

WEDNESDAY

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INTEREST FREE STUDENT LOAN
ONLINE APPLICATION

Whitney Benefits
Commits Gift to
Sheridan College. A 3



WHITNEY BENEFITS

2014

WHITNEY BENEFITS COMMUNITY REPORT

Educational Forum

On January 27, 2014, Whitney Benefits hosted local educators, government representatives, members of philanthropic foundations and others to discuss education issues in Sheridan and Johnson counties. Held at the new Edward A. Whitney Center at Sheridan College, this educational summit was the first of its kind in the county. The intent was to bring together various stakeholders and hear from education administrators about the current accomplishments and challenges of area school districts and educational institutions as well as their future hopes and goals. The summit was opened with a talk by local author Sam Western about Edward A. Whitney and his vision for education in Sheridan County. It was followed by speeches from school board members for Sheridan County Districts 1, 2 and 3 and Johnson County School District 1. Sheridan Mayor Dave Kinsky spoke about the city's contributions to education and Northern Wyoming Community College District Chair Kati Sherwood discussed the advances the district has made with campus infrastructure as well as the challenges it faces in the future with rapidly growing enrollment and aging buildings. All of the school districts noted their increasing involvement with Sheridan College through dual and concurrent enrollment programs to better prepare students for post-secondary education. Whitney Benefits Board member Robert Prusak said about the event, "It is a good venue to float a lot of ideas. It used to be you had community and education and now we are bringing community into education. We wanted to see if we could find ways for groups to connect." The second annual Educational Summit is planned for spring 2015.

Sheridan College Vocational Center

Whitney Benefits gifted \$500,000 to Sheridan College for improvements to their aging Tech Center. The gift was matched by \$500,000 in contributions from private individuals. Those improvements, which are already underway, will include a 2,500 sq. ft. addition and 5,000 sq. ft. renovation to the Machine Tool Technology space and a 1,200 sq. ft. addition and 7,000 sq. ft. renovation to the Diesel Technology, Welding Technology and Construction Technology areas.

Student Loan Program — 5,520 Interest Free Students Loans Made!

The Whitney student loan program provides interest free student loans to Sheridan and Johnson County High School graduates. Since inception of the program in 1928, through June 30, 2014, the corporation has loaned 5,520 students approximately \$36,846,530.46. For the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2014 Whitney approved interest free loans totaling \$1,341,358.24 to 73 students; 55 students received loans for the first time and 18 students had received loans previously. As of June 30, 2014,

Whitney has \$13,878,010 in student loan monies loaned and/or committed to Sheridan and Johnson County students.

Whitney Benefits has launched an online student loan application process. This process was a first step in allowing Whitney to go to a paperless system and also meets the electronic preference of current high school graduates.

The Whitney staff presents the student loan program information each year at the Sheridan and Johnson County High Schools' Financial Aid nights in an effort

to inform the community about this unique and valuable opportunity. For the 2014-2015 school year, undergraduate students may be eligible to borrow a credit limit up to \$24,000, up to \$6,000 per academic year. For more information please visit our website at www.whitneybenefits.org

Whitney Benefits acknowledges and thanks the Homer A. Scott and Mildred S. Scott Foundation for their past \$250,000 gift to further the commitment to provide interest free student loans.



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The Link, Partners in Pink Run/Walk

The Link ~ Partners in Pink 5th Annual Run & Walk was held on Saturday, October 11, 2014 beginning at 10 am. The events offered were a 10K run, a 5K run/walk and a 1.5 mile walk. The races started and ended in Whitney Commons Park. This event is organized by the Sheridan Memorial Hospital Foundation to raise breast cancer awareness in Sheridan County and the importance of early detection for the best protection.

All proceeds will be used to support the new Welch Cancer Center project at Sheridan Memorial Hospital. This year, there were 714 registered participants and over 100 volunteers involved with The Link activities that raised approximately \$50,000 from the event.



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Whitney Continues Support for Sheridan College Thorne-Rider Campus Center

Whitney continues to donate funds for the renovation and expansion of the Thorne-Rider Campus Center at Sheridan College. In 2014, Whitney gifted \$250,000 for this project as part of their \$1,500,000 gift to Sheridan College in support of their \$11.7 million renovation and expansion project of the Thorne-Rider Campus Center and the creation of an outdoor landscaped plaza connecting the Campus Center and the Whitney Building. One-half, or \$750,000, of the gift will support the building itself and the additional \$750,000 will support the plaza. The previous student center building was built in 1966 and was sized to accommodate 100 students living on campus. The college now has 400 students living on campus. The Thorne-Rider Campus Center is located at the hub of the campus and the new design encourages everyone on campus to spend some time there. The current 16,000 square foot building has been completely

renovated and 12,000 square feet has been added to the campus center. Food service is organized food court style, with six open preparation and service areas, a pizza and coffee shop, and flexible furniture in various styles to support an educational atmosphere. The dining area will seat up to 500 people on the upper level and will support the plan for 750 students living on campus within the next decade plus about 250 commuter students and employees daily. Other features in the space include an activities room, multi-purpose meeting rooms, campus safety offices and a Veterans Center to service the 120 Veterans currently enrolled at Sheridan College. This project was completed in the summer of 2014 and open for students use for the fall of 2014 semester. Whitney thanks all of the donors and private foundations involved in this project for their continued financial commitment to Sheridan College.



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Whitney Plaza Hosts 2014 Wyoming Rehab Hoop Jam

Whitney Plaza hosted the 14th Annual Wyoming Rehab Hoop Jam. This three on three basketball tournament was played by 137 teams from all across Wyoming with a variety of players aged from 7 to 50+. Whitney Plaza is the perfect venue for this event. The players and spectators made use of the ample parking lots at Whitney Plaza, the spectator areas along the Big Goose Creek trail and the centralized vendor area on Grinnell Plaza. Proceeds from the tournament support Sheridan County School District #2's Athletic Training Program and Wyoming Rehab's Sports Medicine. Hoop Jam is managed by a volunteer base, and this year over 100 volunteers helped to make the tournament a success.



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A 12' 6" tall skeletal replica of an Allosaurus, discovered and excavated by Sheridan College students and faculty, is housed at the Edward A. Whitney Academic Center on the Sheridan College Campus.

Whitney donates for new Sheridan College Academic Center

The Edward A. Whitney Academic Center, a space dedicated to supporting the academic areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), was made possible with a \$7,667,487 gift from Whitney Benefits and a \$7,500,000 matching grant from the State of

Wyoming. In 2014, Whitney paid the final installment of \$884,236 on this gift.

The Edward A. Academic Center opened for student use in August 2013. A few highlights of the new building are a dozen new classrooms, an expanded math lab, a new student welcome center

and a 12' 6" tall skeletal replica of an Allosaurus, discovered and excavated by Sheridan College students and faculty. The Center provides a 6,000 square foot multi-purpose atrium and over 45,000 square feet of academic and student support space.

Whitney Commits gift to Sheridan College Library

In 2014, Whitney Benefits gifted \$985,000 to Sheridan College for the remodel and renovation of the Griffith Memorial Building. The building, including the Sheridan College Kooi library, was originally built in 1950. Mrs. Mary Brown Kooi had presented a gift to the college that purchased books and supplies that nearly tripled the existing library collection. The library at Sheridan College was rededicated in August 2014 to Mary Brown Kooi. Phase I of this project was completed in

September 2014 and expanded academic space while enhancing the west side of the library. The renovation to the façade of the library provides better access to the outdoor amphitheater in the Whitney Mall and the Thorne-Rider Campus Center, while bringing more natural light into the library. Phase II of the project will improve additional academic space and renovate the remaining portions of the library and is scheduled on the Sheridan College master plan for approximately 2018.



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WHITNEY FOUNDATION CONTINUES CERTIFICATION FOR FIDUCIARY EXCELLENCE

The CEFEX standard of excellence for Investment Stewards is based on fiduciary practices that seek to increase long-term investment performance by diversifying the portfolio across multiple asset classes and peer groups, evaluating investment management fees and expenses, and selecting or terminating Investment Managers. Investment Stewards, such as Whitney Benefits Trustees and staff, have the primary responsibility for effective management and the adherence to investment fiduciary practices. Benefits of fiduciary assessments include: establishing evidence that Whitney is following a prudent investment process; increases long-term investment performance by identifying appropriate procedures for diversifying the portfolio across multiple asset classes and peer groups, evaluating investment management fees and expenses and selecting and terminating Investment Managers as appropriate. This fiduciary practice uncovers investment and procedural risks not previously identified, which assists in prioritizing investment management projects. This practice encourages Whitney to compare their practices to their peers, and assists in establishing benchmarks to measure Whitney's efforts. Whitney Benefits places the highest

fiduciary importance on having the best practices in place. By its certification, Whitney can validate its adherence in fiduciary management and demonstrates that Whitney trustees and staff regard independent oversight of its financial activities as paramount. Information on these fiduciary practices can be viewed by clicking on Whitney's on-line CEFEX certificate at www.whitneybenefits.org.



Whitney Continues Support of High Demand Programs at Sheridan College

Foundation Thanks Other Donors for Their Help

In March 2013, Whitney Benefits announced the creation of the Jobs, Education and Technology (JET) Program. The program is a partnership with Sheridan College and other potential sponsors and will include funding four new instructor positions for five years. The positions will be in areas where there is tremendous demand for educated, skilled workers. The total cost to add four full-time teachers is approximately \$400,000 per year or \$2 million over five years. The total pledge from Whitney Benefits is one-half of the \$2 million, or \$1 million, toward this effort. The agreement is meant to allow

SC to expand the offerings in such high demand areas as Machine Tool Technology, Diesel Technology, Welding Technology, Agriculture/Horticulture and Performing Arts. In order to fully realize the plan, Whitney Benefits trustees looked to others in the community to match their pledge.

The City of Sheridan matched the yearly pledge for the Machine Tool Technology faculty position and the Perkins Foundation matched the yearly pledge for the Welding Technology Faculty position. An anonymous donor matched Whitney's yearly pledge for the General Arts/Visual Arts faculty position and a second anonymous donor funded the Agricultural Science faculty position. Whitney Benefits would like to extend a special thanks to these donors for their support of Sheridan College!



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Whitney Commons Park

Whitney Commons, located between the Fulmer Library and the Senior Center at 320 West Alger, has something for everyone to enjoy. Several features include a universally accessible play structure designed for fun and safety, large turf areas supporting any number of informal leisure activities, the popular water spray grounds, vintage lighting illuminating pedestrian walks and bike paths, the Dorothy King reflective flower garden and closed circuit cameras providing park security and on-line viewing. Whitney Benefits completed several project renovation repairs to areas of the park including: adding additional garbage receptacles, installing new picnic tables, updating the winter banners, improvements to the bathrooms and planting more flowers and greenery in the many plant beds. A new pocket park was completed as a gateway between Whitney Commons park and Kendrick park. Whitney Commons is a safe, clean and fun environment for families and the Sheridan community to enjoy!



Whitney Continues Support of Educational Arts Project

Whitney donated funds to Sheridan College for access and educational programming at the Bradford Brinton Museum. In 2014, Whitney gifted \$200,000 for this project as part of their \$1,000,000 gift to Sheridan College for the educational arts project. Whitney pledged \$200,000 per year to be distributed over five years starting in

2014. The grant assures access and programming space for students from Sheridan and Johnson County schools as well as Sheridan College students to have access free of charge to the Brinton Museum for year round educational art, science and history programs, illustrator shows, art workshops, gallery tours and artistic exhibitions.



The Edward A. Whitney Academic Center opened on the Sheridan College campus in the fall of 2013. The facility is dedicated to supporting the academic areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Whitney Benefits Commits Gift to Sheridan College

In an unprecedented plan, including the largest gift in the history of the college, Whitney Benefits announced a \$25.3 million commitment to Sheridan College to continue to build capacity for additional students, bolstering the Sheridan County economy. The commitment from Whitney Benefits to the College includes the necessary \$1.3 million required to complete the \$8 million Mars Agriculture and Science Center renovation project, \$16 million to support the renovation and expansion of the Fine and Performing Arts wing of the original Whitney Building, \$2 million to support infrastructure and parking improvements on the main campus and \$6 million for approximately half of the Tech Center renovation and expansion project. "Currently, we serve over 2,000 students per semester," SC President Dr. Paul Young said. "This plan and infusion of energy and capital will significantly aid in our efforts to grow the academic areas that align with the local job sectors experiencing growth and positive change." The renovation and expansion of the Fine and Performing Arts wing located at the north end of the current Whitney Building, referred to as the Whitney Center for the Arts, will include space to enrich the learning experience for all students. In addition to improvements to learning spaces for music and other performing arts, the Whitney gift will provide flexible, creative space to support the fine arts programs including wood and metal fabrication labs, foundry space for pouring aluminum, bronze and eventually iron and multi-use exhibition space.

The Mars Agriculture Center will be a 13,000 to 15,000 square foot state-of-the-art facility to be

located on the south end of Sheridan College's main campus connecting to the existing Science Center, which will also receive upgrades during the project. The center will focus on providing real-world experiences for students. In addition to high-tech classrooms, a herbarium, a greenhouse and a soils and agroecology lab, the new center will include a computerized commodities trading floor classroom for students studying in the ag-business program. "The real benefit to laying out a plan like this is that the dollars committed can be leveraged time and time again," Whitney Benefits Trustee Everett McGlothlin said. "We are hopeful that others will continue to support the students of Sheridan College in order to continue the positive momentum and help change lives."

The \$6 million earmarked for the expansion and renovation of the Technical Education Center is approximately half of the total needed to provide a healthier, safer and more secure facility for students to gain vocational degrees and employable skills. College officials plan to request the additional funds from the State of Wyoming during the 2016 legislative session. "Our strategic direction focuses on doing our part to help Wyoming and the nation as a whole to prosper. We are so very fortunate to have many, many people here who believe in this goal and are willing to take action on behalf of the future generations who will continue to benefit from their efforts for years to come," Young said. "Thank you to Whitney Benefits." Sheridan College officials hope to have the projects completed by late summer of 2016.



Whitney Continues Support for Housing at Sheridan College

Whitney continues to donate funds to Sheridan College for their student housing. In 2014, Whitney gifted \$750,000 for this project as part of their \$7.5 million gift to Sheridan College for their continued support of efforts to expand the on-campus living facilities. The 150 bed suite style student housing units have vastly expanded Sheridan College's

ability to recruit and house new students. The Whitney Lofts also added a new food court area in the Hayes Building and a recreational lounge area in the Williams building. The new housing at Sheridan College provides a new and unique opportunity for students to grow, foster educational opportunities, and enjoy their college educations.

Whitney Plaza Hosts 3rd Sheridan Chamber of Commerce Brewfest/2nd KCBS Best of the West BBQ Fest

The Whitney Plaza Owner's Association hosted the 3rd Annual Chamber of Commerce Brewfest at Whitney Plaza on September 6, 2014. Whitney Plaza was the perfect venue for this event which had 1200 participants and raised a little over \$31,000. This is the major fundraiser for the Chamber of Commerce with funds dedicated to furthering the missions of their volunteer committees and to education and training opportunities for the Sheridan business community. They had 19 Brewers from Wyoming, Montana,

South Dakota, Idaho and Colorado. Brewers competed in a judged competition in Amber and a People's Choice Award. The 2nd Annual KCBS Sanctioned BBQ Fest cooking competition had 26 teams competing in judged competitions for chicken, pork ribs, beef brisket and a People's Choice category in chicken wings. Teams came from Wyoming, Arizona, South Dakota and Montana just to compete in Sheridan's KCBS BEST OF THE WEST BBQ FEST.

The Gift of Water

In 2014, Whitney Benefits gifted the City of Sheridan in excess of 50 million gallons of stored Park Reservoir water to assist in watering Sheridan's thirteen parks, pathways and greenways, including the Sheridan Recreation District Thornerider Park, Oatts Baseball Complex and the Whitney soccer field at the YMCA. The Whitney Board also donated the use of Park Reservoir water shares for charitable usages by the Sheridan County Fair Board and to the City of Sheridan's elk pasture irrigation and pasture restoration project.

The Service Continues...Whitney Benefits Board of Trustees

Since 1927, when Whitney Benefits was created, 96 dedicated individuals have served on the Whitney Benefits Board of Trustees. All together, the Whitney Trustees to date have dedicated over 1,057 years of service supporting education and building our Sheridan community.

C.V. Davis 1927-1947
Alf Diefenderfer 1927-1945
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Tim Barnes 1992-2001
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Darlene Reiter 1993-1997
Ky Dixon 1994-1997

Bruce Hendricks 1994-1996
Sam Scott 1994-Present
John Smith 1996-1999 & 2002-2005
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Stephen Holst 2006-Present
Everett E. McGlothlin 2006-Present
Robert Prusak 2013-Present
Lori McMullen 2014-Present
Lynie Phipps 2014-Present
Tom Pilch 2014-Present

Whitney Community Advisory Group

The Whitney Community Advisory Group was created in 2004 to provide input from various community members about current Whitney projects and events. The group helps to oversee operations at Whitney Commons and Whitney Plaza. The current 2014 Community members include: Steve Carroll, Mark Demple, Pete Eliason, David Ferries and Judy Stallman.

The Incredible Story of Edward A. Whitney



The portrait to the left shows Whitney walking his Adams Ranch, a portion of which would soon become Sheridan College. The portrait, painted by Kathy Sabine, was specifically commissioned for the opening of the Edward A. Whitney Academic Center. You can find the portrait displayed above the central fireplace.

Sheridan area benefactor Edward A. Whitney willed his estate to establish Whitney Benefits Inc., creating the first educational foundation in Wyoming. According to his original trustees, Whitney spent three decades of his life planning his gift to the people of Sheridan. He made extensive investigations in the East as to how trust funds were structured for education, and repeatedly asked his three associates, later to become the trustees of his estate, for suggestions.

The Foundation was established in 1927, ten years after his death in 1917, as provided by his will. In the years since the establishment of the Foundation the earnings from the trust have provided over \$36 million in interest-free loans to over 5,500 local students, contributed over \$77 million to Sheridan College, provided over \$11.7 million to the YMCA, built Whitney Commons Park and the Sheridan Ice Rink, established the Whitney Center and benefited the area and its people in many other ways.

"My estate does not belong to me; I'm only its steward: it belongs to the people and I dare not be careless with it."

- Edward A. Whitney

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