

# Inside the Foundation

*Dream Big*  
50 years  
BRYAN AREA  
Foundation  
1969 - 2019

## Dreaming Big



*"So many of our dreams at first seem impossible, then they seem improbable, and then, when we summon the will, they soon become inevitable," Christopher Reeve.*

In 1969 the dreams of our founding members might have seemed impossible and maybe even improbable. However they summoned the will and 50 years later the impact the Bryan Area Foundation has had on our community is inevitable! Let us share our top five dreams of 2019.

*Dream Big*  
50 years

### Scholarships

It is a dream to award over \$200,000 each year in scholarships to approximately 145 students, empowering them to achieve their dreams!

### Grants

Since 1969 over \$12.5 Million in grants has been awarded to fulfill dreams that have enhanced, built and served our community making it a great place to call home!

### Power in the Purse

It was a dream to start a **Women's Giving Circle** and in 2016 the dream was realized. Currently PIP has 99 members and has given over \$96,000 to area nonprofits since 2016!

### Bike Racks & Benches

In celebration of 50 years of giving, and to commemorate our many donors who dream along with us, the Foundation donated 11 bike racks and 5 park benches to the City of Bryan.

### Workshops

Nonprofits are the backbone of our community, and they dream about becoming stronger to help those they serve. This year four nonprofit workshops were held on the topics of Marketing, Strategic Planning, Financial & Legal, and Board Development.

As our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year comes to a close, we want to thank the community for dreaming along with us. We look forward to 2020 and will continue to pursue innovative and creative ways to further our mission and inspire our **COMMUNITY to DREAM BIG!**



## Message from our Chairman



As the winter season sets in, we are reminded that the “season of giving” is once again upon us. Of course, this thought process implies that the season of giving has a set time parameter. I’m thankful to be part of a Foundation where the “season of giving” lasts all year long!

Many of us will start thinking of our New Year’s Resolutions in the next few weeks. In addition to looking ahead, the Steel family has a New Year’s Eve tradition of each family member sharing a favorite memory from the past year. In keeping with that tradition, I wanted to invite everyone to reflect back and think about what their favorite Bryan Area Foundation memory from the past year was. Our most recent memories include:

- \* BAF held four different seminars designed to help local non-profits be successful.
- \* **“Power In The Purse” donated \$24,190 in 2019, including \$6,135 to our most recent grant recipient, The Hope Center in Montpelier, to help with youth and family community programming.**
- \* BAF donated \$200,000 to the new tennis court project located between the elementary school and the football field. Be sure to stop by and see the new tennis facility that will not only benefit the high school tennis teams, but also be a valuable resource to all our recreational community players.
- \* Have you found the 11 new bike racks we donated throughout Bryan in honor of our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary? Adalyn Fruchey did, as she was the winner of our bike rack photo contest that helped generate awareness of our project.

A special thank you to everyone who played a part in making 2019 and our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary a year for the memory books.

Finally, our Project 2020 team is making great progress on the design and funding requirements for our outdoor amphitheater. I’m looking forward to that being one of my favorite Bryan Area Foundation memories in the years to come. All for now.

May your Christmas and New Year  
be merry and bright!



Pam Bard Steel  
Chairman of the Board



# Project 2020

ENVISION . ENGAGE . INFLUENCE

In 2009, community members came together to form a giving circle, Project 2020. The goal of Project 2020 was to provide seed money for a major project or initiative in the year 2020 that would positively impact the future of our community.

*The implementation phase of the Fountain City Amphitheater with Interactive Fountains is well under way!* After an exhaustive study of various locations, including several in the downtown area, the Committee has chosen a site in the Bryan Recreation Park. Architecture plans of the Amphitheater have been drafted and a formal schematic of the interactive fountains is in process. The Amphitheater will be on a raised stage, approximately 38 feet in width and 34 feet in depth. The structure will be constructed of a very low maintenance, yet stylish, split-faced brick with a visually appealing roof and functional storage area at the rear. The interactive fountains will provide visual and interactive entertainment with 15 lighted jets which will dance in varying heights and thrusts in memorizing sequence. The City of Bryan and its Park and Recreation Department have been very cooperative with the process and will undertake maintenance and upkeep.



*Location in Bryan Recreation Park*

## *Fountain City Amphitheater with Interactive Fountains*



*Proposed drawing of amphitheater with interactive fountains.*

The Implementation Committee plans to have the project out for bids in January of 2020 with construction to be completed by the end of the summer. The first full season for events and activities will be in 2021. Fundraising is in process. In addition to the \$275,000 already raised by Project 2020 for the \$750,000 project, a grant with the Bryan Area Foundation is waiting final consideration and an application for State funding is in the works. It is anticipated there will be some additional fundraising required to complete the Project and to provide seed money for future events.



Affiliated with the  
Bryan Area Foundation

For more information, please contact the Bryan Area Foundation  
at 419-633-1156 or [www.BryanAreaFoundation.org](http://www.BryanAreaFoundation.org).



# Find a Rack...Win a Bike Contest!



In celebration of the Bryan Area Foundation's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 11 bike racks were donated to the community and placed throughout the City of Bryan. To highlight the locations of the bike racks, the FIND a RACK...WIN a BIKE CONTEST was held in October. All Williams County residents were eligible to enter the contest by taking a photo of themselves and posting it to the Foundation's Facebook page or email. The 1<sup>st</sup> place prize was a new bike. The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place prize was a bike chain and lock. CONGRATULATIONS!

## Find a Rack...Win a Bike!



Mia Mercer



Jeff Dye



Thanks for entering the FIND a RACK...WIN a BIKE CONTEST!



# Congratulations Adalyn Fruchey!



Thanks for entering the FIND a RACK...WIN a BIKE CONTEST!





# Bryan Athletic Boosters



*"We are very grateful to the Bryan Area Foundation and the community at-large for their support of this project."*

**- Mitchell Owens  
BHS Tennis Coach**

The Bryan Area Foundation recently awarded a grant of \$200,000 to the Bryan Athletic Boosters to construct six new tennis courts. The new courts are located between the elementary school and the football field. The project began this past summer and was completed in time for the girl's final tennis match. A building to store equipment and a sidewalk will be added to complete the project.

BHS tennis coach, Mitchell Owens, describes the significance of this project for the community, school, and tennis team, "While the new tennis courts benefit the school's PE programs and the community at-large, having six courts will enable us to expand our roster, diversify our drills, host league and state tournaments, and honor past achievements of our players, teams and coaches."



*Last match of the season between Bryan and Defiance at the new BHS Tennis Courts.*

# Millcreek-West Unity Area Foundation



The Millcreek-West Unity Area Foundation awarded a grant of \$2,350 for the Alvordton Community Park. The donation will be used to purchase aluminum bleachers to provide permanent seating for spectators at the ball diamond.

Shown accepting the donation are (L to R) Millcreek Township trustees Del Kune, Don Kunkle and Bob Short; Millcreek-West Unity Area Foundation trustee Lew Hilkert; and summer ball program coaches Rob Layman and son Roarke and Caleb Clark and son Ethan.







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## *Holiday Hours*

The Foundation office will  
be closed on:

Tuesday, December 24th  
Wednesday, December 25th  
Tuesday, December 31st  
Wednesday, January 1st

## Good Citizen Award

This prestigious award, endowed by the Hawk family in memory of their parents, Howard C. and Mary Allene Hawk, is presented annually to one of Bryan's outstanding citizens. Nomination forms may be picked up at the Foundation office or downloaded on the website: [www.BryanAreaFoundation.org/good-citizen](http://www.BryanAreaFoundation.org/good-citizen).



The deadline for nominations is February 1, 2020.

Completed nomination forms may be dropped  
off at the Foundation office or mailed to:  
P.O. Box 651, Bryan, OH 43506

The 1987 Good Citizen recipient Art Spletzer, standing, congratulates the 2018 recipient George Gardner (L) & Dean Spangler (R) the 2019 recipient.

Turn in Your  
Nomination  
Today!

## *Merry Christmas and Happy New Year*