

NEWS RELEASE

South Central Community Foundation

For more information, contact:

South Central Community Foundation

Denise Unruh, Executive Director

Telephone:

620-672-7929

P.O. Box 8624

Fax:

620-672-7669

Pratt, KS 67124

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED TO STUDENTS FROM STAFFORD AND RENO COUNTIES THROUGH THE SOUTH CENTRAL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

In 1925 Vada Watson from Turon, Kansas, was selected to be the Kansas Wheat Queen. As part of her reign, the young Miss Watson traveled to Washington, D.C. to present a small bag of wheat to President Calvin Coolidge. She rode the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Wheat Train across the country to promote Kansas wheat.

After returning home, Watson married Willis Hoskinson and they spent their lives in the Turon area. Her selection as Kansas Wheat Queen was due, in part, to the support she received from her local community. Many years later, as a way of thanking them for their support, she established the Willis and Vada Hoskinson Scholarship Fund to benefit students from those communities.

The scholarship is awarded to students residing in Reno, Pratt or Stafford counties and who live within a fifteen-mile radius of Turon. In addition, they must be attend a Kansas college and demonstrate a dedication to community service. This year's recipients of the scholarship are Allison Jackson, Brent Fritzemir, Danielle Kocher and Elizabeth Reifschneider.

Allison Jackson, daughter of Mike and Carlene Jackson of Stafford, is planning on attending the University of Kansas at Lawrence, KS pursuing dual degree in Psychology and Spanish hoping to work with disadvantaged children. Jackson is graduating with a 4.0 Grade Point Average and is currently ranked as number one in the Senior Class at Stafford High School.

Brent Fritzemir, son of Randy and Kim Fritzemir of Stafford, attends Kansas State University majoring in Public Relations with a minor in Business. His career goal is to work in public relations or administration for a university or professional sports team.

Danielle Kocher, daughter of Joe and Connie Kocher of Stafford, attends Fort Hays State University and is pursuing her Master's degree in Education with an emphasis in instructional technology.

Elizabeth Reifschneider, daughter of Jon and Marilyn Reifschneider of Arlington, is planning to attend Fort Hays State University majoring in Elementary Education. As a senior at Fairfield High School, Reifschneider has maintained a 3.7 Grade Point Average. When speaking of her career goal, Reifschneider says, "Educators provide the rungs to the ladder of success."

The South Central Community Foundation, a regional foundation that manages charitable funds for seven south-central Kansas counties. For more information about the foundation, please call 620-672-7929.