2019 Flood Update:
*Nebraska is full of heroes*

Senator Ben Sasse had it right when he said in a March 30th media release...“This is Nebraska. We’re resilient and just plain tough.”

And in the weeks and months following the historic 500-year flood event that gutted homes, displaced families and killed livestock, we were reminded of something else we are. Kind, generous and heroically committed to helping others in need.

The spirit of community was on full display from the earliest hours of the flood threat. Residents throughout the Fremont area came together to fill sandbags, ready shelters and gather supplies. Many who’d lost their homes to the floodwaters joined in the relief effort to help others. In just 48 hours, approximately 1,200 needs assessments of individuals and families—anyone displaced due to the flood—were completed thanks to the collaborative efforts of civic, church and nonprofit leaders.

Though the rivers have returned to their banks, the shelters have closed, and many residents have returned to life as usual, the Greater Dodge County Long-Term Recovery Group is still hard at work. Comprised of representatives from faith-based, government, business and nonprofit organizations—including the Fremont Area Community Foundation—this collaborative continues to assist individuals and families as they navigate the red-tape of federal and state funding sources, repair their homes, and generally recover from disaster.

The work continues as does the need for volunteers and donations. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Jacki at (402) 721-4157. If you would like to make a donation to help flood recovery, make a gift to our *Flood Relief & Recovery Fund*. And if you or someone you know was impacted by the flood and needs assistance, please contact a Disaster Case Manager at (402) 941-0075.

*Photos courtesy of Fremont Tribune*
Grant Feeds Farm-to-Table Learning

Students attending North Bend Central (NBC) schools are engaged in hands-on learning through gardening, thanks to a recent grant from the Fremont Area Community Foundation which helped the district build a fully-functioning greenhouse.

The greenhouse is an extension of the agriculture, math and science classrooms at NBC, providing teachers with opportunities for cross-curricular learning. In two Greenhouse Operations classes, students are responsible for greenhouse operations from seed to lunch tray. Students have a fresh start at the beginning of each school year with an empty greenhouse and end with a greenhouse full of vegetables and bedding plants. The curriculum includes: growing structures, plant science basics, plant growth, propagation and health, greenhouse business management and fruit and vegetable production.

Agriculture students use the greenhouse for plant science, crop science, agronomic science, biotechnology, horticulture and more. Science students use the hydroponics area of the greenhouse to learn about ecology. And math students get their chance as well...from determining pH in pre-calculus, modeling rate of growth in algebra, calculating water flow and fertilizer usage in geometry, and data collection and graphing in middle school.

Perhaps the best part? The fruits and vegetables grown—like tomatoes, lettuce and green beans—are placed on the school lunch menu so the youth get to enjoy the "fruits of their labor."
Thank You for Supporting Our Sustaining Drive!

These individuals, families and businesses have shown their support for the work and programs of the Fremont Area Community Foundation by contributing to the Sustaining Drive for our 2018-19 fiscal year (July 1, 2018–June 30, 2019). Thank you for your support! It enables the foundation to make a bigger impact in our community.

**CORNERSTONE — $1,500 & up**
- Alan & Beth Brewer
- Blake & Tanya Dillon
- Sid & Patty Dillon
- Rob & Pam Krekemeier
- Dave & Sheila Monke
- Dale & Fern* Olson
- Paul & Debbie Parkert
- Neil & Bonnie Schilke
- Marv Welstead*

**PACESETTER — $1,000-$1,499**
- Janet Brabec
- David & Cynthia Christensen
- Jane & Bill Dugan
- Jack & Judy Ekeler
- Mike & Janice Guillatt
- Bob & Dian Hillis
- Roland & Helen Jensen
- Shawn & Susie May
- Larry Yost

**PLATINUM — $500-$999**
- Mike & Karen Aerni
- Greg & Patti Beebe
- Barry & Jennifer Benson
- Jennifer & J.J. Bixby
- Patrick & Judy Booth
- Wendell & Theresa Bruner
- Larry & Cheryl Feala
- Paul & Mary Glowacki
- Ron & Angela Gross
- Richard L. & Paula Hendriksen
- Brad & Cathy Holtorf
- Caryl & Chuck Johannsen
- Cheryl & Nick Lamme
- Terry & Linda McClain
- Steve & Julie Navarrette
- Travis & Rosie Nelson
- Lee Paden
- Steve & Cynthia Pike
- Mark & Ann Prince
- Heidi & Brett Richmond
- Joe & Nancy Sajevic
- Randy & Ramona Sanders
- Monty & Lynnette Sellon
- Rick & Mary Jo Spalding
- Steve Swanson
- Dave & Karol Theophilus
- Joanne Thietje
- Gail M. Wallace
- Dr. Tom & Carol Waring
- John & Cristin Wilson

**GOLD — $250-$499**
- Daniel & Sue Anderson
- Dr. Milo & Cheri Anderson
- Dr. Rod & Debbie Basler
- Janice Bopp
- Anne Boschult
- Vernon Brandert
- Lloyd & Betty Brooks
- Don & Dorothy Charleston
- Thomas & Barbara Christensen
- Cindy & Mike Coffman
- Dr. Richard & Barbara Coke
- Melissa & Kirk Diers
- Robert & Patricia Diers
- Michael & Pam Draemel
- Sherie Ebers
- Gary & LuAnn Ehmske
- Ken & Susie Ferrarini
- Brett & Kristine Fischer
- Larry & Mary Flamme
- Ron & Rita Freeman
- Sally Ganem & Dave Heineman
- Drs. Gerry & Rhonda Gdowski
- Ron & Pete Getzschman
- Scott & Judy Getzschman
- Todd & Shannon Hansen
- Jeff & Joan Hawthorne
- Jerry & Mary Hendrickson
- Don & Jan Hinds
- Steve & Marsha Hull
- Don & Barbara Johnson
- Paul & Liz Johnson
- Ron & Susie Kranz
- Keith Lallman
- Jan Lutz
- Ken & Alice McElhose
- Scott & Patty Meister
- Vince & Kerstin O’Connor
- Roger & Pam Pannier
- Darrell & Myrna Puls
- Russell & Jetty Rabeler
- Bill & Kathy Rhea
- Stu & Julie Roach
- Bill & Cathy Saeger
- Darlene G. Saeger
- Tom & Marka Sawyer
- Ron & Margaret Schultz
- Marianne Simmons
- Tom & Sheryl Thomsen
- Joe & Diana Twidwell
- Cindy & Ron Weaklend
- Vernelle F. Karsk-Werblow
- Jim & Bonnie Williams
- Rich Pearson & Priscilla Wilson
- Bob & Jan Wobken

**SILVER — $150-$249**
- Anonymous
- Curtis & Patricia Batten
- Dennis Behrens
- Cindi & Steve Dodd
- Jason & Leigh Feala
- Dolores A. Getzschman
- Carl A. Greunke
- Doug & Judy Heim
- George & Sylvia Hermone
- Dr. Mark & Melissa Johannsen
- Larry & Irene Johnson
- Richard & Anita Kentopp
- Russell & Quenna Koch
- Beverlee Krasne
- Glen & Connie Langemeier
- Robert & Cheryl Larsen
- Doris Martinlde
- Bob & Michele Missel
- Bob & Maggie Mundy
- J. Evan & Carolyn Nordstrom
- Dick & Jill Norenberg
- Loren C. Nothwehr
- Elizabeth Petersen
- David & Kathleen Pinkalk
- Molly Rainey
- Steve & Debbie Riley
- T. Scot & Lori Robertson
- John & Lori Sajevic
- Ben & Dianne Siebler
- Tom & Trudy Tamke
- Toni & Bob Vering
- Winfield & Marty Weber
- Dan & Kathy Wiesen
- Tom & Misti Wolf
- Wallace Wolfe
- Bob & Janet Yaniek

**BRONZE — $100-$149**
- Anonymous
- Skip & Jean Anderson
- Dolores Bang
- Ken & Pat Beebe
- Mark & Cindy Bogus-
- A-Plus Tree Service
- Fred & Kay Brown
- Ray & Marilyn Clapper
- Marilyn K. Clark
- Jim & Patty Donelan
- Joe & Caryn Erickson

**GOLD — up to $99**
- Anonymous
- Ron & Diane Anderson
- Diane Bade
- Carman Baker
- Robert & Linda Bendig
- Jean Bloom
- Lonnie & Carol Bohling
- Gary & Denise Bolton
- Paul* & Donna Eveland
- Bryce & Kay Exstrom
- Norman Freund*
- James & Lavonne Furstena
- Charles & Marilyn Gordon
- Leo & Jean Hanson
- Doug & Jill Hartman
- Marjorie Havekost
- Rhoda Holstine
- Henry J. Iske
- The Rev. Scott & Joy Jensen
- Carrie Kiger
- Marilyn Kock
- Marty & Jacquie Koolen
- Ron & Karen Kortan
- John & Shirley Larsen
- Wayne & Janet Larson
- Chris & Mary Beth Leaver
- Caren Lillie
- Raymond C. Ludwig
- Donna & Bryan Meismer
- Nanette Missel
- Todd & Ronda Niehaus
- Alice Nott
- Marilynn Otto
- David & Becky Poppe
- Richard & Betty Rader
- Douglas R. Raichle
- Dr. Bob & Sue Roesch
- Earline Ronhovde
- Lyle Saunders
- Martin & Char Sears
- Mary Siebler
- Darlene Smith
- Robert & Janet Steenbunt
- Steve & Barb Tellatin
- Rachel Timme
- Bob & Amy Vanek
- Don & Gloria Wegman
- Jim & Jodi Wewel
- Linda Williams
- Tom & Deanna Wolf
- Gerry & Sara Wulf

**MEMBER — up to $99**
- Anonymous
- Ron & Diane Anderson
- Diane Bade
- Carman Baker
- Robert & Linda Bendig
- Jean Bloom
- Lonnie & Carol Bohling
- Gary & Denise Bolton
Thanks to These Businesses for Their Support!

PLATINUM - $1,000 and up
- Don Peterson Real Estate
- First National Bank Fremont
- First State Bank & Trust Co.
- Fremont Contract Carriers
- Guilliat & Associates
- Nye Health Services
- Pinnacle Bank
- Sid Dillon Chevrolet Fremont
- Tek Services Inc.
- Valmont Industries

SILVER - up to $499
- Anonymous
- Abe Krasne Home Furnishings
- All-Stor Self Storage LLC
- Bixby Financial Services
- Christensen Lumber Inc.
- Fremont Rotary Club
- INS PRO, Inc.
- Kelly Group, Inc.
- Leonard Management
- Methodist Fremont Health
- Sawyer Car Wash
- Swanson Insurance/Real Estate, Inc.
- Taylor & Martin

GOLD - $500 - $999
- Anesthesia Care Specialists
- Arps Red-E-Mix, Inc.
- Chris Sullivan Enterprises
- Dodd Engineering
- Eakes Office Solutions
- Fremont Dental Group
- Fremont Eye Associates
- Gene Steffy's Chrysler
- Getzschman Heating, LLC
- Gringo's Cantina
- Jetters Plumbing, Inc.
- Ludvigsen Mortuary
- OfficeNet, Inc.
- Platte Valley Bank
- Rader Photography
- Scribner Bank
- Shaw, Hull & Navarrette CPAs P.C.
- Wiechman Pig Co., Inc.

From left to right: Caryl Johannsen, Shawn May, Rev. Scott Jensen, Koni Shallberg, Gaylord Mussman, Jessup Wilson, Cheryl Lamme, Patti Beebe, Tanya Dillon, Terry McClain (Vice President), Sid Dillon, Jr., Mark Prince, Jennifer Bixby (Secretary-Treasurer), Barry Benson, Steve Swanson, Brad Holtorf, Bob Hillis (President), Heidi Richmond

Not pictured: Jane Dugan, Greg Haskins (Immediate Past President), Kate Heineman, Donna Meismer, Russ Peterson,* Steve Navarrette,* Joe Sajevic, Tom Thomsen,* Toni Vering

*Ex-officio
Grant Funds Inclusive Playground

A grant from the Fremont Area Community Foundation was key to launching a fundraising effort to create an inclusive playground designed for children ages 2 to 12, to be located adjacent to Fremont's Splash Station water park.

The playground, spearheaded by the Fremont Noon Kiwanis Club, will feature amenities that all children can enjoy, regardless of their physical abilities. For example, the merry-go-round will be low to the ground, and access to other rides will be “at grade” for children in wheelchairs.

The Kiwanis Club committed its own money and is still fundraising for this project. The City of Fremont is providing the land for the playground and will own and maintain it upon completion. It’s sure to be a much-appreciated community asset for families visiting the Splash Station and Johnson Lake area.

Anyone wishing to support the Splash Station Playground can make a gift online at: https://www.facfoundation.org/splashstationplayground.html

Uehling Celebrates its New Charters of Freedom Park

What the Village of Uehling lacks in size (its population is about 223), it makes up for in vision and determination.

The Uehling Area Community Foundation, an affiliate of the Fremont Area Community Foundation, recently received a grant of $10,000 to complete the town’s Charters of Freedom Park—the first of its kind in Nebraska and only the 18th in the nation.

The nation’s founding fathers penned The Declaration of Independence, The United States Constitution, and The Bill of Rights which collectively are known as the Charters of Freedom. These three documents declare that we are an independent people, we are governed by a democratic republic, and we are secure in our freedom and rights as citizens of the United States of America. The new Uehling park features replicas of these documents which are etched in 1/4-inch bronze, kept under rigid glass and placed upon brick monuments.

“The effort of our Founding Fathers to create this great country is still evident in those documents,” said Ron Lewis, facilitator for Foundation Forward, the nonprofit that builds Charters of Freedom settings throughout the country. “It’s important that people—first understand them and then have an opportunity to see them.”

Visit the Charters of Freedom Park at 5th and Elm Streets in Uehling.

Stay Connected!

Would you like to receive regular updates on how the Fremont Area Community Foundation is making the Fremont area a better place to live, work and play?

“Like” us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, and sign up to receive our e-Newsletter! Visit our website at www.facfoundation.org, scroll down and enter your email address in the “Sign up for our Emails” box. You can also sign up by contacting us at 402-721-4252 or info@facfoundation.org.
Celebrating Our 2019 Grantees

Since its inception in 1980, over $30 million in grants has been awarded from the Fremont Forever Fund, donor-advised funds, scholarships and other funds administered by the Fremont Area Community Foundation. This year alone, the Foundation has awarded over $586,000 in competitive and donor-advised fund grants. Listed below are competitive grants awarded from the Fremont Forever Fund and Lester A. Walker Fund during 2019.

**American Cancer Society**—$1,500 to enhance marketing for the Relay for Life of Dodge County event.

**American Legion Lewis Cerv Post 122, Dodge, NE**—$6,000 to assist with remodeling the restroom to make it more accessible for those with disabilities.

**CASA of the Midlands**—$1,500 for start-up expenses to expand services to surrounding communities.

**Disabled American Veterans**—$5,476 to fund a new sidewalk entrance for the Fremont facility.

**Dodge County 911 Communication Center**—$1,500 for a new simulator for children to practice contacting 911 and talking with dispatchers.

**Dodge County Fair Foundation**—$15,000 to help build the kidZone Animal Annex onto the current structure.

**Fort Atkinson Foundation**—$20,000 designated to the upgrades to the Keelboat exhibit.

**Fremont Area Art Association**—$10,000 to assist in the “Insulating the East Roof” project.

**Fremont Area Habitat for Humanity**—$8,900 to purchase a trailer and tools to assist in construction and repair projects.

**Fremont Avenue of Flags/Veterans Park**—$10,000 to Veterans Memorial Park to honor our nation’s veterans.

**Fremont Public Schools Foundation**—$25,000 to help purchase and install a UHF Emergency Communication Radio System at FPS, Bergan and Trinity.

**Friends of the Fremont Area Parks (on behalf of the Fremont Kiwanis Club)**—$25,000 to help build an inclusive playground adjacent to Fremont’s Splash Station.

**John C. Fremont Days**—$450 to purchase a new computer.

**Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska**—$10,000 to build foster care and prevention-focused supportive resources in the Fremont area.

**MainStreet of Fremont**—$750 to support the “Sand Sculptures on Main” event.

**Midland University**—$1,500 to support a Diversity and Inclusion Speaker Series.

**Nebraska PTA/Clarmar PTA**—$8,000 to help fund a new playground structure.

**Nebraska Shakespeare Festival, Inc.**—$5,000 to bring performances to schools in Dodge and Washington County.

**Neihardt Foundation**—$1,142 to fund technology upgrades to the John G. Neihardt Center.

**Patriotic Productions**—$1,500 to support the organization’s “Gary Puckett and The Union Gap” fundraising event.

**Pioneer Amateur Radio Club**—$1,500 to help improve the technology and training of operators who aid the Dodge County Emergency Management Team in times of crisis.

**Rebuilding Together-Platte Valley East, Inc.**—$15,000 to help with capacity-building and core support operations.

**Trinity Lutheran School**—$10,000 to assist with a remodel project focusing on the school’s STEM program.

**Uehling Area Community Foundation**—$10,000 to complete the town’s Charters of Freedom Park.