

2017 Summer Newsletter



ELWOOD
Area Foundation

SAVE THE DATE!

7th Annual Elwood Area Foundation Spring Gala
Saturday, March 17th, 2018!

The evening includes a catered dinner, Silent and Live Auctions, open bar, and live entertainment.

Tickets go on sale in January, cost per ticket is \$75 or \$600 per table.

Proceeds from the Gala go towards community betterment projects. Past projects receiving funds include the Elwood Public Library, Downtown Improvements, updates at the Park, and the Civic Center Renovations. This year's proceeds will help make future projects a success.

Please join us for a fun evening, and help us give back to the Elwood Area!

What is the Elwood Area Foundation?

The Elwood Area Foundation was established by a group of visionary locals who saw the need for a community giving organization. The sale of the Elwood Boy Scout cabin in 1980 for the amount of \$100,000 gave this group its humble beginnings.

Since that time additional money has been received from generous donors through memorials, bequests, endowments and donations, allowing the Foundation to grow.

The Foundation invests and administers these funds. Thanks to your kind-hearted contributions we are able to give back to the area in many different ways.

Youth grants can be used for leadership education, youth projects, or other types of activities that result in youth empowerment. Students are encouraged to call the Foundation Office to discuss their ideas.

Our **scholarship and student loan programs** are available to help students achieve their quest for higher education at all levels, whether that is at a trade school, community college, pursuit of an associate degree, or a four-year college.

Community grants are given for betterment projects that ensure our area remains a great place to live for future generations!

We also accept **memorials and donations**. These can be made in honor of loved ones who have passed, to represent someone special to you or the community, or for any other reason you might have! Memorials and donations may be directed to a cause near and dear to your heart, or may be given without designation.

To learn more about these programs, please call 308-785-8113, email us at elwoodAF@gmail.com, check us out of Facebook, or stop by the office at 314 Smith Avenue.

Student Loan

Application Period Open

Attention students! Loan applications are being accepted through July 31st. Requirements are:

1. Attended Elwood High School for four years.
2. The student is required to be registered as a full-time student (12 hours or more).
3. Must maintain a 2.0 grade point average (C) to renew the loan.
4. A 2% interest charge will be made while attending college and is payable each semester.
5. All loans become due and payable upon completion or discontinuation of college.
6. Loans are to be paid back on a five year monthly payment plan at 7% interest.

Applications are available at the Foundation Office. Upon approval by the Board of Directors and signature of a school note by the student and co-signers, the loan is allocated each semester. Payment of interest and a copy of the student's grades verifying 2.0 grade point average is also required. Contact the Foundation Office for additional details.

SUPPORTING AREA YOUTH

The youth of today are the leaders of tomorrow, and it is with this philosophy in mind that the Elwood Area Foundation so proudly supports the education and projects of our local youth.

Recently funded youth grants include:

Assistance to four Gosper County students to participate in the Citizenship Washington Focus summer trip where they learn about civic engagement, service learning, and personal development;

Assistance for a summer internship;

Support for the **L2 for Kids** program, providing new back-to-school clothing for children in need; and,

Funding to assist with a new playground at the Johnson Lake State Recreation Area.

Elwood Area Foundation Projects

Thanks to the generous support of donations and memorials, as well as funds raised at past Galas, EAF has been privileged to contribute to many community projects. Most recently those have included the Civic Center renovations, the new Elwood Library, Downtown Improvements, upgrades at the Village Park, and the upcoming Johnson Lake State Park Playground.



4-H youth attending the Citizenship Washington Focus summer leadership program.

For more than thirty years, the Elwood Area Foundation has worked with donors to bring many projects to fruition; past partnerships include the sprinkler system at the Park, the awning at the former library building, the Elwood Cemetery Directory, assistance towards an ambulance for the Johnson Lake EMS, curtains for the school stage, weight room equipment, funding for the summer Baseball and Softball programs, funds for the Elwood Volunteer Fire Department, and so much more.

Pride of the Prairie 4-H Club served the Gala dinner, and did a fantastic job!



Youth grants have been given for Rotary and other trips abroad, internships, the TeamMates mentoring program, Leadership Conferences, Scouts programs, and many others. The Elwood Area Foundation also administers 20 scholarship funds for Elwood youth, and operates a student loan program to help students achieve their goals of higher education.



Scott Johnson of EAF presents a donation to members of L2 for Kids.

No matter how you support the Elwood Area Foundation: whether you make a direct donation, send a memorial, volunteer your time, set up a scholarship, leave a bequest in your will, or contribute in some other way; YOUR support of EAF is an important factor in helping us give back to our community. Thank you for your generosity!

May Scholarship Awards total \$18,440 to Area Students

Robert Birt Memorial Scholarship

Kallen Nickell
Kendra Mullins
Katie Kleine
Jake Gydesen
Ben Bogle
Holly Lonowski
Jordan Hagan
Christopher Halouska

Wesley & Evelyn Fox Memorial Scholarship

Ben Bogle
Alternate:
Kallen Nickell

Velma Schroeder Memorial Scholarship

Kendra Mullins

Merlyn Schutz Memorial Scholarship

Kallen Nickell

Robert C. Salisbury Memorial Scholarship

Ben Bogle
Kallen Nickell

Gloria Hartsfield Memorial Scholarship

Jordan Hagan

Chadd Hambidge Memorial Scholarship

Kendra Mullins

Centennial Committee Scholarship

Christopher Halouska

Tilson Family Scholarship

Kendra Mullins

Leonard & Darlene M. Schutz Memorial Scholarship

Jake Gydesen

Robert & Barb Wade 4 Year College Memorial Scholarship

Katie Kleine
Alternate:
Kendra Mullins

Robert & Barb Wade Comm. College Memorial Scholarship

Jake Gydesen

James J. Leggott Memorial Scholarship

Jordan Hagan
Alternate:
Katie Kleine

Bonnie V. Clark Memorial Scholarship

Holly Lonowski

Cori Arends Schutz Memorial Scholarship

Kendra Mullins

The Home Agency Scholarship

Ashley Linke
Sara Pleschourt
Ben Bogle
Valen Bellamy
Kallen Nickell
Hayden Rupe

South Central Nebraska Corn Growers Association Scholarship

Kallen Nickell
(Gosper County)
Cooper Grabenstein
(Phelps County)

Elwood Lions/ Gosper County Carnival Scholarship

Jake Gydesen
Katie Kleine
Kallen Nickell
Sara Pleschourt
Camden Tiede

“Real generosity towards the future lies in giving all to the present”

Albert Camus

OFFICE HOURS:

M-T-Th, 8:00 –3:00

Summer Schedule

T-Th, 8:00–3:00

Mission Statement

The mission of the Elwood Area Foundation is to encourage, enhance and provide opportunities for charitable giving. To manage and distribute the funds in a responsible manner in order to strengthen the Elwood Area Community and benefit the future generations of our community.

Congratulations to all the area graduates and good luck to you in your future endeavors!

Pictured is the Elwood High Class of 2017.
Photo credit, Jim Kleine.

Thanks to all those who contribute to the scholarship program. You are helping students achieve their dreams!



If you or someone you know is interested in starting a scholarship in the Elwood Area, please contact the Foundation! Scholarships can be established for any type of program, area of study, or age level. Your scholarship could be used by non-traditional students, high school graduates, graduate students, whoever you would like to assist! Give us a call today to discuss your ideas.

Elwood Area Foundation

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About Charitable Giving

Charitable giving does not require great wealth. It requires generosity of spirit—the desire to share what you have for the benefit of others. Many have a desire to help others in a meaningful way. The challenge is how to best realize these desires.

The Elwood Area Foundation can help you match your desire to give with a worthy cause. Gifts to the Foundation can be made in any amount. Even the smallest gift can have a big impact when we all work together! And your donation is tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

The Foundation accepts donations and memorials made in honor of a specific cause, and donations made without designation. A designated gift will only be used as the donor directs. Recognition will be given in the Winter Newsletter and on

Facebook.

There are many ways to invest in our future:

- Gifts of cash or property
- Gifts of grain or livestock
- Bequests in your will
- Retirement plans
- Gifts of life insurance
- Memorial/Honor gifts
- Gift annuities that provide lifelong income for you and your loved ones

We hope you will consider the Elwood Area Foundation for your charitable gift giving. For more information on how to give to the Foundation please contact:

Melissa Vinzant, Executive Director
314 Smith Avenue, Elwood NE 68937
308-785-8113 elwoodAF@gmail.com

WE WANT TO HEAR
..... from



Send us your ideas for the future of Elwood!

You can use the enclosed envelope to mail us your input, contact us by Facebook or email, or even better, stop by the office for a visit!

Let us know what projects you would like to see, big and small!

The Elwood Area Foundation wants to work with you to ensure our community remains a great place to live, work, and play; now, and far into the future.

The Elwood Area Foundation establishes endowment funds and administers the income for the betterment of the Elwood Area. The Elwood Area Foundation is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt, non-profit organization under United States tax laws. Gifts to the Foundation are tax deductible to the extent applicable under relevant tax law. Tax I.D # 76-0741866