



Bryan Area Foundation Honors **David M. Schumm** with 2026 Good Citizen Award

The Bryan Area Foundation is proud to announce that the 2026 Howard C. and Mary Allene Hawk Good Citizen Award has been presented to David M. Schumm — or as his preschool friends affectionately know him, “Mr. Dave.”

Presented annually to a distinguished Bryan resident who has served the community in an unpaid capacity for at least 20 years, this prestigious award recognizes individuals whose contributions leave a lasting mark on the fabric of our town. This year, there is no more fitting recipient than Dave Schumm, a servant leader and steward of Bryan for over 50 years.

Dave was nominated by McKenzie Nau, who highlighted a remarkable list of philanthropic service that speaks to the breadth of his commitment. Over the decades, Dave has given his time and talents to Bryan Kiwanis, the Black Swamp Arts Council, CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), One-on-One Mentoring, First Lutheran as Youth Director, the Bryan Area Foundation, the Bryan Tree Commission, the Bread of Life Community Center, and Youth Sports coaching. And then, of course, there is “Mr. Dave” — guitar in hand, strumming songs for Parks and Recreation preschoolers and visiting area nursing homes to bring a little joy to those who need it most. As McKenzie put it, Dave is “the smiling gentleman we see all over Bryan, always ready to volunteer.”

Perhaps no tribute captures Dave’s spirit better than the words of his children, Katie McFaddin and Jonathan Schumm. Katie, who works closely with college students, shared a reflection that cuts to the heart of what makes her father extraordinary:

“More often than not, students talk about community as something of a commodity — something they expect to come to them. That perspective is at odds with what Jonathan and I grew up observing. What dad demonstrated for us is that community is a verb. It’s something you co-create with others wherever you are. No one loves a routine more than Dave Schumm, and for decades his daily and weekly routines have intentionally and consistently centered on his community — whether serving on planning boards, planning art shows, or meeting his daily coffee break crew. He has dedicated so much to building relationships, traditions, and a community we are proud to call home.”

Dave Schumm has literally and figuratively planted trees in Bryan whose shade we will all enjoy for years to come. Thank you, Dave, for making Bryan a better place to live, work, and raise a family. Congratulations on this well-deserved honor.



Pictured is Dave’s family, left to right are wife Jan Schumm, Dave, daughter-in-law Amy Schumm with grandchildren Mason and Skylar, son Jonathan Schumm, and daughter Katie McFaddin.

Previous Good Citizens

- 1980 John Dwyer
- 1981 Forrest Witzerman
- 1982 Rosa Isaac
- 1983 Howard Rogge
- 1984 Lemuel Hawk
- 1985 Grant Brown
- 1986 Ernestine Spangler
- 1987 Arthur Spletzer, Jr.
- 1988 Neva Ringer
- 1989 John & Virginia Hartman
- 1990 Mildred Mayberry
- 1991 Luke & Mary Thaman
- 1992 Tom Voigt
- 1993 Tom Herman
- 1994 Tony Gretick
- 1995 Bill Pepple
- 1996 George Isaac
- 1997 Markey & Anderson Families
- 1998 Paul & June Webster
- 1999 Theodore Spangler
- 2000 Laura Kesler
- 2001 Bruce Benedict
- 2002 Richard Buchsteiner
- 2003 Rusty Brunicardi
- 2004 Albert Horn, Jr.
- 2005 Wayne Shaffer
- 2006 Feroen Betts
- 2007 David Newcomer
- 2008 C. Gregory Spangler
- 2009 James & Richard Bard
- 2010 Dr. Robert Woodgeard
- 2011 Dr. George & Julie Brown
- 2012 Lou Mollett
- 2013 Dr. Richard & Charlene Hess
- 2014 Richard L. Reed
- 2015 Angelike Schreder
- 2016 Dave & LeeAnne Perkins
- 2017 Dr. John Moats
- 2018 George H. Gardner
- 2019 Dean Spangler
- 2020 J. Chip Wood
- 2021 Constance Tipton
- 2022 Robert Rowan
- 2023 Bill Martin
- 2024 Jim Tucker
- 2025 William and Pam Bard Steel



Transition of Board Chair

Message from our Outgoing Chair

During our annual Members Meeting held on May 13th, we took a look at the past year. Fiscal year 2026 was a record-breaking year for the Bryan Area Foundation in grants and scholarships awarded. We also saw the creation of a new Welcome Home Scholarship, continued focus on downtown revitalization, and community collaboration just to highlight a few successes. It also gave us the opportunity to celebrate our Good Citizen David Schumm. All in all it was a great evening!

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as Chairman of the Bryan Area Foundation over the past two years. During this time, I have gained an even deeper appreciation for the important role the Foundation plays in strengthening our community, supporting local organizations, and helping create opportunities for future generations.

I am grateful for the dedication of our members, donors, staff, and community partners. Their commitment to the mission of the Foundation allows us to continue making a meaningful impact throughout the community.

I am proud of the work we have accomplished together and believe the Foundation is in a strong position for the future. I'd like to wish Tom Turnbull the best as he begins his Chairmanship soon, and also thank my predecessor Diana Moore Eschhofen for her wonderful example as a leader. I am confident that the Foundation's leadership will build on the momentum we have created and continue to serve our community with vision, integrity, and purpose.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve in this role. It has truly been a rewarding experience, and I look forward to seeing the Bryan Area Foundation continue to grow and make a positive difference in the years ahead.



Steve Hess

Thank you for serving, Steve!

Message from our Incoming Chair



Enhance. Build. Serve. Give.

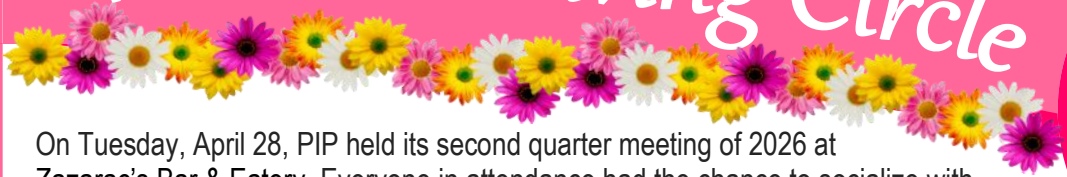
These four words capture the mission of the Bryan Area Foundation. As I reflect on each one, I am reminded of the quality of life we enjoy living in Bryan and the surrounding area, and of our friends and neighbors who make it possible. We are fortunate to live in a community that honors its history while planning for the future, and that continues to improve through individuals willing to step forward. Their generosity strengthens the Foundation, supports meaningful grants, and helps improve lives across our community.

We are also grateful for the leadership of our President/CEO, Amy, along with our leadership team and Trustees. By reviewing the past, evaluating our mission, and planning for the future, we can focus our energy where it matters most: meeting the needs of our community, by building a stronger future.

Tom Turnbull
Chair of the Board

I am grateful to work alongside so many talented members who contribute in countless ways. I especially appreciate Steve Hess for his steady leadership over the past two years. Thank you, Steve. I look forward to building on the Foundation's success and moving forward, creating new opportunities to impact and improve our communities by working together with our members and staff.

Women's Giving Circle



On Tuesday, April 28, PIP held its second quarter meeting of 2026 at Zazarac's Bar & Eatery. Everyone in attendance had the chance to socialize with food and beverages before the meeting. PIP currently has **97 members** with an endowment fund of **\$74,189**.

PIP member Emily Ebaugh introduced her son, Bronson, who expressed his gratefulness for the \$5,550 first-quarter grant benefiting the Bread of Life Community Center. The nonprofit, housed in the former First Lutheran Church, will use the money to keep its food bank, diaper bank, and feminine hygiene products stocked. Founded by Pastor Richard Franks and his wife, PIP member Betty Franks, Bread of Life Community Center has seen a dramatic increase in its services in the northeast neighborhood and surrounding areas of Bryan, Ohio. This grant will allow them to continue improving the physical, mental, and spiritual well-being of those they serve.



We had seven nominations that Tuesday, representing four groups. The three nonprofits that were picked and presented are as follows:

Lily Creek Farms: Nominated by Cheryl Andres and presented by Jami Young, Lily Creek Farms' mission is to help individuals heal mind, body, and spirit through equine-assisted and farm-related activities. Funded by donations and grants from organizations and individuals, Williams County has 40% participation in Lily Creek Farms' programs. There is a \$40 charge, but the actual cost is \$200. The PIP grant would help cover the difference and pay additional elements that support Lily Creek Farms and its various therapies.



RISE Northwest Ohio: Founded in the spring of 2025, this pilot program was nominated by Emily Ebaugh and presented by Aileen Meyer. An initiative of the Center for Community Impact, RISE Northwest Ohio was created in response to the persistent challenges the social sector faces in

building sustainable organizations and programs. The PIP grant would help develop, incubate, refine, and scale innovative strategies to address the most pressing issues facing social enterprise sector groups serving rural communities.

Special Olympics of Williams County: Nominated and presented by Angela Luke, the Special Olympics of Williams County is training local athletes for their upcoming summer games in Columbus, Ohio. Hosted at The Ohio State University, the event will feature participants competing in various sports, including bocce, long jump, shot put, and mini javelin. But the games are far more about earning medals. They are about providing opportunities, building confidence, and being seen for ability, effort, and heart. A PIP grant would remain in Williams County and assist athletes in preparing for the games and continuing programming for the organization.

And the Winner Is.....**After the votes were tallied, Lily Creek Farms won and will receive a \$6,100 grant!**



Established in 2016,
PIP has donated
**\$267,940 to 50 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:

Thursday, July 30, 2026
Zazarac's Bar & Eatery

Contact Jenny Horn at
#419-633-1156

jhorn@bryanareafoundation.org

Thank you to our
corporate sponsors:





Grants



Brady Township

The Millcreek-West Unity Foundation

awarded an \$8,000 grant to Brady Township for phase three of Rings Cemetery improvements. Started in June of 2023, the community group "Respect the Past" has been using funds to clean and repair tombstones in a non-active graveyard, home to many veterans. With funding from the State of Ohio discontinued due to the cemetery's inactive status, this grant will allow the group to continue their work and pay for supplies and contract labor to dig and set footers, and refurbish, restore, and purchase plaques to honor these heroes.



Pictured left to right during the check presentation are Brady Township Trustees Jim Eisel and Willie Grime, Millcreek-West Unity Foundation Board Member Lew Hilkert, Rings Cemetery Coordinator Marilyn Royal, and Brady Township Trustee Tim Nofziger.

Millcreek-West Unity Local School District

The Millcreek-West Unity Local School District recently received a \$5,000 grant from the Millcreek-West Unity Foundation. These funds were used in May to purchase awards recognizing students' hard work at various celebration programs, such as the Jr. High and Sr. High academic honors nights, and to support the Hilltop High School Hall of Fame alumni induction. The grant also provided refreshments at the induction ceremony.



Pictured left to right during the check presentation are Hilltop High School Principal Troy Cummins and Millcreek-West Unity Foundation President Patsy Miller.



Williams County Port Authority

Fountain Creek Senior Villas

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A new senior housing complex is in the works for Bryan, with completion expected near the end of 2027. The Fountain Creek Senior Villas, a \$14 million development, will bring 50 single-story apartment units to the area, each featuring two bedrooms, one bathroom, and a single-car garage. The project is being developed by Frontier Community Services, based in Chillicothe, Ohio.

Supporting the effort, the Bryan Area Foundation has awarded a \$100,000 grant, signaling strong local investment in addressing the housing needs of the region's older residents in what planners are calling the "Community Support Phase" of the broader initiative.

The Fountain Creek Senior Villas is expected to offer Bryan-area seniors an accessible, community-oriented living option as demand for quality senior housing continues to grow across northwest Ohio.

Grants



The Road to Liberty

Williams County, Ohio, is celebrating the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States of America by hosting a Founders' Museum, The Road to Liberty, within the historic Williams County Courthouse, and it will be offered for years to come. The exhibition, on display throughout the Courthouse, is for school children, their families, and community members from northwest Ohio. The Bryan Area Foundation, Millcreek-West Unity Foundation, and Montpelier Area Foundation awarded a total of \$5,250 in grants to support the program.

Megan Hill, Montpelier Exempted Village Schools Junior High School Social Studies teacher, conceived the idea. She worked with the Williams County Public Library Local History and Genealogy Center, other area high school government students and teachers, and county municipalities and organizations, so that visitors have the opportunity to see portraits and learn about signers of the Declaration of Independence, women of the revolution, key events from the revolution, and more.



Pictured participants at the check presentation, from left to right, are as follows: Montpelier Area Foundation members Jim Thompson and Alice Miller, Montpelier Area Foundation secretary Rachael Sostoi-Willis, Montpelier Exempted Village Schools Junior High School Social Studies teacher Megan Hill, Bryan High School Career Technical Center instructor Bernie Davis, Millcreek-West Unity Foundation President Patsy Miller, Williams County Recorder Patti Rockey, Williams County Public Library Assistant Director Denver Henderson, Bryan Area Foundation President/CEO Amy Miller and Bryan Area Foundation Grant Making committee members Mike Johnson and Larry Harsila.



Grant Deadline: Tuesday, June 30 for consideration in September!

Applications and instructions can be found at www.bryanareafoundation.org/grant-applications/

Join us on Saturday,
July 11 @ the Fountain
City Amphitheater!





Scholarships

Bryan High School

The Bryan Area Foundation awarded 80 scholarships to 46 soon-to-be Bryan High School graduates, totaling \$210,250. Congratulations to each of them and the other scholarship recipients, and thanks to the many donors and presenters who are helping these students achieve their educational goals!



2026 Scholarship recipients from the Bryan High School class of 2026

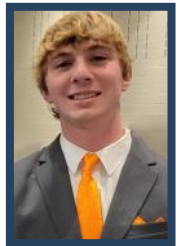
Edon High School



The Edon Area Foundation awarded 17 Edon High School seniors scholarships totaling \$67,500. Thanks to all the donors who helped make this possible, allowing these students to pursue their educational dreams. Good luck to them and all the other graduates in their future endeavors!

Pictured Edon High School recipients from left to right in the front row are Addyson Fritch, Brianna Fitch, Liliansa Stefano, and Lillian Stafford. In the second row from left to right are Shianne Trasuch, Emma Trent, Amanda Schwartz, Loralai Hawkins, Genna Ripke, Ella Osborn, and Grace Ripke. In the third row, left to right are Briggs Gallehue, Danny Avila-Garcia, Gauge Nester, and Kendol Brigle.

Congratulations to Gauge Nester on receiving the Tara Arnold Memorial Scholarship for \$1,000. This Williams County-wide scholarship was awarded at the Edon High School Scholarship night and is given to students with a GPA of 2.5 or higher pursuing a degree in law enforcement or a related field. This scholarship will help Gauge attend Bowling Green State University to study criminal justice. Congratulations to Gauge, and we wish him much luck in his future.



Edgerton High School



Edgerton High School Senior Ben Thompson, on the left, was awarded a Bryan Area Foundation scholarship for \$1,000. This will help him attend Trine University to study mechanical engineering and minor in aerospace engineering. Presenting the scholarship to him is Edgerton Junior High and High School Principal Brett Grieser. We wish Ben good luck as he pursues his education!



Hilltop High School

The Millcreek West Unity Foundation and Bryan Area Foundation awarded 9 Hilltop High School seniors \$23,750 in scholarships. Thanks to all the donors and presenters who helped make this possible, allowing these students to pursue their educational dreams. Good luck to them and all the other graduates in their future endeavors!

The Hilltop High School recipients, pictured left to right in the front row, are Kenley Routt, Lakota Siegel, Hayden JoHantgen, Molly Dickinson, and Brooklyn Kuszmaul. Back row, left to right, are Arend Schuurman, Brynn Rodriguez, Levi Cox, and Nathan Wieland.



Over \$404,400 Awarded



Fairview High School



Three Fairview High School students were awarded Bryan Area Foundation scholarships to help them achieve their educational goals. Isabel Mavis and Kenna Kauffman each received \$2,000 from the Ford Family Scholarship Fund. Isabel will use the money to attend the University of Findlay to learn about diagnostic medical sonography, while Kenna will study healthcare and human services at Western Michigan University.

From left to right, are Ford Family member Teresa Ford-Snyder, awarding Fairview recipients Isabel Mavis and Kenna Kauffman.



The Clarice Moats Memorial Scholarship for \$1,250 was presented to Aubrey Hammer, who plans on going to Defiance College to study exercise science.



Aubrey Hammer is receiving her scholarship from Bryan Area Foundation Scholarship Chair and member Jason Kunsman.

Montpelier High School

The Montpelier Area Foundation awarded \$34,984 in scholarships, along with the \$3,000 Mary Jestine Flightner and Ruth Spence Memorial Education Scholarship, to six graduating seniors at Montpelier High School. Thanks to all the donors and presenters who made this possible by helping these students pursue their educational dreams. Good luck to them and all the other graduates in their future endeavors.



Pictured from left to right are Montpelier High School scholarship recipients Alexa Stuck, Caroline Dick, Kenneth Smeltzer, Bria Friend, and Kaida Feeney. Missing from the photo is Griffin Cooley.

Stryker High

Congratulations to Stryker High School Seniors Abigail Oberlin and Reiss Creighton for receiving scholarships from the Bryan Area Foundation. Abigail, who will attend Ohio University, received the Donald L. and Martha M. Juillard Scholarship for \$5,000 and will study pre-law. Reiss Creighton, who will attend Bowling Green State University to study nursing, received \$1,000 from the Robert E. Willis and Elizabeth L. Willis Memorial Scholarship. Reiss also received the Mary Jestine Flightner Memorial Nursing Scholarship for \$3,000.

In the first picture, Abigail, on the left, is receiving her scholarship from Bryan Area Foundation President/CEO Amy Miller. In the second photo, Amy is presenting Reiss, on the right, with her two scholarships. Good luck to Stryker High School graduates Abigail and Reiss as they pursue their future goals!





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Pictured from left to right are Ali's family members and the scholarship recipient: Loren Held (Ali's father), Casen Herman (Ali's son), Drew Smith (scholarship recipient), Amelia Herman (Ali's daughter), and Cyndi Held (Ali's mother). Missing from photo: Cole Herman (Ali's son).

Join us on Saturday, July 18, 2026

This year's recipient of the Ali Held Herman Memorial Scholarship was Bryan senior Drew Smith. Drew will be attending Bowling Green University and majoring in Elementary Education

The memorial run/walk is an amazing way to celebrate the life of a community member who continues to make a lasting impact. Funds raised through this year's event will support the Ali Held Herman Memorial Scholarship Fund, administered by the Bryan Area Foundation, as well as several other community organizations.

Whether you plan to run, walk, volunteer, sponsor, donate, or simply help spread the word, every bit of support helps make this such a special community event.



Register by scanning the QR code or going directly to the following website:
<https://runsignup.com/Race/OH/Bryan/Ali-HeldHermanMemorialRun>
Up-to-date information can be found @ Ali Held Herman Memorial Run/
Walk Facebook page.

