



GEORGE AND FRANCES BALL FOUNDATION

MARCH 2019 NEWSLETTER



Photo sourced from
Minnetrista Cultural Center Archives

FRANCES AND BETTY BALL: THE GARDENERS AT OAKHURST

George and Frances Ball moved into their Oakhurst home in 1895. The house was constructed in an orchard of oak and beech trees, and the public often commented on the beauty of the homes design. Frances played a crucial part in selecting the location of the home. She also helped supervise the designs of the gardens and elaborate landscape. Frances passed her love for gardens to her daughter, Elisabeth "Betty" Ball. Betty would have numerous fairy tea parties (Faeries, Sprites, and Lights continues at Minnetrista)

in the gardens at Oakhurst. Betty and Frances would also host numerous school groups and the Muncie Gardens Club at the gardens of Oakhurst. Betty's passion for plants and flowers continued throughout her entire life. She attended Vassar College (as did Frances) and studied botany. She used her knowledge of gardening to create tranquility and enjoyment along Minnetrista Boulevard for the Muncie community. The gardens at Oakhurst not only had flowers and plants, but the Ball family also grew vegetables. Betty planted a Victory Garden (gardens encouraged by the US government to aid in food production) during World War II. In 1943, Betty had her own victory garden label that was placed on the items canned from her garden.

Historical information from Karen Vincent, Director of Collections at Minnetrista Cultural Center.

IN THIS ISSUE

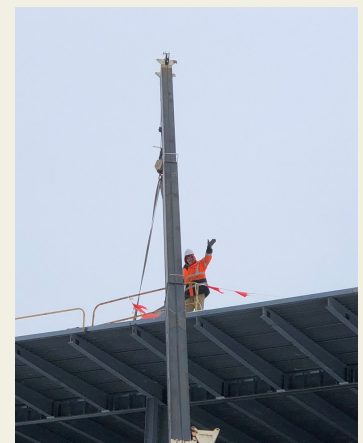
**HISTORY COLUMN:
FRANCES AND BETTY
BALL, GARDENERS AT
OAKHURST**

**WHAT ARE POST GRANT
REPORTS AND WHY ARE
THEY SO IMPORTANT?**

**UPDATE:
CRADLE TO CAREER
INITIATIVE**

**GRANTS SPOTLIGHT:
ENVIRONMENT AND
CONSERVATION**

**IMPORTANT GFBF
DATES**



**GFBF STAFF AND SEVERAL
BOARD MEMBERS JOIN
COMMUNITY IN TOPPING
OF THE BEAM ON THE IVY
TECH GEORGE AND
FRANCES BALL BUILDING**



WHAT ARE POST GRANT REPORTS?

Post grant reports are important follow up tools that serve a variety of roles for private foundations and nonprofits. Private foundations have the fiduciary duty to ensure that grant funds are utilized for authorized purposes. Post grant reports document that nonprofits have used the funds in the way that the foundation specified. The staff and the board of private foundations have a unique responsibility to protect and uphold the intent of the original founders. If for any reason the monies were not used in the specified way, no further funding is allowed until the situation is resolved between the foundation and nonprofit. Relationship building is also an important function of post grant reports. These reports connect the foundation to the work that the nonprofit is doing to strengthen the community, and they are a way for nonprofits to communicate how the foundation's support impacts the work that they do. Charity Channel points out that while reports should be short and to the point, they are the perfect way to put a human face to the community organizations' work.

GRANTS SPOT-LIGHT: ENVIRONMENT & CONSERVATION

Oakhurst, the home of George, Frances, and Elisabeth Ball, lives on through the generous grants from the George and Frances Ball Foundation. Oakhurst is known for beautiful landscaping and gardens, which have been preserved and reflect the environmental design similar to when the family lived there. GFBF grants help Minnetrista conserve the Courtyard garden, Sunken garden, Formal garden, Oakhurst Woodland, and many other gardens on the property. GFBF grants have also supported the Minnetrista Nature Area. This scenic trail hosts numerous field trips and is open for daily

use. The Nature Area takes visitors to a serene nature environment in the middle of Muncie. The George and Frances Ball Foundation has also played an integral role in supporting the Cardinal Greenways. With 62 miles of trails, and the recently acquired John M. Craddock Wetland Nature Preserve, the Cardinal Greenways are Indiana's longest span of recreational trails. Another grantee, Red-tail Land Conservancy, permanently protects 2700+ acres of natural area and farms around East Central Indiana. Environment and Conservation is the second of the target areas that GFBF has highlighted in our newsletter. See the next issue for a spotlight on another area.

For more information, visit:
www.fortheland.org
www.minnetrista.net
www.cardinalgreenways.org

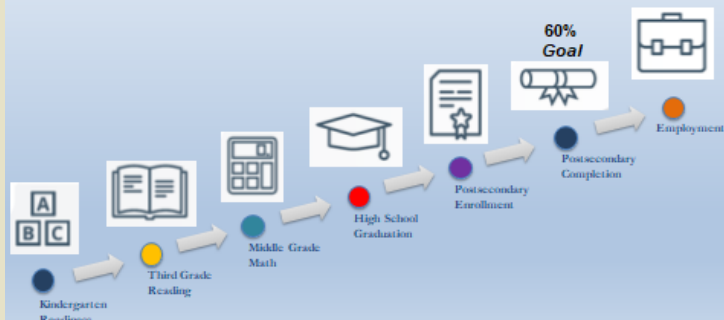
"TOPPING OF THE BEAM" ON THE IVY TECH GEORGE AND FRANCES BALL BUILDING

Tuesday, January 15, 2019 was an historic moment for the George and Frances Ball Foundation. The "Topping of the Beam" occurred at 11:00am, just after the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Ivy Tech Ball Brothers Foundation School of Nursing. The beam was signed by multiple community members,

staff, and board members. As the beam rose to the top of the building, it was hard not to get excited about new opportunities that this new space affords. This building will impact thousands of students and families in our community, and exist in legacy of George and Frances Ball.



The Six Markers from Cradle to Career



UPDATE: CRADLE TO CAREER INITIATIVE

Our educational resource rich community is becoming increasingly aware of the Cradle to Career Initiative. The wonderful news is that many organizations' efforts, both in the past and present, give energy to the Cradle to Career concept. (Please see the word cloud above for a number of organizations that are engaged. Over time, many more will be involved.) Muncie Action Plan is including Cradle to Career in their strategic direction for Task Force 1. James R. Williams, President of the Muncie Community School Board of Education, published an opinion letter in The Star Press. *Cradle to career: Mobilizing a community approach to public education* addresses the need for educational attainment to be a community priority. On January 15th, a meeting was led by Jason Newman from the Boys and Girls Clubs representing Youth Link, a collaboration of nine nonprofits including Muncie BY5, Apple Tree, Boys and Girls Clubs, Motivate Our Minds, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Teen Works, Upward Bound, Muncie Public Library,

Shafer Leadership Academy, and Project Leadership. In attendance were six teachers from South View and Grissom Elementary and GFBF staff. The meeting introduced teachers to the Youth Link program and discussed ways that teachers can work together with the nonprofit organizations.

Recently, research of over 130 communities from Lumina Foundation and Strive Together Network was completed by GFBF staff. These communities are using collective impact as they pursue a common goal of educational attainment that leads to livable wages for their individuals and families. Our next step is visiting some of these communities to learn more. At the same time, we look forward to recognizing the substantial work already underway within the community. We are eager to hear new ideas emerging from community organizations and we are excited about the increased opportunities for collaboration. If you believe your organization has the potential to align with the Cradle to Career Initiative, we want to learn more. We would also like to make our research available to you. Please connect with us at the contact information provided below.

"We need to renew our promise to our children: the promise that every single baby will have quality prenatal care, every toddler can attend preschool, every student has access to high quality after school programs, every graduate has meaningful job training and work opportunities. The future is not in front of us, it is inside us." —Lt. Gov. Gavin Newsom



For more information, please contact us at admin@gfbfndn.org or visit us at gfbfndn.org

Word cloud containing the following organizations: shaferleadershipacademy, purduepolytechnic, projectleadtheway, mp3ballstate, apple tree, teenworks, muncieby5unitedway, boysandgirlsclubs moms, munciecommunityschools, innovationconnector, ivytech, munciepubliclibrary, projectleadership, upwardbound, bigbrothersbigsisters.

IMPORTANT DATES

BOARD MEETINGS:

June 13, 2019

Grant Deadline: May 13

October 17, 2019

Grant Deadline: September 17

December 13, 2019

Grant Deadline: November 13

RECOMMENDED

CONFERENCES:

K-12 Philanthropy National Forum

Denver, CO April 3-4

**Council on Foundations-
Leading Together Conference**

Miami, FL April 29-May 1

**2019 Center for Effective
Philanthropy Conference**

Minneapolis, MN May 7-9

Indiana Philanthropy

Alliance: Regional Meetings

Various Locations, Early June

**Rocky Mountain Tax Seminar
for Private Foundations**

Colorado Springs, CO
September 18-20

Exponent Philanthropy

National Conference-Connect

St. Louis, MO October 2-4

**Council of Michigan
Foundations**

Traverse City, MI October 6-8

George A. Ball
James Ball



Est. 1937

George and Frances Ball Foundation

222 South Mulberry Street, P.O. Box 1408, Muncie, Indiana 47308

765-741-5500 | www.gfballdn.org