



Friends of Bidwell

2376 North Avenue ■ Chico, California 95926 ■ 530-342-2204
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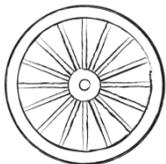
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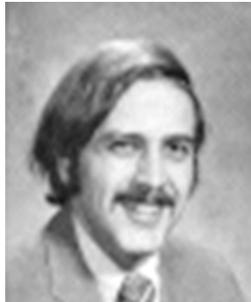
Project Success 2.0

North Valley Community Foundation's Chico Children's Endowment Fund was established in 2016 by a \$1 million gift from a generous, anonymous donor. The BJHS Foundation received a \$4,500 grant for our **Project Success 2016**, which enabled us to make a positive difference in the lives of Bidwell students in vulnerable living situations.

In August of 2017, the Foundation received another grant, this one for \$5,000, for **Project Success 2017**. This year we have identified over 45 Bidwell students who are either homeless or living in precarious multiple-family situations. The number of kids in need at Bidwell has increased by 50% due to the addition of sixth graders to the school. Some of these kids live in cars or on couches of friends or relatives. They come to school in worn-out shoes and clothing and without jackets. They have limited financial resources and cannot afford the things their classmates have.

These kids-in-need were furnished shoes, school clothing and coats, school supplies, bus passes, backpacks, and hygiene kits. Martha Newton, Case Manager, reports that all these students have shown improvement in attendance, academic performance and appropriate school behavior, a direct result of the support they gained from **Project Success 2017**.

Schulz Endowment Grows



In 2007, the John Schulz Memorial Endowment Fund was established with a \$2,000 grant from the BJHS Foundation Board of Directors. The purpose of this Fund is to establish a permanent source of funding for Bidwell Junior High School. The Board intends to grow the Fund to the level which will allow the annual interest to be used by Bidwell classrooms and educational programs without reducing the value of the capital.

The Endowment funds are maintained and managed by the North Valley Community Foundation which charges a fee for its services. Growth of the Fund comes primarily from you, the donors, who have contributed \$24,337 over the last decade. The balance of growth comes from investment growth, dividends and interest. The current value of the JSM Endowment is \$33,325. We will continue to grow the Fund until its annual dividends and interest can be used without reducing the capital value.

Linda Wilbur

1950-2017

Many of our alumni will recall Linda Wilbur, who began her 27 year career at Bidwell as a nurses' aide. She soon moved into the attendance clerk position and was the go-to-person for all sorts of solutions, for answers to school questions, for keeping order in the office and providing the desired sense of calm. (continued)



Your Donations at Work!

Since 2005, over \$43,000 received from you, the Friends of Bidwell, has provided classroom teachers with supplies and equipment. 2017 Foundation grants of \$2,143 so far this year have funded:

- Raised planting beds for 8th grade gardening project
- The 7th grade "History Alive" program
- Class sets of books for reading intervention classes
- Software for below-level 7th grade math students
- Board games for the Social Mentoring program
- Class sets of novels for 6th grade English classes.

Linda Wilbur (continued)

Linda was a source of information and good humor to all who came to her.

Linda passed away last August and is mourned by all who knew her. Linda was a prolific quilter, always having a gift for someone in need. One of her legacies is the gift her family gave to the Annie's Star Quilt Guild, Chico's group of dedicated quilters. Her fabric supply was donated to the Guild and is even now being used for gifts.

Linda was the BJHS Foundation treasurer upon whom we all depended for meticulous bookkeeping, finding mysterious missing bits of information and correcting financial mistakes of others. She was a beloved wife, mother and grandmother with many friends who loved her sense of humor and unflinching kindness. We all miss Linda and send loving wishes to her family.

The Year in Review

Due to the generosity of our donors, the school year 2017-2018 has been a successful one for the BJHS Foundation. These **Friends of Bidwell** donated \$3,455 to the General Fund and \$2,000 to the JSM Endowment during our fund drive last fall. From the General Fund, the Foundation made grants totaling \$2,143 to teachers for supplies, materials and equipment for students in their classrooms. We will continue funding classroom grants for the remainder of 2018. The Endowment donations have increased its value to \$33,325.

These activities are separate from our Project Success efforts. Project Success began in 2016 with a grant from the North Valley Community Foundation and is explained in the article on front page.



SPOTLIGHT ON THE BOARD

John W. Watson



“My favorite memory of Bidwell is 20 years teaching with John Schulz”

- Custer County High School: Miles City, MT – 1954
- Excelsior High School: Norwalk, California – 1956
- Stanford University: Bachelor of Arts Political Science – 1960
- Chico State College: Secondary Teaching Credential – 1966
- United States Navy Carrier Pilot, USS Hornet – 1960-65
- Bidwell Junior High School: Taught History, Geography and some other stuff – 1966-1997
- Aero Union Corp, US Forest Service, Tanker Pilot – 1975-2003
- Multiple Rendezvous Talent Show winner
- Co-builder of old cars, a boat, a tractor and one airplane
- Married to Carol Jeanne for 55 years with 4 kids and 6 grandkids
- Presently retired and involved with this Foundation, the Chico Community Band and the Old Ford V8 Club.



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SCHOOL FOUNDATION
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