

Northeast Community College Foundation

Spring 2019

Northeast
community college
FOUNDATION

Scholarship Luncheon

Northeast Community College celebrated the generosity of those who have given their resources to ensure that students are allowed to pursue higher education degrees during the Scholarship Luncheon.

Three students spoke of how scholarships have assisted in achieving their goals at Northeast.

Tia Smith, Neligh, recipient of the Delta Kappa Gamma Nu and Paul R. Rohrke scholarships, is a first generation college student who will graduate in May with an Associate of Arts degree in Education – Secondary. She told the luncheon audience that she would not have experienced college the way she has without the assistance of scholarship donors.

“With the scholarships I have received, I was able to work a few hours each week and be involved on my campus and focus on my education. It is because of donors like you that students like me get to have this college experience,” she said. “Donors, the generosity you have put forward in granting these scholarships have truly impacted every student sitting in this room. What you are doing is making a difference in the lives of these students. I hope that one day I am able to give back as you all are giving today.”

Amber Schaad, Columbus, also a first generation college student, is a freshman who

is majoring in accounting. She is the recipient of the Nebraska Open and the Stan & Cindy Christensen Family scholarships. When she was young, Schaad was taught a core value - a person needs to work for what they receive - which includes paying her own way through college.

“All of my involvements on campus and future plans would not be possible if I didn’t have such a great support system surrounding me and leading me in the right direction. One of those huge support systems is local scholarship donors that made not only my experience here at Northeast possible, but hundreds of other students as well,” Schaad said. “Having generous people who have donated money for scholarships is what helped me decide that I can afford college and that I can be successful and continue my next chapter of life. And that all started at Northeast Community College.”

Daulton Thomas, Norfolk, recipient of the Robert E. Thomas Broadcasting Scholarship, will graduate in May with an Associate of Applied Science degree in Media Arts. Thomas, who is active in the Broadcasting Club, said receiving the scholarship has made his college experience “very easy.” He emphasized that support from donors has assisted him educationally and financially, allowing him to graduate debt free. Thomas also encouraged future and current students to always apply for scholarships. ■



Tia Smith, Neligh, NE
Delta Kappa Gamma Nu Chapter
Paul R. Rohrke
Scholarship Recipient (2018-2019)



Amber Schaad, Columbus, NE
Nebraska Open
Stan & Cindy Christensen Family
Scholarship Recipient (2018-2019)



Daulton Thomas, Norfolk, NE
Robert E. Thomas Broadcasting
Scholarship Recipient (2018-2019)

We need your help!

Last year 677 scholarship applications were received, but only 453 students received financial support, causing 33 percent of scholarship applicants to go unawarded.

The need keeps growing each year. Help us close the gap by donating to the General Scholarship Fund. Through your donation you can make the dream of a quality education possible for students like Tia, Amber and Daulton.

***Contributions to the
General Scholarship Fund
can be mailed to:***

***Northeast Community
College Foundation
801 E. Benjamin Ave.
Norfolk, NE 68701***

***Online donations may be
made at [northeast.edu/
Giving/Donate](http://northeast.edu/Giving/Donate)***

Alumni Spotlight - Paxton Family

13 members of the Paxton family have attended Northeast - another plans to enroll for the Fall 2019 semester



Back, left to right: Larry Paxton, Donna (Paxton) Malone, Dan Malone, Darrin Paxton, Debbie (Paxton) Tejral, Dana Paxton, Darby Paxton. **Front, left to right:** Jeff Poessnecker, Jennifer (Malone) Poessnecker, Tiffany (Malone) Gotschall, Trevor Gotschall, Shelby Paxton, Logan Tejral.

Larry Paxton was the first member of his family to attend college in Norfolk, but he was not the last. Larry graduated in 1958 from Norfolk Junior College, one of the two colleges that merged to form Northeast Community College. Since then, 12 members of his immediate family have attended Northeast, and another grandchild plans to enroll for the Fall 2019 semester.

Paxton family members who followed in Larry's footsteps at Northeast include children Donna Malone (1979), Darrin Paxton (1987), Debbie Tejral (1991), Dana Paxton (1995), and Darby Paxton (1999); grandchildren Jennifer Poessnecker (2006, 2007, 2008), Tiffany Gotschall (2008), Shelby Paxton (2016), and Logan Tejral (2019); and in-laws Dan Malone (1980), Jeff Poessnecker (2004), and Trevor Gotschall (2008). Another grandson, Wyatt, graduates from Stuart High and plans to attend Northeast this fall.

Larry chose the college in Norfolk for two reasons. It was close to his hometown of Stuart, and he could continue playing football as a linebacker on the college team. He also liked the smaller class sizes. "You are not just a number at Northeast," he said.

After graduation, Larry returned to the family ranch near Stuart. He has served on the Stuart Township Board, the Stuart Public School Board, and the Stuart Town Board. Other Paxton family members are involved in the family ranch, own their own businesses, or work for area schools and hospitals. They are also active volunteers in their communities, churches and schools.

Why did you choose Northeast Community College?

Darby: It was close to home and family is important to me. It had the classes that I needed to find a job in the field I wanted. It was affordable.

What is your favorite memory of Northeast?

Larry: Playing football for Coaches Thompson and Carmichael.

Debbie: Working at the college work study program.

What is your current job or career?

Larry: Rancher

Darby: Director, Holt County Economic Development

Jen: Charge nurse at West Holt Medical Services

Trevor: Owner/operator Gotschall Repair (diesel repair) and rancher

Shelby: Physical Therapy Assistant for Family Physical Therapy in Kearney

How is Northeast different from other schools?

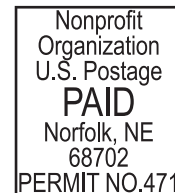
Tiffany: I love that I was a person and not a number. My professors from general studies to my specialized field all knew me and what my background/family life was. And they cared! I know some of them after 11 years would still be able to see me and know my name. To me, that says a lot.

What advice would you have for a current student?

Jen: Take advantage of the many opportunities that Northeast has for you. Get involved. Employers love it when they see that you have been involved and volunteering.

How would you encourage someone to give back to Northeast?

Darby: You could use your talents to teach a class, encourage others to attend classes, or help our youth understand that we are in desperate need of trade professions and they can get a degree near their home by attending one of the Northeast satellite campuses. ■



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Leave a Legacy

Some people with the most to give never do, because they
leave one simple thing undone:
They never write a will.

Writing a will isn't difficult and it's well worth the time.
Here is a simple bequest sample to help get your estate
plan started. Feel free to share this information with
your professional advisor the next time you update your
estate plan.

The Unrestricted Gift

I give to Northeast Community College Foundation, a non-
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the sum of \$ _____ (or _____ % of my estate,
or the property described herein) for its general purposes.



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