



Foundation awards more than \$33,000 in “GIFT TO EDUCATION” funds to students, teachers & programs

“Gift to Education” projects enrich and enhance the education of Spencer schools’ students and programs. These gifts allowed the Foundation to extend the expiring IJ. and Ruby Dvergsten contribution that was awarded several years ago for this purpose. The Foundation was proud to fund the following requests by teachers and principals in 2018-19:

- Several speakers for elementary, middle, and high school students
- NASA Space Design Competition for high school students
- Summer enrichment classes for elementary students
- Summer academic camp experiences for middle school and high school students
- Outdoor Day experience for all 2nd grade students
- Fitness Drumming physical education equipment for middle school students
- Flexible seating stools for elementary and high school students
- Business and career conferences for high school students
- Sensory Room equipment for elementary and high school students
- Constructive activities for recess for 1st and 2nd grade students
- Learning technology for elementary students



“The foundation of every state is the education of youth” - Diogenes

Dave Woodcock & Dick Montgomery Retire after over 30 Years of Commitment to the Foundation



This year marks the retirement of original board members, Dave Woodcock and Dick Montgomery, who believed strongly that the strength of the Spencer community depended on the education of its youth. Both Dick and Dave were instrumental in the establishment of the Spencer Community School Foundation and over the years, their leadership and commitment to the students of Spencer Community Schools has guided the Foundation capably into the strong organization that it is today. The Foundation is deeply grateful for their service and is sad to see them retire. In honor of Dave and Dick, the Foundation has established the Dick Montgomery and Dave Woodcock Founders Scholarship to be given to a senior each year. Those wishing to contribute to this scholarship may contact the Foundation for more information. Thank you so much, Dick and Dave, for your 30+ years of dedication.

2018-2019 FOUNDATION AWARDS

Over \$68,000 to 72 SHS seniors

The Spencer Community School Foundation presented over \$68,000 in scholarships to 72 deserving seniors on Sunday, March 24, 2019, at the Clay County Regional Events Center. A total exceeding \$1,028,000 has been awarded to 1,165 students since 2000. This is all possible due to several generous benefactors as well as annual contributions from those choosing to make a difference for students, the school and our community as a whole. Spencer High School 2010 alum, Colton Lindemann, currently an engineer with Burns & McDonnell, an engineering consulting firm in Kansas City, spoke to the students about his career path and encouraged them to see their scholarships as investments by donors in their future careers and offered the students key perspectives.

Four new scholarships were established this year: **The Don Heiter Memorial Scholarship**, the **Sharyl Potratz Teaching Scholarship**, the **Rod Potratz Scholarship**, and the **Tim & Susan Christensen Scholarship**.

The **Don Heiter Memorial Scholarship** has been established by the Heiter Truck Line and their customers involved in the trucking

industry. Don's many years in the trucking industry and involvement in our community has influenced the establishment of this scholarship in his memory. Don's wishes would be to provide opportunities for those pursuing a trade and then impact our community. Eligible candidates must be interested in a trade school or two-year post-secondary education in transportation, diesel mechanics, plumbing, electrical, agriculture, or other related programs.



Don Heiter Memorial Scholarship

The **Sharyl Potratz Teaching Scholarship** was established by her husband (Dave) and family in honor and recognition of Sharyl's passion for teaching. She was a dedicated Spencer Community School 3rd

grade teacher for 32 years and a role model for students. Students seeking a degree in elementary education and attending the University of Northern Iowa are encouraged to apply.



Sharyl Potratz Teaching Scholarship

The **Rod Potratz Scholarship** was designed by Rod Potratz, a 1988 Spencer High School graduate. Rod's wish is to give back to what he felt was a great foundation for his education and experiences at Spencer schools and then at Iowa State University. His desire is to award an opportunity to a student participating in high school baseball, basketball, or track (minimum of senior year) and planning to attend Iowa State.



“This scholarship is a great honor and I know that it is on me to earn a quality college education.” 2018 senior



Rod Potratz Scholarship

The **Tim & Susan Christensen Scholarship** was established out of the Christensens' desire to assist a student in becoming outstanding within the field of agriculture. The Christensens are active in the agriculture industry by profession and passion. Applicants must

be pursuing advanced education in a field of agriculture at a trade school, two-year or four-year institution.



Tim & Susan Christensen Scholarship

Many of our scholarships are the result of benefactors who have endowed a scholarship,

provided an annual gift, or added funds to an existing scholarship. Scholarships may be named in honor/memory of loved ones, a business or organization, or an individual. Annual named scholarships may be established with a \$500 gift per year for a minimum of three years, and an endowed scholarship may be established with a gift of \$10,000 or more, supporting students or programs in perpetuity.

Because of your generous donations, more SHS students will be able to pursue post-secondary education due to the many scholarships awarded this year. We hope the smiles on the students' faces in the pictures will show you the joy your gifts provided.

The following scholarships were presented to seniors on March 24.

- Don Heiter Memorial Scholarship
- Sharyl Potratz Teaching Scholarship
- Rod Potratz Scholarship
- Tim & Susan Christensen Scholarship
- Williams & Company, P.C. Scholarship
- Spencer Police Association Scholarship
- Spencer Fine Arts Scholarships
- Johnson Engineering Scholarship
- Katie Grave Anderson Memorial Scholarship
- Adam Liddle Memorial Scholarship
- Dale E. Norton Memorial Scholarships
- Spencer Tailtwisters Scholarships
- Michael Fischer Memorial Scholarship
- Lachner Family Memorial Scholarship
- Kyle Lachner Memorial Scholarship
- Thomas A. Conley Memorial Scholarship
- Susan Harman Nursing Scholarships
- Anna H Schmid Memorial Scholarships
- Terry and Tessa Hemann Future Educator Scholarships
- Charles T. & Ruth Ann Whittenburg Family Scholarships
- The Adolph & Esther Vestergaard Memorial Scholarships
- Kenneth and Yvonne Randall Memorial Scholarships
- Alisa Schwarz White Memorial Scholarship
- David Wagner Memorial Scholarship
- Agnes Goeke Memorial Scholarships
- Ellis Family Scholarship
- Michael E. Tangney Memorial Scholarship
- Thayer Family Scholarship
- Milton O. Warner Memorial Scholarship
- Dvergsten Memorial Scholarships
- Gilbert & Lillian Pullen Scholarship
- Frank & Nelda Thomas Scholarship
- Hazel Barringer Hoepfner Scholarships
- Sharon Howe Hitchcock Memorial Scholarship

To establish a scholarship in honor of or in memory of someone, please contact us at foundation@spencerschools.org or 712-262-8950.



“Donors like you in a small community like ours are truly making a difference for young people like me.” 2018 senior

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Thank you to our many donors as well as those who chose to give anonymously.

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TIGER PA'S RAISE OVER \$12,000 FOR SUMMER EXPLORATIONS LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL GRADES

On February 1, 2019, the famous Tiger Pa's Entertainment Group (Jr. & Sr. dads/guardians) performed a routine to benefit students. This year these talented professionals performed the Tiger Pa Juicy Wiggle to the delight of the crowd during the halftimes of boys' and girls' basketball games.

The Tiger Pa's conducted the annual ritual of canvassing the crowd to solicit funds and provide autographs to spectators. This year, the Spencer Community School Foundation generated over \$12,000 from the crowd and sponsorships. The funds will go to the Spencer Community School Foundation and will be used for classroom enrichment and enhancement experiences for all grades.

Thank you to **Farmers' Trust & Savings Bank, State Bank, Community State Bank, Northwest Bank, Arnold Motor Supply, Denison Drywall Contracting & Supply, Boyd, Shriver & Sailor Dental Associates, Dyno Convenience Stores, Graham Tire Company, NWIA Bone, Joint, & Sports Surgeons, Advanced Network Professionals, and Steve & Jen Pick** for meeting the Farmers' Trust and Savings Bank sponsor challenge.

Others that provided donations include Jeff & Brenda Doran, NW IA Anesthesia Association, H & N Chevrolet Buick, The Prime Rib, Jeff & Mindy Heiter, Community Insurance, Chris & Sheri Baker, IGL Teleconnect, Drs. Geyer & Binzer, Kabrick Auto LLC, Mr. B's Flooring, Johnston Auto Stores, Consumer Lumber in Spencer, Izard Construction, Legacy Financial – Rich Noah, Animal Medical Centers, Emagine LLC, Don Pierson Ford, Nate Schmidt-Integrity Real Estate, Spencer Office Supply, Kerry Self – Hemphill Law Office, PLC

Foundation Receives Memorial Gifts

This year the Foundation received several memorial gifts remembering individuals who had connections to Spencer Community Schools and the community. Monies were received in memory of **Dick Schallau, Don Heiter, Richard Marousek, Mark Mann, Janelle Mummert, Lance Cooper, Adam Liddle, Alisa Schwarz White & the Ellis Family**. The Foundation appreciates the gifts and has chosen projects that will honor the individuals' memories.

What the Foundation is

The Spencer Community School Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization funded by donations, bequests, and annual giving programs. (No operating funds are received from the state of Iowa or the Spencer Community Schools' budget.)

The goal of the Foundation is to enhance and enrich educational opportunities for students and teachers, partner with businesses to meet educational and vocational needs, and expand horizons that will impact the entire community. Annual contributions and partnerships from and between school employees, businesses, citizens, alumni, and friends impact our school and community. Scholarships are a direct result of the heart-felt gifts presented to the Foundation as well.

enhancing and enriching education

Spencer Community School Foundation



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