

Upcoming Events

Kosciusko County BAR Association CLE Workshop "Hot Tips & Topics in Family Law" 08/14/2008, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

For more information, email Brenda Rigdon at brenda@kcfoundation.org or Dana Leon at dleon@rockhillpinnick.com

KEYS Grant Deadline 10/01/2008

Go to www.kcfoundation.org to download an application

Kosciusko REMC Operation Round Up Grant Deadline 08/15/2008, 10/15/2008, 12/15/2008

Go to www.kcfoundation.org to download an application

Community Grant Deadline 09/15/2008

Go to www.kcfoundation.org to download guidelines and an application

Phil DeVol "Bridges Out of Poverty" Workshop 11/10 - 11/11/2008, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

For more information, call Brenda Rigdon at 574-267-1901 or email her at brenda@kcfoundation.org

Annual Meeting 11/19/2008, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

OUR MISSION:

By bringing caring people and charitable endeavors together, we make donor dreams shine for the good of our community.

We do this by:

Serving as the vehicle for donors' charitable dreams

Awarding grants to charitable projects and organizations

Addressing community needs as a catalyst and convener

1 40th Anniversary Gifts to the Community

2 Donor Legacy

3 Infusing HOPE

Summer 2008

CATALYST

A Spark. A Change. A Beginning...For Good Things.

Trees, Playgrounds and Vans...Oh My!

What do trees, playgrounds and vans have in common? They are all things made possible with our anniversary gifts to the community to help us celebrate our 40th year.

Each week, for 40 weeks this year, we are awarding a surprise \$1,000 grant to an area not-for-profit for use at their discretion.

At the printing of this newsletter, 21 of those anniversary grants have been presented. While not every organization has decided how they are going to spend the money, many have.

Organizations who have received anniversary gifts so far include:

- Kosciusko County Council on Aging - Mobile Meals
- Combined Community Services - computer upgrades
- Lakeland Art Association
- Syracuse Community Center
- Beaman Home - Food budget
- Kosciusko Community YMCA
- Girl Scouts - Summer program in Enchanted Hills/Syracuse



The 40th anniversary gift presented to Baker Youth Club is being used to plant trees on the Club's property. Pictured: Staff and members of the Club celebrate receiving their \$1,000 grant.

Pillars Campaign Update
Our Pillars Campaign to raise \$1 million for our Operating Endowment is nearing the final lap. Help us cross the finish line and make your Pillar gift today. Call Brenda at 574-267-1901 to learn how.

Estate Planning Up to Date?
Discuss your charitable goals with your legal advisor when you update your will. What will your legacy be?

102 East Market Street
Warsaw, IN 46580

Kosciusko County
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
Where Donor Dreams Shine



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Sign up for the eNewsletter at www.kcfoundation.org.

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Donor Legacy Warren & Josephine Walmer

Warren and Josephine (Clupper) Walmer were married at her parents' home on June 8, 1947.

Warren and Josephine both resided in Wabash and attended Manchester College. Warren was a business major and Josephine majored in music. He became a salesman for Sears Roebuck and Company in the plumbing and heating department.

In 1952, Warren established his new business, Walmer Supply, Inc., which distributed plumbing and heating supplies to installers in the area. At the same time, they began raising their three children: James, Robert and Sharon in Wabash.

Warren relocated his business and residence to Warsaw in 1968 and developed a branch operation to his business in Fort Wayne. During this time, Warren and Josephine were

involved in community and church organizations such as Rotary and Daughters of the American Revolution.

In 1987, Warren entered the ministry of the United Methodist Church. Josephine assisted by playing the piano and Warren often played the tenor saxophone.

The influential people in Warren's life were his mother, who raised him as a single mother, and his grandparents, Warren and Kate McClintock. Warren's father, John Henry, came into his life later on. These dear ones helped Warren in many ways to achieve many accomplishments throughout his life.

Warren believes faith, family and friends are key attributes for today and the future. Josephine says to enjoy life; stay in good company, and live with integrity in body, soul and spirit.

In December 2007, the Walmers

established the **Rev. Warren D. and Josephine Walmer Designated Endowment Fund** to support charities that are important to them.



Warren and Josephine Walmer

Infusing HOPE

It is common for a judge to order people who abuse drugs or alcohol to get treatment for their addictions. It is also common for caseworkers who work with child abuse and neglect to recommend counseling for a parent or an entire family if that family is embroiled in destructive relationships and patterns of behavior.

Folks in Syracuse who needed such services often had transportation issues making it difficult for them to get to Warsaw to obtain their court ordered mental health services. So, Bowen Center decided to open a Syracuse office several years ago.

"We soon realized that about 90 percent of the people we were seeing in the Syracuse office came from the Enchanted Hills area," said Bowen Center Executive Director, Kurt Carlson.

Located in the Syracuse/Cromwell area, Enchanted Hills is a community made up predominately of mobile homes. The area offers low income families affordable housing just a few minutes drive away from their million dollar lake property neighbors.

Plagued with unemployment, underemployment, broken families, substance abuse and domestic violence, Enchanted Hills had become synonymous with hopelessness.

In 2005, Bowen Center made a commitment to the Enchanted Hills community by opening the Enchanted Hills Community Partnership Center. Their mission was to reach the young people of Enchanted Hills with healthy, mentoring based programming that could break the cycle of poverty and infuse hope into their lives. The Kosciusko County Community Foundation awarded a grant to Bowen Center to help them with the Center's start-up costs.

Carlson recalled the first community meeting Bowen Center held. He described those who attended as disbelieving and cynical at best that anyone cared about them, that anyone would make a long-term investment in their lives. He described those they met as...without hope.

Three years later, the Enchanted Hills story is turning a page. What began as about 60 young people, ages five to 16, being provided homework help and a safe place to go when they weren't in school, has blossomed into so much more.

Young children and adolescents can participate in soccer, 4-H, cooking class, fitness programming, and dinner and a movie nights. Six "Sea Scouts" from Enchanted Hills are learning boating on lakes that before they could see but not access. Adults can participate in GED classes (childcare is provided), health and fitness classes, and Alcoholics Anonymous groups.

The Enchanted Hills Center has been responsive to the needs of the residents it serves. Noticing several tents outside a mobile home there, the staff learned that a resident's extended family had traveled to Enchanted Hills to attend a funeral. There wasn't enough room in the family's home to accommodate

everyone, and not enough money for hotel rooms, so the family pitched tents. Bowen Center opened the Center for the family to have a place to have indoor meals and in general a retreat from the outdoors during their stay. It's these kinds of gestures that have built trust and rapport between Bowen Center and Enchanted Hills residents.

Recently, Enchanted Hills residents have determined to clean up a treed lot in their community that has become a dumping ground for trash. Using their own money, the residents plan to rent equipment to remove the trees and trash in order to make a recreation area. This "coming together" demonstrates the new sense of community shared there.

The Enchanted Hills program was recently awarded a \$20,000 grant from the Community Foundation's

Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects (H.O.P.E.) initiative. They plan to use the funding to provide childcare and transportation to better enable residents to get to and from their places of employment.

For a listing of all of the Community Foundation's H.O.P.E. grants, visit our website at www.kcfoundation.org.

In 2006, the Enchanted Hills Program was awarded the Indiana Rural Health Association Award in the area of public service.

Trees, Playgrounds & Vans...Oh My! (continued from page 1)

- Boy Scouts
- Our Father's House - Overnight emergency shelter for folks without a place to stay
- North Webster Daycare - Replaced baseboard heating and had floors refinished
- Lakeland Community Daycare
- New Beginnings Daycare - Milford - Playground equipment
- Kosciusko County Special Olympics - Vans to transport athletes to summer games
- Salvation Army
- Baker Youth Club - Trees
- Syracuse Food Pantry
- Animal Welfare League - Van to transport animals
- Kosciusko County 4-H
- Master Works
- Boys & Girls Club of Kosciusko County
- City County Athletic Complex
- Warsaw Biblical Gardens

"These grants are accomplishing exactly what we had hoped," said Community Foundation Executive Director, Suzie Light. "What better way to celebrate our 40th year in the community than with gifts to charities who are meeting pressing needs."