Volume II Issue IV

> **FALL** 2005

PLENTYWOOD EDUCATION & ALUMNI FOUNDATION

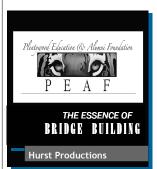
Building the Bridge to Excellence

100 East Laurel

. . . Building Bridges







We are very excited to announce that our DVD entitled "The Essence of Bridge Building" is available! See how the Foundation is impacting the teachers and students at Plentywood Schools and how you can become a part of this rewarding legacy. A Brent Hurst Production, this twelve minute video promises to be a rich resource about the Foundation as well as an inclusive look at its mission and goals. For a free copy please contact Kordy French at the PEAF office. Available on DVD or VHS. Please specify.

100 East Laurel Plentywood, Montana 59254 406-765-1803 www.plentywoodalumni.com minimum fee of \$2.50 will be charged to cover the cost of our postage and handling expense. Thank you! (See bottom page 4 for ordering.)

Please send us your e-mail address for updates and this e-newsletter. Thanks!

Dear Friends and Alumni:

School is back in full session and once again we hear the familiar sounds of kids in the halls, locker doors opening and closing, the ring of the bell and of course the teachers using their skills to give our children one of the best educations around. Good 'ol PHS!

Maybe you have heard of us, maybe not. The Plentywood Education & Alumni Foundation (PEAF) was Executive Director established two years ago to support the educational pro-



Kordelia French

grams for students and staff of School District #20. PEAF will provide funds for innovative educational projects and activities which have not been funded or have been under-funded by the normal operating budget. Last spring PEAF was able for the first time to award six mini-grants back to the teachers and their classrooms. It was a tremendous feeling of success for our young foundation.

Because we believe that each of us is a contributing architect in building bridges to assist our students in their journeys to the future, we invite you to take a step forward and embrace with us, new challenges, while at the same time cultivating a stewardship of maintaining the bridges we have already built for our young people. On the back page you will find an opportunity to make a pledge in the event that you can help in any way.

As the Executive Director of the Plentywood Education & Alumni Foundation I have the opportunity to build a bridge that spans the chasm of



space and time to those who share my educational roots...bringing us together, uniting and reconnecting. For this I am both honored and grateful. On behalf of the PEAF Board of Directors, thank you for taking the time to read this letter and for responding in a positive way.

> Most Gratefully Yours, Kordelia French, CEFE

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♦ 2005 Memorials ♦

The greatest gift a person can give is one that offers meaning and hope to others in a troubled world. Your contributions in memory of loved ones and friends enable the Plentywood Education & Alumni Foundation to generate creative approaches and distribute resources to the Plentywood School District to enrich, maintain and expand programs needed to meet the District's stated mission of excellence in education.

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The Mike Wollan Family Frank & Kordelia French

In Honor Of

Joe & Sally Carpenter <u>From</u> Dr. Korinne Tande

♦ 2005 Honorarium ♦ Honor gifts can be the perfect remembrance we can give for a family member, friend or colleague. Any occasion is an occasion for an honor gift. Your honor gift may be acknowledged to the person being honored without mentioning the amount of the gift.

ALUMNI ALMANAC PAGE 2

2006 GOLF TOURNAMENT

Is anyone interested in participating in an Alumni Golf Tournament during Prairie Fest 2006? The Plentywood Golf Club has authorized the Foundation to host a tournament next summer during Alumni Week and we would like to know what kind of interest there may be.



Please contact Kordy at 406-765-1803 or respond via e-mail at: frenck@plentywood.k12.mt.us if you are at all interested. Thanks!

PHS REUNIONS—SUMMER 2006

Anyone planning a Class Reunion? We'd be happy to work with you. Check out the Events page on our website for photos of 2005 reunions! Also, if you would like a copy of our newsletter via e-mail, PLEASE send us your e-mail address and we will send you updates on events!

www.plentywoodalumni.com or frenck@plentywood.kl2.mt.us



DENIM & DIAMONDS

Much to everyone's relief the PEAF thief has been caught! After an extensive search and several leads the PEAF thief was handcuffed and arrested by local authorities at the Blue Moon, September 12th during the Denim & Diamond's event. Obviously tempted by all the diamonds and glitter,

the PEAF thief intended to walk away with the loot, but it was only moments after his arrival that a successful chase and capture occurred. CASE CLOSED! Theatrical thief was Kevin Paulson. Musical Guest for the evening was Jason DeShaw, a 1999 PHS Alumn who received a huge standing ovation for his entertaining lyrics, storytelling and songs! His entourage consisted of several children as well as Diamond Dolly, aka Diane Spoklie who consistently cheered him on. One final guest appearance was made by Marilyn Monroe, aka Blair Rasmussen who brought the house down with her lip-sync rendition of "Diamonds are a Girls Best Friend"! The event raised awareness about the Foundation as well as gave the Teachers Appreciation. It was a smashing success! Thanks!



WHY GIVE TO CHARITIES?

There are as many motivations for a person's charitable giving as there are people and charities to give to. They likely share one or more of the following motivations:

- ♦ To help fulfill your life's goals
- To feel a sense of value and satisfaction
- ♦ To leave a lasting imprint on society while making a significant difference
- ♦ To perpetuate a certain viewpoint or philosophy
- To unite family members around a purposeful mission
- ♦ To honor or memorialize a friend or loved one
- To fulfill a responsibility or desire to be a leader in a community
- ♦ To connect with others who share your interest and passions.

 $From \ the \ MonDak \ Association \ of \ Non-Profits \ Supplement \ to \ the \ Williston \ Herald \ Inc.$

2006 ALUMNI ART AUCTION

That's right! With all the talent stemming from PHS, the Foundation will host an art auction in the summer of 2006. We are letting you know far in advance so you have ample time



to either create a new piece or to think about which one you might like to donate. All proceeds go directly to School District #20. What a great way to give back to your alma mater! The High School students will also be involved. Anyone interested in donating a special art piece please contact Kordy French at the PEAF Office 406-765-1803 as soon as you can.



GREAT IDEAS GRANT PROGRAM

The Great Ideas Grant Program is a cornerstone of the Plentywood Education & Alumni Foundation's mission to enrich education in the Plentywood

Public Schools. It is designed to put money directly into the hands of classroom teachers, helping educators take ideas for innovative teaching strategies and make them a reality. In the Spring of 2005 the Foundation was able for the first time to award six mini grants back to the teachers and their classrooms!

WILDCAT BRONZE

Michael Westergard showcases his full body wildcat bronze, a magnum opus, during the Denim & Diamonds PEAF Event. This is a limited edition and is available to those who qualify as a **Platinum Partner** of the Foundation. The bronze will be available in early 2006.



A sincere thank you to everyone who
has supported
The Plentywood Education & Alumni Foundation!



DID YOU KNOW?

- ⇒ 38% of all charitable giving goes to Religious Organizations
- ⇒ 11% of all charitable giving goes to Education. 97% of this goes to Colleges
- ⇒ 8.3% of all charitable giving goes to Health Care

Why not consider giving part of this 97% to your graduating High School, namely PHS?

From The Philanthropic Institute of America

Tax Laws Support Charitable Organizations

Our tax laws in the U.S. encourage the support of charitable organizations. BUT! Montana state law encourages giving to local charities in an even greater way, through the establishment of a special **tax credit**. Montana and North Dakota are the only two states to have such a credit. For more information please contact your professional advisor or accountant.

ALUMNI ALMANAC PAGE 3

Why was the Foundation established?

The Plentywood Education Foundation was created to support the educational programs for both the students and staff personnel of Plentywood School District #20. The Foundation will provide funds for innovative educational programs and activities, which either have not been funded or have been under-funded by the normal operating budget. These funds will be used to facilitate student achievement and skill development, to recognize and encourage staff excellence and to expand community involvement from individuals, businesses and civic organizations.

Education Foundation Mission Statement?

The mission of the Plentywood Education Foundation is to generate and distribute resources to the Plentywood School District #20 to enrich, maintain and expand programs needed to meet the District's stated mission of excellence in education.

How can I help?

Your contribution to the Plentywood Education & Alumni Foundation will be gratefully received and appropriated to educational opportunities for students. Your support can come from personal or business interests and can include not only direct financial support, but also community support and by encouraging others to get involved in the Foundation's efforts.

What are my investment options?

General Donation: Cash or pledged donations at any time Planned Giving: Wills, trusts, life insurance, and other options Matched Giving: Contributions may be doubled or tripled when matched by an employer

Plentywood Education & Alumni Foundation Goals

The Foundation will achieve its mission by directing resources toward the following goals:

- Encourage all students to work to their highest potential
- ♦ Support staff for innovative efforts
- Recognize staff for exemplary teaching
- Build community awareness for the Plentywood Education & Alumni Foundation
- Inspire parents, community, businesses and alumni to participate with the school district in enriching education



Building the Bridge to Excellence!

PLENTYWOOD EDUCATION & ALUMNI FOUNDATION ANNUAL DRIVE

Y	ES!	Education		a Donor of the Plentywood Annual Drive. My gift to the Bridge behind
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A minimum fee of \$2.50 will be charged to cover postage and handling. Thanks!