2020 Annual Report and Honor Roll of GIVING...



At the heart of Northwest.

1

Dual Impact...



Shelby Wetzel, Lisa Watson, and Dave Bonner

The NWC Foundation's role in supporting Northwest College is two-fold.

- **RAISE** We are the official fundraising arm of the College, working to secure private gifts and grants to enhance NWC's educational offerings.
- **INVEST** Our other responsibility is managing Foundation assets in ways that produce the greatest benefit for NWC and its students.

It also takes two – *the giver and the receiver* – to create impact through generosity. Large and small, YOUR gifts supporting scholarships, programs, facilities and our general fund help us change lives every day.

With heartfelt appreciation, we present the Foundation's 2020 Annual Report.

SHELBY WETZEL Executive Director NWC Foundation

Shelly Wetzel Lisa Mulation Dave Douner

LISA WATSON Interim President Northwest College

DAVE BONNER President **NWC** Foundation



^{\$}36,000 Largest Gift

Smallest Gift







Invest

NWC FOUNDATION College Promotion / PR \$2,456 Foundation Grants to NWC **TOTAL ASSETS** \$8,157 Paul Stock Student Employment Support \$22,999 Academic / Program Support 2012 \$27,646,486 Student Scholarships \$194,106 \$1,288,017 2013 \$32,248,081 2014 \$35,103,055 2015 \$35,240,756 2020 Foundation SUPPORT to NWC 2016 \$37,774,901 \$1,515,735 \$42,927,056 2017 2018 \$38,257,626 **313** [NUMBER OF ENDOWMENTS] 2019 \$45,278,719 \$47,025,849 2020

Education MATTERS.

It's rare that just the mention of a name can bring a smile to your face.

At least, that's certainly the case for the late Ralph Newell, a longtime advocate and champion of Northwest College. A major proponent for the value of community colleges, he served on the NWC Board of Trustees from 1992-2002 and on the Foundation Board from 2005-2010.

But Newell, who had a longstanding passion for education, didn't always have his sights set on NWC.

"As a kid, all he ever wanted to do was ride horses," Nancy Gilmore, one of Newell's two daughters, explained. "He wanted to be an outfitter."

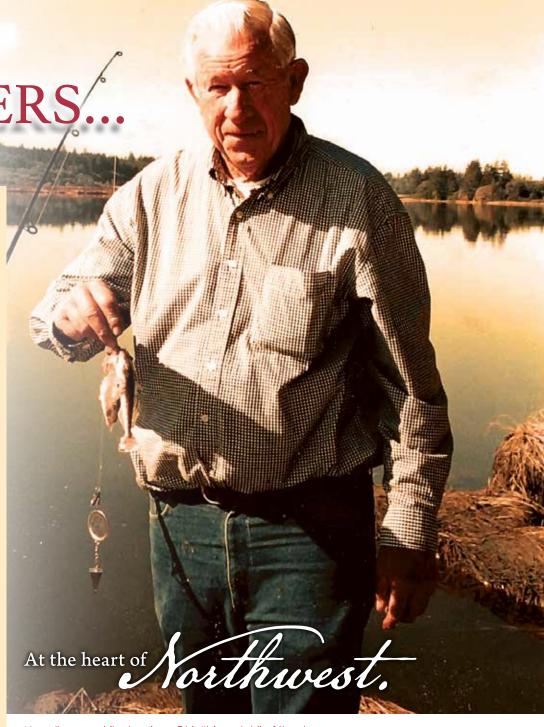
Before he could pursue his plans to become an outfitter, he was deployed to Korea in October 1948 as a member of the 300th Armored Field Artillery, The Cowboy Cannoneers. After serving on the frontlines for more than 18 months, Newell was honorably discharged in June 1950; he received two Bronze Service Stars and the United Nations Service Medal.

Shortly after returning home to Cody, he learned about the GI Bill, which provides educational assistance to veterans and service members.

BACK TO SCHOOL

"He decided 'OK, well I didn't really like school, but I'm going to give this college thing a try," Gilmore said.

Two years later, Newell earned his degree from Northwest College.



Newell poses while showing off his "big catch" of the day.

An avid athlete as well, he also played on the first football team at NWC.

Inspired to continue pursuing his education, his time at NWC was far from the end of his journey.

Soon afterward he attended Montana State University Billings (formerly Eastern Montana College), where he earned his bachelor's, served as class president and was an All-American football player.

While he was studying at Eastern he

met his wife, Maggie. They married in Wyola, Montana, Feb. 22, 1958, and welcomed three children to the family.

Prepared to earn his third and final degree, Newell and his family temporarily moved to Tempe, Arizona, where they explored the awe-inspiring vistas of the Grand Canyon and he received his master's degree.

"My dad just made our lives wonderful, and he had this marvelous sense of humor," Gilmore added. "He had a vast



Newell stands on a mountain ridge in Sunlight Basin with his horse.



The Newell family relaxes in the Rec Hall at the 7D Ranch in Sunlight Basin. From left to right: Nancy, Ralph, Brad, Maggie and Suzie.

knowledge of minutiae that my brother and I inherited—we know a little bit about a lot of different things."

After Newell earned his master's, it wasn't long before his career in education flourished. Regularly described by his former students as "fair" and "kind," he held many roles throughout the years, starting as the principal and a sixth-grade teacher at Sunset Elementary in Cody and ending with eighth-grade earth science at the junior high school.

As children, Gilmore and her siblings, Suzie and Brad, spent their summers tucked back in the tall trees at the scenic 7D Ranch in Sunlight Basin, where their dad was the head wrangler and their mom was the head cabin girl.

From an early age, the Newells instilled the importance of education in their children.

In fact, Gilmore doesn't recall a time where their family wasn't involved with NWC. In addition to being an alumna of the College, she currently works in NWC's Academic Affairs Office.

"He told me every single day that he lived a blessed life. He said he could never ask for anything to be different."

THRIVING IN RETIREMENT

Retired at 56, he was able to pursue one of his greatest passions: fishing. Snow or sunshine, Newell often spent his free time ice fishing or visiting Fort Peck during his biannual trips with his fishing buddy Dan Hunter. "He was longer retired than he ever taught," she noted.

Surprisingly, though, making the biggest catch of the day wasn't always the most exciting part about fishing trips.

"He told me every single day that he lived a blessed life. He said he could never ask for anything to be different."

In the early 90s, Newell and several of his friends, including former U.S. Senator Alan Simpson, traveled to San Diego for a weeklong fishing trip. After eating dinner, the group had just set off on their fishing journey when they received a surprise.

Following complications with a legislative bill that was in the process of being passed, a phone call searching for Simpson was made to the marina and patched out to the radio on the boat.

On the other line was the former U.S. President George H.W. Bush, who visited with Newell and his friends after conducting business.

"He just thrived in retirement. And boy, did that man have stories," Gilmore said.

A PASSION FOR EDUCATION

Active in both his church and community, Newell began his 10-year

journey of serving on the NWC Board of Trustees, where his passion for athletics and education were united.

"He loved the College, and he loved his role on the board. He thought community colleges serve such a huge purpose and provide such wonderful value to people in rural areas."

After Newell's wife passed away in 2001, the family endowed the Maggie Newell Memorial Scholarship with the NWC Foundation.

Newell met Dixie Lake while volunteering at the Cody Cupboard. The two later moved to Owl Creek outside of Thermopolis, where he enjoyed helping with her family's ranch and fishing.

In addition to his service on the board, he also supported the College in other little-known ways.

"It wasn't until much later in his life, I learned he sent \$300 to the College each month - \$100 for Mom's scholarship and the rest for athletics scholarships," Gilmore added. "He'd been doing it forever. He really believed in helping people."

With the addition of Ralph's name to the family scholarship, he and Maggie are once again united in their support of education and Newell's legacy will live on at Northwest College.

"You'd be hard pressed to find someone who loved something as much as he loved this place."

Faithful Fan

The players referred to him as their 'Team Grandpa' and he filled a void in their lives that many young

An avid Trapper fan, especially of rodeo and women's basketball, Ralph Newell's presence was a staple at NWC practices and home games.

He faithfully visited Cabre Gymnasium every afternoon to watch a half hour of the men's practice and a half hour of the women's practice. As time went on, Newell became the unofficial 'Assistant Women's Coach,' according to Head Coach Cam Levett. Together they watched game film in Levett's office and players would stick their heads in the door to say hi or offer a hug to Newell.

When the team left for road trips, Newell would be there to send them off with candy bars or doughnuts in hand. Whether it was four in the morning or four in the afternoon, he met the women's players at the bus and wished them luck.

"Ralph Newell was our #1 supporter," said Trapper player Tayler Groll. "Every home game he was there in the same spot, cheering us on through every win and loss."



The players referred to him as their 'Team Grandpa' and he filled a void in their lives that many young college students who are far from home need. They filled a void for him as well, and he enjoyed the attention and friendship they gave.

Former Trapper player, Tess Henry noted, "Ralph was the grandpa I never had. He was the best listener, cheerleader and friend." It was not uncommon to see Newell giving players rides from the gym to Johnson Fitness Center in his Side-by-Side or across campus to a class. He took care of them.

The Athletic Department produced a tear-jerking video for Newell when he was in hospice. In it, Athletic Director Brian Erickson shared a simple yet powerful message thanking him for supporting NWC kids, coaches and athletic programs.

A week after Newell passed, Henry received news that she was accepted into the Radiology program at Weber State University. "I can't help but think Ralph had something to do with it," she stated.

Newell made a difference to Northwest College and its students.

How can you make a difference?

Gifts to the Northwest College Foundation touch all corners of our campus and provide support for our students. We make it easy to give, and offer several ways for you to leave a legacy at NWC. Contact the Foundation office today!

SHELBY WETZEL (307) 754-6110 / shelby.wetzel@nwc.edu

CORY OSTERMILLER (307) 754-6190 / cory.ostermiller@nwc.edu

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Alumni.

Northwest College has played a crucial role in the professional and personal success of countless students. The following alumni, listed by class decade, made gifts to demonstrate the special place NWC holds in their hearts.

Alumni from the 1940s

Wilber Clark □ Virginia Harris (Rains) □ ³ **Ruby Hopkin (Lynn)** Jack King ◆ Mary Jane King (McKethen) ◆ **Marge Wilder (Fryer)** ³

Alumni from the 1950s

Roger Baxter \bigstar ³ Floyd Boelens \bullet ³ Sue Clark (Collins) □ 3 Marilyn Faber (Mathews) • Mel Faber • Bill Farthing • 3 Bonnie Haas (Sprague) ♦ Verne House ♦ Paul Joy 4 3 Louis Kousoulos 4 3 Donna Meidinger (Farmer/Kisor) ♦ Fred Moller

³ Clifford Moore 4 3 Ray Nelson ♦ Ralph Newell ³ Jack Rea David Rickell

³ Sharon Roland (White)
³ Virginia Sande (Streeter)
³ Robert Tharp Bruce Turnbaugh Gale Walters D 3 Anonymous (1)

Alumni from the 1960s James Allison

Barbara Barber (Russell) ♦ 3 Tom Barber John Beck 🗆 Susan Benner (Onstine)

³ Jerald Best 3 Dennis Brabec
³ Kaye Brabec (Beaver) **Michael Brabec** Dennis Burke • 3 Linda Burke (Johnson) • 3 Shirley Buttenhoff (Streeter) • 3 Jeannine Cozzens (Orendorff) Clay Cummins ³ Michael Dawson 4 3 Floyd Derry Neil Earhart 4 3 John Fadule □ ³ Gene Fertig ♦ Marla Fertig (McGlathery) ♦ Scott Feyhl 1 3 Judy Frisby (Jolovich) ³ Jeana Gatch (Jacobs) 4 3 Pat Graham 🗅 3 Ron Hill Ken Hoffmann ♦ 3 Glen Holm

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Alumni from the 1970s

Steve Agnew □ ³ Rusty Alderson • ³ David Alexander □ Bonnie Anderson (Nielsen) ◆ ³ Pam Babson (Fetzer) ◆ ³ Ellen Bales (Shorb) □ ³ Steve Bales ³

ALUMNI GIVING

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Bold = \$1,000 or more • = \$500 - \$999 • = \$250 - \$499 \Rightarrow = \$100 - \$249 \Box = \$0 - \$99 ³ = Given three years in a row * = Gift-in-kind

ALUMNI PROFILE... Monte Nickles ['12]

Powell native Monte Nickles has always been immersed in the music world, even from a young age. Whether it was learning the piano in first grade or experimenting with the new family stereo as a young boy, music was part of everyday life. In keeping with his passions, he studied music technology at Northwest College and soon after earned his bachelor's in audio production from Webster University in 2016. Nickles currently lives in Columbus, Montana, and is the manager of audio and video at the Tippet Rise Art Center.

What initially sparked your interest in music? How has that interest evolved since you started your career?

Music has always been a huge part of my life from the time I was very little, thanks to my mother. We always had music playing at the house. My parents had an extensive CD collection. Plus, it was a house requirement that we all learn to play the piano, no matter how much we cried some days and begged not to practice. From there, I picked up the trumpet in middle school and didn't put it down for years after. The different genres and styles that I learned through trumpet were so diverse and fun. During this time, I built an appreciation and interest in sound. It all came together when I started at NWC and they were just finishing the new recording studio installation. NWC Associate Professor of Music Robert Rumbolz, who I'd known for years, roped me into trying a few of those classes. They were the perfect blend of science, creativity and musical expression. I was all in and never looked back. Now, instead of performing, I place microphones, edit takes into full pieces, EQ and compress tracks, and help artists bring their visions to life.

What does your day-to-day look like at Tippet Rise?

One of the best things about working at Tippet Rise is that my day is never ever the same! I could be recording a famous string quartet or pianist, editing a recording, mastering a project for release, or recording birds and bug sounds. The possibilities are almost endless. But often, I am in the studio mixing a project, mastering a project or editing a project. These processes all take place while juggling upcoming work, whether it's concerts, film shoots, recording sessions, or just installations and maintenance.

How did you know Northwest College was a good fit for you?

I'd spent a lot of time at Northwest College well before I was ever a student. I started by just riding through campus all the time on family bike rides. We would also go to concerts and events at NWC. Eventually, I found myself attending Summer Music Camp and participating in the Showalter Music Festival and District Band on campus. Neil Hansen was the director of bands and music at the time and was quite a force and recruiter. He took the time to talk to me when I was a kid, walking around Washington Park during the Yellowstone Jazz Festival. He smiled and said "You could be up there someday." He really was the reason I ended up in the Music Department. It felt like home because it basically was home. It just felt right from the get-go.

What do you remember most vividly about your NWC experience?

I remember staying up late in the music building spending hours and hours in the studio. You just don't get to do that at other programs. My roommate, Keller Paulson, who is a great drummer and musician, would also spend all night at the music building. We would often come and get each other to listen to something we were working on. The opportunity to experiment and develop was fantastic. I got a lot of hands-on experience with live sound, recording and film productions. It was almost hard to believe what I was able to do in the span of two years at NWC.

What's the best piece of advice you've ever received? What advice do you have for current students?

I've received countless great pieces of advice from many wonderful mentors and teachers. One piece of advice that stuck with me is to "put good stuff in, get good stuff out." This is usually said in the context of recording, but to me, it also resonates with most things in life. School is what you make it—it's so much more than just going to class and going through the motions. It's an opportunity to explore, create, learn and push your understandings and boundaries in new directions. It's the ability to grow and develop personally, professionally, artistically and more. But you have to do the work and put in the effort. Put good stuff in, and you'll get good stuff out.



Matthew Vredenburg Sheree Vredenburg (McRann) Janee Weber (Williams) • Sherman Weimer
³ William Wood □ Ann Woods • 3 Sue Woods ³ Steve Zebert -Anonymous (10)

Alumni from the 1980s

Robert Adams Ken Anderson 4 3 Rusty Anderson • Brad Basse 4 3 Lorilyn Beck (Brown) Tim Beck □ 3 James Bell³ Stefanie Bell (Ribble) ³ Sabryna Birmingham (Studzinski) • David Black ³ Lisa Brieske (Tade)
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³ Denise Laursen (Smith) □ ³ Carla Le Blanc • 3 David Lynn 🗆 Mark Lynn D Autourina Mains (Khoshbeh) 4 3 Sandra McCausland Scott McKenzie ♦ Jacqueline Michel ³ Connie Moore (Cottrell) Jackie Neckels ♦ Megan Nickles (Woods) ³ Teresa Noble (DeLambert) ♦ Rick Norberg □ 3 Astrid Northrup (Foley) ³ David Northrup ³ Marlys Ohman • Sandra Ohman (Slack) Suzanne Patterson (Miller) ♦ ³ Sean Phelps 4 3 Win Ramby ♦ Patricia Reinhart (Dunleavy) ♦ Barbara Robertson + Bernie Robertson 4 3 Steve Rockhold ³ Tammy Rockhold (Vogt)³ Vernon Ross • Brenda Schaefer (Chappell) ♦ 3 Keith Schaefer 4 3

Alumni

continued.

Ryan Brown

Justin Edwards -

Jeffrey Ford ♦

Akiko Fuse 🗆

Dee Havig³

Michelle Buss (Hurd) □

Diane Cox (Hamilton)

Bonnie Capron-Decker (Russell)

Andrea Dominick (Demasi)
³

Christy Fleming (Bulkeley) • ³

Pamala Flitner (Gerrard) +

Karen Garcia (Jensen)

Jennifer Haring (Cockrell) □

Shiloh Hayford (Royce) ♦ ³

Sarah Johnson (Swisher) ³

Corrine Livers (Ostermiller) • Amie Lundberg (Baxter) • ³

Kim Lawson (Harrison) ♦

Kelli Martin (Salusso)

Tracy McArthur (Aberle) 4 3

Darci Ostermiller (Ribble)³

Darin Gilbertson

James Hayford 4 3

January Johnson³

Stan Lundberg • ³

Carey Miller 4 3

John Moore

Erik Ohman 🗆

Cory Ostermiller ³

Mike Hobbs 4 3

Matthew Graham 4 3

Kari Doucette (Miller/Barnes)

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Alumni from the 1990s

Michael Aberle -Kathryn Ball (Johnson) Kara Beech (Miller) Paula Bentle (Brainard) 4 3 Cindy Blough (Fink) ♦³ Pamela Boggio (Miller) 4 3 Toby Bonner³ Phillip Bowers D 3

James Seckman³

Laureen Smith ♦ ³

Spencer Smith 4 3

Kent Sturman 4 3

Brian Webster

Steve Webster³

Brett Whitlock • 3

Mahonri Williams +

Tim Winland 🔶

Anonymous (13)

Rob Young

Ruth Thompson ♦

Alicia Troutman 4 3

Mark Skoric

Eric Robirds ³ Jeremiah Rouane ♦ Casey Schatz ♦ Dustin Schutzman • Michelle Schutzman (Boswell) • Lucas Shaw

³ Rodney Tolman D 3 Ann Turner (Showalter) ♦ Shawn Warner ³ Ron Weathermon ³ Yancy Welch John West • Mark Westerhold 4 3 Shaun Wilkinson Jennifer Wolf (Story)
³ Reanne Wolff (Faxon) ³ Viola Yates (Williams) + Anonymous (11)

Alumni from the 2000s

Sami Ashcraft (Carroll) Andrea Barton (Donahue) ♦ Lester Boggio ♦ 3 Keli Borders (Gormley) 4 3 Shandi Bradley (Fitzpatrick) Pablo Carrasco 🗆 Elizabeth Claudson (Edgerly) Rebecca Croft (Dustin) Dacia DeBock (Deffinbaugh/Webber) Sandra Feyhl (Messmann)

Patrick Garcia
³ Nancy Gilmore (Newell) • ³ Christina Greaham (Riddle) ♦ Amanda Haney (Beslanowitch) Nicholas Haney D Jacob Hansen • Katie Hernandez (Sheridan) • ³ West Hernandez • Charlene Kline
³ Elsa Kortge 🗆 Aylan Krebsbach (Metcalf) Rita Lewis (Medina) Zhibo Lin ♦ Nicole McCallister 4 3 Ryan Miller -Nicole Nelson ♦ Cale Ostermiller • Bobbie Patterson (Barngrover/Bell) ♦ 3 Andy Quanbeck ³ Alison Rogers (Coy)
³ Stephen Rogers Charise Rose (White) \square ³ Colby Schaefer + John Shade Lindsay Shaw (Moore) ♦ Timothy Shaw ♦ Trisha Shorb (Lake) ♦ Haley Sorenson 4 Lucas Sorenson D Josh Smith • 3 Pam Thiel (Percifield) Sheridan Trask (Taylor) Anjanette Wambeke (O'Donnell) Kendal Wambeke Robbi Welch (Christensen) Hannah Wells Anonymous (5)

Alumni from the 2010s

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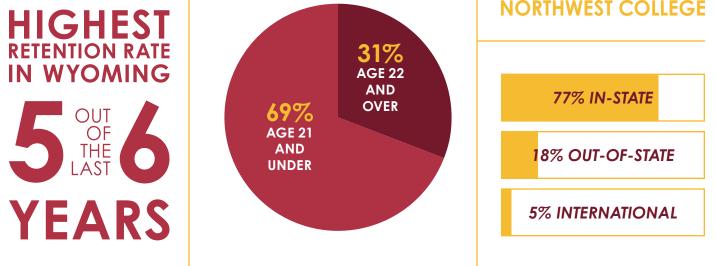
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Some of the largest gifts the Foundation receives are made through estate plans. The Trapper Legacy Society recognizes Northwest College alumni and friends who have named the NWC Foundation as a beneficiary in their plans, thereby making a lasting tribute to NWC.

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