

Community Connection

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resources for landowners seeking to balance new development with the preservation of agricultural land, scenic open spaces, and wildlife habitat. The non-profit assists with conservation easements, which help farmers reduce tax burdens while ensuring environmental protection, food security, and reduced urban sprawl.

A new endowment fund at the Scott County Community Foundation will support the preservation of agricultural land for future generations. The Farms Forever Endowment will provide perpetual funding for the George Rogers Clark Land Trust (GRCLT), a nonprofit that has preserved hundreds of acres of farmland through partnerships with farmers across Southern Indiana.

The Land Trust’s namesake, George Rogers Clark, was an American military officer and land surveyor. As compensation for his wartime service, he was granted 150,000 acres in southern Indiana, an area that became known as Clark’s grant. The soldiers who fought with him also received smaller tracts of land. These holdings encompassed present-day Clark County, and portions of adjoining Floyd and Scott counties.

Founded in 1999 by the Clark County Soil and Water Conservation District, the George Rogers Clark Land Trust provides

“We recognize the need for an enduring, long term income source that also offers opportunities for interested folks to invest in our mission and vision,” said Pat Larr, a board member for the George Rogers Clark Land Trust. “We are impressed with the track record and flexibility of the Scott County Community Foundation, and appreciate the opportunity to receive matching dollars for our fund.”

“We are thankful to the George Rogers Clark Land Trust Board of Directors for their trust in the Scott County Community Foundation to manage these permanent assets,” said SCCF Executive Director Jaime Toppe.

Those interested in preserving agricultural land and supporting the GRCLT mission are encouraged to contribute to the Farms Forever Endowment. Tax-deductible gifts can be made online at www.scottcountyfoundation.org or mailed to Scott County Community Foundation; PO Box 25; Scottsburg, IN 47170.

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Community Raises Funds for Devonna Tscheulin Memorial Fund



Chicago City pizza owners John and Renee are shown with members of Devonna Tscheulin's family: her sister-in-law Amanda Sears, oldest brother Jared Sears, nephew Wil Sears, and her daddy, Joe Sears. A total of \$2,102.25 was raised from two fundraisers, donations from the staff of Versiti Blood Centers of Indiana, and from the generosity of people who just wanted to give. The donations will benefit the

Devonna Tscheulin Memorial Fund. The special events were held in honor of Devonna's birthday, Feb. 14.

John and Renee donated 100% of the proceeds from their lunch fundraiser held Feb. 13, raising \$1,779. Devonna's family hosted a homemade biscuit and gravy breakfast fundraiser Feb. 14 in conjunction with a blood drive in her memory. The breakfast was cooked by her brother Jared, as Devonna loved his gravy. Through her memorial blood drive, 29 units of blood were donated.

A matching grant from Lilly Endowment Inc. will add \$4,204.50 to the fund, for a grand total of \$6,306.75 raised to benefit Scott County residents through the permanent unrestricted endowment fund.

This is the first year a grant will be awarded from Devonna's memorial fund during the Community Foundation's Community Grants Program. She first came to the Foundation in 2023 as a grant applicant for Scott County EMS, and the EMS was awarded a grant to purchase blood analyzers for the ambulances.

"Scott County showed up and showed out for Devonna," shared her family.

Fund Spotlight: Rosalind English Trust

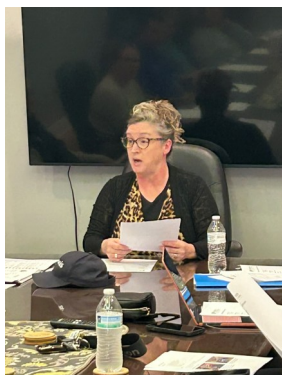
More than a century after her life was cut short, Rosalind Orr English is still making a difference in Scott County. That's the power of a legacy gift—a single act of generosity that continues to support community needs for generations.

At our recent board meeting, Hope White with Norton Scott Hospital shared the impact of a \$4,500 grant from the Rosalind English Trust Fund at the Community Foundation. The funding supported Women's Health Night last October, providing free health screenings and resources to local women. The event reached numerous attendees, many of whom received services they might not otherwise have accessed. The stories shared illustrated how meaningful—and sometimes life-changing—these screenings can be.

"I was so thankful for my free screening," shared Lisa B.

"I hate having a mammogram but Hope makes you feel less stressed," shared Polly C.

What makes this impact especially powerful is the history behind the fund. Rosalind Orr English was the daughter of Capt. William E. and Helen English. At just four years old, she unveiled the stat-



ue of her grandfather, William H. English, on the courthouse square in 1907. She later became a trail-blazer in her own right, admitted to the State Bar on her 21st birthday. She also enjoyed horseback riding and flying airplanes—uncommon pursuits for women of her era.



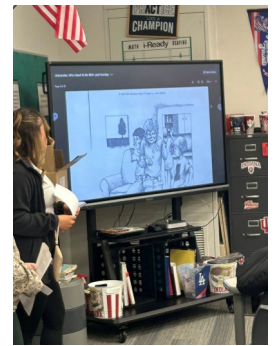
Tragically, Rosalind's life ended in an automobile accident in 1924. But her story did not end there.

Through a bequest in Capt. English's will, the Rosalind English Trust was established, and the Scott County Community Foundation was later named successor trustee. Today, that foresight continues to benefit the community she called home.

More than 100 years later, Rosalind's legacy is still supporting the health and well-being of women in Scott County. Her story is a reminder that legacy gifts are not just about honoring the past—they are about investing in the future. When donors create permanent funds or include the Community Foundation in their estate plans, they ensure their values and passions continue to shape the community for generations to come.

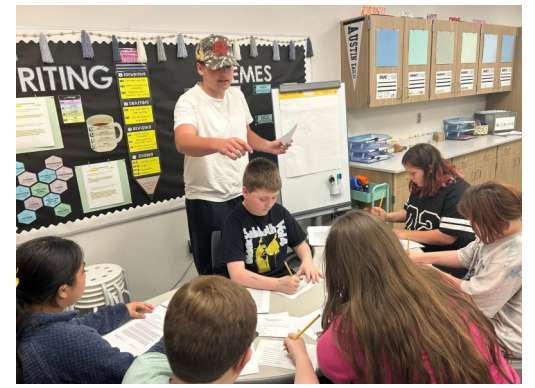
That is the beauty of legacy giving. One gift. One vision. A lasting impact.

YGC Members Teach Philanthropy to Austin Elementary Students



Board members for our Scott County Youth Grantmaking Council (“YGC”) visited Austin Elementary this year for their Philanthropy in the Classroom project. Fourth graders learned about fundraising, and received a tube of M&Ms to take home and fill back up with money donated. Fifth graders learned about grantwriting, and evaluated applications submitted by their teachers.

The fourth graders raised \$325, and YGC surprised the students with an announcement that we would give the difference to fully fund all the projects, totaling \$700. Congratulations to Susie Begley, \$158.32 for “Word Building Folders,” Michelle Smith, \$144.41 for outdoor recess toys, Tammy Treadway, \$194.20 for classroom books, and the TAG Leadership Team, \$200 for “Brag Tags” attendance incentive program.



StoryWalks® Promote Literacy and Movement



The family of Bob and Jane Davis sponsored two new StoryWalk books in their memory. “Llama Llama Mad at Mama” is at the Courthouse, and “How to Say Hello to a Worm” is at Spicertown Park, both through the end of June. A StoryWalk® is a series of signs placed along a trail. Each sign has a page from a book along with interactive activities to encourage movement and interaction with nature. The books are rotated quarterly. Two books were also replaced at Austin Community Park and Manauh Memorial Park. This is a wonderful way to enjoy the beautiful weather and the great outdoors. We appreciate our sponsors!



PO Box 25 Phone: 812.752.2057
 60 North Main Street Email: info@scottcountyfoundation.org
 Scottsburg, IN 47170
 www.scottcountyfoundation.org
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Looking Forward, Giving Back.

The Power of Local Giving



Scott County Soil and Water Conservation District board members John Donohue, Danny Smith, and Jonathan Abbott receive a check for \$400 from Executive Director Jaime Toppe. This is the first-ever grant awarded from the SWCD endowment fund, and will support their mission of protecting and conserving Scott County’s natural resources.



The Otis Collier Memorial Gardens at Lake Iola in Scottsburg is getting a refresh with a brand-new fountain, made possible through a \$4,904.31 grant to the City’s Parks Department. Otis Collier loved gardening and was known for his beautiful rose gardens. After he passed away, he left a bequest to the Scottsburg Beautification Committee, which created an endowment fund at the Foundation in his memory. Shown are Foundation board member Jamie Longacre with Parks Director Randy Richey and staff Monty Craig.

A grant was recently awarded from the Philip Glenn Martin Memorial Fund to support the Maverick Challenge, a business plan competition for Austin and Scottsburg high school students. Our board member, Shari Baumann, served as one of the judges. There were some fantastic ideas presented, with the Fragrance Bakery winning the competition.

