

We are
MADISON COUNTY
INDIANA



"We Are Madison County" is a celebration of meaningful, impactful groups and individuals who make up Madison County's unique and cherished culture.

We celebrate community partnerships.

We are human-focused.

We unite, not divide.

We promote, not advertise.

We advocate, not politicize.



Scan the code to sign up for our email list!



SPRING FORWARD WITH THE ARTS



Mark Thacker
Executive Director

I am not a fan of the term “hidden gem.” If something is truly a gem, it should be viewed, enjoyed, and celebrated. Madison County has many areas and events that fall into this category.

Anderson University’s School of Music, Theater and Dance is one of these gems. Each semester, both the Music Theater students and the Music students put together many incredible performances. All of these are open to the public, including the Musical Theatre Senior Showcase on March 24th, the Wind Ensemble Performance on March 30th and Orchestra and Chamber Ensembles on April 2nd – all held at York Performance Hall. Be sure to watch for the off-campus performance, the Chorale Home Concert, on March 19th at Park Place Church of God. For even more entertainment, watch the Dance students take the stage March 31st and April 1st for Spring into Dance at Reardon Auditorium.

AU’s School of Dance is opening their doors to the public once again for the Diversity Dance Festival April 11th through April 17th – free of charge. What a great opportunity to enjoy and celebrate the diversity of our cultures! Open classes this

year will showcase Native American/Indigenous Dance featuring our own Andersontown Powwow dancers (April 11th), and West African dance (April 12th). Both classes include live music and drummers and will be held at the Kardatzke Wellness Center Dance Studio.

Dance Kaleidoscope will also be performing at York Hall during the Thursday night Concert Series (April 13th). They will be bringing a program featuring Choreographers of Color. Take in a stunning performance with a special discussion forum afterward.

The virtual forum “Broadway Bound: Visions in Color” will be in York Hall with guests from Broadway NYNY’s “MJ: The Musical” and the Broadway tour of “Hamilton.” The forum will also feature a short live performance by AU Theater and Dance majors (April 17th).

For more information, please visit <https://visitandersonmadisoncounty.com/calendar-of-events/>.



LEADERSHIP ACADEMY OF MADISON COUNTY

The Leadership Academy of Madison County is a premier community-based program that develops servant leaders through our leadership curriculum. LAMC provides participants with community knowledge, networking, connections and inspiration, open dialogue, class interaction, and various topical sessions designed to impact the community positively. Participants are selected from area businesses, public and private agencies, civic and other organizations. LAMC values diversity and inclusion and encourages individuals representing diverse cultural, racial, religious, social, economic, and industry sectors (e.g. business, government, non-profit, and academia) to apply.

Celebrating over 40 years and our 40th graduating class, we wanted to recognize this leadership program's impact and the fond memories of our graduates. On June 15, 2023, we are hosting our "This is 40" celebration at Crystal Coop from 6 - 9p. Stella Luna and the Satellites are bringing the excitement for the evening. We need your presence and energy as we expand upon our historic organization's foundation. We keep hearing about it but also want to see who is "The Best Class Ever." As we walk down memory lane, alums share their most significant takeaways:

"Through LAMC I learned how to understand how others think and process is critical in knowing how to work with them. And, don't forget to have fun!" Gina Brisco, Gaither's Management Group

"LAMC has been a wonderful experience from opening doors and meeting new people but most importantly understanding what is going on right here in Madison County." Brian Garrett, Anderson Country Club

For more information on the Leadership Academy of Madison County, visit: thelamc.org.



Jesse Reynolds
Executive Director, LAMC



THE STATE OF PHILANTHROPY IS STRONG!



Ben Davis
President

For those of us who raise money in the nonprofit industry, it's easy to feel stressed and challenged these days – or any day, for that matter. The common thinking is that there are limited dollars out there, lots of competition for resources, and an uncertain economy.

While all that is true to some extent, in a recent training that MCCF coordinated for local nonprofits, we learned several reasons to be encouraged by the current state of philanthropy.

- Nationwide, more than \$485 billion was donated to charities in 2021. The total amount given to nonprofits has gone up virtually every year for more than five decades, with only two one-year exceptions. It would be hard to name another industry that has experienced this kind of successful run.
- 78% of this total was donated by individuals ... Not corporations or foundations. This was true in almost

every nonprofit sector: Education, Human Services, Health, etc.

- On top of all of this, in the coming years our society is poised for the biggest transfer of generational wealth, ever. If you took every American age 55 and up and liquidated their net worth, it would total more than \$50 trillion (yes, with a T).

What does all this mean? In short, it shows that Americans are remarkably generous and make it a priority to support nonprofits, no matter the circumstances. And this community is no different. Every day we see philanthropy in action in remarkable ways, as local donors support all the agencies doing all kinds of vital work all around Madison County. I'm proud to be involved in this work, and all of you who put local philanthropy into action should be proud as well.



**MADISON COUNTY
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**

MARCH THIS WAY!

Spring, tulips and daffodils!!...“the ides of March”... “In like a lion, out like a lamb”.March has some real action going on in it!!

As Spring arrives, we have already seen projects moving forward and it’s really exciting! Soon we hope to have some announcements and new opportunities for local business as well as those seeking a career. I know we are living in an uncertain time on the economy front. Some become very negative, but if you look a little deeper you can see the capitalistic nature of our country at work. From supply chain challenges come new suppliers. New manufacturing companies open to meet the demand. New career paths for employees to step into as those jobs are created and the supply chain for construction from raw materials to building the buildings, the next year looks strong.

There needs to be a realistic energy policy and Congress must balance its books. That said, private sector here is at work every day and Madison County continues to get stronger. I know our office will do our very best to meet and support the needs within the county. So don’t tiptoe but let’s run and catch as much of this growth in the county as we can!



Rob Sparks
Executive Director



CUES, CLUES, AND WHAT TO DO'S



Tammy Bowman
Executive Director

Developments like trail systems or satellite branches are investments in a community's future that pay dividends in vitality. Major projects like these require a variety of financing tools to come together; public incentives alone aren't enough. One piece of the puzzle could be a neighbor with charitable intent, but we can't be afraid to ask.

That's why we recently turned a corporate training room into a classroom for community leaders.

Representatives from the Towns of Pendleton and Ingalls, Falls Park, Pendleton Community Public Library, South Madison Community School Corporation, Frankton/Lapel School Corporation, Madison County Government, and Main Street Pendleton studied "Cues, Clues, and What to Do's" for conversations with anyone who shares a desire to expand community organizations in a fiscally responsible way.

Course content was created by Pamela Jones Davidson, whose expertise helps community causes come to fruition. Davidson asserts that South Madison County can follow

similar methods to enjoy similar success.

Davidson recounted stories of projects in communities similar to ours, and left participants with practical conversation starters and a layman's guide to various charitable tools.

This training will help local leaders recognize a supporter's charitable intent, how best to approach the conversation, and how to introduce resources that can help everyone accomplish their goals for themselves and for the community.

Each organization represented has ambitious goals for expansion. With inspiration, confidence, and expert advice at their disposal, there's no dream too big for this team of committed volunteers.



**SOUTH MADISON COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**

Positive change. Lasting impact.

