STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS



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Abilene Alumnae Panhellenic Missy Bridwell Memorial Scholarship

The Abilene Chapter of the National Alumnae Panhellenic Association established this scholarship in memory of Missy Bridwell. This scholarship is for an outstanding young lady of high moral character who displays evidence of leadership.

- Must be an active member of the National Panhellenic Sorority in their sophomore, junior, or senior year in college
- Abilene High, Cooper, and Wylie schools are eligible
- Must be already in college





Abilene A&M Club Scholarship Fund

The Abilene A&M Club Scholarship Program is designed to provide financial assistance for graduates of Abilene area high schools who are legal residents of Texas and have a need of financial aid in order to attend Texas A&M University at College Station or at Galveston. If you have been accepted for the Blinn Team program, you are also eligible to apply for this scholarship.

- Must be a student planning to attend Texas A&M
- Graduate from Abilene area high schools
- Apply through the Abilene A&M Club





Abilene Founder Lions Club – A.E. Wells Scholarship

Established in honor of A.E. "Poly" Wells. Mr. Wells was a prominent Abilene educator, civic leader, and long-time member of the Abilene Founder Lions Club. He was the superintendent of AISD for twenty-three years. "Poly" Wells earned the nickname for frequently wearing his bright orange Polytech High lettermen at ACU. His legacy continues to be remembered each year when the Abilene Founder Lions Club selects a worthy student for this distinguished scholarship.

- Must be an Abilene High or Cooper High student
- Be ranked in the top half of students but not the top 25
- Must be planning to attend ACU, HSU or McM





Abilene Founder Lions Club – Randell & Evangeline Watkins Scholarship

The Watkins' primary desire was to assist students who would not usually receive scholarships, but who were quite capable of being successful in college. Dr. Randell Whatkins started the department at Abilene Christian University and was a life member of the Lions Club, as well as a director of Lions International.

- Must be a junior or senior at Abilene High or Cooper
- Must rank between 50-150 in their class
- Work at least 10 hours a week (must work 10 hours per week to maintain renew)



Abilene Geological Society Scholarship

The objective of the Abilene Geological Society is to promote the sciences of petroleum geology, environmental geology and related technologies in West Central Texas through education and publications to foster the scientific spirit in those fields. The Abilene Geological Society Scholarship provides awards to students in the Big Country who desire to study geology, earth science, hydrology or environmental science.

- Must graduate from a Region 14 high school
- Must rank in top 50% of class (May already be in college)
- Intend to study geology, earth sciences, hydrology, or environmental sciences





Abilene Regional Medical Center Auxiliary Scholarship Fund

This scholarship was established to benefit members of the health care profession. The purpose is to assist these professionals in improving their skills and attaining degrees in the health care field.

- Must already have a certification in the health care field (at least a CNA).
- Seeking either a LVN or RN





Advance VOIP Solutions Scholarship

The Advanced VOIP Solutions Scholarship is given annually to one outstanding graduating senior from the Big Country. The student must not only exhibit grit, leadership, and academic excellence but also financial hardship that represents a substantial barrier to entering college or university studies. Advanced VOIP Solutions is a telecommunication company that provides turnkey voice and phone solutions to school districts, colleges, and universities, as well as state and local governments such as counties and cities.

- Big Country area graduating senior planning to attend Texas Tech or University of Louisiana at Lafayette
- Pursuing a degree in Science, Technology, Engineering, Math, or Language Studies
- Must demonstrate great financial need.





Anonymous Scholarship Fund – Haskell Co. Scholarship

This scholarship was established to benefit Haskell County Graduating seniors.

- Must have attended a Haskell County high school for at least 2 years
- Graduating senior of Haskell Country high schools





Ashley & Sara Abel Memorial Scholarship

Ashley Abel (1978-2015) and Sara Abel (1983-2003) were talented, artistic, and creative personalities. As young children, many hours were spent playing "school" together, instilling a gift of learning that would serve them in their AISD careers. Ashley loved dance and ballet and was a member of the Abilene High Gold Rush Dance Team. Sara was Editor in Chief for *The Battery*, Abilene High School's newspaper, her junior and senior year. Ashley and Sara would be happy helping someone follow their dreams and receive their college degree.

- Graduate or college undergraduate pursuing a career in English, literature, writing, journalism, public relations, or communications
- High school senior or college undergraduate
- Taylor County high school



Barbara and Norman Smart Memorial Scholarship Fund

This scholarship was established in 2005 from the estate of Norman and Barbara Smart in compliance with their wishes that a scholarship be made available to the nursing staff of Abilene Regional Medical Center. Norman and Barbara wanted to show their appreciation to the nursing staff for the thoughtful consideration, dedication, and the compassion shown both of them during their hospitalization at Abilene Regional Medical Center.

- Must have at least a CNA Certification and be seeking to pursue an LVN, RN, or BSN
- Medical personnel who wish to further their education



Barney Popnoe Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship was created in honor of Mr. Barney Popnoe, an educator, coach and mentor who passed away on Nov. 3, 2013. After graduating from Novice High School, he entered McMurry College at age 15 where he earned his BS in biology and history. He continued his graduate science education at Texas Tech and the University of New Mexico. He later received an MS in Guidance and Counseling from Howard Payne University graduating Summa Cum Laude. He continued his advanced

Eligibility Criteria:

- Must have attended either Coleman, Panther Creek, or Santa Anna High School for at least three years
- Plan to attend a four-year university to study science

science work at the University of Texas.

• Be a full-time student (12 hours)





Big Country Athletic Hall of Fame Scholarship (Big Country Athletic-19)

The Big Country Athletic Hall of Fame began as the AISD Hall of Fame in 1988. The AISD Hall of Fame inducted 10 inaugural members but was disbanded after two years. Then, in 2002, the Big Country Athletic Hall of Fame began as an effort to honor the outstanding high school athletes and coaches from the nineteen-county area surrounding Abilene. With the blessing of AISD, the original 10 members of the AISD were included in the new Big Country Hall of Fame.

- Varsity Athletes from the Big Country who are in the top 25% of their graduating class.
- Attend High School in one of the following counties: Brown, Callahan, Coleman, Comanche, Eastland, Fisher, Haskell, Jones, Kent, Knox, Mitchell, Nolan, Runnels, Scurry
- Participated in Varsity level sports your junior and senior years
- A Varsity coach recommendation is required for this scholarship.





Big Country County Medical Society Alliance Scholarship

The Big Country County Medical Society Alliance Scholarship (formerly Taylor-Jones-Haskell-Callahan County Medical Society Alliance) was established in the early 1970s as a result of Health Careers Day for students interested in pursuing a career in the medical profession. Since that time, the Medical Alliance has continued to support the scholarship cause. The purpose of the scholarship is to encourage Big Country region students to pursue careers as physicians.

- Must have proof of acceptance into Medical School.
- Have graduated from a high school in Taylor, Jones, Haskell, or Callahan Counties





Bob R. Hefner Scholarship Fund

Mr. Hefner was a businessman in Coleman, Texas, who wanted to help students attend vocational or technical schools to learn to operate tangible mechanical equipment. These skills would include welding, metal fabrication, automotive or aviation maintenance, or other mechanically related skills and technology training. Because Mr. Hefner had been involved with the manufacturing industry, he knew firsthand the importance of skills training.

Eligibility Criteria:

• Coleman High School graduate planning to receive a certification in a vocational field such as welding, metal fabrication, automotive or aviation maintenance.



Casey Leo Huff Memorial Scholarship

The Casey Leo Huff Memorial Scholarship was established to go to a student that is challenged physically, financially, and/or academically. A student that carried on despite of the barriers in the way.

- Graduating senior from a Taylor County High School with physical, financial, and/or academic challenges
- Plan to attend an accredited vocational technical institution.





Catherine Aileen Smith-Jones Memorial Scholarship

Catherine Aileen Smith Jones was born in Norwich, CT. She grew up in Abilene, graduated from Cooper High School in 1976 and attended college at the University of Texas in Austin. Cathy was a vigorous and active woman whose career led her to Dallas. She returned to Abilene in 1996 to raise her daughters, Halie and Hope, in a family friendly community. Cathy cared about people, had an incredible spirit for life and demonstrated a remarkable ability to overcome adversity. In the end, her short life was lost while helping another. She provided the gift of life even after her death through organ and tissue donation. Recipients, their families, and all who love them will forever be impacted by the power of Cathy's selfless legacy.

Eligibility Criteria:

• Graduating senior who is an active member of Holy Family Catholic Church in Abilene.





Chuck & Doris Moser Scholarship Fund

Chuck Moser was born in Chillicothe, Missouri and went on to play football at the University of Missouri. During his time in the Army Air Corps, he met his wife, Doris. He accepted the position of head football coach at Abilene High in 1953. He led the team to three straight titles in 1954, 1955, and 1960. Coach Moser was known for his high standards of integrity, academic performance and community service. He served as president of the Abilene Kiwanis Club and the Boy Scout Council. He was involved with the United Way and served as chairman of the board and Sunday school teacher. Doris Woodley Moser was born February 2, 1923, in Sabinal, Texas. She attended the University of Texas at Austin as a mathematics major. She wrote two books, *Take Time to Remember* and *Texas Courthouses*. This scholarship will continue to honor the memory of Chuck and Doris Moser.

- Graduate from Abilene High, Cooper High or Wylie.
- Must be in the top 25% of their graduating class
- Participated in varsity level sports for three years in high school.







Clack Educational Fund

Sisters Tommie and Bobbie Clack were born on their parents' ranch about three miles southeast of Abilene. The teaching span of Tommie and Bobbie lasted almost fifty years. While they were in Abilene, both sisters were active in many civic organizations. Bobbie was a charter member of Delta Kappa Gamma and a member of the United Daughters of the Confederacy and the Daughters of the American Revolution. Tommie was president of the Daughters of 1812 and a member of the Twenty-One Club, the Abilene Parent-Teachers Association and the Texas State Teachers Association. In their half-century teaching careers, the Clack sisters have influenced thousands of students. The Clack educational Fund ensures that, in their absence, education is as important as it was in their presence.

- Graduate seniors, This scholarships rotates between Abilene High, Cooer High, Wylie High, Jim Ned High, Merkel High and Trent High.
- Be ranked in the top 5 of their graduating class
- Students from Wylie, Abilene High and Trent are eligible for 2023.





Dr. Edgar Martin Harp Memorial Scholarship Fund for Medicine

The Dr. Edgar Martin Harp Memorial Scholarship Fund for Medicine was established by his daughter, Ruth Harp Gibson to honor the memory of her father.

- Must have proof of acceptance in an accredited school of Medicine or school of Veterinary Science
- Graduate from a Nolan or Taylor County High School





Eula M. Kruse Scholarship Fund

This scholarship was established to honor the memory of Eula M. Kruse. This scholarship is intended to be awarded to a deserving student who is a graduating senior of Winters High School who plans to attend a degree-granting institution.

Eligibility Criteria:

• Graduate from Winters High School in the top 20% of their graduating class.





Floy Hodge Scholarship Fund

The Floy Hodge Scholarship is intended to be awarded to a deserving student who is a graduating senior of Winters High School who plans to attend a degree-granting institution.

- Winters High School graduating senior in the top 25% of graduating class
- Attended WHS for at least two years (including senior year)





Fred Lee Hughes Memorial Scholarship

Born in Merkel, Texas on October 26, 1927, Fred Lee was the son of Fred C. Hughes and Florence Lee Hughes, and had one brother, J. Harold Hughes. Fred Lee graduated from Abilene High School in 1945 and A&M College of Texas (now Texas A&M University) in 1948. He married Wanda Fain on June 25,1949. He served in the U.S. Army Counter Intelligence Corps during the Korean Conflict (1951-53). He received an Honorable Discharge as First Lieutenant.

During his business career, Fred Lee was an automobile dealer and involved in banking. As an active Abilene civic leader, he served as - President, Abilene Chamber of Commerce (1972), City Councilman (1966-69), Mayor (1975-78), Chairman, Military Affairs Committee (1978-1989), Member, Rotary Club of Abilene since 1953, President (1962-63) and Member of St. Paul United Methodist Church since 1936, and former Trustee. Fred Lee received awards for Outstanding Citizen (1972), Abilene Chamber of Commerce Distinguished Service, from U S Secretary of the Air Force (1989), and Abilenian of the Millennium, 1999.

The Fred Lee Hughes Memorial Scholarship Fund was set up to honor his memory. The scholarship is to be awarded to an Abilene ISD or Wylie ISD graduate who will be attending Texas A&M University.

- Graduating senior from either Abilene High, Cooper High or Wylie High
- Planning to attend Texas A&M



From Harm to Home Scholarship Fund

Despite being a new arrival to West Texas in 1995, Dr. Angela Nicolini credits being embraced with open arms by the people of Abilene for the fact that her optometry practice thrived beyond measure. For 16 years she provided eye care for patients in and around Taylor County, before retiring from optometry and pursuing a path in teaching. She became an adjunct professor of Biology at Hardin Simmons University in 2012 and has enjoyed her second career immensely. To Dr. Nicolini, education is the key to making sure you are on the correct path to success. In 2014, Dr. Nicolini decided she wanted to aid the refugees whom she observed to be working diligently to build a better life in her adopted city. She is thrilled to be the founder of the 'From Harm to Home Scholarship' that will benefit refugees who have escaped persecution and strife in their homelands.

- Must prove refugee status, have arrived in the U.S. within the last five years, and speak fluent English
- Plan to attend four-year college and/or two-year vocational/technical school at one of the Abilene schools (ACU, HSU, MCM, TTU Abilene, Cisco Abilene, TSTU Abilene)





Gilbert Cook Memorial Scholarship

This memorial scholarship fund was established to honor Gilbert Cook (1960-2001). He was a devoted husband, loving father, and friend to all he came in contact. His love for kids and others who needed a helping hand led him to be involved in several charitable organizations and fund-raising events, giving his time and his many resources in order to help others. Gilbert was a true leader in the eyes of both young and old. His memory will live on through the Gilbert Cook Memorial Scholarship.

- For students graduating from Abilene High, Cooper High, Wylie High, Jim Ned High, Merkel High, Trent High or Sweetwater High. The award rotates between these high schools. Students from Cooper High, Wylie High, Trent High and Sweetwater High are eligible for 2023.
- Plan to attend a four-year college or community college with a two-year associate degree





Ginny Ryan Memorial Scholarship

Ginny Michelle Ryan, the only child of Hal and Nancy Ryan, was born on December 13, 1976, in Quanah, Texas. Ginny attended school at Paducah until the fifth grade. After the Ryan's moved to Abilene, Ginny attended Jackson Elementary School and Wylie Middle and High Schools. Ginny was diagnosed with cystic fibrosis when she was two years old. Though the disease is terminal, she never doubted that she would beat CF. Her attitude was: "They'll find a cure." According to her parents, one of Ginny's greatest dreams was to someday attend college. Ginny Ryan's positive attitude let her live life to the fullest, even in the face of such an unconquerable obstacle as CF. Her kindness and compassion will be sorely missed, yet her dream will come true, and her memory will live on through the Ginny Michelle Ryan Memorial Scholarship.

- Graduating seniors from Wylie High and Paducah High
- Must have attended Wylie High and Paducah High for at least three years, including your senior year





Gold Star Memorial Scholarship

An anonymous donor established the Gold Star Memorial Scholarship to honor the families of the men and women who sacrificed their lives protecting this country through military service since 9/11. The symbol of a Gold Star indicates the family members have lost their loved one either during combat or due to accident or illness during active duty. These Gold Stars may be seen on vehicle license tags or hung as a banner in a family's window. The Gold Star displayed symbolizes the honor and glory granted the soldier for the supreme sacrifice in offering his/her life in service to this country and recognizes the last full measure o devotion and pride of the family in this sacrifice.

- This scholarship is provided to a student from Abilene High or Cooper High
- Be a member of ROTC





Greater Abilene Ministers Alliance / CFA Scholarship

The Greater Abilene Ministers Alliance (GAMA) Scholarship Fund was established in 1988 to provide scholarships to African-American graduates who are members of GAMA churches. If no GAMA student applies, graduates of Abilene High, Cooper High, ATEMS, Holland Medical or Home-Schooled students will be considered. The purpose of this award is to provide financial assistance to deserving students to enable them to continue their education. This scholarship was also established to give recognition to students exhibiting motivation and determination to further their education and achieve a worthwhile career.

Eligibility Criteria:

• This scholarship is awarded to a student who attends one of the Greater Abilene Ministers Alliance Churches or to a student who attends Abilene High, Cooper High, ATEMS, Holland Medical or is home-schooled. (Preference is given to GAMA church members.)





GySgt. Robert K. Keller Memorial Scholarship Fund

This scholarship was established by Nicole Keller in memory of her husband Robert Keith Keller. Keith was a Marine who spent his career encouraging young adults to believe they could overcome any obstacles they faced and become leaders.

- You must be in the top 25% of your graduating class
- Be a graduating senior from Abilene High, Abilene Christian High, ATEMS, Baird High, Clyde High, Cooper High, Eula High, Jim Ned High, Merkel High, Trent High, or Wylie High
- Plan to attend ACU, HSU, McM, Clemson, Cisco or TSTC in Abilene
- Have military aspirations or military background (parents in the military)





Harold Dean Wade Memorial Scholarship Fund

Harold Dean Wade spent much of his adult life serving others as a Christian educator. As a first-generation college graduate, he believed strongly in the power of education to change lives. His commitment to Christian education helped transform the lives of countless students and families. Harold cared deeply about people and helping them become all God created them to be. He saw Christ-based education as a wonderful tool for changing the world. His daughters founded this scholarship to continue Harold's legacy for generations to come.

- Graduating seniors from an accredited Texas or Oklahoma High School
- Graduate in the top 15% of their class
- Plans to attend a Christian college/university as a full-time student
- Essay required





Hazel Nunn Scholarship Endowment Fund – TSTC

Mrs. Hazel Nunn, a long-time resident of Nolan County, Texas, through a bequest from her estate established the Hazel Nunn Endowed Scholarship Funds at the Community Foundation. Mrs. Nunn taught business in the Sweetwater School System for many years and continued to promote education through her gifts to the library and other educational services provided to Nolan County residents. Her memory will live through the college educational grants provided by this fund.

- Students from Blackwell High, Highland High, Roscoe High or Sweetwater High
- Plan on going to TSTC in Sweetwater





Hazel Nunn Scholarship Endowment Fund – HSU Business

Mrs. Hazel Nunn, a long-time resident of Nolan County, Texas, through a bequest from her estate established the Hazel Nunn Endowed Scholarship Funds at the Community Foundation. Mrs. Nunn taught business in the Sweetwater School System for many years and continued to promote education through her gifts to the library and other educational services provided to Nolan County residents. Her memory will live through the college educational grants provided by this fund.

- Students from Blackwell High, Highland High, Roscoe High or Sweetwater High
- Plan on going to HSU to study Business





Hazel Nunn Scholarship Endowment Fund – HSU General Studies

Mrs. Hazel Nunn, a long-time resident of Nolan County, Texas, through a bequest from her estate established the Hazel Nunn Endowed Scholarship Funds at the Community Foundation. Mrs. Nunn taught business in the Sweetwater School System for many years and continued to promote education through her gifts to the library and other educational services provided to Nolan County residents. Her memory will live through the college educational grants provided by this fund.

- Students from Blackwell High, Highland High, Roscoe High or Sweetwater High
- Plan on going to HSU for General Studies





Herman Ray (Buz) Buzbee, Jr. Memorial Music Scholarship

The Herman Ray "Buz" Buzbee Memorial Music Scholarship is in honor of a member of the first graduating class of Cooper High School. Buzbee composed the music for the school fight song, which remains in use today. In later life, Mr. Buzbee's love for music was evidenced by his memberships in the National Academy of Songwriters and the Austin Songwriters' Group. His passion for music continues to live through the recipients of this memorial music scholarship.

- Graduating senior from Cooper High who has excelled in musical performance
- Proficiency in vocal and/or instrumental music through participation in one or more of the performing musical groups at Cooper





Hollis Hayes Pinkston Scholarship

Hollis Hayes Pinkston was born September 25, 2012, to Marshall and Shelley Pinkston. What a perfect addition he made to this little family. He quickly grew to love the outdoors, farm equipment and his Mommy, just like his Daddy. That is what best friends do, they share the things that they love. In September 2016, Hayes became a big brother. He took this role very seriously and loved Tatum Jane like only a Bubba could love his Sissy. Hayes' spirit is inquisitive, loving, and adventurous. Hayes was so excited to officially become a Wylie Bulldog, starting kindergarten in August of 2018. This scholarship allows the precious memory of Hollis Hayes Pinkston to bless students for years to come.

- Graduate from a Texas High School who will be studying in an Agricultural related field or have at least 30 college hours
- Plan to attend trade school or become an Agricultural related major





Jack Mildren Memorial Endowed Scholarship Fund

This scholarship was established by the Cooper H.S. Class of '68 in memory of Jack Mildren (1949-2008), a high school football quarterback that embodied the attributes for a successful life: academic achievement, leadership, and citizenship. After high school, Mildren became famous as the "Godfather of the Wishbone" while quarterbacking at the University of Oklahoma ('69-'71). After his collegiate days, Mildren joined the ranks of the pros for three seasons, playing defensive back for the Baltimore Colts and the New England Patriots. From '90-'95, Mildren became Oklahoma's 22nd Lieutenant Governor. Mildren also served as the Vice Chairman for the Arvest Bank Group, and as a sports commentator at JOX 930 WKY.

- Cooper High graduating senior who's attended for at least three years
- Rank in the top 25 in graduating class



James P. Hopper Memorial Scholarship

James Pernell Hopper attended school at Talpa Centennial (which later became part of Panther Creek ISD). Growing up, he participated in football, basketball, and track, receiving an All-State Alternate in football his senior year. He was also involved in UIL One Act plays and received "Honorable Mention All Star Cast" as a sophomore. He was an active member of 4-H for seven years in which he earned many awards. James was very involved in Future Farmers of America, where he was named "Star Greenhand." He also contributed to the civic life in his community, serving as a member of the Coleman Junior Chamber of Commerce for three years during high school and being an active member of the Valera Baptist Church. James was a kindhearted young man who was well liked by his classmates and peers, thought of others before himself, and lived life to the fullest. Who he was and what he accomplished greatly enriched his family and friends.

- Graduates of Panther Creek High
- Attend Panther Creek for the last 2 years.





Jane A. Rhodes Scholarship

The Jane A. Rhodes Young Life Scholarship was established for graduating seniors from Abilene High, Cooper High, or Wylie High who were active members of Young Life during his or her high school years and who wish to pursue their higher education at a public Texas University.

- Students who attend Abilene High, Cooper High, or Wylie High
- Active member of Young Life





Janet Parkey Memorial Scholarship Fund

The Janet Parkey Memorial Scholarship was established by the 1997 AHS class officers, to honor her memory. Janet was a quiet hero and a teacher willing to go the extra mile for her students. Her scholarship is designed to recognize students who have been superior students while at Abilene High, exhibiting a high degree of participation in student activities while maintaining an above average grade point.

- Abilene High graduating senior
- Attended AHS for the last three years





Jay Hatcher Memorial Scholarship Fund

The Jay Hatcher Memorial Scholarship was established by the Alumni Association of the Abilene Citizens Police Academy to honor the memory of Abilene police detective Jay Hatcher, who died tragically in a pipeline explosion in Potosi, September 2000. Jay joined the Abilene Police Department in January 1979 and was a 22-year veteran. He spent the last seventeen years as an investigator, specializing in crimes against persons and hostage negotiation, and held numerous state professional certifications and Maters Peace Officer certificate. Jay was a highly respected member of the law enforcement community.

- Students from Abilene High, Abilene Christian High, ATEMS, Cooper High, Jim Ned High, Merkel High, Trent High, or Wylie High
- Be the child of a currently employed Abilene Police Office





Jean and Curly Hays Scholarship Fund

The Jean and Curly Hays Scholarship was established in 2005 to provide financial assistance to deserving upperclassman (junior and senior) and graduated students to continue their education.

- Students who are classified as at least a junior in an accredited college or university
- Must be an alumni from a Taylor County high school





Jesse M. and Bernice M. Pyeatt Scholarship Fund

This scholarship was established by Jesse and Bernice Pyeatt to help single moms continue their education.

- Be a single mother with custody of a child under 12 years old
- Plan to attend ACU, HSU, McM, Cisco-Abilene, TSTC-Abilene, Texas Tech Pharmacy-Abilene or Texas Tech Nursing-Abilene





J. Middleton Memorial Scholarship

Friends of the late Sheriff John Middleton established this fund to honor the Sheriff who passed away on Sept. 21, 1991. Middleton graduated from Ballinger High School and served in the U.S. Army for two years. He joined the Taylor County Sheriff's Office as a guard, was promoted to deputy and then to chief criminal investigator. He was elected sheriff in 1980, re-elected in '84 and '88. In the opinion of many people, John Middleton was known to be one of the most honest, loyal and dedicated men ever to serve Taylor County and accomplished infinitely more than his job demanded. The Sheriff John Middleton Scholarship will continue to honor one of Taylor County's finest men.

Eligibility Criteria:

• Scholarship is awarded to an employee or dependent of an employee of a Taylor County Law enforcement agency, the French M. Robertson Unit or the John Middleton Unit





Johnathan Tschaar Memorial Scholarship Fund

The Johnathan Tschaar Memorial Scholarship was established by family and friends of Johnathan Tschaar, a sophomore at Abilene High, when he died in '95. Johnathan was a very active member of the Abilene FFA chapter and was a past member of Taylor County 4-H. His special interest was exhibiting lambs at stock shows across the state of Texas. The scholarship is presented annually to a senior from a Taylor County high school who has been an exhibitor at the Taylor County Livestock Show.

- Awarded to a graduating senior from Abilene High, Cooper High, Jim Ned High, Merkel High, Trent High or Wylie High
- Be an exhibitor of livestock at Taylor County Livestock Show





Karen Adair Price RN Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship is for college students majoring in a health science nursing degree. This endowment continues Karen's legacy of providing professional treatment and outstanding care to her patients. Karen was an Oncology Certified RN for Chemotherapy and later Radiation Oncology. Karen was a member and past two-time president of the Oncology Nursing Society. Karen's husband, Jim, says, "I know Karen would be very pleased with her working legacy, and as a consequence, more future nurses will be available to care for those in need."

- Must be enrolled in a local nursing school program (Texas Tech, ACU, Patty Hanks Shelton or Cisco College)
- Must be at least an LVN seeking your RN



Kay Whitton & Lessie (McCormick) Terry Scholarship Fund

The Kay Whitton and Lessie (McCormick) Terry Scholarship will recognize students who demonstrate a commitment to academic excellence in both classroom and extra-curricular pursuits throughout his/her high school career.

- Jim Ned graduating senior who has participated in UIL Academic Competition
- Include a one-page Academic UIL resume





Kemper Scott Hamilton Memorial Scholarship

Kemper Scott Hamilton graduated from Abilene H.S. in '82. While an Eagle, Scott had many close friends and was a standout performer on the football and baseball fields. Scott accepted a football scholarship to The University of Texas, where he later met his wife, Sarah. They had two daughters, Kemper and Callen, who also attended UT. Mark Elam, one of Scott's coaches at A.H.S., said, "Scott was a leader. He led in so many ways and it was obvious he was comfortable in that role. His character drew others to him naturally. His fierce competitive nature was tempered with his humor and caring for others." Scott loved A.H.S and to know that his name is helping a student-athlete continue their education would bring a smile to his face.

- This scholarship is awarded to an outstanding athlete from Abilene High
- Participated in varsity sports for at least your junior and senior years





Ken Becker Leadership Scholarship

This scholarship was established in recognition of Ken Becker's distinguished record of leadership in Nolan County.

Eligibility Criteria:

• Graduating senior from Sweetwater or Roscoe High





Kim and Jim Snyder Texas A&M Scholarship Fund

Established by Kim and Jim Snyder in honor of James R. Reynolds for Texas A&M University students.

- Contact Abilene A&M Club for application
- Plan to attend Texas A&M
- Graduating seniors from Taylor and Callahan County high schools
- Attend a Taylor or Callahan County for at least two years



Leo and Piney Scott Scholarship Fund

Leo and Piney Scott came to Abilene in 1961 and became actively involved in education and the community. Rev. Scott was pastor of New Light Baptist Church and served on numerous boards until his death in 2009. Piney Scott was a schoolteacher and was a counselor for 37 years. She, too, served on numerous boards as a community volunteer. The Scotts were

involved in church and civic organizations with a desire to make Abilene a

Eligibility Criteria:

great community for everyone.

• African-American student from the Big Country area who is involved with their local GAMA church





Love like Jazz Scholarship

Jazz Kade Jones was born on August 2, 2004, in Abilene, Texas. He grew up attending school at Wylie, where he played sports when he was younger. At an early age he developed a solid work ethic assisting his father Garrett on the farm. It was during this time he gained a love for welding, farming, taking care of and tending to livestock. His love for livestock was shown through his work with FFA where he took pride in showing his pigs. He will always be remembered for his selfless nature, compassion for others, always being on the go, and his fierce independence. He was a true Texan and had his own unique way of doing things that can only be described as, "That's Jazz". Our goal as a family and his group of friends, is to always remember the love he shared and to do our best to "Love Like Jazz." *Eligibility Criteria:*

• n/a





Margaret Wheeler Kennedy Scholarship Fund

The Margaret Wheeler Kennedy Scholarship, established by her children, R. Michael Wheeler, Gay Wheeler Gilroy, Susan Wheeler Johnson, and J. Greg Wheeler, honors their mother and her commitment to children, church, and education.

- Graduating senior in the top 25% of graduating class
- Be an active member of Holy Family Catholic Church Abilene, Sacred Heart Catholic Church Abilene, St. Francis Catholic Church Abilene or St. Vincent Pallotti Catholic Church Abilene.
- Regularly participated in church's religious education studies, has received all eligible Sacraments in the Roman Catholic Church
- Be in the top 25% of your graduating class





Marguerite & Ike Chism Scholarship

Marguerite and Ike Chism believed strongly that education is the answer to many of the world's problems. Both of the Chisms were highly respected in Albany and were lifelong members of the First Baptist Church. As John Tunnel, their pastor for many years said at his funeral, "Ike Chism was a man of impeccable integrity, genuine humility, with a generous spirit and a desire to put others first." Both Mr. and Mrs. Chism shared an unshakable faith in God and lived their faith every day. Near the end of Mrs. Chism's life, she wrote these words, "Ike and I have praised God day by day for His loving and watchful care all these many years."

- Albany High graduating senior
- Be in the top 25% of graduating class
- Planning to major in Engineering or Physics



Marie Denham Memorial Scholarship Fund

Marie Denham (1921-2002) worked with the children of Abilene for 29 years as a classroom teacher, counselor and administrator. She was a counselor at Abilene high school from 1963-1977 and served as the Coordinator of Guidance and Counseling for AISD from 1977-1986.

- Graduating senior from Abilene High
- Attended Abilene High for the last two years



Mary Bailey Memorial Scholarship

Mary Bailey worked as a teacher's aide, secretary, and bookkeeper for Cisco Independent School District for over 30 years, retiring in 2011. A native of Carbon, TX, Mrs. Bailey married Eastland County Judge Scott Bailey in 1965 and they made their home in Cisco. She worked tirelessly to support the youth of Cisco in their many endeavors both at work and as a volunteer. She was also active in her church and her community. Mrs. Bailey passed away in fall 2012. Her children have established this fund in her memory to honor her desire to help students from Cisco achieve their full potential.

Eligibility Criteria:

• Scholarship is awarded to a graduating senior from Cisco High



McClellan "Think On" Memorial Scholarship Fund

The McClellan "Think On" Memorial Scholarship was established by brothers Russell and Stan McClellan to honor the memory of their parents, Billy Lynn McClellan and Joy Goodman McClellan, as well as the many relatives and ancestors who bear the name of the ancient Scottish Gaelic "Clan MacLellan". The scholarship derives its name from the Clan MacLellan motto "Think On." According to legend, in the 15th century, King James II of Scotland offered a large reward for the capture of a notorious criminal. Sir William MacLellan hunted down and killed the criminal and brought the severed head to King James to claim the reward. When the king failed to honor his promise, Sir William responded, "Think On!" thus prompting the king to fulfill his promise, restoring substantial lands and honor to Clan MacLellan. As a result, the motto of Clan MacLellan is the challenge to "Think On."

The McClellan "Think On" Memorial Scholarship honors the history of Clan MacLellan. This scholarship also encourages Coleman County students to challenge themselves and "Think On" through the pursuit of continuing education, whether vocational of academic.

- Be a Coleman High or Santa Anna High graduate
- Preference given to Howard Payne or Texas A&M, or Texas State Technical College, STEM majors
- Preference will also be given to students participating in high school activities, community service



McMahon Surovik Suttle, P.C. Scholarship

Throughout the past 100 years, McMahon Surovik Suttle, PC has earned a distinguished reputation for service to the citizens and business community of Abilene, the Big Country, and the vast West Central Texas. The firm has established this scholarship to honor partners who have retired, Stephen Suttle and Bob Surovik, and those who will retire from the firm in the future. This scholarship is intended for students of the Big Country area and West Texas who are entering their junior or senior year in college majoring in pre-law or who are already enrolled in law school.

- Must be a Big Country alumni who has been admitted to an accredited law school in Texas
- Be a full-time student with a 3.5 GPA in the top half of class





Nancy and Ted Paup Big Country Hall of Fame Scholarship

This fund was established by Nancy and Ted Paup in 2011 to award scholarships to students from Abilene, Cooper, and Albany High School since these schools had a significant impact on their lives. "We loved living in Abilene and have great memories of our time there. Abilene was the perfect place to raise our daughters, such a welcoming community..." said Nancy. "Looking back, it was community involvement that actually first introduced us to the Foundation." Ted noted, "We knew every aspect would be taken care of prudently, from the criteria to selection process, and that our scholarship would become a permanent part of Abilene."

- Varsity Athletes who are in the top 25% of graduating class
- Attended Abilene High, Cooper High, or Albany High





Nicholas Whitaker Memorial Scholarship Fund

The Nicholas Whitaker Memorial Scholarship fund was established by family and friends of Nicholas Whitaker to honor his memory. Nick, a 2002 graduate from Wylie High School, was active in sports, theatre, choir, and P.A.L.S. He was named 'Best All-Around Boy" of his class. His love and compassion for friends and classmates will be remembered by all who know him.

- Wylie High graduating senior
- Must have participated in music or theatre in high school
- Preference given to students who will major in theatre or choir





Nolan County Foundation Scholarship Fund

Scholarships offered by the Nolan County Foundation.

Eligibility Criteria:

• Awarded to eligible graduating seniors who attended a high school in Nolan County





Pearl Jackson Scholarship Fund

Scholarship in memory of Pearl Jackson for Winters High School.

- Winters High graduating senior
- Be in the top 25% of their graduating class
- Must have attended Winters High for the past two years





Ralph and Lavern Donnell Scholarship Fund

The Ralph and Lavern Donnell Scholarship was established to assist Abilene ISD or Wylie ISD graduates who are single moms and will attend a local nursing school.

- Abilene ISD or Wylie ISD graduates who are single moms
- Plan to attend a local nursing school





Randy Polk Memorial Scholarship Fund

This scholarship was established by Marla Polk to honor the memory of her husband, Randy Polk. Throughout Randy's life, his passion for sports, music and life made him the ultimate fan. As his boys, Justin sand Wesley, participated in a variety of activities while attending Abilene Cooper High School, Randy was a frequent attendee at Cooper football, basketball and soccer games. Even after his sons graduated, Randy would still be found at Cooper sporting events cheering on the Cougars.

- Be a graduating senior from Cooper High
- Rank in the top 20% of graduating class
- Have participated in student council, fine arts and/or athletics





RC & Elizabeth Hoppe Memorial Scholarship

Robert and Elizabeth Hoppe were integral parts of the Abilene community before most Abilenians were born. Robert Hoppe was an Abilene High alumni and Abilene's city engineer in 1937 where he planned much of the construction for Lake Fort Phantom. Elizabeth Grey Wood was an Abilene High and Hardin-Simmons University alumni; she taught for the Stamford School District. The Hoppe's continually spoke of the future and refused to dwell on the past; their dedication to the future through education will live on in this scholarship.

- Graduating senior from Abilene High, ATEMS, or Holland Medical School
- Attend McM, HSU, or ACU





Rentech Boiler Systems, Inc. Scholarship

This fund was established by Rentech Boiler Systems, Inc. to provide scholarship opportunities to the children of its current employees. The employee in question must have been employed for at least two consecutive years by Rentech Boiler Systems, Inc.

Eligibility Criteria:

• Child or grandchild of a current Rentech Boiler Systems employee



Rodney Holder Memorial Scholarship

Rodney Holder lived a life of service. He was a 28-year police veteran, having graduated from the Police Academy in 1982 and was named one of two officers in the motorcycle patrol division in 2005. He was serving his community on April 29, 2010, when he died after a car collided with his patrol motorcycle. At his service, Dr. Phil Christopher, pastor of Abilene's First Baptist Church, said "Rodney reminds us that there are heroes in this world and in this community." Rodney holder will always be remembered for his legacy of service.

- Child of an Abilene or Taylor county first responder:
 - Abilene Fire Fighter
 - Sworn Abilene Police Officer
 - Sworn Taylor County Sheriff Deputy
 - APD-AFD Public Safety Dispatcher
 - TSCO Public Safety Dispatcher



Robert Macario Ybarra Scholarship

This scholarship was established in memory of Robert Macario Ybarra. Robert was a 2020 graduate of Hawley High School. He was full of passion and a fire that made it amazing to watch, especially in baseball. He was offered a spot on the Wayland Baptist University baseball team. He chose not to attend for financial reasons. Our hope is that another student doesn't have to make that choice due to finances.

- Students from a 19-county area Brown, Callahan, Coleman, Comanche, Eastland, Fisher, Haskell, Jones, Kent, Knox, Mitchell, Nolan, Runnels and Scurry
- Participated in Varsity Sports your junior and senior years





Ross Jones Memorial Scholarship Fund

Ross William Whyte Jones was a high-spirited young man who lived life to the fullest and dearly loved his family and friends. He was involved in many sports including: the Cooper Freshman Football Team, Dixie Baseball, Family Life Basketball, Pop Warner Football, and Big Country Soccer "Magic" Teams (which was his favorite sport). Ross Jones died tragically in an accident in 2001. This scholarship is to honor his life.

- Cooper high graduating senior
- Male student who plays soccer or football at a varsity level of your junior and senior years





Ruth & Bill Burton Memorial Scholarship Fund

Ruth and Bill Burton were both West Texans who knew how to live in their church and their community. During WWII, Bill Burton served in the Army Air Corps as a P-38 pilot. After the war, he attended Texas Tech; he later moved to Abilene where he became an independent geologist. Ruth Crowson Burton was born in Amarillo but lived in Abilene all her life. Ruth was an Abilene High alumni and received her B.A. and M.A. in English at Hardin-Simmons. She taught at Madison Junior High where she sponsored the Madison Messenger and started Sagebrush Scribbles, a student literary magazine. Through this scholarship, their passion for education lives on.

Eligibility Criteria:

• Abilene High or Cooper graduating senior or alumni





Schuman Family Scholarship

The Schuman Family, believe that where much has been received, the only natural response is to give.

- Graduating seniors from a Taylor County high school
- Planning to attend a vocational or technical school





Señora Stacy Horton Sanchez

The Señora Stacy Horton Sanchez Scholarship was established to honor the love, passion and spirit that Stacy was able to share with the world. This scholarship will go to someone who embodies the type of friend, teacher, and artist that Stacy was.

- Jim Ned or Wylie High graduating senior
- Plan to major in Art or Education
- Examples of high school artwork is required





Serendipity Fund

Scholarship established to assist Abilene Area students seeking a vocational certification

- Be an Abilene area student seeking a vocational certification
- Planning to attend CISCO-Abilene or TSTC-Abilene



Stanley & Claudie Wilson Scholarship

The Stanley and Claudie Wilson scholarship was established to assist deserving young people from the Abilene area (Taylor County and adjoining counties) who wish to attend college. This scholarship will give preference to students desiring to prepare for a legal or literary career. Special consideration may be granted to students planning to attend University of North Texas, University of Texas at Austin, Rice University, Trinity University, UCLA or the Juilliard school, although all students are encouraged to apply.

- Graduate or alumni from Callahan, Coleman, Fisher, Jones, Runnels, Shackleford, or Taylor counties
- Graduate in the top 20%
- Must pursue a legal or literary degree
- Preference is given to students planning to attend the University of North Texas, University of Texas at Austin, Rice University, Trinity University, UCLA or the Juilliard school





The Dollie Lane Harp Memorial Scholarship Fund for Classical Music

This scholarship was established by Ruth Harp Gibson in honor of her mother Dollie Lane Harp. Through this scholarship Mrs. Harp's love of music will live on.

- Plan to major in classical music at a university or conservatory in the U.S. that offers a degree in music with an emphasis in the classics
- Graduating senior from Abilene High, Blackwell High, Cooper High, Highland High, Jim Ned High, Merkel High, Roscoe High, Sweetwater High, Trent High, Wylie High
- Participated in music in high school





The Cason Grant "Wild at Heart" Memorial Scholarship

Cason's four passions in life were his faith, his family, playing football and being a cowboy. Cason lived his life to the fullest, brought joy and laughter to every room that he walked into, and his faith walk is best summarized by the book written by John Eldridge, "Wild At Heart".

He pursued his dream of playing college football at Mississippi State and The University of Oklahoma. After a career ending injury, the Lord allowed Cason to fulfill his lifelong dream of working on a cattle ranch in Douglas, Wyoming.

Scholarships will be made from this fund each year to carry on Cason's legacy of impacting others.

- Plan to attend any accredited 2- or 4-year institution, or accredited vocational/trade school
- Graduating senior from Wylie High School
- Participated in an extracurricular activity or church youth group while in high school





Tillie Odam Memorial Scholarship

The Tillie Odam Memorial Scholarship was established by Mrs. Odam's son, John, and his family in honor of her 24 years of service as Director of Hendrick Medical Center's Medical Records Technician School.

- Graduating senior from the Big Country
- Plan to enroll in a Health Information or Allied Health program such as Medical recordsbilling, transcription, ultrasound/sonography, radiology, surgical or cardiovascular technician





Todd Moore Memorial Scholarship Fund

This fund honors Todd Moore's memory by providing scholarships to varsity high school golfers needing financial assistance to attend the college. Todd was a student at the University of Texas and a member of the Longhorn Golf Team at the time of his death. This award is not based on the student's golf proficiency and is not considered to be an athletic award.

- Graduating senior from Abilene High, ATEMS, Baird High, Clyde High, Cooper High, Eula High, Hamlin High, Jim Ned High, Merkel High, Robert Lee High, Trent High or Wylie High who played varsity golf during their junior and senior years
- Play varsity golf junior and senior years





Tony Daniel Memorial Scholarship

Anthoney "Tony" Daniel was passionate about loving Jesus and his family well, while guiding others to do the same. Tony spent 31 years in public education as a coach and administrator. Throughout his 31 years in public education, he was involved in FCA chapters at several of the schools where he coached including Archer City and Bridgeport. He lived out the FCA mission, to encourage coaches and athletes to impact the world for Jesus Christ. Diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor in early June 2018, Tony died a few short months later on Sept. 26th. Until his last breath, Tony showed all of those around him how to live and love. "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." -- 1 Timothy 4:7

- Coleman, Panther Creek, Santa Anna, Bangs, Blanket, Brooksmith, Brownwood, Early, May, Zephyr, Rising Star, Comanche, DeLeon, Gustine, Sidney, Brady, Lohn, Rochelle, Cherokee, Richland Springs, San Saba, Goldthwaite, Mullin, Priddy, graduating seniors
- Active in FCA





Virginia Kiker Hughes Memorial Scholarship Fund

The Virginia Kiker Hughes Memorial Scholarship was established by Bill and Sherry Kiker in loving memory of their aunt, honors her productive life filled with joy and vitality. Virginia loved being with her large family at their ranch in Silver Valley near Coleman as well as taking trips with her mother, Alesa Kiker, and her daughter, Susan Hughes Kratt, to Alaska, the Caribbean and many places in Europe. After Virginia's husband, Veryl Hughes, passed away, she helped her sons carry on the family's oil business. Virginia's expertise and attention to detail about all aspects of drilling and completion are legendary.

- Graduating seniors from Callahan, Comanche, Eastland, Fisher, Haskell, Jones, Mitchell, Nolan, Scurry, Shackleford, Stephens, Stonewall and Taylor
- Plan to attend an accredited vocational/technical college such as TSTC or Cisco college





Wesley Armstrong Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship is in honor of Wesley Armstrong and his impact on the Hawley community. Wesley was involved in many things in the Hawley community such as the Future Farmers of America and Agricultural program as well as the Hawley VFD. Through this scholarship the Hawley community hopes to honor Wesley's memory for generations to come.

- Hawley ISD graduating seniors
- Active in agriculture and industrial tech





WesTex Drilling Co – Robt. B. Cockrell Memorial Scholarship Fund

Awarded to graduating seniors from Abilene High, Cooper High, Jim Ned High, Merkel High, Trent High or Wylie High with a 3.5 GPA and plans to pursue a career involving engineering, science, or math. Apply through CFA.

- Be a student from Abilene High, Cooper High, Jim Ned High, Merkel, Trent, or Wylie
- Pursue engineering, science, or math





West Texas Hereford Association – Curly Hays Scholarship Fund

The West Texas Hereford Association Scholarship was set up in memory of Curly Hays. Curly was the farm and ranch representative for West Texas Utilities. His work with 4-H, stock shows, and local football touched many young lives.

- Must be a high school senior in Texas who exhibited livestock
- Preference given to members of the Junior Hereford Association





Wilburn H. "Blue" Denham Memorial Scholarship

The Wilburn H. "Blue" Denham Memorial Scholarship is in honor of a long-time Abilene resident. Mr. Denham, a chartered life underwriter and agent in Abilene from '47 until 2000, served as president of the greater Abilene Kiwanis. As a Texas A&M graduate (class of '40), Mr. Denham was dedicated to promoting area agriculture by encouraging youth in agriculture/conservation practices. Mr. Denham served as president of the Abilene Livestock Show Association and chaired the Education Committee and Agriculture Committee of the Abilene Chamber of Commerce.

- Abilene High or Cooper student planning to attend Texas A&M
- Contact Abilene A&M club for application





Winters Area Foundation Community Scholarship Fund

Winters high graduating senior in the top 25% of graduating class who has attended Winters High for the past two years.

- Winters High graduating senior
- Be in the top 25% of graduating class
- Attended Winters High for the past two years





Winters Area Foundation Endowed Scholarship Fund – Alumni

Scholarship for Winters alumni.

Eligibility Criteria:

• Winters Alumni currently enrolled in college.





Winters Area Red Raider Scholarship Fund (WARR)

This scholarship opportunity is offered by the Winters Red Raider Club for Winters ISD graduating seniors attending Texas Tech University.

Eligibility Criteria:

• Winters High graduating senior who plans to attend Texas Tech University





Zach Moore Memorial Scholarship Fund

The Zach Moore Memorial Scholarship Fund was established by his family to honor the memory of Zach Moore, a Panther Creek student who died in June 1992 due to an accident at a railroad crossing in Coleman, Texas. Zach Moore was a musician. Motivated by the support of his parents, Wayne and Terri Moore, Zach began to play drums at the early age of two and learned the fiddle at thirteen. Zach's mother recalls, "Zach's friends were of all ages; he loved music and the outdoors. He believed in people and in himself. His smile came from within, which is what made it so beautiful. If time were measured in quality, number of lives touched or joy spread, Zach would have been a very old man when he was taken from us." His memory will live on through the Zach Moore Memorial Scholarship.

- Be a student at Coleman High or Panther Creek High
- Attended for the last 3 years





Zach Robinson Memorial Scholarship Fund

This memorial scholarship fund was established to honor Zach Robinson ('86-2006), a Cooper High school graduate who loved sports, especially golf and snow skiing. His life was filled with the joys of music and guitar. Zach Robinson's life will be remembered with each scholarship award from this memorial fund.

- Attended Abilene High or Cooper High
- Attended for at least 3 years
- Have exhibited sustained interest in golf and/or choir during their high school years

