Giving Day: Celebrate Peru State College
See story on page 15
Following the historic floods of the Missouri River this spring that compromised the City of Peru’s water supply, I can only express my admiration and thanks to the many people involved in living, learning and working at Peru State College and in our community. While these floods have been a trial and a tragedy, they have proven that the College is rich in friends and home to determined and capable students, faculty and staff.

I also want to say thank you to our faculty and staff for their efforts during this time. They, too, volunteered in our community by filling sandbags and aiding flood victims. Faculty and staff opened their homes to students and, when we returned to campus, worked closely with anyone affected by the flood to help them continue their education. Resources were found, deadlines were extended and compassion was the rule. Our long tradition of a personal and engaging education was lived each day by our faculty and staff.

Peru State’s amazing network of alumni and friends deserves special recognition, too. I cannot count how many calls Elaine or I received asking about our students, faculty and staff. Every call was an offer of help – I know many similar offers were made to other members of the College’s faculty and staff. Thank you for the cases of bottled water. Thank you for the resources you brought to the community of Peru – by the pallet, by the truck load, and even through Amazon.com. Thank you for every time you asked what else the College or the town needed.

Your outpouring of support was heart-warming. We hope that all of you can join us at a home football game on September 14. We want to recognize your contributions to Peru State and our community.

Finally, I want to express my appreciation for the work of the City of Peru, its City Council, Mayor Darrin Reeves, Nemaha County Emergency Management and Auburn Public Works for their ongoing efforts to return the College and community to business as usual. From assisting in reopening the College during that first week in March to providing clean water, these groups have continually worked to support the College and its students. Thank you.

Working with an engineering firm, it has taken months of continual efforts, but the City of Peru will rescind the boil order before school begins. It seems like a small thing, but we should not underestimate how important it is that our students and visitors be able to eat off of real plates, drink out of the water fountains and otherwise enjoy fresh, clean water. The City is already at work developing a better long-term solution for water in Peru. Thank you to everyone involved – we are looking forward to a great school year!

All the Best,

Dan Hanson, Ph.D.
President
May 3, 2019, Peru State celebrated the grand opening of the renovated Performing Arts Center. More than 200 people contributed over $865,000 to make this renovation possible. Several people made significant gifts, and it is a pleasure to highlight those donors by naming different areas of the Performing Arts Center in their honor. The article on page six describes the specially named elements in the new facility.

There are also 75 names listed on two panels in the lobby, acknowledging people who contributed gifts of $2,500 and more to the project.

In addition to these, there are more than 70 names and other messages engraved on paving stones in the new Sesquicentennial Plaza located at the entrance to the Performing Arts Center.

Alumnus Mark Shively ('79) took the opportunity to have an engraved paving stone in the Sesquicentennial Plaza. His message reflects a theme I hear so often from alumni and friends of Peru State College: “Because of You, I am Changed.”

So, what’s in a name?

For the donors with whom I have had a chance to speak, I know that above all, the names featured on plaques and signs across campus reflect gratitude.

Gratitude for the education that set them on a path for life.

Gratitude for the campus that served as a home-away-from-home.

Gratitude for the people who have shared the journey through college and through life, including friends, colleagues, family, faculty, staff.

Gratitude for the ability to give.

Gratitude for the person who made a difference.

For the College, the ability to list names in many different ways is a reflection of our gratitude as an institution for the caring and generous support that makes these projects possible, and for the people who choose to give back to their alma mater.

The Performing Arts Center and Sesquicentennial Plaza will serve the campus and the community as a beautiful and functional facility ready to meet the needs of today’s performers and audiences.

Engraved paving stones continue to be available in Sesquicentennial Plaza. Please see the information included on page 8 for more information on the Sesquicentennial Plaza paving stone program.

The Performing Arts Center stands as a tribute to the many people who made this wonderful project possible. Gifts that support education are truly gifts that keep giving, generation after generation.

For all who contribute to the Peru State College Foundation, please accept my gratitude for your financial support.

Becca Jewell, Interim CEO

A Transition in Leadership

Todd Simpson has led the Peru State College Foundation since 2010. Under his leadership, Todd has helped secure the support of generous alumni and friends to renovate the Oak Bowl, complete the Park Avenue Campus Entrance Project, celebrate 150 years of Peru State College through Sesquicentennial commemorations and the All College Reunion, and renovate the Performing Arts Center.

Less visible but no less important, under Todd’s leadership, nearly 30 people have joined the 1867 Society, planning to support the College through a future planned gift. In 2015, Todd and his wife Michelle both completed their master’s degrees at Peru State.

Todd is leaving Peru State to join Missouri Western State University, but he is leaving the Foundation on a firm footing with engaged alumni and a grateful Bobcat family.

Following Todd’s departure, Rebecca Jewell will be acting as interim CEO while the Board of Directors conducts a search for Todd’s successor. She has more than 20 years of experience in the nonprofit sector and has been with the Peru State College Foundation for six years. She looks forward to continuing the Foundation’s positive momentum in sustaining and advancing Peru State College for future generations of students.
Alumni and friends gathered in Surprise, AZ for a spring training game. A few of the participants are pictured. Front Row, L to R: Ashley Tuma, Barbara Miller, Linda Peterson, Betty Russo. Back Row, L to R: Kelly Asmussen, Justin Tuma, Butch Miller, George Peterson, Lloyd Russo, Becca Jewell, Todd Simpson. Photo taken by Kelly Asmussen.

Peru State students attended the Southwestern Association of Parasitologists at the University of Oklahoma Biological Station. From L to R: Cameron Schlender, Tyra Moehlhofer, Sydney Armbruster, Noah Kasbohm and Callie Davidson. Not pictured from Peru State are Dr. Rich Clopton, Dr. Gul Ahman and Deb Clopton.

Peru State baseball alumni gathered on the third base line and were recognized for their contributions to athletics. Front Row, L to R: Darrick Ramaekers (’12), Mark McGinnity (’17), Gianfranco Garlola (’19), Mark Crapla (’87), Steve Gage (’72). Back Row, L to R: Wayne Albury, Baseball Head Coach, J.L. Thomasen (’12, ’14), Chris Raabe (’97), Kadyn Glass (’16), Bryan Ventura Castro (’20), Tom Patton (’70), John Warren (’71) and President Dan Hanson.

Recent alumni who graduated between 2009 and 2019 gathered together in June for a tailgate and game at the Storm Chasers in Papillion.

Proud to be a Bobcat! Three of the current executive leadership team for the Southwestern Association of Parasitologists are Peru State graduates who hold Ph.D’s and serve as faculty members at universities throughout the region. From L to R: Autumn (Smith) Herron (’02), Heather (Robinson) Stiege (’08), Kirsten Hermann, Joanna (Hays) Cielocha (’06).
More than 1,000 family members and friends gathered to cheer on their Peru State graduate at Commencement on May 4, 2019.

More than 400 students received their diplomas from Peru State College this past May.

Max (‘09, ‘11) and Caitlin (‘13) Kathol brought their four children to the annual Chili Feed and helped cheer on the Bobcats to a win.

More than 500 educators from throughout Southeast Nebraska gathered on Peru State’s campus. More than 85 breakout sessions were held covering a variety of classroom topics.

The National Alumni Association Chili Feed gathered more than 400 alumni and friends for delicious food and fellowship. It also welcomed NSCS Chancellor Paul Turman and his wife Shelly to campus. L to R: Dr. Dan Hanson, Elaine Hanson, Shelly Turman, Dr. Paul Turman.

Current Peru State undergraduate and graduate students presented research findings during the first Research and Creativity Day on campus.

This past May, Clint Zost (‘09), a Nebraska State Trooper, captured a dramatic photo of a tornado crossing Hwy 75 south of Dawson. The photo quickly went viral and took first place in the American Association of State Troopers online photo contest.

Due to the generosity of Dr. Daryl and Peggy Long, the second annual etiquette dinner and financial workshop was held for current students to help them prepare for the professional world.
Peru State College held the Grand Opening for its newly renovated Performing Arts Center this past May. “We welcomed Peru State College alumni, friends and supporters to campus to celebrate the grand opening of the newly renovated Performing Arts Center,” said Dan Hanson, President of Peru State College.

The Grand Opening of the Performing Arts Center saw the cutting of the ribbon, a performance from members of the Peru State Theatre Company, and the debut of the Phi Alpha Theta Oral History Documentary, “The Little School That Could.”

The Performing Arts Center was originally built in 1922 and the theatre retains the sweeping curves of the time period. The new addition includes a new main and second floor lobby, costume and props workshops, dressing rooms, a green room, new bathrooms and an extended stage.

“This newly renovated space improves the educational experience for musical performances and theatrical productions, expands its use as a community and regional event center, and supports the continued growth of music and theatre programs,” said Hanson.

The renovations were made possible through funding by the Nebraska State Legislature and gifts from many alumni and friends of the College. At the Grand Opening, Peru State College and the Peru State College Foundation were able to recognize the contributions of these private donors. “This project would not have been possible without the hard work and support of so many,” said Hanson. “Particularly the gifts of many generous alumni and friends, the Nebraska State Legislature, including former District 1 Senator Dan Watermeier, the Nebraska State College System and Peru State personnel.”

Todd Simpson, chief executive officer of the Peru State College Foundation, noted “Important projects like the renovation of the Performing Arts Center would not be possible without the dedication of Peru State’s loyal donors. They were the real stars of the Grand Opening!”

More than 200 donors made gifts to Peru State College for the Performing Arts Center renovation.

Green Family Auditorium
The Green Family Auditorium recognizes the support of the extended Green Family, the descendants of John and Ella Green. The idea for naming the auditorium and honoring the Green family’s commitment to education originated with Larry and Sue Green. Larry, a graduate of Brock High School and Peru State College (class of 1971), and a retired executive from Ball Corporation, served as the chair of the Peru State College Foundation Board of Directors until his passing in January 2019.

Garth and Gloria Adams Campus Beautification
In celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary, Garth and Gloria (Bean) Adams made a generous gift to support campus beautification and a landscape screening project. As local residents, the Adams have a special interest in maintaining the beauty of campus. Their support allowed for additional campus beautification work to be completed, including a landscape screening project that extends the visually appealing design from Park Avenue along 5th Street.

Betty Teten Green Room
In 2018, the Teten family made a generous gift in memory of Betty Jewel (Whipple) Teten to commemorate her love of education. The Performing Arts Center is an integral part of the School of Education’s outreach into the community. Betty Teten passed away in 2017. To honor her career as an educator, Betty’s husband Eldon Teten (class of 1951) and their children made a gift to the College to name the new green room in her memory.

Hawks Family Lobby
The second floor lobby is named for Butch and Dobey Hawks, natives of Falls City, who became educators in the Lincoln area. Butch’s knack for ingenuity, honed in industrial arts classes at Peru State (class of 1969), led him to a career in custom manufacturing. A plaque located in the second floor lobby highlights their special contribution to the Performing Arts Center, “The Hawks Family Lobby recognizes the support of C.W. “Butch” and Dobey (Falter) Hawks, their gratitude for education, and their appreciation of the arts in southeast Nebraska.”

Cindy Piano
Cindy (class of 1982) and Tim (class of 1984) met while they were both students at Peru State College. They own and operate a family business, Rixstine Recognition, in Lincoln. Their son, Justin Hoffman, is currently enrolled at Peru State as a music major with a focus on piano performance. Their support for the Performing Arts Center is celebrated with a plaque inside the new grand piano which was purchased as part of the renovation project.

Mainstreet Bank Lighting Booth
Mainstreet Bank is Peru’s hometown bank. Owned by the Douglas family, Mainstreet Bank has been a generous friend to Peru State College. Joyce and her son, Justin, have served on committees to create and implement the College’s six-year strategic plan. The gift from Mainstreet Bank to support the Performing Arts Center renovation is the latest example of their generous investments that are helping to advance education and the mission of Peru State College.
Field House Phase II Renovations Underway

Renovations continue on the Field House as the project enters phase II, which focuses on the exterior of the former Peru elementary school.

“The Football Field House is an important project as we continue to improve our athletic programs, which includes providing quality facilities for our student athletes,” said Wayne Albury, Peru State Athletic Director.

Exterior renovations include a new roof, removing and replacing damaged bricks, paving the parking lot and bus loading area.

Exterior renovations were completed prior to the fall football season. Fundraising continues for phase III construction.

Cat in the Hat Statue Dedication

A new statue was unveiled on campus earlier this year – the Cat in the Hat!

“This statue celebrates Peru State College’s annual programming honoring Dr. Seuss, dedicated Peru State faculty and students who provide the programming and the generations of children he has inspired,” said Dan Hanson, Peru State President. “Daryl and Peggy Long donated the statue to celebrate the tradition of excellence in education at Peru State.”

The statue is located in the Sesquicentennial Plaza south of the Performing Arts Center and welcomes guests of all ages to campus.

The statue was unveiled during the annual Peru Student Education Association celebration of Dr. Seuss’s birthday. Children from southeast Nebraska were invited to see four theatrical presentations of Dr. Seuss in the newly remodeled Performing Arts Center.
2019 Distinguished Service Award Recipient: Larry Green (’71)

Larry Green was honored during spring Commencement with the 2019 Distinguished Service Award for his commitment to Peru State College and for achieving distinction in his profession.

“The Distinguished Service Award was established by the Nebraska State College System (NSCS) Board of Trustees,” said Dan Hanson, President of Peru State College. “It authorizes each college to nominate a graduate or someone who has made significant contributions to the College or to an alumnus who has achieved distinction and recognition in his or her field. I was proud to nominate Larry and am glad the NSCS Board approved him.”

Hanson continued, “I was privileged to notify Larry last fall that he was receiving this award, but, sadly, he passed away in January.”

Hanson recognized members of Green’s family in attendance and presented Green’s Distinguished Service Award to Green’s sister and Peru State College faculty member, Dr. Judith (Green) Grotrian (’72).

Grotrian stated, “This College meant so much to Larry. He appreciated earning his business degree here and being a men’s basketball player during his time at Peru State.”

She continued to say, “He valued education and wanted any student to have the opportunity to go to college. That is why he asked our parents, Jim and Mavis Green; several years ago if they would like to give a donation to the Peru State Foundation and have a scholarship in their name, the James G. and Mavis Green Scholarship.”

Grotrian concluded, “Each life is a book — not to be read — but rather a story to be written.’ Thank you, Larry, for sharing your story.”

CORRECTION FROM WINTER 2019 VOL. 64, NO. 1
In the previous issue of the Peru Stater, the James and Mavis Green Scholarship was referred to as the Green Scholarship. The editorial board apologizes for any confusion.

Many Peru State alumni and friends have chosen to leave their mark on Peru State College’s campus through the Sesquicentennial Plaza engraved paving stones.

“This was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate what Peru State College has meant to our family,” said Danny Hayes (’02). “Many members of our family have attended classes, games and events at Peru State. The College is an important part of our lives and now we will be a permanent part of campus.”

Two sizes of paving stones were engraved this past spring in the Sesquicentennial Plaza directly south of the newly renovated Performing Arts Center.

“Donations to the Sesquicentennial Plaza Program and engraving a paving stone go to support Peru State College students,” said Todd Simpson, CEO, Peru State Foundation. “Investing in Peru State College through this fund allows you to truly make a difference and offer students opportunities they may not otherwise afford.”

Learn more about the paving stone and donation options below:

Paving Stone Information:
12”x12” - $1,000
5 lines with 15 characters/spaces/punctuation at 1” font
6”x12” - $500
3 lines with 15 characters/spaces/punctuation at 1” font

Donation Options:
1. Pay the full amount outright by check or debit/credit card.
2. Two-year pledge (pay 50% of donation each year).
   a. $500 in year 1 and $500 in year 2 for 12”x12” paving stones
   b. $250 in year 1 and $250 in year 2 for 6”x12” paving stones
3. Monthly giving over 24 months (amount determined based on donation – for example a 6”x12” would be $20.83 per month).

Paving stones will be engraved once full payment has been received by the Peru State Foundation.

Learn more at www.peru.edu/foundation/pavingstone.
Inaugural Presentation of the Thousand Oaks Alumni Excellence Awards

Four outstanding individuals were honored this past April with the inaugural presentation of the Thousand Oaks Alumni Excellence Awards. These awards were established in 2018 to recognize outstanding alumni from each school and program. The final selection is made by the President of Peru State College. Recipients have made their mark on their industry, their communities and at Peru State College.

“I am incredibly proud of our alumni,” said President Dan Hanson. “The four individuals who received the inaugural Thousand Oaks awards this year have demonstrated excellence in their fields and I am pleased to begin this new awards tradition by recognizing their talents.”

Recipients were honored on campus during a luncheon with students and an afternoon awards recognition ceremony. The recipients also spoke to students in the classroom – sharing their wisdom and experience. To learn more about the Thousand Oaks Alumni Excellence Awards and to read the full biographies of the recipients, visit www.peru.edu/foundation/awards.

2018 Thousand Oaks Alumni Excellence Award Recipients:

School of Arts and Sciences Recipient: Paul Fell (‘67)

Fell began his career as a high school art teacher and coach, spent several years as an art professor at Peru State College, and was editorial cartoonist for the Lincoln Journal from 1984-92. Fell started drawing editorial cartoons as a freelancer while teaching in Auburn, NE. At one point before joining the former Lincoln Journal as editorial cartoonist, he was creating five cartoons a week for four different newspapers. During his years with the Journal, he self-syndicated his editorial cartoons to newspapers in the state of Nebraska, almost exclusively. Since then he has operated his own freelance cartoon business in Lincoln where he creates humorous illustrations for a wide variety of clients.

School of Education Recipient: Lori (Speckman) Broady (‘90, ‘03)

Lori Broady joined ESU4 Teaching and Learning Team in 2018. Broady has been involved in education for over 25 years in a variety of capacities including over 23 years as a Social Studies instructor at Johnson-Brock.

During her time at Johnson-Brock, Broady was recognized regionally and nationally. Her awards include the 2016 Nebraska State History Teacher of the Year, 2015 finalist for the National History Day Patricia Behring Teacher of the Year Award and 2015 recipient of the National History Day Patricia Behring Affiliate Award. In 2013 she received the James C. Olson Memorial Award by the Nebraska State Historical Society for epitomizing the best Nebraska educators have to offer in engaging, inspiring, and guiding their students.

Graduate Programs Recipient: Marilyn (Woebbecke) Schlake (‘10)

Marilyn serves as a Community Vitality Initiative Extension Educator within the University of Nebraska—Lincoln Department of Agricultural Economics. She focuses on business, community, and economic development. Schlake served as a Gallup Entrepreneur Acceleration System (EAS) coach and is currently certified as a Gallup Employee Engagement coach and Strategic Leadership coach. She is also a Stronger Economies Together Coach, working with leadership in five Southeast Nebraska counties to develop economic plans. She currently serves as Chairman-elect for NETForce and Summit planning team. She also serves in numerous positions for local community and service organizations.

School of Professional Studies Recipient: Jeff Greenwald (‘71)

Jeff Greenwald currently holds the position of Chairman Emeritus at INSPro, Inc. and also serves as a member of the INSPro Council Committee. He served as President of INSPro, Inc. from 1996 to 2015 and Chairman from 2015 to 2018. INSPro, Inc. is a leading independent risk management and benefits agency with locations in Fremont, Lincoln, Omaha, Wahoo and West Point, Nebraska as well as Des Moines, Iowa. Greenwald’s early insurance career included working with Union Insurance Company in the claims department, then moving to the marketing division. His agency experience began with three years in a small agency before joining INSPro in 1980, opening its first branch office in Wahoo.
Junior Varsity Returns to Peru State’s Campus

The Peru State athletic department will be providing more opportunities for student-athletes to showcase their talents as they add four junior varsity athletic programs this fall.

Peru State president, Dan Hanson said, “Peru State College’s mission includes providing access to higher education - and all it means to provide a personal and engaging education.” Continuing, Hanson added, “As a former college coach and athlete, I know athletics can be an important part of the college learning experience. Adding junior varsity athletics at Peru State gives more students this experience across Nebraska and the region.”

The College has engaged in a strategic enrollment management (SEM) process for the past 18 months and determined the addition of junior varsity athletic programs would be among the best use of resources to bolster enrollment. The College added men’s and women’s basketball, baseball, and softball junior varsity programs.

Head women’s basketball coach Joan Albury commented, “We are excited to have the opportunity to develop the basketball skills of young players in our system for a year or two in a junior varsity setting. It will be exciting to see the impact that this could potentially have on our varsity program and will allow our older players to mentor the younger ladies both on and off the court.”

AD Wayne Albury noted much research went into the SEM process. He stated, “This decision was not made without a thorough review of the College’s current resources and the ability to adequately fund these additional programs.” Albury continued, “We are confident that the addition of these junior varsity programs will also enhance our current varsity teams.”

“We are really excited about both adding to our roster as well as giving incoming freshman more opportunities to compete and develop,” noted head men’s basketball coach Bob Ludwig. “I believe it will have a positive impact on our program and campus.”

The NAIA provides some guidelines for its member institutions which offer junior varsity programs. It allows student-athletes to compete at both the junior varsity and varsity levels as long as they comply with scheduling limitations.

Peru State Launches Competitive Cheer in Fall 2019

Competitive cheer is the newest varsity sport at Peru State College – bringing new students and new opportunities to campus.

Hanson said, “Peru State continues to take great pride in its cheer team and their coaches. They have been wonderful ambassadors for the College. We have the highest expectations as these student-athletes begin to represent the College as a varsity team in competition.”

Peru State cheer coach Brooke Earnest, stated, “On behalf of our athletes and coaching staff, we are absolutely thrilled that Cheer has been declared a varsity sport at Peru State College.” Continuing, Earnest added, “For the past several years, we have been working on preparing ourselves for this day by recruiting, practicing, attending National Cheerleading Association camps, and even spending many hours in the weight room. We are ready to put in the extra work that it will take to be fully prepared to represent Peru State on the competition mat next winter.”

The Bobcats will compete in the Heart of America Athletic Conference which holds a championship in February. The top team advances to the NAIA Championship generally held in March. Heart school Missouri Valley won the competitive cheer championship last year. The NAIA is in its third year of hosting cheer and dance as national championships. Presently, there are 73 schools competing in the NAIA competitive cheer. Peru State will become the eighth school in the Heart to sponsor a varsity team.

Junior Molly Brown will have an opportunity to be a part of Peru State’s first competitive team. Brown commented, “I am so excited and grateful to be a part of this amazing team! Competing is one of the best feelings when it comes to cheer and being able to do it with all these amazing people makes it even better. Also a huge thank you to our coach, Dr. Hanson, and AD Alburry for pushing to get cheer as a sport!”

AD Wayne Albury added, “Coach Earnest and her volunteer assistants have assembled a tremendous group of student-athletes who have been working hard to get better and better each year. In addition, this team is noted for its commitment to community service throughout the entire year.”

For more information, potential cheer team members can contact Earnest at bearnest@peru.edu or 402-872-2432. To follow Peru State cheer, you can go to Instagram: perustatecollegecheer, Facebook: Peru State College Cheerleading, or Twitter: PSCCheer.

As part of the 2019 basketball reunion in January 2019, a special event was held honoring Coach John Gibbs.

It was noted, “Coach John Gibbs was Peru State’s coach from 1981 to 2001. He is the winningest coach in Bobcat men’s basketball history with 287 wins. Coach Gibbs coached two national tournament teams – the 1992-93 and the 1996-97 teams. He coached one All-American, one second team All-American, and several honorable mention All-Americans.”

Gibbs and his wife Peggy were thanked for their 20+ years of service to Peru State and were given a signed basketball and engraved frame with photos.

Throughout the day, former players enjoyed sharing memories of their time playing for Coach Gibbs. Some recalled Coach Gibbs’ favorite punishment for swearing which was requiring everyone to do pushups. Others noted that the Bobcats were the only team at the national tournament without a full warm-up suit. NOTE: Obviously not having a full warm-up did not hinder Peru State’s play as they won their first two games that year.

Next, the members of the 1992-93 men’s basketball team who were in attendance were honored. Those present along with Coach Gibbs were Todd Gottula (’95), Rod Green (’96, ’13), Ben Royal (’95), Fredd Ward (’91-’93), and Ivan Winglass (’94). It was noted that the 1992-93 team was inducted into the Peru State Hall of Fame as they still have the most wins in a single season in school history of 27 and finished fifth in the final NAIA DII polls that season.

Other basketball players in attendance included Shawn Gibbs (’98), Andrew Hall (’89), Vince Henzel (’86), Kim (Grinstead) Kafonek (’83), Morris Liesemeyer (’84), David Miller (’84), Mitch Muma (’89), and Brian Strother (’84).

One of Coach Gibbs’ sons, Brett, shared this on Facebook after the event.

“Deep gratitude to the Peru State College administration and Peru State College National Alumni Association for the honor and respect they showed my father this weekend. Dad has always loved Peru State and worked tirelessly for both the college and the community. This was a wonderful tribute to those many (21!) years of investment in players, students and families in the area. I’d never hesitate to tell anyone my dad is the best man I’ve ever known in terms of integrity and character, and I can’t think of anyone who deserved this more. This felt like a homecoming of sorts and I am so grateful to God he was able to be there to experience it.”

Mark your calendars for the next basketball reunion on January 4, 2020!

Coach John Gibbs, one of the winningest coaches in Bobcat Basketball history, is pictured with a signed basketball. Coach Gibbs passed away on July 26, 2019.

Gibbs, his family and wife Peggy gathered with the basketball alumni attendees, Dr. Hanson and his wife Elaine along with Bobcat Athletic Director Wayne Albury.

Basketball reunion attendees pictured from L to R: Rod Green (’96, ’13), Ben Royal (’95), Jamie (Brownfield) Royal (’96), Fredd Ward (’91-’93) and President Dan Hanson.

Peru State Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees Announced

Peru State College is honored to induct five individuals into the Athletic Hall of Fame on October 25 and 26, 2019.

2019 Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees:
• Tabitha (Foster) Keating (’07) - Softball – Student-Athlete
• Scott Gerdes (’92) – Football – Student-Athlete
• Norris Hale (’51) – Meritorious Service, Posthumous
• Al Urwin (’82) – Meritorious Service/Student-Athlete
• William Witty (’66) - Student-Athlete

2019 Athletic Hall of Fame Activities:
Friday, October 25
5:30 p.m. Reception and Hall of Fame Banquet
Saturday, October 26
11 a.m. Hall of Fame Football Game: Peru State vs. Culver-Stockton Halftime Induction Ceremony on the Oak Bowl Field

Family, friends and the Bobcat community are invited to attend the Hall of Fame festivities. Learn more at www.peru.edu/foundation/events or contact Deborah Solie, Director of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving at dsolie@peru.edu or (402) 872-2304.
The 1867 Society: Honoring the Past, Building the Future

The 1867 Society recognizes people who have included a contribution to the Peru State College Foundation in a will or estate plan.

“I feel honored and humbled when I hear that someone has made the decision to devote a portion of their estate to the College,” said President Dan Hanson.

The names of many of the 1867 Society members are listed on a plaque outside the Gabus Family President’s Suite on the third floor of the Administration Building. (Some members have elected to remain anonymous; their names are not listed).

The Peru State College Foundation hosts an annual reception at Homecoming to recognize new members of the 1867 Society and to thank current members in attendance. 1867 Society members also receive special invitations to College and Foundation events throughout the year.

Including one or more charities as a part of an estate plan can redirect or offset money that would otherwise go to the government in the form of taxes. Sometimes charitable giving through an estate plan can maximize the amount that can be left to family members by reducing the tax burden on an estate.

When considering whether to include charitable giving as a part of an estate, it can be wise to look first at tax-deferred assets – those assets allowed to grow tax free until you need to use them. These often make the best gifts to your favorite tax-exempt charities.

Two of the most common ways to make a charitable gift with an estate plan, include:

1. A bequest in a will leaving a percentage or a specific amount of the estate to Peru State College Foundation
2. A beneficiary designation on an IRA, retirement plan, life insurance policy or commercial annuity

Some assets, when passed on to heirs, also pass along the tax burden of those assets. These could include retirement funds, savings bonds that have reached maturity or commercial annuities.

A gift from an estate to Peru State College Foundation can be designated to a specific purpose on campus, or it can be undesignated.

Becca Jewell, Senior Advancement Officer, noted, “Some 1867 Society members have created scholarships or other funds that will be funded through a future estate contribution.” This is an example of a designated estate gift. To document a designated gift, the Foundation creates a written agreement to outline a donor’s wishes. The Foundation and the donor each retain a copy of the agreement.

“Other 1867 Society members have chosen to keep their estate contribution undesignated, knowing the gift will be used to meet important future priorities,” Jewell continued. For example, undesignated estate gifts were invested in the Park Avenue and Campus Entrance Project which transformed the entrance to Peru State College and to the town. “That project would not have been possible without those undesignated estate gifts,” said Jewell.

Notifying the Peru State College Foundation of your estate intentions allows the Foundation to work with you to create the legacy you want to leave at Peru State College. Peru State has 84 living members of the 1867 Society.

If you have included the Peru State College Foundation in your estate plans but are not yet recognized as a member of the 1867 Society, please call or email Becca Jewell, (402) 872-2351 or rjewell@peru.edu. And, if you are considering a future gift to benefit Peru State, the Foundation would be happy to discuss your goals and wishes to create your legacy at Peru State College.

This article is not intended as financial or legal advice. When making decisions about assets and estate planning, please consult an attorney or professional advisor.
THANK YOU

Each year, recipients of Peru State College Foundation scholarships write thank you notes to the scholarship donors and contact people. Students often share heart-felt messages of gratitude with scholarship families. Here are just a few excerpts from some scholarship recipients. (Names of recipients have been withheld to protect their privacy.)

“I have been selected to receive the A. B. Ritchie Basketball scholarship for the year of 2018-2019. I feel very honored and privileged to be the recipient of the above mentioned scholarship. By getting this amount of money I will be able to lessen the financial burden of my parents. Thank you for your generosity and I would like you to know that I will always remember the kindness you showed towards me during my school career. My family and I are very thankful to you.”

“I am currently a freshman at Peru State College. My major is a natural science endorsement in secondary education. After I complete college I hope to become a science teacher at a high school that is close to home and possibly coach high school football. I have been selected to receive the Peru State College Art Majors Scholarship for the 2018-2019 academic year. I feel honored and grateful to receive this scholarship award because it feels like someone else cares enough to help me reach my goals.”

“I am a freshman at Peru State College. I am originally from Falls City, Nebraska. My major is health and physical education and I hope to become a PE teacher. I have been selected to receive the Military Service Scholarship. I feel honored to receive this scholarship. It makes college more affordable. Thank you very much.”

Philanthropic Superman: Carlos Harrison (‘51)

The 2018 Homecoming Grand Marshal, Carlos Harrison, knows a thing or two about giving back to Peru State.

“I believe in Peru State and its mission,” said Harrison. “I live on a fixed income but I've found innovative ways to support the College philanthropically.”

Over the years, Harrison’s support has included establishing the Walter and Lillian Harrison scholarship in memory of his parents and including Peru State in his estate. Through his estate plan he has created the C. Carlos Harrison alumni fund to create a usable, effective alumni house and assist with alumni activities.

More recently, Harrison has found another way to give back – through his Individual Retirement Account (IRA). Using his IRA, he has established a fund to help with Student Center renovations.

“I found that by rolling my IRA distribution to Peru State College I could help fund a project I believe in without impacting my current income,” said Harrison.

The benefits of making a tax-free gift from your IRA include counting the amount of your rollover gift toward your required minimum distribution for the year and avoiding additional taxable income, which may allow you to avoid taxation at a higher tax bracket.

“IRA charitable rollover gifts are a wonderful way to make a meaningful impact,” said Todd Simpson, CEO of the Peru State Foundation. “They benefit donors at all income levels. Donors like Carlos are making a big impact at Peru State through their IRA gifts and we are truly grateful.”

To learn more about IRA charitable rollover gifts, visit the Peru State College Foundation website at peru.planningyourellogy.org or visit with your IRA advisor.
Peru and Beyond: Homecoming and 10, 20, 30, 40 and 50-Year Reunions

All alumni and friends are invited back to Peru State's campus this September to celebrate Homecoming. The campus will be decorated to reflect this year’s theme – Peru and Beyond. During the 2019 Homecoming weekend the Peru State Foundation will be hosting reunion celebrations for the 10, 20, 30, 40 and 50-year reunions. Alumni from the graduating classes of 1969, 1979, 1989, 1999 and 2009 are invited back to campus to celebrate their graduation milestone! Members of the classes from the years before and after each milestone anniversary are also invited to celebrate with their friends and classmates.

The event will include tours, dinner and mingling with classmates on Friday, September 27 and Homecoming festivities on Saturday, September 28, members can choose to take part in the parade if they wish. If you would like more information contact or to register contact the PSC Foundation at (402) 872-2304 or PSCFoundation@peru.edu.

Special events:
- Choir room dedication in honor of Dr. Thomas Ediger
- Everyone is invited to the All-College Dinner on September 27 featuring special recognition of the 2019 grand marshals, reunion participants and the 10th anniversary of President and First Lady Hanson at Peru State.
- Alumni of the band are invited to participate again this year.
- Fun Run hosted by the Peru Community Impact Group. Learn more at perunebraska.org.
- Tour your residence hall! Residence Hall tours available during the tailgate on the Quad.

Learn more and RSVP at www.peru.edu/foundation/events.

Homecoming Schedule of Events
Friday, September 27
- 3:30-5 p.m. Reunion registration in library
- 3:30-4:30 p.m. Guided group campus tours
- 4-4:30 p.m. Dedication of Dr. Thomas Ediger Choir Room
- 4:30-6 p.m. Reunion reception at President’s home
- 6 p.m. All-College Dinner Featuring -Grand Marshal Recognition -Milestone Reunion Celebration -10th Anniversary of President and First Lady Hanson

Saturday, September 28
- 8 a.m. Peru Proud River Run
- 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Reunion registration in library
- 8:30 a.m. Parade line-up
- 10 a.m. Homecoming Parade
- 10:45 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Tailgate and games with Jazz Band
- Tour the Performing Arts Center
- Tour the Residence Halls – Morgan, Delzell, Complex
- 1 p.m. 1867 Society Reception
- 2 p.m. Football, Halftime Coronation and Cheerleader performance

Dr. Thomas Ediger Choir Room Dedication
Peru State College is renaming the choir room this fall in honor of Dr. Thomas Ediger's dedication to students, his love of teaching and his philanthropic support.

“The choir room, to be renamed the Dr. Thomas Ediger Choir Room, is the primary practice room for Peru State College’s choirs, and has served as the location for many performances,” said Dan Hanson, president of Peru State College. “This room was the primary space Dr. Ediger taught in and is considered by many alumni to be synonymous with him. We are proud to honor Dr. Ediger's memory and love of Peru State and music through this re-naming.”

Dr. Ediger joined the Peru State faculty in 1979 and taught until his passing on August 20, 2014. Dr. Ediger was an active performer, composer and a popular piano and vocal clinician/adjudicator in the region. In addition to his teaching duties at the college, Dr. Ediger served as treasurer of Nebraska Music Teachers National Association, having previously led the organization as president. He was honored by the Association in 2008 as its Distinguished Teacher of the Year and Service Award Winner. In March 2009, Dr. Ediger was awarded the MTNA Foundation Fellow Award in recognition of his service and leadership.

Dr. Ediger was also the recipient of the Peru State Teaching Excellence Award three times. Upon his passing, Dr. Ediger designated to Peru State College through his estate. His gift was designated for the Choral Music Fund to support Peru State College faculty and students. The fund supports faculty and students teaching and studying music, including vocalists participating in the choral ensembles like concert choir and show choir.

“During his time on faculty, Dr. Ediger impacted students, fellow faculty and staff, and Peru State College through his teaching, his love of music and the importance he placed on students,” said Hanson. “His impact is still felt today with many of his students raising funds to establish a scholarship in his memory.”

The room naming dedication will take place on Friday, September 27 of Homecoming in the Jindra Fine Arts Building. To learn more about the current fundraising campaign to establish a scholarship in Dr. Ediger's memory, contact Deborah Solie at dsolie@peru.edu or (402) 872-2304.

Homecoming Grand Marshals: Charlie ('71) and Judy (Green) Grotrian ('72)
The Peru State College Student Senate selected Charlie ('71) and Judy (Green) Grotrian ('72) of Nebraska City as the Grand Marshals for the Peru State Homecoming. Both are Peru State graduates and life-long supporters of the College.

“Dr. Judy Grotrian has taught at Peru State for more than 20 years and Charlie has been an important leader and farmer in southeast Nebraska,” said Hanson. “We are pleased the Grotrians will be part of our Homecoming celebration, and we are honored to call them part of the Bobcat family.”

The Grotrians will be recognized during Homecoming at the All-College Dinner, during the parade and on the field at halftime of the Homecoming football game.

A full review of the 2019 Homecoming and Grand Marshals will be in the next edition of the Peru Stater due out in spring 2020.
On October 24, 2019, Bobcats will come together to celebrate Peru State College, by giving back to the alma mater they love.

“#BobcatsGivingDay 2019 is the college’s first 24-hour giving campaign, which aims to inspire Bobcats to come together, show their pride in their alma mater, and provide essential funding to support current and future students,” said Deborah Solie, Director of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving. “The goal is to honor Peru State’s 152nd year with 152 donors throughout the 24-hour period and 152 current students volunteering on campus and in the community.”

Throughout the 24-hour period, members of the Bobcat family are asked to pick the cause they love and support Peru State. Peru State students have also accepted the Giving Day challenge and are fundraising for their clubs and organizations, as well as giving back in the Peru community through volunteering. The entire Bobcat family will come together on October 24.

Support Peru State through Four Different Avenues

Supporters are encouraged to give to one of the four options available on Giving Day – Campus Support, Student Support, Athletics and the Cause You Love.

Campus Support – Peru State College Foundation gives more than $100,000 per year in campus support including support for faculty, staff and departments, and performances, events and activities to support a vibrant campus culture.

Student Support – Peru State College Foundation provides more than $280,000 annually to support students through scholarships, campus employment, book loans and other activities that directly support students.

Athletics – Your generosity directly impacts Peru State student-athletes, providing opportunities for these talented young people to compete for and earn an outstanding education. Donations to athletics supports travel, meals for students, scholarships, clothing and more!

What You Love – You have the opportunity to designate your gift to the area on campus that means the most to you. Write in the area you wish to support when completing the Giving Day form.

Become a Bobcat Ambassador

“When Bobcats join together, they make a mighty roar,” said Solie. “This collaborative day of giving amplifies the impact donors can make for Peru State. We are asking for members of the Bobcat family to volunteer to serve as Bobcat Ambassadors and help promote the day of giving to friends, colleagues and family.”

What is a Giving Day Ambassador?

Giving Day Ambassadors have a simple, yet very important mission – spread the word about #BobcatsGivingDay to your social media networks, friends, family and former classmates. You will have access to content, images, graphics and more to utilize in your posts. You can also request a list of your former classmates, too.

What do I do?

Wondering what to write? We’ve got you covered! The Giving Day Ambassador Toolkit provides easily customizable, click and paste social media posts and graphics for you to use, as well as a communication timeline (we’ll send you reminder emails along the way). Your role as a Bobcat Ambassador helps build the #BobcatsGivingDay movement through actively sharing, recruiting new Giving Day Ambassadors and encouraging others to participate in and donate on #BobcatsGivingDay.

How do I sign up?

It’s easy! Complete the short web form at www.peru.edu/foundation/ambassador or contact the Foundation at (402) 872-2304 or pscfoundation@peru.edu.

Be part of this Bobcat celebration! Additional information is available on the Peru State College Giving Day website, peru.edu/foundation/givingday and on the Peru State College and Peru State National Alumni Association Facebook pages.

Cheerleaders volunteer to help clean up and beautify campus and the surrounding community.
2019 is a special year for Peru State College.

It marks 10 years of engaged leadership by faculty, staff and administrators, and significant investment by donors and the Nebraska State Legislature. More than $74 million has been invested in Peru State’s infrastructure since 2009, demonstrating the importance of the College to the State and its supporters.

As Dan Sullivan, author of Nebraska’s First College, wrote:

“Throughout its history, Peru State College has been a home for inspirational teachers igniting the minds of active students. The school has been a launching pad for great careers. And it has been a beacon to those beyond the hilltop, a place to come for enrichment, enjoyment and help in solving community needs.

Peru State President Dan Hanson arrived in 2009 with a vision to embrace that legacy. “We liked that students receive a personalized small-college education at a price that didn’t put people into great debt,” said Dan Hanson. “It felt like a really important mission at an important time for this small school in southeast Nebraska.”

Hanson set a goal: “Re-energize and build on the on-campus experience.”

The pieces were in place to create a “full, engaged college experience”. The tools included small class sizes, close student-faculty connections, strategic use of technology and community service.

The mission would be designed to yield a personalized education to maximize students’ chances for success.

Hanson and his administration plotted a course toward the school’s 150th anniversary in 2017 that would build enrollment and create an active approach to learning in a culture that would promote inquiry, discovery and innovation.

First Lady Elaine Hanson knew from the moment she arrived on campus that the students and staff would provide the foundation.

“You could tell that they were proud of their College,” she said. “The faculty and staff really cared about their students.”

The emphasis on “essential engagement” was designed to showcase all that Peru State College offers: a small school with a caring faculty and staff, open to all, willing to look beyond its oak-covered campus to a world in need of a new generation of leaders.”

Over the next ten years the campus would grow in enrollment and gain national attention. The administration implemented innovative tools to promote the College – including eliminating out-of-state tuition, becoming the first public college or university in Nebraska to do so. Peru State College was ranked by U.S. News & World Report as second in the nation in value for out-of-state students.

The Rural Health Opportunities Program (RHOP) also became an integral part of Peru State’s mission to attract bright minds and support rural Nebraska. This program is open to students from rural backgrounds interested in pursuing a medical-related career.

“For the duration of a student’s time at Peru State they receive a full-ride scholarship,” said Dennis Welsh, Professor of Chemistry and RHOP Program Coordinator. “The program’s graduates are guaranteed acceptance into their course of study at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.”

Peru State pursued other opportunities, including the Student Engagement Enhancement (SEE) projects. These funds are “specifically designed to assist faculty in their efforts to pursue the transformational goal of excellence through essential engagement. Past projects include Experiential Learning Trip to Boston (history students travel to historically rich Boston), Advanced Psychophysiological Teaching Kit (helped establish a psychology laboratory), and Minority Student Mentoring Program (incoming freshmen minority students were paired with junior or senior mentors).

“These are just a few of the programs created by engaged faculty, staff and students at Peru State over the past 10 years,” said Elaine Hanson. “When I first arrived on campus, I was surprised to find that there was no student mentoring program. We informed our students about TeamMates, an established school-based program, and partnered with Auburn and Nebraska City with many of our students serving as mentors to area children in the 5th grade or older.”

Investment in programming has been a key component of success at Peru State College; investment in the College’s infrastructure has also been crucial.

“More than $74 million has been invested in Peru State College since 2009 leading to the renovations of Morgan Hall, Delzell Hall, Jindra Fine Arts, the Oak Bowl, the campus entrance and Performing Arts Center,” said Hanson. “This investment comes from alumni and friends showing their support through donations and by appropriations and other funding by the Nebraska State Legislature.”

With these renovations, Peru State has recruited and retained students destined to be tomorrow’s leaders.

Looking Ahead

Over the past ten years incredible things have been accomplished at Peru State College. With this momentum, the College, led by President Hanson, recently completed a new six-year strategic plan.

“Extensive conversations with campus and community constituents brought the campus together in a common vision and drove the formulations of a new vision, new values and a new strategic plan,” said Hanson. “The new strategic plan is both a recommitment to the themes of the previous strategic plan and a new formulation of what it means to learn, work and engage at Peru State College. It builds on the recent and historic successes to create a narrative about the institution’s direction and priorities to achieve this vision.”

Based on the goals developed during the strategic plan process, the College has already begun creating work groups striving for excellence in four areas: Academic Excellence Through Engagement, Transformative Student Experiences, Sharing the Peru State Story and Excellence for the Future.

These areas include the next big investment at Peru State, a renovated and expanded Student Center.

“I look forward to working with faculty, staff and community members to build on the momentum of the past 10 years and see continued engagement and investment,” said Dan Hanson. “If you’re going to make a difference in the world, Peru State College is the place to do it.”

Special thanks to Dan Sullivan, author of Nebraska’s First College. The book is available for purchase through the Peru State Foundation. Learn more at www.peru.edu/ foundation/book.

To learn more about the College’s strategic plan, visit www.peru.edu/strategicplan.
Q&A with the President and First Lady Celebrating 10 Years at Peru State

President Dan Hanson and First Lady Elaine Hanson joined the Peru State College family in 2009. Since their time at Peru State they have seen incredible investment, innovation and engagement. They have opened their home and hosted every freshman student, as well as entertaining 1500-2000 alumni, friends and community members throughout the year.

Here are a few memories and plans they shared during a recent interview:

Q: What are your favorite Peru State memories?
A: President Hanson: Honoring the College's long tradition of personalized and engaged education during the Sesquicentennial celebration was a real highlight. Beyond that there are so many wonderful memories – really too many to choose from – whether it was seeing students walk at graduation, achieve their goal of a career or graduate school, great conversations with students at lunch, or sharing our family with Peru State. And, we feel especially privileged to have wonderful relationships with many alumni and friends of the College.

A: First Lady Hanson: One of the fun memories we have happened during Christmas break the first year we were on campus. We heard a knock on the door and it was members of the men's basketball team. Students weren't back and food service hadn't re-started, so the coach had divided the team in half. Half the team prepared dinner one day and the other half the next. They asked if they could use our kitchen to prepare the food, and we said yes! They made spaghetti, bread and chocolate pudding. Some knew their way around a kitchen and others did not. The student in charge of pudding used 11 boxes of pudding! We had chocolate everywhere. They ate in the Student Center as a team and cleaned up the kitchen. It was a fun evening, and showed us the students felt comfortable approaching us as the President and First Lady.

Q: As you look into the future, what are your top priorities for Peru State?
A: President Hanson: Increased prominence for Peru State and greater impact in the region and state. Our goal is to position Peru State for success and as a leader nationwide in student success. There is a real opportunity to build on our tradition and expand our capacity to serve many more students in the future.

A: First Lady Hanson: I would love to see the College and the community of Peru rise to the top and be an example of how a college and community can mesh together. We have shared values, which creates a foundation to build upon. We could be a leader in the region and nation for our collaboration.

Q: How do you plan to engage with constituents in the future to help move Peru State forward?
A: We plan to be more intentional in our outreach to alumni and friends as we share the College's vision for increased infrastructure and programming for students. We also plan to continue our engagement with local communities and encourage Peru State faculty and staff to engage throughout the region.

Q: How do you envision alumni and friends helping with your goals/priorities for Peru State?
A: We ask that alumni continue doing what they have been doing – being loyal members of the Peru State family. As we continue on the path of strategic growth, we will ask alumni and friends to engage more with campus and current students – whether it's offering internships or speaking to classes.

We also encourage alumni to take a quiet moment to reflect on who helped you get where you are. It's important to stop and have moments of gratitude. We are challenging alumni and friends to do just that with our TAKE TEN challenge (see on the right for more information).

Q: What excites you about Peru State's future?
A: Peru State College's strengthened mission and outreach to the region and the state for years to come. The thousands of future students who will walk this campus experiencing success through a personalized and engaging education are what excite us. We are proud to know that in 50 years curious minds and new leaders will be shaped on Peru State's campus.

Q: Anything else you would like to share?
A: We are surprised at how fast 10 years have gone and continually amazed at the loyalty of Peru State alumni and extremely proud of our students and the work of our faculty and staff.

Every morning we start our day together with coffee and review our schedules. We also talk about our blessings and our gratitude for the positions we hold. We are thankful for the way we have been welcomed into the Bobcat family and we recognize the rare and precious gift it is to be in our positions at Peru State.

TAKE TEN! A challenge from the Hansons

As we share our gratitude, we would like to encourage (challenge) alumni and friends to "TAKE TEN" minutes to reach out to the person(s) who impacted your life at Peru State! Send an email, tweet or a text. Send a letter, postcard, or make a call and share your gratitude to the person who made an impact on your life at Peru State College.

- Share your Peru State pride
- Be an inspiration to others
- Foster gratitude
- Spread goodwill
- Embrace the power of positivity
- Empower people to be kind and take a step in making this world a better place

"Serve often. Serve well." - First Lady Elaine Hanson

Excerpts from a note sent to Dr. Leland (Shorty) Sherwood by a former student shared with First Lady Hanson prior to his passing:

Just a note to let you know I think about you often. I have for a number of years. I just never said anything to anyone about it. I know I would never have stayed in College if it were not for you. I listened to everything you advised me to do (although you probably did not realize it at the time).

You know, I have had many instructors down through the years. I've also met a lot of men who I looked up to both in the military and in my career, but none have been as influential as you.

You are a good man. I owe you a lot for all of your mentoring. Thank you.

We ask you to "TAKE TEN" minutes to thank that person who made a difference in your life when you were at Peru State.
Award-Winning Delzell Hall

Delzell Hall is a beloved residence hall referred to by many alumni throughout the years as “The Zoo” or “The Ship”. Now it can be called “Award Winning”.

American School & University’s annual 2018 Architectural Portfolio featuring outstanding education design, featured Peru State College’s Delzell Hall for its recent modernization and renovation completed in 2017.

“We are incredibly proud of Delzell Hall and the beautiful, functional spaces created while maintaining the character of the building,” said Adam Neveau, Director of Residence Life. “It is an honor to be recognized by such a prestigious organization.”

According to the magazine, American School and University’s “Architectural Portfolio” has showcased the best of education facilities for more than 35 years. A jury selected 115 design projects that were featured in the annual publication.

“Our goal with every construction project on campus is to work with the highest quality architects and contractors to ensure the best result for our students,” said Debbie White, Vice President for Administration and Finance. “The Delzell Hall renovation is an excellent example of this type of collaboration and we are excited it was featured nationally with other outstanding projects.”

To view the full article visit www.asumag.com and search for the November 2018 Digital Edition.

24 Hours for Tesla

This past January, the College’s Phi Epsilon Kappa (PEK) hosted a “24 Hours for Tesla” fundraiser to benefit an alumna in need.

The fundraiser was held for Tesla Oldfield Davis (’14), a Nebraska City native and Peru State graduate who was recently diagnosed with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS or Lou Gehrig’s disease). Now living with her husband Derrick Davis (’14) in Florida, the couple has a young daughter Harbor.

In order to help offset the medical bills they are facing and to help raise awareness for ALS, PEK hosted the 24-hour fundraiser. For the event, teams had at least one (1) person either walking on a treadmill in the Fitness Center or around the track in the AWAC for one (1) hour while completing a total of 24 hours. The walk began at 1 p.m. on Friday and concluded at 1 p.m. on Saturday.

Dr. Kyle Ryan, professor of kinesiology, was one of the event organizers. Ryan noted, Tesla Oldfield was the type of student that would have taken a freshman student under her wing to help them in their first few days or weeks on campus. She was also the type of student-athlete that was going to take every opportunity offered to better herself while she was here. Whether it was joining a club at her advisors request, seeking to co-author a study for publication or being asked to participate in a second sport while a student-athlete. It should be no surprise that more than 200 people showed up, some to help a person that they’ve never met, to give back to someone that gave so much of herself while here.”

Kerri (Vrbka) Miller of Tecumseh walked the most miles. Miller is the mother of Kesha Beethe (’12, ’15) who was a cross country teammate of Oldfield’s while at Peru State. Miller logged 22.42 miles during the event. Miller and another teammate Chelsi (Dotson) Gulizia (’11) facetime Kesha while they were walking.

Miller stated, “I had a couple of reasons for participating in the event, mainly because Kesha and Tesla are good friends but I knew Kesha could not be here herself so why not get her fitness group to be there for her. I just kept saying all week, “I am walking because Tesla cannot,” and that was my motivation not to quit. I didn’t do it by myself though... the girls that were able to be there from 57Fitness made it possible for me to rest. I have a wonderful team that helped me walk for the 24 hour event.

Each member of a team donated $10 for the event and received a “24 Hours for Tesla” t-shirt as a gift from PEK. Ryan announced that $3,792 was raised from the event.

Tesla’s husband Derrick has spent the past couple of months remodeling their home to become ADA compliant. The funds from the event will help cover the expenses for the improvements to their home.

Davis commented, “We want to thank everyone who attended and participated in the ‘24 Hours for Tesla Event’ held at Peru State College this past January. Derrick and I made a lot of memories and met many wonderful people in our time at Peru. The money raised in the event made it possible for my husband Derrick to create an accessible bathroom, which has been a blessing. We hope everyone continues to raise awareness for ALS and continues to live life to the fullest. A special thank you to Dr. Kyle Ryan, Dr. Sheri Grotrian, Ted Harshbarger, and any others who made this possible.”

To view the full article visit www.asumag.com and search for the November 2018 Digital Edition.
The Sapp name is renowned throughout Nebraska and beyond, known for their innovative approach to business and their generous philanthropic support. Their generosity extended to southeast Nebraska and Peru State College. In 2009, Lee and Bill Sapp pledged $500,000 to the Peru State Oak Bowl renovation, the largest single non-estate gift in Peru State’s history.

“Lee and Bill Sapp believed in higher education and had a special connection to southeast Nebraska,” said Dan Hanson, President of Peru State. “They grew up in the area and their mother and sisters attended Peru State, later teaching in rural Nebraska schools.”

As Lee Sapp stated in 2009, “Our family is very important to us. I couldn’t have had a better mother and sisters. All our accomplishments are due to their strength, love, faith and focus on the importance of education. By helping Peru State, we are helping students throughout southeast Nebraska get a quality education at a reasonable price.”

Lee continued his support of Peru State College and became a regular attendee at Homecoming, sporting events and regional activities.

“Lee became a friend,” said Hanson. “We enjoyed spending time with him and his special friend, Ilma Gottula, when they would visit campus. Ilma graduated from Peru State, and Lee became an honorary graduate of Peru State when he was awarded an honorary doctorate by the Nebraska State College System.”

Lee established the largest scholarship fund at Peru State and has given more than $600,000 to support Bobcats in need.

“Lee was passionate about helping others,” said Todd Simpson, CEO of the Peru State Foundation. “His scholarship fund is designated to help students in need – whether they have experienced a family tragedy or personal loss – this fund carries on his memory of support and generosity for future generations of Bobcats.”

Lee Sapp passed away on March 30, 2019, followed by his brother Bill Sapp who passed away on April 4. They leave a legacy of entrepreneurship and generosity.

Lee and Bill were presented with personalized Bobcat football jerseys

The Sapp brothers Lee and Bill with Lucille Sapp, Zelma (Sapp) Drake and Ilma (Gobber) Gottula (’65) at the dedication of Sapp Plaza, located to the south of Eliza Morgan Residence Hall, Homecoming 2012.

Dr. Dan Hanson with Lee Sapp and Ilma (Gobber) Gottula (’65) at the annual Chili Feed.
2018 DONOR HONOR ROLL

Carolyn Van Groningen, 1953
Fran Whitred, 1953
Loren and Ester Argubright, 1959
Phyllis Alichin, 1954
Thomas (54) and Leta (56) Bosworth
Regina Colbert, 1954
Barbara Delong, 1950
Dorothy Buehler, 1950
Bob (59) and Mary (60) Hohlen
Leroy Buchholz, 1959
Nadine Daniels-Czechak, 1959
Jack and Jeannine Dodge, 1959
Arnold (59) and Sharon (58) Ehlers
Philip (59) and Nadine (59) Fahlander
Bob (59) and Carolyn (58) Henning
Margaret Kibbardi, 1959
Virginia Meyerhofer, 1959
Donna Nenneman, 1959
Carole Okerlin, 1959
Lynn (61) and Pauline (59) Osherow
Janice Phillips, 1959
Wayne (59) and Gloria (60) Pressnell
Jean Rorrman, 1959
Raymond (59) and Rose (58) Ruzicka
Henry (55) and Marcia (55) Schwartz
Richard (59) and Beverly (59) Thompson
Samantha Williamson, 1959
Edward Winingear, 1959
Gary (60) and Marion (60) Anderson
Marlene Ballance, 1960
Jerry (60) and Virginia (60) Beckmann
Marvin Bergsten, 1960
Harry Bryant, 1960
Ruth Dierchich, 1960
Chuck Francis, 1960
David (60) and Rae (60) Fulk
Dennis (60) and Linda (60) Hiltiker
Donald Jackson, 1960
Jan Krako, 1960
Carolyn Llaw, 1960
Ernie Madison, 1960
Lester Miller, 1960
Donald (60) and Glenna (60) Scoby
Ronald Sterlenberg, 1960
Karen Bethel, 1960
Connie Biggers, 1960
Marilyn Borgarding, 1960
Norman Carle, 1960
Lee Dostal, 1960
Keith (61) and Virginia (61) Hawkey
Robert Heng, 1961
David Hoffman, 1961
Luanne Lindquist, 1961
Darlene McCard, 1961
Honey (61) and Karen (73) Milstead
Joan Muller, 1961
Gordon Pilmore, 1961
Robert Raper, 1961
Michael Rody, 1961
Donna Schwerle, 1961
Chick Steamsan, 1961
Joy Alligood, 1962
Linda Bell, 1962
Glen (62) and Paty (62) Beran
Ronald Carnes, 1962
Kay Farwell, 1962
Carol Grote, 1962
Ellen Hajek, 1962
Dexel Harvey, 1962
Todd (62) and Janis (66) Hoover
Glenn Irwin, 1962
Ruth Johnson, 1962
Leonard McLain, 1962
Ray (62) and Myrna (62) Cafferty
Gordon Oshuohnk, 1962
Richard Place, 1962
Kenneth (62) and Janie (64) Rhoads
Richard (62) and Kay (62) Stock
Gaylin (62) and Carol (63) Sudik
Joyce Rove, 1963
Larry (63) and Norma (63) Clinton
Anita Cox, 1963
Wayne Gumsa, 1963
Lee Haegerlin, 1963
Mel Hentzel, 1963
Pat (63) and Karen (63) Hamm
Russel Hicks, 1963
Ronald and Nancy Kelly, 1963
Mike Kilpeker, 1963
Sharyln Knock, 1963
Michael Leaby, 1963
Charlotte Lustnord, 1963
Linda Moree, 1963
George Ann Privett, 1963
Larry Rathe, 1963
Rex Rhodes, 1963
Bonnie Robbins, 1963
Gary (65) and Marlin (65) Slagl
Edna Shoulder, 1965
Larry (65) and Ramona (61) Swett
Russell Workman, 1965
David Albert, 1965
Judy Baker, 1965
Janice Bradbury, 1965
Laurel Brewer, 1965
Thomas Buchholz, 1965
Charlie (64) and Marjorie (64) Carverage
Rocky (64) and Penelope (65) Edwards
Robert and Judy Eschenberger, 1965
Donald F蜊 (Eschenberger), 1964
Jim Hall, 1964
Charlotte Heideler, 1964
Ginny Janis, 1964
Melina Jareck, 1964
Jerry (64) and Christina (64) Joyne
JoAnne Krause, 1964
Linda Kriemon, 1964
Donald (64) and Beverly (64) Mach
James Minor, 1964
Gary Nedrenseib, 1964
Joseph (64) and Susan (63) Parlin
Lloyd (64) and Betty (64) Russo
Donald (64) and Ardith (63) Rut
Carol Henning, 1967
Robert Lucas, 1967
Marleen Melin, 1967
Nancy Nealon, 1967
David Pfann, 1967
JoAnn Barry, 1967
John Barton, 1967
Janet Bierman, 1967
George Bleich, 1967
Danell (65) and Carol (68) Coffey
Gene D’Allemagne, 1967
Richard (65) and Beverly (65) Hoorcher
Larry Giesmann, 1968
Stanford (65) and Linda (64) Gomol
Alvin Heinrichs, 1968
Judy Herhington, 1968
Robert Jones, 1965
Larry Deen-Deen Lewis, 1947
Margaret Harrold, 1947
Dorothy Pickett, 1947
Jerry Payne, 1958
Ronald Paap, 1958
‘54) Meisinger
Dean (‘55) and Mari Lynn (‘54) Meninger
Robert (‘55) and Marion (‘54) Eilers
Gale Eshelman, 1955
Jim (‘55) and Phyllis (‘55) Finkle
Joseph Gillispie, 1951
Carlos Harrison, 1951
Mary Kellogg, 1951
Verne Meest, 1951
Sherry Penrose, 1951
Grace Pitzer, 1951
Otto Rath, 1951
Annabelle Rumbaug, 1951
Carolyn Sipes, 1951
Elden Ten, 1951
William Vogeli, 1951
Dorothy Duerfeld, 1952
Anna Falksen, 1952
Howard Major, 1952
Jean Thayer, 1952
Carol Whitcomb, 1952
Anna White, 1952
David Williamson, 1952
Marilyn Coarney, 1953
Lavon (‘53) and Gleora (‘75) Covault
Bob Dyk, 1953
Ralph Evert, 1953
Ilene Good, 1953
Ray and Gwen Graves, 1953
Jo Kaffenberger, 1953
Sharon Ocker, 1953
Harold Raspulka, 1953
Bill (‘55) and Janie (‘52) Schulte

Merritt Jensen, 1940
Loren Moritz, 1941
Max Burroughs, 1942
Melvin Larsen, 1942
Edith Norrie, 1942
Nelda Peterson, 1942
Nina Kluidt, 1943
Marjorie Rider, 1943
Wanda Schmidt, 1943
Virginia Suth, 1943
Dorothy Fyson, 1944
Denel Fankhauser, 1944
Virgie Lee Shaw, 1944
Virginia Good, 1945
Shirley Wenzel, 1945
Joan Buhrmann, 1946
Dick and Mary Mansan, 1946
Janet Read, 1946
Evelyn Gibson, 1947
Margaret Harrold, 1947
Donal-Deen Lewis, 1947
Nelle Pflster, 1947
Marie Pupkes, 1947
Lura Herr, 1947
Ruth Nixon, 1948
Colleen Rader, 1948
Evelyn Yandel, 1948
Thomas (‘49) and Dorothy (‘49) Hallstrom
David Lang, 1949
Don Wagner, 1949
Gertrude Erteman, 1950
Elaine Roberts, 1950
Lewis and Darlene Weick, 1950
Kenneth Wollord, 1950
Barbara Clayburn, 1951
Charles (‘50) and Beverly (‘52) Coarney
Robert (‘51) and Marion (‘54) Eilers
Gale Eshelman, 1951
Jim (‘51) and Phyllis (‘51) Finkle
Joseph Gillispie, 1951
Carlos Harrison, 1951
Mary Kellogg, 1951
Verne Meest, 1951
Sherry Penrose, 1951
Grace Pitzer, 1951
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Jo Kaffenberger, 1953
Sharon Ocker, 1953
Harold Raspulka, 1953
Bill (‘55) and Janie (‘52) Schulte
Look at Those Bobcats Go!

Bobcats in Love
Allison Glathar (‘16) and Dana Haines wed on June 8, 2019. Allison is a Peru State graduate that now works with Falls City Public Schools and Dana works for Fan Global Solutions.

Don and Faye Ellen (Strole) Kuemling (‘66), celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary on February 5, 2019.

Sheila Remmerek (‘13) and John Bocher were wed June 15, 2019 in Tilden.

Tesla Oldfield (‘14) and Derrick Davis (‘14) were wed January 19, 2019 in Jacksonville, FL.

Kim Peters and Andrew Kuehl married February 9, 2019 at Poboco Lutheran Church in Fremont.

Look at ‘Em Go!

1950s
Bob Bohlin (‘59) began writing for a column in the Nowadays News Letter after he retired from Northwest Missouri State in 2000 after working there for 30 years. He had served as an administrator and as a professor of communications with research emphasis on semantics and listening. Before teaching at Northwest, Bohlin taught English, speech, and theatre at Peru State College. He also taught English for a high school in Stantion, IA., and Nebraska City, NE.

1960s
Gordon Pilmore (‘61) was selected to the Nebraska 8-man Hall of Fame in 2019. Past honors include the Football Coach Golden Award in 1988 and was named Nebraska Football Coach of the Year by the Nebraska Coaches Association in 1997/98. Pilmore also coached four state championship games in 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997.

Eld McCarty (‘64) was posthumously selected to the Wall of Fame reciprocant at Loup City Public Schools for his 39 years of service.

1970s
Dianne Bender (Melchar, ‘73) published a new series in December of educational materials for the visually impaired. The series includes examiner’s manuals and scoring manuals that contain beginning, middle, secondary, and transition skill lists to help determine and meet the developmental abilities of blind or visually impaired students, as well as students with additional disabilities.

Rodney Montang (‘73) was inducted into the Lewis Central Hall of Fame for his service as a teacher and administrator.

Irene Seebas (‘74) is retiring after 45 years of teaching at Johnson-Brock School. Her entire career was spent on the elementary level: kindergarten, first grade and second grade, along with Title 1.

Linda K. Dickeson (‘76) happily retired January 1, 2019 after 32 years at the Lincoln Public Schools. She will now do part time consulting/training, specializing in Adobe solutions in K-12 education.
Betty Lou (Berger) Weirick (45) of Colfax, IA passed away February 14, 2019. After receiving her BA of Arts from Peru State, she spent the next five years teaching high school English and Drama and then turned her attention to bookkeeping at the Weirick family drug store.

Leona Josephine Loomis Gayduske (47) of St. George, KS passed away March 19, 2019. Leona taught at district 45, taught grades 5-8 at Gilead, District 69, and District 23.

Charles Ernest Henning (47) of Peru passed away on March 24, 2019. Charles fought in World War II in the 106th Division on the front line during the Battle of the Bulge, received the Purple Heart and the bronze Star Service and later returned to the family farm.

Donal-Deen (Parriott) Lewis (49) of Kansas City, MO passed away May 21, 2019. She grew up on the family farm in Peru and later worked at the Bank of Peru and Omaha State Bank. She loved to travel and visited many countries. She was a member of Eastern Star and had been a member of PEO over 60 years.

George Oral Bloccher (48) of Lincoln, formerly Kearney, passed away March 16, 2019. George served in the U.S. Army and spent 38 years in education as a teacher, a professor and as a superintendent.

Millred “Millie” Mae (Straube) Hamms (49) of Syracuse passed away February 6, 2019. Millie taught for six years before she married.

Donald C. Wagner (49) of Brock passed away June 9, 2019. Donald served on a mine sweeper in the Pacific Ocean during WWII. Upon discharge, he received his degree and went on to teach at Auburn Public Schools and then went to work on the farm.

Robert “Bob” D. Haile (50) of Walnut Creek, CA passed away December 16, 2018. Bob served in the 78th Infantry Division in the European Theater of Operations during World War II, and after the war and receiving his degree, he pursued a career in the advertising industry.

Jean (Lloyd) Howland (50) of Plattsmouth passed away February 10, 2019 at the age of 89. Jean taught elementary school in Plattsmouth and later worked at Plattsmouth State Bank. She was a lifetime member of First Presbyterian Church.

Donalos A. (Wyers) Schultz (50) of Tecumseh passed away January 18, 2019. Dolores took normal training at Peru State College and taught school for a few years before her marriage.

Charles Robert “Bob” Utermohlen (50) of Alexandria, VA, formerly Mankato, MN, passed away January 9, 2019. After serving in the Navy, Bob received his degree from Peru State and taught in Idaho, multiple places in Nebraska, and in Minnesota.

Stanley “Stan” Longfellow (54) of Kearney passed away June 5, 2019. After a year of teaching at Peru State, Stan began a 33-year career of teaching biology at Kearney State College and UN-Kearney. He loved the outdoors and playing golf.

Josephine “Josie” Ann Crow (56) of Malvern, IA, born August 30, 1957 passed away December 6, 2018. Josie was a teacher in rural schools, a teacher’s aide, a bus driver, and went on to be the superintendent’s secretary/office manager and secretary for the school board.

Edward Lance Sterns (57) of Lincoln passed away June 19, 2019. Lance worked for Robert’s Dairy for 11 years and UPS for 27 years. Lance loved life and spending time with family and friends. He was always the life of the party.

Ronald Keith Wenninghoff (57) of Unadilla passed away March 20, 2019. Ron served two years in the U.S. Army, taught at school districts in Nebraska, Pawnee City, and Unadilla, in addition to being an administrator at Iowa Lakes Community College and served three terms as the One county superintendent of schools.

Harriett Norrene (Parkinson) Griffey (58) of Franklin, IA passed away April 7, 2019. Harriet received her teaching degree from Peru State Teaching College and loved teaching music.

Gale Brauch (59) of Gilead passed away June 13, 2019. Gale was a teacher and coach for many years before an early retirement to farm full time.

Jack M. Dodge (59) of Omaha passed away December 2, 2018. Jack created an organization called Investment in Others Unlimited where he assisted refugees and after earning his BA at Peru State he began his teaching career.

William “Bill” R. Lutz (59) of Omaha passed away February 11, 2019. Bill served in the U.S. Army and after obtaining his degree, worked for Firestone for 33 years and was the Regional Human Resources Director.

1960s

Janet Arlene (Bertram) Mortimore (60) of Clio, IA passed away February 16, 2018. Janet was a substitute teacher, City Clerk, and water treatment operator, along with being a creative person.

Lloyd Scarlow (60) of Fairbury passed away May 20, 2019. Lloyd was the first guidance counselor at Fairbury High School which he continued to do until his retirement in 2003. He also coached football, basketball and track. Outside of teaching and coaching, Lloyd enjoyed the trees, flowers, and gardens of his backyard.

Mary Magor Stuck (64) of Auburn, passed away January 12, 2019. Mary was a teacher in Fremont, Auburn, Sheridan, and Calvert, and obtained her real estate license.

Anthony Louis Vecchio (64) of Foster City, CA passed away November 25, 2018. After getting his degree in Art at Peru State, Anthony worked for InFlight Motion Pictures and was a private pilot, owning Aircoupe.

Michael Larry O’Donnell (65) of Manhattan, KS, formerly of McCook, passed away December 17, 2018. Michael worked at North American Rockwell, Aviation and McDonnell Douglas as an industrial engineer and then as an automobile salesman for Lee Jansen and Andy Anderson.


Roy D. Windhorst Jr. (66) of Clinton, WI passed away May 16, 2019. Roy taught at Glenwood, and then at Clinton High School for 33 years where he taught drafting, woodworking, small engines, and driver’s education, as well as coached.

John F. Bstandig (67) of Beatrice passed away March 8, 2019. John taught at St. Anthony’s Catholic School for several years and then worked as a mental retardation professional at Beatrice State Developmental Center.

Evelyn M. (Timmerman) Fossenberger (68) of Beatrice passed away March 31, 2019. Evelyn received Normal Training and taught rural school in Kansas and later graduated from Peru State Teaching College and taught elementary school.

Larry Jene Holding (68) of Eagle Grove, IA passed away March 10, 2019. Larry was an independent distributor for Borden Dairy Company, a teacher and coach at Southeast Consolidated High School, and was a guidance counselor and athletic director at Clarion-Goldfield Schools.

Nancy Christensen (69) of Atlantic, IA passed away May 15, 2019. Nancy was a third grade teacher for Atlantic Community Schools for 45 years, and after retirement continued to substitute teach.

1970s

Dennis Ernest Jesse Meyer (72) of Nebraska City passed away after a farming accident on February 9, 2019. Dennis loved farming and farming in the One county area for many years.

Dora Louise (Cartes) Wissler (72) of Pawnee City passed away February 28, 2019. Dora’s teaching career spanned over 35 years and was a member of various clubs.

Barton “Bart” J. Neri (73) of The Villages, Florida, died February 18, 2019. Bart received his degree in Communications at Peru State and went on to work for Burke Beverage and retired as the Vice President of Sales.

Loretta Agnes (Gerren) Davis (74) of Nebraska City passed away December 17, 2018. Loretta had received both her BA and Masters in education.

Karen Ann (Gress) Madison (77) of Sidney, IA passed away May 7, 2019. Karen was a home economics teacher, a stay-at-home mother, a substitute teacher, and a second grade teacher.

1990s

Daniel Michael LaRose (97) of Winnetraca, NV passed away April 19, 2019 after fighting with lymphoma. Daniel served as a teacher, a basketball coach, a school administrator, vice-principal, and as principal.

2000s

Michael Drew Stoddard (77) of Nebraska City passed away January 1, 2019 after a fight with cancer. Mike worked at Sarp Brothers Truck Shop and for Peters Construction and Magnolia Metal Corporation, and with Union Pacific Railroad.

Tammy L. Sherman (77) of Sidney passed away March 24, 2019. Tammy taught at Westside Schools in Omaha for eight years and was Vice President of the Westside Education Association, and then taught at Sidney Public Schools.

Alumni

Mildred Marie Gerdes Bleiferemich of Kearney passed away January 29, 2019. Mildred began teaching at Peace Lutheran Parochial School in Dohler, then at Davenport Community Schools, and then as a substitute teacher for Kearney Public Schools.

Jane Elizabeth (Christensen) Brooks of Bellevue passed away March 10, 2019. Jane taught in a one-room school house in Nebraska and King Ranch in Texas and moved around the country during WWII in support of her husband.

Joanne Kay (Brock) Grancer of Tecumseh passed away April 4, 2019. After obtaining her teaching certificate, Joanne was a teacher, diet center owner, activity director, and a restaurant cook.

Betty J. Harker, of Ames, IA passed away February 23, 2019. Betty was employed in the finance department of the city of Ames for 30 years and was elected president of the Municipal Finance Officers of the Unites States and Canada.

Chad M. Kohout of Lincoln passed away March 9, 2019. Chad had a love of baseball and played for Coffeiville Community College and Peru State College.

Maxine Elaine Sampson of Marysville, KS passed away May 15, 2019. Maxine began her teaching career in a one room school house and then taught kindergarten for many years.

Leota May (Timmer) Uhl of Table Rock passed away February 4, 2019. Leota taught school for Tecumseh, Pawnee City, Table Rock, Nebraska and in Puerto Rico while she lived there.

Friends

Linor Christopher “Chris” Bueth of Savannah, GA passed away December 22, 2018. A lifelong educator with numerous awards and accomplishments, Chris received his doctorate degree in secondary education.

Judy Harper of Norfolk, formerly Auburn, passed away May 21, 2019 in her home. Judy was the spouse of Charles “Chet” Harper, longtime Peru State College professor.

continued on back page
Welcome New Members of the Foundation Board of Directors

Dr. Judy (Green) Grotrian ('72)
Nebraska City, NE

Jeff Greenwald ('71)
Lincoln, NE

The Foundation is governed by an all-volunteer Board of Directors distinguished by outstanding personal and professional accomplishments. Board members are alumni and friends who provide invaluable guidance in fundraising, portfolio and financial management, strategic planning and organization building.