Vision Statement: The Merrick Foundation will strive to be a leader in attracting, mobilizing and focusing philanthropic resources to meet Merrick County’s needs for generations to come.
Chuck Griffith, Executive Director

Chuck has served as Executive Director of Merrick Foundation since 2006. Previously, Chuck served as an elementary teacher, principal, curriculum director, school planner and superintendent in Nebraska, Kansas and Louisiana. He also served as the Director of Academic Affairs at MTTI in Kansas City. He received a bachelors, masters and educational specialist certificate from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln and obtained a Ph.D. in 1999. Chuck serves as treasurer of the Heartland Council of Foundations and on the board of the Nebraska Partnership for Philanthropic Planning. Chuck enjoys fishing, hunting, home renovation and Husker football. His wife Kathleen substitute teaches in Merrick County. They have two grown children, Cliff and Casey, both graduates of the University of Nebraska at Lincoln.

Thank you to our retiring Board Members

Kathy Debas: Kathy served on the Scholarship Committee during her term on the board. She served as Committee Chair for the Scholarship Committee in 2016.

Randy Rinkol: Randy served on the Grant Committee and one year on the Scholarship Committee during his term on the board. He served as Board President in 2016.

Welcome Newly Elected Board Members

At our annual meeting in November, Leah Brown, Lisa Kershaw, and Monica Simonson assumed their duties as board members. We extend a warm welcome to them.

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| Merrick Foundation Board of Directors had the privilege this past year to approve $241,513 in Grants to Merrick County projects. |
| Merrick Foundation Grantees – Fiscal Year 2016 |
| American Legion Baseball | Program Support |
| Archbishop Evangelical Cemetery | Annual Support |
| Burke Cemetery | Annual Support |
| CC Boy/Cub Scout Troop 102 | Program Support |
| Central City Children's Theater | Missoula Children's Theater |
| Central City High School | Jr Academy of Science |
| Central City High School - Band | Student Trip to Branson, MO |
| Central City High School - DECA | Student Conference in Nashville |
| Central City High School - FFA | Dark Island Trail Maintenance |
| Central City High School - Speech | Student Nationals in Denver, CO |
| Central City Middle School | Student Trip to DC |
| Central City Public Library | New Microfilm System |
| Central City Senior Center | Annual Support |
| Central City Stampede Softball | Uniforms & Equipment |
| Central City Trails | Trail Maintenance & Development |
| Chapman Township Cemetery | Trees & Water System |
| Clarks Public Library | Drinking Fountain & Exotic Animal Visit |
| Covenant Cedars Bible Camp | High School Voc. Skills |
| Go Big Give | Go Big Give Sponsorship |
| High Plains Community Schools | Student Trip to DC |
| High Plains Community Schools - Teammates | Program Startup Funding |
| High Plains Community Schools - Band | Band & Choir Trip |
| Litzenberg Memorial Hospital | Loan Repayment/ Education |
| Lone Tree Literary Society | Annual Support |
| Merrick Arts Council | Program Support |
| Merrick County 4-H Youth | Student Washington DC Trip |
| Merrick County Child Development Center | Matching Funds |
| Merrick County Entertainment Corporation | New Movie Theater |
| Merrick County Historical Museum | Annual Support |
| Merrick County Home Delivered Meals | Delivered Hot Meals |
| Merrick County Youth Council | Dark Island Trail Maintenance |
| Merrick County Youth Council | Program/Facility Support |
| Merrymakers Association | Entertainment for Seniors |
| Midland Area Agency on Aging | Lifeline Support |
| Nebraska Christian School | Student Trip to DC |
| Nebraska Christian School | Festival of Lessons & Carols |
| NELAC | Sponsor NE150 Guide to More NE Authors |
| North Blue Cemetery | Annual Support |
| Palmer American Legion | Building Improvements |
| Palmer Commercial Club | Banners for Main St |
| Palmer High School | Student Trip to DC |
| Palmer High School - Band | Student Trip to New Orleans |
| Palmer Senior Center | Annual Support |
| Palmer Volunteer Fire Department | Fireworks/Helmets |
Merrick Foundation Grantees – Fiscal Year 2016 (Continued)

Platte Peer Group .............................................................. Butterfly Garden/Deck
Prairie Plains Resource Institute .................................. Merrick County Students to SOAR Camp
Riverside Park Association ............................................. Pavilion Roof Repair
Rose Hill Cemetery ......................................................... 30 Blue Spruce Trees
Royal Family Kids Camp II .............................................. Camp Support
Silver Creek Ball Association ......................................... Program Support
Silver Creek Cemetery Association ............................ Matching Funds
Steps Dance Academy ............................................... Student Trip to New York City
Twin River Jr/Sr Legion Baseball ................................. Program Support
Twin River PTO ................................................................. School Carnival
Twin River Public Schools - FBLA ................................. National Competition
Twin River Public Schools - FCCLA ............................ National Leadership Conf
Wiegert Cemetery .............................................................. Replace Fence

Grant Application Procedures

1. The Community Grant deadline has been moved from the first of the month to the 10th of each month (following Monday if the 10th is on a weekend). Merrick Foundation meets on the 4th Monday of each month. No meeting is held in December. April’s meeting is on the 4th Sunday in April (Scholarship Tea).

2. Grants are approved on the condition that grantees attend the Annual Meeting on the 4th Monday of November and present a poster board (provided) display describing their grant.

3. Grant applications over $10,000 may require representatives to attend a board meeting. They will be notified by the Grant Committee.

4. Grant requests over $15,000 will be reviewed in January, June and October. Applicants shall be required to attend a board meeting.

5. Only one grant application form needs to be mailed to Merrick Foundation.

6. A separate (shorter) form is now available for student educational trips. It is listed separately on the Merrick Foundation website. Schools are encouraged to apply as soon as possible for student trip funding. Grants for school trips are not to exceed the average class size in one year or twice the average class size in two years.

Application forms and grant guidelines are available on our website at merrick-foundation.org, or you may request one by phone (308) 946-3707.

A message from the Board President:

Merrick Foundation is proud to support the nonprofits that serve all parts of our county and people of all age groups and interests. Our fifteen volunteer board members represent each of our communities and do their best to serve the needs of all Merrick County residents. Our staff works hard to get the resources to those projects needing support. Staff members include Chuck Griffith, Exec. Director; Michelle Carroll, Accountant/Scholarship Coordinator; Andrea Green, Communications/Publications; and Anita Kucera, Education and Public Outreach.

Drive around Merrick County and you will see where Merrick Foundation has transformed donations from the past into successful programs and facilities. Recent major projects include the Dark Island Trail, the State and Widman Theaters, the new Fairgrounds Building, Heartland Tribute to Veterans, and the Merrick County Youth Council building. We also look forward to enjoying a new museum. Scholarships have provided over $200,000 in support for our graduating seniors and college students.
**STAFF**

**Michelle Carroll, Accountant/Scholarship Coordinator**

Michelle grew up in Elwood, Nebraska and received her bachelor’s degree in Accounting from the University of Nebraska at Kearney in 2000. She moved with her family to Central City in 2005. Michelle has four children: Khrystina, Jonathan, Faith and Tyler and one granddaughter, Skylir. Michelle enjoys running, spending time with friends and family and attending her children’s activities. She currently serves on the Merrick County Child Development Center board.

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**Andrea Green, Communications/Publications**

Andrea grew up in Central City and graduated from Central City High School. She received an Associate Degree in Business from the Lincoln School of Commerce in Lincoln, NE and also received her Emergency Medical Technician training from CCC in Columbus, NE. Andrea is a member of the First Christian Church. Andrea has two grown children: Jesse and Jordan. Andrea enjoys outdoor activities and many sports, reading, making crafts and spending time with family and friends.

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**Anita Kucera, Community Relations & Education**

Anita (Nita) grew up in Lexington, NE and received her bachelor and master degrees from the University of Nebraska at Kearney. She and her husband Dave retired in 2012 after being in education for many years. They have enjoyed living in Central City and being close to their only son, John, daughter-in-law, Tara and Granddaughter, Shaylin. She enjoys working with the Merrick Foundation Leading Locally program and says she is proud to be part of an organization that benefits the community with all they do. Nita enjoys spending time with family and friends, traveling, playing video games, and being involved with many projects. She is the current President for The Litzenberg Hospital Thrift Shop and works with the Tri Community Foundation.

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**Community Activities**

- Clarks Summer Reading Program
- Soupfest
- Go Big Give
- MCYC Paint Wars
- Parades

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**Our website:** merrick-foundation.org

**Like us on Facebook:** facebook.com/Merrick-Foundation-Inc

**Follow us on Twitter:** twitter.com/MerrFoundation

**Watch our video on YouTube:**youtu.be/6GmH88210ws
ESI Camp

Merrick Foundation sponsors an ESI Camp for Merrick County middle school students. The annual week long summer camp teaches the campers skills necessary to start and run a successful business. The camp concludes with students selling their products at the Lone Tree Days Sidewalk Sale. Students may also choose to sell their products at the county or state fair. Students take daily trips to visit a variety of businesses and hear how they began and what is entailed in running a business. Guest speakers also talk with the students about business topics such as marketing, business legal status, social networking, assessing risks, business loans, grants and other topics. Part of the ESI curriculum teaches the students how to decide on the product they will market and sell.

SOAR CAMP & Youth Naturalist Program

Merrick Foundation awarded SCHOLARSHIPS to Merrick County youth to attend SOAR and the Youth Naturalist Program. Nine Merrick County youth participated in one of a kind summer camps where they explored the Platte River and surrounding environments. They learned about the natural history of the area and why the area they are from is unique and interesting. These camps get youth outdoors and help them develop naturalist skills and a love of the outdoors that last a lifetime. These youth also make new friends while attending these camps. They also benefit from interacting with guest presenters and professionals in the natural sciences, agriculture and the arts.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Leah Brown

Leah graduated from Central City High School and the University of Nebraska at Kearney with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. She and her husband, Darrin, farm near Archer and attend Fairview United Methodist Church. Leah has four children: Aaron (22), Ashton (20), Gwyneth (11) and Gretchen (10). Before making the decision to be a stay-at-home mom and farm wife 12 years ago, Leah owned Woody’s Cafe & Lounge and later served as the director of the Merrick County Child Development Center. She has volunteered extensively in her community, church and school, primarily focusing on children and youth activities. Leah substitute teaches at Palmer during her spare time.

Lisa Kershaw

Lisa is a graduate of Silver Creek Public Schools and received her Associate of Applied Science degree in Ag Business from SCC in Beatrice. Lisa is engaged to marry fiancé Travis Vanek. They have two sons: Ty and Gavin Vanek. Lisa is employed with RCIS and Whitetail. Lisa is a member of the Methodist Church. Lisa enjoys camping, fishing, and spending time with family.

Monica Simonson

Monica grew up and continues to make her home in Palmer. She is a graduate of the University of Nebraska at Kearney earning her Bachelor of Arts Degree and Masters in Curriculum and Instruction from Doane College. Monica and her husband, Randy have two children: Logan and Bailey. Monica is employed with the Grand Island Public School where she has taught for 31 years. She is a member of the St. John’s Lutheran Church and a variety of educational organizations. Monica enjoys reading, Husker volleyball, traveling, and air-boating.

Ericka

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**BOARD MEMBERS**

**David J. Lee, DVM**

David graduated high school from Falls City High in Falls City, NE. He received his Bachelors of Science from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln in 1997, his Masters of Science from Kansas State University in 2001, and a Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine from Kansas State University in 2005. David is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and was a past board member. He also serves on the Merrick County Economic Development board. David has been the owner of the Central City Veterinary Clinic since October 2009. David is married to Katrina Lee, and they have a five year old daughter named Johanah. David enjoys spending time with family and outdoor activities.

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**Jared Wetovick**

Jared is a native of Fullerton and graduated from Fullerton High School. He received his BS in Business Administration with an emphasis in Ag-Business from Wayne State College. Jared works for Central Bank and has been in banking for ten years. His family moved to Central City four years ago. Jared and his wife Sheila have two sons: Dayle (12) and Gus (2). Jared likes to spend time with family and enjoys hunting, fishing, and golfing.

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**Nicole Greving**

Nicole and her husband Shane live in Chapman. Nicole is a graduate from Central City High School and attended Northeast Community College. She is a stay at home mom of two kids: daughter Bailey (11) and son Braiden (8). Nicole is currently the President of Central City Elementary PTO. Nicole has finished a partial term on the foundation board and has now decided to join us for a five year, full term position. Nicole enjoys spending time with family and friends.

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**Remembering Earl Brandes**

Merrick Foundation lost a longtime friend and generous supporter when Earl Brandes of Central City passed away on Thanksgiving, November 24, 2016. Earl and his late wife Alice were constant supporters of various community projects throughout Merrick County. We all enjoyed when Earl would stop in the office to visit with a smile on his face. Earl will be deeply missed.

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**Special Memorials**

Accumulated gifts of $100 or more creates a special memorial in the name of a loved one. The names are also entered in the Book of Memory if they had not previously been added. Special memorials were received for:

- Alice Brandes
- Mary L. Chochon
- Scott A. Cotner
- Feehan Family
- Donna & Rexford Ferris
- Judith Gibson Sharp
- Norma Haith
- Neal LaVern Hartford
- Van Hesselgesser
- Thomas Benton Hord
- Thomas D. Kuhn
- J. Bert Kunz
- Orvis (Sonny) Larsen
- Fred A. & Virginia Ivy Marsh
- Tom McMahon
- Martha Pullen
- Clarence “Stu” Stuart
- Margaret E. Tooker
- R. Stanley & Effie Torpin
- Wayne & Lucile Tyler
- Leroy Allen Jr..............1945 - 2016
- Raymond Bandt..............1945 - 2016
- Steven L. Bankson...........1962 - 2016
- Richard C. Bauer............1945 - 2015
- Shirley Beck.................1935 - 2015
- Gilbert Joe Bolen...........1944 - 2016
- Alice Brandes...............1925 - 2015
- Ricky L. Brokaw.............1959 - 2016
- Dan Cahill
- Janet Carnes.................1939 - 2014
- Mary L. Chochon...............1941 - 2015
- Scott A. Cotner..............1971 - 2005
- Neta Deeds....................1931 - 2015
- Ivan Dittmer..................1934 - 1999
- Lola Felske....................1937 - 2015
- Donna Ferris...................1915 - 2003
- Rexford Ferris...............1913 - 1998
- Georgena Frauen...............1928 - 2015
- Judith Gibson Sharp...........1942 - 2016
- Loy Glauser....................1932 - 2010
- Zac Grigsby....................1996 - 2015
- Rose Joanna Hahn.............2016 - 2016
- Norma Haith..................1922 - 1997
- Neal LaVern Hartford..1927 - 2005
- Van Hesselgesser.............1946 - 2016
- Tyler Hook Hillmer............1998 - 2013
- Thomas Benton Hord............1850 - 1910
- Kevin Knight...................1956 - 2016
- Thomas D. Kuhn...............1941 - 2004
- J. Bert Kunz..................1918 - 2016
- Orvis (Sonny) Larsen...1939 - 2016
- Carolyn Larson................1939 - 2011
- Marvin H Leamons..............1926 - 2016
- Fred A. Marsh..............1871 - 1963
- Virginia Ivy Marsh...........1871 - 1957
- Ellard Matousek..............1939 - 2011
- Marilyn McHargue Alexander
- ................................................1936 - 2016
- Tom McMahon..................1939 - 2012
- Melvin Meyer..................1926 - 2015
- Max Nelson.....................1927 - 2016
- Kay M. O’Meara..............1935 - 2016
- Harold Parker...................1904 - 1977
- Lois Parker.....................1923 - 2009
- Martha Pullen..................1919 - 2008
- Joanne Rankin
- Evelyn Rudolf..................1922 - 2016
- John Sock ......................1936 - 2016
- Clarence Stratman.............1913 - 1995
- Irwin Stratman................1915 - 2009
- Lucille Stratman.............1916 - 2015
- Clarence “Stu” Stuart......1938 - 2016
- Roger Sweet
- Margaret E. Tooker.........1924 - 2015
- Effie Torpin...................1914 - 2010
- R. Stanley Torpin............1916 - 2003
- Lucile Tyler...............1922 - 2000
- Wayne Tyler....................1921 - 1998
- L. T. “Buss” Van Winkle
- ........................................................1917 - 1997
- Zelda “Zee” Van Winkle
- ........................................................1921 - 2004
- Lloyd (Bud) Wagner........1924 - 2015
- Dallas Wegner................1922 - 1977
- Alice Duffy Wilson...........1908 - 1998
2017 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Kolin Banks
Derek Aspoden Memorial

Brianna Bankson
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Mikayla Bankson
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Emily Beaver
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Rachel Beck
Hohnroth Family

Fatima Al-ebadi
Leonard & Doris Aerni Memorial

Caitlyn Anderson
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Christina Bailey
Leonard & Doris Aerni Memorial

Katharine Benner
Leonard & Doris Aerni Memorial

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Leonard & Doris Aerni Memorial

Kolin banks
Derek Aspoden Memorial
Merrick Foundation 2017 Scholarship Awards

Hannah King
Ralph Stanley & Ella Halstead Severance Memorial

Jamie Knight
Eugene Fishburn

Cameron Langemeier
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Andrew Lee
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Jessica Lee
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Amanda Macke
Raymond, Leonard & Lois Steger Memorial

Marshall Makowski
Michael V. Rittinger Memorial

Abby Maresh
Myrtle & Jim Clarke; James & Marilyn Heins

Mollie Maresh
James & Marilyn Heins

Trevor McDiffett
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Kincaid McMaster
Dinsdale Sophomore

Cole McReynolds
Derek Aspeton Memorial; Central Bank; Matthew Fishburn Memorial

Meagan Meyer
Clinton M. Wegner

Madeline (Maddie) Moser
Dylan Van Pelt Memorial; Elton & Nancy Erickson

Tara Murphy
Myrtle & Jim Clarke

Hannah Myers
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Matthew Myers
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Ethan Nelson
Ervin & Bonnie Blauhorn

Huy (Harry) Nguyen
Donald Nouzovsky Memorial

Kallen Nickell
Gary Monter Memorial

Hannah Niemeier
Donald Nouzovsky Memorial

Sarah Niemeier
Donald Nouzovsky Memorial

Mackenzie Nordlund
Industrious Student; Donald Nouzovsky Memorial

Jeremiah Ohlman
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Vincent Ohlman
Lindner-Van Pelt Heritage

Cassidy Ostrand
Warren & Virginia Marsh

Tera Paczosa
Bonnie Kohl Memorial

Tiffanie Paczosa
Gregory Rinkol Memorial; Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Jordan Paup
Donald Nouzovsky Memorial

Jonah Peterson
Myrtle & Jim Clarke

Luke Peterson
Donald & Jackie Sampson

Miranda Pospisil
Gary Monter Memorial; Clinton M. Wegner

Morgann Pospisil
Gary Monter Memorial; Clinton M. Wegner

Alexis Potter
Clinton M. Wegner

Matthew Reeves
Donald Nouzovsky Memorial

Hunter Reimers
Mary Chochon Memorial; Clinton M. Wegner

Kaden Reimers
Clinton M. Wegner

Michaela Reimers
Albert & Dorothy Emgarten Memorial

Mackenzie Rinkol
William & Emma Steffen Nursing

Dillon Rose
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Armando Ruvalcaba
Albert & Dorothy Emgarten Memorial

Chase Samuelson
Dinsdale Sophomore
**BOARD MEMBERS**

**Barry Marsh**

Barry attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Colorado State University, and the Graduate School of Banking-University of Colorado and earned his Graduate School Certificate. Barry retired in 2010 after 41 years in banking. Barry is married to Alta and has two daughters: Anita of Lincoln and Andrea (who is deceased). Barry is a member of the Methodist Church. He also enjoys woodworking, landscaping, and gardening.

**Tara Urkoski**

Tara is a graduate of Monroe High School and Central Community College and has a degree in Nursing. Tara is employed with Genoa Medical Facilities. Tara and her husband Jason have three children: Jamison, Korbe, and Tate. Tara is a member of the St. Peter & Paul Catholic Church Krakow and is on the Alter Society at Krakow. She is also a member of the Twin River PTO and Booster Club. Tara enjoys camping, watching her children play sports, and family time.

**Kevin Waring**

Kevin is a graduate of Orchard High School, Wayne State College, and Kearney State College earning his Bachelor/Arts Education from Wayne State College and his Master in Science Education from Kearney State College. Kevin is now retired from 38 years of teaching at Central City High School. Kevin and his wife Joan have three children: Chad, Tracey, and Mitchell. Kevin is a member of St. Paul’s Lutheran Church. Kevin has served on many boards including church and Willow Bend. Kevin also has professional memberships to education associations. He also enjoys motorcycles, golfing, music, guitar, and water sports.

**Donors By Fund or Fund Type Continued**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Merrick County</th>
<th>Entertainment</th>
<th>Miscellaneous Donor Advised</th>
<th>Palmet Valley School</th>
<th>Encouragement</th>
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<td>James E. &amp; Martha I.</td>
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<td>Tara (who is deceased). Barry is a member of the Methodist Church. He also enjoys woodworking, landscaping, and gardening.</td>
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<td>Donna &amp; Oren Skiles</td>
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<td>Richard S. &amp; Julie Smithson</td>
<td>Sandia Starostka</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roger &amp; Sharon Branches</td>
<td>Bill Plum</td>
<td>Barry attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Colorado State University, and the Graduate School of Banking-University of Colorado</td>
<td>Wenck</td>
<td>Kevin Waring</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steven &amp; Julie Herberg</td>
<td>Heritage Bank</td>
<td>Barry attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Colorado State University, and the Graduate School of Banking-University of Colorado</td>
<td>Jody &amp; Ryan</td>
<td>Kevin Waring</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joe Hesselsgeller</td>
<td>Central Bank</td>
<td>Barry attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Colorado State University, and the Graduate School of Banking-University of Colorado</td>
<td>Mark &amp; Jennifer</td>
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<td>Curtis &amp; Christine Haber</td>
<td>Central City Bank</td>
<td>Barry attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Colorado State University, and the Graduate School of Banking-University of Colorado</td>
<td>Novak Haar</td>
<td>Kevin Waring</td>
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<td>Robert &amp; Evelyn Herberg</td>
<td>Central City Mall</td>
<td>Barry attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Colorado State University, and the Graduate School of Banking-University of Colorado</td>
<td>Vick Clement</td>
<td>Kevin Waring</td>
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<td>Jeff &amp; Carly Johnson</td>
<td>Vineyard Systems, Inc.</td>
<td>Barry attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Colorado State University, and the Graduate School of Banking-University of Colorado</td>
<td>Cody Lawson Computer Repair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allyn Komorowski</td>
<td>Oregon &amp; Jefferson</td>
<td>Barry attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Colorado State University, and the Graduate School of Banking-University of Colorado</td>
<td>Cornerstone Bank</td>
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<tr>
<td>Norman &amp; Sue Krug</td>
<td>Pinnacle Bank</td>
<td>Barry attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Colorado State University, and the Graduate School of Banking-University of Colorado</td>
<td>Gordo &amp; Jelich</td>
<td>Kevin Waring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rodney &amp; Sara Lee</td>
<td>Preferred Popcorn, LLC</td>
<td>Barry attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Colorado State University, and the Graduate School of Banking-University of Colorado</td>
<td>Preferred Brands</td>
<td>Kevin Waring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lueths Ag</td>
<td>Aaron &amp; Jill Purvis</td>
<td>Barry attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Colorado State University, and the Graduate School of Banking-University of Colorado</td>
<td>Claybon &amp; Eman Mankin</td>
<td>Kevin Waring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doug &amp; Kelly McHargue</td>
<td>Merrick County Development Corp.</td>
<td>Barry attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Colorado State University, and the Graduate School of Banking-University of Colorado</td>
<td>Tracy Myers</td>
<td>Kevin Waring</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nebraska Municipal Power Pool</td>
<td>Dan &amp; Sue Monaghan</td>
<td>Barry attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Colorado State University, and the Graduate School of Banking-University of Colorado</td>
<td>Robert Mustard</td>
<td>Kevin Waring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norman &amp; Sue Krug</td>
<td>Wegner Monument Co.</td>
<td>Barry attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Colorado State University, and the Graduate School of Banking-University of Colorado</td>
<td>Tom &amp; Nancy Wagner</td>
<td>Kevin Waring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohlman Seed Sales Inc</td>
<td>REX &amp; Gloria Weller</td>
<td>Barry attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Colorado State University, and the Graduate School of Banking-University of Colorado</td>
<td>Jarel &amp; Sheila Tewovick</td>
<td>Kevin Waring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinnacle Bank</td>
<td>Darrell Widman</td>
<td>Barry attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Colorado State University, and the Graduate School of Banking-University of Colorado</td>
<td>Darrell Widman</td>
<td>Kevin Waring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preferred Popcorn, LLC</td>
<td>Merrick County County</td>
<td>Barry attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Colorado State University, and the Graduate School of Banking-University of Colorado</td>
<td>Friends Meeting House</td>
<td>Kevin Waring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aaron &amp; Jill Purvis</td>
<td>John H. &amp; Julia G. Schutz</td>
<td>Barry attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Colorado State University, and the Graduate School of Banking-University of Colorado</td>
<td>John H. &amp; Julia G. Schutz</td>
<td>Kevin Waring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larry Scheckers</td>
<td>Merrick County Historical Museum Endowment</td>
<td>Barry attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Colorado State University, and the Graduate School of Banking-University of Colorado</td>
<td>William F. &amp; April L. Bolte</td>
<td>Kevin Waring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Simmons</td>
<td>Evan &amp; Roxanne Brandes</td>
<td>Barry attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Colorado State University, and the Graduate School of Banking-University of Colorado</td>
<td>Julie &amp; Rich Brinderson</td>
<td>Kevin Waring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toniesha Corbett Inc</td>
<td>Donald &amp; Susan Anderson</td>
<td>Barry attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Colorado State University, and the Graduate School of Banking-University of Colorado</td>
<td>Dennis &amp; Jane Loeffelbein</td>
<td>Kevin Waring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sean &amp; Lisa Wagner</td>
<td>Donahue &amp; JillianAnderson</td>
<td>Barry attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Colorado State University, and the Graduate School of Banking-University of Colorado</td>
<td>Rev. &amp; Mrs. Robert D. Bee</td>
<td>Kevin Waring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tom &amp; Nancy Wagner</td>
<td>Edward J. &amp; Judy wife</td>
<td>Barry attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Colorado State University, and the Graduate School of Banking-University of Colorado</td>
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<td>Kevin Waring</td>
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<td>Wegner Monument Co.</td>
<td>Evan &amp; Roxanne Brandes</td>
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<td>Kevin Waring</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Merrick Co. Museum Special Project</td>
<td>Kevin Waring</td>
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<td>Dorothy Adkinson</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Darrell Widman</td>
<td>Barry attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Colorado State University, and the Graduate School of Banking-University of Colorado</td>
<td>Donna &amp; Oren Skiles</td>
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<td>Darrell Widman</td>
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<td>Darrell Widman</td>
<td>Kevin Waring</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**BOARD MEMBERS**

**Michael Thede**

Michael is a graduate of St. Paul Public Schools and the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. Michael and his wife Jean have four children: Claire, Anna, Christian, and Joseph. Michael and his family reside in Palmer. Michael attends St. Peter and Paul Church in St. Paul.

---

**Sheri Wruble**

Sheri is a graduate from Ravenna High School and received her Associate Degree in Accounting from Central Community College at Hastings. Sheri and her husband Jerry farm in Clarks and have three children: Brendan, Kenzie, and Evan. Sheri is employed with Myers Insurance Inc. in Clarks, NE as a part-time licensed insurance agent. Sheri is a member of St. Peter Catholic Church in Clarks, NE and is Treasurer for Altar Society, CCD Coordinator and Teacher. Sheri enjoys spending time with family and friends. She also enjoys watching her kids’ sports activities.

---

**Rodney Lee**

Rodney and his wife Sara live in Central City and have two children: Jessica and Andrew. Rodney is a graduate of Holdrege High School and the University of Nebraska at Kearney earning his Bachelor of Arts in Secondary Education. Rodney is employed at the Central City Mall. Rodney is a member of the Heartland Evangelical Free Church. Rodney enjoys spending time with family, golfing, Husker football, and traveling.

---

**LEADING LOCALLY**

Participants included: Bobby Hanquist, Brooke Bruland, Chesney Reeves, Cora Menke, Delaney Carlstrom, Gabriella Homolka, Gracie Baker, Ian Anderson, Joseph Zwiener, Maddie Young, Marley Roepker, Shelby Bamesberger, Sierra Boroviak & Stacy Bohiken.

Leading Locally 2016-2017

Merrick Foundation’s Leading Locally 2016-2017 class matched fourteen civic-minded students with a curriculum that builds leadership skills for future community leaders. The ninth annual class met monthly from September through February. Coursework included skill-building activities including:

- True Colors personality assessments
- Matching peoples strengths with project needs
- Conducting effective meetings
- Working with difficult people
- Traits of successful communities
- Knowing the demographics of Merrick County
- Moving from talk to action

The group took monthly tours of local businesses and guest speakers shared their experiences and roles in the community. A highlight each year is the annual trip to Lincoln to tour the capitol and visit the legislature in action. Leading Locally’s goal is to give the students a better understanding of how to make their community better by solving problems and organizing people to make effective change. **Leading Locally is provided at no cost, thanks to the generosity of Cornerstone Bank, Pinnacle Bank, Archer Credit Union, CC Dairy Queen, and Central City Mall.**
LEVELS of GIVING

Donors are recognized for their giving levels to the Merrick Foundation if their gift stays at the Foundation. Total gifts to the general fund or another endowment fund qualifies a donor to be recognized in the following categories:

**Platinum Benefactors**

$1,000,000 and over

Alfred & Elizabeth Bader
Edwin & Bernice Lock
Edward Santin

**Gold Benefactors**

$500,000 - $999,999

Joe Hesselgesser

**Silver Benefactors**

$100,000 - $499,999

Vinson & Margaret Bittinger
Earl & Alice Brandes
James F. & Myrtle V. Clarke
Jack & Gretchen Dinsdale
Roy & Gloria Dinsdale
William & Dora Fechtner
Rexford & Donna Ferris
Eugene Fishburn
Victoria Shannon Gage
Donald Jacobsen
Alice M. Karner-Kaura
Litzenberg Health Care Foundation
Vernie L. Lock
Robert D. Matthes
Lois A. Millsap
Donald Kouzovsky
R. Stanley & Effie Torpin
Austin & Cleo Vanderford
Clinton M. Wegner

**Benefactors**

$5,000 - $24,999

Lisa Dickinson
Tom & Beth Gorgen
William U. & Ruth L. Ita
Virgil & Nora Lindner
Lizzie Litzenberg Trust
Warren & Virginia Marsh
Edward R. Mitchell
Dan & Sue Monaghan
Barbara Ogden
Pinnacle Bank
Donald F. & Esther R. Sampson
Ralph Owen Severance
Rathman-Manning Corp.
Paul & Clatilla Siegel
Agnes I. Stander
Kathleen Starostka
William & Emma Steffen
Lois Steger
Dallas & Carolyn Wegner
Darrell Widman

**Bronze Benefactors**

$25,000 - $49,999

Leonard & Doris Aerni
Charles & Doris Benner
Bernice Simmons Estate
Ervin & Bonnie Blauhorn
Evan & Roxanne Brandes
Roger & Sharon Brandes Brandes, Inc.
City of Central City
Donald Y. Clark
David Dickinson
Lisa Dickinson

Robert Davis
George T. Dinsdale
Howard A. Dinsdale
Elton & Nancy Erickson
Robert D. Erickson
First State Bank
Dr. Fred & Wilma Fouts
Bob & Willa Freeland
E. Marie (Hummel) Friedrichsen
Margie Fritz
Dr. Jerome & Doris Gacke
Garwood Family Limited Partnership
Kay Georgiana
Linda Gilson
Mark & Jane Gloor
Charles & Kathleen Griffith
Marilyn Heins
Richard Hensley
Van Hesselgesser
Wayne Hilder
Allen Hohroth & Renee Berlin
Floy Hohroth
Nancy Hohroth
Harvey & Sonia Holbrook
Herber & Effie Hord
C. Richard & Nancy B. Johnson
Jim Johnson
Rick & Katherine Johnson
Alice M. Klingenberg
William H. Kohl Jr.
Norm & Sue Krug
J. Bert & Edith A. Kunz
Martin A. Larson
Lone Tree Medical Associates
Iva & Zora Mack
Dr. Steve & Becky Mahnke
Kent & Nancy Malm
William Marsh, MD
Ivan & Noama Martson
James & Martha McGahan
Dr. George & Rebecca McLean
Pat McMahon
Merrick County Pork Producers
Cliff & Kathy Mesner
Ray & Mildred Miller
Ernest & Peggy Nabity
NE Therapeutic Riding Academy
Glen & Doris Neel
Pfizer Foundation Matching Gifts Program
WM J. Pullen
Frederick Roebeolmanns
Russ Russell Estate
Robert Davis
George T. Dinsdale
Howard A. Dinsdale
Elton & Nancy Erickson
Robert D. Erickson
First State Bank
Dr. Fred & Wilma Fouts
Bob & Willa Freeland
E. Marie (Hummel) Friedrichsen
Margie Fritz
Dr. Jerome & Doris Gacke
Garwood Family Limited Partnership
Kay Georgiana
Linda Gilson
Mark & Jane Gloor
Charles & Kathleen Griffith
Marilyn Heins
Richard Hensley
Van Hesselgesser
Wayne Hilder
Allen Hohroth & Renee Berlin
Floy Hohroth
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William Marsh, MD
Ivan & Noama Martson
James & Martha McGahan
Dr. George & Rebecca McLean
Pat McMahon
Merrick County Pork Producers
Cliff & Kathy Mesner
Ray & Mildred Miller
Ernest & Peggy Nabity
NE Therapeutic Riding Academy
Glen & Doris Neel
Pfizer Foundation Matching Gifts Program
WM J. Pullen
Frederick Roebeolmanns
Russ Russell Estate
Bob Sampson
Bud & Marcy Santin
Dale & Michelle Sell
Edith Severance
Silver Creek Alumni Association
Silver Creek Cemetery Association
Helen Solt
Artie R. Stainaker
Robert & Christine Steinke
Ethel Sweet
Syngenta, LLC
Neal & Lois Thomas
E. Thomas Thurber, DVM
Rich & Susan Torpin
Daniel & Tonya Van Pelt
Tom & Nancy Wagner
William & Jean Wenke
Edna Widman
Jack & Marilyn Wilson
Harold & Fern Zamzow
Harold & Verna Zmek
## Schedule of Amounts Held for the Benefit of Others

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>October 31st</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
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<tr>
<td>American Legion Baseball</td>
<td>$31,804</td>
<td>$29,774</td>
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<td>Archer Evangelical Community Cemetery</td>
<td>$16,678</td>
<td>$16,822</td>
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<td>Burke Cemetery</td>
<td>$16,886</td>
<td>$17,035</td>
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<td>Central City Art Fund</td>
<td>$109</td>
<td>$104</td>
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<td>Central City Children's Theater</td>
<td>$14,175</td>
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<td>Central City Library</td>
<td>$43,514</td>
<td>$39,301</td>
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<td>Central City Schools</td>
<td>$18,311</td>
<td>$14,766</td>
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<td>Central City Senior Center</td>
<td>$34,932</td>
<td>$35,235</td>
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<td>Central City Stampede Softball</td>
<td>$4,255</td>
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<td>Central City Trails</td>
<td>$3,496</td>
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<td>Clarks Cares</td>
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<td>$3,792</td>
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<td>Clarks Community</td>
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<td>$3,792</td>
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<td>Clarks Schools</td>
<td>$43,624</td>
<td>$45,238</td>
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<td>Dinsdale-Palmer Schools</td>
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<td>Merrick County 46ers</td>
<td>$681</td>
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<td>Heartland Council of Foundations</td>
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<td>Litzenberg Health Care Foundation</td>
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<td>Merrick County Historical Museum</td>
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<td>North Blue Cemetery</td>
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<td>Storm Youth Sports</td>
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<td>Tri-Community</td>
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<td>Valley View Recreation</td>
<td>$3,165</td>
<td>$1,992</td>
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<td>$5,034</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,324,482</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,157,392</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Merrick County Youth Council

Merrick Foundation helped provide the Merrick County Youth Council a new place to call home. A modular building was moved into town so the kids could have a meeting place and the sponsors could have an office space at the same location. The new building sits just west of 17th Street and 13th Avenue.

Painting the Legacy of Nebraska- 150 Years

Merrick Foundation is a proud sponsor of the “Painting The Legacy of Nebraska” calendars. Nebraska will celebrate its sesquicentennial in 2017. “Painting the Legacy of Nebraska” was implemented to provide an opportunity for recognition and pride throughout the entire state. Todd A. Williams, Fine Artist said, “My heart’s desire for this project is to reawaken an appreciation for the Arts while preserving the unique beauty and heritage that Nebraska has to offer.” Limited quantity of calendars are available for purchase at the Merrick Foundation office.

Merrick Foundation is a sponsor for Go Big Give. This event is held annually. It is one day (24 hours) to give back to your local non-profit organization! Go Big Give is Wednesday, May 3, 2017.

Dark Island Trail is Now Complete to Marquette

Several groups and individuals have come together with hard work and perseverance to make a dream come true. The Dark Island Trail runs from Highway 30 and 13th Avenue in Central City, NE to Marquis Street in Marquette, NE. Get out and explore, experience, and enjoy!

Merrick Foundation is proud to support our Merrick County Schools: