

2014 AG PARTNERS

Community DONATIONS



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Celebrating Five Years

OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT

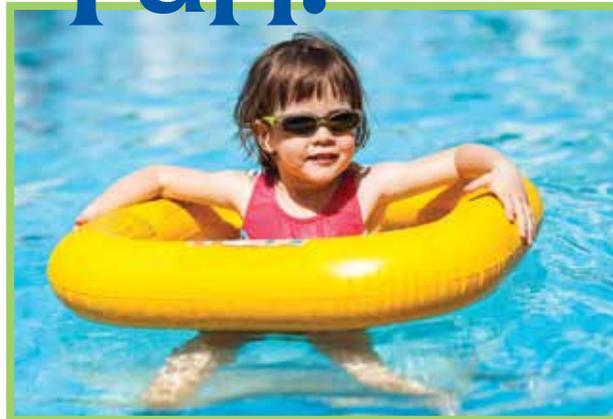


Ag Partners has always focused on playing a positive role in the neighborhoods, towns and rural areas we serve. We demonstrate this in our approach to community service which contributes to the common good. Our company-wide donation program – LocalMotion – is just for this purpose.

Since 2009, Ag Partners has donated a percentage of net profits from Agronomy sales each and every fiscal year through LocalMotion. Donations are available to individuals, civic and charitable organizations, businesses, schools, and for community events/celebrations. Ag Partners was proud to donate to a multitude of worthwhile causes the past five years – many from this last year are highlighted in this newsletter.

Summer Fun!

IN ALBERT CITY



A recipient of financial assistance was the **Albert City Park Board** for enhancements to its outdoor pool. The money was used for various upgrades including swim ropes, umbrellas, a new lifeguard chair and signage.

YOUTH Fellowship

Boy Scout Troop 79 of Albert City received a donation to help purchase camping equipment and tents for its summer field trip excursions. Outdoor adventure is the promise made to boys when they join Scouting. Boys stir their imagination and interest by actively participating in all outdoor activities planned by the organization.



SERVING OUR COMMUNITIES

FONDA Fire & EMS

SERVICES

A recipient of a donation was the **Fonda Fire Department**. Safety is the number one priority for both Ag Partners and the fire squad members. With the funds, they were able to purchase new helmet lights to replace older ones that didn't work properly.



Ag Partners Location Leader Jamie Tauber; Phyllis Menke of Fonda Hometown Pride; and Sales Agronomist Rick Krull are pictured at Straight Park in Fonda.



Protecting

OUR PARKS

The members of **Fonda Hometown Pride** work together to make their community a better place to live. In conjunction with CoBank, Ag Partners provided a grant to improve the pond at Straight Park. An aerator and fountain was purchased to keep the pond clear and fresh. The park features camping facilities, many trails, playground equipment, picnic area, sports facility and an abundance of wildlife.



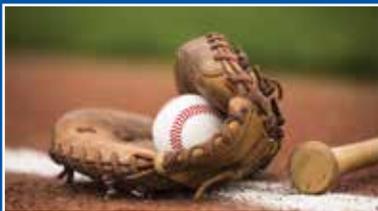
Research proves that expanding and improving city parks increases outdoor recreation opportunities and quality of life.

Boosting

YOUTH ACTIVITIES



With entire communities rallying around youth sports, Ag Partners helped support **Hospers and its all-star game** for local t-ball players. Hospers enjoys great participation in its youth baseball program which provides a strong tradition for years to come.



Care FOR AREA YOUTH



A five-member board of volunteers started the **Little Mavs Childcare Center** in the communities of Everly and Royal. The donation from Ag Partners was used to help purchase equipment for the childcare centers which are housed in the local school buildings. The goal is for the childcare centers to be top-notch facilities providing quality care for area families.



Staff members Ilesha Toft and Shelby Johnson with three-year olds Khloe and Addy.

Little Mavs provides child care for children starting at six weeks of age through 12 years and includes a complete curriculum. Our highly qualified staff develops weekly lesson plans based on eight different areas of children's development. These areas are physical, social/ emotional, fine motor, gross motor, language, cognitive, and math.



Learning OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH



Sioux Central school formed a **STEM Club for 4th and 5th grade students** interested in science and wanting to learn more in the areas of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). The club meets weekly after school and focuses on a new topic each month – from building model rockets to writing a computer program. Ag Partners was proud to donate to help with the students' monthly dues which go toward needed materials.

STEM students pictured, left to right: Hailey Byers, Blake Madsen, Elise Rusk, Jade Mueller, Hunter Houston, Mr. Thams, Lindsey Nelsen, Owen Wilkinson, Madi Johnson, Antonio Meseck, Alyse Terrell and Lydia Thams.



BOOSTERS FOR THE Band



Ag Partners awarded a donation to the **South O'Brien Music Boosters**. The booster club worked to raise money for new high school band uniforms. Uniforms were needed to replace the original ones from when South O'Brien began in 1993.



Success in society, of course, is predicated on success in school. Any music teacher or parent of a music student can call to mind anecdotes about effectiveness of music study in helping children become better students. Skills learned through the discipline of music transfer to study skills, communication skills, and cognitive skills useful in every part of the curriculum.

EDUCATION IN

Agriculture

Unity Christian High School in Orange City received a donation to assist with the launch of a complete ag education program. The school set a goal to raise over \$150,000 for the program launch in the fall of 2014. According to Principal Wayne Dykstra, "The addition of agriculture education supports our mission and core values. We want to invite students into the world of ag education and show them the many opportunities for careers and lifelong application. As a Christian school, we want our students to know what the Bible teaches in Psalm 24:1, 'that the earth is the Lord's and everything in it.' We are thankful for the partnership with Ag Partners and look forward to our students getting out in the field and visiting local ag businesses like Ag Partners."



Students participating in the agriculture program at Unity Christian include: Tommy Weidauer, Seth De Jong, Preston Franken, Som Altena, Adam Franken, Justin Dragstra, De Andre Geels, Colin Volkers, Jacob Zomermaand, Logan Schiebout and Stephanie Westra.

HELPING LOCAL **Law** ENFORCEMENT

The **Merrill Police Department** was awarded a donation to help with a few priority protection needs. A cage was purchased for the SUV patrol unit which protects the storage area of the unit. The cage will prevent anyone from potentially damaging equipment worth thousands of dollars. Funds were also used to equip officers with body cameras to assist in recording incidents.



SIouxLAND AG IN THE **Classroom**



A donation was provided to **Siouxland Ag in the Classroom**, an organization which develops ag education programs for schools in Woodbury, Plymouth, Sioux and Cherokee counties. One example of a program is Farm Chat. It involves providing iPads to area farmers so they can talk to students in the classroom via a web cam. The producer can answer questions and give the students tours of his or her farm, all through the iPad. "Some schools don't have extra funding for field trips, so we take a half hour of the school day and take them on a virtual tour," said Melissa Keyes of Siouxland Ag in the Classroom.

ANNUAL BENEFIT

Run, Walk & Roll

Ag Partners again served as a sponsor for **Village Northwest Unlimited's** summer benefit event in Sheldon. A record number of participants enjoyed the 9th annual run, walk and roll experience raising funds to help continue the organization's quality services. Village Northwest Unlimited (VNU) is nationally recognized as a premier provider of services to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and traumatic brain injuries.

Ag Partners has been a proud supporter of VNU since 2000. We also provide employment opportunities for several people with intellectual and physical disabilities served at the Village. Vocational services by VNU include:

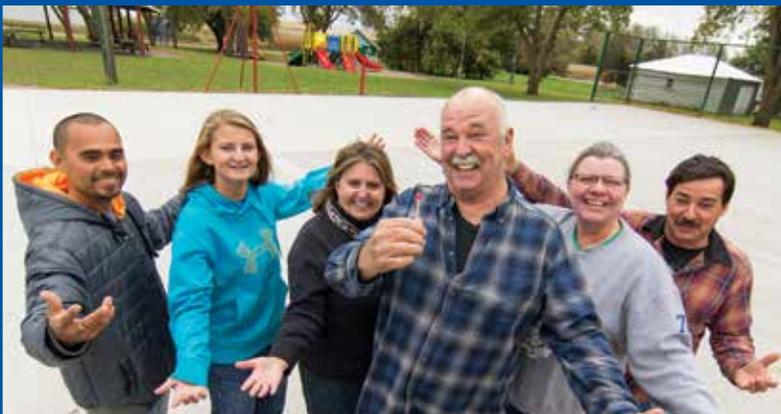
- Over 160 individuals employed (Northwest Enterprises, Futures Unlimited and in the community).
- Processing Center for Soles4Souls, a charitable organization that collects and distributes shoes worldwide for those in need.



NEW Park

FOR THE KIDS

After a major tornado in 2011 destroyed the park in Varina, the city and volunteers rallied together to raise funds for rebuilding. Alceco, the co-op aspect of Ag Partners, joined efforts with Land O' Lakes and provided a matching grant to help the town. Now the local children can enjoy the new park with its cement ball court, playground equipment and more.



Varina community members celebrate the newly rebuilt city park.

PRESERVING COMMUNITY

History

An organization, **Sutherland Remembers When**, received a donation to help with renovations on a home that houses artifacts and memorabilia. Renovations have been ongoing since 1992 as funding becomes available. The LocalMotion funds were allocated toward a new roof to prevent damage to a wide array of historical documents and collectables.



Iowa features over 75 historical museums. A visit to these museums and historic sites will allow you to soak up local history and culture. Visit a historical museum and gain insight into the history of early Iowa people and the way they lived. Some history museums have virtual tours, genealogy data and photos to view online, giving you the opportunity to visit without ever leaving home.

CHRISTIAN MUSIC FESTIVAL

RiseFest

Ag Partners was proud to provide a substantial donation to **RiseFest 14**. A family-friendly music festival in Sheldon, RiseFest's goal is to allow families to come together to worship God without leaving anyone out. RISE Ministries' More than Music project was also able to donate thousands of pairs of shoes to Soles4Souls. All shoes are processed by Village Northwest Unlimited, another LocalMotion donation recipient.

Like many small-town boys growing up in the Midwest, Rob Roozeboom's desire was to be a farmer and an athlete. Muscular Dystrophy cut short both those dreams while he was still in his teens. But that was the beginning of Rob's story, not the end. Today, Rob is a man on a mission "to take what I've been dealt with and use it to affect the lives of others." He's the founder and president of RISE Ministries, Inc., an organization that teaches teens and adults how to overcome adversity in their lives.



Christian music group, The Afters, was one of nine performers at RiseFest in 2014.



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