



Fergus Falls Area

# Dollars<sup>®</sup> for Scholars

1994

## scholarship recipients

### The Fergus Falls Chapter of Dollars for Scholars

is pleased to introduce the 15 winners of this year's Dollars for Scholars scholarships. The 15 students at Fergus Falls High School and Hillcrest Lutheran Academy will each receive a \$500 scholarship. They were selected from 44 applicants for the annual awards.

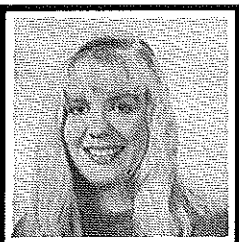
**Renae Culp**, a student at Hillcrest Lutheran Academy, plans to attend Concordia college in St. Paul and ultimately teach math at the secondary level. Her plans also include coaching volleyball and basketball.



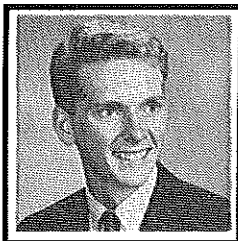
**Adam Gedde** intends to explore possible careers in music, education and engineering at Concordia College in Moorhead.



**Heather Hansen** will continue her education at Jamestown College in North Dakota. Her goal is to earn a double major in elementary education and psychology and teach for several years, then return to school for a master's degree.



**Jonathon Halverson** is considering three colleges, Concordia, Luther and St. Olaf. His plans are to study biology and pre-medicine, then attend medical school to become an orthopedic surgeon.



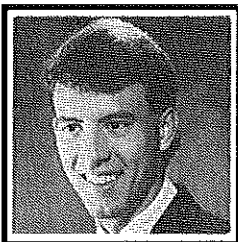
**Jacqueline Harris** plans to major in music education at College of St. Scholastica in Duluth. Her goal is to be a band instructor and perhaps become involved in music ministry.



**Zachery Herness** will pursue a degree in architecture at North Dakota State University, then earn his master's degree at an Ivy League school.



**Chris Horgen** plans to attend Concordia College in Moorhead to receive a broad-based education in mathematics, psychology and business.



**Mary Karst** will attend Fergus Falls Community College, then plans to transfer to the University of Minnesota to major in biology. Ultimately, she would like to attend medical school at McGill University in Montreal, Canada.



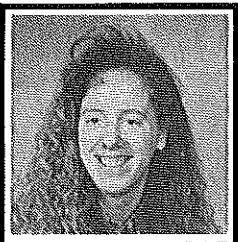
**Wendy Kennedy** has been accepted at Concordia College in Moorhead, where she intends to major in biology. Her goal is to enroll in medical school and become a pediatrician.



**Becki Kilde**, a student at Hillcrest, plans to attend Bethel College and major in music and/or business management. She would like to teach private music lessons.



**Margaret McDonald** intends to pursue a music education at one of five schools: the University of Minnesota, St. Olaf, Carleton College, Oberlin Music Conservatory or the University of Colorado at Boulder School of Music. After graduation, she plans to continue her piano performances while teaching piano at the college level.



**William Schultz** plans to attend the University of Minnesota at Morris, with the goal of acceptance at Princeton University's law school.



**Daniel Seyfried** has enrolled at the University of Minnesota, where he plans to major in biology. After undergraduate school, his goal is to be accepted at a medical school and become a surgeon.



**Angela Smith** plans to study medicine at the University of Minnesota at Duluth. Her career goal is to become a pediatrician.



**Thea Svingen** will attend the University of Minnesota at Morris, where she intends to pursue a career in either law or medicine.



## A brief history . . .

*by Tudy (Heini) Nycklemoe, aka Cora Sue (Heini) Nycklemoe*

In the spring of 1991, the Fergus Falls School Board voted to establish a Dollars for Scholars program to encourage students to pursue post secondary education and to build partnerships between the community and the school for this purpose. On October 25, 1991, a group of interested citizens and alumni gathered at the administration offices of School District 544 to establish the Fergus Falls Area Dollars for Scholars. By November, officers and board members were elected and by-laws established — thus the birth of this organization. The Fergus Falls Area Dollars for Scholars was formed to provide a vehicle to donate money toward scholarships to Fergus Falls and Hillcrest graduates who plan to attend a two-year, four-year or technical college.

The spring of 1992 found the board actively soliciting funds for an endowment fund to finance this program. Seed money came from the Wedum Foundation, Lloyd and Beverly (Gerhardson) Paulson and Larry Dorn. We were off to a running start as we were able to provide five \$500 scholarships our first year.

We decided that scholarships would be named for corporate donations of \$10,000 (Heritage Club) and individual donations of \$5,000 (Scholar Club). Other gift classifications are for \$2,500 (Leader) and \$1,000 (Sponsor). A classification was established to set a long term goal of 1,000 donations of \$544 each (544 Club) toward our endowment fund of \$544,000. We are well on our way to raising a very respectable endowment fund. As of March 31, 1994, we raised a total of \$164,000.

We are ready to enter our second phase, which is to establish a rapport with the alumni of Fergus Falls and Hillcrest high schools by providing them with information regarding their beginning roots and affording them the opportunity to gain insight into their home community and to aid future student graduates from Fergus Falls.

We envision an all school reunion in the next few years sponsored by the Dollars group and a yearly newsletter to alumni and donors. We will be hosting a joint choir concert with Fergus Falls and Hillcrest choirs next January. (We've had one such concert, which was well received.) The teaching staff in Fergus Falls held a Variety Show last fall for our benefit. We appreciate their continued support of our programs and hope they will repeat their delightful performance in the not-too-distant future. Support from the community has been wonderful, and we appreciate all the folks who have been supportive of our endeavors.

Since our inception we have provided 31 scholarships worth \$500 each, for a total of \$15,500 in scholarship grants. In the future we hope to become an umbrella for other individual scholarships already in existence and provide a clearinghouse for scholarships using the guidelines as set out by the Citizens Scholarship Foundation of America, Inc., of which we are a chapter member.

Our board of directors is a diligent, all-volunteer group of alumni and citizens of Fergus Falls—good people interested in the youth of our community. The common thread is to let the students know that we have a caring school, alumni and community by providing an operational structure to raise funds and distribute awards to recipients in a fair and nondiscriminatory basis. It is said the best gifts we can lavish on children are roots and wings. We are proud of our organization and feel that we are providing the services for which we were established.

Tudy Nycklemoe is a member of the FFHS Class of 1957 and president of the Fergus Falls Area Dollars for Scholars.

## WANTED

Addresses of  
FFHS alumni for  
1996

### All-School Reunion

We are working on an address file. Any class representative who has a class address list, please contact:  
Cynthia Johnson at 739-9594  
or leave a message with  
Polly Balken at 736-7576

## Dollars for Scholars donations as of May 1, 1994

Thank you to the following businesses and individuals for your support of the Fergus Falls Dollars for Scholars:

### HERITAGE CLUB

Gordon & Joan Bakken  
Larry Dorn  
Lake Region Hospital  
Otter Tail Power Co.  
Lloyd & Beverly  
(Gerhardson)  
Paulson  
Service Food Super  
Valu  
Thomas Sample Estate  
VFW

### SCHOLAR CLUB

Eugene Boe Estate  
Fergus Falls  
Newspapers  
Ottertail Coaches  
Wedum Foundation

### LEADER CLUB

Community First Bank

### SPONSOR CLUB

Andrew & Hazel  
Anderson  
Interstate Inc.  
Larry L. Ortloff &  
Associates  
Jack & Sandra Pearson  
N. Bruce Thom

### 544 CLUB

Vernon & Blanch  
Arneson  
Steve & Lois Atchison  
Richard & Mary Beck  
Richard C. & Alberta B.  
Baker  
Robert & V.J. Block  
Ralph & Eula Brynson  
Mr. & Mrs. William  
Colbeck  
Jean Dahling  
Allan & Irene Eckley  
Lawrence & Nancy  
Eisinger  
Steve Emerson  
John & Kim Erickson  
Fergus Falls Wrestling  
Club  
Roger & Charlotte  
Frerichs  
Frontier Equipment  
Glen Rogness Trucking  
Great Plains Natural  
Gas  
Jan Kilde  
Gordon & Cynthia  
Johnson  
Timothy & Lana  
Johnson

Robert & Karen Kreiser

Allen & Sandra  
Magnuson  
James & Linda Matter  
Bruce & Sheri Money  
Richard & Garnet  
Muehlhausen  
Nice Threads Custom  
Sewing  
James & Marlys  
Nitchals  
David & Cora  
Nycklemoe  
Ottertail Ventures  
P. Wayne & Connie  
Pastir  
Evangeline Quam  
Paul Richter  
Richard & Denise  
Risbrud  
Brian & Pam Schmidt  
Bill & Judy Schultz  
David & Janice Spies  
David Stock  
Ben & Peggy  
Underwood  
Loren & Rita Woolson

### DONORS

Dennis & Rebecca  
Amundson  
Sharon Amundson-  
Johnson  
Chris Anderson  
Richard & Mary Beck  
James Bezenek  
Robert Bjorklund  
Tom Blondeau  
Sharon Boldenow  
Dorothy Brewer  
Century 21 Vista, Inc.  
Class of 1933  
Class of 1993  
Patrick & Sandra  
Conroy  
Gail Cranston  
Robert & Avis Dieseth  
James & Sharon  
Donahue  
Doug's Frontier Amoco  
Dorothy Eckhoff  
Richard Edinger  
Dennis & Audrey  
Emmen  
Pauline Engebretson  
Mike Evavold  
Fergus Falls Monument  
Larry Goos  
Susan Hanneman  
Dorwin & Lorelee  
Hansen  
Laurie Hansen

Dennis Hanson  
Elas Hegman  
Bonnie Hein  
Bob & Lynn Hjelm  
Kathleen Hoiday  
Donald Houge  
Interstate Inc.  
Everett Jacobson  
Delores Johnson  
William & Peg Kalar  
Duane Kern  
Judy Kielb  
Otter Risers Kiwanis  
Royal Kline  
Kathleen Kollie  
Terry & Wendy  
Kremeier  
Jean Larvivy  
Daniel & Michelle  
Lembeck  
Mark & Tamara Masten  
Quentin McAllister  
Alan McClellan  
Mid-America Dairymen  
Minnesota Motor Co.  
Carol Nord  
M. Stephanie O'Brien  
Roger Olson  
Stacey Otteson-  
Sherstad  
Mildred Pearson  
Wallace Pearson  
Bruce Pederson  
Pamela Politiski  
Duane & Annette Poole  
Dorothy Porter  
Francis Robertson  
Charles Rogers  
Warren & Ruth Rovang  
Dale Ruehle  
Margaret Sanderson  
Carol Schemp  
Carolyn Schmidt  
Senior High PTO  
Senior High Student  
Council  
Josephine Sevada  
Betty Jo Sisk  
B.J. & Serene Skogmo  
Mark & Joan Sleeper  
Oscar & Laurel Sorlie  
Sarah Swanson  
Daniel Thimgan  
K.W. & Doris Wenino  
West Central ECSU  
Mary Western  
Jim Wilkus  
Esther Will  
Linda Wolfe  
Gerry Worner

## How it works . . . scholarship guidelines

In order to receive a scholarship the recipient must be a resident student in this community. Guidelines are as follows: at least one Fergus Falls High School student and one Hillcrest Academy student; at least one male and one female; and at least one student who will be attending the Fergus Falls Community College. Each scholarship is to be a minimum of \$500.

Recipients are selected by evaluating two areas equally. The applicant's academic performance and test scores account for half of the evaluation points. The other half are awarded based on work experience, extracurricular activities and community service. Scholarships are available for vocational, two-year and four-year colleges. There are eight members on the Awards Committee, and the selection process is guided by the Citizens Scholarship Foundation Association of America, Inc.

Applications are prepared and sent to the Fergus Falls and Hillcrest high school counselors' offices before the application deadline each year. After the deadline date, the chairman of the Awards Committee collects and prepares a master list of each application. The names are then blanked out and given a number so the applications have numbers instead of names.

There are five sections to each application. Each of the five sections is judged by one individual. After all five committee members have completed scoring their sections, their scores are put on a computer (use of computer, personnel to operate computer and office space for evaluating applications donated by Otter Tail Power) and sorted by point count. Then the chairman of the Awards Committee matches numbers to names to rank the top students — as calculated by the computer — and the scholarship recipients are picked.

Following are the five sections of the scholarship application:

1. School Transcript — this is judged by one person using a chart from the Citizens Scholarship Foundation of America.
2. Work Experience — points are given for months of working and whether it's part-time, work on a farm, hours, etc.
3. School and Community Involvement — awards, honors, officer, team captains, etc.
4. Aspirations and Goals (four points if vague, 20 points for a detailed accounting of goals/aspirations).
5. Unusual Circumstances — this is where the committee is called upon to exercise good judgment for unusual conditions.

Named scholarships are given out under the name of the donor when a business contributes \$10,000 or an individual \$5,000 toward the endowment fund of the Fergus Falls Dollars for Scholars program. These are everlasting scholarships and will be given out each year.

The named scholarships are: Service Food, Lake Region Hospital, Otter Tail Power Co., Thomas Sample, Dorn & Co., Beverly Gerhardson Paulson, Ella (Randall) Hagan, Gordon & Joan Bakken, Joe Robertson Good Citizen (given by V.F.W.) and Gene Eckhoff. Donors of named scholarship may put guidelines on their gifts. For instance, Service Food desires that its scholarship go to a Service Food employee; Lake Region Hospital goes to someone entering the medical field; and the Gene Eckhoff scholarship is for someone entering a literary/journalism field.

The scholarship check is mailed out the first quarter or semester, and the checks are made out to the recipient and the school of their choice.

## Innovative contributions

Fergus Falls Dollars for Scholars has a simple goal: Create a \$544,000 endowment fund that can be used to provide higher education scholarships to deserving local students at Fergus Falls High School and Hillcrest Lutheran Academy.

Although the goal is simple, local education supporters have responded to the need in innovative ways.

Contributions to the endowment fund have come from businesses and school alumni and friends. They've also been raised by unique community activities such as a joint concert by choirs from Fergus Falls High School and Hillcrest in the spring of 1993. Matching funds were provided by Lutheran Brotherhood.

The joint choir effort was so appreciated by the community, as well as the students, that directors Teresa

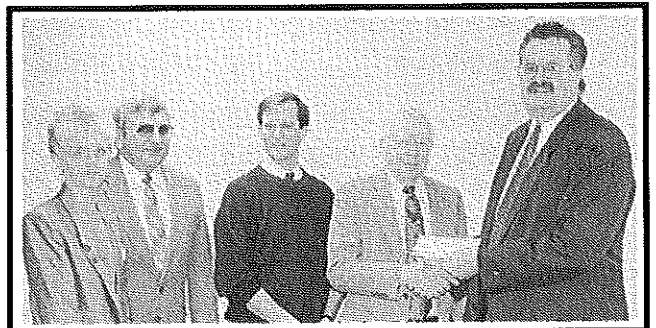
Ashworth and Dave Strom and the Dollars for Scholars committee are putting together a second concert, tentatively scheduled for early 1995.

Dollars for Scholars was also the recipient of the proceeds from the Fergus Falls Follies, a school district staff variety show held in the fall of 1993 to honor the district's 13 retiring teachers. It was a delightful evening of entertainment organized by middle school teachers Barb Gutzmer and Cris Anderson.

Businesses have also been creative in raising money for the Dollars scholarship program. Community First National Bank of Fergus Falls pledged \$1 for each new consumer loan, checking account or sav-

ings account opened in 1993. The program is continuing into 1994 as well.

Doug Koch of Doug's Amoco donated 1 cent for every gallon of mid-grade and premium gasoline purchased at his station during the first two weeks of February.



Community First National Bank President David Groshong (right) presented a \$2,910 check to Vern Arneson, a member of the Fergus Falls Dollars for Scholars fundraising committee. Also pictured are (left to right) Community First Marketing Director V.J. Block, Fergus Falls School Superintendent Bob Block and Tim Johnson, vice president of Dollars for Scholars.

# Correspondence

*Editors note: Lloyd and Bev Paulson were instrumental in creation of the Fergus Falls Chapter of Dollars for Scholars in 1992.*

When I retired as manager-partner with Scheels Hardware and Sport Shops in 1980, I had time to reminisce and accepted new challenges.

One of the challenges I pursued was to help graduates from my home town of Parkers Prairie receive advanced education. My goal there was to build an endowment fund and use the interest only to fund scholarships.

The results were unbelievable. Today in this town of 952 people, they have an endowment fund of more than \$340,000. Donors are from 51 cities and 16 states, with 40 percent coming from outside of the school district.

Annually, they award \$30,000 in scholarships.

The success of the P-547 Foundation of Dollars for Scholars in Parkers Prairie inspired me to share the program with Moorhead, where we live, and with other communities in the area.

Bev and I especially wanted to see a Dollars for Scholars chapter in Fergus Falls, where we have many friends and good memories. My wife, Beverly Gerhardson, graduated from school there in 1948. Her education there provided the knowledge for our successful life together.

Knowing the accomplishments of

almost 700 Dollars for Scholars chapters in the United States, Bev and I wanted to help provide the impetus to start a chapter in Fergus Falls, with a foundation that would provide a vehicle to receive tax-exempt funds from people in and outside the community who wish to support advanced education there.

Like any new venture, it provided a challenge to start the Fergus Falls chapter, but after many meetings and phone calls with individuals and groups, Fergus Falls grasped the challenge.

We are excited about the progress made by the dedicated Dollars for Scholars group in Fergus Falls and the great support of the program there.

The endowment fund is growing, as expected, with some major gifts and many other memberships.

Bev and I are glad to have been involved in starting the Dollars for Scholars chapter in Fergus Falls and in being able to provide a scholarship annually for a Fergus Falls graduate.

— **Lloyd & Bev Paulson, Moorhead**

Come join us! This is a call to ... all graduates of Fergus Falls High School, my own classmates in the Class of '48 and all citizens of the Fergus Falls area.

We are all able to do many things because of the outstanding Fergus Falls schools and teachers we had, such as Lillian Bechtel, and the wonderful citizens of our city who influ-

enced and encouraged all to graduate from high school and continue on in advanced education.

They wanted us to stretch and with their belief and trust to back us up, we were empowered with dreams we could achieve.

Now is the time, as graduates of FFHS and citizens of the Fergus Falls area, to use this opportunity to encourage and help FFHS students receive advanced education for generations to come.

I encourage you to support the Fergus Falls Dollars for Scholars and become a member of their foundation.

— **Beverly Gerhardson Paulson**  
*Class of '48*

*The following is an excerpt from a letter written by Brett Hendel, the recipient of a Dollars for Scholars scholarship in 1993:*

This scholarship in particular means a lot to me. Obviously it is wonderful to receive money which will reduce the burden of college, but it is more than just that. This scholarship makes me feel like the people in this community support me and the other students going off to college this fall. College is going to be a very big step for me, and I really appreciate the community support.

Thanks again for the scholarship and the support. They really make me feel proud and happy to be a part of this community.

— **Brett Hendel**

## Yes, I want to support the Fergus Falls Area Dollars for Scholars

My gift is \$\_\_\_\_\_ or I would like to make a pledge

- ☐ **544 Club** \$ 544 or \$144 now and \$100/year for 4 years
- ☐ **Sponsor** \$ 1,000 or \$200 now and \$200/year for 4 years
- ☐ **Leader** \$ 2,500 or \$500 now and \$500/year for 4 years
- ☐ **Scholar** \$ 5,000 or \$1,000 now and \$1,000/year for 4 years
- ☐ **Heritage** \$ 10,000 or more as determined by donor

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: **Fergus Falls Area Dollars for Scholars**  
Mail to: 4 B East Drive, Fergus Falls, MN 56537

## Prior year recipients

### 1993 ...

Darin Bartsch, Annette Boe, Michelle Marie Danielson, Jennifer Ellis, Elysia K. Frank, Robyn Graham, Brett Hendel, Matt Lange, Angela Schmidt, Jessie Soronen and Kristin Noelle Strand.

### 1992 ...

Matthew McDonald, Jera Nelson, Jackie Thoma, Brad Tollerson and Gretchen Weishaupt.