



SPA can drive continues to support GACC

Stewardship and camaraderie. Those are two popular words used to describe the long-time SPA (Supportive Parent's Association) can drive for Guardian Angels Central Catholic.

This program began in the mid-1990's, and during that 30-year stretch, SPA has raised a total of \$300,000.

"We have all heard the saying 'it takes a village' and it's true. We wouldn't be able to do what we do for our school without our entire community. Giving of ourselves and instilling the stewardship way of life is sharing the gifts God has given us out of love for God and our neighbor," SPA President Kacie Borchers said.

"To see our community come together to support one another is such a special part of being in our small town. It shows how much our students and parents care about our school and are invested in our school's progress. It's also important to teach future generations how important stewardship is, as our school can't function without volunteers."

Trailers are located near Pizza Hut where aluminum cans can be dropped off. Those trailers are emptied every three to four months. And it takes many volunteers to complete this process.

"More hands make light work, and we are always in need of extra hands," Borchers said. "When we have enough cans to haul, we send out a note for the can drive date. It's important that we have volunteers show up to help."

Sue Kreikemeier, who has been a volunteer/can coordinator for nearly 17 years, said it's really neat seeing the students and parents come together to support a good cause for the school.

"All the volunteerism is really



Harper Dinslage prepares to dump a bag of cans. Pictured in the background is Nick Cohee. This year alone, GACC aluminum can collection has raised over \$9,000.

special to see. Sometimes it can be a pain when there aren't enough people to help. But when there are enough volunteers, it's really special to see everyone come together, and everyone's hard work and camaraderie," Kreikemeier said.

"Families of a private school realize it takes many hands to make a school succeed and continue. This drive has really benefitted our school over the years."

Sue and her husband, Greg, help coordinate the SPA can drive with

Harry Knobbe. Knobbe's equipment is used to transfer and haul. A volunteer driver takes the load to All Metals in Fremont.

"I'm very thankful we have Harry staying on top of everything like he does," Kreikemeier said.

Kreikemeier noted that the SPA drive collects more cans now than when she first started with the drive.

"Businesses saving cans for us

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has helped,” she said.

Different events going on in town, such as the county fair or weddings, also impacts the amount of cans collected at certain times.

All the money raised from the cans goes towards SPA, which is a group of parent volunteers dedicated to supporting GACC teachers and students.

“Our mission is to provide enrichment opportunities; support teachers, staff and students with classroom and building supplies; organize events to promote community, and ensure our teachers feel appreciated and supported,” Borchers said.

Through their association, SPA has done the following for GACC School:

- Yearly stipend for each teacher to buy necessary supplies for their classroom
- Offset costs for field trips
- Provide catered meals along with small gifts throughout the year to show our teachers continued appreciation
- Purchase playground equipment
- Purchase blinds for classrooms to help with temperature control
- Organize family community nights such as a night at Harvest Moon Pumpkin Patch
- Take elementary classes bowling and to our local movie theater for enrichment opportunities
- Offset costs for speakers

For Kreikemeier, the dedication and commitment to the SPA can drive over three decades shows the love people have for GACC School. Their actions are families doing their part to help the school succeed in the future.

The GACC can collection drive is always seeking new volunteers to help.



Charlie Dinslage, left, and Tessa Lund work at a SPA can drive. Behind them are bags and bags of cans that need to be hauled away.



Simon Kreikemeier dumps a large bin of aluminum cans into the bucket of a payloader.

GACC Graduation



Above: Leading a pack of graduates as they exit Sunday's ceremony is Charlie Dinslage.

Top Left: Addison Doescher receives her diploma from Principal Justin Wardyn.

Left: Enjoying a graduation speech are Isaac Guenther, left, and Peri Guenther.



Above: Enjoying a post-graduation moment are Blake Engelmeyer, left, and Elliot Reeson.

Left: Sharing a moment of laughter are, from left, Ava Nixon, Joelle Peatrowsky and Dereck Pena Romero.

Right: At GACC's graduation ceremony, (from left) Ava Knobbe, Tessa Lund and Collin Nebuda crack smiles when a story about a classmate is being told.

Below: Josie Ritter shares a hug with her dad, Jeremy Ritter.



Above: Getting ready to take a photo with their diplomas are Maverik Smith, left, and Joseph Bracht.

Left: Filled with laughter is Rebecca Jansen. Also pictured is Peyton Hutchinson.



Applauding a speech is Breckyn Haase.



Julianne Ridder, left, was honored as the 2026 Valedictorian for Guardian Angels Central Catholic and Abigail Toline earned Salutatorian honors.



GACC Principal Justin Wardyn shows the crowd a backpack that Maverik Smith handed to him while getting his diploma. Taking in the humorous moment was GACC School Board President Mark Wooldrik.

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