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## Story Scholarships Help Deserving College Students Realize Their Academic and Professional Dreams

Each year, Story Construction awards college scholarship money to children of Story employees. Scholarship candidates must submit an application plus a written essay spelling out the importance of furthering their education and what the scholarship would mean to achieving their goals. The applications and essays are then reviewed by the Story Scholarship Committee who makes the final decision on fund distribution. Congratulations and best of luck to these four scholarship recipients. Story is proud to help you achieve success.



**Cole Cummings**, son of Randy Cummings, Small Projects Group Project Manager, is a senior in software engineering at Iowa State University. Cole's goal is to pursue a career in web-based or mobile application development.



**Hannah Kutchen**, daughter of Mark Kutchen, Senior Estimator, is a freshman at the University of Iowa in the Tippie College of Business. Following her undergraduate degree, she plans to attend dental school for four years, followed by a residency in orthodontistry.



**Taji North**, daughter of Ron North, Small Projects Group Superintendent, is a sophomore at North Iowa Area Community College in the Physical Therapy Assistant program. She is on track to graduate in May 2015 and sit the licensure exam in July 2015.



**Alicia Wieland**, daughter of Mark Wieland, Safety Coordinator, is studying industrial engineering at Iowa State University. After receiving her degree in May 2015, she wants to work in a customer-facing end product setting and hopefully attain a management role within a manufacturing organization.



STORY CONSTRUCTION NEWS & VIEWS

FALL 2014

### PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE Off the Grid



Mike Espeset, President

I went to New Mexico's Philmont Scout Ranch with my son, Nate, and his Boy Scout troop this summer. We trekked 110 miles in 12 days in the mountains with a 45-pound pack for most of those miles. I was off the grid for nearly two weeks, which in my head, I knew was going to happen when I said yes to the trip. The reality did not set in, however, until I was truly off the grid. Here are some of the lessons I learned on the trip.

**What's next?** My full attention was committed to what was coming next. The wilderness and elements have a way of consuming all of my attention. Success required being in the moment and planning for the next thing to be executed effectively.

**Fair is not even.** We had crew members of different sizes, ages and physical abilities yet we had a load of 'crew gear' and food to transport. Carry according to your ability, not your share. Fair is not even when considering the welfare of the whole.

**Toughness.** We met and conquered many physical and mental challenges along the way. We had little choice; we were there and needed to push forward. Going back was not an option. We were capable of more than we would have thought prior to hitting the trail.

**Navigation matters.** The boys read maps and compasses to navigate the crew. We also had an adult with a GPS in the background to double check that we were not going significantly off course. We could withstand small deviations but not a major departure from the trail without impacting our itinerary and welfare.

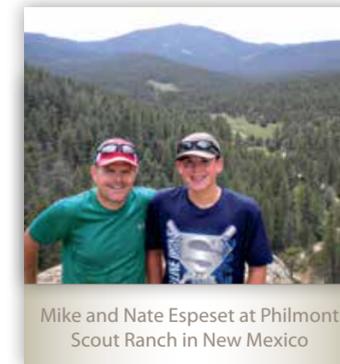
**Staying dry.** Little did we know that August is monsoon season in New Mexico. We had more than our share of rain and a bit of hail while on the trail. Staying dry or drying out became a constant priority for safety and comfort. We really appreciated and enjoyed dry days once we had experienced the wrath of monsoon season.

**Calories for fuel.** We consumed many calories that I would not normally include in my food plan (i.e., Spam). The tastiness of the calories was secondary to their intent to fuel us for the rigor of the trip. Once we understood fuel trumped taste, we could eat almost anything.

**Gratitude.** The Philmont Scout Ranch and associated land is made possible through the generosity of others who have come before us. It is a gift that keeps giving and has impacted over a million visitors in its history.

As I consider these lessons learned while off the grid, I now know they have meaning back on the grid at Story and in our projects. Even though I did not consciously focus on work while I was on the trail, the time away helped me connect the dots on lessons that apply in many settings, including and especially our work at Story.

*Mike*



Mike and Nate Espeset at Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico

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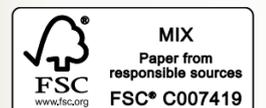
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GIVING BACK  
 2014-15 Story Scholarship Recipients

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# From K-12 to Community Colleges and State Universities...

Like many community colleges, **Southwestern Community College (SWCC)** in Creston, Iowa, is seeing record enrollment that led to a student housing shortage. SWCC came to Story Construction to build a new apartment-like student housing facility. The resulting project consisted of the addition of 24 units (approximately 88 beds) within 36,000 sq. ft. of new construction. With a design aesthetic compatible with existing housing units, the new building also includes a community/study room (pictured at right) and laundry room and is surrounded by sidewalks and ample parking. During construction, it was important to keep all existing facilities open, which was accomplished through careful coordination between the Story crew and SWCC officials.



Client: Southwestern Community College
Delivery Method: Construction Manager
Architect: INVISION Architecture
Project Manager: Mike Welter
Project Superintendent: Dan Drefke
Project Engineer: Brian Weber
Project Size: 36,000 square feet
Completion: August 2014



Client: Iowa State University
Delivery Method: Construction Manager
Architect: INVISION Architecture
Project Manager: Scott Kutchen
Project Superintendent: Randy Littrell
Project Engineer: Garrett Arganbright
Project Size: 50,000 square feet
Completion: August 2014

### Iowa State University's Willow Hall

underwent renovation of its 272 dorm rooms and 15 storage rooms this summer. While students were away on break, Story went to work to complete this eight-floor project in a mere 57 days. The project included demolition of existing case work in each dorm room; furring out the exterior wall and interior walls; applying spray foam at the exterior wall; painting each room and laying down flooring throughout the space. In addition, the crews revised the

buildings electrical to accommodate new fixtures and other devices. Because the elevator was being worked on by another contractor at the same time, Story provided access to each floor via scaffolding erected on the east side of Willow (pictured at right) and interior platforms on each floor. A manned hoist transported crews and materials into and out of the residence hall each day for the duration of the project. To accommodate the accelerated schedule as well as tight quarters, work progressed from the eighth floor down to the first with each floor split into quadrants. Crews had one day to complete an activity (or a step of an activity) in one quadrant; there were typically nine rooms per quadrant. As you can guess, coordinating these efforts among the crews was important to meeting the project's timeline; demolition started on May 13 and by mid-August Willow Hall was ready for the students to move into their newly refurbished surroundings.



Scaffolding and hoist on the East side of Willow provided floor-by-floor access

# Story Construction Helps Students Get BACK TO SCHOOL

When lottery winners Brian and Mary Lohse earmarked a portion of their winnings for a new athletic facility for **Bondurant-Farrar Community School District**, they provided two stipulations: 1) the football field had to be ready for their son (a senior) to play his final season on it; and 2) the visiting locker room had to be painted the same shade of pink used for the visiting team locker room at the University of Iowa's Kinnick Stadium. Both of these items were happily checked off at the project's completion.

Story was chosen as the general contractor BFCSD's new facility. In addition to the football/soccer field with surrounding track and shot put/discuss area, the project included a new concessions building with restrooms and admissions; Jay Shop; home bleachers with 1,500 seats plus a press box; 500-seat visitors bleachers; and surrounding parking and sidewalks.

The football/soccer field is covered with synthetic turf, the laying of which was a process in itself. Each five-yard length of turf was placed separately while being hand stretched and stitched into place. Once the field, including end zones were in place, small pieces of recycled rubber and sand were broadcast into the "grass." The combination of synthetic grass, sand and rubber on the state-of-the-art playing field provides cushion for running, turning and tackling.

The Lohses, Story Construction, BFCSD fans and other supporters took part in the ground breaking ceremony on September 5, 2013, and the ribbon cutting celebration on August 22, 2014. On September 12, the Blue Jays were victorious in their first home game on the new field, in front of a strong hometown crowd; a win not only for the team, but also for everyone involved with making the new athletic facility a reality.



Client: Bondurant-Farrar Community School District
Delivery Method: General Contractor
Architect: SVPA Architects
Project Manager: Clint Jensen
Project Superintendent: Matt Farver
Completion: August 2014

Photos provided by Bondurant-Farrar

Story was involved in several other school projects that wrapped up in time for fall starts. **Rock Creek Elementary in Ankeny** celebrated the completion of their new 90,000-square-foot elementary school with a ribbon cutting on September 14. This is the latest in several Ankeny schools for which Story has served as construction manager. While the project was delayed two months due to a wet 2013 spring, it was completed on time and ready to welcome students for the fall 2014 school year.



Client: Ankeny Community School District
Delivery Method: Construction Manager
Architect: StruXture Architects
Project Manager: Jamie Rochleau
Project Superintendent: Chad Criss
Project Engineer: Shawn Corey
Project Size: 90,000 square feet
Completion: August 2014

In addition to Bondurant-Farrar, Story completed another athletic facility – this one for **Wayne Community School District** in Corydon, Iowa. The project included a football field, practice field, competition track, sports lighting, concession/press box building and locker room. The project kicked off in November 2013. Despite delays from wet weather toward the end of completion, the Falcon team took the new field on August 29, 2014, for a big win.



Client: Wayne Community School District
Delivery Method: Construction Manager
Architect: ORIS, PLC
Project Manager: Jamie Rochleau
Project Superintendent: Jeff Reams
Completion: August 2014



## Safety is No Accident

On September 26, 2014, Story Construction achieved a safety milestone of working one year accident-free. That date also marked 415,000 hours without a Lost Time Accident (LTA).

Congratulations to all Story employees on achieving this important safety milestone and continuing to work safely!

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