

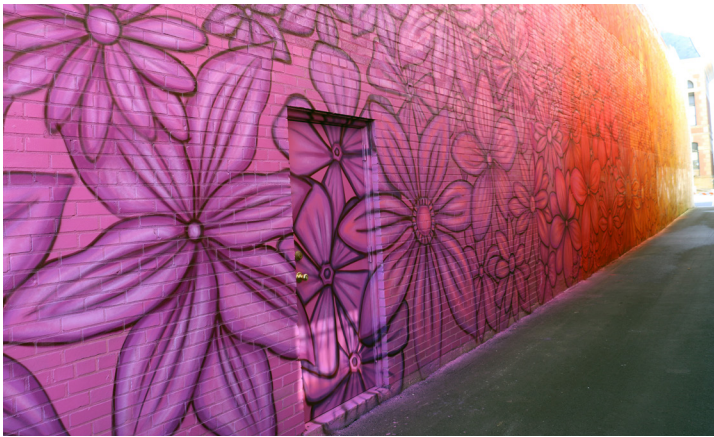
# BRIDGES



Building bridges to support the future of Montgomery County

Fall 2021

## ALLEY ART ARRIVES!



Alley as it is now

Alley before mural →



**WHERE IS IT?** The alley that runs between Milligan's Flowers and Gifts and the MCCF at 119 E Main is a well-used thoroughfare. Located in the heart of downtown, it has a lot of daily foot traffic, and also serves as a popular spot for senior photos. What was once a plain brick wall, is now a colorful array of flowers that catches your eye as you drive or walk by.

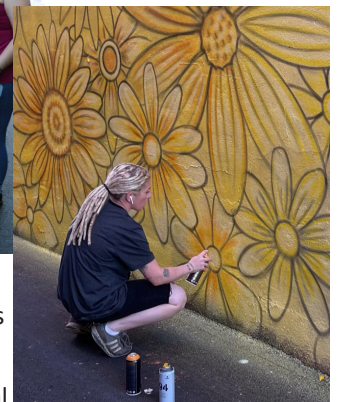
**HOW DID IT HAPPEN?** When "Love Where you Live" author Peter Kageyama visited Montgomery County in 2018, he led an exercise with a small group of Montgomery County residents who spent time brainstorming projects to enhance the community. That exercise led to a conversation of bringing art to historic downtown Crawfordsville. The idea gained momentum when the Wabash Heartland Innovation Network (WHIN) awarded a grant to the Tippecanoe Arts Federation (TAF) to install murals in the 10 county WHIN region for a project known as "WHIN Walls." The MCCF also pledged additional funding for the installation. Eventually, all of this led to a local planning committee who worked with TAF to make this idea a reality.

**WHY AN ALLEY?** When you think of a mural, it's easy to picture it on a broad, open wall. Alleys are quickly becoming a popular place to "activate," and turn into new spaces for communities to enjoy. As stated earlier, this particular alley is used often. It was the committee's hope that activating this alley would not only provide a unique place for public art, but also give visitors a reason to park and explore the rest of what our downtown has to offer.

**WHO IS THE ARTIST?** Jenna Morello is a muralist from Brooklyn, New York. Her work is featured all over the country, and in addition to murals, she also creates glass and mixed media pieces. From the base coat to the final stroke of paint, she completed this project in just seven days. Jenna also managed to spend some time talking and engaging with some of the many curious visitors who stopped by to see her work. We are so thankful that she brought her unique talent here and forever transformed a piece of downtown Crawfordsville. To learn more about Jenna and her work, visit [jennamorello.com](http://jennamorello.com).



Above: Jenna (second from left, back row) meets and greets our visitors from Rainbows and Rhymes Preschool and Child Care



Right: Jenna adding detail to the mural

## Announcing new MCCF Funds



### Crawfordsville Main Street Pathway Fund

The Crawfordsville Main Street Pathway Fund was recently established. Two individuals decided to establish this fund to help ensure future efforts to continue building a vibrant and beautiful downtown. This is important for our community because it demonstrates to visitors, and citizens alike, that we care about this place we call home. Once the fund reaches the minimum amount of \$5,000, it will be fully endowed and will provide support to Crawfordsville Main Street.

### Kathy Steele Park Fund

The Kathy Steele Park was completely redesigned and renovated recently due to the generosity of an anonymous donor. The stunning transformation is now a magnet for children of all ages. This same anonymous donor decided to establish the Kathy Steele Park Fund for the sole purpose of keeping this important space well-maintained for years to come.



### YSB Endowment Match

Former Crawfordsville residents, John and Robyn Morgan, have generously offered a \$1:\$1 match, up to \$50,000, to support the Youth Service Bureau Endowment Fund. The YSB serves Montgomery County youth through various programs, education, advocacy, and so much more. If you have considered supporting the YSB, now is the perfect time to do so as your gift will have double the impact.



### Preston and Anne Bost Early Childhood Education Fund

A top priority for our community, and for the MCCF, is addressing the need for increased high-quality early learning and child care. Preston served on our child care task force and has been involved in child care discussions for several years. He and his wife, Anne, strongly believe this is an urgent need in our community and decided to establish this fund. This new fund will focus on this issue by providing support for early childhood (ages 0-5) education programs and services, with a focus on and commitment to high quality care.



### Stewart-Sweek Family Pathway Fund

Marta Sweek, along with her mother, Jessie Stewart, established this pathway fund to give back to their community. As a pathway fund, they can add to it over a period of five years, until it reaches \$5,000 and becomes a fully endowed fund. Their desire is for this to be an Unrestricted Fund, which will enable the MCCF Board of Directors to address a wide variety of needs as they arise.



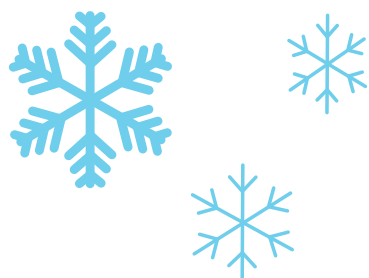
There's no better way to

# Give and Receive

than to make a gift that helps others this time of year.

As we unwrap gifts and wrap up another year, this is the time when we think most of others. The familiar saying reminds us it is "better to give than to receive." As the year winds to a close, take time to make sure you have given to yourself by giving to others.

The remaining weeks of the year give you a final opportunity to balance your income and giving for the tax year. **When you give a gift to a qualified nonprofit organization, you receive an income tax deduction.** Even if your income is less this year than it was last year, you may still want to offset it with a tax deductible contribution.



## End of Year Gift Ideas



Cash Gift



Life insurance



IRA distribution



Appreciated assets



**PLEASE NOTE:** We now have the ability for donors to choose multiple funds to make multiple gifts in one transaction through our online giving. This added feature is on our donate page – it now says "Add another gift" under the choose a fund box. Online giving is available at [www.mccf-in.org](http://www.mccf-in.org).

Your gift can go a long way toward helping others. This holiday season, take a moment and consider the gifts you would like to make, and we can help make them happen. Call us if we can be of help to you in your giving.

Chief Executive Officer  
Kelly S. Taylor

Seven days and seventy hours later, a nondescript alley in downtown Crawfordsville became a vibrant display of colorful flowers. This well-traveled alley between our building and Milligan's Flowers and Gifts, is now an eye-catching work of art. We are grateful to Susan Rosen and her father, Dale Milligan, for their willingness to let this wall of their building become a canvas of color. A big thank-you to the City of Crawfordsville for paving the alley and making it safer for all to use while admiring the work.

Even though it was a whirlwind of activity while artist Jenna Morello worked on the wall, it was also a wonderful time of seeing the community excited and engaged about the project. We had many visitors stop by to watch the progress and talk with Jenna; we had some of our smallest citizens from nearby preschools visit and create their own artwork; and in spite of the rain, we had a great show of support from the community for the dedication of the alley.

Speaking of the community, Jenna was overwhelmed by the warm welcome and hospitality that was shown to her during her stay. She said the food that people prepared for her was "next level" and that Montgomery County "set the bar really high" for the next place she goes to create her art. Thank you to everyone who helped make Jenna feel at home by stopping by to say hello, prepare her meals, bring her gift cards to local establishments, and simply showing her kindness. I'm so proud to call this place home.

**NEW AND NOTEWORTHY:** Beginning with our next BRIDGES newsletter, we will be going digital. So would you please make sure that we have your correct email address? Please send your email address to Paula at [paula@mccf-in.org](mailto:paula@mccf-in.org) so we can be sure you continue to receive BRIDGES - thank you!

  
**COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
Looking forward. Giving back.  
P.O. Box 334119 E Main  
Crawfordsville, IN 47933  
PHONE: 765-362-1267  
WEB: [mccf-in.org](http://mccf-in.org)

Electronic Return  
Service Requested

Non-Profit  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Crawfordsville, IN  
Permit No. 10