



Serving the residents of  
Custer County since  
1991

Anselmo ♦ Ansley  
Arnold ♦ Berwyn  
Broken Bow ♦ Callaway  
Comstock ♦ Mason City  
Merna ♦ Oconto  
Sargent ♦ Westerville

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Grant application deadline is  
**April 30**. For grant  
guidelines and to download  
the application, go to  
[custercountyfoundation.org](http://custercountyfoundation.org).

Participate in **Spring Into Giving**  
on Wednesday May 1st! Shop at  
local participating businesses and  
they will donate a percentage of  
their proceeds to the Custer  
County Foundation grants fund for  
distribution to Custer County  
nonprofit organizations!  
See page 2 for details.

#### Inside this Issue:

Spring Into Giving:	2
Scholarship Photos:	2
Grant Deadline:	3
Sustaining Members:	3



#### Office Hours:

Monday through Friday  
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Email: [CusterFoundation@msn.com](mailto:CusterFoundation@msn.com)  
Phone: 308-872-2232  
Online: [custercountyfoundation.org](http://custercountyfoundation.org)

Spring 2019



### Custer County Foundation Awards \$88,850 in scholarships!

The Custer County Foundation held their annual Scholarship Award Ceremony on Sunday, March 17, at the Sargent High School Gymnasium in Sargent, NE.

Alicia Hermsmeyer, Board Member and Treasurer of the Custer County Foundation, conducted the welcome to the estimated 250 people in attendance. Alicia also introduced our guest speaker, Rebecca Connealy, who grew up in Sargent and graduated from Sargent High School. Rebecca attended Wayne State College where she competed on the Women's Track and Field Team and completed her Bachelor's degree in Chemistry Health Sciences. After Wayne State College, she attended the University of Nebraska Medical Center, in Lincoln, where she obtained her Bachelor's degree in Nursing. Rebecca currently lives in Whitman, Nebraska with her husband, Gabriel, and 10 month old son, Finnegan. Rebecca works as an RN at Box Butte General Hospital, and helps with various duties on her husband's family ranch.

Rebecca offered a wealth of information and useful advice for those in attendance. She advised students to never say never, never is so definitive. Life begins outside of your comfort zone. Life is way less enjoyable playing things safe, if you are not uncomfortable you are not trying. She went on to say the most boring piece of advice she could offer is, "don't be lazy," and encouraged students to get up and try. Rebecca stated that when you challenge yourself and start operating at your full potential you will find it to be addicting. She encouraged students to make each day successful.

This scholarship ceremony continues to be successful because of our special guests, the donors who travel from places like Kansas City and Lincoln, as well as many from Custer County. Not only are they in attendance to present their scholarships, but to share great stories about their families and offer words of advice and encouragement. Their presence also gives them an opportunity to meet the students whose lives they are directly impacting. Another unique aspect of the ceremony is the element of surprise for the students receiving the scholarships. Until their name is called, they are neither aware of the scholarship they are receiving nor the amount. This anticipation makes the event even more enjoyable.

Executive Director Lindsay Divan announced 74 scholarships would be awarded to 69 students for a total amount of \$88,850! Scholarships offered through the Foundation are for various fields of study including, nursing, veterinary medicine, journalism, lineman, and cosmetology, to name a few. Scholarships are available for four-year and two-year degrees. She went on to explain the selection process and thanked the scholarship committee for their hard work and dedication in selecting the recipients. Nearly 950 applications were received and selecting the recipients was not an easy task. After all the awards were presented, the guidance counselors were thanked for all the assistance they offer the students with the application process. The ceremony closed by inviting attendees to enjoy refreshments and cookies, while thanking those in attendance and wishing the graduates best of luck as they begin new chapters in their lives.

## Spring Into Giving

The Custer County Foundation is excited to announce the second year of the Retail Day of Giving! This unique, one-day fundraiser was created to support both nonprofits and businesses in Custer County. We invite you to **Spring Into Giving on Wednesday, May 1**. Local businesses throughout Custer County are donating a portion of their sales on this day to the Custer County Foundation which will be redirected back into Custer County through grants to local nonprofit organizations! We encourage patrons to shop locally to support our local businesses and in turn support our local nonprofits. Look for the bright green sign (pictured right) in the windows of participating businesses. We are also excited to announce a **\$5,000 matching gift from Becton Dickinson!** THANK YOU, Becton Dickinson!! This matching gift will not only double your donation, but double the impact! Be a part of the giving by shopping at local Custer County businesses on Wednesday, May 1. For a listing of participating businesses visit [custercountyfoundation.org](http://custercountyfoundation.org) or Custer County Foundation on Facebook. You may also contact the Foundation office at 308-872-2232 or [custerfoundation@msn.com](mailto:custerfoundation@msn.com).

**We are Participating!**



Custer County Foundation  
**SHOP MAY 1**  
CIRCLE TOGETHER & make a difference!

Shop here on **Wednesday May 1st**, and we will donate a percentage of our proceeds to the Custer County Foundation grants fund for distribution to Custer County Nonprofit organizations!

*Serving the communities of Anselmo, Ansley, Arnold, Berwyn, Broken Bow, Callaway, Comstock, Mason City, Merna, Oconto, Sargent, and Westerville.*



## Scholarship Ceremony Photos



Scholarship recipients are pictured above, more photos are available online at [custercounty.shutterstock.com](http://custercounty.shutterstock.com).

Have you ever thought of establishing a scholarship fund? The Custer County Foundation can be a valuable resource for you and your family when you establish an effective and meaningful scholarship fund. Many donors create a scholarship in honor or memory of a loved one. Establishing a scholarship is an easy process! The Custer County Foundation will work through the process with you to ensure the scholarship reflects aspects that are important to you and your family. Contact the Foundation office at 308-872-2232 or [custerfoundation@msn.com](mailto:custerfoundation@msn.com) to learn more.

## Spring Grant Deadline April 30th!

The goal of the Custer County Foundation is to improve the quality of life in the Custer County area by supporting the needs of the people of each respective community. One way the Foundation strives to achieve this goal is through their grant program. Any nonprofit group that falls under the guidelines of the Foundation's grant policy can apply for a grant from the Custer County Foundation. Funds are usually granted in the areas



Prairie Pioneer Center received a grant for \$2,500.



CAPABLE HEROs received a grant for \$750.

of civic, culture, health, education, environment, and social services. To review the criteria and download an application, please visit the Foundation's website at [custercountyfoundation.org](http://custercountyfoundation.org), select Grants, and then select Guidelines from the drop-down menu. The current grant deadline is fast approaching; please submit grant applications prior to the April 30th deadline. The Foundation has been busy distributing funds to grant recipients. Two grant recipients are pictured here.

## Sustaining Members

We are well on our way in reaching our 2019 goal of **\$25,000!** Thank you for any support you have given! Please help us meet our goal by becoming a member today. Both businesses and individuals are encouraged to take this important step which is vital to the future of your community and Custer County.

A gift to the Foundation ensures we can continue our mission of charitable giving to benefit the residents throughout Custer County. As a way to recognize your generous support, we will publish your name in our 2020 Winter Newsletter. Your name will also appear in our 15th Annual Gala & Auction program.

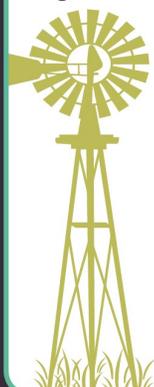
The success of the Foundation is a direct reflection of our generous supporters. Donations from our valuable members allow us to perform daily activities which, in turn, create opportunities for a greater impact.

The Foundation thrives today because of past and present Custer County residents who have a strong desire to give back to communities where they have lived, prospered, worked and played. Please consider becoming a Sustaining Member today. Thank you!

**When we circle together,  
we CAN make a difference!**



**Yes!** I want to support the efforts of the Custer County Foundation!



### Individual • Family • Business MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

- |                                      |                    |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000+    | <b>DIAMOND</b>     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$500-\$999 | <b>PLATINUM</b>    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$250-\$499 | <b>GOLD</b>        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100-\$249 | <b>SILVER</b>      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50-\$99   | <b>BRONZE</b>      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____    | Other Contribution |

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
*(As you would like it to appear in CCF Publications.)*

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

I request to remain anonymous in any publications.

**Please make checks payable to  
Custer County Foundation & return to:  
PO Box 304 • Broken Bow, NE 68822**

*Thank You!*

The Custer County Foundation, Inc. is a public charity and your gift, in most cases, will qualify for a federal income tax deduction. As required by law, it is important to acknowledge that you did not receive any goods or services in exchange for this contribution.



**P.O. Box 304  
Broken Bow, NE 68822**

PRST STD  
US POSTAGE PAID  
BROKEN BOW NE  
PERMIT NO 30

Change service requested

**Living Up to Our Motto:  
"Preserving Our Heritage...  
Planning Our Future."**

**Custer County Foundation, Inc.**

**Officers:**

President: Chris Smith, Broken Bow;  
308-872-6467

Vice-President: Jami Anderson, Broken Bow;  
308-870-0735

Secretary: Deb Girardin, Broken Bow;  
308-870-4242

Treasurer: Alicia Hermsmeyer, Ansley;  
402-631-7577

**Board of Directors:**

Brett Eggleston, Oconto; 308-325-1154

Karen Evans, Berwyn; 308-870-0435

Julianna Jenkins, Callaway; 308-836-2440

Julie Johnson, Broken Bow; 308-870-1117

Todd Lundstrom, Broken Bow; 308-767-2405

Guy Mills, Jr, Ansley; 308-732-3419

Jami Myers, Broken Bow; 308-872-5469

Neal Neth, Broken Bow; 308-870-3039

Craig Safranek, Merna; 308-643-2666

Andrew Tickle, Arnold; 308-529-1919

**Executive Director:**

Lindsay Divan, Broken Bow; 308-627-2198

**Office Assistant:**

Lisa Bell, Broken Bow; 308-872-6177

**Flood Relief Fund:**

**The Foundation is seeking donations for the Flood Relief Fund established to assist individuals who experienced loss due to the devastating floods that hit Custer County. 100% of donations received will be granted out to help CUSTER COUNTY residents. Mail your donation to the Foundation at PO Box 304, Broken Bow NE 68822. Please note "Flood Relief" in the memo line. Questions? Call us at 308.872.2232. DONATE TODAY! And, thank you for helping our Custer County Residents!**

**Do you or someone you know need help recovering from the flood? The Foundation is partnering with Central Nebraska Community Action Partnership (CNCAP) to provide monetary assistance to Custer County residents who experienced personal and agriculture loss due to flooding. Custer County residents seeking assistance will need to fill out an application and schedule an appointment with CNCAP. Questions? Give us a call at 308-872-2232.**

**To donate online or to access the application go to the below website.**

<https://www.custercountyfoundation.org/2019-flood-relief>