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Online giving accepted on our website at www.poseycommunityfoundation.org

Posey County Community Foundation

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The Posey County Community Foundation, a member of the Community Foundation Alliance Inc., is confirmed in compliance with national standards for U.S. community foundations.

Connecting People Who Care With Causes That Matter

Spring 2010

Rappites Remembered Fund Awards First Grant

“Krista and I love calling New Harmony our home, and the fact is, many of its positive resources can be attributed to the quality of education one can receive in this community,” says Jason Wilson. They should know. The couple graduated from New Harmony School, “Home of the Rappites,” in the 1980s and have gone on to receive associate degrees from the University of Southern Indiana and baccalaureate degrees from Purdue University.



Krista, Jason, Kendall and Haley Wilson (photo by Jeanna Crossen)

Both feel their successes stem from growing up in this quiet, southwestern Indiana town on the banks of the Wabash River. That’s why they’ve chosen to raise their children, Kendall and Haley, in New Harmony.

New Harmony School, founded in 1877, serves one of Indiana’s most historically unique communities. In its early years, the town of New Harmony was a site for

experiments in communal living and educational research led by George Rapp and Robert Owen.

New Harmony School remains vital, serving 167 students from preschool through the twelfth grade.

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tools for giving

Establishing a designated fund, like the **Rappites Remembered Fund**, allows you to support the good work of a specific organization that has touched your life. In addition to providing essential funding, your gift also provides access to the Posey County Community Foundation’s planned giving and investment management services. Designated Funds can be established by an individual or couple, a family, a business or any other group of people with shared charitable interests.



Vectren Foundation presents check

Tony Kirk, a lineman for Vectren, presents a \$1,000 check from the Vectren Foundation to Posey County Community Foundation Director Julie Eickhoff for the Benjamin Wilson Arthur Spirit Award Fund. The Benjamin Wilson Arthur Spirit Award Fund is a nonpermanent field-of-interest fund created by Benjamin's parents, Sara and Robert Arthur, in 2007. The fund provides martial arts instruction to third- and fourth-grade students who have learning differences.

welcome new funds

Posey County Soil and Water Conservation District Nonpermanent Fund - An nonendowed fund established by the Posey County Soil and Water Conservation District to support its charitable, scientific, and educational endeavors.

Ella and Stanley Maynor Memorial Fund - An unrestricted fund established by the Foundation with a gift from the estate of Ella Maynor to help the Foundation respond to changing needs and respond to evolving opportunities in the community.



Rappites

Continued from previous page

Strong believers in the value of creating endowment to meet community needs, in 2007, Jason and Krista established the Rappites Remembered Fund to benefit New Harmony School with yearly grants.

"New Harmony School is such a unique and special place. Krista and I wanted to establish the Rappites Remembered Fund to give all New Harmony alumni a vehicle to contribute to the school," said Jason.

Recently, the Rappites Remembered Fund awarded its first grant, which was presented to Doug Mills, principal at New Harmony School.

"We are so appreciative of Krista and Jason for starting the fund and for the alumni and friends of New Harmony school for contributing to the fund," said Mills. "We are using the money to send a group of ten students to a program called Student Day at the Legislature in February sponsored by the Indiana Association of School Principals. We hope to have an opportunity to speak with our legislators with the possibility to testify in one of the educational committee meetings."

The Wilsons designed the fund so that its annual proceeds will be granted to New Harmony School forever. They remain actively involved with the fund, both in seeking support to help the fund grow and in publishing a Rappites Remembered newsletter to keep in touch with alumni and friends. 📧



In the words of...

Donald and Gayle Williams share memories of their daughter's "indomitable spirit"

Our most poignant memory of Rebecca is that of a lovely young lady, eleven years of age, with gorgeous sun-blond hair and beautiful blue eyes, who said, "Look Daddy, my finger twitches."

This involuntary movement of the index finger of Rebecca's right hand was the first physical manifestation of a childhood brain tumor which devastated this beautiful young life. Before the tumor could be diagnosed, most fine motor movement of Rebecca's right hand was lost.

The craniotomy to remove the very large tumor resulted in the further loss of motor skills use of her right leg, losses in speech and other areas. Radiation to assure complete tumor removal caused permanent hair loss.

In spite of such overwhelming obstacles, Rebecca re-learned to walk, talk and think and was able to return to her seventh-grade class within six weeks' time. She switched from right-handed to left-handed and developed a glorious indomitable spirit that carried her physically challenged lifestyle through grade school, high school, learning to drive, and finally her college degree from the University of Southern Indiana, then known as Indiana State University-Evansville.

This "glorious indomitable spirit" of Rebecca's shone brightly every day of her life, in her love of life and others and in the love, inspiration and admiration of everyone she met. Her marvelous sense of humor and personal warmth was loved by all.



Donald and Gayle Williams, founders of the Rebecca G. Williams USI Library Fund, look through one of the books the University of Southern Indiana Library purchased with a grant from their daughter's fund.

As a young adult, Rebecca became the night supervisor of the Library at the University, responsible for the building and the health and life safety of the students and patrons of the Library for more than ten years.

The Library, its staff and patrons were the love of her life and the pride and joy of her existence until her death in April 2005, caused by a second brain tumor at the age of thirty-nine. We established the Rebecca G. Williams USI Library Fund in honor of her great life accomplishments and love of the Library.

This fund, established with the Posey County Community Foundation, was one of the first endowment funds for the new David L. Rice Library on the University campus, which opened in 2006. The fund's proceeds will allow the Library to provide, in perpetuity, special services and funding for staff and student-worker training, public programs, including materials and events of any description, for the enlightenment and enjoyment of the entire USI community and of all surrounding communities.

This fund is a wonderful legacy in honor of Rebecca. She would be proud and delighted to be serving her University and Library forever! 🏠



Tools for giving

Designated Funds can carry the name of the donor, the donor's family, company, or someone the donor wishes to honor, like the **Rebecca G. Williams USI Library Fund**. All grants from the fund are made in the name of the fund, in perpetuity. Donors who prefer anonymity can choose names that reflect their funds' charitable purposes.

Haiti Tax Deduction Passed

On January 20, 2010, the House passed H.R. 4462. This bill permits Haiti relief gifts from January 12 to February 28 of 2010 to be deducted on 2009 tax returns.

Following the House passage on the unanimous voice vote, the Senate acted quickly on January 21, 2010, to pass the bill. President Obama signed the bill on January 21.

Senate Finance Chair Max Baucus (D-MT) stated, "Today, Congress unanimously agreed to extend the tax deadline for charitable giving so Americans can continue to help the relief efforts in Haiti."

The Ranking Republican on the Senate Finance Committee, Charles Grassley (R-IA), continued, "Americans give generously to disaster relief and I hope this extension encourages them to give

even more. I also hope Americans will make sure the charities they choose are above board. People should be careful to give only to groups they recognize and trust."

The bill permits cash gifts (not property gifts) from January 12 to February 28 of 2010 to be deducted on the 2009 tax returns. The gifts must be "for the relief of victims in areas affected by the earthquake in Haiti on January 12, 2010." All qualified charities may receive the gifts, so long as they use the funds appropriately for Haiti relief.

Because many individuals have made gifts using their telephone, a deduction is also permitted for cash gifts by phone during the above dates. For a telephone gift, donors should retain the telephone bill with the name of the charity, the date of the gift and the amount of the contribution.

Editor's Note: Call us for help in researching organizations that are providing relief and support to Haiti, or visit GuideStar at www2.guidestar.org (GuideStar is a not-for-profit organization providing information that advances transparency and helps people make informed decisions about charitable giving). While some charities may assist donors by issuing receipts "for the relief of victims in areas affected by the earthquake in Haiti," donors should also make a written note of that fact on receipts or a personal memo. Please note that you must receive a receipt for gifts of \$250 or more before filing your 2009 tax returns.

The Posey County Community Foundation is represented by civic leaders who live or work in the county and who are motivated by a true desire to help their neighbors, colleagues, and friends connect with the charities they care about in a meaningful and lasting way. They are dedicated to making grantmaking decisions based on their first-hand knowledge of the community's greatest needs as well as awarding scholarships to the most qualified candidates.

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don't miss this...

March 2, 2010

Discretionary Grants Program Proposals Due

March 31, 2010

✱ Benjamin Wilson Arthur Spirit Award Applications Due

✱ Doyle and Rosella Oursler Fund (for Smith Township) Grant Proposals Due

May 9, 2010

Mother's Day – This Mother's Day, consider a gift to the **Women's Fund of Posey County**. You can honor a woman who inspires you while building this important fund — an endowment working to provide much-needed support for programs that give opportunities, encouragement, knowledge and hope to women and girls in Posey County.



We'd love to hear from you!

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Our thanks to Old National Bank for providing the Foundation with free office space.



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