



### 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 degree.

**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 honorarium donations**. These can be made in honor of loved ones who have passed, to represent someone important 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 the Elwood Area Foundation at 308-785-8113, email [director@elwoodfoundation.org](mailto:director@elwoodfoundation.org), or stop by the office at 314 Smith Avenue in beautiful downtown Elwood.

Thank you for supporting our organization!

### Scholarship Opportunity

EAF is pleased to announce an opportunity for those who wish to establish a scholarship in honor of someone special.

For scholarship funds with a minimum \$5,000 starting balance, we can now guarantee an annual scholarship disbursement in perpetuity, based on the minimum balance amount. The details of this opportunity vary depending on the starting balance.

There is no minimum amount required to establish a scholarship through EAF. Our staff will work with each individual, family, and organization to tailor your scholarship requirements and disbursement details to follow federal regulations, while keeping in mind the scholarship fund amount and your desires.

Please contact the EAF Office to learn more:  
308-785-8113  
314 Smith Avenue  
PO Box 303, Elwood NE 68937  
[director@elwoodfoundation.org](mailto:director@elwoodfoundation.org)

Office hours:  
Monday-Tuesday-Thursday,  
9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., & by appt.

#### EAF Board of Directors

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

*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

# 2021 Summer Newsletter

## Memorials and Honorariums March 2021 through June 1st, 2021

Memorial gifts and honorariums are a thoughtful way to honor and recognize someone important. Memorials are often directed to the Elwood Area Foundation in lieu of flowers for someone who has passed away, and honorarium donations can be made any time you would like to recognize someone important.

The Foundation will send an acknowledgement with your name and address to the family or honoree and the information will be included in EAF publications.

**In Memory of Nell Huerta**  
Ellen Halmes and Marshall Goodenberger

**In Memory of Dorothy Lerdall**  
Anonymous

**In Memory of Jan Schmeeckle**  
Jan Schmeeckle Family

**In Memory of Richard & Doris Trauernicht**  
Myrna Packer

**In Memory of Dave Wade**  
DeAnn Wade

**In Honor of all TeamMates Mentees**  
Shelley K. Bartruff

Thank you for our unrestricted donations:  
Don & Rosemary Debban  
Robert & Elaine Lynch  
Karen Deeter  
Carl & Kay Norden

## 2021 Scholarships Administered by EAF

### Robert Birt Memorial Scholarship

Kennedy Brell  
Zayley Christner  
Kaydee Diefenbaugh  
Matteya Gutierrez  
Kyle Hort  
Trevor Jorges  
Alivia Knoerzer  
Jordan Kranz  
Jada Lerdall  
Kaden Nickell  
Evan Niemeier  
Rhiannon Rhone  
Shirley Rios  
Aubrey Steinwart  
Abbey Whittaker  
Hanna Wood  
Kaden Wooters

### Bonnie V. Clark Memorial Scholarship

Rhiannon Rhone

### Velma Schroeder Memorial Scholarship

Jada Lerdall  
Alternate, Trevor Jorges

### James J Leggott Memorial Scholarship

Jordan Kranz

### Robert & Barbara Wade 4 Year School Memorial Scholarship

Matteya Gutierrez

### Robert & Barbara Wade 2 Year School Memorial Scholarship

Kaden Nickell

### Merlyn Schutz Valedictorian Scholarship

Alivia Knoerzer

### Chadd Hambidge Memorial Scholarship

Kyle Hort

### Centennial Committee Scholarship

Trevor Jorges

### South Central Nebraska

### Corn Growers Assoc. Scholarship

Kaden Wooters

### Elwood Swim Team Scholarship

Alivia Knoerzer

### Wesley & Evelyn Fox Memorial Scholarship

Evan Niemeier

### Leonard & Darlene Schutz Memorial Scholarship

Aubrey Steinwart

### Robert Salisbury Memorial Scholarship

Cynch Dickman  
Matteya Gutierrez

### Gloria Hartsfield Memorial Scholarship

Shirley Rios

### Gosper County Carnival Assoc Scholarship

Kennedy Brell  
Zayley Christner  
Kaydee Diefenbaugh  
Kyle Hort  
Trevor Jorges  
Alivia Knoerzer  
Jada Lerdall  
Kaden Nickell  
Evan Niemeier  
Shirley Rios  
Conner Schutz  
Aubrey Steinwart  
Ben Tiede  
Abbey Whittaker

### The Home Agency Future Leader Scholarship

Kennedy Brell  
Kaydee Diefenbaugh  
Trevor Jorges  
Alivia Knoerzer  
Jordan Kranz  
Kaden Nickell

### Tilson Family Scholarship

Rhiannon Rhone  
Alternate, Abbey Whittaker

### Dean Houlden Memorial Scholarship

Shirley Rios

### Richard Einspahr Memorial Scholarship

Kennedy Brell

## Save the Date for 2021 Events!

### Second Annual Give BIG Elwood 2021: Wednesday, November 10th, 2021!

Mark your calendars and watch for more information. The day will include treats and give-aways at the Foundation Office and other fun activities.

To find out if your organization or community group is eligible to participate, contact the Foundation Office at 308-785-8113, [director@elwoodfoundation.org](mailto:director@elwoodfoundation.org); or stop by at 314 Smith Avenue.

Our 1st Annual Give BIG Elwood campaign was a huge success! The event closed on November 17th, 2020, with donations accepted in-person and online. Seventeen community groups participated, receiving a total of \$42,895 in donations from 80 donors. EAF contributed matching funds of \$5,000 with an end result of **\$47,895** going to community groups!

We are looking forward to an even bigger impact in 2021!



Packaging baked goods for a Drive-by Open House during Give BIG 2020. Donors could drive up to the Office and get a fresh-baked pastry or cupcake delivered to their car when they made their donation!



Donation amounts received by community groups participating in Give BIG Elwood 2020.

### 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Elwood Area Foundation Gala set for Friday, October 22nd, 2021

Proceeds from the EAF Gala go towards community betterment projects and programs.

Past projects receiving funds include many youth projects, updates at the Park, Johnson Lake Trails and SRA playground, Civic Center Renovations, and so much more.

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

Plans for the Fall event are still unfolding, but those who are holding tickets or donated their tickets from the 2020 Gala will be contacted by a Gala committee member in the near future!

314 Smith Avenue  
P.O. Box 303  
Elwood, NE 68937  
Phone: 308-785-8113  
Email: [director@elwoodfoundation.org](mailto:director@elwoodfoundation.org)  
Executive Director: Melissa Vinzant

**Office Hours**  
Monday—Tuesday—Thursday  
9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Elwood, NE 68937  
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**Postal Patron**

**Elwood, NE 68937**

## ELWOOD ALUMNI OPEN HOUSE, JULY 31<sup>ST</sup>

The Elwood school building will be open for a short time during the World's Fair, for those who wish to see the updates and changes made in recent years. An informal Open House will be held from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 31st, 2021. The building will be closed at 3:00 p.m.; the last school tour will be at 2:45. Alumni are invited to meet at the school to tour with classmates and friends. There are no "honored" classes this year; this will be a very casual open house.

Plan ahead for the EAF Alumni Open House in 2022, where we will honor those classes ending in 9, 0, 1, and 2 during the Gosper County Fair. This will be a formal open house, with tables available for honored classes who wish to display memorabilia and space for friends to gather and visit. More information to come in 2022.



2020 Elwood Public Schools construction project.  
Photo credit: Jim Kleine

## Gosper County Fair Events

The Fair Flyer will be coming soon, with a detailed list of events for each day. Here is a brief rundown of just a few popular fair events:

Carnival – Thursday, Friday, Saturday, July 29th–31st, from 7:00 p.m. to close.

4-H events – ongoing through the week.

Rodeo– Thursday and Friday, July 29th and 30th at 7:00 p.m.

Parade – Saturday, July 31st starting at 11:00 a.m.

Horseshoe Tournament – Saturday, July 31st starting after the parade, around 1:00 p.m.

Alumni Open House at the School – Saturday, July 31st from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. (last tour at 2:45)

BBQ and Beer Garden – Saturday, July 31st at 5:00 p.m.

### 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.*