Two locals among those receiving privately funded scholarships at U of K

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This year's recipients represent 103 of the 105 counties in Kansas, 45 other states and Puerto Rico and 45 other countries. The students are listed below by home county, state or country.

Included among those receiving such scholarship aid are Greensburg's Brett Allen Elliott, son of Raymond Elliott, who is a Biology BS freshman. He is receiving the Emiel and Mary Kanehl Scholarship Riverdale High School Murfreesboro, TN.

Another is Greensburg's Stephanie Lynn White daughter of David and Kathy White Educ-SpecEdMSE, Graduate, getting the Grace M. Phinney Scholarship from Greensburg High School.
Students Receive KU Scholarships

Scholarship funds are managed by KU Endowment, the independent, nonprofit organization serving as the official fundraising and fund-management organization for KU. Founded in 1891, KU Endowment is the first foundation of its kind at a U.S. public university.

From SWHgts:
- Jacob Otto Borth, Aerospace Engineering BS, Freshman
- Taryn Rochelle Glaser, Biochemistry BS, Freshman

From LHS:
- Devon Leann Box, Undecided CLAS, Freshman
- Nancy Cardoza, Political Science BA, Senior
- Katelyn N. Deckert, Biochemistry BS, Senior
- Hong Thanh Le Do, Strategic Communications BSJ, Senior
- Heidi Nicole Hepp, Medicine MD, Prof 1
- Sarah Maria Longoria, Psychology BA, Sophomore
- Cambrey Bao-Phuong Nguyen, Pharmacy PD
- Suong T Nguyen, Clinical Laboratory Science BS, Senior
- Trevor John Ralston, Pre-Pharmacy, Freshman
- Kendal Ryan Reed, Finance BSB, Junior
- Ofelia Schepers, 5th Year Licensure MSE Graduate
- Jeremy Michael Todd, Secondary Level Education BSE, Sophomore
- Khanh Tuong Trinh, Pre-Medicine Sophomore
- Tyler Cole Westerman, Chemical Engineering BS, Senior
- Sean Andrew Womble, Pre-Business Junior
KU awards $29.6 million in scholarships for 2008-09 school year

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In the past five years, KU Endowment has provided more than $118 million in scholarships, fellowships and awards to KU students. Donors created 43 new endowed scholarships in fiscal 2008, with gifts totaling $12.3 million.

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McPherson County students receiving scholarships for the 2008-09 academic year:

• April Diane Westbrook daughter of Marvin and Darla Westbrook PharmacyPD: Prof 1
• Jon Kaiser son of Jerry and Allene Kaiser MedicineMD Prof 1: Carl A. Vernon Scholarship, MedicineMD Prof 1 George E. and Blanche Sterling Trust, Inman High School
• Sara Michelle Nelson daughter of Gary and Karen Nelson Pre-Nursing Freshman: John K. and Edna M. Cape Scholarship Smoky Valley High School, Lindsborg
• Chantz Palmer Thomas son of Greg and Lorye Thomas History BA Sophomore: Nontraditional Undergraduate Student Scholarship, Smoky Valley High School, Lindsborg
• Brooke Leanne Brewer daughter of Shannon Goscha Undecided CLAS Freshman: Bob and Marlene Whittaker Leadership Scholarship, McPherson High School
• Grace Dallae Chin daughter of Ku-Sup and Shin-Hee Chin History of Art BA Sophomore: Howard Reed Sailors, Thelma Sophia Ally Sailors Scholarship, McPherson High School
• Julia Michaela Johanna Groeblacher daughter of Michaela Groeblacher Economics BA Senior: Nnumaker College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Scholarship, Nontraditional Undergraduate Student Scholarship, Elizabeth Bowen/Carl Frederic Gustafson School Political Science scholarship, McPherson High School, McPherson
• Johnson Tanner Hawkinson son of Paul and Kathryn Hawkinson Pre-Business Freshman: Bob and Marlene Whittaker Leadership Scholarship, McPherson High School, McPherson
• Nicholas W Krehbiel son of Ken and Cheri Krehbiel MedicineMD Prof 1: W. E. Lundquist Memorial Scholarship, Moundridge High School
• James Gregory Loving son of James and Dawn Loving Civil Engineering BS Freshman:
George C. Shaad Memorial Scholarship, Freshman: Nontraditional Undergraduate Student Scholarship, McPherson High School
• Renee N Morgan Nursing BSN Junior: W. E. Lundquist Memorial Scholarship, McPherson High School
• Claytor Cress Morrow son of Darcie Morrow Electrical Engineering BS Freshman: Paul and Virginia Bassett Miller - Endowed Scholarship, Muchnic Foundation Scholarship - Engineering, Arthur and Zella Courtney Scholarship, McPherson High School
• Seth Dwayne Mowbray son of Darin and Billi Mowbray Pre-Business Freshman: Nontraditional Undergraduate Student Scholarship, McPherson High School
• Jill Marie Nowak daughter of Brett and Debbie Nowak Pre-Education Elementary Freshman: Nontraditional Undergraduate Student Scholarship, McPherson High School
• Torrance Reed Parkins son of Barbara Brookshire Pre-Law Junior: Summerfield Scholarship Fund, McPherson High School
• Callie Elizabeth Reber daughter of Brett and Kathryn Reber Accounting BSB Junior: Edwin Emery Slosson Scholarship in Science, McPherson High School
• Kelly Elise Roane daughter of Kenneth and Jill Roane Pre-Education Elementary Sophomore: Nontraditional Undergraduate Student Scholarship, McPherson High School
• Jessica Ann Schmidt daughter of Charles and Kathy Schmidt News and Information BSJ: Sophomore Nontraditional Undergraduate Student Scholarship, McPherson High School
• Jonathan Tyler Shorman son of Gene and Debra Shorman Pre-Journalism Freshman: Justice Scholarship, McPherson High School

From page 9
Political Science PHD Graduate: Walter Thompson Scholarship in Political Science
• Holly Nicole Parry daughter of Dennis and Linda Parry Pharmacy PD Junior: Nontraditional Undergraduate Student Scholarship, Ellsworth High School
• Katherine Anne Seymour Medicine MD Prof

1: Harry F. and Christine H. Lose Medical Scholarship

• Benjamin Gregory Chapman Architecture March Graduate: Michael C. Lasseter Graduate Scholarship, McPherson High School
• Benjamin Garrett Panzer son of Frank and Charlotte Panzer Graduate Electrical Engineering PHD: Dr. Bowen E. Parkins Scholarship, McPherson High School
• Dale Joshua Snell son of Glen and Kerri Snell Accounting BSB Senior: Norman L. Cochran Family Scholarship, McPherson High School
• Julia Christine Snell daughter of Glen and Kerri Snell Flute BM Sophomore: Estelle S. Churchill Music Scholarship, McPherson High School
• Robert Leroy Ulom Medicine MD Prof 1 F.P.: Donatelle, M.D. Student Scholarship - Wichita
• Joel David Wagoner son of Bruce and Barbara Wagoner Music Education BME Junior: Dale Jellison Weary Scholarship, McPherson High School
• Ethan Sheppard Walker Nursing BSN Senior: W. E. Lundquist Memorial Scholarship
• Linsey Ann Moddelmog daughter of Stuart and Beverly Moddelmog Political Science PHD

See Awards, Page 11
Students receive KU scholarships

Five Marion County students attending the University of Kansas received scholarship support during the 2008-09 academic year.

Matthew Schmidt of Lehigh received the Cramer Reed M.D. Scholarship, KUMC Bookstore Scholarship, and the Monte D. Maska Scholarship in Medicine. He is majoring in medicine.

Marion High School graduate Zachary Helmstead received the Bob and Marlene Whittaker Leadership Scholarship. He is a freshman, majoring in economics, and the son of Steven and Stacie Smith of Marion.

Amy Tajchman, also a MHS graduate, received the Paul W. and Virginia Bassett Miller Medical Scholarship. She is a senior, majoring in nursing, and is the daughter of Charles and Kay Tajchman of Marion.

Krista Heiser is a Centre High School graduate and received the Arlene Roberts Schaake Memorial Education Scholarship. She is a junior, majoring in nursing, and is the daughter of Mark and Katherine Heiser of Ramona.
Phi Kappa Phi inducts local KU student

Austin Arnett of El Dorado was among 147 students initiated into the University of Kansas chapter of Phi Kappa Phi honor society.

Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor Richard Lariviere was the keynote speaker at the Dec. 2 ceremony at Woodruff Auditorium in the Kansas Union.

Arnett is the son of Mike and Gayle Arnett. He is a junior majoring in electrical engineering. He graduated from El Dorado High School.

Founded in 1897, Phi Kappa Phi is the nation's oldest and largest all-discipline academic honor society. KU established its chapter in 1975.

Today, there are about 300 members. At KU, only the top 10 percent of seniors, top 7.5 percent of second-semester juniors with more than 72 credit hours and top 10 percent of graduate students are asked to join.

Phi Kappa Phi's primary objectives are to promote the pursuit of excellence in all fields of higher education and to recognize outstanding achievement by students, faculty and others by election to membership and through various awards for distinguished achievement.
The Kansas Board of Regents was wise to signal its intent to raise admissions standards, but Kansas families might be concerned about the board's decision to raise room and board costs at the state's public universities.

The desire to raise admission standards makes great sense. What the regents have in mind is different standards for the six public universities. The decision stems from the recommendation of a committee that had studied the issue, and involves universities taking into consideration high school students' grade-point averages, their class ranking and standardized test scores when considering admission.

KSU President Jon Wefald called the move "a very positive approach," and KU Chancellor Robert Hemenway added that setting such standards would serve the universities and their respective missions as well as Kansans. Neither university leader will be in his present post when the standards, if approved by the Legislature, take effect in 2014. Both men are stepping down at the end of this academic year.

Both were, however, involved in establishing the present admission standards, which were controversial when they were instituted less than a decade ago. Although there are exceptions, Kansas high school graduates qualify for automatic admission if they score a 21 or higher on the ACT, finish in the top one-third of their graduating class or get at least a C average in the pre-college core curriculum.

As for the price increases in room and board, which range from 3.4 percent at Wichita State to 6.5 percent at Pittsburg State, they're understandable and perhaps unavoidable. But that will come as small comfort to Kansas families already struggling to cope with the recession and job uncertainty. Many parents and students borrow heavily now to pay college expenses whose increases have long outpaced inflation.

Yes, public universities are having financial difficulties of their own; they're trying to improve quality while finding that they can't rely as much as they once did on state aid. What's more, the financial meltdown that's undermined retirement accounts also has taken its toll on endowments.

Public universities in Kansas don't yet seem to have reached the threshold at which increases in room, board, tuition and other fees take their toll on enrollment, but every increase — particularly increases in hard times — brings that day closer.
KU ROTC announces Veterans Day vigil student participants

LAWRENCE — Army, Marine, Naval and Air Force ROTC units at the University of Kansas have announced the names of about 120 student members who took part in the traditional 24-hour Veterans Day vigils from 7 p.m., Nov. 7 through 7 p.m., Nov. 8 at the Korean and Vietnam war memorials and World War II Memorial Campanile, all located along KU’s Memorial Drive.

Students participating from Sumner County included: Ryan Arthur Malanchuk son of Susannah of Mulvane. He is enrolled as engineering student in the Naval/Marine ROTC. He stood vigil over the Vietnam War Memorial.

KU’s Arnold Air Society, Ennis C. Whitehead Squadron, affiliated with Air Force ROTC, coordinated Veterans Day events this year. Lawrence Ditton, a junior from Olathe, is Arnold Air Society commander, and Stephanie Koenig, a junior from Baldwin, Mo., is Veterans Day event coordinator. Lt. Col. Gena Stuchbery is commanding officer of KU Air Force ROTC Detachment 280. Maj. Gary E. Marsteller is commandant of cadets.


KU is one of only 50 universities in the nation offering an ROTC program that represents four branches of the military. Students in KU’s ROTC programs include not only those from KU but also Baker University in Baldwin City, Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, the University of St. Mary in Leavenworth, Washburn University in Topeka, Mid-America Nazarene University in Olathe and Kansas City Kansas Community College.

Participants in the Veterans Day vigils are listed by hometown, major, level in school, parents’ names and high schools (when available), ROTC affiliation and memorial location or locations at www.news.ku.edu/2008/december/12/rotcvigil.shtml.
Student welcomed to society

LAWRENCE — The University of Kansas chapter of Phi Kappa Phi honor society has initiated 147 student members.

Ashlee Nicole Martz, daughter of Todd Widler of Clearwater is the chapter’s newest member.

Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor Richard Lariviere was the keynote speaker at the Dec. 2 ceremony at Woodruff Auditorium in the Kansas Union.

Two faculty members also were inducted into the KU chapter: Arienne Dwyer, associate professor of anthropology, and John Gaunt, dean of the School of Architecture and Urban Planning.

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Bonnie Croisant, a senior majoring in Design, received the Donna Geier Scholarship. Matthew Hudson, a senior majoring in Psychology, received the Nunemaker College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Scholarship. Trey Zartman, a junior majoring in Pre-business, received the Ellis D. Bever Undergraduate Scholarship.

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Now in mid-winter I observe some of my associates acting a little cantankerous, and I know it’s only light deprivation, but in romantic moments, I’d like to think it’s loco poisoning. “Loco” is a Spanish word that has become firmly established in American English through its association with the locoweeds of the American West.

You know what I’m talking about, if nothing else from watching movie and TV westerns. Perhaps the best known screen reference to the subject was the episode of the television series Fury on January 12, 1957. This one of 114 episodes in the series was called, “Loco Weed Story.”

Still today locoweeds—two sets of species, one from genus Astragalus, the other from genus Oxytropis—are troublesome to western stockmen, or more specifically to their beasts. The genus more prevalent on the Great Plains is Oxytropis, which has purple and white variants. All are attractive flowering plants, with the purple more widespread, the white having a more westerly range.

Oxytropis species of locoweeds are almost everywhere on the plains. Ranchers on the southwestern plains seem to have more trouble with them, but a North Dakota extension publication allows, “Locoweed is the most abundant poisonous plant in North Dakota and can be found throughout the state, although it is most prevalent west of the Missouri River.”

Pronghorn antelope on the northern plains are known to feed commonly on locoweeds without ill effects.

As I delved into the history of knowledge of locoweeds, I found a classic conflict between science and folklore. Hispanic and Anglo ranchers alike agreed on the characteristics and effects of locoweeds. The plants, they said, were not particularly palatable to grazing animals, but in times of stress, especially drought, they ate them. After that they were hooked, as locoweeds contained addictive compounds. Affected animals would seek them out and get more and more loco. Horses in particular were made erratic and dangerous, I mean even more erratic and dangerous than they are normally.

There was a pharmacist at the University of Kansas who in the 1880s tried to get to the bottom of these stories. Various scientists had published analyses declaring there were no poisonous compounds in the weeds, whereas stockmen persisted in their beliefs. Chemical analysis by the Kansas pharmacist, Professor L.E. Sayre, were inconclusive.

So, Sayre prepared liquid extracts from locoweeds and began dosing himself with greater and greater quantities, producing “not the least evidence of narcotism, although several times repeated.” His conclusion: locoweeds are not poisonous.

Except, are we really supposed to take the word of a fellow, a professor even, who admits to having swallowed large amounts of locoweed? “Several times repeated,” he says—and yet he insists the stuff is not addictive?

Swainsoneine is the compound Professor Sayre was looking for but said he never isolated—although it certainly sounds like he enjoyed it!