or Jane, Trig, Miss Everitt, and Aunt Jane, depending on who you ask), can also add "philanthropist" to the list.

Through Jane's gifts, her goodness is here to benefit Scott County forever.

We honor those who have made a lasting commitment to our community by contributing gifts through a will, trust, or other planned gift. Contact us to become a member of our Legacy Society.

Fundraising Topic of Next Luncheon

Getting members of a nonprofit board of directors to actively participate in fundraising can be one of the biggest challenges faced by a nonprofit. The first step is to understand the nature and facts about charitable giving. Secondly, it is important to understand that there are dozens of ways in which board members can fundraise, depending entirely on their own personal preferences.

To help volunteer board members understand their role in fundraising, we will host a nonprofit workshop on June 8 from 11-1.

Participants will believe that “fundraising is NOT begging, it is a values exchange!” by attending this workshop.

The session will be led by nonprofit consultant June Miller. The cost is \$10 per person, which includes lunch and materials. RSVP's are due June 7 by noon and can be made by calling 812.752.2057 or emailing info@scottcountyfoundation.org.

We have hosted quarterly lunch and learn sessions to assist nonprofits with building capacity. Board members, volunteers, and nonprofit staff are encouraged to attend.

Scott County Vision Plan Underway



Community members came to our visioning workshops in March to share their ideas about the future of Scott County. The thoughts and discussions generated from this process will help create solutions to issues within Scott County. The Scott County Vision Plan will build upon our Community Needs Assessment, and community input and participation is vital. For those of you who were unable to attend but want to provide input and stay informed, you can take an online survey and sign up to receive email updates. Just contact our office at 812.752.2057 or email info@scottcountyfoundation.org.

Early Childhood Committee member Sherry Mosley and board member Ryan Payne share their ideas on the vision boards.

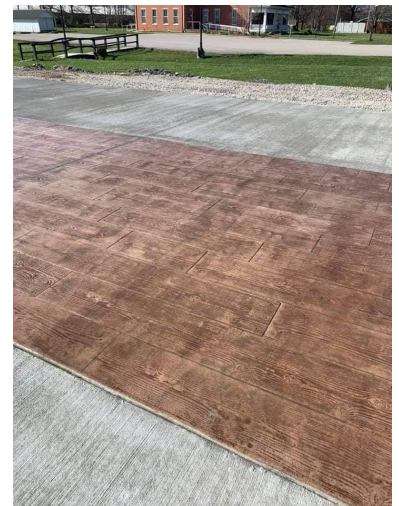
Farmers' Market Ribbon Cutting Scheduled



Progress is continuing on the Scott County Farmers' Market permanent structure! We announced in December that we would provide this gift to Scott County to celebrate the county Bicentennial. It is located

on the grounds of the Scott County Heritage Center and Museum, and construction is being done by J-A Broady Construction.

The community is invited to attend a ribbon cutting of the Farmers' Market on Saturday, May 15 at 9 a.m. This is also opening day for the Farmers' Market, and the Scott County Heritage Center and Museum will host a barn sale. We hope you will join us in this celebration of agriculture and history in Scott County!





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Looking Forward, Giving Back.

Dolly Parton Imagination Library Provides Free Books

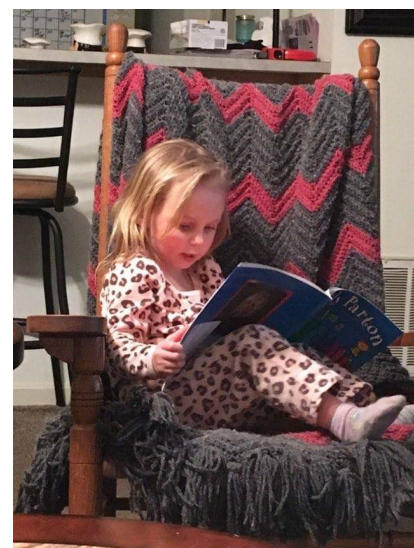
Eight years ago in January, we partnered with United Way of Scott County to bring the Dolly Parton Imagination Library to Scott County. We hosted an opening celebration at Imagination Station, where children could play and read, and meet characters such as Snow White, Elmo, Woody from Toy Story, Kermit the Frog, and superheroes, who were played by members of our Youth Grant-making Council. One hundred and nineteen children were registered for books, which are mailed directly to a child's home every month, from birth through age five. Fast forward to April 2021, and guess how many books have been mailed to Scott County children? Don't peek, but the answer is upside down at the bottom of this page!

Dolly Parton started this program in her hometown in 1996 when she saw how her friends and relatives struggled to read, and how those difficulties impacted them throughout their lives. Research shows that the achievement gap appears long before kindergarten—in fact it is evident as early as nine months old. Learning to read is a process much like learning to speak or walk. It begins at birth when children associate sounds

with emotions. Children learn how a book works—you read left to right and turn pages. More importantly, children learn to love to read!

Early childhood literacy is a cause that is very important to us, but we still have so much work to do! Currently, there are 918 children who are registered for the program (and 1,437 children who have "graduated" when they turned five!). However, the Census states that there are 1,388 children who are eligible to receive books. Will you help us to reach the 470 children who are not part of this amazing program? Share with anyone who lives in Scott County and has a child under the age of five. There are no other requirements other than age and residency. The books are high-quality and age-appropriate.

It is also crucial that we have donations to keep this program in Scott County! With grant funding depleted in just a few years, it will be necessary to rely on the community's support to sustain this initiative. The good news is, you can sponsor a child for just \$25/year!! Help provide a gift of literacy and a future for our littlest ones! Contact us for more information.



Briella Taylor, age 3, is sitting in the rocking chair her great-grandfather owned, reading *I Am a Rainbow*.