Eleven bike racks are being installed throughout Bryan on the downtown square, the library, the YMCA and in the parks to celebrate the Bryan Area Foundation’s 50th anniversary. The bike racks as well as five park benches were donated to the community to commemorate this momentous occasion and to thank our donors for their unwavering support.

It’s more than just a cool looking bike sculpture…it’s a bike rack!

A special thanks to the Bryan Parks and Recreation Department for assisting in the installation of the bike racks and benches.

This fall as the leaves begin to come alive with color and this project nears completion, we encourage you to get outside and enjoy a bike ride with the kids. Or take a leisurely stroll through the parks and sit on the new benches to soak in those last sunny days of fall. Have a fabulous fall and be sure to try out the new bike racks and benches!
Is it just me, or does it seem like I blinked and the summer was over? I can’t believe our students are back in school already!

Contrary to the well-known song, there have been no lazy days of summer at the Foundation. Have you noticed the Bryan Parks and Recreation department hard at work installing our donated 50th Anniversary bike racks and benches throughout Bryan?

I would be remiss if I didn’t send a huge thank you to Diana Moore Eschhofen and her team for coordinating the “Dream Big...Live Big” event with Danny Wuerfful on July 18th. It was a special evening hearing about Danny’s football career and his work with Desire Street Ministries in Atlanta, GA. What an inspiration for all of us to help make our community a better place to live! Thank you to everyone who contributed to the autographed Heisman Football raffle as $3,405 was raised to benefit the Bryan Youth Activities Fund.

On August 21st, we held another nonprofit workshop focusing on Financial and Legal issues. The next workshop is scheduled for October 16th and will focus on Board Development. Thank you to everyone who has shown interest and attended the events.

Congratulations to Power in the Purse (PIP)! Over $90,000 has been issued to local charities since the giving circle began in 2016. PIP is a wonderful example of the power of collective giving when women become fully engaged in community activities.

Finally, learn about the Northwest Plains Freedom School that was held this summer at Wesley United Methodist Church for students in grades 1 – 6 in Williams County. This free six-week literacy program was centered around reading and positive reinforcement. Also, be sure to check out the Montpelier Area Foundation’s page for their most recent grants.

It’s great to see that our Foundation members continue to look for innovative ways to make Bryan a place to “Arrive, Thrive & Stay!”

Until next time,

Pam Bard Steel
Chairman of the Board
What an evening....with nearly 200 people attending to hear Danny Wuerffel, the 1996 Heisman Trophy winner, share his inspirational story. It was a fun-packed evening filled with football stories, life lessons and Danny’s faith and mission work at Desire Street Ministries.

The Foundation is grateful to Danny for donating the Florida Gator football and the Heisman All-Ball as well as taking the time to share his story and inspiring the community to Dream Big!!

Afterwards Danny spent time signing autographs and taking pictures.

Ava Moore was the lucky winner of the Florida Gator ball signed by Danny.

Coaches had one-on-one time with Danny on “Getting the Most Out of Your Athletes.”

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Rick Hupe for winning the Heisman All-Ball.

Proceeds from the Heisman-All Ball Raffle, benefiting the Bryan Youth Activities Fund, totaled $3,405!
Recognizing the need for summer academic support for children in Williams County, Wesley United Methodist Church partnered with the Children’s Defense Fund to establish the Northwest Plains Freedom School. The Freedom School is a free six week literacy empowerment and enrichment program that benefited from a $9,148 Bryan Area Foundation Grant. The program is centered on an integrated reading curriculum and positive reinforcement for children in 1st through 6th grade.

Twenty-nine students from schools throughout Williams County participated in the program and gained confidence, improved social skills and increased their literacy comprehension. The student’s day was filled with morning classroom work followed by afternoon activities led by community volunteers which included field trips to the Bryan Fire Department, Spangler Candy, Sauder Village, Newcomer Farms and the YMCA.

The teaching staff included four college interns who attended a week long training in Tennessee learning lesson planning, classroom management, the reading curriculum and positive reinforcement. The interns also received on-going guidance from numerous retired Williams County teachers.

The Bryan Area Foundation granted $9,148 for the Northwest Plains Freedom School.
$500 GRANT - The Montpelier Area Foundation recently awarded $500 to the Montpelier Public Library. Receiving the donation, pictured L to R, are Beth Taylor and Nancy Crawford, assistant librarians; and Angie Humphrey, library director.

$5,000 GRANT - The Montpelier Area Foundation awarded a grant of $5,000 to sponsor the very popular Montpelier Bean Days Balloon Festival.

$2,500 GRANT - The Nurses Discretionary Fund for Needy Children at the Montpelier Exempted Schools received a grant of $2,500 from the Montpelier Area Foundation. Receiving the donation, L to R, are Lance Thorp, elementary principal; Michelle Anderson, elementary guidance counselor; and Kesha Shoup, school nurse.
On August 21st a Financial & Legal Workshop was held with 24 people attending, representing 16 nonprofit organizations. Beth Short from the Ohio Attorney General’s office covered legal topics regarding nonprofit compliance. Brent Ardit from Rea & Associates shared financial issues related to 990 forms, budgets and internal control policies.

This nonprofit workshop was the third workshop in a series of four sponsored by Shalom Counseling & Mediation Center, the United Way of Williams County and the Bryan Area Foundation.

Next Board Training Workshop

Wednesday, October 16th, 2019
8:30am - 12:00pm
Wesley United Methodist Church

Emily Croak
Aly Sterling Philanthropy

A sustainable organization requires a governing board that understands its responsibilities. Topics included in this workshop include:

- Board member rights & legal responsibilities
- Boards role in fundraising
- Board job descriptions & orientation
- Conflict of interest, term limits, committees, diversity, and board evaluations

Register by Tuesday, October 8th
$20 Registration

To register call 419-633-1156 or e-mail jfreeman@bryanareafoundation.org

Sponsored by
The Chris and Mary Thaman Scholarship is presented annually to a student who has completed at least one year of college and is working to support their college education. Mary Thaman (right) presents Jacob Hausch with the Chris and Mary Thaman Scholarship for $800. Jacob is a 2016 graduate of Bryan High School and is majoring in Exercise Science at Eastern Michigan University.

The Harlan and Ernestine Spangler Continuing Education Scholarship is awarded to adults who are returning to school to complete their education. Pictured from left is Courtney Montagu, awarded $2,000 and is majoring in Media Production/Photography at BGSU; Laura Eckhardt BAF Scholarship Committee; Rhonda Owens awarded $1,000 and studying to become an Intervention Specialist at Dominican University of California; and Tye Towns awarded $1,000, majoring in Education at Northwest State Community College.

Best of luck Jacob!
Turn your Individual Retirement Account (IRA) into a tax-saving charitable gift through an IRA Charitable Rollover. In 2015, the IRA Charitable Rollover became permanent. People 70 ½ or older are allowed to transfer up to $100,000 annually from their IRA accounts directly to a charity, without first having to recognize the distribution as income.

The Foundation can help you support your charitable interests by offering several fund options: a community impact fund, designated fund, scholarship fund or a field-of-interest fund. The law prohibits direct rollovers to a donor advised fund.

Planning today can ensure the causes you care about will continue to be supported beyond your lifetime.

To learn more, please contact Jack Brace at 419-633-1156 or email jbrace@bryanareafoundation.org.