

LEADERSHIP HANCOCK COUNTY



CARRYING THE TORCH OF LEADERSHIP FOR
HANCOCK COUNTY FOR MORE THAN 25 YEARS

CLASS OF 2022-2023 DIRECTORY



Melissa Ewald

Executive Director

Melissa grew up in Henry County and has lived in Greenfield since 2003. Melissa, and her husband, Andy, have two children and a beautiful granddaughter.

Melissa loves this community and gets involved in many ways. She was the Executive Director of Meals on Wheels of Hancock County and still volunteers as a driver. She served as a ReadUp tutor, on the Board of Directors

of FUSE (Families United in Support and Encouragement) for 6 years and is currently a Rotarian and the marketing coordinator with the Greenfield Chamber of Commerce.

Melissa is a Real Estate Broker with Level Up Real Estate Group and honored to be named the 2021 Best Realtor of Hancock County by the Daily Reporter.



LHC

Board Members



Melissa Ewald
Executive Director



Nicole Mann
President



Courtney Miller
Vice-President



Lori Cooley
Secretary



Alisha Love
Treasurer



Adam Wilhelm



Amy West



Andrea Mallory



Becky Zapf



George Plisinski



Jane Barton



Jason Wells



Kerry Grass



LHC CLASS OF 2022-2023

Alex Barnes
Lori Baynes
Jennifer Brown
Hilary Engleking
Misty Fuller
Sarah House
Danielle Hunt
Sally Hunter
Chelsea Isaac
Stephanie Kendall
Nick Ludlow
Brandy Murray

Ryan Nasby
Nicole Scurlock
Christine Sears
Jenna Silvey
Lena Smekens
Jon Sturm
Hart Summeier
Jeremy Teipen
Donna Wingham
Merlyn Winters
Andrea Yovanovich



Alex Barnes

Erlewein Mortuary &
Crematory

Funeral Director

- **FAMILY:**

I have been happily married to my wife, Bailey, for just over a year. We have 2 dogs, Cali & Marley and reside in McCordsville.

- **INTERESTS:**

I enjoy live music events, graphic design projects, trying new restaurants, and spending time with my family.

- **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:**

I am a deputy coroner with the Hancock County Coroner's office and active with the New Palestine Chamber of Commerce.

- **AN INTERESTING FACT ABOUT ME:**

I have one sister, Amanda. We were both adopted by our parents.



Lori Baynes

Community Health Network
Director of Medical Imaging



- **FAMILY:**

I have one daughter who is a senior at New Palestine High School.

- **INTERESTS:**

I like to craft, read and go to the beach.

- **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:**

Working for Community has allowed me to do several 360 events over the years.



Jennifer Brown

Bookkeeping Plus, Inc.

Operations Manager

- **FAMILY:**

I have been married for 26 years and have a daughter who is a Kindergarten teacher, and a son who plays football for Indiana State University.

- **INTERESTS:**

I enjoy working out and doing anything fitness related. I also love watching football and basketball with family and friends.

- **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:**

I have coached gymnastics and cheer for several years. I belong to Brookville Road Community Church and am currently training as a member of Team World Vision through church to raise money for clean water for children worldwide.

- **AN INTERESTING FACT ABOUT ME:**

At my last church I sang in the choir. We just adopted a Belgian Malinois pupping to be a sibling to our boxer and chocolate lab.



Hilary Engleking



Jane Pauley Community Health
Center

Health & Outreach Advocate

• FAMILY:

I am married to Adam Engleking and we have three children together, two girls and one boy.

• INTERESTS:

I'm in a season of life where I am very involved in my children's activities and they keep us plenty busy. When I get a free moment, I enjoy reading, camping, hiking and always love the feeling after completing a project of some sort for the house.

• COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

I currently am on the board as Secretary for Greenfield Fastpitch Softball Association that operates out of Brandywine Park. Between my husband myself, we have coached over 30 seasons of youth sports for Greenfield and Eastern Hancock Schools. The Englekings are dairy farmers, and my children are carrying on the tradition of showing dairy cows and representing Hancock County that way. It was not a life I had before I met my husband, but I have enjoyed learning about our Hancock County 4-H Fair and am working towards becoming more involved in that.

• AN INTERESTING FACT ABOUT ME:

I strongly dislike pumpkin spice flavored/scented anything, and I'm always cold. I come from a school where my graduating class was around 800 students, even though I lived in a city with one stoplight and one gas station. Despite coming from such a large school, I love Eastern Hancock and count myself blessed that I landed in a school district that is so wonderful and close knit for my kids.





Misty Fuller

Firefly Children & Family Alliance,
Community Partners for Child
Safety Program

*Outreach Coordinator & Family
Liasion*

• FAMILY:

I have been happily married for 10 years and am the mother of three girls ranging in age from three to fifteen years old. We also have chickens, cats, a dog and a crazy talking Quaker Parrot.

• INTERESTS:

Most of my time outside of work is occupied with being a mommy. In my free time, my garden is my peaceful space. I also enjoy painting and learning.

• COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

As an Outreach Coordinator, it is my job to be involved and know about activities and resources in our community. I teach Safe Sleep and am a Child Passenger Safety Technician. As an Executive Board member of Hancock4Kids, I serve as the Secretary and am one of the Positive Parenting educators. I am also involved in the planning of several community events.

• AN INTERESTING FACT ABOUT ME:

I am from east Tennessee and grew up in the mountains. I moved to Hancock County in high school. I am happy to call this community my home and plan to continue working towards the ideas and dreams I have for this community.



Sarah House

Healthy365

Support Navigator



- **FAMILY:**

I was born and raised in Hancock County and am happy to be surrounded by family in this area. I have one spunky and sweet daughter.

- **INTERESTS:**

Traveling, reading

- **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:**

Hancock 4 Kids

- **AN INTERESTING FACT ABOUT ME:**

I lived abroad from 2015-2019.



Danielle Hunt

Hancock County Farm Bureau, Young Farmer & AG Professionals Chairman

Henry County, Purdue Extension Educator

- **FAMILY:**

I grew up in a family of five with an older sister and younger brother. I have gained a brother-in-law and 4-year old nephew along the way. I recently became engaged to my fiancé, Luke. We have a 2-year old Australian Shepherd, Gunner.

- **INTERESTS:**

I enjoy running, spending time with family and friends, cooking, camping, hiking and enjoying the great outdoors.

- **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:**

Hancock County Farm Bureau, Young Farmer & AG Professionals Chairman; Member & volunteer at Brandywine Community Church.

- **AN INTERESTING FACT ABOUT ME:**

Iced coffee is my new found love.



Sally Hunter

NineStar Connect

Accountant



- **FAMILY:**

I am married and have two sons. The oldest is a junior at Ball State University. The youngest is a junior at Greenfield-Central High School.

- **INTERESTS:**

I love to cook, listen to music and enjoy outside activities.

- **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:**

I have volunteered at the Hope House and am involved with various NineStar Connect sponsored events.

- **AN INTERESTING FACT ABOUT ME:**

I have lived in Greenfield for eight years and finished my college education at age 44.



Chelsea Isaac

Jane Pauley Community Health
Center

Family Nurse Practitioner

- **FAMILY:**

I have been married for ten years and we have three children.

- **INTERESTS:**

I enjoy spending time with my family. I like to relax by the pool or go camping. I enjoy a day of solo shopping. I have a group of seven girlfriends that I have known since I was a kid. I like to get together with them when I can.

- **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:**

I hope by joining Leadership Hancock County I can learn about opportunities to be involved in the community.

- **AN INTERESTING FACT ABOUT ME:**

I have worked at an inpatient eating disorder treatment center for twelve years. I recently started my own business doing Botox injections.



Stephanie Kendall

Farm Bureau Insurance

Director of Field Operations



- **FAMILY:**

I have a son, Dylan, and recently became a “Gran” to sweet Emery.

- **INTERESTS:**

I am a race fan, I enjoy camping, traveling and spending time with my family.

- **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:**

I hope this program helps me become more involved in our community. I’ve had opportunities to work with Habitat for Humanity, Gleaners Food Bank and the Little Red Door through my employer.

- **AN INTERESTING FACT ABOUT ME:**

I am a Kansas native. I have lived in seven states and have traveled to 46 states... so far!



Nick Ludlow

First Merchants Bank

*Vice-President, Banking Center
Manager*

- **FAMILY:**

I have been married for 25 years and have three children.

- **INTERESTS:**

I enjoy watching baseball (NY Yankees) and spending time with my family.

- **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:**

I am on the board of the Greenfield Area Chamber of Commerce and serve on the Greenfield Main Street Design Committee.

- **AN INTERESTING FACT ABOUT ME:**

I missed the first week of my senior year in high school to caddy on the PGA Senior Tour for Bob Erickson.



Brandy Murray

Life Choice, LLC

Director of Behavioral Services



- **FAMILY:**

I have three children, Keenan (22), Jaden (19), and Kason (4). We have one dog, Dexter.

- **INTERESTS:**

I enjoy cooking and spending time with my family.

- **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:**

I work alongside and volunteer with individuals who have developmental disabilities. I also volunteer for the Mozel Sanders Foundation and have volunteered at the Feast of Plenty.

- **AN INTERESTING FACT ABOUT ME:**

I have always wanted to be a farmer.



Ryan Nasby

Hancock County Sheriffs
Department

Sheriff's Deputy

- **FAMILY:**

I have been married to my wife, Hannah, for eight years. We have a 5-year old son and a 1-year old daughter.

- **INTERESTS:**

Spending time with my family, outdoor projects, working and playing baseball with my son.

- **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:**

I am involved in different capacities at church, GYBA baseball coach, part-time School Resource Officer, and participate in different community events with the Sheriff's Dept.

- **AN INTERESTING FACT ABOUT ME:**

My great-grandfather immigrated to the United States from Norway. In 2019, I was fortunate enough to travel to Norway visiting the farm where he grew up and meeting several relatives.



Nicole Scurlock

Hancock County
Public Library

Reference Librarian



- **FAMILY:**

I have been married to George for ten years. We have a 19-year old daughter, Daija. We also have a bulbous housecat named Kitty.

- **INTERESTS:**

I enjoy reading, baking and spending time with family and friends.

- **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:**

I lead a book club in Greenfield.

- **AN INTERESTING FACT ABOUT ME:**

I collect and rewatch my favorite 90's sitcoms on DVD, and I follow an inordinate number of cats on Instagram.



Christine Sears

Greenfield Banking Company
Branch Supervisor

- **FAMILY:**

I have been married for 24 years and have 2 adult children, 1 son (21 years old) and 1 daughter (19 years old).

- **INTERESTS:**

I like to read books and watch movies. I also enjoy riding on our motorcycle with my husband and going antiquing.

- **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:**

I work with the public every day. I usually volunteer through the bank for events they sponsor.

- **AN INTERESTING FACT ABOUT ME:**

I am a little shy when I first meet people, but once I get to know you, I am a lot of fun to be around.



Jenna Silvey

Penny's Florist Home Décor &
Monuments by Stillinger

Business Director



- **FAMILY:**

Husband Jason and two sons, John (4 ½) and Ethan (2 ½).

- **INTERESTS:**

Spending time with my family, shopping, hiking and camping. I love any kind of adventure!

- **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:**

Staying connected with community individuals through work and yearly volunteer at Kammy's Kause.

- **AN INTERESTING FACT ABOUT ME:**

I love to joke, dance and make people laugh!



Lena Smekens

Bookkeeping Plus, Inc.
Accounting Manager

- **FAMILY:**

I have been in a relationship for over seventeen years, and we have two dogs, Cooper and Callie.

- **INTERESTS:**

I enjoy spending time with family and friends, listening to music, shopping, and vacationing. While I enjoy many things, being an aunt is by far my favorite.

- **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:**

I am still pretty new to the Greenfield community but would like to move closer in the future and become more involved.

- **AN INTERESTING FACT ABOUT ME:**

I knew from a young age what I wanted to do for a living. Also, while working full time in my career, I went back to school and received my master's degree in 2019.



Jon Sturm

Elanco Animal Health,
Greenfield

IT Director



- **FAMILY:**

My wife and I have been married for ten years and have four children.

- **INTERESTS:**

I enjoy listening to audiobooks, continuous learning, playing my guitar, and binge-watching TV shows while snuggled up with my wife.

- **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:**

I am the former Vice-Chairman of the Hancock County Democratic Party, involved with community outreach, recruiting volunteers, coaching candidates, fundraising and registering new voters. I am an Election Judge Opposite and State Delegate. I also lead various local volunteer activities with my team from work.

- **AN INTERESTING FACT ABOUT ME:**

I listened to over 200 audiobooks during the first year of the pandemic, a habit that continues to this day.



Hart Summeier

Level Up Real Estate Group
Broker/Owner

- **FAMILY:**

I live in Fortville and have family in nearby counties. I enjoy being the “funcle” to many nieces and nephews, both blood relatives and friends!

- **INTERESTS:**

I enjoy live music, sporting events and Hancock County bonfires!

- **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:**

I currently serve on multiple boards throughout the county.

- **AN INTERESTING FACT ABOUT ME:**

I am a 6-year deployment veteran of the U.S. Navy.



Jeremy Teipen

Hancock County
Public Defender Office

Chief Public Defender



- **FAMILY:**

I have been married to Georgie, the love of my life, for almost fifteen years. We have two wonderful adult children and a small pack of four-legged children (dogs).

- **INTERESTS:**

I enjoy exercising, outdoor activities, watching and participating in live theater, tabletop gaming and spending time with my family.

- **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:**

Aside from representing indigent clients as defense counsel in the Hancock County courts, my wife and I actively support a local dog rescue and are working to become more involved in our church.

- **AN INTERESTING FACT ABOUT ME:**

I spent 17½ years as a prosecuting attorney before switching sides to do defense work. I've conducted somewhere between 90 and 100 jury trials in the course of my career.



Donna Wingham

Hancock Regional Hospital

Clinical Education Specialist

- **FAMILY:**

I am married with 4 children in total. 2 stepdaughters, Chloe (17), Hailee (14), my daughter, Chloe (16), who attend Mt. Vernon schools. My son, Wyatt (9), attends Zion Lutheran in New Palestine.

- **INTERESTS:**

I love family game nights, movies and renovating my house.

- **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:**

Cub scouts, try to shop local and attend local events.

- **AN INTERESTING FACT ABOUT ME:**

We are huge Marvel fans. We have seen all the Marvel movies and have a black goldendoodle, named Loki, our dog of mischief.



Merlyn M. Winters

Greenfield Christian Church

Pastor



- **FAMILY:**

I am a divorced mother of grown son Stephen and grandmother to 14-yr-old Delaney.

- **INTERESTS:**

I love to cook, sew and collect things that can be repaired and/or refreshed for further use.

- **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:**

I am a pastor to a congregation of approximately 150 people. My passion in ministry is to orient people to their spiritual selves (an encounter with God), from where they can experience the true peace and joy offered by Jesus Christ.

- **AN INTERESTING FACT ABOUT ME:**

I am one of five siblings. We do not all live in the same state, but travel to catch up with each other. This makes for rich vacation/reunion experiences.



Andrea Yovanovich

CuroGens

Strategic Engagement Officer

- **FAMILY:**

Married to Alex since 1993. Parents of Alexander, a student at Rochester Institute of Technology and future United State Space Force officer.

- **INTERESTS:**

As a former competitive figure skater, I have remained active in the community as a coach and volunteer. I love experimenting in the kitchen, reading and exploring the world. A good glass of wine piques my interest as well.

- **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:**

As a former teacher at Mt. Vernon High School and Executive Director at Mt. Vernon Education Foundation, I appreciate our schools! I am a charter member of the Greater Mt. Vernon Community Kiwanis. I actively volunteer in community events and am a former President Highland Spring South HOA. Currently running for McCordsville Town Council.

- **AN INTERESTING FACT ABOUT ME:**

Love to scuba dive! More than 200 dives throughout the years.



How We Began

In January 1994, Nancy King, Hancock County Home Economist, met with Thomas Seng, CEO of Central Indiana Power, to discuss forming a leadership organization in Hancock County.

Together, Nancy and Thomas, along with Thomas P. Miller and Bobby Keen, formed the initial Leadership Hancock County steering committee.

The Original Steering Committee

Bill Riggs	Marcia Parker
Bobby Keen	Mike Burrow
Debbie Clause	Nancy King
Gary Newman	Steve Vail
Gene Behler	Thomas P. Miller
Judy Crist	Thomas Seng
Karin Blue	Tim Raun
Linda Bond	

This committee shared the vision and volunteered to do the tough work to get the organization started.

Applicants for the Inaugural 1995-1996 Class

Baird Hill	John Robert Hill
Bob Harold	John T. Fleming
Bob Perry	Joseph Fitzgerald
Carolyn Thomas	Mark Marshall
Wooden	Paul Fedorchak
Cathy Shuler	Rev. Donald Watso
Debbie Clause	Rev. Jerald Mielke
Deborah Colbert	Robert Gorczyca
Douglas Harvey	Robert Young
Dr. Edward Elliott, Jr.	Sarah Burke
Dr. Sandra Espy	Shelly Lesandrini
Dr. Susan Kindig	Stacia Alyea
Gary Clinkenbeard	Steven Spangler
Jason Crouse	Susan Ramey
Jeff Phares	Terry Melvin

Leadership Hancock County has continued to grow and develop leaders in our community through classes, training, projects and more.

Some of the early projects included:

Education about duties of elected officials	awareness campaign
Public information access - virtual courthouse	Breakfast Buddies
Post-secondary education in Hancock County	Volunteer Hancock County
Hancock County senior connection	MOB: Monitors on buses program
You have your health	Adopt a grandparent program
Gateway to community service for youth	Food Pantry
Citizens against domestic violence	Teen Health Summit
	Created the PARCs organization (county parks department)



STACIA ALYEA AWARD WINNERS

STACIA ALYEA AWARD RECIPIENTS

1997	Mark Copeland
1998	Dianne Osborne
1999	Derek Towle
2000	Linda Banning-Thompson
2001	Rev. Russ Abel
2002	Donieta Ross
2003	Janice Cassell
2004	Christine Rapp
2005	Bridget Foy
2006	Linda C. Gellert
2007	Kelly Andrews
2008	Anita K. Turner
2009	Trent Smoll
2010	Jean Thomas
2011	Retta Livengood
2012	Donald J. Munden
2013	Mary Jane Smith
2014	Andrea Mallory
2015	Keely Butrum
2016	Kari Sisk
2017	Laurene Lonnemann
2018	Maria Bond
2019	Jeff Rasche
2020	Jane Barton
2022	Aimee Herring

Stacia Alyea was a member of Leadership Hancock County's inaugural class, in 1996. She was well-regarded by her classmates, who noted her commitment to her community, her family and her career as a member of the Shelby County Sheriff's Department.

In April 1996, near the end of her year in Leadership, Stacia, 35, was killed in an accident during a pursuit of a drunken driver. She had received an award from Mothers Against Drunk Driving the week before for her work in drunken driving enforcement. Her Leadership class created the Excellence in Leadership Award to honor her memory. The first award was made in 1997. The annual award recognizes an individual from the class who shows outstanding leadership qualities. Criteria are those that Stacia best exemplified:

- A balanced commitment to community, home and work
- A passion for improving life circumstances
- Dedication to improving the lives of others
- Integrity, dedication, candor and compassion

The award is perhaps most meaningful to its recipients because it is voted on by fellow class members.