# **FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER** FEBRUARY 2024



Hello Foundation Friends.

What an excellent February we have had so far! We are as busy as ever with helping where we can in the community. We serve on a committee for a grant Warren County received called Too Small to Fail. CAPWI is serving as the leader with this grant but we have been happy to serve including showing around the grant representative who was here to see Warren County all the way from Washington DC. Warren County received the green light to move forward with the ideas presented in the budget for the grant. A Better Way Co-Op is undergoing some changes and we have been helping with logos, social media ideas, creation of brochures, and listening to all the great ideas. We also had a three-county meeting about the Wabash River Blueway and will continue to meet over the next few months about activating the river for recreation, the arts, and education. It is scholarship "season" so the committees have started meeting and we have interviewed students. Last, but not least, the coffee shop finally opened. We appreciate all of the kind words and patience all of the patrons have exhibited so far.

Michele Stucky



### PINE VILLAGE ELEMENTARY GRANT

The Warren County Community Foundation awarded a \$1,500 Community Grant to Pine Village Elementary School for their backpack program. Pine Village started their backpack program in 2015. Teams or Individuals from the church and community shop and deliver the food to the school. The PV student council help unload the bags and help get the backpacks packed. The total cost of the program is about \$8,500 for the year. The church and local community members help fund the program for the 24 students who take home a weekly bag. If you are interested in contributing, contact Pine Village Elementary School.



### **PURSE BINGO - SOLD OUT!**

We are happy to announce that we have sold out the tickets to our Women's Legacy Builders Purse Bingo Event. Participants will have a chance to win a designer purse, but there are also door prizes and raffle items. Half-way through the event, three organizations will speak about their mission. The attendees will get to vote for their favorite organization. All three groups will receive grants. This year, the three groups are Hope Springs, the Film Club and how they help with the Free summer movies at the Devon, and Bundles of Blessings, the new diaper pantry open on Thursday afternoons at A Better Way Co-Op.



### THE WAIT IS OVER!

There were over 75 people who braved the cold weather and icy roads to come to the Ribbon Cutting for Warren County Common Grounds Coffee Co. It was a nice way to culminate over a year of planning, fundraising, demolition, and construction. We have been overwhelmed by the support of the community in our short time of being open. We hope you think the food and drinks are delicious. For far the cookies are the #1 seller for foods and the Lattes are the most popular drink item. We hope everyone gets a chance to come see the space, meet up with a group of friends, use the wi-fi, and so much more. We are looking for volunteers to help at the coffee shop. We will give you training there on the spot. Call 765-918-1824 if interested in giving a little of your time for this worthy project that will be giving back to the community.









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HOSTED BY:



WARREN COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICE Derek Puterbaugh 765-764-5881





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### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Some people like knowing a little more about what goes on behind the scenes at the Community Foundation. This year, we will try to write periodically about some of the things we do that you might not be aware of.

The Warren County Community Foundation was one of only 11 Foundations in the state to receive a competitive Lilly Endowment GIFT VII grant. We have done many projects including work at the Williamsport Falls, Fleming Woods County Park, Cicott County Park, and the Williamsport Boat Ramp. The grant centered around outdoor recreation. As we head into spring, we hope that everyone will get out and explore one of these parks. From those 11 Large Scale Grant recipients, Lilly Endowment chose two to write about in the 2022 annual report which came out this past summer. We joined Howard County in the report in an article about the power of planning.

Lilly Endowment announced Lilly GIFT VIII in the fall and we are actively working on our planning grant. We will be writing a regional concept paper in hopes of being invited to apply for another competitive grant at the end of April.

If there is something you would like to see us write about in this section, please send requests to michele@warrencountyfoundation.com

## **LOCAL COMMUNITY EVENTS**



# Mean Girls Jr.

March 6th-7:00
March 7th- 7:00
March 8th-7:00
Ura Seeger
Auditorium

