

*.. dedicated to educate,
 communicate and celebrate
 community spirit through the
 generosity of our members.*

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Give Your Heart to Your Community in 2004

The Valentine's Day fundraiser is a great way to show your sweetheart that you really care. Not only do you show your love for them, but you also express your love for your community. A person makes a donation to any community foundation endowment fund of their choosing in the name of their special someone. By making this tax deductible donation, a song can be dedicated on the radio, a Valentine card sent or best of all, singing telegrams which can include flowers are available to really spice things up for this day of love.

This is the 5th year that the Fulton County Community foundation has participated in the popular fundraiser. On Friday February 13th they hit the airwaves at WROI 92.1 FM in Rochester to raise money for Fulton County endowments. More than fifty volunteers made up four different ensembles, delivering 55 singing telegrams to Valentines of all ages on Valentine's eve. They worked the radio, navigated the routes, chauffeured, played instruments and of course, sang! Everyone took pleasure in participating. The "unsuspecting" Valentines were the most appreciative! Approximately \$7,900.00 in gifts were contributed, all of which will go towards funds and endowments held with the Fulton County Community Foundation.



Loretta Erickson received a Valentine from her special someone.



Shane Smith gives Ed Hasnerl a hand in the studio.

In Starke County it was WKVI FM 99.3 who again graciously provided the studio and radio personalities to the community foundation on Saturday the 14th of February. Starke County endowments received \$8,217.00 in contributions and *The Community Songbirds* delivered singing telegrams to folks in both Knox and North Judson. At one of their stops, they even serenaded a family pooch that was defiantly guarding the family home.

But apparently music does indeed calm the savage beast (or terrier) and it seems that the little fellow was quite pleased with his gift of song. This is the 6th year that Starke County has used this event to build awareness of the foundation and raise funds as well.

Both of these events would not be possible without the help of the local radio stations and those who support the community foundation in their area. It takes all of us working together to build the endowments that provide funds to the charities and causes that are important to our donors and to all those who love the small towns and open fields that embody this place we call home.

Miami County Community Building

bringing 4- H and the community together

Nothing says community more than a good old- fashioned 4- H fair. In Miami County, folks pulled together to make an ambitious plan to rebuild their fairgrounds back to the glory of days- gone- by, confirming their commitment to a 4- H legacy.

The estimated costs of the entire rebuilding project came in at \$1.3 million. A major goal of the renovation was to construct a building that would accommodate not only the needs of the 4- H exhibitors, but the entire community as well. This was the idea behind the community building. With a \$220,000 grant from the Lilly Endowment Inc. through the Miami County Community Foundation, the building indeed became a reality and has provided a beautiful and useful space for all Miami County citizens.

The building houses the county extension offices, providing easy access year round and especially convenient during the annual fair. In addition to the extension offices, facilities include a conference room, large auditorium with a stage and also a kitchen designed to accommodate catering. During the fair the building hosts the 4- H Fair Queen contest, worship services, cheerleading competitions and the fashion reviews.

But of course, where would the 4- H fair be without the community; and the community has embraced the facility. The people of Miami County use the 10,400 square foot building for high school proms, receptions and business meetings. Helping the community grow is one of the most important functions of the Miami County Community Foundation, and the foundation is proud to help its citizens succeed in achieving their goals to keep growing for the future.

real results
your community foundation at work



Investing for the Future

The concept of the community foundation is to build endowment funds that continue on forever to benefit the causes or organizations that are important to our donors.

Making sure that the investments are sound and on track is the responsibility of all of the board members of each of the three counties and most importantly the finance committee of the Northern Indiana Community Foundation. This board is made up of members of Starke, Miami and Fulton counties who meet on a regular basis to review the investments and ask questions of our financial advisors. Last year the board made the decision to use the services of the financial consulting firm Fund Evaluation Group (FEG) which provides services to many community foundations throughout Indiana.

If you are interested in viewing the NICF's financial reports, investment information, or the annual audit, please visit the NICF website at www.nicf.org, or contact Terri Johnson, Executive Director, at 877.432.6423. Keeping you informed is always a top priority at *your* community foundation.

Amanda Drudge - *a missionary is a messenger*

The Amanda Drudge Scholarship and Missions Fund

On September 12, 1997 our daughter Amanda did not survive a single car accident. The accident occurred less than a quarter mile from our house. She was returning home from high school where she was taking a French class to prepare for missionary work in Haiti. Our pastor at Olive Branch had told Amanda about the need for missionaries to work with school children in Haiti. She decided immediately that was where she was going and never wavered from her decision.

The first few days after the accident were filled with family and friends calling and preparations for the funeral service. Pastor Lowell asked me what I thought about starting a mission scholarship fund to benefit others who, like Amanda, felt a desire to serve the Lord wherever He might lead. I agreed and he spoke about Amanda's mission fund during the funeral service. Right away we had several contributors and by November the fund was started.

Late in the month of November I received a call from Pastor Lowell. He said that he had received an anonymous contribution in the amount of \$100,000.00 from a family that believed it was God's will that they get involved in Amanda's mission fund through the church. We formed a small group of individuals from the surrounding community to help decide what to do with the money. One of this original group of advisors was Linda Kitch, an accountant. She suggested asking the Community Foundation to hold the funds. This would ensure proper accounting and we wouldn't be required to set up a special tax- exempt account for the funds.

My husband Chuck and I and Pastor Lowell met with Ted Waggoner, then president of the Northern Indiana Community Foundation. He explained to us how the foundation worked, and at that time the Community Foundation was able to get a dollar for dollar match from the Lilly Endowment Inc. for everything we donated.

We talked it over and decided that this would be the best way to invest these funds. Not only would the money help our adults and students, but the community in general would be helped too. The match from the Endowment went into the community foundation's general funds (unrestricted) and could be used at the discretion of the foundation to benefit community grants and projects.

We have a pass- through fund, which simply put means that we, (Olive Branch and the Amanda Drudge Advisors) say where and how much money we want to give to a specific student or cause. This works very well for us because our purpose is to give the money away, not to hold it for perpetuity.

These same anonymous donors have given us \$700,000.00 over the last 6 years! These donations have enabled us to send missionaries/students all over the world. Two years ago I was able to travel to Haiti to the site where my daughter would likely have served.

Every year many students are given scholarships to attend college; many attend private Christian schools and many others attend public colleges. What they all have in common is that they plan to serve Christ in their varied vocations. We have been so blessed to be able to help these representatives of Christ be enabled to do things they couldn't otherwise afford because of the generosity of our still anonymous donors.

Amanda's mission and dream has gone forward to many countries and she has been involved in many things that she could never have done on her own.

The community foundation served as a vehicle, helping us to achieve our goals and dreams now. Ask your financial advisors, your friends or any community foundation member about how you can set up a fund to honor the memory of a loved one. My husband and I have been truly blessed by all of the opportunities we have had to minister and be ministered to as we speak about our unfailing God and the faithful way he continues to answer the prayers of our daughter to be a missionary. A missionary is a messenger and we believe the message continues to go forth, just as she prayed it would.

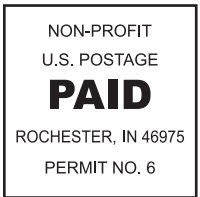


LIVING
LEGACY

Our thanks to Chuck and Darlene Drudge for sharing their daughter Amanda's legacy.....



Northern Indiana
Community Foundation
P.O. Box 807
Rochester, IN 46975



New Endowments Created 2003

Fulton Richard Cassidy Community Philanthropic Fund

To promote education and public awareness of community philanthropy and other appropriate philanthropic activities in the counties served by the Northern Indiana Community Foundation, Inc.

Fulton County Youth Endowment Fund - Established by the Fulton County Boys and Girls Club, Inc. to provide support to an activity or program specifically for youth of Fulton County.

The W.D. Cumberland 4- H Scholarship Fund - Established by Scott Cumberland to provide scholarships for qualified students graduating from Rochester, Tippecanoe Valley, Caston or Winamac High Schools.

Lawrence & Violet Seiwert Scholarship Fund - Established by Lawrence & Violet Seiwert to provide scholarships for qualified students graduating from Rochester High School who are deserving of financial assistance and who are likely to succeed as college or university students.

Patricia Kumler Hoover Nursing Scholarship Fund - Established by Patricia M. Hoover to provide scholarships for qualified graduating seniors from Tippecanoe Valley H.S. enrolled in an accredited state nursing program. Preference will be given to applicants pursuing an RN Degree.

Rochester Kiwanis Club Agency Fund - Established by the Rochester Kiwanis Club to provide scholarships for qualified students graduating from Rochester High School and Caston High School who are likely to succeed as college or university students.

Camp- We- Can Pass- Through Fund - Established by Jodie Simpson and Tina McGaughey for the child with special needs. Purpose - To support the charitable intentions of the Camp- We- Can.

Fulton County Partners in Education Pass- Through Fund - Support the charitable intentions of the Fulton County Partners in Education.

Rochester Parkside Skate Park Pass- Through Fund - Supports the charitable intentions of the development of the skate park.

Miami Miami County Services Committee Unrestricted Endowment Fund

- Provides support as directed by the Foundation's Board of Directors for charitable or other exempt purposes.

Richard Cassidy Community Philanthropic Fund

To promote education and public awareness of community philanthropy and other appropriate philanthropic activities in the counties served by the Northern Indiana Community Foundation, Inc

Miami- Cass County REMC Operation Round- Up Trust P/T Fund - Established by Miami- Cass County REMC to provide charitable purposes in the service area of Miami- Cass County Rural Electric Membership Corporation.

Starke Richard Cassidy Community Philanthropic Fund

To promote education and public awareness of community philanthropy and other appropriate philanthropic activities in the counties served by the Northern Indiana Community Foundation, Inc.

Binkley/Bales/Christoph Endowment Fund - Established by June Binkley to provide support to the Davis Wesleyan Church, Hamlet, Indiana.

HOSPICE Program of Starke County Pass- Through Fund - Established by Starke Memorial Hospital to support the charitable intentions of the Hospice Program of Starke County.

Healthy Families Program of Starke County Pass- Through Fund - Established by Starke Memorial Hospital to support the charitable intentions of the Healthy Families Program of Starke County.