



December 2023

There's a certain jolly old elf on a lot of minds these days. He delights in gift giving. Spreading joy is second nature to him. He has the biggest of hearts, always dreaming of a better world.

Of course, we're thinking of Santa Claus. When we stop to think about it, that sounds a lot like you, too!

You probably don't have a big white beard or drive a sleigh powered by flying reindeer. But your kindness and generosity are on display year-round. Caring for family, friends, and neighbors; smiling at strangers; and creating a better life for all Rush County with your support of RCCF. **We're grateful to you for keeping the spirit of the season alive every day of the year, Lisa! You definitely made the "nice" list this year.**

So did Rush County. It's been a year to remember that keeps getting better as it draws to a close. Read on to learn why, and we look forward to sharing even more big reasons to celebrate soon. **Wishing you and yours a warm and joyful holiday season! If you find this time of year difficult**, please know we're holding space for you.

Congratulations, Gabby!



Congratulations to **Gabrielle Pavey**, the 2024 Rush County Lilly Endowment Community Scholar! She receives full tuition, required fees and up to \$900/yr for required books and equipment for four years.

"I feel honored to represent Rush County knowing how many deserving people could have been chosen and I hope to be able to give back to the community in the future," she said. **Want to learn more about Gabby and her future plans?**

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Triple Your Impact



Lilly Endowment Inc. is matching gifts made to Community Grants Funds 2:1 through its latest initiative, GIFT VIII. **Your gift of \$100 becomes \$300 of impact for Rush County.** You don't have to be a math whiz to know that \$300 is better than \$100.

Did you know that you can take advantage of the match to start your own fund? You can, with a minimum gift of \$3,334. You can even use a QCD (qualified charitable distribution) from your IRA or make a gift of stock. There's never been a better time to support your community forever.

Community Grants truly are the gifts that keep giving! **Be on the look out for the 13 Days of Community Grants GIFTs coming to your favorite social media platform starting 12/19.**

TRIPLE YOUR IMPACT

REC Center Update

The old facade has been removed. We recommend turning your sound up for maximum effect! **Stay tuned for EXCITING news in early 2024.**

FOLLOW THE PROGRESS

Grantee Updates

Your support makes projects like these possible today, tomorrow and forever!



4-H Horse & Pony Club | Community Grant: \$10,000

By adding and repairing sidewalks, the grounds and restrooms are now accessible to all and safer, too.

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Rushville Regional Theatre | Music for Rush County Grant: \$2,432.10

A 3-night production of skits and songs from Broadway entertained an audience of approximately 90 people each night.

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**Rush Co. Soil & Water
Conservation District | Rita Yager
Memorial Ag Grant: \$1,400**

More than 70 people participated in 7 free gardening classes. A new plot, compost bin, and signage were added to the community garden.

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**Purdue Extension | Helen and Jim
Ewing Fund Grant: \$450**

"Dining with Diabetes" is a 4-week cooking and nutrition program designed to help people lead healthier lives. Taste-testing was required!

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CIRCLe (Chicks Impacting Rush County Life) Fund \$300 memberships are due 12/31/2023. Join our women's giving group to combine resources and make **a large grant each year to a transformative project.**

Scholarship applications are due 2/15/2024. Open to graduating high school seniors, current college/trade school students, and returning adults. We encourage everyone to apply every year. You never know how close you might have been.

Community Events Calendar: Find and submit local events.

ICYMI (In Case You Missed It)

Here are the top stories from last month.



[5 ways to give without dipping into your bank account](#)



[What awards were made during the largest grant cycle yet?](#)



[Enroll the little ones in your life today for FREE monthly books!](#)

Join the 1822 Society and Leave a Lasting Legacy



Join a special group of donors whose impact and love will last forever by including RCCF in your estate planning. Leaving a bequest is an easy way to do so. Find sample language and learn more.

[**LEARN MORE**](#)

November Tribute Gifts

Each gift you make in memory or in honor of a loved one supports Rush County forever. We are grateful for your kindness and generosity!

In Memory of:

Alfred Yager
Alice Ruth Wiley, Glen Wiley, and
Lauren Alice Wiley

Marcia Alexander
Mark Heimsoth
Ralph Lohrey

Bill Merrell
 Courtney Huskins
 Danny Mathews
 Don Heller
 Don Wilson
 Ellen Kwiatkowski
 Joe Leisure
 Joseph A. Jarboe
 Ken Brashaber

Rick Bane
 Russell and Betty Bane
 Stephen P. Foley
 Tim Sheehan

In Honor of:
 Jeanie Spaeth's Birthday
 Pippa's Birthday



KEEP IN TOUCH



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