



Inside the Foundation

Volume 24, Issue 2
Winter 2023

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- 2021 Constance Tipton
- 2022 Robert Rowan

Congratulations, Bill! 2023 Good Citizen



You know you have a deserving Howard C. and Mary Allene Hawk Good Citizen Award winner when it takes four people to introduce and address his achievements! Bill Martin, our 2023 recipient, far exceeded qualifications for this prestigious honor. A Bryan resident for just 24 years, Bill is no stranger to northwest Ohio. He grew up in Ayersville on his family's farm and, after graduation from high school, received his accounting degree from Bowling Green State University. After school, Bill moved to Greensboro, North Carolina, where he served as Vice President/Controller for Pilliot Furniture before moving to Bryan in August of 1999 to become Spangler Candy Company's controller.



Presenting Bill with the award are (left to right) Diana Moore Eschhofen, BAF Chair; recipient Bill Martin; and Amy Miller, BAF President/CEO.

In 2001, Bill was promoted to Director of Finance and Administration and joined Spangler's Management Committee. Two years later, he was named Spangler's Chief Financial Officer and in 2014 became the first and only non-Spangler family member to be named President of Spangler Candy Company. That same year, Bill was named Businessperson of the Year by the Bryan Area Chamber of Commerce.

Outside work, Bill chaired the 2012 effort to raise funds for a new press box at the Bryan High School Football Stadium, led the 2013 Bryan City Schools levy, and oversaw the 2016 \$2.7 million campaign for the YMCA, and the 2017 effort to renew the Bryan City Schools operating levy. While achieving all those outstanding accomplishments, Bill was an active St. Patrick Catholic Church member, coaching youth basketball, and serving on the finance and Toledo Symphony committees. He was the treasurer of the Williams County Family YMCA, a member of Big Brothers/Big Sisters, the Bryan Athletic Boosters, and the board of the Bryan Soccer Association.

Bill is involved with the Bryan Rotary Club Board, Williams County Port Authority, Project Next, and has been the Vice Chair, Chair, and a Trustee of the Bryan Area Foundation. Bill was a vital part of Project 2020, and his participation on the Community Impact Committee has helped revitalize the downtown Bryan Square.



Pictured with Bill Martin (center) are his nominators from left to right: Diana Moore Eschhofen, Julie Brown, Mayor Carrie Schlade, and Chip Wood.

Bryan is better because of Bill Martin; but if you want to see his face light up, ask him about his family. He will be the first to say he couldn't do any of this without the support of his wife and his children, their significant others, and his grandchildren.

Thank you, Bill, for your selflessness, compassion, and commitment to improving our community! Your efforts have enhanced the quality of life for our area now and for generations to come.

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.



Message from our Chair & Inclusive Playground



Diana Moore Eschhofen

Chair of the Board

The end of the year is a wonderful time to reflect on accomplishments, and the list is LONG for the Bryan Area Foundation (BAF) in 2023. A new BAF building on the historic courthouse square, significant investments in downtown renovations and businesses, a (Project) Next step in generating excitement for future developments benefiting the area, supporting our neighboring communities, new BAF members, a website promoting Bryan (www.visitbryanohio.com), distribution of scholarships to encourage those pursuing their dreams, and successful fundraising to ensure enjoyment by our residents for generations to come.

Of course, the end of the year is also a perfect time to consider a gift to the Bryan Area Foundation. Please contact the BAF for assistance if you need information regarding existing funds or details on setting up a new one.

Wishing you all a joyful Christmas season and a blessed New Year!



There's Still Time to Get Involved!!!

On Friday, September 29, more than seventy-five people gathered to celebrate the groundbreaking of the future Lincoln Park Inclusive Playground being built at the former Lincoln Elementary School site. Master of Ceremonies Mayor Carrie Schlade introduced speakers including State Representative Jim Hoops, State Senator Rob McColley, The Ability Center of Greater Toledo Executive Director Stuart James, and City of Bryan Parks and Recreation Board Member Paula Kline. All reiterated the need for a local destination where children and families of all physical, mental, and social abilities can learn, play, and grow together.

The short ceremony recognized and thanked individual supporters, service groups, the Blizzard Auction, local corporate partners, and city and state grantees who raised the \$730,000 needed to build the inclusive playground and fully accessible bathroom. Incorporating the Seven Principles of Universal Design, the playground will include ramp entry points, a poured-in-place surface, braille and picture boards, a flush-to-ground merry-go-round, zipline, expression swings, and more.

The Lincoln Park Inclusive Playground, scheduled to open in the spring of 2024, is still collecting funds for a pavilion and future upgrades.



LINCOLN
play  **PARK inclusive**
ground
bryan, ohio



Designated & Organizational Funds



The Bryan Area Foundation observed Foundation Week, Sunday, October 15 - Saturday, October 21, and as part of that week, awarded 78 grants from designated and organizational funds, totaling more than \$274,541 to various non-profits. Listed below are the current designated and organizational funds of the Bryan Area Foundation and its affiliates. To learn more about designated and organizational funds and how to establish one, please contact Amy Miller at the Bryan Area Foundation office to schedule an appointment. (419-633-1156)



Designated Funds

4-H Activities Fund
Benedict Family Outstanding Educator Award in Memory of Greg Benedict Fund
Bill and Helen Stine Memorial Fund
Bob and Joyce Markey Fund
Bob E. Rose Fund
Brown Cemetery Memorial Fund
C. Library Fund
Carter Kissel Friends of the Library Fund
Carter Kissel Village Park Fund
Catherine Markey Anderson Library Fund
Chris Gotshall Memorial Fund
Cora Isaac Memorial Fund
Darrell D. Bayes and Eleanor E. Bayes Memorial Fund (Humane)
Denver G. Taylor and Mildred P. Taylor Memorial Fund
Duane and Sharon King Designated Fund
Earl Walters and John Patten Fair Foundation Fund
Edward and Elma Auchard Fund
Etoll-Essi-Isaac Fund
Ewing Pendleton Knox and Eleanor Jane Knox Memorial Fund (Library)
Ewing Pendleton Knox, Eleanor Jane Knox and Evelyn Jepson Gotshall Memorial Fund (Humane)
George and Dolores Mellott Memorial Fund
George Azar and Mary Ade Isaac Memorial Fund

Organizational Funds

Academic Booster Club of Bryan City Schools Fund
ACRES, Inc. Endowment Fund
Boy Scouts Endowment Fund
Bryan Civic League Fund
Bryan Rotary Foundation, Inc. Endowment Fund
City of Bryan Senior Center Building Endowment Fund
David Betts Double Play Diamond Fund
First Presbyterian Church Endowment Fund
Four County Career Center Endowment Fund
Hip Klotz Athletic Booster Fund
Montpelier Fire Department Endowment Fund
Montpelier Rotary Endowment Fund
Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center Endowment Fund
St. Patrick Church Endowment Fund

Gladys E. Isaac Memorial Fund
Gotshall Family First Church of Christ Fund
Henry and Wanda Walters Historical Society Fund
Henry and Wanda Walters Wesley UMC Fund
Howard C. and Mary Allene Hawk Memorial Fund
Howard L. and Laurena L. Arnos American Cancer Fund
Howard L. and Laurena L. Arnos American Heart Fund
James A. and Jane A. Hutchinson Fund
Jerome J. Hartman Fund
John G. and Marilyn C. Toner Fund - Williams County Historical
John G. and Marilyn C. Toner Fund - Williams County Veterans Memorial
Laura Lee "Lolly" Benner Booth Memorial Fund
Lilly George Isaac Wesley UMC Fund
Linda Wiley Fox Memorial Fund
Members Fund
Richard C. Anderson Designated Fund
Robert Markey Memorial Fund
Roger O. Burkholder Memorial Fund
Rosa Isaac Memorial Alliance Church Fund
Rosa Isaac Memorial Bryan City Parks Fund
Rosa Isaac Memorial Roseland Park Fund
Thomas M. and Susan Y. Herman Fund
Thoral and Marjorie Mitchell Memorial Designated Fund
William and Nancy Martens Fund





Grants - Bryan



Black Swamp Area Council of the Boy Scouts



The Bryan Area Foundation awarded the Black Swamp Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America a \$25,000 grant to build a new lodge/dining hall at Camp Lakota. The Walter and Esther Jackson Faben Memorial Field of Interest Fund provided the majority of the funding for this grant. The future Cooper Lodge will serve as the only four-season building for large gatherings at the 640-acre camp. Once the construction is complete, the lodge will also host volunteer and youth trainings, including STEM and climbing courses.

Pictured left to right during the check presentation are BAF President/CEO Amy Miller and Black Swamp Area Council Scout Executive Marc Kogan.

Bryan Bear Bags

The Bryan Bear Bags program exists to provide nutritious food over the weekend to Bryan City School students and their families with food insecurity. Entirely funded by individual donations and community food drives, during the 2022-2023 school year, the average number of weekly bags sent home was nearly 40. This school year, the number of bags has increased to 75 per week. The Bryan Area Foundation awarded the Bryan Bear Bags a \$2,500 grant, enabling the program to continue providing access to needed food during this peak time.

Pictured during the check presentation are, left to right, Bryan Bear Bags volunteer Julie Cummins, BAF President/CEO Amy Miller, and BAF Grant Making Committee Chair Mark Miller.



Bryan Swim Team



The Bryan Swim Team was awarded a \$13,000 grant from the Bryan Area Foundation to buy an additional set of six new starting blocks and twelve block covers. Used and housed permanently at the Williams County Family YMCA for the winter swim season, this purchase will eliminate the need to transport the starting blocks to Moore Memorial Pool during the summer swim session. The Foundation also awarded the Bryan Swim Team a \$2,500 grant to get a replacement diving board for the YMCA.

Pictured left to right during the check presentation and swim practice is BAF President/CEO Amy Miller, Bryan Swim Team Treasurer Natalie Smith, Bryan Swim Team members Griffin Davis and Ava Moore, Bryan Swim Team Coach Makenzie Luce, and Bryan Dive Team member Kaedyn Ward.

CPC Women's Health Resources

The Bryan Area Foundation gave the CPC Women's Health Resource a \$2,500 grant to help them with their Earn While You Learn (EWYL) program. Expectant and new parents can attend free EWYL sessions; and after each participant has completed the course, they earn baby bucks, enabling them to "purchase" new equipment, such as cribs, car seats, diapers, formula, and more. The grant monies will assist CPC Women's Health Resource to purchase updated curriculum literature and DVDs in English and Spanish.

Pictured left to right during the check presentation are BAF President/CEO Amy Miller and CPC Women's Health Resource Executive Director Mark Pitman.



Grants - Bryan



LifeWise Academy Bryan



The Bryan Area Foundation has committed a grant of up to \$25,000, matching community contributions dollar for dollar to support LifeWise Academy Bryan. A Field of Interest Fund will provide the matching grant funding from the Foundation. Due to a shortage of licensed school bus drivers, LifeWise Academy Bryan will transition from their red school bus to using two 15-passenger shuttles that do not require a CDL license to drive. These shuttles will transport students from Bryan City Schools to LifeWise Academy Bryan. Those interested in supporting this

campaign, should contact LifeWise Academy Bryan Director Jack Brace at jackbrace@lifewise.org or mail contributions to P.O. Box 7115, Bryan, Ohio 43506.

Pictured left to right during the check presentation are LifeWise Academy Bryan teacher Summer Fernihough, BAF President/CEO Amy Miller, LifeWise Academy Bryan teacher Tina Shirkey, LifeWise Academy Bryan Director Jack Brace, and LifeWise Academy Bryan Bus Driver Larry Harsila.

Sarah's Friends

A \$2,500 grant was awarded to Sarah's Friends, Inc., for installation costs of new LED fixtures. The fixtures replaced existing fluorescent lighting in their offices resulting in long-term maintenance savings. This non-profit, founded in 1991, is Williams County's leading crime victim services organization, aiding more than 175 individuals annually. The Bryan Area Foundation grant helped pay for the new lighting, alleviating the need to pull funding from program support.

Pictured left to right during the check presentation are BAF Grant Making Committee Chair Mark Miller, BAF President/CEO Amy Miller, Sarah's Friends, Inc. Executive Director Katie Shaffer, and Sarah's Friends, Inc. Survivor Advocate Cathy Schmidlin.



Williams County Habitat for Humanity



A \$2,500 grant from the Bryan Area Foundation was given to the Williams County Habitat for Humanity for their 2023 Joe Pilarski Memorial Build in Bryan. The monies were used to purchase the home's flooring before the new owner moved in earlier this month. Since 1991, Williams County Habitat for Humanity has built 36 residences in Bryan, Montpelier, Edgerton, Edon, Pioneer, West Unity, and Stryker, and none of this would have been possible without the generosity of vendors, volunteers, and donations.

Standing on the home's porch accepting the check are left to right Williams County Habitat for Humanity Board Member Duane Knisely, Williams County Habitat for Humanity Board President Steve Collins, Mark It Done Contractor Mark Vetter, Williams County Habitat for Humanity Board Member Lisa Wert, BAF President/CEO Amy Miller, Williams County Habitat for Humanity Board Members Ross Widney and Roz Wendorf, and Habitat for Humanity Executive Director Mary Ann Peters.

December 28 is the deadline for all grant applications to be considered in March. You can drop off all applications in person no later than Thursday, December 28, or mail them to PO Box 651, Bryan, OH 43506. Applications & Instructions can be found @ www.bryanareafoundation.org (GRANTS tab).



Affiliate Grants

Edon Area Foundation



The Edon Area Foundation recently awarded four local community organizations with grants.

- The Village of Edon received \$6,000 to help pay for the inclusive portion of the Walz Park Playground.
- The Friends of the Edon Library were given \$5,000 to assist in updating their current facility.
- The Edon Summer Ball League received \$1,000 for program enhancements.
- The Edon Area Ministerial Association accepted \$377.50 for programming support.

Pictured left to right during the check presentation are Lee Lawrence, Village of Edon Park Committee Chairman; Jo Ann Luce, Edon Area Foundation Representative; Cindy Jewell, Edon Public Library Branch Manager; Trista Wehrle, Edon Summer Ball League Treasurer; Jim Gallehue, Edon Area Foundation Representative; and Jeff Bowling, Edon Area Ministerial Association Manager of the Edon Food Pantry.

Millcreek-West Unity Foundation

The Millcreek-West Unity Foundation gave the Village of West Unity a \$4,000 grant to build a 6'x12' gazebo at East End Park and purchase a few picnic tables to go under it. Since the Village installed a swing set a couple of years ago, they have had an increase in children playing in the park. As a result a request was made to provide shelter for them. The project will be completed once all the funds are raised.

Pictured left to right during the check presentation are West Unity Mayor Donovan Leu and Millcreek West Unity Foundation Trustees Abbie Smith and Kathy Stipe.



Montpelier Area Foundation



The Montpelier Area Foundation awarded \$3,750 in grants due to the generosity of Montpelier resident Janet Bennett. Those monies will be used for the following:

- \$900 to Friends of the Montpelier Parks for their Tie Dye program
- \$900 to Helping Hands Food Pantry
- \$1,050 to Montpelier Public Library for Wonderbooks
- \$900 to Montpelier Exempted Village Schools for unpaid lunch accounts & the elementary school library

Pictured left to right during the check presentations are Montpelier Exempted Village Schools representative Michele Anderson; Montpelier Area Foundation President Barb Watson, who is also representing Hands Helping Hands Ministry/Helping Hand Food Pantry; Montpelier Area Foundation Kara Custar, also representing Friends of Montpelier Parks; and Montpelier Public Library Director Angie Humphrey.

Together we can do great things!!

Good things come in threes! At the Power in the Purse (PIP) fourth quarter meeting, the women's giving circle affiliated with the Bryan Area Foundation awarded not one but three grants to local non-profit organizations!

The fourth quarter PIP grant of \$6,275 will go to the Bryan Bear Bags program, providing nutritious food over the weekend to Bryan City Schools students and their families with food insecurity. PIP monies will enable the Bryan Bear Bags to fulfill the 75 bags per week request this year.



Eight years ago, when PIP started, it was determined that being a member of the organization would cost \$250 per individual. The first \$50 would support the PIP endowment fund, and the remaining membership fee would be used each quarter as a grant for the voted-on and winning nonprofit organization. It also established that when the endowment fund reached \$25,000, it would start receiving distributions on the account.

The endowment fund is now \$52,110, with this year's distribution of \$3,011. At the fourth quarter PIP meeting, the attending membership approved giving a \$1,500 grant to an organization that had been nominated and presented but lost in 2023; "a second chance drawing." The remaining \$1,511 would be held for the future.

And the Second Chance PIP Winner was.....a tie! So, the \$1,500 was split between Joyful Bird Ministries to expand care services for women navigating the issues of life and Bryan Swim Team Association to assist in purchasing new heating equipment for East End and Moore pools.

2023 PIP Recipients

1st Quarter Recipient

The Sanctuary Homeless Shelter - \$5,725

2nd Quarter Recipient

Storehouse 4 Hope - \$6,025

3rd Quarter Recipient

Operation Clean Duds - \$6,275

4th Quarter Recipients

Bryan Bear Bags - \$6,275

Bryan Swim Team Assoc. - \$750*

Joyful Bird Ministries - \$750*

***Endowment Grants**

2023 Total Grants: \$25,725

This was the last meeting for our Member-at-Large Diana Moore Eschhofen and Chair Shirley Fry. Diana will remain involved in PIP, but Jo Ann Luce will now serve in this position.

Thank you, Diana, for serving on PIP's board since its inception! Shirley will take over as Treasurer, and we are grateful for her leadership during her time as Chair. Other board members continuing their involvement but in a new role are as follows:

POWER in the PURSE



PIP

Established in 2016, PIP has donated over **\$198,300 to 36 non-profit projects** serving Northwest Ohio. If you want to make a difference in our community and learn more about PIP, consider joining us at our next meeting:
Monday, January 29, 2024
First Presbyterian Church
@ 7:00PM

Contact Jenny Horn at
#419-633-1156
jhorn@bryanareafoundation.org

Thank you to our corporate sponsors:



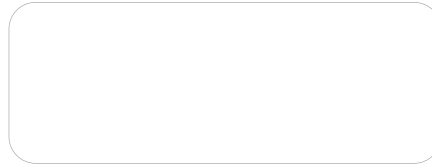
Chair: Cheryl Andres
Vice Chair: Lora Manon
Secretary: Kathy Smith
Treasurer: Shirley Fry
Program Director: Jeanette Roberts
Publicity Director: Karin Bowers
Member-at-Large: Jody Freeman
Member-at-Large: Jo Ann Luce



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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Holiday Hours

The Foundation office
will be closed on:

Friday, December 22nd
Monday, December 25th
Friday, December 29th
Monday, January 1st

Good Citizen Award

It's that time again! Yes, we just announced the 2023 Good Citizen Award, and now we are seeking nominations for the 2024 Good Citizen.

Each nominee must be or have been:

- A resident of Bryan for at least 20 years.
- Active in unpaid positions in organizations providing services to Bryan.
- An officer or director of a nonprofit organization.
- Associated with at least one outstanding accomplishment for the Bryan community.

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.

The deadline for nominations is: Thursday, February 1, 2024

Applications can be found @ www.bryanareafoundation.org. Completed nomination forms may be dropped off at the Foundation office or mailed to:

Bryan Area Foundation, P.O. Box 651, Bryan, OH 43506



Give a gift that lasts forever.

A donation made to a Bryan Area Foundation endowed fund benefits our community now and for generations to come.

Below are a few strategies for giving this Holiday Season:

1. Consider making gifts using IRA dollars: If you are age 70 ½ or older, you may transfer up to \$100,000 annually (or \$200,000 as a couple) from your IRA accounts directly to a charity without having to recognize the distribution as taxable income, potentially saving federal, state, and local income taxes. You may request that your IRA custodian cut a check directly to a charity (called a qualified charitable distribution (QCD)). This strategy works well for individuals who cannot itemize deductions on their tax returns. Additionally, if you are taking required minimum distributions (RMDs), these donations can be used to satisfy your RMDs. [1]

2. Donate highly appreciated securities: If you are making a meaningful gift to a qualified charity like the Bryan Area Foundation, you may be able to donate a stock, mutual fund, or exchange-traded fund (ETF) in kind. By doing so, you can avoid realizing the gain on the security at the sale (and the resulting tax). The charity can sell the security and does not realize the gain if they are a qualified organization.[2] A win for both the giver and receiver!

3. Establish your own named fund: The Bryan Area Foundation has a variety of endowed fund types for assisting donors like you in achieving your long-term philanthropic goals. Acorn funds can be established for as little as \$1,000, and community funds can be fully established for as little as \$5,000. If having your own named fund, or a fund to recognize your family or a loved one is of interest to you, reach out to the Foundation to learn more.

4. Give to an existing endowed fund: Interested in making a one-time gift to support an organization or a cause that you are passionate about, while receiving a tax benefit this calendar year? The Bryan Area Foundation has over 396 funds, many established to benefit specific organizations and causes. If you have an interest in making a one-time gift before the end of the year, we can help you identify a fund matching your charitable interests.

Regardless of your individual decisions, conferring with a financial advisor or legal professional is best to ensure all gifts accomplish your goals and follow IRS guidelines.

Important Disclosure Information & Sources:

[1] "IRA FAQs – Distributions (Withdrawals)." Internal Revenue Service, 2023, [irs.gov](https://www.irs.gov).

[2] "About Publication 526, Charitable Contributions." Internal Revenue Service, 2023, [irs.gov](https://www.irs.gov).

Happy Holidays!



Two Ways to Give to a Bryan Area Foundation Fund:

Donate by Check:

Thank you!!

- 1 Choose a fund.
- 2 Complete a giving envelope.
- 3 Write a check to Bryan Area Foundation. Note the fund name in the memo line.
- 4 Return to BAF via mail: PO Box 651, Bryan, OH 43506 or drop off at the office: 124 South Lynn Street, Bryan.

Donate Online:

- 1 Go to BAF website: www.bryanareafoundation.org.
- 2 Click on "Donate Now" from the blue main menu.
- 3 Complete needed information then add to the giving cart.
- 4 Complete payment transaction.

Please contact the BAF with any questions. #419-633-1156
www.bryanareafoundation.org

