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Whitney legacy grant
supports Sheridan
College programs. A2



2018 WHITNEY BENEFITS COMMUNITY REPORT

100 years later : Whitney's legacy lives on



COURTESY PHOTO | WHITNEY BENEFITS

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 County. 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.

**'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

The foundation was established in 1927, 10 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 \$43 million in interest-free loans to over 5,900 local students, contributed over \$93 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 on Broadway and benefited the Sheridan area and its people in many other ways.

The portrait above shows Whitney walking at 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.

Whitney Days at Sheridan College

Sheridan College hosted the second annual Whitney Days event week at Sheridan College to honor Mr. Edward A. Whitney and his legacy of expanding and contributing to higher education in Sheridan County that the Whitney Benefits foundation has continued.

The week included a combination of informative, educational and fun events that incorporated service learning and civic engagement, which were central to Mr. Whitney's life.

During the week of Sept. 19-26, 2018, Sheridan College hosted a cupcake collage, tie dye T-shirt class, campus recreation kick ball, the Great Outdoors in Your Backyard, piano performance by Fei-Fei, a lunch trip around the world with Whitney, panning for sapphires, Lady Generals volleyball matches, Pat Hamilton Memorial Rodeo, Hypnotist Lizzy, a s'mores bar, block party barbecue with music and inflatables, among other activities.



COURTESY PHOTO | THE SHERIDAN PRESS

Whitney Benefits Board President Tom Kinnison announces a grant of \$11,369,000 to Sheridan College during the Whitney Benefits announcement at the Sheridan College Technical Center Wednesday, April 25, 2018.

Tom Kinnison: A legacy of service

Former state legislator and president of the Whitney Benefits board Tom Kinnison passed away surrounded by family on July 1, 2018, at Sheridan Memorial Hospital after a battle with cancer. He was a man completely dedicated to both his family and the Sheridan community.

Tom was born on Aug. 30, 1947, to Laurel and Jean Kinnison of Buffalo. He was the oldest of three children, and moved to Sheridan in 1954 when his family bought the Trails End Motel. He graduated from Sheridan High School in 1965, and served in the Army from 1968-1970.

When Tom returned from the Army, he attended Rocky Mountain College and began working for Burroughs Corporation in Casper. He later returned to Sheridan to help run the family business, where he worked for 12 years. Tom had two children, Brian and Janelle. He married his present wife, Sharon Lyman, in 1983. In 1987, Tom acquired Wilcox Abstract and Title, and explored numerous other business ventures with many business partners throughout his lifetime.

Tom was a well-known local businessman who committed decades of his life to work in the public sector. He first served on the Sheridan City Council, and then the Wyoming State Legislature, where he chaired the Appropriations Committee for many years.

Tom loved to spend time at his cabin at Tongue River Reservoir with his five grandchildren. He also enjoyed making trips to Rapid City, South Dakota on his motorcycle with Sharon, and the two also traveled in their motorhome. He enjoyed reading, movies and cars — new and old. He had a passion for buying real estate to remodel and fix up. Above all, he loved his family — and his dogs, who were family too.

Tom had a passion for service to his community, and made friends everywhere he went. For the last 18 years, he served on the Whitney Benefits Board of Trustees, serving as president since 2002. Tom contributed greatly to improving the Sheridan community and helped shepherd a number of projects to completion including Whitney Commons park, the Whitney Rink at the M&M's Center, the Whitney Plaza development and new dorms and several new facilities at Sheridan College. He was instrumental not only in the growth of Sheridan College, but also for the economic growth of Sheridan County.

His vision to bring light manufacturing to Sheridan helped recruit Vacutech to the area as well as companies like Weatherby, who were impressed by the facilities and equipment available at Sheridan College, which Whitney Benefits and Tom Kinnison played a role in acquiring.

Despite his illness, Tom continued to pursue projects with the aim of moving Sheridan forward.

"We'll have to be like him," Whitney Benefits

Executive Director Patrick Henderson said. "We'll have to be leaders and keep propelling the community forward. He loved Sheridan very much."

Tom Kinnison left a legacy of community leadership and philanthropy that will benefit Sheridan not only now, but for many future generations to come.



TOM KINNISON

AS A COMMUNITY LEADER, TOM KINNISON HAS INSPIRED MANY WITH HIS COURAGE AND DETERMINATION, EVEN TO HIS OWN SURPRISE. THE FORMERLY UNAMBITIOUS YOUTH FOUND HIS PASSION AS AN EFFECTIVE ADVOCATE FOR THE COMMUNITY OF SHERIDAN AND THE STATE OF WYOMING.

AS A FORMER CITY OF SHERIDAN COUNCILMAN, WYOMING STATE SENATOR, AND A WYOMING HOUSE REPRESENTATIVE, TOM FOUGHT TO HELP OTHERS SUCCEED, INCLUDING THE STUDENTS WHO COME THROUGH THE DOORS OF SHERIDAN COLLEGE.

IN 2000, TOM WAS APPOINTED TO THE WHITNEY BENEFITS BOARD OF DIRECTORS WHERE HE CONTINUED HIS ADVOCACY FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE SHERIDAN COMMUNITY. TOM'S PASSION AND LOVE FOR SHERIDAN COLLEGE FLOWS THROUGHOUT THE CAMPUS... HIS LEGACY WILL LIVE WITHIN ITS HALLS FOR GENERATIONS TO COME.



Above: Sheridan College named its concert hall in the Whitney Center for the Arts for the late Tom Kinnison and hung a dedication to him at the facility.

Left: Sheridan College President Dr. Paul Young points out a May 27, 1958, Sheridan Press photo of the ground breaking at the original Whitney Building at Sheridan College to Whitney Benefits President Tom Kinnison during a press conference in 2011 announcing a \$7.6 million gift from Whitney Benefits for a new academic center at the college.

WHITNEY COMMONS PARK: A SPACE FOR SHERIDAN

Whitney Commons, an interactive park located in the center of Sheridan between the Sheridan County Fulmer Public 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, an amphitheater and plaza area, 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.

Bronze art pieces reflecting and honoring Mr. Whitney's life have also added beauty and interest to the park.

Whitney Benefits completed several projects and renovation repairs to areas of the park this year including: new mowing equipment, resetting and grouting the retaining wall capstones, updating additional security cameras, purchasing additional snow removal equipment, repairs to the playground surface, repainting the bathrooms and maintenance building, installing concrete curbing to replace metal edging, installing additional privacy fencing and planting more flowers and greenery in the many plant beds.

Whitney Commons is a safe, clean and fun environment

for families and the Sheridan community to enjoy. Whitney Commons is also a perfect location for many private events including weddings, birthday parties and reunions. The unique features are a perfect environment for a variety of events. In 2018, Whitney Commons hosted several Cloud Peak Volleyball tournaments and a class reunion in the west park turf area, weddings in the reflective garden and amphitheater areas and birthday parties at the playground and sprayground areas.

Some events that took place at Whitney Commons in 2018 included The Hub on Smith's Alzheimer's Memory Walk and the KidsLife Fall Kickoff.

Honoring a co-worker lost



On the morning of July 10, 2018, the Sheridan community lost James Andrew Shassetz in a climbing accident on Black Tooth Mountain. That Jim passed away while climbing Black Tooth, a pinnacle he had scaled many times before, is in many ways fitting.

Jim had an intense love of nature. He used his passion for plants and spent the larger portion of his working career caring for the trees and gardens of Sheridan County. Jim was engrossed in the science and practice of tree care and became a certified arborist. Over the past 15 years, Jim worked to help keep Sheridan beautiful by caring for trees, helping put up Christmas lights out on Absaraka and tending the gardens at Whitney Commons park.

Jim began working at Whitney Commons park in 2014 and his knowledge and care made the park more vibrant and beautiful than ever before. He was such a special member of the Whitney team and he will always be greatly missed.

Jim's presence has been felt throughout the community his entire life. Jim was quick with a smile and had an easy, genial laugh, both of which made him easy to like. Many will remember Jim for his athletic prowess. In high school, Jim represented Sheridan admirably as a decorated football and baseball player and an accomplished swimmer. In football, Jim was Sheridan County player of the year in 1977.

Jim had an insatiable desire to hike, bike, camp, ski and explore the outdoors. During the winter, he could be found trying to beat his friends to the bottom of the mountain on a variety of ski runs across the Rockies. He introduced his children, nieces, nephews and friends to a variety of hiking trails and camping spots in the Bighorns. He loved to share the stories and history of the places he went with those fortunate enough to be his travel companion. When he couldn't make it to the mountain, you could expect to find Jim outside golfing at The Powder Horn.

Jim's competitive nature was not limited to the sporting arena. He was always eager to beat family, friends and foes alike in everything from skiing to tennis to board games.

While many will remember Jim for his athletic prowess and outdoorsmanship, those who knew him best will remember him as a generous, loyal, dedicated and humorous husband, father, son, brother and friend. Jim frequently started his day walking with his lovely wife of 27 years, Jenifer.

Jim's home was always open to his family, whom he valued intensely. Jim taught his children, nieces and nephews how to swim and throw a football. He mowed the lawn and cleared the driveway at his mother's house.

To his last days, Jim's closest friends had been those who had been his closest friends 50 years prior. His last days were spent showing one of his closest and oldest friends the way to the top of Black Tooth Mountain, a mountain he had traveled often and loved best among the Bighorns.

Jim is survived by his loving and devoted wife, Jenifer, his son, Joseph, his daughter, Jamy, his mother, Jean, his sister, Andrea, and many nieces and nephews and friends and admirers too numerous to mention.

His untimely passing has left a huge hole in the lives of many and he is missed immensely.



Concerts in the park

Every Tuesday evening from July 3 to Aug. 21, the 2018 Concerts in the Park were held in the Plaza and amphitheater areas at Whitney Commons park.

The performances were free of charge and open for the entire community to enjoy.

The free music was made possible by the John & Dorothy Duncan Trust, First Interstate Bank, the Sheridan Recreation District, the family of Marvin Fritz and contributions through the Sheridan Arts Council.

The bands that performed were: Crusin' Band from Sheridan, Nathan Dean & the Damn Band from Arizona, the Sheridan Community Band conducted by Pat Maloney, Sidetrack Rock Band from Sheridan, the Sheridan Community Band conducted by Diane Knutson, Nu-Blu from North Carolina and Orchard Fire from Nashville.

Whitney Commons park was the ideal location for these outdoor concerts.

March Against Family Violence

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness month. The Advocacy and Resource Center in Sheridan and the Compass Center for Families teamed up to hold the "March Against Family Violence" which was held Oct. 13, 2018, at Whitney Commons park.

The Advocacy and Resource Center in Sheridan provides assistance to victims of all violence crimes in Sheridan County that may not have anywhere else to turn or may need support navigating the criminal justice system as a result of the violence.

The march was to raise awareness of family violence and to show that healthy families make a healthy community.

7th annual Sheridan Chamber of Commerce Brewfest

The Sheridan Chamber of Commerce hosted the 7th annual Suds 'n Spurs Brewfest at Whitney Commons on August 25, 2018. Whitney Commons was the perfect venue for this event which had 1,300 participants and



raised around \$45,000. 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 25 Brewers from Wyoming, Montana, South Dakota, Colorado, Utah, Oregon, Washington and Illinois including Sheridan's own Black Tooth and Luminous breweries. Brewers competed in a judged competition in best Specialty Beer and a People's Choice Award.

Relay for Life cancer awareness fundraiser

The Relay for Life of Sheridan and Johnson Counties was held at Whitney Commons on June 2, 2018. Relay for Life provides an opportunity for community members to honor, mourn and celebrate loved ones who battled cancer. There were approximately 200 people in attendance and \$38,300 was raised.

This event was a celebration of the year-long fundraising effort and is the signature fundraiser event for the American Cancer Society to honor all cancer survivors, remember loved ones lost to cancer and to make a global impact on cancer.

The event included a survivor dinner as well as a candle luminaria ceremony to honor those that have been lost.

The Link: Partners in Pink 10th annual run/walk

The Link — Partners in Pink 10th Annual Run & Walk was held on the morning of Oct. 20, 2018, beginning at 10 a.m. The race started and ended in beautiful Whitney Commons park and once again, fall weather in Sheridan was spectacular.

This community event offered a 10K run, a 5K run/walk and a 1.5-mile walk. The Sheridan Memorial Hospital Foundation has organized the breast cancer awareness event annually for the last decade. Originally, awareness was combined with a goal to raise funding for new mammography technology,

and most recently, 3-D equipment.

This year, all efforts and proceeds were focused on the message of cancer screening and early detection for all types of cancer. Nearly 600 individuals registered, with an estimated 700 actual participants. In addition to racers, over 100 volunteers from all over the community played a significant role with the success of this 10 year celebration.

Those involved included SMH employees, Sheridan area Boy Scouts, First Federal Bank & Trust, Sheridan College nursing and massage students and WYO Rodeo Royalty and Miss Wyoming. Students from Sheridan High School included Student Council, Interact Club, Spanish Club, volleyball team, FBLA, cheerleading team and many others.

Proceeds from the day are expected to near \$50,000 and will be used to support cancer screening and early detection for patients at SMH.

Out of the Darkness suicide prevention walk

The 8th annual Out of the Darkness Walk was held on Sept. 15, 2018, at Whitney Commons park. The event was hosted by the local chapter of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention to raise awareness of and funding for suicide prevention resources and efforts in Wyoming.

Around 200 people participated in the two-mile walk which started and ended in Whitney Commons park. This walk provides the community with an opportunity to come together to remember loved ones and shine a light on the stigma that surrounds suicide and mental health problems.

WYO Rodeo Boot Kickoff

The Chamber Ambassadors and the Sheridan WYO Rodeo board kicked off the 2018 Sheridan WYO Rodeo Week with the annual Boot Kick Off event on Tuesday, July 10 at Whitney Commons park. Congratulations to all of the winners this year! There was a great turnout and some stiff competition.



COURTESY PHOTO | WHITNEY BENEFITS

Second Century Legacy Grant boosts programs

Mr. Edward A. Whitney died 100 years ago. To mark the occasion, Whitney Benefits held a celebration in the Sheridan College Technical Center and announced a gift of \$11,369,000 to Sheridan College.

In 2018, \$745,000 was paid. The gift is to support faculty in several academic areas including: agriculture, machine tool technology, welding technology, diesel technology, general and visual arts, the CNA program and music. These programs were all selected as potential growth areas and align with regional economic development priorities.

Also included in the grant is support for marketing and recruitment as well as funding for the creation of a student

success program modeled from the current TRIO program at Sheridan College. This program will improve student persistence and completion by utilizing a contemporary mentoring model that goes beyond traditional advising to include comprehensive service, from selecting a career path through acquiring the first job upon completion.

The old Technical Center building, built in the 1970s, is in the process of being completely renovated. The new building will be over 50,000 square feet, almost doubling the original space.

The welding, machine tool and diesel departments will all receive significant makeovers, each gaining roughly 40 percent more space. Weatherby was very

impressed with the machine shop when they visited Sheridan in the process of deciding where they would like to relocate.

Former Whitney Benefits Board President Tom Kinnison said that we, as a community, have a unique asset in Sheridan College. He highlighted the funding challenges the college faces by showing a chart of funds provided from mill revenue, which shows a steep decline in recent decades due to the collapse of the local coalbed methane industry.

Kinnison said that the Whitney Second Century Legacy grant will add 18 full-time positions and one part-time position.

Agriculture position helps grow program

In January 2016, Whitney Benefits committed to grant \$250,000 for three years to fund an Endowed Agriculture Instructor position at Sheridan College. This position was created to keep pace with increasing enrollment, educational excellence and educational research at Sheridan College.

The Mars Agriculture Center, a 15,000-square-foot state-of-the-art facility that is located on the south end of Sheridan College's main campus connecting to the existing Science Center, has also increased prospective students interest in agriculture and sciences.

The center focuses 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 includes a computerized commodities trading floor classroom for students studying in the ag-business program.

Sheridan College to expand housing options

In 2008, Whitney committed to gifting \$750,000 per year for 10 years as part of its \$7.5 million gift to Sheridan College for on-campus living facilities. The final disbursement for this gift was donated in 2018.

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.

In 2018, Whitney Benefits also granted \$400,000 to Sheridan College to demolish an outdated building and prep the area for future student housing. The gift also included architecture and engineering fees for construction of the upcoming Centennial Hall Dormitory.

New art positions funded at college

In 2016, Whitney Benefits committed to funding three new positions at Sheridan College for three years. In 2018, \$200,000 was donated for these three positions. An \$80,000 contribution allowed Sheridan College to continue to employ

an additional dance instructor. Dance is a growth area in the Performing Arts program at Sheridan College and an additional instructor will allow additional growth.

A \$60,000 contribution was made to continue to employ a theater technician. This position assists as both an educator within the Center for the Arts building and helps with new community productions and events to be held in the Center for the Arts.

The third position is a recruiter for technical programs for \$60,000. This position is a specialized recruiter that seeks prospective students that are looking for vocational training.

In 2017, Whitney also committed to granting \$80,000 per year for three years to fund a faculty position at the Whitney Center for the Arts.

The grant was used in 2018 to fund the employment of an art instructor to provide continuing education to Sheridan College students and local school district students in visual and performing arts.

Computer programming focus of Whitney projects

In 2016, the Whitney Board agreed to participate in several projects that would improve computer skills for Sheridan and Johnson county students over a three-year commitment.

Whitney Benefits created the opportunity for all Sheridan County school districts to participate in computer pro-

gram training and equipment upgrades. Whitney's commitment for this project was \$346,145 in 2018. This includes the salary and benefits for a Sheridan College instructor to teach computer programming with the opportunity of participation by all Sheridan County School Districts and to support and strengthen computer programs offered through Sheridan College to Sheridan County school students.

The support from Whitney Benefits will allow the school districts, along with Sheridan College, to align computer programming and computer science programs with the nationally recognized curriculum and teacher development model, "Project Lead the Way."

PLTW will strengthen existing programming classes (large focus on computer coding) and provide a connection between secondary and post-secondary programs.

Two classrooms on the main Sheridan College campus will be equipped to support the program. One room will be for use by secondary students; the second will support college students pursuing a degree.

Ag pilot project

In 2018, Whitney Benefits approved funding for a three-year agricultural educational pilot project at Sheridan College. \$55,667.73 was gifted. This project will allow agriculture students the opportunity to get hands-on experience in several different project aspects.



FILE PHOTO | THE SHERIDAN PRESS

Web instructor and school district liaison Anne Gunn shows a web-based coding program students learn on Friday at Sheridan College.

Student loan program features online application

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, 2018, the corporation has loaned 5,926 students approximately \$43,462,931.80.

For the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2018, Whitney approved interest-free loans totaling \$2,297,242.40 to 112 students; 88 students received loans for the first time and 24 students had received loans previously. As of June 30, 2018, Whitney has \$12,696,229.92 in student loan monies loaned and/or committed to Sheridan and Johnson County students.

Whitney Benefits uses 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. This online application is also mobile-device friendly.

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 2018-2019 school year, undergraduate students may be eligible to borrow a credit limit up to \$24,000, up to \$6,000 per academic year.

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.

If you would like to comment on how the Whitney Foundation has benefited you personally, please email Whitney Benefits at studentloans@whitneybenefit.org. We are also updating our contact information for everyone who has had or currently has a Whitney student loan. Please visit our website at www.whitneybenefits.org to fill out the simple form so that we have your current information. Thank you!

Thank you to Whitney Scholars

To all Whitney Scholars: Thank you for your support of Mr. Edward A. Whitney's educational mission in our local communities or wherever you might currently reside. If you are one of the over 5,900 students that have been in Whitney's interest free student loan program that was developed in 1927, you are a part of our history and a part of our future as a Whitney Scholar.

Whitney hopes to be in touch with those of you that we might have lost contact with. If you would please send your current contact information, we would certainly appreciate it. There is a form that can be completed on our website at www.whitneybenefits.org. We look forward to hearing from you and look forward to hearing of your successes.

Whitney also would like to share your accomplishments with others with your permission. If you are interested in sharing your story with us, please contact us at the Whitney office at (307) 674-7303.

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.



Investment Steward Certification Validated Oct. 22, 2018

How do Whitney's overhead expenses compare to other nonprofit organizations?

(All general and administrative expenses as a percentage of non-charitable use assets with an asset size of \$100+million)

**National Average = 2.9 percent
Whitney Fiscal Year 2018 = 0.59 percent**



COURTESY PHOTO | WHITNEY BENEFITS

Whitney Benefits receives Research/Outreach Partner Award

Whitney Benefits received the 2018 University of Wyoming College of Agriculture and Natural Resources' Research/Outreach Partner Award for its collaborative efforts to create and strengthen agricultural paths for students seeking advanced education.

The foundation's agricultural efforts include the following: \$1.3 million in 2014 toward building the Forrest Mars Agriculture Center at Sheridan College, \$1.25 million in 2007 for a collaboration between Sheridan College and the University of Wyoming to strengthen the college's agricultural curriculum for an enhanced degree program, \$750,000 in 2016 for an endowment to fund the Edward A. Whitney Agricultural Instructor position at Sheridan College which was filled by Assistant Professor Sadanand Dhekney in the Department of Plant Sciences in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Wyoming and \$1.475 million in 2017 for agricultural posi-

tions including an agriculture instructor position, an agriculture business instructor, a new rangeland management instructor position and a new seasonal farm assistant to support student and faculty member laboratory work.

Whitney Benefits has also granted a 50-year no-fee lease to Sheridan College and the University of Wyoming for the Whitney owned Adams Ranch immediately south of Sheridan College.

This will provide a space for educational experiences and hands-on training to local college and high school students.

Whitney Benefits commits \$25.3 M to Sheridan College

In 2014, Whitney Benefits committed to the largest gift in the history of Sheridan College in the amount of \$25.3 million. In 2018, Whitney continued to fund this extraordinary gift with a grant of \$2,129,005.

The commitment from Whitney Benefits to

Sheridan College included 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.

Continued support of high-demand programs

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 for 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; \$325,000 was paid in 2018.

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.

Additional buildings, businesses added to Whitney Plaza

Whitney Plaza offers retail, office and residential property and has nearly 500 parking spaces for various community and business uses.

The Whitney Plaza Owner's Association has extended complimentary use of the Whitney Plaza parking lots during Sheridan's annual WYO Rodeo parade and for multiple community events.

Several construction projects have recently been completed at Whitney Plaza including the new Core Physical Therapy Prosper building and Birch restaurant.

The design of these new buildings in Whitney Plaza reflects that of properties located in Sheridan's historic downtown business district.

Whitney Benefits and the Whitney Plaza Owner's Association welcome these businesses to the Whitney Plaza neighborhood!



Gift of water

In 2018, Whitney Benefits gifted the city of Sheridan in excess of 50 million gallons of stored Park Reservoir water to assist in watering Sheridan's 13 parks, pathways and greenways, including the Sheridan Recreation District's Thorne-Rider Park, Oatts Baseball Complex, Dan Media Soccer Field and the elk pasture irrigation and restoration project at Kendrick Park.

Additionally, Whitney contributes water to the University of Wyoming Science and Research Center located at Whitney's Adams ranch for students and educators with experimental test plots, grape vineyards and crop irrigation.

100 dedicated individuals

Whitney Benefits Trustees

1,109 years of service

"The corporation trustees, acting as such, shall receive no pay for their services, as it seems to me that the selection and honor of serving on such a board for such purpose would, with the opportunity given to benefit the youth of their own county, attract men of ability and influence who would find the work a labor of love, so to speak, and would willingly fill the office of advisors and directors of the paid working officials into whose hands they commit the actual working out of their plans and instructions."

— E.A. Whitney will

- C.V. Davis 1927-1947
- Alf Diefenderfer 1927-1945
- F.A. Eaton 1927-1937
- Edward P. Fitzgerald 1927-1935
- W.G. Griffen 1927-1943
- Vernon Griffith 1927-1959
- Emerson Hanson 1927-1962
- I.P. Hayes 1927-1945
- B.G. McKeen 1927-1943
- H.C. Stevens 1927-1929 & 1936-1945
- J.D. Thorn 1927-1931
- Allen Williams 1927-1937
- N.P. Yentzer 1927-1929
- E.C. Bowman 1930-1955
- Peter Kooi 1930-1935
- L.J. O'Marr 1931-1943
- J. Frank Kirkpatrick 1935-1941
- Ralph Carmichael 1936-1955
- Lawrence S. Fuller 1937-1943
- W.N. Shackelford 1942-1965
- William D. Redle 1943-1959
- O.G. Rhode 1944-1963
- Edwin Small 1944-1947
- James Wolfe 1944-1959
- Dr. P.M. Schunk 1945-1945

- Jackson Bentley 1946-1953
- George Johnson 1946-1951
- Andre Zoutte 1946-1953
- Ralph Hylton 1948-1959
- Ted Kellner 1948-1952
- Hurbert O. Minick 1951-1958
- E.E. Edwards 1952-1959
- James Carroll 1954-1960
- Robert Holstedt 1954-1965
- Charles H. Kane 1956-1959
- J.W. Wilson, Jr. 1956-1961
- Clifford H. Carroll 1958-1961
- Harold Newton 1960-1961 & 1972-1981
- Jesse K. Beeson 1960-1967
- C.D. Calhoun 1960-1963
- W.J. Christensen 1960-1967
- William Long 1960-1975
- Dr. Peter Madsen 1960-1987
- Homer Scott, Sr. 1960-1993
- Gus Booras 1962-1965
- Henry A. Burgess 1962-1993
- J. Gordon McCalister 1962-1965
- Donald Roberts 1962-1965
- Fred Kaufmann 1964-1969
- William Welch 1964-1967

- Warren Sheldon 1965-1969
- C.B. Metz 1966-1993
- Frank Panetta 1966-1972
- Joe Parker 1966-1982
- S. Watts Smyth 1966-1977
- Burton Kerns 1968-1989
- Ralph Foster 1969-1970
- George Gligorea 1970-1991
- Dorothy King 1970-2001
- John P. Chase 1972-2013
- W. E. Cook 1972-1991
- Dr. George Ewan 1975-1999
- Jane Schroeder 1977-1991
- N.A. Nelson, Jr. 1982-2001
- David Withrow 1982-2013
- David Withrow 1986-1999
- Ray Johnston 1989-1994
- Waldo Forbes 1991-1999
- Tim Barnes 1992-2001
- Roy Garber 1992-Present**
- Darlene Reiter 1993-1997
- Ky Dixon 1994-1997
- Bruce Hendricks 1994-1996
- Sam Scott 1994-Present**
- John Smith 1996-1999 & 2002-2005

- Candy Hardesty 1998-1999
- Janet Ludwig 1998-2001
- Tom Belus 2000-Present**
- Tom Kinnison 2000-2018
- Gary Koltiska 2000-2003
- Tim Tarver 2000-2004
- Tom Throne 2000-2003
- Kim Love 2001-Present**
- Val Burgess 2002-2013
- Mary Ellen McWilliams 2002-2005
- John Patton 2002-2002
- Dr. Sy Thickman 2002-2002
- Maureen Humphrys 2003-2015
- Peter Schoonmaker 2004-Present**
- Samuel S. Street 2005-2014
- Stephen Holst 2006-Present**
- Everett E. McGlothlin 2006-Present**
- Robert Prusak 2013-Present**
- Lori McMullen 2014-2017
- Lynie Phipps 2014-Present**
- Tom Pilch 2014-2017
- Dave Ferries 2015-2018
- Brandi Bilyeu 2018-Present**
- Nadine Gale 2018-Present**
- Dave Kinskey 2018-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 2018 community members include: Bill Gatley, Steve Carroll, Mark Demple, Pete Eliason, Judy Stallman and John Standish.

Whitney staff

The Whitney staff follows the direction of the Board of Trustees to further the philanthropic ideals of the Whitney Foundation based on Mr. Edward A. Whitney's will.

Patrick Henderson
Executive Director

Janet Barnes:
Administrative Coordinator

Jennifer Destefano:
Student Loans Administrator

Craig Achord
Controller