TETON THUNDER
WINTER 2016

WILLISTON STATE COLLEGE FOUNDATION:
BRINGING COMMUNITIES & COLLEGE TOGETHER

TEN COUNTIES: NOW ELIGIBLE FOR FREE TUITION
Right now, the future is brighter than ever for your financial growth and you need advisors who see the right opportunities.

Our wealth management team offers well-designed, carefully crafted plans to fit your goals and comfort levels. Raymond James Financial Services complements American State Bank’s Trust Department services. Together, we identify the right opportunities in today’s economy to help you reach your goals—and far beyond.
As fall turns to winter during another semester of growth at Williston State College, I look forward to the holiday season with a great deal of thankfulness.

I am thankful for a bountiful harvest, the beautiful (and pleasantly warm) autumn weather, and WSC’s outstanding staff and students. But I am especially thankful for the WSC Foundation’s continued support. Each year the Foundation invests $2 million in scholarships for our students. If not for their efforts, many of our students simply could not afford a college education.

Though the Foundation and its generous donors already allow WSC to offer great scholarship opportunities to students in northwestern North Dakota, they are “upping the ante” this year by expanding the WSC Regional Scholarship program into northeastern Montana in 2017-2018. Truly, their commitment to students knows no bounds.

While supporting our students is its primary focus, the Foundation helps the College fulfill its mission every day with financial support and in a myriad of “little ways.” WSC would not be able to do what we do without the active partnership and support of the WSC Foundation.

The Foundation is one of the best examples at WSC of “Where the people make the difference.”

Respectfully,
Dr. John Miller
Acting President and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Massage Clinic Opens in New WSC Location ▶

WSC’s Massage Therapy has moved to the Western Star Career and Technology Center (CTE). The move was necessary due to the program’s enrollment doubling in the past three years. The new location allows for a larger clinic space, office space, easier parking, and a separate lecture room. It also allows massage to join WSC’s other CTE/trade programs.

“I am very excited to have more room in the CTE building,” notes WSC Associate Professor of Massage Therapy Wendy McGinley. “These new amenities will allow massage to continue to be successful.”

WSC massage students get hands-on experience at the WSC Massage Therapy clinic, which is open to the community at no charge. Donations are recommended in order to maintain the clinic throughout the year. If you would like to schedule a massage, please call the clinic at 701.774.4297.

Ethics Class Invites House of Representatives Candidate into Classroom ▶

As a way to incorporate the practical implications of ethics, ethics instructor Kaylyn Bondy has invited community professionals as guest speakers into her classroom this fall. One such speaker was Iraq war veteran and House of Representative-District 2 Democratic candidate Brandon Delvo.

A May 2016 WSC graduate, Delvo discussed his family’s past in politics, his military service, and his current political race. Each, he said, involves ethical standards.

“It is my hope that those with real life, practical experience are able to make a lasting impact on students and reinforce the practicality of understanding how ethics are used across various professions,” explains Bondy. “Hearing how Delvo incorporated similar ethical approaches in both his military experience and his political campaign perfectly reinforced this week’s lesson.”

Weismann visits National Communication Association Conference

WSC Arts and Human Sciences Chair Kim Weismann has been chosen to represent North Dakota at the Central States Communication Association conference in Minneapolis this March. She will debut two panels at the conference, including “Retention and Success of COMM 110” with Shannon Van Horn, Nancy Pearson, Christina Paxman, and “Technology 2.0,” also with Van Horn.

WSC Petroleum Technology in the Community ▶

WSC Petroleum Technology Instructor Gerald (Mack) McGillivary gave a presentation to Bethel Lutheran Nursing & Rehabilitation Center this fall, speaking about the oil industry to more than thirty residents. Mack was rewarded with banana bread to bring back to WSC!

In October, Mack and his WSC petroleum students also toured both Weatherford and Halliburton. Students discussed Weatherford’s “Safety Always” culture and learned how Weatherford repairs and refurbishes a variety of drilling and production tools. In addition to touring Halliburton’s Williston facility, students engaged with multiple speakers, learning about Halliburton’s involvement in all aspects of the oil and gas industry.

Bakken U Scholarships Awarded at WSC

This fall, the WSC Foundation generously donated five $1,000 scholarships to displaced or current oil field workers/spouses as part of the NDUS Bakken U Scholarship Program.

“Bakken U provides current and prospective students an excellent opportunity to enhance individual skills and gives them the option to retrain for new jobs,” explains WSC Acting President John Miller. “The Bakken U initiative extends beyond career/technical programs and is truly focused on providing students with expanded educational opportunities across a wide range of technical and transfer programs.”

Anna Hayes and Alexandra Kirkegaard were two of Bakken U recipients. Hayes, who grew up in Divide County, is earning her associate’s degree in petroleum processing technology while she continues to work part-time as a lease operator. Kirkegaard, a Williston native, is attending WSC to earn her certificate in mental health and addictions, with an eye on an advanced degree in psychology.

NDUS Chancellor Mark Hagerott said that the recipients embodied the spirit of the Bakken U initiative.

“These young women have shown a drive and dedication to furthering their own education, and careers,” notes Hagerott. “Their continued hard work exemplifies the type of candidate these scholarships were set up to reward.”
WSC Hosts Relay For Life

Relay For Life, the signature fundraising event for the American Cancer Society (ACS) was held on the WSC campus for the second year in a row in July. The Upper Missouri Relay For Life, part of the Great West Division of the ACS, has raised over $200,000 annually since 2010. This year the event was held on a Saturday and did not continue overnight, but ended with a fireworks display just before midnight.

“The WSC campus is a wonderful place to hold our event,” notes Pamela Stromme, media lead for the 2016 Upper Missouri Relay For Life. “It is the perfect setting. The committee received numerous comments throughout the day about how pleased everyone is with the venue.”

Back-to-back events by WSC’s Relay For Life team allowed them to raise more than $4,000 for the ACS this year. With former WSC President Raymond Nadolny moving back to Seattle to be with his family, the WSC Relay team was given the opportunity to sell any items that remained in the president’s house, as well as other items donated by team members and WSC staff and faculty.

Holocaust Survivor Speaks at WSC

WSC was honored to welcome Holocaust survivor Eva Kor to campus in November. Kor is a renowned forgiveness advocate and a revered public speaker.

In 1944, Kor and her family were forced into a cattle car packed with other Jewish prisoners and transported to the Auschwitz concentration camp. Kor and her twin sister Miriam were torn from their parents and other siblings, never to see any of them again. Kor and her sister became part of a group of children used as human guinea pigs in genetic experiments under the direction of the now-infamous Dr. Josef Mengele until the camp was liberated a year later.

Powered by a never-give-up attitude, Kor has emerged from a life filled with trauma as a brilliant example of the power of the human spirit to overcome. She is a community leader, a champion of human rights, and a tireless educator of young people.

Historic Baseball Game Returns to WSC

WSC staged its eighth historic baseball game in October, providing a sort of hands-on final exam for Associate Professor Richard Stenberg’s course on nineteenth-century period baseball.

“These students have to show the skills that they have learned in an authentic period play,” Stenberg explains. “Though some of the play is similar, some things are uniquely different.”

Teams were composed of Stenberg’s students, many of whom are also Teton baseball players, as well as volunteers from WSC faculty and staff. WSC Foundation Executive Director Terry Olson threw out the first pitch after both teams serenaded the cranks and rooters (fans) with a Northern Civil War period piece.

An Evening With Buffalo Bill Cody

Minot reenactor Chris Floyd and Associate Professor Richard Stenberg performed an historical reenactment at WSC in October. “An Evening with Buffalo Bill Cody” was a conversation between Stenberg and Floyd, both dressed in period clothing, reminiscing on Cody’s past, with Floyd playing Buffalo Bill Cody himself.

This type of educational presentation, called a “Chautauqua”, became popular in the late nineteenth century. At a Chautauqua, a scholar who studied the life of an individual would portray him or her for audiences all over the country. Theodore Roosevelt considered Chautauqua to be “the most American thing in America.”

“Chris has participated every year at our Rendezvous and he has been there year after year for our Living History Weekend over Labor Day,” notes Stenberg, who has also served as a park ranger at Fort Union for more than twenty seasons.

“Chris is a spitting image of a younger Buffalo Bill Cody. He did a fine job putting this role together, and I was excited we were able to showcase his talent through this event.”

The first half of this presentation can be viewed on Williston State College’s Facebook page.
If you know a former WSC student who’s up to something interesting, let us know about it. We want to share their stories.

Email us at tetonthunder@wscfoundation.com

**Alumni Updates**

**Warren Quick, ’86** (Circle, MT) works in the Human Resources Department for BNSF Railway. He and his wife, Jami, live in Springfield, MO with their three kids, Abby (12), Connor (10), and Garrett (7).

**Brian Torske, ’98** (Tioga) is currently working as a Certified Nurse Practitioner for the St. Alexius Heart and Lung Clinic in Bismarck, specializing in interventional cardiology. **Kathy (Olson) Torske, ’98** (Arnegard) is the President/CEO of American Trust Center in Bismarck. They have three children, Jarin (10), Esley (6), and Afton (3).

**Brandon Johnson, ’99** (Williston), is General Manager of Triangle Electric, Inc. in Williston, where he has been employed for fourteen years. He and wife, Melissa, have three daughters, Grace (10), Molly (6), and Sadie (2).

**Jaden Blake, ’00** (Dickinson) has been employed with Microsoft in Fargo for the past thirteen years as a Premier Field Engineer. He and his wife, Mendi, have three daughters, Harper (6), Hadley (1), and Harlow (1).

**Mike Kjellerson, ’03** (Williston) has recently been promoted to Director of Sports Medicine at North Dakota State University. He is also close to completing his Ph.D. in the Health, Nutrition, and Exercise Science Department. He and his wife, Mykke, have two children, Carsen (6) and Ashlyn (3).

**Dave Moore, ’04** (Williston) has recently been named Marketing and Sales Manager for Craft Electric.

**Katie (Aide) Kringen ’05** (Bottineau) completed her master’s in speech and language pathology at Minot State University and recently established Chatter Pediatric Therapy, a private practice located in Williston to serve children with occupational, physical, and speech and language therapy. She is married to Josh Kringen and they have two children, Cruz (4) and Piper (2).

**Hope (Volesky) Klein ’05** (South Heart) is a Controller for MBI Oil and Gas in Belfield. She and her husband, Erik, live in South Heart.

**Derek Bearse, ’06** (Williston) is HR Supervisor for the North Dakota, North East, and Wyoming District for Nabors Drilling Technologies USA.

**Heidi (Rettig) Johnson ’08** (Lewistown, MT) has been a tax accountant at Eide Bailly in Williston for the last four years. She is married to Kevin Johnson, also of Williston.

**Amy Venn, ’15** (Sidney, MT) has been invited to intern with the *High Plains Reader* in Fargo. Amy is completing a degree in journalism and media communication with a minor in marketing at Valley City State University. She started writing for the *High Plains Reader* during a 2016 summer program with ieiMedia in Oslo, Norway. Amy was also selected this fall as VCSU student delegate and ieiMedia exhibitor and presenter at the Associated Collegiate Press Convention in Washington, D.C.
The WSC Nursing Department has gained significant support this year, thanks to three substantial donations from the Herman Family Trust, Jane Nelson, and the Pergande family.

Each family generously donated to the WSC Foundation to help further the education of WSC students in the medical field.

The Herman Family Trust and Jane Nelson created four scholarships, two each, to provide significant assistance for dedicated nursing students deserving of financial need.

Now managed by their children—Connie (Herman) Teske and December Herman, along with grandchildren Stacy Massey and Steven Teske and family friend Steve Oyloe, the Herman Family Trust also honored Robert and Sharon Herman in September when they were granted naming rights to the last lab located in the WSC science wing.

Jane Nelson, daughter of the late Leonard P. Nelson, followed in her father’s footsteps by donating to WSC. Leonard P. Nelson was a generous benefactor, and the Health Science Wing, home to the nursing program, is named in his honor.

A retired surgical nurse, Nelson is a strong advocate for nursing, believing that a nursing degree can lead to multiple career paths.

“I was always proud that my father gave to WSC,” Nelson notes. “I thought it would be a great thing to do.”

The donations were even more significant because the North Dakota Challenge Fund matched them. In an agreement that began July 1, 2015, the North Dakota Challenge Fund will contribute $1 for every $2 donated to the WSC Foundation.

“The Herman Family Trust and Jane Nelson see such value in the nursing profession,” WSC Foundation Executive Director Terry Olson says. “We are very appreciative of their generosity. It has been a joy to work with them and we hope to continue this relationship for many years to come.”

The Pergande family generously donated $1,000 scholarships for all students enrolled in the Nursing and Massage Therapy Programs. A total of sixty-five students received this donation, fifty-two nursing and thirteen massage therapy students.

The scholarships were either put towards outstanding college bills or the purchase of program supplies. Several massage therapy students purchased needed items such as tables, sheets, blankets, oils, lotions, and table warmers.

"In the world of a college student $1,000 can go a long way," explains WSC Massage Therapy Associate Professor Wendy McGinley. “Everybody has multiple ‘irons in the fire’ and this gift made it so that some of those ‘irons’ aren’t quite so hot. It was greatly appreciated.”

The donation to the nursing department meant that several students who were working additional hours during the school year are able to provide financial l...
The **Pergande family** donated $1,000 scholarships for all students enrolled in the **Nursing and Massage Therapy Programs.**

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### HERMAN & NELSON Scholarships Recipients

1. **Ashley Mathews**
   - Ashley attends the Newtown site. She lives in Tioga and drives to the Newtown campus two to three days a week and then to Minot for clinicals at Trinity Hospital. Originally from Nebraska, she has been here for three years and plans to remain in the area upon graduating in May. In addition to her classes, Ashley works part-time as a CNA at the Tioga Hospital.

2. **Abigail Sefah**
   - Abi was born in the United States but her parents were not American citizens, so she is, as WSC Director for Student Financial Aid Heather Fink puts it, “a student without a country.” Because of this, Abi is not eligible for traditional loans or grants to assist with financing her nursing education. Upon finding out that she would receive the scholarship, Abi was elated and thankful, adding, “You have no idea how much this means and how much it is going to help.”

3. **Danielle Pense**
   - Dani is in her second year of the WSC nursing program. Originally from Idaho, she moved to Eastern Montana with her fiancé. In addition to her classes, Dani maintains a work study position with WSC Counselor Leah Hoffman and also works outside of school on the Sidney ambulance squad. “I cannot speak enough about Dani’s respectful, professional demeanor and attitude,” adds Raasakka. “She is a joy to have in clinical.”

4. **Tina Plunk**
   - Tina is a single mother with three children. She lives in Minot and attends nursing school at the Newtown site. Tina wants to become a nurse and make a better life for her and her children, so she drives seventy-five miles each way three or four days a week to attend class. Raasakka notes that Tina is a good student and a leader among the students at the Newtown site.

“...The generosity shown by the Pergande, Herman, and Nelson families is overwhelming, and ‘thank you’ is not enough,” adds WSC Nursing Program Director Gail Raasakka. “The scholarships truly change the lives of these students, giving them a chance to breathe without being worried about money all the time.”

“As one of the only colleges in the nation where every high school graduate in the service area can attend WSC and receive full tuition and fees, we want to keep student affordability our utmost priority,” explains Olson. “Having additional scholarships for specific successful programs like nursing and massage can now became our donors’ next priority.”
In May 2016 the WSC Marketing Department received an unusual request. Paul Schadendoff contacted WSC because he was looking for advice about how to get his son Troy a Teton hat signed by Wesley de Jong, Troy’s favorite baseball player, before de Jong started playing for the Tetons this fall.

The marketing department obliged the Schadenoffs by sending them two Teton hats in June.

“(Troy) has a collection of baseball hats, but as soon as the WSC hat came in, all the others got put to the side,” Schadendoff notes. “He was ecstatic. He showed the whole family, and then didn’t take it off till he went to sleep that night. He wore the WSC hat at his U12 State Trials and got in, so now it’s his ‘lucky hat’.”

Troy Schadendoff, 10, and de Jong are from Hoppers Crossing, Australia, where they belong to the same baseball club. Asked by the coaches to be the batboy for the club’s seniors program, Troy was instantly hooked by the friendly, comedic atmosphere of the team.

Troy became the mascot of the Werribee Giants Baseball Club, and the senior players loved having him around. Troy’s love of baseball is fueled by the Werribee Giants senior players being outstanding role models on and off the field, particularly de Jong.

“Wes is cool. He doesn’t treat me like a baby, and he’s got mad skills! He’s a pitcher like me,” explains Troy.

The relaxed, laid back de Jong is proud of his super fan.

“I think it’s great that a young boy has taken interest in his club and players doing well in the sport,” says de Jong. “You can tell he wants to aim for that as well. It feels weird because I haven’t really done anything yet. But at the same time, it’s great because it pushes me to make sure I do well over there and show Troy that his admiration has paid off.”

WSC’s roster has had an Australian presence since the 2014 season, and de Jong is one of three Australian athletes that will be on the Teton baseball roster this year. James Wood and Jesse O’Connell will return for their sophomore year to play for the Tetons.

“Australians have very limited opportunity to play baseball in college, so many of them are looking just to keep playing, and they mostly all want to come to the United States,” explains Teton Head Baseball Coach Shawn Cote. “I have been fortunate to have found contacts in Australia that have helped me land a few good athletes.”

Baseball’s spring schedule begins Feb 25. First home game is March 25 vs Dawson CC.
TrainND Provides Home For Williston Native Chef

Chef Allyson Helde has been serving fresh and flavorful lunches and catering TrainND events since January 2016, when The Bistro opened in the TrainND-Northwest building to meet the demands of TrainND’s trainees, clients, and students.

With over fifteen years’ experience in the food industry, Helde began her first real kitchen experience at Pierce's Steakhouse in Williston. Before returning to Williston, she studied at Le Cordon Bleu in Las Vegas and worked at the Ritz Carlton, Hard Rock Hotel, and other fine dining establishments.

The Bistro offers unique daily specials and soups for dining in or take out, Monday through Friday 11–1:30. Helde’s specials change each week. To experience The Bistro’s new menu, stop by TrainND-Northwest at 415 22nd Ave NE, Williston, ND.

Third Annual Women in Leadership Expo

Women in Leadership (Wil) returned to WSC for its third annual Expo in October. The Wil–Expo provides a forum for women in communities to connect, develop professionally, share meaningful experiences, and inspire each other to achieve their personal and professional goals.

Speakers included Wendy Gendreau, Chrissy Hollerman, Karissa Kjos, Kylie Oversen, and Marti Volz, and they discussed topics including leadership with purpose, communication in the workplace, failure and resiliency, female expectations, goals for success, health, and more.

STUDENT [Q&A]

Chris Hille

Who would play you in a movie about your life?
Vince Vaughn.

What’s your most embarrassing moment?
I ripped my shorts trying to pick up something heavy at a cookout.

Tell us a joke.
Why do seagulls fly over the sea? Because if they flew over the bay, they would be bagels.

What would your super power be?
I would want to fly.

What profession are you hoping to do?
I want to be in the Secret Service.

What profession are you hoping to avoid?
I don’t want to be a mortician.

What’s next for you after you finish at WSC?
I’m not too sure. I like living day-by-day.

What were you doing before you came to WSC?
I was playing hockey in Virginia.

What has been your favorite class at WSC?
History 255: The Great War, taught by Professor Stenberg.

Who has been your favorite teacher at WSC?
It’s a tie between Professors Kim Weismann and Richard Stenberg.

What has been your favorite activity at WSC outside of class?
TAB (Teton Activity Board) and Ice Hockey.

What would you tell a prospective student who’s thinking about coming to WSC?
I’d say that it is a great place to start your college career. The professors value all of their students as individuals.

What advice do you have for your fellow WSC students?
Go to all TAB events and hockey games.

What makes college easier or harder today than it was 20 years ago?
It’s easier with the amount of resources you have at your disposal, but it’s also harder, due to the amount of distractions you have.

If you could invite three people over for a dinner party (anyone, living or dead), who would you invite?
My late grandmother, my late grandfather, and Ronald Reagan. And I’d hope my grandmother would cook the food.

Desert island top five: you can take a total of five movies/books/albums with you on a desert island. What are your choices?
The movies Miracle and Lone Survivor, Straight Outta Compton (both the movie and the album), and the book No Easy Day.
Who would play you in a movie about your life?
Reese Witherspoon.

Tell us about your most embarrassing moment.
When I was little I went up on stage to play a song on my violin in church and forgot it completely. I did not know what to do, so I put my violin down and ran to the bathroom. It is something I will probably never forget as long as I live.

What’s your favorite word?
I love to talk so it is very hard for me to choose just one favorite word. I think “sass” or “sassy” is probably what I use the most here lately.

What would your super power be?
If I could have any super power, I would want to fly. I have family and friends spread out across America so it would be nice to be able to just fly to them whenever I wanted.

What profession are you hoping to do?
The profession I hope to have after I graduate college is a high school counselor.

What profession are you hoping to avoid?
I hope to avoid anything to do with accounting. That class was almost the death of me, and learned that I do not have the patience to work with numbers all day.

What’s next for you after you finish at WSC?
After I finish here at WSC I plan to attend Oklahoma Baptist University to pursue a bachelor’s degree in pre-counseling.

What has been your favorite class at WSC?
My favorite class thus far has been Introduction to Psychology with Lynne Raymond.

Who has been your favorite teacher at WSC?
I really enjoyed many of my teachers here, but if I have to pick one my favorite teacher at WSC would be James Stout.

What would you tell a prospective student who’s thinking about coming to WSC?
Give it a fair chance. A lot of people might write it off because it is a small school or because they have negative feelings about Williston. I did the same thing when I was a senior in high school, but it has been so much more than I ever thought it would be. I honestly wish it was a four-year institution so I could finish my education here.

What advice do you have for your fellow WSC students?
Take advantage of the resources we have here. The teachers are willing to do whatever they can to help you achieve your goals. Be active and get involved in organizations on campus. There’s more to college than just going to class and writing papers.

If you could invite three people over for a dinner party (anyone, living or dead), who would you invite?
My guests would be Tim Tebow, Eleanor Roosevelt, and Paul Bowles.

Desert island top five: you can take a total of five movies/books/albums with you on a desert island. What are your choices?
I would take my Bible, Wilderness Survival For Dummies, Catching Fire, and books six and seven of the Harry Potter series.
1. Student Life kicks off the school year with Week of Welcome’s campus scavenger hunt in August.  
2. Interpersonal Communication students compete to build the tallest structure without speaking in September.  
3. Clay Sponable cooks up another savory dish at one of WSC’s weekly summer BBQs.  
4. NDUS Chancellor Mark Hagerott and SBHE Chair Kathleen Neset discuss energy concerns at WSC’s Envision 2030 pillar discussion in October.  
5. WSC hosts Williston Fire Department at one of their monthly breakfasts in October.  
6. Magician Daniel Martin welcomes and mesmerizes students in August.  
7. Week of Welcome’s, welcome BBQ in August.  
8. WSC In-service brainstorm session in August.  
9. Acting President Dr. Miller welcomes students at convocation in August.  
10. WSC hosts Williston Police Department at one of their monthly breakfasts in September.  
11. WARC hosts fall in-service in August.  
12. Dr. Miller giving UND President Kennedy a tour of WSC in October.  
13. Nursing students participate in annual Bras for a Cause event in November.  
14. Interpersonal communication students learn about proximity and touch as they attempt to flip the tablecloth they are standing on without stepping on the carpet in October.  
15. TAB hosts Corn Cob as part of WSC’s Week of Welcome in August  
16. Sean Lynch from National ACTE and North Dakota CTE Representative Rick Ross inform on CTE objectives in July.  
17. Dr. Miller welcomes eight new employees on a campus tour in July.  
18. Root beer floats for a study snack in September  
19. Teton Baseball concludes their Black vs Green scrimmages with a costume softball game on Halloween.  
20. Women’s Teton Basketball welcome trick-or-treaters at WSC’s first annual Teton Trail on Halloween.  
22. WSC’s Kim Wray and Caitlin Pallai dress to impress at one of the twelve Teton Trail stops for Halloween.
The WSC Foundation is proud to announce an expansion to the Regional County Scholarship to include Daniels, Richland, Roosevelt, Sheridan, and Valley Counties in northeastern Montana.

The Regional County Scholarship was established last February with four counties in northwestern North Dakota: Burke, Divide, McKenzie, and Mountrail.

“It has long been a goal of our Foundation to help our regional students,” explains WSC Foundation Executive Director Terry Olson. “Eastern Montana is a great service area for WSC and we have a strong alumni base there. The time was right to include them. We are proud to be able to help reduce the cost of education for our regional students.”

Beginning next fall, the scholarship will be available to eligible 2017 high school graduates and students earning their GEDs within Burke, Daniels, Divide, McKenzie, Mountrail, Richland, Roosevelt, Sheridan, and Valley Counties. Applications will be accepted on a first-come first-serve basis, and are limited to allocated funds.

“An expansion of the WSC Foundation Regional County scholarship program into northeastern Montana and northwestern North Dakota,” notes Dr. John Miller, acting president of WSC. “More importantly, extending the Regional County Scholarship program into northeastern Montana offers more than 600 additional high school seniors an opportunity for an affordable college education.”

“This new scholarship is innovative and speaks highly of the work being done by Williston State College and the WSC Foundation to expand opportunities for students in their region,” adds NDUS Chancellor Mark Hagerott. “They will give more students in that area a chance at furthering their education and opportunities for success through one of our community colleges.”
**Williams County Graduate Scholarship Extension**

In May 2016, the Alva J. Field Trust committed an additional $800,000 to continue funding the Williams County Graduate (WCG) Scholarship.

Graduates of Williams County high schools, regardless of the year, are eligible for free tuition and fees, thanks to a partnership between the Alva J. Field Trust, WSC Foundation, and the ND Higher Education Challenge Fund.

“For the Trust to donate this additional amount shows a real commitment to this idea over the course of the next several years,” Olson explains. “They like what they have seen so far and have been so positive about the entire program. This donation is fantastic because it also has been matched by the North Dakota Challenge Fund for an additional $400,000.”

In the first year of the WCG Scholarship, 344 students were awarded scholarships. These students composed 33% of WSC’s total record-breaking enrollment. This year, WSC has 428 Regional and WCG Scholarship recipients, contributing to yet another record-breaking year, with 1,039 students enrolled for Fall 2016.

“Working with the Alva J. Field trustees has been wonderful,” says Olson. “To see an idea grown into a means to provide free tuition and fees to this many Williams County graduates already has blown us away. It’s a great partnership and a fun experience.”

The WSC Foundation has also created housing scholarships to begin next fall for students to help offset the cost of living on campus. Each student receiving the Regional County or WCG Scholarship is eligible to receive a housing scholarship of $1,000 per semester.

To apply for the Regional County or WCG Scholarship, students must complete an application for admission to WSC and pay their application fee by May 1, 2017. FAFSA forms must be completed and handed in before August 21, 2017. Separate applications for the scholarships are no longer required.

Students must maintain the following minimum requirements to keep the Regional County or WCG Scholarship: full-time status (twelve to sixteen credits); enrolled for up to four consecutive semesters (excluding summers); a 2.0 term GPA; and enrollment in at least one on-campus course per semester.

These scholarships will continue at WSC as long as funding and donations are available. The WSC Foundation encourages anyone interested in donating to please contact the WSC Foundation at 701.572.9275.
Happy Holidays Teton Family,

It has been an exciting year so far, and we are only halfway through it. This year has been unique with some of the changes we have had at the college, as well as with the adjustments to the economic climate. We see more students are able and willing to attend college, especially as they are able to afford housing in the area and on campus.

We are seeing a big impact from the Williams County Graduate and Regional County Scholarships. As you may have heard, our recruitment numbers have hit all-time highs in the athletic department. The hockey team has thirty-five players on the roster while the baseball team has hit forty! Both have been able to use the regional scholarships to recruit more players to come to Williston State. We are already starting to see great early returns for the 2017 season as volleyball and softball are hitting the recruiting trail pretty hard.

I am truly excited about the staff we have and the direction the program (and the college as a whole) is headed. In the 2017–2018 seasons, we could potentially host postseason tournaments for Volleyball Sub–Regions, Regionals, and Districts, Men’s and Women’s Basketball Regionals, Softball Regionals, and Baseball Conference, Regional, and District Championships. I believe Williston will be the hub of postseason play in the 2017–2018 year.

Over the past few years, one thing I’ve been working on is building the connection between you and your Tetons. I feel that connection starts with the leaders of each of the Teton teams, so beginning in this issue, the Teton Thunder will highlight one coach to help you get to know them better, starting with Teton Head Men’s Basketball Coach Rylee Hernandez. I hope you enjoy!

Dan Artamenko
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#TINY TETONS

1. Bowen, 3 months  
   Kayla Anderson (WSC Bookstore Manager) & Adam Schneider  
   Williston, ND

2. Waylon, 3 & Walker, 3 months  
   Leah (WSC Mental Health Counselor) & Brandon Hoffman  
   Williston, ND

3. Graham, 3 & Cora, 5 months  
   Jenny Wolf (WSC Creative Director) & Matt Nelson  
   Williston, ND

4. Harper, 2  
   Amy (WSC Executive Assistant) & Steven Armstrong  
   Williston, ND

5. Corban, 3 with WSC Teton goalie Arren Romeril  
   Crystal ’08 (WSC Registrar, Research Analyst) & Luke Hotchkiss ’00 & ’02  
   Williston, ND

6. Brinley, 4 months with Max  
   Kristina (WSC Bookstore Assistant Manager) and Travis Kitchens  
   Williston, ND

SEND US YOUR PICS

Kids, family, pets, wedding and alumni photos are all welcome.

Send high-resolution photos to tetonthunder@wscfoundation.com.
The Lady Tetons started their 2016–17 season in November under the helm of new head coach Kia Herbel. The Tetons have four returning sophomores from last year’s squad and have gained six freshmen to round out the team.

Returning sophomores include Jessi Zuroff (Billings, MT), Taylor Nelson (Ray), Sabrina Carter (Fortuna), and Madison Jaeger (Garrison). “These sophomores bring experience to the floor and have great attitudes and work ethic that will help lead the team,” notes Herbel.

The freshmen include Maycie Brunelle (Williston), Ashonni Limbs (Garland, TX), Jessica Gentry (Williston), Katie Nice (Williston), Jodee McDonnell (Williston), and Gabbi Norris (Timber Lake, SD). “This group of freshmen brings a new excitement and energy to the court, along with quickness and ball-handling skills that will help make the team more well-rounded,” adds Herbel. “Having a balanced mix of freshmen and sophomores will help create an exciting dynamic on the floor.”

Kenny Gee is entering his first season as the play-by-play announcer for Williston State College.

While earning his degree at Iowa State University, the Roseville, Minnesota native began his broadcasting career as PA announcer for the Cyclone Club Baseball team. Also at Iowa State he was involved with on-air production of sports shows, interviews and live band productions for KURE 89.1.

Gee learned script writing and commercial production while interning for 660 KEYZ News Radio in Williston. As their morning show intern he also delivered breaking news and filled in as host of the Trading Post.

Gee has also worked for top radio companies in the Twin Cities, including iHeartMedia, where he worked for the Dave Ryan in the Morning Show on KDWB, and CBS, where he worked for the stations WCCO, BUZ’N and Jack FM.
Head Men’s Basketball Coach
Rylee Hernandez came to WSC in 2013 as an assistant coach and helped grow both the women’s and men’s programs. In 2014, he was named the top assistant for the men’s program. After the departure of Head Coach Cory Fehringer to Western Nebraska in 2016, Hernandez was named as the new head coach.

What drove you to get into coaching?
Basketball has always been a passion of mine. My father coached my brothers and me in my youth. He coached with great passion for the game and the people playing it. He continues to coach the game at the youth level with great passion. My father loves the strategy behind the game as well. He has always encouraged me to be a student of the game.

As I grew and observed coaches and teachers that I had in all sports I played and all the subjects I studied, I discovered a deep appreciation for their attention to detail, hard work, and dedication to their craft. They inspired me and many others to be great people as well as great student-athletes. They all had such great impacts on my life that I decided I wanted to do the same for young people while coaching the game of basketball.

Tell us about a mentor or coach who is important in your life.
Paul McDonald and April Arvan are two coaches that are very important in my life. Both coach or have coached college basketball. They are people who instilled the values of servant leadership in me. I have a deep love and appreciation for the care and attention they have put into my life and the lives of many others.

What are some of the things you like to do in your free time?
In my free time I like to compete against my wife Kit, who is quite the competitor. We play board games and card games, throw darts, and bowl. We also enjoy the plays that Entertainment Inc! provides in Williston. Most recently we experienced The Rocky Horror Show, which was quite the production.

What is the best advice you ever received?
The best advice I have ever received came from my older brother, Ross. He is an English major who has published shorts, poems, plays, and many other forms of literature and art. He is the smartest man I know. He said, “There is a necessity in our humanity to unite our will with the will of our fates. To strive, but not push against the outcomes of our striving.” This has always stuck with me. These words have allowed me to work every day to control what only I can truly control. While doing that, I can understand that if an objective is to be reached for, the outcome, whether desired or undesired, is the outcome necessary for me to continue to learn and grow.

What was your very first job?
My very first job was at a bingo hall in St. Paul, MN. I was tasked with the job of scrapping bingo stamps off of the tables, vacuuming, taking the trash out, and mopping the entryways on Saturday mornings.

What is your favorite restaurant or food?
My favorite restaurants in town are Don Pedro’s and Eleven. Don Pedro’s always has great service and authentic Mexican dishes cooked to perfection. Eleven has by far the best burgers and nachos in town. The burgers are cooked to order and the nachos seem endless.

Who is your favorite professional sports team?
My favorite sports teams are the Minnesota Twins, Minnesota Vikings, and the Minnesota Timberwolves, in no particular order. I also enjoy the Minnesota Wild, the Minnesota Lynx, and the Saint Paul Saints. I’m a homer through and through!
New field, new dugouts.

BY COACH TIFFANY BUCKMASTER

After the construction of the softball field for the 2015-16 season, next up for Teton Softball is completion of the dugouts this fall/winter. Dugouts have been a hot topic in recent months with the rapid approach of both the 2017 season and the North Dakota winter.

The girls are very excited. They notice even the slightest amount of progress that is made for the dugouts. Not having dugouts last year made it evident how much we need them. Even though we have been patiently waiting, we did not want to cut corners. We wanted to make sure that the dugouts would be able to accommodate not only this year’s team but teams for years to come. They will be a great addition to the baseball/softball complex.

The dugouts will be twenty-five feet long and ten feet deep. They are set to have electricity in both the first- and third-base dugouts, water hook up in the third-base dugout, storage in the first-base dugout, entrances for both infield and outfield, helmet boxes, bat racks, and hooks for bags. In other words, they’ll have pretty much everything the players need, including of course some shelter from the North Dakota wind.

“I have never been a part of a program that has gotten a new field or dugouts,” notes Sydney Flanagan, a sophomore captain from Saratoga Springs, Utah. “It’s very exciting. It is an honor to be the first to play on the field.”

The winner of the Region XIII Tournament is set to host the District Tournament in 2017; as the Tetons are very optimistic about this possibility, finishing off the softball complex could make for an even better homecoming. With the rotation, the Tetons are also set to host the Region XIII Tournament in 2018.

“One of the reasons I made the decision to attend WSC and play softball was because I could tell there was continued support from the community and Williston State for all athletic teams,” explains Corinne Mullickan, a freshmen from Acton, California. “It will be pretty awesome to be the first team to use the dugouts, and that is something that will never be taken away.”

“We’re all really excited to finally have a completed complex,” adds Madison Raynaud, a sophomore from Lorette, Manitoba. “Especially when we could get to host districts this year, dugouts will make it that much more special. It will finally feel like home!”

Teton Softball would like to thank the many donors and sponsors that made this possible. We would also like to thank Dan Artamenko, WSC’s athletic director, and Dr. John Miller, WSC’s acting president, for their continued support and push on the project.

The Tetons first home game slated in 2017 is a conference double header April 1 against Dakota Softball springs into action. First home game is April 1 vs Bottineau.
We all know change is hard and we all hope that change will be for the better.

This is the case for the WSC Hockey Team. For the past five years the Teton hockey team has been part of the NJCAA Hockey division for junior colleges. At its peak, the NJCAA had eight teams; most were in the New York and East Coast area, though it also included WSC and Dakota College at Bottineau.

That’s it! Eight teams that played for a chance to be called national champions. While most people say that this is real opportunity, it was a hard sell for me and for most of the players that I was recruiting.

Here is my reasoning:

We could go 0–28 on the season and still qualify for nationals if we beat Dakota College in the Best of Three playoff. If we were a .500 club and lost the playoffs, we could still get an at large bid for nationals.

That last one was the hardest for me and for selling WSC to all the recruits.

I give the old coach, Seamus Gregory, a lot of credit, first for getting this program started and also for winning a couple of National Championship trophies. But it was time to move up to the ACHA.

As far as recruiting, we understand that we aren’t at the top of the pecking order. At the current moment, we are classified as ACHA D2. That means that the NCAA schools as well as ACHA D1 schools are going to draw a lot of talented players out of the pool; nevertheless, our recruiting efforts were very impressive this year, getting thirty-five student athletes to come to Williston to play hockey. A big part of this success is the fact that we moved to the ACHA league. Hockey players know about the ACHA more than ever nowadays.

Every game counts! Every game has an effect on where we might end up at end of season. If you don’t win, you don’t get a chance to play in the Nationals. Teton Hockey has stepped into a bigger pond, and that’s the way I like it.
Growing up in Tioga, Halverson knew being close to his family’s ranch would be a top priority for him, and sure enough, after graduating from North Dakota State University with a degree in animal science, he and his wife Linda came to the Williston area, where ranching, roping, and teaching became a way of life.

Halverson was initially hired in 1974 to help veterans transition into the educational system at WSC (then UND-Williston).

As his years accumulated at the college, so did his accomplishments. Halverson returned to school to obtain a master’s degree in computer science from the University of Utah in 1990, and he taught agriculture and computer science classes until he retired.

Halverson now splits his time between North Dakota and Arizona, but no matter where he is, his students still find him.

“My students are beginning to retire, which shows how long I taught,” Halverson notes. “It is good to see how my ‘learn to think’ approach has impacted them.”

One of the instructors instrumental in creating the family-like atmosphere of WSC, Halverson organized faculty parties, hayrides, and corn feeds, and he was never one to shy away from the occasional prank. At one point, he managed to convince Terry Olson that Olson was suffering from HTML (Hypertext Markup Language—used for online coding). The acronym was eventually explained to Olson, and the two still laugh about it today.

“When I think of Roger Halverson, I think of him as a cutting edge instructor in regard to using technology in the classroom at UND-Williston,” adds Wanda Meyer, WSC Title III project director. “He was a respected agriculture instructor/leader. I enjoyed getting to know him as a colleague. He definitely made a difference in the lives of the students that he taught.”

Four children and six grandchildren later, the Halversons will be celebrating their fiftieth wedding anniversary in March. Though the family farm is now in the hands of their son TJ, Halverson hasn’t retired from roping just yet.

“When some of the old guys thought I was too old to rope back when I was teaching,” Halverson says. “But here I am, still roping steers even though I am going to be seventy-two in April.”

Young at heart and full of energy, Halverson encourages any students who might be in the Wickenburg area of Arizona to look him up between October and April, or in the Williston area the remainder of the year.

Impressed by WSC’s growth, Halverson knows the college might look different now, but the impression stays the same.

“It’s the people that made WSC a great place to work. I am sure that legacy remains,” Halverson explains, “though there might not be as many pranks as when I was there.”
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welcome to the
Alumni Association!

We are reviving the good works of the Alumni Association which was established many years ago to keep in touch with all of our alumni and help our students succeed in their pursuit of a college degree.

Though it will take some time to reconnect with all of our alumni, we are in the process of updating our alumni database in preparation for our first mailing and introductory letter. And we need your help! Please give us a call, send us a note, or drop us an email and let us know where you are and what you are doing. You’ll notice in this issue of the Teton Thunder, we are beginning a new feature with small highlights of our alumni. We want to build upon this feature, so please reach out and keep us informed.

We’re also busy planning our first-ever WSC Alumni Week, which will take place April 24–28 2017 on the WSC campus and around the community of Williston. Even if you can’t make it back, we still want you to be involved.

Williston State College continues to be a great place to learn and grow. Nothing has contributed to our success greater than our alumni have. We have always been known as the place “Where the people make the difference,” and we hope you’ll reconnect with WSC and help our Alumni Association be a great partner of WSC.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Go Tetons,

Hunter Berg
WSC Foundation Director for Alumni Relations and Athletics

Mary Lou Black and her children Ken, Susan, and Brad take a tour of WSC with Alumni Director Hunter Berg.

Mary Lou and her late husband Bill set up an endowment in honor of her parents, Charles Woodson and Eliza Jane Saunders, who were active members of the Williston and Trenton communities for many decades.

L-R: Ken Black, Susan Golliver, Mary Lou Black, Hunter Berg, and Brad Black
Williston State in Arizona
Hosted by Ron & Kathy Seeley, Shirley & Lynn Leininger and Jan Skadeland

February 18 | 4-8p | Seville Golf & Country Club
Join Terry Olson, Hunter Berg and Dr. John Miller for a fun evening with complimentary appetizers and drinks, trivia and gifts. WSC alumni and friends of WSC are welcome.

Business casual attire and leave your checkbooks at home.
For more info call 701.572.9275

Seville Golf & Country Club 6683 S Clubhouse Dr, Gilbert, AZ

Williston High School’s Class of 1976 celebrating their forty-year reunion in October in the Skad Gym, named after 1976 WHS classmate (and WSC alum) Donn Skadeland.

alumni in our community
American State Bank


Not pictured: Linda Peterson, 1975; DorisAnn Lindvig, 1974; Callie Anderson, 2012; Dorca LeDosquet, 1997; Rick Braaten, 1977; Ken Heen, 1967; Lyjean Smith, 1975

Does your company have WSC alums?
Contact us at tetonthunder@wscfoundation.com
I am writing to express my sincere gratitude to you for the scholarship you have presented to myself and my classmates. Nursing was once just a distant goal, but now I am actively pursuing an educational pursuit without sponsors like your organization. Sincerely,

Kristine Phillips
WSC student

Dear Mr. Otto Boss and Mrs. Alma Boss,

I am happy to be writing in thanks to both of you for your contribution of a $2,500 scholarship. I am ecstatic to be selected for this, and I am thankful that you are willing to contribute to the education of students like me.

I am returning to college for my sophomore year after a three-year absence, and I am excited to make the most of my time in college. Although I have yet to settle on a major, I am confident that I will pursue a field related to English and language arts. I have a passion for this subject since elementary school, and I very much enjoy reading and writing. I am looking forward to improving my writing skills, and plan on pursuing a career that utilizes these skills, possibly in Journalism.

Receiving this scholarship will undoubtedly set me up to have greater success in finally refocusing on my education. Having to spend less time concerned with the payment of my tuition, as well as various school-related expenses, is invaluable to me. Again, thank you for supporting my dream of attaining a college degree in my chosen field. Being awarded this scholarship gives me even more motivation to make my education count, and pursue a way to give back to students of the future.

Sincerely,

James Davis

Otto and Alma Boss Scholarship Selection Committee,

I would like to personally thank you for awarding me this scholarship for this fall semester. It is a great blessing to have for the overall cost of school. It is scholarships like this one that make all the late nights studying and morning walks across campus in -20 degrees to get participation points seem worth it. It is very encouraging to get a reward for my good grades. The money I will be receiving will be going towards my tuition fees at WSC. Since I am not eligible to receive free tuition from the county scholarships this is huge help towards the cost of my classes. I average 19 credits a semester making my tuition costs around 9,900. This scholarship covers about one third of it. Again, thank you very much selecting me for this scholarship.

Sincerely,

Mikayla Whiteley

Dear Scholarship Donor,

I am sincerely honored to have been selected as the recipient of the Crighton Dickson Scholarship. Thank you for your generosity, which has allowed me to pursue my dream of becoming an elementary teacher. As I complete my education at Williston State College, I am very thankful for receiving your gift. Because of your scholarship, I will graduate with less financial burden. Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Carly Bowker WSC Class of 2017
Herman Family Trust donates to WSC Science Center

The Herman Family Trust has been granted naming rights to the last lab located in the WSC science center after the WSC Foundation received its most recent donation.

Now managed by their children—Connie (Herman) Teske and December Herman, along with grandchildren Stacy Massey and Steven Teske and family friend Steve Oyloe, the Herman Family Trust also honored Robert and Sharon Herman earlier this year by establishing two significant scholarships for dedicated nursing students deserving of financial need.

“My mother and father’s mission was to improve the lives of children, to create opportunities for students, and to enhance healthcare for the residents of North Dakota,” Teske explains. Massey agrees, adding, “Our parents and grandparents believed that the best way to give back to the world was to first give to the place you call home.”

“The donations received by the Herman Family Trust will provide great support to nursing students in need for years to come,” adds Dr. John Miller, Acting President of Williston State College. “After everything they have done to help our students, it is our privilege to place a Robert and Sharon Herman plaque outside our fourth science lab.”

WSC Foundation Continues to Increase Donations

Scholarships at WSC are in abundance as eighteen donors have contributed recently to match dollars with the North Dakota Challenge Fund before the opportunity closes on December 31, 2016.

At its June meeting, the North Dakota Challenge Fund announced a $246,330 contribution to the Williston State College Foundation. Including private matching donations of $552,608.90, the WSC Foundation has $1,904,942.90 pledged toward their $2 million goal.

“It is our goal to raise $2 million in donations to make sure we get all of the $1 million the challenge fund says we are eligible for,” states WSC Foundation Executive Director Terry Olson. “I am proud to say that, with the generosity of our community, we are just shy of $2 million.”

The Alva J. Field Trust has increased its donation to the WSC Foundation to continue the Williams County Graduate Scholarship. The Regional County Scholarship has begun and will expand this fall. The WSC Nursing Department has gained significant support this fall thanks to the Herman Family Trust and Jane Nelson. The additional donors’ dollars will be put towards other scholarships for WSC students.

“We are preparing to continue these scholarships as long as people keep donating to the Foundation,” adds Olson. “We want our community to have an opportunity for free higher education. I am proud to say we are able to do that because of this dollar match.”

The WSC Foundation encourages anyone interested in donating to please contact the WSC Foundation at 701.572.9275.
WSCF celebrated one year in their new location with an open house and ribbon cutting on Nov 15.

WSCF gave back to their donors on November 1 with a donor appreciation event in the Donn Skadeland Gym.

upcoming events

**Alumni Week 4/21-4/28**

Alumni week events include a community feed on the WSC campus, Alumni Pride Day, packed with prizes for showing off your Teton pride and proving your knowledge of WSC trivia, a faculty and staff (current and former) luncheon, and the first ever Alumni Association Lucky Duck Races.
Financial statements for fiscal year ending June 30, 2016. The Foundation is audited annually by Brady, Martz & Associates, P.C.

This report is a snapshot of the Auditor's Reports, and the entire report is available online at wscfoundation.com.

### REVENUE, GAINS AND OTHER SUPPORT

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### EXPENSES

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<td>Teton Thunder newspaper</td>
<td>13,282</td>
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<td>Special events</td>
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<td>13,118</td>
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<tr>
<td>Utilities and telephone</td>
<td>69,263</td>
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<td></td>
<td>69,263</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vehicle expense</td>
<td>1,194</td>
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<td>1,194</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td><strong>$9,941,407</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$9,941,407</strong></td>
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### NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>Permanently Restricted</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3,706,772</td>
<td>12,617,000</td>
<td>6,432,841</td>
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<td>22,756,613</td>
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### CHANGE IN NET ASSETS

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<th>Permanently Restricted</th>
<th>Total</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5,172</td>
<td>919,589</td>
<td>837,309</td>
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<td>1,762,070</td>
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### NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR

<table>
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<th>Description</th>
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<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3,711,944</td>
<td>13,536,589</td>
<td>7,270,150</td>
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<td>24,518,683</td>
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</table>
Go to www.nemontfiber.net today and fill out the survey. If enough of your neighbors fill out the survey Nemont will bring fiber to your neighborhood.