



2020 Scholarship and Distinguished Alumni Celebration

*Honoring the donors and recipients
of South Plains College Endowed Scholarships and our
Distinguished Alumni honorees*

November 5, 2020
<https://portal.stretchinternet.com/spcadmin/>



Scholarship Banquet
November 5, 2020
6:00 p.m.
PROGRAM

Event Welcome Julie Gerstenberger
Director of Development and Alumni Relations
South Plains College

College Welcome Dr. Robin Satterwhite
President, South Plains College
SPC Distinguished Alumnus 2013
SPC Class of 1990

Donor Appreciation Juan Ortiz
Wheeler First to College Impact Scholarship
Petersburg, TX

Introduction of 2020 Distinguished Alumni honoree, Mr. Terry Hill Stephanie Smith
Alumni Coordinator
South Plains College
SPC Class of 2011

Acceptance by Mr. Hill Terry Hill
SPC Class of 1980

Introduction of 2020 Distinguished Alumni honoree, Mrs. Dereesa Reid Stephanie Smith

Acceptance and Keynote Address by Mrs. Reid Dereesa Reid
SPC Class of 1981

Student Success Story Willard Norman
SPC Culinary
Lubbock, TX

Closing Julie Gerstenberger

2020 Scholarship Recipients

Academic Promise Scholarship

The Academic Promise Scholarship recognizes an outstanding student majoring in sociology or psychology at South Plains College. The scholarship was established in 2019 by Jana and Loy Daniel of Brownfield, Texas, and Brant Farrar of Lubbock, Texas. Both Loy and Jana are SPC alumni as is Brant, Jana's son. In addition, Jana Daniel and Brant Farrar are professors at SPC teaching Sociology in the Behavioral Science Department. The scholarship was named because of the promise that SPC makes to support the success of students, the promise of Loy, Jana and Brant to support the success of students through the proceeds of the scholarship and the promise of the students who receive the scholarship funds to work to be successful in their course of study.

Recipient.....Barbara Swopes

Weldon Adams Scholarship

This scholarship was established in honor of Weldon Adams by members of the Independent Insurance Agents of Lubbock. Mr. Adams was a long-time member of the association and a leader in the insurance industry in the South Plains region. The scholarship assists a student majoring in business.

Recipient.....Hannah Parker

Altrusa Club of Lubbock Jewell Foster Memorial Scholarship

The Altrusa Club of Lubbock has established the Jewell Foster Memorial Scholarship in memory of a beloved long-time member. Ms. Foster was a public school teacher, guidance counselor and vocational education coordinator in the Lubbock Independent School District. She served as a vocational counselor for South Plains College's Lubbock Main Street Campus for eight years after retiring from LISD. Altrusa is an international organization that provides opportunities for its members to make the local community better through leadership, partnership and service. The scholarship recognizes an outstanding student in an SPC technical education program.

Recipient.....Kendra Marroquin

Daryl and Sammie Anderson Scholarship

Mr. and Mrs. Anderson owned and operated Anderson Grain Company in Levelland prior to his retirement. Mr. Anderson passed away in 2017. Mrs. Anderson now resides in Lakeway, Texas

Recipient.....Alexander Wells

Marvin and Mildred Baker Scholarship

This scholarship program honors the second president and first lady of South Plains College, who served the college from 1961 to his retirement in 1994. Much of the college's early growth and expansion into a multi-location community college was the result of Dr. Baker's leadership. Mrs. Baker died in 1995, and Dr. Baker died in 2018.

**RecipientsMicah Burns
Nathan Fletcher
Gabriella Ghandour
Scarlett Gonzalez
John Hibbard
John Hollis
Dayton Pedigo**

J.B. Balch Memorial Science Scholarship

This scholarship program was established by the widow, children and family of J.B. Balch who taught geology in the Science Department at SPC from 1966-1982, capping a 35-year teaching career. While at SPC, he was selected by his peers to receive the Excellence in Teaching Award. Professor Balch died in 2003.

Recipient.....Breklin Davis

E.M. Barnes Family Scholarship

The E.M. Barnes Memorial Scholarship honors a Levelland community leader and one of the original members of the South Plains College Board of Regents, who served from 1957-63. The scholarship was established by the Barnes Family children.

Recipient.....Ben Bowman

Delbert Barry K-Bar Texas Electric Scholarship

This scholarship honors Delbert Barry who owned and operated K-Bar Texas Electric Company in Levelland

until his retirement in 1997. The scholarship was established by his wife Nancy Bryant Barry and son Donny Barry following his death in 2001.

Recipients Taylor Chavez

Jerry and Mary Beth Barton Scholarship

This scholarship honors Jerry Barton who graduated from SPC in 1961 and returned in 1969 to teach mid-management. He later served as registrar and dean of students, retiring in 1999 with 30 years of service. He died a short time later. Barton is credited with providing exemplary service to thousands of SPC students through the student services program. Mrs. Barton, his widow, resides in San Antonio. His son Dr. Scott Barton is an alumnus of SPC who practices dentistry.

Recipient.....Caden Arnold

Jerry and Vanneta Beach Family Scholarship

The Beach Family Scholarship honors the memory of Vanneta Beach and celebrates the other family members. Mr. Jerry Beach and family established this endowment for the benefit of students in the associate degree nursing and licensed vocational nursing programs to encourage in future nurses the level of excellent care Mrs. Beach received during her fight with ALS, often referred to as Lou Gehrig's Disease. Mrs. Vanneta Beach passed away on September 27, 2011.

Recipient.....Kalei Ellis

Bob Beck Chemistry Scholarship

This scholarship honors Bob Beck, professor of chemistry. Professor Beck joined the SPC faculty in the fall of 1959. He taught 37 years in the Science Department, which included 15 years as department chairperson. He retired in 1996. Professor Beck was named to receive the Faculty Excellence Award in 1969. Through the generosity of Science Department faculty, former students and friends, the scholarship program was endowed in 2008.

Recipient.....Breklin Davis

2020 Scholarship Recipients

Bell Family Scholarship

Paula Bell was a founding faculty member of the computer information systems program. She taught 34 years at SPC before retiring in 1994. She has served as a member of the Board of Directors of the South Plains College Foundation and resides in Littlefield.

Recipient.....Jonah Trevino

Jill Berset Tech Prep Scholarship

This scholarship was established by Dr. Alice White in honor of Jill Berset who served as director of the South Plains Tech Prep Partnership for more than 20 years. Mrs. Berset now serves as Director of Career and Technical Education for the Lubbock Independent School District. Dr. White is a former member of the South Plains College Foundation Board of Directors.

Recipient.....Shelby Scifres

Wayne Black Memorial Scholarship

The Wayne Black Memorial Scholarship has been established by his parents, Rex and Carita Black of Levelland, with support from family members and many friends. Wayne was a student at SPC at the time of his death.

Recipient.....Jacob Dawson

Cindy Caswell Blessen Memorial Scholarship Programs

These two scholarship programs were established by the Blessen and Caswell families of Levelland in memory of their wife, mother and daughter. Cindy Blessen who was a 1976 graduate of SPC. While a student, she performed with the traveling musical group "The Baker's Dozen." She devoted her career to teaching music to others. She died in 2008.

Cindy Caswell Blessen Memorial Scholarship in Education

**RecipientsTyler Cortez
Samantha Hardin**

Cindy Caswell Blessen Memorial Scholarship in Music

**RecipientsJimmie Cook
Katie Williams**

Bliss Family Scholarship

Tony and Tess Bliss established this scholarship for the benefit of students planning to enter the field of medicine with special attention to those who are the first in their families to attend college. The Bliss family also appreciates the high quality of SPC's technical and vocational programs, so a second preference for their scholarship is for a student in one of these programs.

Recipient..... Elena Castaneda

Etta Charlene Blume Memorial Scholarship

The Etta Charlene Blume Scholarship was established by Phelps and Dianne Blume of Levelland in memory of Mr. Blume's mother who taught for 25 years in public schools in Amherst and Sudan. She taught first through sixth grades and also served as an assistant to the Amherst High girls basketball coach before leaving teaching to raise her family. Mrs. Blume placed a great emphasis on education and was the first in her family to graduate college. Phelps Blume has worked as a certified public accountant in Levelland for the past 30 years and is a partner in the firm of Myatt and Blume. Mrs. Blume is a homemaker who is also a seamstress and quilt-maker. The scholarship is awarded to an outstanding student who is majoring in accounting or finance.

Recipient.....Marissa Longoria

Carroll and Marcie Bowen Scholarship

The Montgomery Foundation helped establish the Carroll and Marcie Bowen Scholarship program. Mr. Bowen served as manager of the Double U Ranch in Hockley County and served many years on the SPC Foundation Board of Directors. Mrs. Bowen has been a generous contributor to the scholarship fund and continued her husband's service to the Foundation as a member of the Foundation Board of Directors and past secretary to the board.

**RecipientsBenjamin Broussard
Jason Bureson
Holly Deavours
Hailey Garcia
Tiffany Medina
Abby Rodriguez**

Helen and Karl Brandt Memorial Scholarship

Ms. Liz Brandt established the Helen and Karl Brandt Memorial Scholarship in memory of her parents. The Brandts believed in a strong work ethic, in reading and in learning. This program assists non-traditional age students entering college for the first time.

**RecipientsCasey Glass
Kendra Marroquin**

J. Murrell Brown Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship fund was established by Mike Worley in memory of J. Murrell Brown, who operated one of the first welding shops in Levelland, Murrell's Welding Works. Mr. Worley got his start in the welding industry working for Brown and his associate O.M. "Rube" Morris. Brown, who also operated several other businesses in Levelland, died in 1987. Mr. Worley owns and operates Worley Welding Works in Levelland.

Recipient.....Julio Gomez

Judy Bryant Honorary Scholarship in Physical Education

This scholarship fund honors Judy Bryant who taught physical education at SPC for 42 years. Mrs. Bryant retired from SPC in 2011 as professor and chairperson of the Physical Education Department. The scholarship program was established by the Bryants, their son Scott, and numerous family members and friends. Mrs. Bryant serves on the SPC Foundation Board of Directors.

**RecipientsKaleb Flick
Nathaniel Montes**

Harley and Anne Bulls Fine Arts Scholarship

Harley and Anne Bulls are the founding faculty for the music program at SPC. Mrs. Bulls retired in 1984 as one of the college's original faculty members with 26 years of service. Mr. Bulls taught 21 years in the Fine Arts Department and served as department chairperson 11 of those years. He retired in 1980. The creation of this scholarship is a great testament to the influence of these two fine educators.

2020 Scholarship Recipients

As a student at South Plains College, Vickie Wilks Wisian studied music with the Bulls and they were a valuable part of her life. Vickie and her late husband, Elroy Wisian established the scholarship fund in recognition of the Bulls' lifelong career of inspiring students in the fine arts.

Recipient..... Carlos Olvera

Donald Caddell Memorial Scholarship in Law Enforcement

The family of the late Donald Caddell established this endowment to assist an SPC student majoring in law enforcement. Mr. Caddell was a lifelong resident of Hockley County and served for 28 years with the Hockley County Sheriff's Department, rising through the ranks as a deputy for five years, chief deputy for 15 years and then as sheriff from 1996 until his retirement in 2004. The scholarship is open to any student in Hockley County and the surrounding counties who is interested in a career in law enforcement.

Recipient..... Yzena Castaneda Hinojosa

Capital Farm Credit Scholarship

The Capital Farm Credit Scholarship was chartered in 2006 by Chris Roberts, then president of First Ag Credit Levelland to benefit a student majoring in agriculture. The company's name changed in 2008 and the fund reached endowment status in 2010 via a generous donation from then Capital Farm Credit president Jason Swann.

Recipient..... Caleb Behrends

Joe Carr and Alan Munde Bluegrass Scholarship

Former faculty members Joe Carr and Alan Munde have established a scholarship that recognizes an outstanding student who is studying bluegrass music in the commercial music program. Carr and Munde were the founding members of the noted bluegrass band "Country Gazette" prior to joining SPC. Since his retirement, Mr. Munde has re-established the band which is now performing throughout the southwest. Mr. Carr, who taught 30 years at SPC, died in December 2014.

Recipient..... Jade Throneberry

James and Mary Carroll Family Scholarship

The Carroll Family Scholarship was established by the Carrolls to benefit the agriculture program. Mr. Carroll taught many years for SPC in the agriculture program and Mrs. Carroll worked in the SPC Library. The scholarship was originally established to honor their son Jimmy Ray Carroll, who was an SPC graduate and worked for the Radian Corporation at the time of his death. James Carroll died in 2013.

Recipient..... Hadley Albracht

J.O. "Sonny" Chapman Scholarship

This scholarship has been established by Robbie and James Walker of Lubbock in honor of Mrs. Walker's father Sonny Chapman. Mrs. Walker served as a public school teacher and librarian in Lubbock and Levelland. The scholarship is awarded to an outstanding student enrolled in the college's culinary arts program. J.O. "Sonny" Chapman was an agricultural student at Texas Tech in 1946 and 47. He was always a farmer at heart and loved the land. Along with cotton, he planted his fields in peas, pumpkins, tomatoes and watermelons. His family spent many summer afternoons shelling peas and arguing over who would get the prize heart out of the next watermelon. He started his own business, Chapman's Meat Market, in Big Spring, Texas, from 1958 through 1983. He was a very astute and successful businessman. He enjoyed his own farm, never giving that part of his life up until the day he died.

Recipient.....Makayla Cavazos

Cole Family Scholarship

This scholarship program honors a long-time Hockley County family that has supported education and young people in many ways. The Cole Family Scholarship was established by brother and sister Jim Cole and Sue Jo Cole of Levelland. The scholarship fund honors their father and mother, the late Percy and Maude Cole, and their sister, the late Jane Cole and brother, the late John Cole. Mr. Cole serves on the Board of Directors of the South Plains College Foundation.

Recipient.....Miranda Montoya

Rodney Collins Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship program was established by the friends, co-workers and family of Rodney Collins who worked at the Lubbock County Court Residential Treatment Center at the time of his death in 2006. SPC provides the educational program at the center and faculty members there organized a number of fundraising events to endow the program. Mr. Collins worked with residents in recovery and was known for his compassion and commitment.

Recipient.....Jeffrey Peoples

M.B. and Glea Conatser Memorial Scholarship

The M.B. and Glea Conatser Memorial Scholarship program was established by Mrs. Glea Conatser in memory of her husband who served the Levelland community in the insurance industry. Even though Mr. Conatser only completed the 9th grade, he was an avid supporter of public education and encouraged many young students to complete high school and helped others attend college. Mr. Conatser died in 1976 and Mrs. Conatser died in 2008.

Recipient.....Reanne De Souza

Donna Cook Paxton Memorial and Larry Cook Honorary Scholarship

The children of Eddie Paxton established this scholarship after Mrs. Donna Paxton's passing in 2017 in order to pay tribute to her brother's career in higher education. Mr. Larry Cook was a professor of English at West Texas A&M University in Canyon for approximately thirty years, after which he retired and moved to Kerrville, TX. The award benefits a student majoring in Education and has a preference for those planning to teach English.

Recipient.....Chloe Dorsett

Kelsi Cook Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship was established by Danny and Marla Cook in memory of their daughter Kelsi who was a junior at Cooper High School at the time of her death in 2001. The scholarship benefits a student who is majoring in agriculture at SPC.

Recipient.....Edwin York

2020 Scholarship Recipients

Joe Ed and Juanita Crawford Scholarship

The Joe Ed and Juanita Crawford Scholarship has been established by Mrs. Crawford in memory of her husband Joe Ed. The Crawfords owned and operated Crawford Equipment/GMC Truck/Allis Chalmers dealership for many years. Mrs. Crawford's association with South Plains College goes back to the early 1960s when she had a sewing shop in Levelland and hand-sewed uniforms for the Texan Cheerleaders and the TexAnn Drill Team.

Recipient.....Kaitlyn Neal

Maggie Davidson Memorial Scholarship in Graphic Design

This endowment was established to honor the memory of Maggie Davidson whose life was tragically ended at the age of 30 as a result of an automobile accident with a drunk driver. The youngest child of SPC faculty member Paul Davidson and his wife Becky, Maggie grew up in Levelland and graduated from South Plains College with an associate of applied science degree in graphic arts, formerly graphic design. She worked for Elite Sign and Design in Lubbock prior to her death. Maggie had friends all around the world in part because of her activity in the online creative community of web comic artists and gamers. This scholarship benefits a student majoring in graphic arts.

Recipient.....Jennikah Jackson

Jim and Ramona Davis Honorary Ag Products Scholarship

This scholarship fund benefiting students in the agriculture program honors Jim and Ramona Davis who operated Ag Products for 40 years in Levelland. The scholarship endowment was established by Ronny and Suanne Alexander in honor of Mrs. Alexander's parents. Mr. Alexander serves as a member of the South Plains College Board of Regents.

Recipient.....Caden Arnold

Delta Kappa Gamma Education Scholarship

This scholarship program was established by the Theta Epsilon Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International to support students pursuing a career as teachers. The society promotes excellence among women professionals in the field of education.

Recipient.....Dayley Mosley

Derl DeArmond Memorial Scholarship

The Derl A. DeArmond Memorial Scholarship was established by the DeArmond Family in memory of their son. Derl studied Computer Science in the early 1980s when the floppy disk was in the design stage. Because he died at age 19 and did not realize his college dream, the family has chosen to give young people an opportunity to realize their dream in this field.

Recipient.....Kristi Carlson

Marty Demel Memorial Scholarship

Established to support students in the electronics technology specialty track of the industrial manufacturing emerging technologies program, this scholarship endowment honors the memory of SPC alumnus Marty Demel and was created by his wife, Mrs. Dana Demel. After graduating from South Plains College, Mr. Demel spent his entire professional career working in the field of electronics, including starting his own business A-Kilowatt Electric.

Recipient.....Lance Willard

Nolan Demel Memorial Scholarship

The family and friends of Nolan Demel have established a scholarship program to honor this young man's life. This scholarship program has a special story in that Nolan's classmates in the National Honor Society at Whiteface High School and the Whiteface community raised more than \$12,000 to help endow the scholarship. The Lafayette and Nancy Demel family has a long association with the college as former students.

Recipient.....Esmeralda Espinoza

John P. Dickson Memorial Scholarship in Agriculture

John P. Dickson served South Plains College as tax assessor-collector and later as the college's business manager. Mr. Dickson retired from SPC in 1993 with 31 years of service. He died in 2008. The scholarship program was established by his widow Lunette Dickson who taught business at SPC for 24 years and retired in 1993 as chairperson of the Business Administration Department.

Recipient.....Sarah Valdez

Dorothy Lunette Dickson Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship was established by Mary Lu (Dickson) Grappe of Levelland and Linda Dickson of Carrollton in honor of their mother's 24 years of service as a faculty member at South Plains College. Lunette Dickson retired from SPC in 1993 as professor of business administration. During her 16-year tenure as chairperson of the Business Administration Department, the department experienced its greatest growth and expansion in programs, students and technology. Mrs. Dickson died in 2019. The scholarship program recognizes an outstanding student in the business administration program.

Recipient.....Brittanni Ford

Diesel Service Technology Program Scholarship

Spearheaded by the leadership of retired SPC Diesel Service Technology program coordinator Whitney Owens, the funds for this scholarship were raised by Diesel Service Technology program students. Since 2006, Mr. Owens facilitated the students' participation in fundraisers like a paintball activity at SPC's annual community Halloween Carnival and the collection and sale of scrap metal. With countless coffee cans of coins and cash over the years, the dedication to the project paid off in 2018 when their savings finally totaled \$10,000. This scholarship benefits a sophomore in the Diesel Service Technology program who is pursuing an Associate of Applied Science degree or certificate of proficiency.

Recipient.....Cody Powe

2020 Scholarship Recipients

P.O. and Rafaela Dominguez Memorial Scholarship

P.O. Dominguez served South Plains College many years in the college's Grounds Department. The scholarship program was established by his children, Henry Dominguez, Cathy Rios, Juanita Cruz, Geneva Gomez, John Dominguez and friends of the family. Henry Dominguez serves on the SPC Foundation Board of Directors.
Recipient.....Breclin Davis

Amy Lynn Drennan Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship endowment was established by Chad and Jody Drennan of Levelland, Texas in memory of Mr. Drennan's sister who died in March 2010. Prior to a life-changing accident at age 14 that left her disabled for 20 years, Amy had planned to attend South Plains College to study to become a public school teacher, specializing in deaf education. Because of Mr. Drennan's 20 years of service in the U.S. Air Force, the scholarship also recognizes a student who is a military veteran.

Recipient.....Julie Chavez

Royce Elam Memorial Scholarship

The Royce Elam Memorial Scholarship program has been made possible by family and friends. Mr. Elam served more than 30 years with the Whiteface School District, retiring as business manager. This industrious family hosted a golf tournament for many years to raise funds for the scholarship program.

Recipient.....Karigen Garza

Neal and Carolyn Ellis Scholarship

This scholarship fund honors the memory of Neal Ellis who owned and operated Neal Ellis Pharmacy in Levelland, continuing his father's legacy of what was originally Ellis Pharmacy. The business operated for more than 50 years in Levelland. Mr. Ellis supported SPC and education through his advocacy of learning, passion for helping others and his belief that all persons have the freedom to think, speak and pursue their dreams. The scholarship fund was established

by his wife Carolyn Ellis and children and benefits students majoring in pre-pharmacy at SPC.

**RecipientsBetzabe Lopez
Abigail Sexton**

Spencer and Irene Ellis Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship honors the memory of Spencer and Irene Ellis, early Levelland settlers who owned and operated Ellis Pharmacy from 1926 until their retirement in the 1970s. Mrs. Ellis' career began as a loan officer with First National Bank in Levelland and later she helped manage the pharmacy. Mr. Ellis served as Mayor of Levelland when South Plains College was founded in 1957. The scholarship was established by Ellis' grandson Richard and his wife Carrie. Richard is a member of the SPC Board of Regents.

**Recipient.....Jose Ibarra
William Sollis
Jaiven Thompson**

Max Evans Western Swing Scholarship

This scholarship was established by the friends of Max Evans, a native of Ropesville, Texas, who is best known as an author, screen writer and working cowboy. Mr. Evans is best known for his screenplay for the 1956 movie "The Rounders," starring Glenn Ford and Henry Fonda, and 1998 film "The Hi-Lo Country," starring Woody Harrelson and Patricia Arquette. Mr. Evans has written numerous novels and short stories about the American Southwest. His widow Pat resides in Albuquerque, N.M.

Recipient.....Bobby Gibson

W. V. and Mattie Muriel Felker Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship honors Dr. Mike Felker's parents who were highly successful business leaders in Haskell, Texas. Mr. Felker owned and operated a men's clothing store until his death in 1986, and Mrs. Felker owned and operated a high-fashion women's clothing store with her sister for 55 years. This scholarship program benefits working adults who are returning to college.

Dr. Felker is former chairperson of the English Department at SPC and retired in 2010.

**RecipientsSusan Fleming
D.F. Roberts**

Free the Music Foundation Scholarship

The Free the Music Scholarship program was established by SPC alumnus Jerrod Niemann, who has made a name for himself as a country music songwriter and recording artist. The scholarship is named for Niemann's nonprofit foundation Free The Music USA. Born out of his deeply rooted belief that every child deserves the opportunity to explore music within themselves, Mr. Niemann helps place instruments in the hands of children who could not otherwise afford them and also makes spontaneous and varied donations to charities. Mr. Niemann donated his time and talent to serve as the featured entertainer at the 2016 SPC Scholarship Gala. The scholarship is awarded to an outstanding commercial music, sound technology or video production major in the Creative Arts Department.

Recipient.....Vincent Deleon

Mary Jane Frescaz Memorial Scholarship

The Mary Jane Frescaz Memorial Scholarship was established by the family and friends of Mrs. Frescaz who died December 2013. Mrs. Frescaz grew up in Levelland and worked as an office manager for Allied Oilfield Services. Her husband Manuel Frescaz initiated the scholarship program in 2014. Mrs. Frescaz had a love for literature and reading.

Recipient.....Randy Garcia

Michael Frescaz Memorial Scholarship

The family and friends of Michael Frescaz have established a scholarship fund in memory of Michael who was a student at SPC at the time of his death. His parents, Manuel and the late Mary Jane Frescaz and other family members generously supported the scholarship and have permanently endowed the fund.

Recipient.....Isaias Lopez

2020 Scholarship Recipients

Gage Thompson Memorial Scholarship

Established by Connie and Jim Belcher, this scholarship honors the memory of Connie's parents. Her father, Elmer Lee Roy Thompson married the love of his life, Gloria Jeanne Gage, on Aug. 16, 1945. They were married for almost 64 years before her death in 2009. To honor her father's unique abilities and work ethic, the focus of the scholarship is on those SPC programs which require "hands-on" work. The first preference for the scholarship recipient is for a student who has earned a General Education Diploma (GED) and the second preference is for a student who has earned an Honorable Discharge from any branch of the United States military.

Recipient.....Cassandra Garza

Cindy Garcia Memorial Scholarship in Respiratory Care

This scholarship program remembers Cindy Garcia, a graduate of SPC who served 17 years as a lead respiratory therapist with University Medical Center in Lubbock. The scholarship program was initiated by Dr. Cynthia Jumper, professor and chairperson of Internal Medicine and Associate Dean of Human Services Management at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, and was also funded by the UMC Foundation.

Recipient.....Jessica Archer

Earl and June Gerstenberger Scholarship

The Gerstenbergers helped start South Plains College. Earl was a member of the college's original faculty hired in 1958. In his 35 years with the college, he served as an instructor and chairperson of the Agriculture Department, dean of men, dean of students and vice president for Student Affairs and Administration. June worked 28 years with the college, retiring from the Business Office as administrative assistant for Financial Services. The college established the Earl and June Gerstenberger Scholarship upon their retirement and the Gerstenberger family and friends have contributed

generously to this scholarship fund which is now endowed.

Recipient.....Ryder Ross

Helen Grappe Graf Memorial Scholarship in Design Communications

The Pat Grappe and Dave Graf families of Levelland have established this scholarship in memory of Helen Grappe Graf who was a graduate of SPC's Design Communications program. Mrs. Graf was a lifelong resident of Levelland and an accomplished quilter. She died in 2010.

**Recipient..... Whitney Busby
Brandi Day
Brandon Depper
Esaiiah Rodriguez**

William Thomas Green Memorial Scholarship

Established to support students majoring in Physical Education, this scholarship honors the life of Will Green. A graduate of Levelland High School and Texas Tech University, Will was an accomplished coach and judge of USA Gymnastics. Will was named a Master of Sport by the organization, which is their highest honor. He was owner of Sports Academy and one of the head coaches of the Acrospirits Trampoline Team in Levelland where, along with his mother Sherry Mulkey, he successfully coached a team member as an alternate to the 2012 Olympics.

Recipient.....Andres Valdez Alanis

H. D. Gregory Memorial Scholarship in Welding

Family and friends of H.D. Gregory helped establish an endowed scholarship in memory of Mr. Gregory who operated South Plains Welding Supply in Levelland for many years.

Recipient.....Leslie Darlin

Randy and Candy Hall Academic Scholarship

The Halls, who reside in McKinney and are alumni of South Plains College, have established a general scholarship program that benefits an incoming freshman student who has graduated from a Christian/private or home school.

Recipient..... Luke Middleton

Tom T. and Dixie Hall Commercial Music Scholarship

Country music legend and storyteller Tom T. Hall has been associated with the SPC commercial music program since 1979 when he brought a Nashville film crew to Levelland to produce a mini-documentary on the country and bluegrass music program. Eight years later SPC celebrated Tom T. Hall Day and the opening of the Tom T. Hall Production Center. Proceeds from a benefit concert featuring Hall and SPC faculty resulted in the Tom T. and Dixie Hall Scholarship.

Recipient.....Landon Watkins

Larry Harder Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship endowment recognizes Larry Harder, a Levelland community leader and insurance business owner who died in July 2005. Mr. Harder was very active in the Texan Booster Club at SPC and served on a number of community boards. The scholarship was established by Mr. and Mrs. Dee Macha and other colleagues who worked with Mr. Harder.

Recipient.....Michael Pompa

Fred and Bettye Harris Memorial Scholarship

The Fred and Bettye Harris Scholarship program benefits a student majoring in music or the fine arts. Fred Harris served many years as director of development at SPC and secretary-treasurer of the SPC Foundation.

Recipient.....Samuel Orta

Winnie Harrison Memorial Nursing Scholarship

This scholarship fund benefiting students in the vocational nursing program was established by Mrs. Harrison's daughter Joy Pearce of Levelland. Mrs. Harrison, a graduate of SPC's vocational nursing program, practiced nursing many years at St. Mary of the Plains Hospital in Lubbock and Covenant Hospital in Levelland. She died in 2010 at age 95.

Recipient.....Ashley Peralta

2020 Scholarship Recipients

Barry and René Heard Scholarship

The Heards, who have a long-time association with South Plains College, have established an endowed scholarship program that assists an incoming student. Mr. Heard, who grew up in the Whitharral community, has farmed in Hockley County for many years. The Heard's two children attended SPC, and Mrs. Heard retired from South Plains College with 22 years of service. She passed away in 2014.

Recipient.....Adamari Calderon

R. L. and Louise Heard Memorial Scholarship

The R.L. and Louise Heard Memorial Scholarship was established by Mrs. Heard just prior to her death. The Heards were strong supporters of South Plains College from its early years. Mr. Heard, who farmed in the Whitharral area, was an election judge for the college for many years and also served on the Whitharral School Board. Mrs. Heard was a teacher for many years with Whitharral schools. She was among the first evening college students to enroll at SPC when it opened in 1958.

Recipient.....Erin Tienda

Jeanie L. Henager Memorial Scholarship in Associate Degree Nursing

This scholarship honors the memory of Jeanie Henager who was a registered nurse and taught 15 years in SPC's associate degree nursing program before her death in 2003. The scholarship program was established by her sister Mrs. Virginia Doster of Amarillo and her brother Al Henager of Little Rock, Ark.

Recipient.....Leigh Galvan

Stephen and Pat Henry Scholarship

This scholarship fund provides a general college scholarship and was established by Stephen and Pat Henry of Levelland. The Henrys are publishers of the *Levelland & Hockley County News-Press* and are noted leaders in the business community. Mr. Henry is a former member of the Board of Directors of the South Plains College Foundation.

Recipient.....Luke Martin

Hill Family Scholarship

Terry Hill and his wife Shari created this scholarship endowment to support students majoring in science. Mr. Hill graduated from South Plains College in 1980 and went on to achieve significant success as a chemical distribution consultant and executive advisor. Prior to forming Apex Distribution Consulting in 2015, he guided the development and execution of commercialization strategy at Univar, where he held leadership roles as president of U.S. field operations, chief commercial officer, and executive vice president of industry relations. Mr. Hill credits SPC and its faculty and staff for encouraging him to excel in science and challenging him to become a better student and develop a passion for learning.

**Recipient.....Hannah Beadles
Elena Castaneda**

Linda Kay Hines Memorial Scholarship

To honor their daughter's association with the Theatre program at SPC, the Glen and Sue Hines family has established a memorial scholarship fund in her memory. As a student here, Linda was involved in several theatre productions and studied under former theatre professor Helen Roberts. The family hopes to engender Linda's love of the theatre in the lives of the scholarship recipients while paying tribute to a very special faculty member.

Recipient.....Paisley Thomas

Hockley County 4-H Club Adult Leaders Scholarship

The Hockley County 4-H Adult Leaders Association has established a scholarship that assists a former 4-H club member who attends SPC.

Recipient.....Emily Robinson

Hockley County Junior Livestock Show Scholarship

The Hockley County Junior Livestock Show Executive Board has established a scholarship program to support incoming freshman students who have participated in the livestock show as an exhibitor at least during the senior year of high school.

Recipient.....Emily Robinson

Hockley County School Employees Credit Union Scholarship

The board of directors of the Hockley County School Employees Credit Union have established an endowed scholarship that benefits the children of credit union shareholders.

**RecipientsKylie Corbin
Neely Cross**

Dan and Carolyn Hook Honorary Scholarship

This scholarship program was established by Dan and Carolyn Hook of Levelland to provide tuition and fee assistance for a student who is enrolled in the vocational nursing program.

**Recipient.....Scarlett Davis
Andrea Legaria**

Frank Hunt Technical Scholarship

This scholarship honors Frank Hunt, who served 28 years as dean of the Technical Education Division at SPC. Under his leadership, the division grew from 12 technical programs and faculty in 1967 to more than 40 programs with 70 faculty members when he retired in 1995. He is credited with developing the SPC technical education program into the excellent program it is today.

Recipient.....Sarah Jones

Lynn C. and Sarah A. Ivy Scholarship

This scholarship was established by the family of Lynn C. Ivy who worked in many phases of the oil industry. Mr. Ivy died in 2003 and his widow Sarah (Toni) Ivy created the scholarship fund that benefits students who major in the associate of arts in teaching program at SPC.

Recipient.....Helen Rios

Richard James Scholarship

Richard James taught mathematics at South Plains College for 43 years before retiring as a professor of mathematics in 2010. Colleagues and former students established the scholarship fund to recognize his service and impact as a master teacher.

Recipient.....Laura Ortega

2020 Scholarship Recipients

Jim R. and J.L. Jenkins Memorial Scholarship in Agriculture

The Jim R. & J.L. Jenkins Agriculture Scholarship program was established by the late Jim and Mrs. Jenkins and family in honor of his father. Before his death in 2013, Jim Jenkins served as an agriculture professor at SPC for 45 years.

Recipient.....Stock Martin

Homer, Ruth and Justin Johnson Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship program was established in 1988 by the Johnson children, in memory of their father and in honor of their mother. Homer Johnson owned and operated Homer Johnson Oil and Butane, marketing Phillips Petroleum products for 50 years. He and his wife Ruth were respected community leaders. Mrs. Johnson died in 2005. The endowed scholarship also honors a grandson, Justin Johnson, who died in 2009.

Recipient.....Eli Alarid

John Jordan Memorial Scholarship

A beloved son, brother, nephew and grandson, John Edward Jordan found his fit in the SPC diesel service technology program. To honor this excellent program and to pay tribute to the memory of John, his parents Mark and Katy Ehlo started supporting diesel service technology students almost immediately after John's passing in 2013. What began as a donated set of tools became regular and significant Impact Scholarships and, in 2016, Mr. and Mrs. Ehlo created the endowment. John was known as being loyal, friendly, kindhearted, respectful, determined and hard working. These are the qualities the successful recipient of this scholarship will demonstrate in their studies at SPC.

Recipient.....Rene Larrea

Johnnie Keen Memorial Scholarship

The Johnnie Keen Memorial Scholarship was chartered in 2000. Mr. Keen served on the SPC Board of Regents for 24 years during which he served as secretary of the board for a number of years before being elected chairperson in 1987. He retired from the Board in May, 1994 but remained

active in the community until his death in 2000. The scholarship was established through the donations of many family members and friends.

Recipient.....Bryce Gersbach

Las Fidelis Study Club Scholarship

The Las Fidelis Study Club has been providing scholarships for young women to attend South Plains College for more than 60 years. The club officially chartered the scholarship endowment in 2011 in recognition of their 65th Anniversary as a service organization chartered with the United States Federation of Women's Clubs.

Recipient.....Jennifer Prado

James and Sycily Lattimore Family Scholarship

The James Lattimore Family has established an endowed scholarship. Mr. Lattimore was an educator in the Levelland public schools for many years. His wife Sycily Lattimore, who was a member of the SPC Foundation Board of Directors for 30 years, was a retired professor of business at SPC. She passed away in 2015.

**RecipientsJavier Rios
Alexia Taylor**

George and Carole Lawless Honorary Scholarship

This scholarship fund was established by the children of George and Carole Lawless. Mr. Lawless served as professor and coordinator of the law enforcement program at South Plains College for 28 years, retiring in 1999. Mrs. Lawless served as director of nursing for Cook Memorial Hospital and later managed an assisted living center. The scholarship program assists students majoring in law enforcement and allied health.

Recipient.....Rebekkah Delgado

Levelland Marigolds Scholarship

The Levelland Marigolds is a women's service organization dedicated to the betterment of the Levelland community. The club has established an endowed scholarship that is awarded to a female graduate of Levelland High School.

Recipient.....Erin Tienda

Levelland Noon Lions Club

With a long history of serving the community in various ways, the members of the Levelland Noon Lions Club began donating to scholarships at South Plains College in 2011 and were able to establish a full endowment in 2014. This scholarship benefits a graduate of Levelland High School and considers both academic achievement and financial need among its requirements.

Recipient.....Isaias Lopez

Little Dribblers Basketball Scholarship

Levelland is the national head-quarters for the Little Dribblers Basketball Association. The association has established an endowed scholarship that is awarded to a former Little Dribblers participant to attend SPC. Pat and Cara Phelan of Levelland serve as the association's directors.

Recipient.....Michelle Cruz

Bethany Loper Memorial Scholarship

Bethany Caitlin Loper is described by her mother, Shanna Snyder, as a beautiful soul who never judged anyone but accepted everyone just as they were. Bethany had a very strong faith and love for the Lord and was a fierce and loyal friend. Her two greatest loves were her family and music and she nurtured her love for music by enrolling at SPC in 2012. Tragically, Bethany, along with her best friend Brittney Woolis, lost their lives in a 2013 automobile accident. Both were sophomores at South Plains College. This endowment was created to support those students following in Bethany's footsteps and studying music at SPC.

Recipient.....Jacob Miller

Howard Maddera Memorial Scholarship

Howard Maddera was a respected community leader and the founder of South Plains Community Action Association, a non-profit organization whose mission is to expand the concept of providing opportunities

2020 Scholarship Recipients

and initiatives for individual economic growth. The endowed scholarship program was established by the board of directors of SPCAA and the former American State Bank with additional contributions from family and friends.

Recipients*Kylie Corbin*
Juan Herrera
Marissa Naranjo-Olivares
Hallie Satterwhite

Don Marble Memorial and Nancy Marble Honorary Scholarship

To honor the memory of her father and pay tribute to her mother, Donette Marble chose to create the Don Marble Memorial and Nancy Marble Honorary Scholarship. Mr. Marble was a cotton farmer and leader, serving as president of both the Plains Cotton Gowers and National Cotton Association. In his honor, the scholarship is awarded to a student majoring in agriculture with a preference for those in agribusiness. A former SPC student, Donette earned a spot as a member of the Lady Texan basketball team and went on to play basketball at Texas Tech University. She currently resides in Midland, Texas.

Recipient.....*John Bowen*

Roland Martin Memorial Scholarship

The Roland Martin Memorial Scholarship was established by the Martin family to benefit a student from Sundown. Mr. Martin was the owner and operator of Sundown Meter Service for many years and was a respected businessman in the community.

Recipient.....*Hope Perez*

McCutchin Family Scholarship

The Jim and Susan McCutchin family members have been long-time supporters of South Plains College, our fundraising efforts and our scholarship programs. In a surprise gift at the 2017 SPC Scholarship Gala, the McCutchins fully funded an endowment to benefit virtually any student with a financial need. Joining Jim and Susan McCutchin in establishing the endowment were son Zach McCutchin and his wife, Dayna.

Jim McCutchin owns and operates McCutchin Construction and Zach McCutchin is the owner/operator of ZM Interiors.

Recipient.....*Emily Sanchez*

Gary D. and Kay McDaniel Presidential Scholarship

This scholarship program was established by Dr. and Mrs. McDaniel who served as SPC's third president and first-lady from 1994 until his retirement in 2005. Dr. McDaniel joined SPC in 1992 as vice president for Academic Affairs. Prior to coming to SPC he served as president of Frank Phillips College in Borger and Panola College in Carthage. The McDaniels reside in Longview, Texas.

Recipient.....*Mario Butler*

Richie McDonald Scholarship

This scholarship program was established by Vickie and the late Elroy Wisian to honor Lubbock native and former SPC student Richie McDonald. McDonald studied sound technology at SPC and later performed and recorded as the lead vocalist for the country music group "Lonestar." McDonald launched a solo career as a singer and songwriter in 2007.

Recipient.....*Matthew Green*

Albert and Doris June Melton Scholarship

This scholarship program was established by Stevan and Darlene Melton of Levelland in honor of Mr. Melton's parents. Albert and Doris June grew up in farming families in the Pettiet area of Hockley County. A veteran of WWII, Albert returned to Levelland after the war and worked as a heavy equipment operator until his retirement. Doris June was among the first students to enroll at SPC when it opened in 1958. As a mother of two young children, she was part of a group of women who saw an opportunity to go to college. Mrs. Melton graduated from SPC in 1960 and went on to complete a bachelor's and master's degree at Texas Tech University. She taught 28 years in Levelland public schools before retiring.

Recipient.....*Elizabeth Jimenez*

Charles and Jean Miller Scholarship

This scholarship program recognizes an outstanding pre-engineering major. Mr. Miller served on South Plains College Board of Regents from 1988 to 2013. He worked as an engineer for Amoco for 32 years before retiring and during that time was instrumental in founding the South Plains Chapter API Scholarship program. Mrs. Miller worked 22 years with the Levelland Independent School District as high school registrar.

Recipient.....*Aaron Bien*

David Millsap Memorial Scholarship in Chemistry

Established by faculty of the Science Department, this scholarship honors a former chemistry professor in the department. David Millsap taught 15 years at SPC before his death in 2006. Science Department faculty began contributing to a scholarship fund in his memory in 2012 as way to recognize his exemplary contributions to the educational program of the college. The scholarship reached the permanent endowment level in 2020 and honors an outstanding student in the Science Department.

Recipient.....*Michael Dennis*

Samuel and Juanita Montez Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship was established by the youth of St. Michael's Catholic Church and the family and friends of Samuel Montez, Sr. Mr. Montez, who worked at SPC in the 1970s as a custodian, was an active adult leader of the church's youth program for many years prior to his death in 2001. Five of the Montez's 14 children have attended SPC. Mrs. Juanita Montez passed away in 2020.

Recipient.....*Destiny Perez*

Jim and Mildred Montgomery Accounting Scholarship

This scholarship was established by James and the late Mildred Montgomery of Levelland to assist a student majoring in accounting. Mr. Montgomery served as a member of the SPC Board of Regents from 1996 to 2010. He owned and operated Hockley County Abstract Company for 40 years and is a past Levelland

2020 Scholarship Recipients

City Mayor. Mrs. Montgomery was a former educator who taught home economics for 35 years in public schools in Amarillo and Levelland. Mrs. Montgomery died in 2011 and Mr. Montgomery in 2020.

Recipient.....*Mayra Martinez*

Monta Moore Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship program was established by the principals of the Post-Montgomery Double U Ranch in honor of Mr. Moore who worked 28 years for the Post-Montgomery ranch and farm operations. Mr. Moore died in 2009.

Recipient.....*Makalyn Connor*

Rube Morris Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship, established by Mike Worley and Janna Worley, honors the memory of Otis M. "Rube" Morris, a long-time Hockley County welder who worked with J. Murrell Brown and Murrell's Welding Works in Levelland. Mr. Morris was a mentor to Mr. Worley who owns and operates Worley Welding Works in Levelland.

Recipient.....*Kelton Addison*

John V. and Auvana Morton Scholarship

The scholarship funds were made possible by Mr. and Mrs. John V. Morton of Levelland, longtime supporters of community college education. Mr. Morton, a Levelland businessman, helped to establish SPC as a member of the original SPC Board of Regents from 1957 to 1978.

Recipients*Kollin Bergt
Jaiven Thompson*

Ophelia Quezada Murillo Memorial Nursing Scholarship

The Ophelia Murillo Memorial Scholarship was originally established by the South Plains Rural Health Services, and through the generosity and work of the Quezada family, the scholarship fund reached full endowment status. Mrs. Murillo, who graduated from SPC, was a nurse with the Rural Health Services at the time of her death.

Recipient.....*Madison Haynes*

Thelma Hudson Murphy Memorial Scholarship

A generous bequest through the estate of Thelma Hudson Murphy has established this endowed scholarship program. Thelma Hudson Murphy enjoyed a distinguished career as a professional educator, teaching at Whitharral, Ackerly, Brownfield, Lubbock Monterey, Lubbock Estacado and Jal, N.M. Even after retiring from the classroom, Mrs. Murphy never lost her interest in helping young people seeking to advance their education. This scholarship benefits students who are first-generation college students majoring in English, Spanish or enrolled in SPC's associate of arts in teaching program.

Recipients*Tambria Garcia
Victoria Herrera
Samantha Leyendecker*

Paul and Verna Musslewhite Scholarship

Paul Musslewhite was known as a leader in the community and the oil industry in Hockley County. As an active member of the South Plains Chapter of the American Petroleum Institute, he also was instrumental in establishing the API Scholarship Program at South Plains College. The Musslewhite Family established this scholarship program in honor of their parents Paul and Verna Musslewhite.

Recipients*Sydney Artrip
Azul Arzate
Jaden Clabaugh*

Daniel K. and Susan Nazworth Theatre Arts Scholarship

This endowed scholarship fund honoring SPC theatre arts instructor Dr. Daniel Nazworth and his wife Susan was established through the generosity of John Wilkerson of Lubbock.

Recipient.....*Miranda Melendez*

Kenneth E. Neagle Memorial Scholarship

The Kenneth Neagle Memorial Scholarship was established by members of the South Plains Chapter of the Air Conditioning Contractors of America. Mr. Neagle was known and respected

among Lubbock HVAC contractors for more than 35 years and served on the college's advisory committee for Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Technology.

Recipient.....*Isabel Torres*

Neal Family Scholarship in Sound Technology

A member of the South Plains College faculty since 2004, Chris Neal currently serves as Program Coordinator and Associate Professor of Sound Technology. Together with his wife LuAnn and his parents Dewey W. "Bill" and Louise Neal, the family has established this scholarship to support students pursuing an Associate of Applied Science degree in Sound Technology and students enrolled in a certificate program for Fundamentals of Sound Technology, Sound Technology Enhanced Skills or Sound Reinforcement. The family knows the value of a quality education and through Neal's work at SPC and because several of his children are alumni, the family hopes to help others complete their studies and reach a life changing achievement.

Recipients*Jaxon Burk*

Panhandle Bluegrass and Old Tyme Music Association Scholarship

Members of this Bluegrass Music Association based in Amarillo, Texas, have contributed to a scholarship fund which recognizes outstanding Bluegrass Music students at SPC. The late Herb Mayfield and his wife Dorothy of Dimmit were instrumental in getting this program established.

Recipients*John Hibbard
Heaven Nelson*

Gene and Geneva Parkinson Family Scholarship

Established by a generous bequest, the Parkinson Family Scholarship assists an outstanding student who is studying computer information services or associate degree nursing. Gene Parkinson, who died in June 2009, operated Parkinson Electronics for more than 50 years. Mrs. Geneva Parkinson passed away in 2017.

Recipient.....*Gabriela Longoria*

2020 Scholarship Recipients

Jo Beth Parks Memorial Scholarship

The late Jo Beth Parks served as Hockley County Treasurer and was involved in many community, school and college projects. Friends of Mrs. Parks established a scholarship program in her memory.

Recipient.....Kazzi Spears

Dennis Patton Memorial Endowed Athletic Scholarship

This scholarship honors the memory of Dennis Patton who was a true SPC Texan. Mr. Patton played basketball for the Texans from 1964-66 and was co-captain of the first team to win a WJAC championship. He later served as head coach of the Texans for six seasons from 1974-80. He was serving as a member of the SPC Board of Regents at the time of his death in 2007. The scholarship was made possible by his family and friends. His widow, Linda Patton, has served on the SPC Board of Regents and on the SPC Foundation Board of Directors.

Recipient.....Arick Dominguez

Eddie and Donna Cook Paxton Scholarship

This scholarship program was established by the families of Brett, Keith, Todd and Micah Paxton in memory of their parents Eddie and Donna Paxton who died in 2017. Mr. Paxton was a community leader and real estate developer who began his 48-year career in Levelland in real estate appraising and lending. He co-owned and operated Paxton-Harpole Lumber Company during which he developed his first housing addition to the city. He worked for a time in the insurance industry before establishing Paxton Real Estate in 1976. In 1986, he developed the Ridgecrest housing addition in Levelland. He also served as president of the Levelland Independent School District Board of Trustees for many years. He retired from the real estate brokerage in 2000. Mrs. Paxton worked more than 20 years in the banking industry, where she advanced through the ranks of Continental National Bank in Fort Worth to become the highest ranking

female bank officer in Fort Worth at the time. She remained at the bank until the couple married and she moved to Levelland. The scholarship is awarded to an outstanding business major who has plans to work in real estate, banking or insurance.

Recipient.....Carolynne Sullivan

Buster Payne Memorial Scholarship

Virgil "Buster" Payne was born into a musical family and at an early age began playing fiddle, banjo, mandolin and ukulele. Over his lifetime, he performed with a number of musical groups throughout Eastern New Mexico and the Texas Panhandle, playing fiddle in the style of Bob Wills. This scholarship program was established by his family and friends.

Recipient.....Heaven Nelson

Robert and Joy Pearce Mathematics Scholarship

Robert Pearce, retired professor of mathematics and department chairperson, holds many distinctions at South Plains College. But the one he is most known for is his commitment to helping math and pre-engineering students be successful in all their college endeavors. Mr. Pearce exemplified this credo for 40 years at SPC. He and his wife Joy endowed the Robert and Joy Pearce Scholarship in Mathematics. Mrs. Pearce taught 29 years in public schools, 14 of these years were as a math teacher at Levelland Middle School.

Recipient.....Nicole Worley

Alton C. "Pete" and Charleen Pettiet Honorary Scholarship

This scholarship endowment was established by Bradley Pettiet to honor his parents Alton "Pete" and Charleen Pettiet for their long-time support and involvement in education and especially South Plains College. Mr. Pettiet, a native of Ropesville and graduate of Ropes High School, has served as a member of the SPC Board of Regents since March 1989. The Pettiets have worked in agricultural chemical sales and in agency insurance. Brad Pettiet, a 1978 graduate of SPC, is a practicing attorney in Lubbock.

Recipient.....Coby Holland

Phi Beta Kappa Scholarships

Two scholarship programs were established by Dr. Alice White in honor of fellow Phi Beta Kappans who are members of the Lambda of Texas Chapter and Phi Beta Kappa Association of West Texas and Eastern New Mexico. The endowments provide scholarships for outstanding members of the Kappa Mu Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa at South Plains College. Dr. White served on the SPC Foundation Board of Directors for six years before moving to Fredericksburg, Texas.

Phi Beta Kappa West Texas/Eastern NM Scholarship

Recipient.....Selena Covarrubio

Phi Beta Kappa Lambda of Texas Chapter Scholarship

Recipient.....Guadalupe Martinez

Bette Pitts Scholarship in Office Administration

Established by Mike and Janna Worley of Levelland, this program honors Bette Pitts who taught 31 years in the Business Administration Department at SPC, retiring as Professor of Business and Departmental Chairperson in 2007. The program recognizes Professor Pitts years of service, helping SPC students prepare for success in a business career.

**Recipient.....Gladhys Bujanda
Crystal Ortega**

G.F. "Buz" Poage Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship honors the memory of G.F. "Buz" Poage, a respected and recognized agri-businessman in the cotton delinting industry in Texas. He established Levelland Delinting and All-Tex Seed and was the owner and president of the two companies for 34 years until his death in 2009. Mr. Poage also served on the South Plains College Board of Regents. The scholarship fund was established by his son Cody Poage and wife J'Lyn of Levelland.

**RecipientsMadellyne Adams
Tatum Christie
Jacob Dawson
Brantly Hoover
Cashen Horton
Collin Welper**

2020 Scholarship Recipients

Rusty Price Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship was established by the Price Family in memory of their son and brother, Rusty Price. Members of the Price family are business and civic leaders in Levelland and are concerned with helping deserving students achieve educational and career goals.

Recipient..... Stefan Ramone

Ramesh Family Honorary Scholarship in Engineering

An SPC faculty member since 2002, Dr. Ramesh Krishnan and his wife Thena Ramesh established this scholarship to support students majoring in pre-engineering. Dr. Krishnan holds a Ph.D. in chemical engineering from Texas Tech University and sees the SPC path as one that prepares students to transfer and be successful at their senior institution. In addition to his teaching duties, Dr. Krishnan has been instrumental in directing students to create the College's first Makerspace to foster innovation and entrepreneurship.

Recipient.....Nicole Worley

Helen Starr Roberts Scholarship

The SPC Forensic Club and faculty of the speech communication program have established a scholarship program in honor of former speech and theatre professor Helen Starr Roberts. Professor Roberts taught 27 years at SPC and retired from the college in 1994. While a faculty member she was named a Minnie Stevens Piper Professor and was awarded the Excellence in Teaching Award by her peers.

Recipient..... Saul Rosa

Larry Roberts Honorary Physical Education Scholarship

Chartered in 2012, this scholarship honors longtime SPC faculty member Larry Roberts. Mr. Roberts was on faculty for 26 years and also served as department chairperson. He coached tennis and golf for a combined total of 12 years. During that time in either one area or the other, Mr. Roberts was selected by the conference coaches and players as Coach of the Year of the Western Athletic Junior College conference on four occasions. Held in high regard by his SPC colleagues as

well, he received the Faculty Excellence Award in 1993 and was inducted into the Texan Athletic Hall of Fame that same year.

Recipient.....Cyra Mireles

Monty Roberts Memorial Scholarship in Theatre Arts

The Monty Roberts Memorial Scholarship was established by the Roberts family in memory of their son to benefit the theatre and speech programs at South Plains College. Mr. Larry Roberts taught physical education at the college for 26 years and Mrs. Helen Roberts directed the theatre and speech program for 27 years.

RecipientsMatthew Lamar

The Roberts Family Scholarships

The late Burnett and Martha Roberts established four scholarship programs at South Plains College in memory of family members. Burnett Roberts served 16 years on the SPC Foundation Board of Directors and supported numerous community and civic projects during his lifetime. The Roberts established memorial scholarship programs honoring their son Burk B., daughter George Evelyn, son-in-law Max, and an infant grandson Jedidiah Poer.

Burnett B. and Martha G. Roberts Memorial Scholarship

Recipient.....Alexi Vigil

Burk Burnett Roberts Family Scholarship in Business Administration

Recipient.....Halle Bloomer

George Evelyn Roberts Memorial Scholarship in Vocational Nursing

Recipient.....Aimee Madrigales

Max and Jedidiah Maxwell Poer Memorial Scholarship in Business Administration

Recipient..... Cason Holly

W. D. (Dub) Rogers, Jr. Scholarship

In addition to serving as city mayor, Dub Rogers was a pioneer broadcaster in Lubbock, Texas. He brought the first national affiliate to West Texas in 1952. In 1992 Dub contributed to the college an invaluable

collection of television and broadcast memorabilia that charts the history of telecommunications on the South Plains. The Dub Rogers collection is housed in the communications building here at SPC. This scholarship was established by the Communications Department in his memory.

Recipient.....Haleigh Hinojosa

J. P. and Judy Rose Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship honors the memory of J.P. and Judy Rose of Levelland. Mr. Rose was senior drilling superintendent for Norton Drilling Company and Mrs. Rose was a homemaker at the time of their deaths in 1998. The scholarship was established by their son Rusty Rose and daughter Karen Rose Durrett.

Recipient.....Mikenzi Johnson

C. M. and Cora Sanders Memorial Scholarship

During their lifetime, C.M. and Cora Sanders were dear friends of South Plains College. Charlie Sanders served as a member of the original Board of Regents from 1957 to 1967 and is credited with obtaining the Texan Victory Bell that is located at the entrance to Texan Dome. Prior to her death, Mrs. Sanders established an endowed scholarship program in his memory.

Recipient.....Marcus Hinojos

Deborah J. Scott Memorial Scholarship

Established by SPC alumna Courtney Bullard Hurst along with her husband Justin Hurst, this scholarship honors the memory of Justin's mother, Deborah J. Scott. Preference for this scholarship is for a recipient who is attending SPC via the Upward Bound Program. Upward Bound is part of the TRiO Programs which was created in 1965 to assist low income or disadvantaged students enter, graduate and move on to participate fully in America's society. The program was implemented at SPC in 2003. The program serves students in grades nine through 12 in Brownfield, Morton, Levelland, Whitharral and Whiteface.

Recipient.....Reina Regalado

2020 Scholarship Recipients

Kelvin and Lissa Sharp Scholarship

The fourth president and first lady of South Plains College, Dr. and Mrs. Kelvin Sharp have established an endowment fund that provides scholarships for students in the college's rodeo program. Dr. Sharp is credited with reviving SPC's tradition in intercollegiate rodeo in 2001 when he served as vice president for Academic Affairs.

Recipient.....Zachary Nicholson

Billy Sheek Memorial Scholarship

The late Mrs. Cora Sanders established the Billy Sheek Memorial Scholarship in Agriculture in memory of her grandson who majored in agribusiness at SPC prior to his death.

Recipient.....Benjamin Swindull

Annette Davis-Smith Memorial and Aaron C. Smith Honorary Scholarship

This scholarship program honors the memory of Dr. Annette Davis-Smith who developed South Plains College's Associate of Arts in Teaching Degree program and taught in the program for 14 years. It was established by her husband Aaron Smith of Sundown and her mother Sarah A. "Toni" Ivy of Lubbock. The scholarship recognizes an outstanding student enrolled in the AAT program who plans to become a public school teacher. Dr. Smith was known for her dedication and service to the college and her students. She was instrumental in establishing the transfer partnership between South Plains College and the Texas Tech University College of Education. This partnership was recognized by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board with the Texas Higher Education Star Award in 2008. Dr. Davis-Smith died in 2018.

Recipient.....Arianna Martinez

Robert Smotherman Memorial Scholarship

Robert Smotherman served many years as superintendent of the Whiteface Consolidated Independent School District. The scholarship which honors him was established by family and friends.

Recipient.....Hope Perez

Raymond and Audie Sonnenburg Scholarship

A desire to help young people pursue the dream of a college education led Mrs. Audie Sonnenburg, with counsel from her son Guy, to establish an endowed scholarship fund at South Plains College. This scholarship gives first consideration to a female student in honor of Mrs. Sonnenburg's daughter and Guy's sister, Teresa Thomas Etchison. Preference is for a graduate of Olton high school majoring in either business administration and computer information systems or selected SPC industrial technology programs.

Recipient.....Lena Chick

SPC Livestock Judging Team Alumni Scholarship

Created under the guidance of SPC Block and Bridle Club sponsor and agriculture department faculty members Dave Cleavinger, Ron Presley and Conner Newsom, this endowment benefits a member of the SPC Livestock Judging Team.

Recipient.....Wyatt Geistweild

South Plains Foreign Language Collaborative Scholarship Programs

The South Plains Foreign Language Collaborative has established two endowed scholarship programs that recognize outstanding students who are majoring in a foreign language. The first scholarship honors former foreign language educators Irma Bollinger and Sherry Barsch, who were instrumental in establishing the Collaborative which hosted the South Plains Foreign Language Festival for many years at SPC. Mrs. Bollinger taught foreign language 22 years at SPC before her retirement in 2001. Mrs. Barsch taught foreign language at Levelland High School for 20 years before her retirement in 2006. In 2011, the Collaborative established a scholarship program in honor of Dr. Valerie Job, professor of foreign language at SPC who also provided leadership in the Collaborative and its annual Foreign Language Festival.

Bollinger-Barsch South Plains Foreign Language Collaborative Scholarship

Recipient.....Tabasom Marandiz

Valerie Job South Plains Foreign Language Collaborative Honorary Scholarship

Recipient.....America Villanueva

Gary Stacy Memorial Scholarship

An alumnus of the college, Gary Stacy served a number of years as chairperson of the South Plains College Board of Regents and is credited with establishing the SPC Foundation in 1979. The Stacy family established a scholarship program in his memory.

Recipient.....Trinity Garcia

David and Stephanie Stanley Scholarship in Government

The late David Stanley graduated from South Plains College and later served 22 years as a history and government professor at SPC. When he retired in 1987, he established the David and Stephanie Stanley Scholarship program, also recognizing his daughter. Stephanie Stanley-Allen taught speech communication at SPC from 2002 to 2012.

Recipient.....Raikolf Lopez

Lonnie and Floriene Stern Agriculture Scholarship

This scholarship program was established by Mrs. Stern of Levelland in memory of her husband who died in 2008. Mr. Stern was a graduate of Texas A&M University and worked as a cotton broker and general manager of Producer's Market Association for 25 years. He served on the Levelland City Council. Mrs. Stern was active in Levelland as a community volunteer.

Recipient.....Brooklyn Tyson

Redd and Darlene Stewart Scholarship

As a country music songwriter and Grand Ole Opry performer, Redd Stewart was best known as the composer of such classic songs as "The Tennessee Waltz," "Bonaparte's Retreat" and "You Belong to Me." The Stewarts established this scholarship program for a Bluegrass Music student in 1991. Mr. Stewart was a guest lecturer and performed on the SPC stage on a number of occasions. The scholarship was endowed by a generous bequest that was received in 2004. Both Redd and Mrs. Stewart died in 2003.

Recipient.....Mason Montgomery

2020 Scholarship Recipients

Pete Stracener Instructor's Scholarship in Welding

Mike and Janna Worley of Levelland established the Pete Stracener Instructors Scholarship in Welding Technology in honor and appreciation for the program's longtime instructor and coordinator. The program has long been a source of graduates and skilled technicians who have been employed by Worley Welding Works.

Recipient..... Robert Rose

Melvin and Agnes Straube Scholarship

This scholarship program was established by Mrs. Agnes Straube in memory of her husband who worked as an engineer for American Oil Company. Mrs. Straube was a homemaker and worked as secretary at Cactus Elementary in Levelland. She was also an active member of the Las Fideles Study Club. She died in 2005.

Recipients Colton Rea

Donald D. Stroud Memorial Art Scholarship

The Don Stroud Memorial Scholarship program was established by family and friends to benefit students in the art program at SPC. A founding faculty member of the Art Department, Mr. Stroud served 30 years as an art professor and chairperson of the Fine Arts Department and later as a member of the SPC Board of Regents. The mosaic "Wild Horses" in the foyer of the Christine DeVitt Fine Arts Center is one example of his artistic contributions to SPC. He died in 1991.

Recipient..... Baily Jones

Sundown State Bank-Gano Tubb Scholarship

This scholarship program was established by Sundown State Bank in memory of Gano Tubb who coached and served as athletic director at Levelland High School during a 35-year career in public education.

Recipient..... Kolby Head

Jeanette Swaringen Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship was established by David Swaringen to honor the memory of his late wife Jeanette Swaringen who tragically and unexpectedly passed away on Jan. 18, 2018. The recipient of the scholarship must be a graduate of Levelland High School and an Education major. After graduating from Texas A&M University, Jeanette taught kindergarten, first and second grade for Levelland Independent School District. She returned to school and earned a master's degree in counseling at Texas Tech University and then spent the next seven years at Levelland Intermediate School as a counselor before moving to Capitol Elementary for the last three years.

Recipient.....Hallie Satterwhite

Kurt Taylor Memorial Scholarship

The family and friends of the late Kurt Taylor have established a scholarship program in his memory that benefits students enrolled in the automotive technology program. Taylor graduated from Whiteface High School and from SPC and was working for a diesel testing firm in Odessa at the time of his death.

Recipient..... Samantha Jimenez-Cuello

Wade and Gaylia Taylor Memorial Scholarship in Education

This scholarship program was established by Wade Taylor of Whiteface to honor the memory of his wife who died in 2005. Gaylia Taylor attended SPC and later worked as a secretary at Whiteface Elementary School for nearly 30 years. Mr. Taylor managed Whiteface Coop Gin for nearly 25 years and has farmed in the Whiteface area. Because of Mrs. Taylor's love for the students she mentored, the scholarship supports an SPC student who plans to pursue a career in education.

Recipient..... Christina Vidaurre

Buddy Thompson Family Scholarship in Cosmetology

Seeing an ongoing need for financial support for students in the SPC Cosmetology program, Sarah and Buddy

Thompson of Levelland established this scholarship endowment. Over a period of years and through various means such as the College's employee monthly payroll donation program and the annual Scholarship Gala, the Thompsons' dedication allowed the fund to achieve full endowment status in 2019. Sarah Thompson currently serves as the program coordinator for the SPC Cosmetology program and also serves on the SPC Foundation Board.

Recipient.....Libby Smith

Freda Tubb Memorial Scholarship

The Freda Tubb Memorial Scholarship is presented to an outstanding student who is majoring in elementary education. Mrs. Tubb taught 31 years in the Pep, Whiteface and Levelland schools. The scholarship program was established by her husband Nathan Tubb of Levelland and her children Dr. Terry Tubb of Midland, Libby Thetford of Levelland and Gerry Tubb of Austin, along with the support of family and friends.

Recipient.....Sabrina Deam

Gano and Goldie Tubb Levelland Noon Rotary Club Scholarship

The Levelland Noon Rotary Club makes possible the Gano and Goldie Tubb Memorial Scholarship at South Plains College. Gano and Goldie Tubb coached and taught in the Levelland public schools for many years.

RecipientsJersson Hernandez Kaitlyn Villa

Nathan Tubb Country Music Scholarship

Nathan Tubb touched many lives during his time at South Plains College. Dean Tubb, who served as the college's first registrar and retired from the college in 1981 as Academic vice president, is credited with pioneering the commercial music program at SPC. The scholarship program was established by his son Dr. Terry Tubb of Midland and family and friends to enable talented young musicians to take that first step to fulfilling their dreams of becoming professional musicians.

Recipient..... John Hibbard

2020 Scholarship Recipients

United Supermarkets Scholarship

United Supermarket has provided funds for an endowed scholarship to benefit SPC students.

Recipient.....Jacob Ebenkamp

The Upshaw Family Scholarship Programs

In 1980, Mrs. Brenda Ainsworth established two scholarships in loving memory of her parents, Tom and Iris Upshaw. These were the first two endowed scholarship programs at South Plains College. Mr. Upshaw was a druggist and owner and operator of Upshaw Drug Store in Levelland. Mrs. Upshaw loved forensic arts and the theatre. Outstanding students studying pre-pharmacy and theatre arts are recognized by these two scholarship funds. Mrs. Ainsworth served 28 years as a member of the SPC Foundation Committee and the Foundation Board of Directors.

Iris Upshaw Memorial Scholarship

Recipient..... Raimar Ortiz

Tom Upshaw Memorial Pre-Pharmacy Scholarship

Recipient..... Betzabe Lopez

Landon Velasquez Memorial Music Scholarship

This scholarship honors the memory of Landon Velasquez of Lubbock, who was a sophomore at Frenship High School at the time of his death in 2004. Landon had a passion for music and the guitar, and the scholarship recognizes outstanding SPC students majoring in guitar studies. The scholarship was established by the R.C. Johnson Jr. Foundation and his mother Mrs. Jan Johnson of Lubbock.

**RecipientsMason Montgomery
Marc Santa**

Bill and Jo-Ann Vandergriff Nursing Scholarship

Established by Mr. and Mrs. Bill Vandergriff of Lubbock in partnership with a matching donation in the form of a grant from Lubbock's University Medical Center, this endowment benefits students in their second semester

of SPC's three-semester Vocational Nurse program. Unique to this award, recipients are selected from students at three separate SPC locations: Levelland, Reese and Plainview.

**RecipientsBrittany Escobar
Khená McAllister
Alicia Sanchez
Courtney Warner**

Bob Veretto Memorial Scholarship in Business Administration

The family and friends of the late Bob Veretto have established an endowed scholarship program that assists a student majoring in finance, business or accounting. Mr. Veretto was a Levelland business leader involved in banking and agriculture who believed in hard work and honesty. Eleven members of his family have attended SPC.

RecipientsAbraham Bocanegra

Johnny and Darlene Vest Memorial Scholarship

The family and friends of Johnny and Darlene Vest of Levelland have established an endowed scholarship program that assists students pursuing a career in culinary arts. Mr. Vest owned and operated JIV Service which serviced hydraulic pumps for a number of years in Levelland and later worked in the transportation department for the Levelland school district. Mrs. Vest worked 37 years in the school district's food service. The Vests were strong supporters of public education and South Plains College. All three of their children graduated from SPC.

Recipient.....Brandie Juarez

Alvin and Mary Kay Walker Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship program was established by the friends and family of the late Alvin and Mary K. (Franklin) Walker. Both were graduates of Pep High School and attended South Plains College. Mr. Walker worked many years for K-Bar Texas Electric before his death in 1990. Mrs. Walker served as Hockley County Clerk until her death in 2003.

Recipient.....Agustus Davis

Arvie E. Walker, Jr. Scholarship

Established by James and Robbie Walker of Lubbock, this scholarship honors Mr. Walker's father Arvie Walker. Mr. Walker worked 22 years at South Plains College as dean of continuing education and workforce development and later retired as vice president for academic affairs in 2015. The scholarship recognizes an outstanding student who is pursuing studies in geology. Arvie E. Walker, Jr. graduated from Texas Tech University in 1948. He did surface geology in the White Flat field near Abilene, Texas before sitting on wells and examining well-bore samples. His career began with Sun Oil Company before he became an Independent Geologist. He drilled wells all over Texas, New Mexico, Kentucky and West Virginia. He was not only well respected by his peers, but was requested to "well sit" because of his expansive knowledge and experience in many areas and many producing formations. His passion for education and students was boundless. His love for geology was unequaled.

Recipient.....Krista Bridges

Jim and Robbie Walker Scholarship

Jim and Robbie Walker established this scholarship endowment to assist South Plains College students majoring in education. James Walker retired as the vice president for Academic Affairs at SPC in May of 2015 after working for the college for more than 24 years. His roles included adjunct instructor, Director of Continuing and Distance Education and Associate Dean of Technical and Continuing Education. Mrs. Walker worked as a classroom teacher and later as a librarian prior to her retirement in 2013. This scholarship benefits a first-generation college student with preference for those who are majoring in education.

Recipient..... Kaitlyn Fink

2020 Scholarship Recipients

William L. and Nina Rose Walker Scholarship

This scholarship was established by the daughters of Mr. and Mrs. W.L. Walker, who were respected leaders in their church and community, as well as being longtime supporters of community college education. Mr. Walker served as administrative dean at South Plains College from 1961 until his retirement in 1981. Daughters Sandra Tyler of Levelland and Diane Hardy of Seminole have made the scholarship fund possible.

Recipient..... Cierra Lance

O. R. and Frances Watkins Memorial Scholarship

The children and friends of O.R. and Frances Watkins have established an endowed scholarship fund that honors these two SPC pioneers. O.R. Watkins was a member of the 1956 Citizens Committee that helped establish SPC. Frances Watkins taught English at SPC and was English Department chairperson for 20 years.

Recipient..... Azul Arzate

Ray and Georgia Watson Memorial Scholarship

Created to honor her grandparents and with a preference for providing support to the students working as lifeguards at the SPC Natatorium, Ann Capps and her husband Bobby have established the Ray and Georgia Watson Memorial Scholarship. The Watsons were a founding family in Levelland and their lineage has maintained a constant presence in the city with many family members having attended SPC and several having established scholarship endowments. Mrs. Ann Capps currently serves as president of the SPC Foundation Board.

Recipients Kolby Head

Jewelene Weber Memorial Scholarship in Nursing

This scholarship was established by Wade Taylor of Whiteface in memory of family friend, Jewelene Weber who died in 2013. Ms. Weber knew she wanted enter the field of nursing from a young age, working in a doctor's office as a high school student in Borger.

She studied to become a registered nurse and worked as a school nurse at Whiteface CISD for 25 years. The scholarship assists a student who plans to pursue a nursing career.

Recipient.....Leesa Galvan

Welding Technology Program Scholarship

SPC welding technology students began working back in 2004 to build a one-of-a kind, trailer-mounted BBQ grill with the idea of selling it to raise money to create an endowed scholarship for future students in the program. Using mostly donated materials, students and instructors constructed the project as time permitted while working around required curriculum. When the project was complete it was sandblasted by Worley Welding Works Inc. and painted by the auto collision repair program at SPC. Within a few days of being advertised for sale in the summer of 2011, the 8' x 16' trailer with smoker, grill, double cooktop, and storage boxes was purchased by Zach McCutchin of ZM Interiors, allowing the endowment to be fully funded.

Recipient.....Aaron Venzor

Ray and Donna West Scholarship Programs

These scholarship programs were established by Ray and Donna West of Midland. Mr. West obtained his bachelor's degree in petroleum engineering from the University of Oklahoma and worked as an engineer and consultant until his retirement. Mrs. West also graduated from the University of Oklahoma where she earned a bachelor's degree in Education. The Wests established these scholarships in their spirit of "giving back" to communities.

Ray and Donna West Scholarship for American Heroes

Recipient..... Paula Springfield

Ray and Donna West Bailey County Scholarship

Recipient.....Reina Regalado

Ray and Donna West Pre-Engineering Scholarship

Recipient.....Jaron Hardage

Ray and Donna West Scholarship in Nursing

**Recipients Hailey Doran
Cedrick Flournoy
Sydney Goen
Tristan Honesto
Aracely Juarez**

Ray and Donna West Physical Therapist Assistant Program Scholarship

Recipient.....D.F. Roberts

Ray and Donna West Scholarship in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics

**Recipients Caden Arnold
Angel Bishop
John Covarrubio
Breklin Davis
Aaron De Souza
Jeremy Hernandez
David Landtroop
Kenneth Manderfeld
Savanah Murphy
Matthew Perez
Tobie Peterson
Manuel Reyna
Andrya Rhodes**

Ray and Donna West Scholarship for U.S. Veterans

Recipient.....Erica Mater

Wilburn and Helen Wheeler Scholarship Programs

Wilburn and Helen Wheeler had a long association with South Plains College. Mr. Wheeler was a member of the college's founding faculty, teaching Mathematics and serving as the college's first band director from 1958 to 1974. Mrs. Wheeler worked many years in the college library. Two scholarship programs were established by family, friends and former students.

Wilburn and Helen Wheeler Math Scholarship

Recipient..... Osvaldo Santos

Wilburn and Helen Wheeler Music Scholarship

**RecipientsNikolas Delacruz
Edward Torres**

2020 Scholarship Recipients

Whitharral Lions Club Scholarship

The Whitharral Lions Club has established an endowed scholarship program that recognizes an outstanding graduate of Whitharral High School.
Recipient..... Taylor Chavez

Wilbur-Ellis Scholarship

This scholarship program has been established by the Wilbur-Ellis Company, an international marketer and distributor of agricultural products, animal feeds and agri-chemicals. Wilbur-Ellis serves the agricultural industry in the college's service area and supports local students in higher education.
Recipient..... Stock Martin

Williams Family Scholarship

While serving as a member of the South Plains College Board of Regents and also on the SPC Foundation Board of Directors, Ken Williams and wife Leslie established the Williams Family Scholarship in 2013 to benefit students majoring in a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics) field. Not only is Ken an alumnus of the college, but the Williams Family was also named a leader in service to the College in 2015 by receiving the Pacesetter Award at the annual Scholarship Gala.
Recipient..... Wyatt Geistweidt

Tony Lynn and Misti Dawn Williams Memorial Scholarship

The scholarship fund was established by Mr. and Mrs. Jack Williams, in honor of their daughter and son who were students at SPC at the time of their deaths.
Recipient..... Jennifer Munoz

E. Wade and Lori Oswalt Wilson Physical Education Endowed Scholarship

This scholarship program has been established by Wade and Lori Oswalt Wilson of Lubbock. Mrs. Wilson, originally from Abernathy, was a Lady Texan basketball player during the 1980-81 and 1981-82 seasons. While at SPC, her life was positively touched by PE instructor Judy Bryant. They have

established this scholarship in part to honor Professor Bryant who retired as chairperson of the Physical Education Department and also to offer financial support to future students studying in the department. Mrs. Wilson also served on the South Plains College Foundation Board of Directors. She passed away in November of 2015.

**Recipients Isaiah Abalos
Stefanni Chavarria
Jayden Parsley
Amelia Sandoval**

Dr. Weerachai and Dr. Suvipa Wiri Nursing Scholarship

This scholarship honors two long-time physicians who have practiced medicine in the Levelland community for more than 30 years. Dr. Weerachai Wiri, a general surgeon, and Dr. Suvipa Wiri, a pediatrician, have supported the community in many ways. Mike Worley and Janna Worley wished to recognize that service through this scholarship program for nursing students. Weerachai also served on the SPC Foundation Board of Directors.

**Recipients Isela Chavez
Schylar Dutchover
Ysabel Rodriguez
Candice Wheeler**

Elroy Wisian Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship was established by the family and friends of Elroy Wisian who was a Lubbock entrepreneur and businessman at the time of his death. Mr. Wisian also served a number of years as a Methodist minister.

Recipient..... Andrea Lucero

Vickie Wilks Wisian Scholarship

This scholarship was made possible through the generosity of Vickie and the late Elroy Wisian of Lubbock. Mrs. Wisian, a native of Post, graduated from SPC in 1967 and completed her undergraduate studies at Texas Tech University. She taught 24 years in the Slaton Independent School District as a speech pathologist and special education director. This scholarship assists a first-generation college student. Mrs. Wisian is past president of the SPC Foundation Board of Directors.

Recipient..... Jason Reyes

Jesse W. Wood Memorial Scholarship in Agriculture

This scholarship was established by the late Retha Lincoln in memory of her brother Jesse W. Wood who died in 1993. Mr. Wood came to West Texas when he was 17 years old. He and two of his brothers homesteaded in Sundown, Texas. Though his brothers returned to Oklahoma, Mr. Wood stayed and raised his family with the help of his wife, Lorena. He was a farmer and carpenter during his work career.

Recipient..... Clint Demmitt

Lorena Wood Memorial Scholarship

Education was especially important in the Jesse and Lorena Wood family home because the matriarch planted a seed within them early on. Even though she was unable to complete her own education, she made sure that all her children graduated from high school. To honor her mother and his grandmother, respectively, Betty Jo Judah and her son John Judah established this endowment for the benefit of students regardless of their residency status. Preference can also be given to first-generation college students.

Recipient..... Cheyenne Green

Woodman of the World Scholarship

In towns where WoodmenLife members live and work, chapters are formed to partner with the community to offer opportunities for volunteering. Across the nation, WoodmenLife members plan and carry out thousands of service projects each year. The Woodmen Life Chapter 875 in Lubbock chose to create an endowment at South Plains College in part because the excellent experience a member had as she completed the SPC Cosmetology program. Other members also had positive experiences with SPC. While a preference for award is for a student who holds a WoodmenLife policy, the scholarship may also be awarded to any student in any program area.

Recipient..... Bailee Curl

2020 Scholarship Recipients

Mike Worley and Janna Worley Honorary Scholarship

Mike Worley and Janna Worley are graduates of South Plains College and have established five other endowed scholarship programs at SPC. Mike Worley owns Worley Welding Works, a leading manufacturer of oil field transport tanks and trailers. Their scholarship programs assist students in welding technology, nursing, and office technology. This scholarship program is a general college scholarship.

Recipients *Belanna Baker*
Mario Butler
Tristan Davis
Libby Smith
Ryan Trompler
Alexander Wells

Mike Worley and Jana Worley Welding Scholarship

This scholarship was established by Drs. Weerachai and Suvipa Wiri in honor of Mike Worley and Janna Worley. The Worleys are graduates of South Plains College and have established five other endowed scholarship programs at SPC. One of the scholarship endowments they established was in honor of Dr. Wiri. This scholarship program assists students in welding technology.

Recipient..... *Chancellor Blount*

M.W. Worley Scholarship

Though known in the region and beyond for excellence in welding technology, this scholarship endowment created through a generous gift from Mike Worley benefits a general studies student. Mr. Worley also donated the interlocking SPC sculpture that welcomes visitors to the Levelland Campus and donated a 100+ pound replica of the College seal to welcome visitors to the offices of SPC Development and Alumni. This endowment is the seventh started by Mr. Worley.

Recipients *Ben Bowman*
Jacob Freeman
Kirsten Gabaldon
Emma Schilling

Gary Wynn Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship honors the memory of Gary Wynn who taught anthropology, history and sociology at South Plains College for 30 years. Professor Wynn, who retired in 1996 from the college, was among the first faculty members to teach college courses at the former Reese Air Force Base in the 1970s. The scholarship program was established to recognize his 30 years of service to the college. Mr. Wynn died in 2006. The scholarship program was endowed by his wife Gwen Wynn, who taught 39 years at South Plains College in the Social Science Department, and through the generosity of friends and family members.

Recipients *Camila Villarreal*

Xi Theta Pi Scholarship

The Xi Theta Pi Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi, a society for professional women, makes scholarship funds available for young women beginning their college career.

Recipient..... *Christopher Albus*

Dr. Jesse Yeh Memorial Scholarship

Family and friends have established this scholarship program in memory of Dr. Jesse Yeh, professor of chemistry, who died in 2014. Dr. Yeh taught 25 years at SPC and served as chairperson of the Science Department. He was honored by his peers as a recipient of the Faculty Excellence Award in 2007. The scholarship recognizes an outstanding chemistry student as chosen by faculty in the department.

Recipient..... *Kayla Alexander*

Millie Eileen Young Honorary Scholarship

This scholarship honors Millie Eileen Young and was established by Brent and Emily Wheeler of Levelland. The Wheelers are music faculty in the college's Creative Arts Department and are acclaimed jazz guitarists. The scholarship benefits a female student who is primary caregiver to a child or children and wishes to attend to college.

Recipient..... *Ashlee Reisdorf*

2020 Distinguished Alumni Honoree

The South Plains College Distinguished Alumni Awards

The Distinguished Alumni Awards program recognizes and honors the noteworthy achievements of former South Plains College students. This fall, two alumni have been named to receive the award and join the prestigious list

of alumni who have made significant contributions in their chosen professions and communities. The recipients of the 2020 Distinguished Alumni Award are Deressa Purtell Reid and Terry Hill.

Nominees for this award must be former students for whom the College was a significant part of their educational career. They must have worked at least

10 years in their chosen profession or have made significant contributions in their career if fewer than 10 years. The President of the College bestows this honor on the recipients upon the recommendation of the Distinguished Alumni Recommendation Committee. Through an official resolution, the SPC Board of Regents affirms the honor.



Deressa Purtell Reid
SPC Class of 1981

For 23 years, Dereesa Purtell Reid has forged a career as a health care administrator. She began her academic career in accounting at South Plains College where she took classes that would build a foundation for higher learning.

The West Texas native grew up in Brownfield and was very active in her high school. Focusing her time as a member of the school band and an avid baton twirler, she says she enjoyed participating in extracurricular activities. Although she said she did not believe herself to be an outstanding student, she appreciated her time in the classroom

and learned to be a more diligent student in college.

Three months after graduating from Brownfield High School, Purtell and her fiancé, Jim Reid, were married. She still had goals of pursuing higher education. After honeymooning in San Antonio, the couple settled down in Terry County where Reid farmed cotton.

“Four days after getting married, I started at South Plains College,” she said. “I’ve always been committed to goals. I’m very grateful that my father told me at a very young age to ‘Be something and be different.’ That’s probably why he picked this unusual name, Dereesa.”

Reid said she has always understood what it meant to apply yourself, reach your goals and be in it for the long run – chess, not checkers.

“Going to South Plains I felt that I was stacking the odds in my favor for success,” she said. “I found it to be a great pathway from high school.”

While attending a mathematics course taught by Kieth Mixon, Reid said she was told she was not applying herself to her full potential. This reminded her of a time when her high school mathematics teacher delivered the same criticism. This time, however, Mixon’s words resonated with her and changed her outlook on her approach to her coursework.

“Something just changed because I liked him as a person and his approach to it,” she said. “I was actually surprised when I did pretty well in his class. Math wasn’t something that I was passionate about, but I gained confidence.”

In addition to finding her confidence in math, Reid developed an interest in writing during her studies at SPC. While in an English class taught by Norma Boggs, Reid submitted a paper about women and their impact and vision in scientific topics and career paths. The paper challenged her writing skills and sparked her interest in research and communication. Reid said she still journals daily.

“I still today enjoy writing, and all of the attention she gave us,” Reid said. “I think I still have this grammar book that she had us use in class, and it taught me the mechanics of really good writing.”

After graduating from SPC in 1981, she enrolled at Texas Tech University where she earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration with a specialization in accounting. She then obtained a master’s degree in business administration. Reid received a Texas license as a Certified Public Accountant, bringing her academic career to completion.

Reid began working as a cost accountant for Texas Instruments, Inc., a Lubbock semiconductor manufacturing plant in 1996. One

2020 Distinguished Alumni Honoree

year later, she became a senior clinic administrator and assistant director in clinic administration at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center. She merged two private practices into a new satellite clinic. She also managed the entire academic department and built a positive cash reserve.

In 1999, Reid began working for University Medical Center in the area of Strategic Planning and Business Development before moving into the Managed Care, PPO Development and Health Plan Administration where she served as the division director in managed care contracting. From 2001 to 2005, she served as the vice president for managed care and strategic planning.

Reid began working for Covenant Health System in 2005 and remained there until 2011. She established the Orthopedic Service Line with Strategic and Operations Management. She grew the in-patient volume by eight percent and implemented the Joint Replacement Program's standardized clinical protocols from clinic to post hospital discharge. In 2007, she received the HealthGrades Award for Excellence in Orthopedics.

Reid achieved outstanding performance on numerous levels as the assistant vice president for the Covenant Neuroscience Institute and Rehabilitation Services from 2005 to 2009. She helped design, build and staff the Neuroscience Patient Education and Resource Center, implemented a tele-neurology stroke consult service and also helped develop the region's only epilepsy service and neurology residency program in collaboration with the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center.

She accepted the position of chief operating officer for Hoag Orthopedic

Institute in Irvine, Calif., where she led hospital operations and finance from 2011 to 2013. She served as the chief executive officer for three years where she helped build the nationally-recognized hospital and top-ranked orthopedic institute known as one of the premier value-driven organizations.

While working in Irvine, Calif., Reid became a co-founding member of Notable Systems, Inc., in Denver, Colo. Notable is comprised of a group of technology and healthcare experts who build cutting edge technology products that free clinicians to spend more time delivering patient-centered care while health data is seamlessly captured and recorded.

Additionally, in 2016, Reid joined Avant-garde Health, Inc., in Cambridge, Mass., as an advisor. She continues to work with both agencies. After a one-year term as the interim senior vice president with The Innovation Institute in Newport Beach, Calif., she joined Shriners Hospital for Children in Portland, Ore., in 2018 as an administrator. This is the position where she is presently employed.

Throughout her career, Reid has been recognized for her contributions to her profession and community. She was the Corporate Honoree by the Arthritis Foundation of Orange County, Calif., in 2016; she was a nominee for the Women in Business Award by the Orange County Business Journal in 2015; and she was the recipient of Becker's Healthcare Leadership Award in 2013, among others.

Reid resides in Vancouver, Wash. Despite the hectic demands of her job, she said she takes comfort in viewing the scenic sites of Oregon including Mount St. Helens, Mount Adams and Mount Hood. From

her vantage point, her successful life began in West Texas where the sunsets are beyond comparison.



Terry Hill
SPC Class of 1980

Terry Hill practically grew up across the street from South Plains College. As a youngster, he would come to the college to play with his friends and swim in the Natatorium. He would often spend time roaming the halls with his mother who served as a dorm supervisor.

Although he was familiar with SPC, the Levelland native said he was filled with the same doubts as his fellow classmates as he weighed his choices about what to do following graduation.

After his time at Levelland High School, Hill began his academic career at South Plains College. While he wasn't certain of his field of study, he was confident that it was the best choice for him and enrolled in general study courses.

"I think we all have people in our careers and in our lives that are pivot points who turn us and put us in the right course," he said.

2020 Distinguished Alumni Honoree

He credits the college's faculty and staff for encouraging him to excel in science and challenging him to become a better student. During his time at SPC, he developed a passion for learning. Retired Instructor Jim Leggitt, former Science Department Chairperson R.E. "Bob" Beck, and Richard James, retired professor of mathematics, were pivotal in guiding him throughout his time at SPC.

"I just took a general chemistry course under Mr. Beck and I really liked science," he said. "I didn't know what that meant growing up in West Texas; I thought it meant a chemical engineer or petroleum engineer or a doctor. I just knew that science was a way for me to start a career."

Hill said he soon developed a life-long passion for learning. He said there were two nuggets of wisdom that he learned during his time at SPC – keep an open mind and learn how to learn. That wisdom greatly influenced the remainder of his academic quests.

"Not only were they teaching me chemistry, but what they were teaching me more importantly was how to learn," he said. "I will tell you that yes the subject is important but what's more important is learning how to learn."

After completing his associate of science degree at SPC in 1980, Hill went on to receive a bachelor's degree in microbiology at Texas Tech University.

Hill has worked as a distribution executive and advisor and has amassed more than 30 years of experience in the chemical distribution and sales industry. As an industry consultant, he has developed commercial strategies yielding impressive company growth in the United States, Europe, China

and South America. He identified market trends, crafted strategy and created business models that set the bar for industry innovation.

He guided the development and execution of a commercialization strategy at Univar for 17 years, where he held leadership roles including U.S. president of field operations, chief commercial officer and executive vice president of industry relations. Under his leadership, field operations developed critical hubs across the country, streamlining operations and enabling more efficient movement of products across the company and increasing service levels.

In 2015, Hill formed his consulting firm Apex Distribution Consulting, LLC, to share his expertise about opportunities in chemical distribution. He produced market trend insights and strategies to suppliers and distributors navigating changes in the marketplace and facing diminishing returns.

He is an affiliate member of the National Association of Chemical Distributors and invests in the future of the industry as a board member of the Chemical Education Foundation. Hill is a member of the American Chemical Society, a board member of the National Association of Chemical Distributors and the Alliston Community Christian School as well as a member of the Houston Chemical Society.

Currently, Hill serves as the CEO of Maroon Group, a leading specialty chemical distributor. Maroon Group supplies specialty additives, resins, pigments and packaging to North American manufacturers in plastics, composites, graphic arts, rubber and lubricants industries.

"I was the first generation in our family who actually went to

college," Hill said. "For me growing up in Texas, education was really the doorway that led me to take my God-given talent and it really opened up the world to me.

"South Plains College reaches out and takes everyone at their own abilities and helps them build value," Hill said. "SPC provides opportunities for people to help themselves and their families. It's a ripple effect."

In order for other students to experience the same opportunities Hill did while at SPC, he and his wife Shari established the Hill Family Scholarship endowment in 2017. The endowment provides scholarships for students seeking to pursue a career in science-based disciplines. Hill also returned to the college to serve as the keynote speaker at the annual Scholarship Recognition Banquet in 2017. In 2019, the Hills were named to receive the Pacesetter Award for exemplary philanthropic support of the South Plains College Foundation.

Hill lives in Redmond, Wash., outside Seattle, where he also spends time serving people affected by cancer and those in need through his church ministries.



Making a difference one mind at a time

The South Plains College Foundation is a charitable 501(c)(3) tax-exempt corporation established in 1979. The Foundation, which is fiscally and legally separate from the college, exists for the purpose of developing scholarship programs, supporting academic excellence, enhancing the educational programs of the college and expanding college opportunities for the students of South Plains College.

As a not-for-profit corporation, the SPC Foundation receives and manages gifts and bequests in a manner that ensures maximum benefit to the donor as well as to the college. All gifts are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Contributions may be made in the form of cash, real or personal property, securities, provisions in a will, gifts of insurance policies or by the establishment of trusts. Gifts may be given to support particular programs and activities or given without restriction as to use.

For information on how you can enhance educational opportunities for SPC students, contact the SPC Development Office at 806-716-2020. You may donate to SPC anytime online at www.southplainscollege.edu/donate.

SPC FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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SOUTH PLAINS COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The SPC Alumni Association allows all former students the opportunity to maintain a relationship with the college and its traditions. Former SPC students, including those in the Continuing and Distance Education departments are eligible to join this no-fee organization.

Former students are encouraged to connect and remain involved with the college by registering their information with the Alumni Association, returning to campus for events, following the SPC Texans and Lady Texans, volunteering for various alumni programs and making SPC a part of their annual giving plan.

The SPC Alumni Association Board of Directors includes: Marc Tucker, President; Chad Alexander, Vice President; Robyn Reaves, Secretary; Russell Vest, Treasurer; Julie Gerstenberger, Stephen John, Dr. Stan DeMerritt, Dr. Robin Satterwhite, Robbie Stansifer, Katheryn Townsend, Stephanie Smith, Executive Director.

For more information, and to register, please visit www.southplainscollege.edu/alumni or contact Stephanie Smith, alumni coordinator, at 806-716-2103 or by email at slsmith@southplainscollege.edu.