

## One man's legacy will benefit our youngest citizens



In the fall of 2017, the doors to the newly formed Little Mounties Preschool at Walnut Elementary will swing wide open to usher in the youngest students in South Montgomery

Schools. And perhaps no one is more excited to see that happen than Dr. Shawn Greiner, Superintendent.

"Our School Board has been interested in developing a family-friendly preschool program for quite some time," said Dr. Greiner. "We didn't have something like this in place, and we knew it was a program our community needed. I am very excited to see this come to fruition - it is a program that will help our children learn and build a strong educational foundation before entering kindergarten."

The development of this preschool has already brought joy to one family in particular. Terry and Mary Lynn Harris made Montgomery County their home for many years, investing their lives and their careers in this community. Terry practiced law for 53 years, and Mary Lynn taught in the Crawfordsville Community Schools and was the founding director of the Even Start program.

While Terry served many clients over the span of his career, he held deep fondness for one client in particular - the South Montgomery School Corporation. He served as their school attorney from their inception in 1965 until his retirement in 2012, making him the longest-serving school attorney in the State of Indiana.



Terry Harris

After retirement, Terry and Mary Lynn moved to Michigan to be closer to family, but their ties to this community remained strong. When Terry passed away in June 2016, his family established the Terry Harris Fund at the MCCF in his memory. Choosing a purpose for the fund became crystal clear when Mary Lynn learned of the new preschool program at South.

"It's a perfect fit," said Mary Lynn, "and it just made my day when I learned I could direct the purpose of Terry's fund to support this program." Dr. Greiner was deeply appreciative when he learned that this new fund will benefit the preschool. Though he did not have the opportunity to meet Mr. Harris personally, he heard amazing things about him and how supportive he was of South schools. He stated, "It is very heartwarming to know that this will support a cause that means so much to the Harris family. We are going to do good things with the preschool and so thankful for this support."



Exploring the classroom during the Preschool Open House

The Little Mounties Preschool received a MCCF grant award of \$25,969 during our first grant cycle for 2017. This grant will provide funds for curriculum, other resources and learning tools, along with safety equipment necessary to provide transportation.

In addition, and something we are excited about, some funds will go towards creating a Montgomery County Community Foundation Cozy Reading Nook where students can surround themselves with books in a comfy setting. Here they will be engaged in learning and challenged as they practice reading aloud and imitate what they're learning from their teachers and other adults who read to them. We believe Mr. Harris would be quite fond of that idea as well.



School officials gather during the Open House at the Preschool

Front Row – Karen Selby, Tina Swisher, Nicolle Patton, Diamond Hutchison, Betsey Hutchison  
Second Row- Kristin Charles, Dr. Shawn Greiner, Kyle Blaydes, Annie Lesko, Joni Long, Erin Barry, Eric Brewer, Destiny Hutchison

## SAVE THE DATES

### **2017 Nonprofit Learning Series at the Crawfordsville Country Club, 11 am - 2:00 pm**

Tuesday, April 11 - Legal Obligations of Board and Maintaining Ethical Integrity

Tuesday, May 9 - Engaging Millennials to Serve and Give

### **2017 Nonprofit Learning Series at the DePauw Inn in Greencastle, 11 am - 2:00 pm**

Tuesday, August 8 - Strategic Planning

Tuesday, September 12 - Financial Best Practices & Essential Policies

Tuesday, October 10 - Telling your Story & Evaluating Impact

Tuesday, November 14 - How to Make the Ask & be Held Accountable for Success

To register for any of the workshops or webinars, please email:  
[Jennifer@mccf-in.org](mailto:Jennifer@mccf-in.org)

### **Workforce Ready Webinars: Held at the Montgomery County Community Foundation**

Tuesday, April 18 - Two Generation Approaches to Work Readiness, 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Tuesday, May 16 - Scholarships for Nontraditional Students and Those Falling Through the Financial Cracks, 10:00 am - 11:30 am

### **Montgomery County Community Foundation Annual Meeting**

Thursday, May 25 at the Crawfordsville Country Club, 4:00 pm



We are grateful for the service of our board members. Here are some fun facts about MCCF Board Member **Jessica Bokhart.**

#### ***Background Information:***

After graduating from Purdue University, Jessica and her husband, Brent, moved to central Indiana. As Brent began teaching at Crawfordsville Middle School, where he now serves as principal, they began to build a community of friends here. Making the decision that this is the type of community where they wanted to raise their children, Carli and Carter, they moved here in 2011. Jessica works as a Fee-Only Financial Planner and has an office in downtown Crawfordsville.

#### ***Fun Fact about Jessica:***

Jessica had a short-lived career working in a meat market during her high school years. She did learn several things though, from appreciating quality food to time management and people skills that she still applies to her life today. However, a plate of liver and onions still “grosses her out.”

#### ***In Jessica's words:***

##### ***What is the greatest thing about living in Montgomery County?***

This is a beautiful area - the woods, lakes and streams provide many opportunities for us to get out and enjoy nature. But this is also a community that truly cares about one another; if someone needs help, others rally around to lend a hand.

##### ***Why did you choose to serve on the MCCF Board?***

I truly appreciate the service that the MCCF provides our community through outreach, financial support, and education. This gave me an opportunity to learn more about the MCCF, serve as an advocate, and use my talents to help our community.

##### ***What kind of animal best describes your personality?***

Being petite, I relate to small animals. I feel like I am like a mouse, always scurrying around. Sometimes I just want to be a Pug so I can lay around - but that won't happen until my kids are grown!

##### ***What books are you currently reading?***

I mainly read books related to serving my clients better or self-help topics. But, I do enjoy a good magazine and clothing catalog.

## 2017 Grant Cycle #1 Awards

ORGANIZATION	DESCRIPTION	AWARD
Boys & Girls Club	Paving half the parking lot	\$ 45,000.00
South Montgomery Schools	Little Mounties Preschool	\$ 25,969.00
Half Way Home	Part time salaries	\$ 20,000.00
Waveland Strong	Event Outreach: shelter renovation/advertising	\$ 11,842.00
Waynetown Police Dept.	Drunk Buster Goggles, carts, and trailer	\$ 7,976.00
Mountie Mission	Back to School backpack project	\$ 5,000.00
Crawfordsville Park & Rec. Dept.	Camp Things with Wings; inclusive of all children	\$ 3,300.00
Crawfordsville District Public Library	For the benefit of visually impaired patrons	\$ 1,000.00
Darlington Library	For the benefit of visually impaired patrons	\$ 1,000.00
Ladoga-Clark Township Public Library	For the benefit of visually impaired patrons	\$ 1,000.00
Linden Public Library	For the benefit of visually impaired patrons	\$ 1,000.00
Waveland-Brown Township Public Library	For the benefit of visually impaired patrons	\$ 1,000.00
Total:		\$ 124,087.00



*Bill Douglas, patron and new employee of the Crawfordsville Public Library, checks out one of the many large print books available at the library*

The first six grants listed were awarded through our competitive grant cycle. With 15 applications received, the competition was fierce. Believe us when we say, we regretfully had to decline some very worthwhile proposals. New this time around, we added some proactive granting. The Luella Brake Fund is a Field of Interest Fund intended to benefit the blind and visually impaired. Knowing there was money available in the Luella Brake Trust Fund and that there were no suitable proposals submitted, we sought input from the five county libraries about their needs related to serving patrons with low vision. In addition to large print books and Audiobooks, special computer software called “Window Eyes” was mentioned as well as lap top computers that can have a magnifying screen put on them. We are thrilled with their ideas and the initiative they are taking to meet the needs of all library patrons. If you or someone you know has low vision, don’t discount the ability to use the public libraries.

*These grants were made possible by the generosity of the donors who established the following funds: Community Fund, Chase Fund, Leonard and Louise Winchell Fund, Michael D. and Sally A. Hinkle Fund, Earl F. and Ruby B. Elliott Fund, Max K. Tannenbaum Unrestricted Fund, Dennis and Dee Hohlbein Fund, Mike and Rhonda Mitchell Family Fund, Montgomery County Physicians Fund, Dr. Fred and Elizabeth Daugherty Trust Fund, Clark and Nancy Sennett Fund, Tom and Cynda Mellish Fund, Florence Schultz Trust Fund, Dale and Linda Petrie Fund, Larry and Susan Griffith Fund, James G. and Susan Smith Fund, A. F. Ramsey Trust Fund, Marty Pool Fund, Amy McFerran Fund, Hubert and Martha Massing Fund, Maude Dockins Trust Fund, Women of Wisdom Fund, Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow: honoring Rev. Chris Hotopp-Zachary, Mary Vi Leaming RN, and Meda Lorton, Damon C. and Bernice Seaman Wray Fund, and the Luella Brake Fund.*





Inspire Others  
with Your Journey

It's never too early in life's journey to think about the future. Anyone who has property and a family should have an estate plan. A charitable gift can be an important part of that plan.



# Take a Turn in the Right Direction

## Begin Your Philanthropic Journey

Would you like to get involved and support our cause in exciting ways? You may be surprised to discover that there are many options available with gift planning. Let us help you make a turn in the right direction with a plan that's customized for you and your goals, so that giving to the causes you care about becomes possible today.

## Charitable Bequest

Creating a will is an important step in your life journey. It's your opportunity to plan how you will benefit your family, friends and charitable organizations after your lifetime. Including a gift in your will, often called a bequest, is a great way to support the future of our organization without giving away any of your assets today. A bequest is a gift that can be changed at any time, if your circumstances change.

