



WARREN COUNTY
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY PART 1

Visit our
website!



Hello Foundation Friends,

Happy 2-year anniversary to Common Ground Coffee Co. and Happy Valentine's Day to everyone. Celebrating the 2nd anniversary of the coffee shop is more about celebrating everyone who has helped make the coffee shop happen! There is a poster inside the coffee shop today showing the tips that have gone out to the community, and a list of all the volunteers who have given at least 50 hours of their time in 2025. Collectively 4,022 volunteer hours have gone into the coffee shop from 157 different volunteers. While we didn't list every person, please know that all 157 volunteers have been critical to the awesome coffee shop experience and being able to sustain the coffee shop. We greatly appreciate the donation of trash service from Bowlus Waste Removal, and the payroll and tax services of Bactrian LLC.

Philanthropy is giving of your time, your talent, and your treasure. The coffee shop is one of the most tangible examples of all three types of philanthropy that the Warren County Community Foundation has worked to create in our community. The Coffee Shop would absolutely not be possible without the amazing volunteers who have given of themselves over the last two years and for that we are so grateful!

On another note, earlier this week myself and the Foundation Board President traveled to Indianapolis for the Lilly Endowment GIFT IX convening. We were able to listen to speakers from several organizations and receive guidance as we start to think about how to deploy the Lilly GIFT IX Community Support Grant funds into our county. Over the next three months we will be working hard to formulate our plan of how to best serve Warren County and will be meeting with local organizations to get an update on how things are going for them and how we might be able to help.

Last, we have been working very hard on the Wabash River Blueway Grant. We have many projects at various stages of completion. The staff here at the Foundation have been spending time creating kits for the eight libraries in the three counties as well as a tote bag of river related resources and lesson plans for the 148 teachers in grades K-6 at the elementary schools in Fountain, Warren, and Vermillion Counties. We will also be posting a family day along the river on April 25th. If your family likes the outdoors, save the date and watch for more information in the coming weeks.

Don't forget....we have a 2:1 match for unrestricted gifts. These are the funds we use for our community grants program. When an organization needs money, and we don't have a specific fund set aside for that need, we use our unrestricted grant dollars to fund those projects. If you donate \$10, Lilly Endowment will donate \$20. This is a great way to make your gift stretch further. We can accept appreciated stock for this 2:1 match as well as the gift of grain or livestock. Give us a call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Michele Stucky



RECENT GRANTS



COACH COOK'S KIDS AWARDS GRANT

Seeger Jr./Sr. Memorial High School was awarded a \$706.95 grant from Coach Cook's Kids. Coach Cook's Kids was established in memory of Thomas Cook by his four sons. This fund continues his legacy as it works to support the Seeger Athletic Department to benefit students that are unable to pay for uniforms, physicals, sports camps, and similar sport related expenses for student athletes.



HANGING ROCK CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY RECEIVES GRANT

The George W. and Katherine T. Rector Fund awarded Hanging Rock Christian Assembly a \$3,001.88 grant. This fund was established as part of the Rector estate plan with Hanging Rock receiving an annual payout. We can't wait to see what positive impact this grant provides!



WARREN COUNTY 4-H BOARD RECEIVES ANNUAL PAYOUT FROM GRANT

The 4-H Queen Scholarship was created in 2017 to provide support to the 4-H Clubs and Warren County Fair Board. The funds are used throughout the contest season to support the candidates. This Designated Fund has awarded \$1,521.02 since 2020!

CHARLES ROZELL ESTATE AWARDS \$1,610.15 IN THREE GRANTS

Charles Rozell established four funds in his estate plan. Three of these have received grants this month. The Attica United Methodist Church Fund, the Attica Riverside Cemetery Fund, and the Attica-Williamsport United Presbyterian Church Fund. These funds were each created to provide assistance in covering operating and upkeep costs.

The Attica United Methodist Church was awarded \$372.05, the Attica Riverside Cemetery was awarded \$382.16, and the Attica-Williamsport United Presbyterian Church Fund awarded \$855.94.

These funds create a lasting impact and carry on Charles Rozell's philanthropic legacy.



APPLY FOR A GRANT

DOES YOUR ORGANIZATION NEED A GRANT FOR A PROJECT?

The Warren County Community Foundation awards Community Grants to groups and organizations in Warren County or who serve Warren County residents. The new grant cycle has just started. If you think your group might be eligible, take a look at our website. There is one online application for projects of \$2,500 or less and one application for projects larger than \$2,500. Click [here](#) to go to the grants page on the Foundation website.



NEWS & UPDATES



RUN WITH YOUR HEART 5K

Below is the registration for the Rotary Run with your Heart 5K race. If you have never done a 5K before, this would be a GREAT first race. Relaxed small race with a nice route through Ravine Park and the quiet streets of that side of town. At this point, mailing the registration is not advised because it would not arrive in time for placing the t-shirt order. Online sign up using the QR code or contacting Steve Poston at steven.poston88@yahoo.com or Michele Stucky at michele@warrencountyfoundation.com would be the best sign-up method.



The Warren County Community Foundation has a unique and exciting announcement to make! Our original 2026 Lilly Scholarship recipient was Claire Nern. Claire was also competing for the Lilly Scholars at Purdue Program. Claire has been named a member of the Lilly Scholars for Purdue Program Cohort 4, which includes a scholarship for a total cost of up to eight semesters of tuition and program differential fees, in addition to a guaranteed paid internship at Eli Lilly. Claire has formally accepted that scholarship, which means that Warren County is proud to name our first alternate as the new Lilly Endowment Community Scholar.

The recipient of the 2026 Warren County Lilly Endowment Community Scholar is Ian Miller from Seeger Memorial Junior/ Senior High School. Ian ranks high in his class academically, has been involved with many sports and organizations, and interviewed extremely well while sharing his goals of receiving a degree in Mechanical Engineering. Ian has worked for several years at a Christmas Tree Farm, and has volunteered for and led various organizations over the past four years. Ian is the son of Tom and Amy Miller of Williamsport. Ian's current plan is to study mechanical engineering at Purdue University while being part of the NROTC Program.

Each Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship provides for full tuition, required fees and a special allocation of up to \$900 per year for required books and required equipment for four years. The scholarship is for undergraduate students studying on a full-time basis leading to a baccalaureate degree at any eligible Indiana public or private nonprofit college or university. Lilly Endowment Community Scholars may also participate in the Lilly Scholars Network (LSN), which connects both current scholars and alumni with resources and opportunities to be active leaders on their campuses and in their communities. Both the scholarship program and LSN are supported by grants from Lilly Endowment to Independent Colleges of Indiana (ICI) and Indiana Humanities.



THE FIRST OF TWO POTTERY NIGHT'S A GREAT SUCCESS!

Common Grounds Coffee Co. hosted another pottery night led by local artist, Tina Million. Attendees were taught to coil build then set free with their imagination to create spring time creations like bunnies, mushrooms, butterflies, and dishes! Attendees will return later in February to glaze their projects. We love hosting these free monthly events at Common Grounds!



Common Grounds Coffee Co. is decorated and ready to celebrate our 2-year anniversary! We are so thankful for the love and support shown over the past two years. We couldn't do it without the support of our volunteers and community! Stop in today until 2:30 for 25% off all drinks, Mary Lou donuts (while supplies last), and to try our new Shaken Tiramisu Latte. While you're there, checkout the Common Grounds Anniversary Special Edition Drink Carriers featuring a locally poured candle, gift card to Common Grounds, limited edition reusable coffee cup, and locally arranged bouquets. The perfect gift for Valentine's Day tomorrow, or a special treat for yourself.

A special thank you to Kasey for her amazing balloon design from her local business, Elevated Celebrations. Follow them [here!](#)



The Wabash River Blueway is a grant awarded to us along with the Western Indiana Community Foundation during the Lilly Endowment GIFT VIII grant initiative. The goal of this grant is to activate the 74-mile stretch of the Wabash River between Lafayette and Terre Haute through outdoor recreation, public access, and community partnerships. Catch up on all of the already completed projects, and stay tuned to see exciting future projects! Follow the page [here](#).

AMERICA
250

Arts & Crafts Contest

Youth and Adult Categories



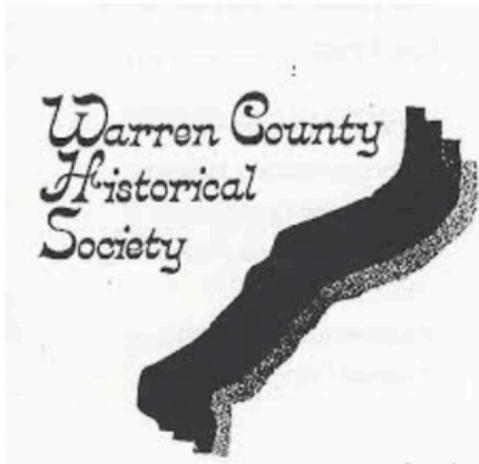
**Warren County
Indiana Historical
Society**

Get creative this winter and spend it creating an art piece that shows what America means to you! Enter the **America 250 Arts and Crafts Contest** with any art medium or craft in March for the chance to win! There will be a youth and adult category.

Pickup Youth Coloring Pages and drop off completed works at Common Grounds Coffee Co. for the youth categories! **We have extended the art contest deadline to March 13th.**



SAVE THE DATE!



Open Every Friday
10:00-3:00pm
12 Midway Street, Williamsport
Behind Fountain Trust Bank

NICHES 2026 War of the Weeds

April 10 - May 10

From April 10 to May 10, NICHES will be hosting our 7th annual Spring volunteer effort to improve understory plant diversity in our woodlands.

Every spring, the invasive plant garlic mustard emerges across our preserves in large numbers. If left unchecked, this weed can change soil chemistry, overtake the forest's understory, and diminish the beautiful display of native ephemeral wildflowers. With your help, the forest understory will be filled with a diverse mix of plants that provide food and shelter to abundant wildlife.

For this year's effort, we will be hosting a series of garlic mustard pulling shifts at NICHES preserves within a 10-50 minute drive of Lafayette. This is our organization's single biggest annual volunteer push - if we can fill every volunteer shift, it will provide over a thousand volunteer hours during a critically important stewardship window. Please check out our shift dates/locations and sign-up by clicking [here](#).

2026

FOUNTAIN/WARREN COUNTIES SOCIAL SERVICE MEETINGS SCHEDULE

ALL MEETINGS TAKE PLACE 11AM-12:30PM

13	AGAVE AZUL MEXICAN RESTAURANT
JAN	ATTICA
10	THE BEEF HOUSE
MAR	COVINGTON
12	THE LEARNING CENTER
MAY	WILLIAMSPORT
14	AGAVE AZUL MEXICAN RESTAURANT
JUL	ATTICA
08	THE BEEF HOUSE
SEPT	COVINGTON
10	THE LEARNING CENTER
NOV	WILLIAMSPORT

LUNCH IS ON YOUR OWN

FOR QUESTIONS, CONTACT NOHEMI LUGO AT NLUGO@YWCALAFAYETTE.ORG

MINDFULNESS HIKE SERIES

SHELTER

FEBRUARY 22

2:00 PM

BLACK ROCK

[Learn More >>](#)

NICHES Volunteer Workday at
Fisher Oak Savanna
March 7



Join us on Saturday, March 7th from 10am - 12:30pm for a volunteer workday at our Fisher Oak Savanna Preserve in Jasper County. We will be focusing on efforts on dragging brush to clear a fire break ahead of our 2026 spring prescribed fire season.

Please dress for the weather, wear sturdy boots, and bring gloves, water, and a snack.

This workday will be led by NICHES Stewardship Manager Justin Harmeson, if you are running late or have any questions please reach out at justin@nicheslandtrust.org. Also please note, all workday times are in EST. Fisher Oak Savanna is near the time line and your phone may automatically switch to CST while on the preserve. Click [HERE](#) to register for this event.

WARREN CENTRAL WINTER CARNIVAL

February 28, 2026
Seeger High School PAC | 5PM - 7 PM

- Smoked Pulled Pork by Matt Pruitt
- Inflatables
- 50/50
- Cake Walk
- Princess Meet and Greet
- Live Auction at the end
- Raffle
- Silent Auction
- Traveling Toms
- Balloon Artist
- Elephant Ears



4-H CALL OUT & PROJECT FAIR

FOR NEW 4-H MEMBERS!

Join us for a 4-H Project Fair on **Thursday, February 26th from 6:30-7:30 pm** in the Ura Seeger Auditorium lobby. Come see what 4-H is all about and learn about a few of the projects we have to offer through hands on activities and more! You will also be able to sign up to participate in 4-H while you're there.

 765-762-3231

 ade0@purdue.edu

 1222 IN-263
West Lebanon, IN
47991

JOIN 4-H NOW
4HONLINE.COM



 **PURDUE
UNIVERSITY**

Extension - Warren County

Purdue University is an equal opportunity/equal access/affirmative action institution.



NICHES Volunteer Workday at Shawnee Bottoms
March 7



Stay tuned on the Common Grounds Coffee Co. [Facebook](#) page for more details!

Join us on Saturday, March 7th from 2pm - 4:30pm for a volunteer workday at our Shawnee Bottoms Preserve in Fountain County. We will be focusing on efforts on dragging brush to clear a fire break ahead of our 2026 spring prescribed fire season. Please dress for the weather, wear sturdy boots, and bring gloves, water, and a snack. This workday will be led by NICHES Stewardship Manager, Justin Harmeson, if you are running late or have any questions please reach out at justin@nicheslandtrust.org. Click [HERE](#) to register for this event.



Storm Spotter Class

6:00 PM, Tuesday, March 3, 2026

Warren County Learning Center
 28 E 2nd St
 Williamsport, IN

Presented by Meteorologist Andrew White,
 National Weather Service Indianapolis

Learn how to identify severe weather and report conditions that help protect lives and property.



AMERICA

250

BLACKSMITHING DEMONSTRATION



March 14th 10:00 a.m.
Illiana Antique Power Association
986 W Briscoe Rd, Williamsport, IN

Warren County Indiana Historical Society

Save
the Date

2026 WARREN CO
4-H FAIR

JUNE 15-20

FEATURING LUEHRS IDEAL RIDES - JUNE 16-20








 June 27th, 2026



**Warren
County's
New App!**

Scan QR Code or Search for 'WarCo INfo' in your app store!

- Access Information
- View Latest Updates
- Receive Notifications
- And more...

SCAN TO DOWNLOAD 

Powered by GOGov



WARREN COUNTY
COMMON GROUNDS
COFFEE CO.

Hours of Operation

Monday-Friday
 7:30am-2:30pm
 Closed Weekends



WOMEN'S WELLNESS PROGRAM

Free screenings for uninsured and under insured women in Warren County

We work every day to eliminate inequities in healthcare when it comes to access to vital early detection screenings. To do this, we promote early screening for breast and cervical cancers among uninsured, under-insured and minority women. Through our funding partners, we facilitate no-cost services to qualified women across Indiana.

Learn more at www.ywcalafayette.org or call (765) 742 4375



eliminating racism
 empowering women
ywca
 Greater Lafayette