Merrick Foundation, Inc.

ANNUAL REPORT

2019

Inside:
Scholarships • Grants
Memorials • Financials
Merrick County Activity Center
Merrick County Projects

Leave your lasting legacy in Merrick County, call us today 308-946-3707.
In its earliest form, the word ‘philanthropy’, from the Greek philanthrope, simply meant love of mankind. The meaning of the word has evolved over time, but from the earliest days, human civilization has depended upon kindness directed towards strangers to improve the quality of life for all. The Merrick Foundation was formed in 1960 with this purpose in mind, to contribute to the growth of the quality of life in Merrick County by directing charitable funds to achieve the maximum benefits for the residents of Merrick County.

Now in its 59th year, the Merrick Foundation serves as a vehicle through which individuals, families, corporations, civic associations, non-profit organizations, and private foundations can make gifts to benefit the Merrick County area. Earnings from the investment of these gifts are used to address a broad range of community needs. Individual gifts and bequests are managed as a related family of funds, resulting in significant economy of scale in both investment management and administration. Through the tireless efforts of its capable staff, which includes Chuck Griffith-Executive Director, Courtney Retzlaff-Chief Financial Officer and Andrea Green- Communications & Operations, the Foundation has provided the highest quality service to donors from all walks of life.

The list of projects the Merrick Foundation has provided support for has truly been transformative. From health and safety initiatives to supporting the arts and a variety of youth programs, the Foundation has a long history of investing in Merrick County. Recent major projects include: the complete renovation and opening of the Merrick County Activities Center, support for the new Merrick Medical Center and the Merrick County Child Development Center capital campaign, the continued maintenance and enhancement of recreational activities such as the Dark Island Trail, Bader Park, and the Archer Memorial Park. The Foundation has also supported entrepreneurship and exploration camps for younger students, Leading Locally leadership training activities such as the Dark Island Trail, Bader Park, and the Archer Memorial Park. The Foundation has also supported entrepreneurship and exploration camps for younger students, Leading Locally leadership training activities such as the Dark Island Trail, Bader Park, and the Archer Memorial Park.

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Barry Marsh: Barry served one year on the Scholarship Committee and three years on the Grant Committee during his term on the board. He served as Board President in 2018.

Jared Wetovick: Jared served five years on the Investment/Farm Committee. He served as Board Secretary in 2017 and Board Vice President in 2018.

Welcome Newly Elected Board Members
At our annual meeting in November, Crissy Bader, Kristen Hermansen-Ryan, and Dan Poppe assumed their duties as board members. We extend a warm welcome to them.

Thank you to our retiring Board Members

Doug Van Pelt, Board President
Doug is a graduate of Central City High School and has a B.S. in Agriculture Economics from the University of Nebraska - Lincoln, a B.A. in Secondary Education from the University of Nebraska - Kearney and a M.A. in Educational Leadership from Doane College. Doug farmed in the Archer/ Central City area for 20 years before returning to school to earn his teaching degree. He has been employed by the Central City Public School district for 13 years as a Secondary Social Studies teacher. Doug and his wife, Donnette, have 7 children: Josh (wife Stacey) of Grand Island, NE. and Jake (wife Jenna) of Lincoln; Logan, Micah and Noah Carlson in college or beginning their careers; along with Kaden (age 11) and Karsyn (age 9) Van Pelt at home. Doug is also a proud grandparent of Ryan, Madison, and McKenzie Van Pelt. Doug is a member of St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Central City, and enjoys traveling, landscaping, coaching, Husker football, and Pittsburgh Pirates baseball.

Courtney Retzlaff, Chief Financial Officer
Courtney is a graduate of Palmer High School. She received a bachelor’s degree in accounting in 2012 and a master’s degree in accounting in 2013, both from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. Courtney and her husband, Clay, live northeast of Palmer where they farm and ranch. They have one daughter, Blair. Courtney attends Palmer United Methodist Church. Courtney enjoys spending time with her family and friends.

A Message from the Board President:

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.

Courtney Retzlaff:

Staff

Andrea Green, Communications/Publications
Andrea is a graduate of Central City High School. She received her Associate Degree in Business from Lincoln School of Commerce. Andrea also received her EMT/EMS Education from Central Community College and received her NREMT License in 2013. Andrea is a member of the First Christian Church. Andrea has two children, Jesse and Jordan. Andrea enjoys outdoor activities, sports, reading, making crafts and spending time with family and friends.
Merrick Foundation Board of Directors had the privilege this past year to approve $337,270 in Grants to Merrick County projects.

**Merrick Foundation Grantees – Fiscal Year 2018**

American Legion Baseball ................................................................. Program Support
Archer (Zion) Evangelical Community Cemetery .................................. Annual Support
Burke Cemetery .................................................................................. Annual Support
Central City Bloodmobile .................................................................. Program Support
Central City Children’s Theater ......................................................... Missoula Children’s Theater
Central City High School ...................................................................... Young Americans
Central City High School ...................................................................... Band & Choir Trip to Chicago
Central City Parent Teacher Organization ......................................... Improvements to Middle School Playground
Central City Senior Center ................................................................. Program Support
Central Nebraska Community Action Partnership ........................................ Program Support
Chapman Volunteer Fire Department .................................................. Bunker Gear
Clarks Public Library ............................................................................... Lego Club & After School Program
Covenant Cedars Bible Camp ................................................................. Trees for Tree Identification Class
Central City Cub Scouts Pack 102 ......................................................... Annual Re-charter Fees
Fellowship of Christian Athletes ............................................................ Leadership Camp in MO
Grand Island Northwest High School FFA ........................................... Program Support
Heartland United Way .......................................................................... Go Big Give Sponsorship
High Plains Community Schools ......................................................... Band & Choir Trip to TN
High Plains Community Schools ......................................................... Missoula Children’s Theatre
High Plains Community TeamMates .................................................... Picnic Table & Bench (matching funds)
Lone Tree Literary Society .................................................................... Annual Support
Maplewood Corners/Palmer Housing Authority ...................................... Sidewalk Repairs
Merrick Arts Council ............................................................................ Program Support
Merrick County Child Development Center ............................................ Program Support
Merrick County Historical Museum ...................................................... Annual Support
Merrick County Historical Museum ...................................................... Annual Support
Merrick County Historical Museum ...................................................... Historical Marker for Heber Hord House
Merrick County Home Delivered Meals Project ...................................... Home Delivered Meals for Seniors in Clarks Area
Merrick County Youth Council ............................................................... Dark Island Trail Clean-Up
Merrick County Youth Council ............................................................... After School Program
Merrick Medical Center Foundation ....................................................... Physician Loan Repayments & Education Programs
Merrymakers Foundation ................................................................. Entertainment for Seniors
Nebraska Christian Schools ................................................................. 2017 & 2018 Festival of Lessons & Carols
Nebraska Christian Schools ................................................................. Senior Trip to DC
North Blue Cemetery ............................................................................. Annual Support
Palmer American Legion ................................................................. Annual Support
Palmer Child Care LLC ........................................................................ Development of Palmer Child Care Facility
Palmer Commercial Club ........................................................................ Annual Support
Palmer Public School ............................................................................... Junior/Senior Trip to DC
Palmer Senior Center ............................................................................. Senior Meals & Services
Palmer Volunteer Fire Department ....................................................... Fireworks & Gear
Palmer Wrestling Club ........................................................................... New Mat for Wrestling Club
Platte PEER Group ................................................................................. Annual Support
Platte PEER Group ............................................................................... New Walking Bridge Honoring Pat & the late Dale Carlson
Prairie Plains Resource Institute ......................................................... SOAR & Youth Naturalist Camp
Rosehill Cemetery-Roy Dinsdale ............................................................ Annual Support
Royal Family Kid’s Camp II .................................................................... Summer Camp Support
Silver Creek American Legion Post 263 ................................................. Legion Baseball Field Improvements
Silver Creek Ball Association ................................................................. Program Support
Silver Creek Cemetery Association ....................................................... Annual Support
Special Olympics Nebraska ............................................................... State Equestrian Competition & Support
TeamMates of Central City ................................................................. Four Scholarships to Seniors
Twin River FBLA .................................................................................... National Competition
Twin River FCCLA .................................................................................. National Competition
Twin River FFA ...................................................................................... National Convention
Twin River Legion Baseball Program ...................................................... Program Support
Twin River Public School ................................................................. Student Trip to DC & NY
Twin River Youth Sports Foundation ................................................... New Mat for Wrestling Club

**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 and June. 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 web site. 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.
Crissy Bader
grew up by Ericson, Nebraska. She is a graduate of Wheeler Central High School. Crissy graduated from the University of Kearney and earned a degree in Park and Recreation Management. Crissy and her husband, Kirk, farm and ranch near Palmer. They have three children, Regan (23), Wyatt (22), and Concey (17). Crissy enjoys volunteering for Special Olympics, fishing, snow skiing and boating. Crissy is a member of St. Peter & Paul Catholic Church in St. Paul.

Kristen Hermansen-Ryan D.D.S.
is a graduate of Central City High School. Kristen attended University of Nebraska Lincoln and UNMC College of Dentistry for D.D.S. Kristen and her husband, Nick, have three children, Charlee, Truman, and Juno. Kristen is a member of the Fairview United Methodist Church. Kristen enjoys her work, traveling, backpacking and reading.

Dan Poppe
and his wife, Diane, live in Central City and have four children; Amy and husband Chris, Kyle, Dana and Joel. Dan is a graduate of Scribner High School and University of Nebraska Lincoln earning his Bachelor of Science and is also a graduate of School of Banking. Dan has worked in the banking business for 36 years. Dan is a member of the Heartland E-Free Church and serves as a Youth Group Leader. Dan is also part of the Merrick County Economic Development Corp., Nebraska Credit Union League Legislative Subcommittee, board member of the Litzenberg Long Term Care, member of Nebraska Christian Advisory Council, annual presenter at ESI Youth Camp, and is active in various areas of Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Dan enjoys sports and reading.

Nicole Greving
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, a daughter Bailey (13) and a son Braiden (10). Nicole served as the President of Central City Elementary PTO for the last four years. Nicole has finished a partial term on the foundation board and has now decided to join us for a five year, full term position. She currently is serving on the board as Secretary. Nicole enjoys spending time with family and friends.

Leah Brown
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 (24), Ashton (22), Gwyneth (13) and Gretchen (12). She enjoys volunteering with youth at her church and Palmer Public School. Leah’s favorite hobby (her family might say “obsession”) is travel planning.

Lisa Kershaw
is a graduate of Silver Creek Public High School and received her Associate of Applied Science Degree in Ag Business from SCC in Beatrice. Lisa and fiancé, Travis, have 2 sons, Ty and Gavin Vanek. Lisa is employed at Whitetail and is a member of the Methodist Church. Lisa enjoys spending time with family and friends.

Rodney Lee
and his wife, Sara, live in Central City and have two children, Jessica and Andrew. Rodney is a graduate of Holdrege High School and University of NE 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.

Leah Brown

Dan Poppe

Nicole Greving

Rodney Lee

Kristen Hermansen-Ryan D.D.S.

Crissy Bader

Lisa Kershaw

New Board Members
Lori Parachini
is a graduate of Zion Lutheran Grade School in Worms, NE and Central City High School. Lori is employed at Hornady Mfg. Co. in the Sales Department in Grand Island, NE. Lori was married to the late, Joseph Parachini for 27 years and is the daughter of the late, Otto and Georgena Frauen. Lori is a member of Zion Lutheran Church in Worms and is Clerk of Prairie Creek Township. She enjoys gardening, air-boating, spending time with family and friends.

Monica Simonson
grew up and continues to make her home in Palmer. She is a graduate of the University of NE Kearney earning her Bachelor of Arts degree and Masters in Curriculum and Instruction from Doane College. Monica and husband, Randy, have two children. Logan (26) and his wife Karly make their home South of Worms. They both work for Grand Island Physical Therapy. Bailey (22) will graduate in May with a teaching degree. Monica is employed with the Grand Island Public Schools, where she has taught for 34 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.

Tara Urkoski
is a graduate of Monroe High School and Central Community College and has a degree in Nursing. Tara is employed with the Genoa Medical Facilities as Twin River Public School Nurse. Tara and her husband, Jason, have three children, Jamison, Korbe and Tate. Tara is on the Board of Directors for the Storm Youth Sports program and Tri-Community Foundation, Inc. and is the treasurer for both organizations. Sheri enjoys reading, spending time with family and friends and loves watching her kids’ sports activities.

Sheri Wruble
is a graduate from Ravenna High School and received her Associate Degree in Accounting from Central Community College-Hastings. She 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 & Paul Catholic Church Krakow. Tara is on the Alter Society at Krakow and is a member of the Twin River PTO and Booster Club. Tara enjoys camping, watching her children play sports and family time.

Deb Beck
is a graduate from Central City High School and attended Kearney State College. After college, Deb began her employment with Pinnacle Bank. Deb is currently a Trauma Nurse Specialist for the State of Nebraska. Diane and her husband, Roger, own and operate R&D Sprinkler Service, Inc. in the Merrick County area. The Schoch’s have 3 grown children and one son-in-law, Abby and Tanner live in Clarks, Abby teaches 3rd grade at Central City Elementary and Tanner is employed at High Plains where he is a coach while attending UNK to complete his teaching degree. Amy, Central City Chamber of Commerce Executive Director and Brad, who attends UNK studying pre-med. Diane is also a member of the Presbyterian Church. Diane enjoys spending time with family especially during the summer months along the Loup River.

Diane Schoch
is a graduate from Fullerton High School and attended Methodist School of Nursing in Omaha, NE graduating in 1985. In 2009 she completed her Bachelor’s Degree in Healthcare Administration. Diane was Chief Nursing Officer at Merrick Medical Center for the past 30 years. She is currently a Trauma Nurse Specialist for the State of Nebraska. Diane and her husband, Roger, own and operate R&D Sprinkler Service, Inc. in the Merrick County area. The Schoch’s have 3 grown children and one son-in-law, Abby and Tanner live in Clarks, Abby teaches 3rd grade at Central City Elementary and Tanner is employed at High Plains where he is a coach while attending UNK to complete his teaching degree. Amy, Central City Chamber of Commerce Executive Director and Brad, who attends UNK studying pre-med. Diane is also a member of the Presbyterian Church. Diane enjoys spending time with family especially during the summer months along the Loup River.
Merrick Foundation Staff & Board of Directors enjoy supporting our community

Agricultural Services, Inc. 2018 Community Service Award

Merrick County Historical Museum Ground Breaking

Board Members Serving 2018 Scholarship Tea

Karen Benner 2018 Person of the Year

Merrick County Fair

CCHS Community Clean-up

2018 Annual Meeting Board Members Greeting Guests

Our website: merrick-foundation.org
Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/MerrFoundation
Follow us on Twitter: twitter.com/MerrFoundation
Accumulated gifts of $10 or more received in memory of a loved one are entered in the BOOK OF MEMORY at the Merrick Foundation office. These gifts are permanently invested and the income used for community purposes throughout the county. Memorial gifts were received this year for the following and any names not previously listed in the Book of Memory were added.

**Book of Memory**

Accumulated gift s 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:

- Robert “Bob” Beck 1936 - 2017
- Charles Benner 1929 - 1997
- LaVonne Brown 1922 - 2017
- Margaret Campbell 1897 - 1967
- Robert V. Campbell 1893 - 1977
- Dale A. Carlson 1945 - 2018
- Donna Carpenter 1916 - 2018
- Lorraine Dexter 1932 - 2017
- Donald “Doc” Dockweiler 1939 - 2018
- Donna Ferriss 1915 - 2003
- Rexford Ferris 1913 - 1998
- Burr B. Glasgow 1956 - 2018
- Barbara Gorgen 1922 - 2000
- Floyd Gorgen 1922 - 2006
- Irene Hahn 1933 - 2017
- Norma Haith 1922 - 1997
- Mr. & Mrs. Herman Harry
- Charles P. Hays 1924 - 2017
- Lea R. Hays 1925 - 2018
- Thelma M. Herman 1927 - 2018
- John Douglas Hruza 1942 - 2018
- Robert Husmann 1930 - 2018
- Roger E. Jensen 1938 - 2018
- James Justice 1931 - 2018
- Harold Kanter
- LeRoy Kleve 1931 - 2018
- Dorothy Knight 1926 - 2018
- Thomas D. Kuhn 1941 - 2004
- Marvin Kyes 1937 - 2018
- Harvey “Dick” Lippincott, Jr. 1922 - 2009
- Virginia Marsh 1913 - 2008
- Warren Marsh 1903 - 1997
- Wanda Maxey 1934 - 2017
- Tom McMahon 1939 - 2012
- Harold Parker 1904 - 1977
- Lois Parker 1923 - 2009
- Andrew Pollard 1919 - 2008
- Scott Pullen 1962 - 1977
- Thomas D. Pullen 1947 - 2018
- Stephen L. Sack 1946 - 2018
- Robert “Bob” Schlondorf 1932 - 2017
- Charles “Charlie” Scott 1910 - 1999
- Ramona M. Senkbile 1933 - 2018
- Audrey Smith 1921 - 2018
- Effie Torpin 1914 - 2010
- Nancy Torpin 1916 - 2003
- Mary Cathryn Truesdell 1941 - 2018
- Lucile Tyler 1922 - 2000
- Wayne Tyler 1921 - 1998
- Dennis Waggoner 1937 - 2012
- Wilhelmina Wasik 1932 - 2018
- Alice Duffy Wilson 1908 - 1998

**SOAR CAMP & Youth Naturalist Program**

Merrick Foundation awarded SCHOLARSHIPS to Merrick County youth to attend SOAR and the Youth Naturalist Program. Sixteen 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 and they also benefit from interacting with guest presenters and professionals in the natural sciences, agriculture and the arts.

**What is SOAR?**

SOAR (Summer Orientation About Rivers) is a nature day camp where kids explore the Platte River and other outdoor environments in the area. By taking part in the many hands-on activities about science, language arts, history, agriculture and art, SOAR campers learn while having fun. The camp is for grades 3-6.

**What is Youth Naturalist Program?**

Campers will gain many skills, such as identifying plants and animals on the prairie, learning to grow your own food in a small garden and feeling confident about going on a camping or kayaking trip in the wilderness. You will have the chance to meet those who work in the fields of conservation, natural resources and habitat/wildlife management.

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**Special Memorials**

Merrick Foundation's Summer Intern, Maddie Moser shuttled the campers to and from camp.
SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Christina Bailey
Myrtle & Jim Clarke

Curtis Bailey
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Macy Baldwin
Gary Monier Memorial

Emily Beaver
Raymond, Leonard & Lois Steger Memorial

Douglas Beck
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Alyssa Belitz
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Trystan W. Bennett
Clinton M. Wegner

Haylee Bernt
Clinton M. Wegner; William & Emma Steffen Nursing

Trinity Blase
Donald Nouzovsky Memorial; William & Emma Steffen Nursing

Noah Boersen
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Kennedy Bogatz
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Stacy Beihken
Clinton M. Wegner

Kaley Brandenburg
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Koby Brandenburg
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Madison Brandenburg
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Brooke Bruland
Clinton M. Wegner

Isabella Budzinski
Clinton M. Wegner

Brook Bushhousen
Dinsdale Sophomore

Donevan Callahan
Clinton M. Wegner

Laura Carlson
Albert E. & Dorothy E. Emgarten Memorial

Mitchell Carlson
Virgil & Nora Lindner

Delaney Carlstrom
Myrtle & Jim Clarke

Clay Church
Myrtle & Jim Clarke

Logan Cuba
Warren & Virginia Marsh Memorial

Seth Czarnick
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Jonathan Dockweiler
Austin & Cleo Vanderford; Van Pelt Memorial; Ralph Stanley & Ella Halstead Severance Memorial

Quinton Dominick
Clinton M. Wegner

Shayla Douthit
Rogne Ecker Memorial

Reilly Dvorak
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Kaylee Eberle
Jack & Dorothy Burger

Betsy Eckstrom
Clinton M. Wegner; Mary Chochon Memorial

Chloe Engel
Glen D. & Doris E. Neel Memorial

Adrienne Falk
William & Emma Steffen Nursing

Corryn Falk
Raymond, Leonard & Lois Steger Memorial

Madison Felt
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Tyler Ferris
Richard Mattson Memorial

Valerie Fousek
Warren & Virginia Marsh Memorial

Jared Gallion
Alice Klingenberg Memorial

Amy Gathje
Austin & Cleo Vanderford
Scholarship Awards

Kathryn Gathje
William & Emma Steffen Nursing

Dalton Gembica
Silver Creek Alumni

Madison Glausen
Clinton M. Wegner; Gary Monter Memorial

Michaela Glausen
Donald Nouzovsky Memorial; Hohnroth Family

Alexandria Gragg
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Isabell Green
Austin & Cleo Vanderford; Eugene Fishburn

Benjamin Griess
Ralph Stanley & Elia Halstead Severance Memorial

Cody Griess
Ray & Mildred Miller Memorial

Bailey Hamer
Donald Nouzovsky Memorial

Kordell Hamer
Donald Nouzovsky Memorial

Craig Hebda
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Lana Hebda
Donald Nouzovsky Memorial; Les Johnson Memorial

Julie Hedglin
Karen & Danielle Bannister Memorial; Lindner-Van Peit Heritage

Whitney Heuermann
Albert E. & Dorothy E. Emgarten Memorial

Taylor Hickey
Gary Monter Memorial

Abbie Hillmer
Raymond, Leonard & Lois Steger Memorial

Jaxson Hinkle
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Timothy Hofmann
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Gabriella Homolka
Central City Scale; Ernest & Peggy Nabity Memorial; Matthew Fishburn Memorial

Manisa Hongdilokkul
Donald Nouzovsky Memorial

Kaylee Hostler
Ewin & Lucille Ferris; Raymond W. Starostka Memorial

Yuting (Michelle) Huang
Donald Nouzovsky Memorial

Benjamin Janssen
Albert E. & Dorothy E. Emgarten Memorial

Zachary Jarecki
Austin & Cleo Vanderford; Industrious Student

Dillon Kohl
Barry & Alta Marsh; Edna I. Widman Memorial

Anslei Krance
William & Emma Steffen Nursing

Jacob Kruckenberg
Austin & Cleo Vanderford; Myrtle & Jim Clarke

Drake Kunze
Clinton M. Wegner

Lydia Langemeier
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Dyllan Lee
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Dylan Lowe
Emil & Dorothy Czarnick

Adrian Longoria-Hanson
Austin & Cleo Vanderford; Elton & Nancy Erickson

Jacob Mack
Donald R. & Jackie Sampson; Merrick Foundation Founders

Amanda Macke
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

McKenzie Makowski
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Rinrada Masatit
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Kylee McClellan
Clinton M. Wegner

Emiline McGinnis
Donald Nouzovsky Memorial

Jada McFargue
Vernie L. Lock

Cole McReynolds
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Cora Menke
Dinsdale Sophomore

Morgan Meyer
Donald R. & Jackie Sampson

Nicholas Meyer
Clinton M. Wegner

Madeline Moser
Rogene Ecker Memorial

Tara Murphy
Raymond, Leonard & Lois Steger Memorial

Anna Musgrave
Donald Nouzovsky Memorial

Linh Nguyen
Donald Nouzovsky Memorial

Carl Nielson
Clinton M. Wegner
Scholarship Awards

Jackson Tejeda
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Claire Thede
Albert E. & Dorothy E. Emgarten Memorial

Hailey Tabbetts
Clinton M. Wegner

Hannah Tonniges
Myrtie & Jim Clarke

Peersapat (Dream) Tungtweegait
Donald Nouzovsky Memorial

Morgan Twiss
Austin & Cleo Vanderford; James & Marilyn Heins

Jake Twogood
Albert E. & Dorothy E. Emgarten Memorial

Samuel Twogood
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Jamison Urkoski
Donald Nouzovsky Memorial; Gregory Rinkol Memorial

Mariah Van Leer
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Taylor Wagner
William & Emma Steffen Nursing

Toby Watson
Albert E. & Dorothy E. Emgarten Memorial

Abbigail Wegner
Clinton M. Wegner

Riley Weller
Austin & Cleo Vanderford; McCullough-McGuire Memorial; Matthew Fishburn Memorial

Blake Wert
Austin & Cleo Vanderford; McCullough-McGuire Memorial; Matthew Fishburn Memorial

Spencer Wichmann
Dinsdale Sophomore

Emily Wiegert
Raymond W. Starostka Memorial

Alyssa Wilshusen
Austin & Cleo Vanderford; Charles & Doris Benner

Emilie Wolfe
Carole A. Joseph Memorial

Michael Wolfe
Hohnroth Family

Samantha Wyman
William & Emma Steffen Nursing

Jiayi (Bella) Yin
Donald Nouzovsky Memorial

Yaoning (Kevin) Yu
Donald Nouzovsky Memorial

Bennett Zaruba
Austin & Cleo Vanderford; William L. & Velma R. McLean

Shiyong (Barry) Zhang
Donald Nouzovsky Memorial

Tingyu (Arwen) Zhang
Donald Nouzovsky Memorial

Benjamin Zwiener
Austin & Cleo Vanderford

Joseph Zwiener
Austin & Cleo Vanderford
Donors are recognized for their giving to the Merrick Foundation in the fiscal year November 1st, 2017 - October 31st, 2018.

American Legion Baseball
American Legion Baseball
Badger Park Reserves
Platte PEER Group
Tom & Teri Beek Scholarship
Tom & Teri Beek
Leah & Darrin Brown Acorn
Leah & Darrin Brown
Central City Art
Frank & Mary Jane Bell
City of Central City
Painting the Legacy of Nebraska
Central City Children's Theater
Archer Cooperative Credit Union
Banker’s Compliance Consulting
Beardmore Chevrolet, Inc.
Central Bank
Central City Mall
Central City Veterinary Clinic
Chasity K. Pfeifer Insurance
Constellation Business Group, LLC
Copycat Printing
Corner Drug
Cornerstone Bank
Green & Associates, Inc.
Kristen Hermansen Ryan, DDS, PC
Merrick Medical Center
Mesner Development Co.
Pinnacle Bank
Preferred Popcorn, LLC
Central City Library
Donnie Berney
Heartland United Way
Central City Parent Teacher Organization
AWG/Save-a-label
Box Tops for Education
Central City Stampede Softball
Archer Cooperative Credit Union
Bill’s Volume Sales, Inc.
BPO Elks No. 604
Brenda’s Floral
Burbach Trucking
Tony & Sarah Campa
CC Live, Inc.
Central Bank
Central City Mall
Chasity K. Pfeifer Insurance
Corner Drug
Cornerstone Bank
Dairy Queen
Don & Shannon Hannapell
Herk’s Welding, Inc.
Kristen Hermansen Ryan, DDS, PC
Janovec Family Farms, LLC
L & L Concrete/Big Red Pump
Parker’s Party Rental, LLC
Pinnacle Bank
Rathman-Manning, Corp.
Andy & Michelle Rice
Solt-Wagner Funeral Home
Taco Johns
Triple T Farms, LLC
Central City Trails Endowment
Jason & Monica Buss
Charles L. & Kathleen Griffith
Stephanie Schriner
Clarke Acorn
Dr. Jeff & Kristy Clarke
Clarke Cares
Clarke Cares Donations
Clarke Schools
Frank & Mary Jane Bell
Timothy D. & Cindy L. Bittinger
Clarks Schools (Cont’d)
Brian D. Buller
David & Carole Buller
Gerald & Mary Lynn Clark
James Clarke
Harold Dexter
Brendan Dittmer
Francis & Sandra Dittmer
D. Anthony & Kristy Douglas
Michael & Cindy Douglas
Timothy Engel
Romna Graskowak
Alex J. & Susan K. Kufeldt
Mary M. Kuhn
Timothy & Raedene Lamb
T. Jeff & Jacque McCullough
Chapin & Lola Peterson
Rodney & Loretta Pollard
E. Lee & Joni Sauter
Leona Scherer
Roger & Diane Schoch
Jerry Schultz
Kevin & Sandra Smoyer
Jill Stromberg
Craig Swedenburg
Thomas & Jane Sweet
Ronald & Karen Tholen
Neil & Lois Thomas
Jerry & Miriam Truesdell
Robert Truesdell
Allan & Pat Uroski
Herbert & Patricia Wurtz
Community Builders
Matthew & Janelle Armstrong
Carl & Dawn Dickinson
Charles L. & Kathleen Griffith
Charles & Shirley Nelson
Elwin & Lucile Ferris Memorial Scholarship
Plizer Foundation Matching Gifts
Program
E. Thomas Thurber, DVM
General Endowment
Amazon Smiles Program
Ed & Meta Armstrong
Aurora Cooperative
Lyle Bader Estate
Sarah C. Chapin
Don & Ina Cotner
Gordon & Jewell Deichmann
D.Y. Clark
D. L. Hahn
Scott & Rhonda Husmann
William & Joyce Kuhn
Darlene Miller
Pinnacle Bank
Courtney Retzlaff
Harvey Reynor
Richard & Zola Rieken
Rick & Katherine Sampson
Darrel & Louise Sebree
Stephan’s War Toys
Rick Tank
Neil & Lois Thomas
David & Cheryl Tickner
Dale A. Todaro
Steve & Kristi Twiss
David & Lois Wegner
Barbara A. & Floyd M. Gorgen
Ruth & John Carrington
Roy & Gloria Dinsdale
David & Ruth Ferris
Jim & Marianna Fitzgibbon
Edward & Kay Owens
Barbara A. & Floyd M. Gorgen (Cont’d)
Richard & Susan Owens
Steven Rothenberger
Pauline Wieseman
Genevieve Zohner
Don & Shannon Hannapell Acorn
Don & Shannon Hannapell
Heartland Veterans Memorial
Teasure
Alvera C. Anderson
Glen W. Decker
David E. & Jere Gravatt
Ross Heinen
Merry J. Johnson
Marie King
Richard & Pama Kuper
Barbara Luebbe
Cathey Stuart McDermott
Tim McMahon
Rodney W. & Loretta A.Pollard
Brad Ratliff
Sharon & Satriano Martin
Tom Stephenson
Darrell L. Widman
Hohroth Family Scholarship
Allen L. Hohroth & Renee E.
Berlin
Nancy Hohroth
Darrel R. & Martha M. Rodgers
Dorothy Knith Memorial Acorn
Linda K. Adler
Archer Cooperative Credit Union
Arend & Gail Baack
Dennis & Diane Carroll
Lori & Gordon Coble
Becky Deichmann
Dick & Glenda Evers
Judy Eversoll
Robert & Diane Evers
Jim & Kathy Graves
Deborah Hedrick
Elizabeth Hodtwalker
Elisia A. Houdek
Warren & Bonnie Hudnall
Kathleen Huggins
Ginger & Roland Husman
John & Karen Husman
Allen & Edna Ingerle
J. A. & S. L. Iske
Dorothy G. Kienker
Bill & Donna Kucera
Marjorie Husman Leamons
Virgil & Nora Lindner
Joan Manning
Kelly & Christine Mendyk
Merrick Co. Fair Association
Barbara Ogden
Richard & Pamela Ogden
Edward & Kay Oswald
James A. Paulsen
Eugene & Sonja Pohl
Allen & Carol Quandt
Phyllis M. Romine
Sally Ruben
Randy & Barbara Teel
John Vipperman
Sherry L. Wagner
Sherry Y. Watson
Darrell Widman
Joyce E. Williams
David & Katrina Lee Acorn
Central City Veterinary Clinic
Benjamin Thomas Lindner
Memorial Scholarship
Virgil & Nora Lindner
Lindner Van Pelt Heritage Scholarship
Virgil & Nora Lindner
Virgil & Nora Lindner Scholarship
Virgil & Nora Lindner Scholarship
Barry & Alta Marsh Acorn
Barry & Alta Marsh Acorn
MCCDC Capital Campaign
Archer Cooperative Credit Union
Aurora Cooperative
Norman & Linda Balliet
Beau & Cortney Beaney
Evan & Roxanne Brandes
Gerald & Nancy Bruning
Brian & Amy Buhlke
Judy Buhlke
Raymond & Jami Burdick
Trey & Brianna Burdick
Jason & Monica Buss
Corner Bank
Central City Scale, Inc.
Central City Veterinary Clinic
Cody Lawson Computer Repair
Constellation Business Group, LLC
Cornerstone Bank
Cornhusker Acres
Christopher & Kirstin Fasbender
Russell & Debra Flesch
Robert & Willa Freeend
Nicholas & Rebecca Freeend
Zedaliah & Shauna Graham
Abby Griffith
Charles L. & Kathleen Griffith
Don & Shannon Hannapell
Scott & Deb Hawthorne
Thomas & Janaan Hawthorne
Joe Heslesgesser
Jeff & Carly Johnson
C. Richard & Nancy Johnson
Scott & Debra Johnston
Rich & Kazuko Kunz
Dennis & Kathleen Lee Trust
Virgil & Nora Lindner
Mike & Minette Malm
William Marsh
Marty & Cheryl Miller
Richard & Pamela Ogden
Robin & Colleen Perry
Pinnacle Bank
Pizza Hut
Preferred Popcorn, LLC
River Rats Association
Scott & Avonda Roetzl
Katelyn Shoup
Scott & Laura Simonsen
Solt-Wagner Funeral Home
Zachery & Whitney Springer
Anne Stadler
Dwight Strobel
Subway
The Independent Club, JAP, LLC
Dennis & Vicki Valentine
Dwaine & Carmen Van Pelt
Sean & Lisa Wagner
Tom & Nancy Wagner
Joel & Terry Wiegland
Susan Wieland
William L. & Velma R. McLean Scholarship
Dr. George L. & Rebecca McLean

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Public Availability Policy

Merrick Foundation’s annual audit and IRS form 990 is available for review at the foundation office. Notice of this availability shall be included in the Annual Report. If a form 990T is submitted by the Foundation, it shall also be made available to the public and notice shall be included in the Annual Report.

Names of investment managers, fees charged and the names of our Investment Committee (investment oversight) members are available in the Foundation office at 1532 17th Avenue, Suite B, in Central City, Nebraska. Merrick Foundation is a 501c3 tax-exempt organization. Your tax deductible donation will be used to improve the quality of life in Merrick County. The Merrick Foundation Federal Tax Identification Number is 47-6024770.
Merrick Foundation sponsors ESI Camp held at the Merrick County Fairgrounds – Youth & Ag Education Building. ESI Instructor, Doris Lux, CCC Columbus Campus, Tammy Stuhr, 4-H Extension Educator, Chuck Griffith, Executive Director, Andrea Green, ESI Coordinator, and Maddie Moser, Summer Intern, all from Merrick Foundation, welcomed ten Merrick County middle school students that came together for the annual week-long summer camp in July to learn the necessary skills to start and run a successful business. The camp concluded with students selling their products during the day at the Merrick County Fair. Students may also choose to sell their products at the 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. Local Entrepreneurs who spoke to ESI campers were: Courtney Root and Michelle Gulbranson owners of Magnolias Salon Spa & Boutique, Miles McGinnis with Merrick County Economic Development Corp., Amy Schoch with Central City Chamber of Commerce, Cody Lawson owner of Cody’s Computer Repair Service, Dan Poppe with Archer Credit Union in Central City, and Ann Heinen with Cornerstone Insurance. Local Entrepreneurs who spoke and provided lunch to ESI campers were: Aaron Kunz owner of Dairy Queen and Taco Johns, and Rodney Lee, part-owner of CC Mall.
A Bomb cyclone ripped through the state of Nebraska in the middle of the week in the month of March. Who would have ever guessed the devastation it would leave behind...

Merrick Foundation set up a Merrick County Disaster Relief Fund when donations started coming into our office for local flood relief and reached over $4,000. We added a donation button on our website and made a post on Facebook. Shortly after, we received phone calls from The Sherwood Foundation stating they would commit to a $25,000 donation for the flood relief and Peter Kiewit Foundation committing to $5,000. We have even received donations from individuals from different states we don’t even know. Merrick Foundation decided to pre-pay their annual distribution ($7,430) to the Central Nebraska Community Action Partnership. The Foundation board approved an additional $18,375 to bring the total flood victim support to $60,000. No administrative fees or expenses will be taken from local or outside donations. If you are a flood victim in our Merrick County area, there are no restrictions to these funds for you to receive help. To schedule a confidential appointment, call Central Nebraska Community Action Partnership at 308-946-3794.
The vision has finally become a reality for Executive Director, Chuck Griffith. With countless hours of volunteer work from foundation staff, board members and community volunteers; we were excited to open the doors to the Merrick County Activity Center on December 20, 2018, by hosting an open house.

The after school program is in full swing of using the building on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons during the school year, and the Merrick County Youth Council is conducting some activities here from their modular unit next door.

The Activity Center houses a small gym, large meeting room/dining area, catering kitchen and a small meeting room.

The **MCAC** is available to the public for rent. To defray costs, rent will be $50/half day and $100/full day; a deposit is required. To reserve the facility, call Merrick Foundation (308) 946-3707.