Fergus Falls Area





Four New Scholarships Created for 2009 See page 2

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2009 scholarship applications will be available in January at www.ffdollars forscholars.org 2008 brings eight new scholarships



Scholarship recipients were recognized and presented with awards at a luncheon banquet on April 30.

Eight new scholarships were among the 56 that were awarded to members of the Class of 2008 during the Dollars for Scholars awards luncheon in April. Scholarships to this year's graduates totaled \$43,688.

For the first time, four scholarships were targeted for students planning to attend trade or vocational schools, In addition, the Fred Evenson Jr. Memorial, the Cowles Memorial and Northern Lakes Dental scholarships were awarded for the first time.

The other new scholarship, Pennies Grow, was begun by the Fergus Falls High School Class of 2008 when those students were kindergartners at Eisenhower School.

Also at the luncheon, donations of \$7,500 from the Fergus Falls Eagles and \$5,000 from Lloyd and Beverly Paulson were received.

Cowles Memorial Scholarship

The Henry and Elizabeth Cowles Memorial Scholarship was created by the estate of the couple, who moved to Fergus Falls in the late 1940s when Henry began work with Otter Tail Power Co. The couple remained in the community following his retirement from the power company.

Mary Milton, a friend and neighbor, said Henry died in the mid 1990s, and Elizabeth in 2007 at the age of 95. Elizabeth's wish was the creation of a scholarship that would benefit students who plan to pursue careers in engineering.

Vocational Scholarships

The four vocational scholarships were possible thanks to donations from the Ottertail Builders Association and long-time Dollars for Scholars supporters Lloyd and Beverly (Gerhardson) Paulson.

Students attending vocational schools always have been eligible to apply for scholarships, but this is the first time that scholarships have been designated specifically for vocational education.

Dave Schneeberger,

president of the Fergus Falls chapter of Dollars for Scholars, said the contributions make it possible to "expand the scope of our scholarships to promote vocational and trade career opportunities that are critical to our community and the surrounding area."

The Paulsons have previously created Dollars for Scholars scholarships to honor Beverly Paulson's father and two brothers. The couple said there's a growing recognition of the importance of technical careers, which in part inspired their \$10,000 vocational scholarship contribution.

Four annual vocational scholarships were created with this Paulson donation and a \$15,000 donation from the Ottertail Builders Association.

Bob Batzlaff, owner of Fergus Construction, was the treasurer of that trade group until its recent disbandment. He said it was comprised of local contractors, real estate professionals and building suppliers, and their desire was to

Continued on page 3



New scholarships created for 2009

Four new scholarships will be awarded in 2009, thanks to contributions from supporters of Fergus Falls Area Dollars for Scholars.

The Isaiah Anderson Memorial Scholarship honors Isaiah "Pudge" Anderson, a 2002 graduate of Fergus Falls High School and a great fan of the games of baseball and softball. Anderson, who died in a truck accident in February 2008, had planned to coach the Fergus Falls American Legion baseball team in 2008.

The Isaiah Anderson Men's Softball Tournament in June raised funds to create the scholarship. It will be awarded for the first time in 2009 to a member of the FFHS girls softball team or boys baseball team who shares his love of the game and teammates

The Fergus Falls Business and Professional Women are creating the Frances Haller Business and Professional Women Scholarship to honor Haller, a long-time BPW member and involved member of the community. Haller worked for 44 years as administrative assistant to School District 544 superintendents, retiring in 1981. She died in 2006. The scholarship will be awarded for the first time in 2009 to a young woman aspiring to a career in a non-traditional field.

Paul and Mary Ann Anderson have honored their late daughter with the creation of the Mary Lee Anderson Nord Memorial Scholarship, which is designated for a student planning a career in music. Nord taught biology, but Paul Anderson said he and his wife chose to recognize a music student because their daughter loved music and participated in band and choir in high school and college. Nord, who lived in Duluth, died in 1987.

Lloyd and Beverly Paulson, who have already created two Fergus Falls Dollars for Scholars vocational scholarships, have created a third **Paulson Vocational Scholarship** for 2009. The scholarships are designated for young men and women who are attending vocational or technical colleges. This contribution brings the number of vocational scholarships to five.



It takes a TEAM effort



A letter from the president

David Schneeberger, President, 2005-08

We all have had some experience with puzzles — either as someone who enjoys the thrill of putting them together from start to finish or someone who prefers to add just one piece to the whole puzzle. There is a lot that can be learned from this experience.

Typically, the way to start a puzzle is by putting two pieces together and then watching it come together as piece after piece is added. This reminds me of the humble beginnings of Fergus Falls Area Dollars for Scholars, when that first board put the first two pieces together, and the puzzle was off to its start.

Since our beginning in the early 1990s, a lot of pieces of different shapes and sizes have come together. Each one of us is like a piece in that puzzle, irrespective of how we fit in:

- A school administrator or staff member who works with students to help them grow in the classroom, in their extracurricular activities and in the school setting in general.
- A school counselor who guides students through the process of determining their post secondary options and career direction.
- A parent who provides the support, encouragement and motivation to help students stay on task and focused to become the best they can be
- A student who makes the commitment to complete the scholarship application, who looks beyond the work it takes to see the potential rewards, to balance his or her life and excel in academics, extracurricular activities and community service.
- A donor who makes the financial commitment to support the program and our youth as they grow into the leaders of our next generation

All of these pieces came together and gave us the opportunity to award 56 scholarships totaling \$43,688 at this year's spring luncheon. We now have touched the lives of 470 recipients with a total of \$332,128 since the first scholarships were given away in 1992.

We also forged into new territory this year by awarding our first vocational/trade school scholarships. These scholarships, awarded to four students, were possible thanks to contributions by long-time donors Beverly and Lloyd Paulson and by the Ottertail Builders Association. A special thank you to the Paulsons, who gave us an additional contribution to provide a fifth vocational/trade scholarship for upcoming years, allowing us to continue to expand our assistance to students who choose that post-secondary option.

We also want to recognize our other first-time named scholarships — the Henry and Elizabeth Cowles Memorial Scholarship, the Fred Evenson Jr. Memorial Scholarship and the Northern Lakes Dental Scholarship.

Another special thanks goes to the Eagles Aerie No. 2339, which presented us with a check for an additional \$7,500 and increased the Eagles' total contribution to \$65,000. We greatly appreciate all of the donations from every source as we work toward our \$1 million endowment fund goal and continue to increase the number of students we are able to help with scholarships.

As you can see, it takes a lot of work to put together all the pieces, but the end result is a masterpiece: a post-secondary education and a career that is challenging and rewarding. Thanks to each of you for the role you have played in making these dreams a reality.

New 2008 scholarships Continued from page 1

make a contribution to benefit young people. The Ottertail Builders scholarships will be targeted for students who are studying for careers in carpentry, construction management, architecture and engineering.

"We wanted to do something for the community to help out the young people of the area," Batzlaff said.

Fred Evenson Jr. Memorial

The Evenson scholarship was created in memory of Fred Evenson Jr., a Fergus Falls businessman and golfer. Funds for the Scholarlevel scholarship are raised through the Fred Evenson Golf Tournament, held each summer at the Pebble Lake Golf Club.

Northern Lakes Dental

Fergus Falls dentists Kelly Schroeder and Scott Wagnild created the Northern Lakes Dental Scholarship this year to reflect their belief in the critical value of education and knowledge.

Pennies Grow

When students in the Fergus Falls High School Class of 2008 were in kindergarten at Eisenhower School, they were encouraged to bring in pennies, dimes, nickels and quarters with the goal of raising enough money to award this scholarship when the Class of 2008 graduated. The money was collected in a jar in the office, and the students contributed enough change to fund a scholarship for a member of their class.

1998 Where are they now?

We contacted Fergus Falls Dollars for Scholars scholarship recipients from 1998 to ask them where their education and life have taken them in the 10 years since high school graduation.

BRENT AASBY graduated from Fergus Falls Community College in 2000 and from Minnesota State University, Moorhead, in 2002 with a degree in mathematics education. In 2007, he earned his master's degree in curriculum and instruction from North Dakota State University. He is currently an 8th grade math teacher at Discovery Middle School in Fargo.

KARI ADAMS attended the University of South Dakota and the University of Minnesota, Morris, graduating from Morris in 2003 with a double major in English and studio art. In 2006, she graduated from Alexandria Technical College with a degree in communication art and design. She lives in St. Paul, where she is a graphic designer.

TAMI (TOTLAND) CARPENTER attended the University of Minnesota, Morris, before graduat-

Continued on page 7

Thanks to our donors

The Fergus Falls community believes in investing in the education of young people. We are fortunate to live where citizens understand that education must be a top priority and that our young people need help affording education beyond high school. The generosity of individuals, businesses and organizations has helped Dollars for Scholars grow. We are grateful to our donors, who are listed below. (Donor list as of Sept. 1, 2008.)

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2008 Dollars for Scholars



Stacy Adams Beverly Paulson Bemidji State University, Bemidji



Bryce Barsness FFHS Mark Olson Rotary University of Montana, Missoula



Andrew Beck **FFHS** Joan & Gordon Bakken University of Minnesota, Minneapolis



Kylie Boe FFHS Dollars for Scholars MSCTC. Fergus Falls



Thomas Brinker FFHS VFW South Dakota State University, **Brookings**



Rachel Busko FFHS Service Food Market University of Minnesota, Morris



Hanna Carlson **FFHS** Eleanor Johnson Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, Calif.



Kirby Case FFHS Randolph "Duffy" Gerhardson University of Nebraska, Lincoln



Ian Colling **FFHS** Dr. Frank Veden Creighton University, Omaha, Neb.



Christopher Danielson **FFHS** Paulson Technical Alexandria Technical College, Alexandria



Olivia Danielson FFHS Art Scholarship MSCTC, Fergus Falls



Shannon Denzel FFHS Bechtel Memorial St. Olaf College, Northfield \



Jordon Dethlefsen **FFHS** Mary Beth Wedum St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud



Tim Erickson Hillcrest Academy Eagles Delayed until 2009



Taylor Fennell FFHS Paulson Technical ND State College of Science. Wahpeton



Nicholas Ganoe **FFHS** Fergus Falls Educators Concordia College, Moorhead



Susan Gettel **FFHS** Theodore Paulson MSCTC, Fergus Falls



Stephanie Heidorn **FFHS** Bremer Bank Bethany Lutheran College, Mankato



Joshua Hofmann **FFHS** Dorn & Co. St. John's University, MSCTC, Fergus Falls Collegeville



Kenneth Iverson **FFHS** Robert Block



Heidi Jahr Hillcrest Academy **Dollars for Scholars** Seattle Pacific University, Seattle



Laura Jennen **FFHS** John & Kim Erickson ND State College of Science. Wahpeton



Seth Johnson **FFHS** Fred Evenson Memorial Bemidji State University, Bemidji



Will Johnson **FFHS** Anna Nelson University of North Dakota, **Grand Forks**



Tara Kimball **FFHS** Otter Tail Corporation North Dakota State University, Fargo



Kelly Kitzman FFHS Eagles University of Mary, Bismarck, ND



Katle Koenig FFHS Dollars for Scholars North Dakota State University, Fargo



Katie Koep FFHS **Dollars for Scholars** North Dakota State University, Fargo



Abby Kowitz FFHS Helmer Gerhardson University of St. Thomas, St, Paul



Joshua Kugler Hillcrest Academy ITT Corporation MSCTC, Fergus Falls



Kyle Larsen FFHS Dollars for Scholars University of Minnesota, Duluth



Amanda Lewis FFHS Dollars for Scholars University of Minnesota, Minneapolis



Amy Mandelke FFHS Otter Tail Power Co. University of South Dakota, **Brookings**



Kaitlyn Moen **FFHS** Damien Jacklitch Memorial University of Manitoba, Winnipeg



Joel Money **FFHS** Otter Tail Telcom St. Olaf College, Northfield



Erin Morstad **FFHS** Lake Region Healthcare College of St. Scholastica, Duluth



Rebecca Nagel **FFHS** Sample Memorial University of Minnesota, Minneapolis



Tyson Norman FFHS Ottertail Builders ND State College of Science. Wahpeton



Amy Overgaard Hillcrest Academy Edna Dierich Hagen Northwestern College, St. Paul



Cody Peck FFHS Northern Lakes Dental University of Minnesota, Minneapolis



Sara Peterson **FFHS** Ottertail Builders Montana State University, Great Falls



Joshua Reiten FFHS Dollars for Scholars Minnesota State University, Moorhead



Rebecca Rengel **FFHS** Gordon Gerhardson Winona State University, Winona



Brian Sawtell FFHS Bank of the West Bethel University, St. Paul



Brynna Schmidt **FFHS** Eagles St. Olaf College, Northfield



Stephanie Schulz **FFHS** Cowles Memorial North Dakota State University, Fargo



Shauna Stine FFHS Dollars for Scholars University of South Dakota. **Brookings**



Caroline Stommes FFHS Dollars for Scholars Minnésota State University. Moorhead



Katharine Strom FFHS Dollars for Scholars MSCTC, Fergus Falls



Megan Suek FFHS FF Education Association University of Minnesota, Duluth



Stephanie Synstelien **FFHS** Pennies Grow Bemidji State University, Bemidii



Jana Thole **FFHS VFW** Minnesota State University, Mankato



Wade Underwood Susan Wellendorf **FFHS** Eugene Eckhoff Memorial Gustavus Adolphus College,

St. Peter



FFHS Ottertail Coaches University of Minnesota, Duluth



Tiffany Werre FĚHS **Dollars for Scholars** North Dakota State University, Fargo



Emily Westergard FFHS Bechtel Colorado College, Colorado Springs

2008 Fergus Falls Area Dollars for Scholars Scholarships

Fergus Falls Area Dollars for Scholars was established in 1991 with encouragement and contributions from numerous alumni and area businesses. Scholarships have been awarded each year since 1992. Scholarship recipients are selected according to Dollars for Scholars guidelines, with some scholarships having additional criteria.

LEGACY SCHOLARSHIPS

Legacy donors have contributed \$25,000 or more to create named scholarships that are awarded annually.

Bechtel Memorial

Lillian Bechtel began teaching at Fergus Falls High School in 1944. Her husband, Edward, was principal at FFHS until his retirement in 1970. This scholarship was created in the fall of 2003.

Henry and Elizabeth Cowles Memorial

Henry and Elizabeth Cowles moved to Fergus Falls in the late 1940s when he began work at Otter Tail Power Co., and they became involved and supportive members of the community. This scholarship, awarded for the first time in 2008, is designated for a student pursuing a career in engineering.

Eagles Aerie #2339

The Eagles Aerie #2339 established a scholarship in 1995 to assist students with their post-secondary education. The organization has made ongoing donations since that year.

Fergus Falls Educators

In 2007, members of the Fergus Falls Education Association and fellow School District 544 educators created this scholarship, which is designated for a student planning a career in education.

Sample Memorial

The Sample family established this scholarship in memory of Alexander K. Sample and Thomas Sample, twin brothers who graduated from Fergus Falls High School in 1945. The scholarship was one of the initial Dollars for Scholars scholarships and has been awarded annually since 1992.

Dr. Frank Veden

Dr. Frank Veden was a dentist who practiced for many years in Fergus Falls and left his estate to fund a wide variety of projects that benefit Fergus Falls. The first scholarship was awarded in 1999.

HERITAGE SCHOLARSHIPS

Heritage donors have contributed at least \$10,000 to create named scholarships that are awarded annually.

Gordon and Joan Bakken

Gordon and Joan Bakken are lifelong community residents known for their support of many projects that have improved the community. The scholarship was first awarded in 1992.

Bank of the West

The Bank of the West Scholarship was established in 1998 to reflect the bank's support of graduating seniors in their quest to continue education beyond high school.

Robert Block

Upon his retirement as superintendent of the Fergus Falls School District, Mr. Block's colleagues and friends established this scholarship in 1997 to recognize his contributions to the school district and the community.

Dorn & Co., Inc.

Larry Dorn is an FFHS graduate who returned to his hometown after college to establish the Dorn & Co. investment securities firm. The scholarship has been awarded annually since 1992.

John and Kim Erickson

This scholarship was created by Kim and John Erickson, who was one of the charter members of the Fergus Falls Area Dollars for Scholars board of directors. It was awarded for the first time in 2007.

Helmer Otto Gerhardson

Beverly Gerhardson Paulson and her husband, Lloyd, created this scholarship in memory of her father, who was a 1927 graduate of Fergus Falls High School. The scholarship was awarded for the first time in 2006.

Rudolph "Duffy" Gerhardson Beverly Gerhardson Paulson and her husband, Lloyd, created this scholarship in 2007 in memory of her brother, a 1951 Fergus Falls High School graduate who worked in health care. The award is designated for a student going into a health care field.

Edna Dierich Hagen

Edna Dierich Hagen's love of children was apparent during her 45-year teaching career and in the scholarship donation she bequeathed prior to her death in April 2004. This scholarship was awarded for the first time in 2005.

ITT Corporation

In the early 1990s, two FFHS science teachers were awarded a \$10,000 grant from ITT for scholarships for students

interested in math or science. In 1999, the grant funds were transferred to Dollars for Scholars.

Eleanore Keane Johnson

Eleanor "Babe" Keane Johnson was a lifelong resident of Fergus Falls who wanted young people to have the opportunity to continue their education beyond high school. The scholarship was established in 2002.

Lake Region Healthcare Corporation

Lake Region Healthcare Corporation is a charter donor to Fergus Falls Area Dollars for Scholars. This scholarship is awarded to a student planning to enter a health care field.

Anna Nelson Memorial

Anna Nelson was a proud Otter and an enthusiastic percussionist in the band programs at FFHS, graduating in 2002. After her death in a car accident in 2004, a scholarship was created in her memory, with the award to be given annually to an FFHS student who has participated in the school's band program. This scholarship was awarded for the first time in 2005.

Mark Olson Rotary

Mark Olson is a former president of both Security State Bank and the Fergus Falls Noon Rotary Club. In June 2002, he was appointed a governor of the Federal Reserve System. The Noon Rotarians created the scholarship in 2003.

Otter Tail Corporation

Established in 2006, Otter Tail Corporation's scholarship provides support for graduating local high school students as they go on to higher education.

Otter Tail Power Company

A scholarship has been awarded each year since 1992 in the name of Otter Tail Power Company. Additionally, many Otter Tail Power employees have contributed their professional expertise to Dollars for Scholars.

Ottertail Coaches

Ottertail Coaches established a scholarship to demonstrate its interest in and support for the community's young people. The recipient must be an FFHS student.

Ottertail Builders

This scholarship was established in 2008 by a donation from Ottertail Builders when the local trade group disbanded. The scholarship benefits students who are studying at trade or technical schools for careers in carpentry, construction management, architecture and engineering.



Beverly Gerhardson Paulson

Beverly Gerhardson Paulson, an FFHS Class of 1948 graduate, and her husband, Lloyd Paulson, have sponsored a scholarship each year since 1992. The recipient must be an FFHS graduate.

Lloyd and Beverly Paulson **Vocational Scholarships**

Long-time Dollars for Scholars supporters Lloyd and Beverly Paulson created these scholarships in 2008 to provide support for students planning to attend vocational or trade schools.

Theodore Paulson Memorial

Dr. Elmer Paulson established this scholarship in honor of his father, Dr. Theodore S. Paulson, a 1904 graduate of FFHS. The recipient must demonstrate outstanding accomplishments in English.

Service Food Market

Service Food is a charter member of Fergus Falls Area Dollars for Scholars and a valued supporter of our community youth, both as an employer and in a variety of other endeavors.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 612 Good Citizen

VFW Post 612 established the VFW Joe Robertson Good Citizen Scholarship in 1997 to honor Robertson, an FFHS social sciences teacher and VFW member. Two Good Citizen Scholarships are awarded each year,

SCHOLAR SCHOLARSHIPS

Donors who have contributed at least \$5,000 to the foundation have established Dollars for Scholars Scholar Level Scholarships. These scholarships are awarded annually.

The Art Scholarship

In 1997, area artists donated their work for a silent auction. The proceeds were dedicated to sponsoring a scholarship for a graduating senior who intends to study visual or performing arts.

Bremer Bank

The Bremer Bank Scholarship was established in 2007 to provide community support to local high school graduating seniors as they go on to higher education.

Eugene Eckhoff Memorial

Eugene Eckhoff was a beloved FFHS teacher of English, creative writing and literature. His family and colleagues established this scholarship in 1995 to honor his memory.

Fergus Falls Education Association

The FFEA created this scholarship in 2006 with money raised in its fall variety show and through teacher contributions. The award is in honor of past and present FFEA members and is intended for a student going into education.

Fred Evenson Jr. Memorial

This scholarship, awarded for the first time in 2008, is in memory of the late Fred Evenson, an avid golfer and Fergus Falls businessman. In light of Evenson's passion for golf, it is designated for a member of an FFHS golf team.

Gordon Gerhardson Memorial

Gordon Gerhardson, FFHS Class of 1952, worked his way through higher education and became a troubleshooter for nuclear power plants. His sister, Beverly Gerhardson Paulson, established this scholarship in his memory in 2001.

Damien Jacklitch Memorial

Damien Jacklitch, a musician and athlete who graduated from FFHS in 1999, died in a car accident in 2002. In 2003, a benefit reunion concert in his memory helped to fund this scholarship.

Northern Lakes Dental

Drs. Kelly Schroeder and Scott Wagnild created this scholarship because of their belief in the critical value of education and knowledge. The scholarship was awarded for the first time in 2008.

Otter Tail Telcom/Park Region Telephone

This scholarship was created in 2006, the company's 100th anniversary year, to reflect its continuing support of local students. Highest priority goes to students pursuing a career in telecommunications or technology.

Mary Beth Wedum

Mary Beth Hagen Wedum is a 1953 graduate of Fergus Falls High School with a strong interest in education. She is co-chair of the board of the Minneapolis-based J.A. Wedum Foundation.

Where they are now Continued from page 3

ing from North Dakota State University in 2004 with a degree in dietetics. She currently works as a pediatric dietitian at Children's Hospital and Clinics of Minnesota in St. Paul. She and her husband had their first child earlier this year.

ERIKA DOMES attended Winona State University, graduating with a degree in communication studies in 2001. She worked in video production until 2006 and currently works in the field of communication/Web writing. She recently moved to Seattle.

TIM ELLIS earned his AA degree from Fergus Falls Community College in 2000 and a degree in mass communications from Minnesota State University, Moorhead, in 2002, A year later, he earned a master's degree in sports management from the University of Minnesota. He is sales manager for the Radisson Plaza Hotel in Minneapolis and lives in Buffalo with wife Julie and their two daughters.

ANNE (STEFFEN) HRUBY earned a degree in interior design from North Dakota State University in 2002 and works as an interior designer for Image Group Architecture and Interiors in Moorhead. She and husband Nathan, also a Fergus Falls High School graduate, are expecting their first child in October.

JENNIFER LEVANG ROGNESS attended Fergus Falls Community College and Minnesota State University, Moorhead, where she has earned degrees in mass communications and in elementary education, with a specialty in math. She teaches first grade at Reinertson Elementary School in Moorhead and will receive her master's degree in curriculum and instruction with a reading specialty from MSUM in December.

ANDREW RONNEVIK graduated from Concordia College in Moorhead in 2002 with a degree in philosophy and political science, and he will graduate in May 2009 with a master of divinity from Luther Seminary in St. Paul. From 2002-04 he was in the Lutheran Volunteer Corps in Washington, D.C., and Seattle, and from 2004-05 he was a volunteer in India, working with developmentally disabled men. He is currently serving as an intern at St. Andrew's United Church in Cairo, Egypt.

AMANDA (HOLICKY) THORMODSON earned her AA from Fergus Falls Community College in 2000 and a degree in pharmaceutical sciences from North Dakota State University in 2003. She received her doctor of pharmacy degree from NDSU in 2005 and is a pharmacist at Pamida Pharmacy in Fergus Falls.

TRINA UVAAS earned a degree in psychology from Luther College in 2002, and in August of this year she received her master's degree in school psychology from the University of Nebraska, Omaha. She currently lives in Omaha and is pursuing her Ed.S. in school psychology.

For further information, call: 218-998-0544

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