

Elwood Area Foundation 2019 Fall Newsletter

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.

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday, Tuesday,

Thursday

9:00 –3:30

And by Appointment

308-785-8113

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cynthia Evans
Kate Hatch
Carole Kleine
Marty Kleppinger
Scott Johnson
Bryan Nelson
Jenna Roberts
Kim Scoville
Mark Weissert

About 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, stop by the office at 314 Smith Avenue in beautiful Downtown Elwood, or email director@elwoodfoundation.org. We would love to work with you to provide an even better community for future generations!

Memorials and Honorariums

Memorial gifts and honorariums are a thoughtful way to recognize someone special. The Foundation will send an acknowledgement of your gift to the family or honoree and the information will be included in EAF publications. Below is the list of memorials and donations made between **May and September 2019**.

In Memory of Dale Burkhalter
Rod & Tami Buell

In Memory of Swede Fastenau
Debra Kepler
Lenelle Kwong

In Memory of Rod Fiene
Rod & Tami Buell

Retro Night Drive-In Movie!



It was a gorgeous evening for an outdoor movie!
More information on the event and additional photos can be found on page three.
Photo credit to Melanie Yeutter.

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

Elwood Area Foundation 2019 Fall Newsletter

EAF Board Awards Youth Grants to Local Organizations

Three local youth organizations were recently awarded funds by the Elwood Area Foundation Board of Directors. The TeamMates Mentoring Program received a grant to assist with program needs at the Elwood School, and two 4-H groups received grants to assist with planting a Pollinator Garden behind the Elwood Public Library. The Jiffy Juniors and Lucky Clovers spent a lot of hours and hard work on their community project.



Elwood Spring Gala 2020 Date Announced

Elwood Area Supporters are encouraged to save the date for the 9th Annual Elwood Area Foundation Spring Gala.

The evening includes dinner, complimentary cocktails, Silent and Live Auctions, and entertainment by the band Wicked Fun. Ticket sales start in January. Cost per ticket is \$80 or \$640 for a table of eight.

Proceeds from the Gala are used for community betterment projects and EAF programs.

A few past projects and programs receiving EAF funds include many upgrades to the Civic Center, updates at the Village Park, and grants to many community organizations! These include the Elwood Fire and Rescue, Gosper County Food Pantry, Johnson Lake Trails, YELP youth leadership academy, Beef in Schools, and 4-H—just to name a few!

Your participation in the Elwood Spring Gala is one way to help us give back to our fantastic community. We appreciate your support, and look forward to seeing you there.



Save the Date

Elwood Area Foundation
Annual Spring Gala
March 28, 2020

Ticket Sales begin January 2020
www.elwoodfoundation.org

Elwood Area Foundation 2019 Fall Newsletter

Elwood Area Foundation names first recipients of the Elwood Care Center Scholarship

Veronica Gomez of Lexington and Leigh Anne Lehmann of Eustis are the first recipients of the Vic & Swede Scholarship, which provides financial assistance for employees of the Elwood (Nebraska) Care Center.

Gomez, a Lexington High School alum, is pursuing a career in nursing at Central Community College while continuing to work at the Elwood Care Center.

Lehman, a graduate of Eustis-Farnam High School is attending the University of Nebraska-Kearney majoring in biology. She intends to pursue a career in the medical field.

The scholarship fund was created in memory of Vic Buell and Keith (Swede) Fastenau, residents of the Elwood Care Center who passed away within days of each other in March 2019. The Buell and Fastenau families designed the scholarship to encourage further education for Elwood Care Center employees, all of whom play such a pivotal role in residents' care. The first two scholarships were awarded to people who were part of the care team for Buell and

Fastenau, but that is not a requirement to apply for the scholarship.

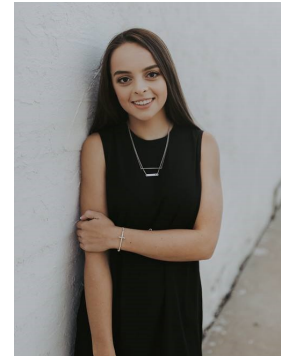
"Veronica and Leigh Anne provided great care for my dad and Swede (Fastenau)," said Rodney Buell of Eustis. "Vic and Swede mentored many of the staff members and kept them entertained with a joke or silly remark. They really wanted all of the employees to better themselves. We are so happy that this scholarship is a way they can keep encouraging the staff."

The Elwood Area Foundation, <http://www.elwoodfoundation.org>, administers the scholarship, which is open to donations from any other individuals or families who wish to contribute to help Elwood Care Center employees. If you have any questions or to obtain an application, please contact Melissa Vinzant, Foundation Executive Director, at 308-785-8113.



Left: Gomez is pictured with Amy Fastenau, Mary Fastenau, and Tami and Rod Buell.

Right: Lehmann



First Annual Generosity Day to be Held in Elwood

Elwood's 1st Annual Generosity Day will be held on Saturday, October 12th! Everyone is invited to participate in this community event. Service projects, small and big, will be going on throughout the day around town. This is going to be a day centered around doing good for others and helping the community.

The Elwood Area Foundation is coordinating a morning of Crafts at the Care Center, giving children of all ages the opportunity to work with ECC residents. Volunteers are welcome (starting at 9:00), and children are invited to attend from 9:30 to 11:00. Each child will bring home a craft, and a snack will be served during the morning.

There are so many activities planned for Generosity Day! For more information, contact Melissa Vinzant, EAF Director, at 308-785-8113.

GENEROSITY DAY PROJECTS AND SCHEDULE

Volunteer/Donation Opportunities....

- Free Will Donation Breakfast at Our Redeemer Church 7:00a.m.-8:00a.m. -Provided by the Lutheran Women's Missionary League of Our Redeemer
- Yardwork for elderly and general town cleanup 8:00a.m.- ? (Our Redeemer Church Youth Group plus any volunteers)
- Painting flag poles at the cemetery 8:00 a.m.- (volunteers)
- Painting bleachers and tables at the fairgrounds (4-H and volunteers) 8:00a.m.- ?
- Crafts at the Care Center- Making fall door wreaths for the residents (Everyone welcome....kids and helpers) 9:30-11:00
- Stuffing backpacks for kids in need—at the Elwood Care Center immediately following crafts—(everyone welcome)
- Hanging new town banners on light poles 11:00-12:00 (Chamber of Commerce)
- Free Will Donation Lunch at the Senior Center 11:30-1:30 -Provided by the Ladies Auxiliary
- Continue any painting projects remaining (plus tables at the football field if time allows)
- Staining tables/planters and helping with a few projects at ECC 1:00-?
- Making fleece tie blankets at the senior center 1:00-3:00 (everyone welcome)
- Replacing Tattered flags around town 1:00-2:00 (only need a few volunteers)
- Free Ice Cream Sundae Bar at the Senior Center 3:00-4:00 (Accepting donations of new and gently used coats and gloves to be dispersed through the Gosper County Food Pantry and/or to families in need)

Elwood Area Foundation 2019 Fall Newsletter



P.O. Box 303 | 314 Smith Avenue
Elwood, NE 68937
Phone: 308-785-8113
Email: director@elwoodfoundation.org
www.elwoodfoundation.org

Postal Patron

Elwood, NE 68937

U.S. Postage Paid

Elwood, NE 68937

Permit No. 303

Elwood YELP Leadership Students Host Retro Night



The YELP (Youth Engaged in Leading People) leadership academy is a 12-month course offered to sophomore students from Elwood, and Phelps County. The class is taught through a collaboration between the Nebraska Extension, Elwood Area Foundation, and Phelps County Development Corporation.

The 2019 participants from Elwood are Kaydee Diefenbaugh, Matteya Gutierrez, and Alivia Knoerzer.

The Elwood students worked together to coordinate a “Retro Night” community event for their service project. Held on September 7th, the evening began with a car show along Calvert Street, a car parade through town, and ended with an outdoor movie by the fairgrounds.

Movie-goers watched from their cars, or brought chairs to enjoy the full outdoor experience.

The event was sponsored by The Home Agency and the Jim and Sharri Baldonado Family.

Thank you to our sponsors, thank you to all those who helped with



the event, and of course to all those who came out that night! It was a fun, free, family-friendly community event!

