

A graphic of a spotlight with a purple beam of light shining from the top left towards the center of the page.

# SPOTLIGHT 2.0

## CONTRIBUTIONS AT WORK!

MARSHALL  
COUNTY  
CENTRAL  
EDUCATION  
FOUNDATION

ISSUE 9  
FALL  
2020

MCC Education  
Foundation is a non-  
profit 501 (c) (3)  
organization.

### CONTACT US AT

mcceducationfund  
@mccfreeze.org

218-874-3832

### FIND US AT

www.mcceducation  
foundation.org

Ever wonder where your gift is being used? The MCC Education Foundation gives out scholarships every year. We have named scholarships, whose funds are given by the founders or friends. We also have the MCC Education Foundation Scholarship which is funded by those who designate their gift to an unnamed scholarship. We have mailing costs for the receipts, scholarships and the Spotlight 2.0.

At the regular quarterly meeting in August, the Education Foundation gave \$1000 to MCC schools for classroom web cameras that are being used this school year to help with distance learning. These high definition cameras (pictured) are 1"x 3"x 2" with a built in microphone that allow distance learners to see and hear their instructor and/or classroom. They have a long cord so that they can be moved and positioned so students can see the whiteboard and/or class, if necessary. Every classroom in Viking, Newfolden Elementary and the High School have one these cameras. Soon they will be used by social workers, the school nurse and the counselor.

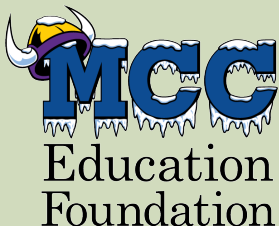


When distance learning is no longer needed, Superintendent Jeff Lund sees a few options for the cameras' use. They could be used for professional development for the teachers. They could be used to connect classrooms for collaborative based learning. Guest presenters could "visit" the classroom and interact with the teachers and students. They could also be used to eliminate snow days (did I hear a groan?). This would require the school board passing an E-Learning Day policy and, even then, would only occur if it was safe for teachers to get to school, states Superintendent Lund.

Curious to know how the cameras are working for the students and teachers, we gathered a few thoughts.

A ninth grader, who has participated in distance learning, impressed by the overall audio and visual quality of the camera. There have been a couple of challenges, one was getting audio working for a teacher, another was the sun on the whiteboard (but that happens in the classroom as well). "It makes me feel like I am part of the

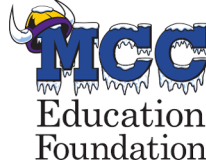
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*The vision of the MCC Education Foundation is to provide MCC students opportunity for creativity, growth and scholarship by building community partnerships.*

# MCC Education Foundation Board

- Shelly Helm Guzek, President
- Mark Knutson, Vice President
- Patti Anderson, Secretary
- Kayla Leader, Treasurer
- Mary Anderson, Director
- Denise Laymon, Director
- Brian Rokke, Director
- Sue Knutson, Office Administrator



The Board meets quarterly and the annual meeting is the first Tuesday in May.

**MCC Education Foundation uses DonorDock to assist us in our fundraising and outreach endeavors.**

## Thank you for directing your Thrivent Choice Dollars!

A heartfelt thanks to all of you who directed Choice Dollars to the Marshall County Central Education Foundation! Thrivent Financial and its members once again showed us how, together, we can make a difference by helping to strengthen communities and change lives.

Visit us at [www.mcceducationfoundation.org](http://www.mcceducationfoundation.org)

You will find:

- \*past issues of the Spotlight 2.0
- \*the Continuing Saga (current and past)
- \*you can donate online through Pay Pal
- \*you can update your address



## Buy one gift, Give twice

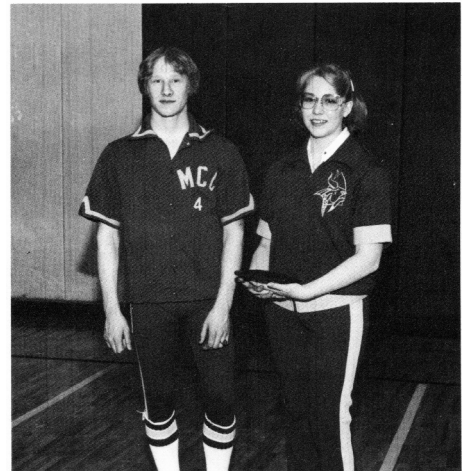
Shop [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) this holiday season and with every purchase you can donate to the Marshall County Central Education Foundation. You will find us under "charities".

### \$20,000 in 2020

Our goal is to reach \$20,000 in donations in 2020! We are on our way! Thank you to those who have donated! Our total as of this printing is: \$1990!

If you would like your gift to go towards \$20,000 in 2020 remember to indicate it is for the \$20,000 or for the endowment fund.

## Can you guess?



1. Can you guess who these people are?
2. Do you know what they did to make MCC history?
3. What year is this picture from?

Answers are in this issue of the Spotlight 2.0.

Remember the MCC Education Foundation in your planned giving

- Life Insurance
- Real Estate
- Bequest
- Stocks

*The mission of the MCC Education Foundation is to support and enhance innovative education for all MCC students.*

## Meet the MCC Education Foundation Board

I'd like to introduce you to Shelly Helm Guzek. Shelly is the MCC Foundation Board President and has been with the Foundation since the beginning. Shelly is a 1986 MCC graduate.

Currently Shelly is a Realtor for Hometown Realty in Thief River Falls, MN. On weekends, Shelly can be found on the stage with her band, Shell Shock, as lead singer. Shelly also organizes the "Trash the Dress for MDS" event which raises funds for the Taylor Moen Memorial Scholarship, Trails to Treatments and the MDS Foundation.

Shelly became a member of the Foundation because "education should never be taken for granted. When my son, Taylor, was going through treatments it was extremely hard for him to keep up with his work. But he graduated and was going to college when his cancer came back. He was forced to stop going due to his health.

Helping our youth with a scholarship is just one small step we can take in helping them obtain their goals and dreams of furthering their education."



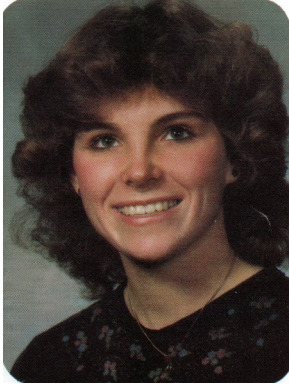
### MCC Education Foundation Members

(May 1 , 2020 to present)

Becoming a member of the MCC Education Foundation for a year (May 1 to April 30) is just a donation of \$25! A lifetime membership is obtained by a \$500 donation, a one time gift or over time. \* denotes a lifetime membership

Jason & Patti Anderson	Paula Gustafson	Newfolden Co'op Elevator*
Mary Anderson	Shelly Helm Guzek*	Stephanie O'Brien
Rob Anderson Construction	Raynard Huglen*	Ron Paggen*
David & Marge Bakke*	Valborg Huglen*	Jim or Sue Peterson
Mandy Beech	Shirley Inman	Mary Radatz
Sue Bendickson	Mark & Sue Knutson*	Karen Ranum*
Karen Benitt	Dave & Jan Kragness, Sr	Harriet Roberts
Edsel & Geoline Bernstrom	Denise Laymon	Brian Rokke*
Wayne or Carol Bjornrud	Lindemoen Farms, Inc*	Howard or JoAnne Rokke
Ilene Blume	Sara Lokstad	Nancy Samuelson
Darren & Jenny Brien*	David & Judy Lokstad	Ronald Shern*
Daniel or Tricia Brien*	Milt or Joyce Jorgenson	John Tandberg
Sharon Bring	Marshall County Driftskippers*	John Tunheim *
Karen Busch	Judy Mason	Ron & Linda Ueland
Betty Carlson*	Brady Martz & Associates	Linda Walz
Ken & Kristi Carlson	Lloyd Melvie*	Wikstrom Telephone*
Gerald & Judy Duray	Audrey Nelson	
Eugene or Connie Folden	Clifford Nelson*	

*Thank you Members!!*



**Jill (Johnson)  
Maxwell  
Class of 1982**



I just did the math and WOW, it has been 38 years since high school graduation in 1982. So much has changed since then and many things stay the same, like the 35 people I graduated with and many of whom I went to kindergarten with. We have all gone our separate ways yet, most of my classmates are still good, down to earth caring people. Many of whom keep in touch via Facebook or the occasional Newfolden reunions.

I have been a physical therapist for 33 years now and in private practice for 21 years in Flint, Michigan. We also lived in Prior Lake for 7-8 years. I loved being back in Minnesota. We have 3 boys and one 7 year old grandson. Two of my sons live in Florida and work in yachting industry and the third son works in my business, Max Well Therapy.

Currently 50 percent of my patients are pediatric. We also offer occupational, speech and massage therapy. So we treat a wide variety of diagnosis. I had to close my clinics and lay off all of my staff for 6 weeks back in April. It was one of the most challenging things I have ever had to do. After building up a business for 20 years, it was heart breaking. I am sure some of you have been in similar situations. Someone once said at the MCC Hall of Fame awards that "to get me to quit, someone would have to put a stake through my heart." That's what that week felt like. Fortunately some help came along and we are back in business - helping children and families stay Well.

I learned the importance of community and hard work growing up in Viking and Newfolden. Both are great communities where people support each other in time of need. I know several of you helped my niece, Meghan, when she was ill. Thank you!

I can't say that I had any one favorite teacher, but many great ones. I do occasionally have nightmares about incomplete English reports...for Mrs. Peterson. I remember Richard Ness, my kindergarten bus driver and Viking school janitor. And Sue Bjorgaard, the Viking school cook. And Ole Magner, our favorite bus driver. Johnson kids were always late for the bus. We had a long driveway and would come out one at a time - all 6 of us, me lugging my baritone (a huge case). Ole would drive down our driveway and pick us up versus waiting at the end of the driveway. These are just some of the great people who worked in the schools.

I remember the families that I grew up with, that supported each other. The Blawats, the Knutsons, the Yutrzenkas, the Peters, the Lindemoens, the Andersons, the Halvorsons and many more.

I remember 4H summer softball games and fair entries. Oh, the demolition derby that I earned a "True Grit Award." Thanks to Scott Peters and Rick Bothum for allowing me to drive their car! Scott thought it would be cool to put a girl in the competition. Brother Jeff wished he could be in it. And when the car caught on fire, he was on the sidelines yelling, "Get back in there! You can still drive it after they put the fire out". So I ran back - but no such luck.

Summers were also spent taking swimming lessons at the Warren pool. Sometimes we would ride bike 5 miles to Viking to catch the bus. Then afterwards stop at Myrtle Sacketts' Hartz store for candy.

I always loved sports and Mrs. Waale, our PE teacher in Viking. Rick Van Camp was heavy into competing in the race



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around the school block. We also had high jump, arm wrestling and leg wrestling competitions. Leg wrestling was my forte. Ask brother BJ who thought he could take me on his senior year, then was flipped 3 times. High school was filled with great volleyball, basketball and track teams. Mr. Mjelde really set the standard for girls' basketball in Newfolden. Our volleyball team also did well under Ms. Ackermann.

Growing up in a small town gave me the opportunity to do so many things; be a part of teams and musicals, band, etc. as everyone had to participate to have a team. I still can not do just one thing.

The education I received at MCC prepared me to be successful in college. Lowell Lindemoen once told me, "Make good choices and you will have a good life. As life is a result of the choices we make." So true!

Relationships, good neighbors and a community of caring people in Viking and Newfolden have created a good foundation for many.

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## From the desk of Superintendent Jeffrey Lund

We have just completed our first four weeks of school here and so far it has been unlike any I have experienced in my time working with the school district. Under the conditions of the COVID-19 Pandemic we are following many protocols required by the state to be open for our students. This summer many long hours were spent evaluating recommendations and requirements and then going to work getting everything ready.

I am very thankful for how supportive our community has been. Our parents have helped us significantly with many transporting children to school for us to create more space on our buses. Children are coming to school wearing their masks. So far things in school have been going better than expected but the task has been a tremendous undertaking.

There are many challenges this year. We check our students' temperatures as they come into school each day. In the high school our teachers are moving room to room to keep our kids together in smaller groups we call "cohorts". This keeps students together and limits the exposure to our school community as a whole if there were to be a case of COVID 19 in school. Desks are all spaced out in classrooms. Any extra furniture has been removed to allow desks to be spaced out as much as we can. Elementary students eat lunch in their classrooms instead of the lunch room. We take time out of each day to allow students to go outside and have a break from wearing a mask. We recently heard news we are allowed to have sports. There are many safety precautions being taken. None of our indoor sports will be allowed to have fans and outdoor sports must follow state guidelines on crowd sizes and maintain social distance.

All of our efforts are helping. We have been able to maintain in-person school so far. About 95% of our students are learning in person in school with the remaining students distance learning. The Education Foundation provided a generous gift supplying our classrooms with webcams. This helps teachers connect with those that are distance learning from home.

We have had some illness and some students and staff temporarily excluded from school due to having symptoms that require them to stay home. We have been able to adjust so far but it is a lot to monitor and keep track off. We are making an adjustment soon to allow extra time for teachers to plan, organize and communicate with distance learners by having an early release from school on Wednesdays each week.

Even though I wasn't here at the time, I've heard many stories about how the high school staff, students, and parents handled schooling after the school fire in 1991. Efforts here mirror some of that with teachers having to move around, using every space we can, and doing whatever is necessary to make everything work. It helps that we have the history of rising above tragedy and tough situations. Our community has been flexible and supportive of our needs. It says a lot about how much the MCC Community cares about its schools.

We are taking each day one day at a time and reminding ourselves each day that we are in this together. That has been our mantra through all this and it keeps us moving forward.

## Bits From The Past

From the February 1981 Spotlight

by Gail Larson

Senior, Nancy Hanson, took third place in the District American Legion Oratorical Contest in Thief River Falls on Friday, Jan 23.

Sophomore, Alan Melvie, was the local winner of the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership competition.

MCC's Drama and Music Department will present "Brigadoon" as the spring musical. Singing cast will include Dave Kragness, Allen Lindemoen, Nancy Hanson and Nancy Halvorson.

MCC's One-Act play, "Of Poems, Youth and Spring" was one of the two winners in sub-district competition at Warroad but lost at the district contest at Karlstad last Saturday.

Famous Look-Alikes: Barbi Benton.....Wendy Swenson  
Richie Cunningham.....Bradley Laidley  
Globe Trotters.....Boys B.B. Team

B Team Cheerleaders: Nancy Pederson, Cecily Johnson, Stacey Gonshorowski, Dana Peterson, and Shanna Broderson.

Chad Swan and Jodi Nelson, eighth graders, were winners in the Elks Hoops Shoot Contest last month.

### HAMLET DEDICATIONS:

'Tis very strange.....Physics  
Speak, I am bound to hear.....Seniors to Mrs. Peterson  
There has been much throwing about of brains.....School Board meetings  
It shall be so.....Report Cards  
I must be cruel to be kind.....Mr. Kragness

"Can you guess" answers:

1. Bernard Blawat and Denise Stokke (now Rokke)
2. They were the first MCC athletes to go to state. Bernard in Wrestling and Denise in Track & Field.
3. 1979

## Gifts Given



### ***In Memory of***

Roger Benitt  
John Carlson  
Mark Carlson  
Howard Folden  
Lawrence Folden  
Leslie Folden  
John & Ruth Halvorson  
Mark Halvorson

Ken Hodny  
Dan Hogberg  
Roy Jorgenson  
John E Lokstad  
Lokstad Products  
Don Lunke  
Audrey Maki  
Floyd & Adeline Nelson  
Maynard Samuelson

Shirly Hagen Smith  
Leif Stennes  
Vernette Stokke  
Ethel Torgerson

### ***In Honor of***

Lokstad Products-  
David & Judy Lokstad



## Milestones

### Honors, Achievements, Accomplishments

## Passings

Roy Jorgenson  
1939  
Curtis Anderson  
1951  
Audrey (Holmos) Maki  
1953  
Shirly (Hagen) Smith  
1955  
Dennis Bakke  
1959  
John Carlson  
1961



Roger Benitt  
1969  
Leif Stennes  
1992  
Jessica (Bakke) Cervantes  
1999  
Hilton Hjelle  
Irene Molskness  
Dennis Skadsem

We publish those we know about,  
we apologize if we have missed a loved one.

If you would like to submit a name for Logbooks and Ice Caps, please send it to MCC Ed Foundation, PO Box 189, Newfolden, MN 56738 or [mcceducationfund@mccfreeze.org](mailto:mcceducationfund@mccfreeze.org)

## How to Make an Impact at the MCC Education Foundation and Reduce your Taxes

This tax year there is a new deduction available! The CARES Act allows you to contribute up to \$300 per taxpayer (\$600 for a married couple) in charitable contributions! This is for people who take the standard deduction, it allows you to take an "above the line" adjustment to income that reduces your adjusted gross income, which reduces your taxable income. To qualify, you need to give a donation to a qualified charity (which the MCC Education Foundation is). If you have already donated since January 1, that contribution counts towards the \$300 (\$600 for a married couple) cap. Make an impact with the MCC Education Foundation, contribute towards the \$20,000 in 2020 goal and pay less in taxes!



The 2nd annual

## *Dinner with the Performing Arts*



The 2nd Annual Dinner with the Performing Arts is scheduled for Feb 20, 2021. We are hoping that, even with the Covid guidelines, we will be able to have this event. Please watch for posters and check our website.

If you are interested in sponsoring the event, please contact us at [mcceducationfund@mccfreeze.org](mailto:mcceducationfund@mccfreeze.org) or talk with Mark Knutson or Patti Anderson.

## Contributions at Work, Continued from page 1

classroom. In shop class, the camera is in with the kids so I can hear them and they talk with me."

Mrs. Skjerven, a teacher at Viking School, said "The webcam has been very useful in the classroom. I have used it for teaching live zoom lessons in the classroom with a couple of students who are distance learning. It has a very clear picture and is simple to use. Thank you!"

Mr. Thompson, the elementary band teacher, says he uses his camera to record daily lesson videos and posts them to Google Classroom. This allows his students that distance learn the opportunity to view the lessons on their timetable and reduces any chance for technology not to work during a live class. He said it has worked very well so far.

**Thank you members,** for making the mission of the MCC Education Foundation, which is to support and enhance innovative education for all MCC students, possible.

MCC Education Foundation  
PO Box 189  
Newfolden MN 56738

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Fall 2020

Issue 9

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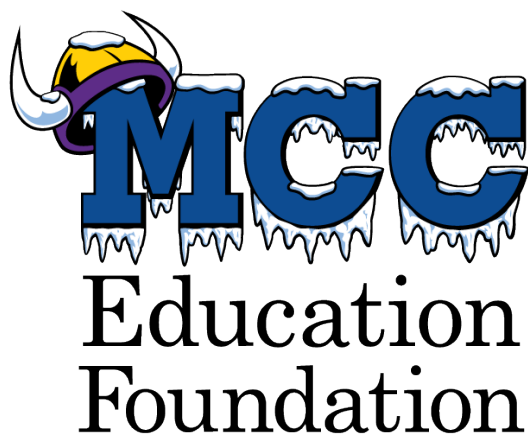
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If you prefer to receive an email  
copy only, please let us know.



*The Vision:*

To provide  
MCC students  
opportunity for  
creativity, growth and  
scholarship by  
building community  
partnerships.