

Sunnyside Ministry College Scholarship Fund awards scholarships to six area students

SPECIAL TO
THE CHRONICLE

Sunnyside Ministry is pleased to announce that it has selected six area high school students to receive scholarships from the class of 2016. Four of the students were awarded a four-year scholarship of \$7,200 plus a new laptop computer, equipped to meet the requirements of their school of choice. Two students received a one-time \$2,000 scholarship.

Awards are determined by a scholarship committee. The committee includes teachers and retired teachers, ministers and representatives from the Sunnyside Ministry staff. The most important quality that the committee looks for in a student is a benevolent spirit. Sunnyside Ministry hopes that these scholars will, throughout their education and professional lives, give back to society. Among this year's recipients are three who are planning to become teachers and two who are planning careers in medicine. Students must reside in the Sunnyside Ministry service area of southern Forsyth and northern Davidson Counties, and must also demonstrate they have a financial need for this scholarship.

Those receiving four-year scholarships and a laptop computer from the class of 2016 are:

*Kylie Jarvis, a graduate of R. J. Reynolds, who

will be attending Moravian College in Bethlehem, Pa. in the fall. She is planning to major in Arts Education.

*Thomas Kimball, a graduate of North Davidson, who will be attending N.C. State in the fall. He is planning to study biology/pre-med. Kimball plans to continue his education to become a physician.

*Lauryn Kinney, a graduate of North Davidson, who will be attending UNC-Greensboro in the fall. She is planning to major in special education and also wants to be an American Sign Language interpreter.

*Tia Wilkes, a graduate of Glenn High School, who will be attending N.C. Central University this fall. She plans to major in nursing. Tia already has Nursing Assistant certification.

The following two students will receive a one-time \$2,000 scholarship:

*Trajan Douthit, a graduate of Atkins Academic & Technology High School, who has plans to work as a graphics artist. He is attending NC A&T State University.

*Jessica Messick, who graduated from R.J. Reynolds High School, and will be attending Warren Wilson College. She plans to major in Music Education.

When the recipients were asked about their plans for school and beyond, Thomas Kimball said, "I am the first member of my family to go to



Scholarship recipients from Left: Tia Wilkes, Lauryn Kinney and Thomas Kimball. Photograph provided by Sunnyside Ministry.

college. It is a huge blessing to be awarded a scholarship. Everyone is excited about going to college, but nobody is quite sure about how to pay for it. A college scholarship helps ease your stresses a little."

Tia Wilkes commented, "By allowing me to receive this scholarship, I will be able to give back to my community by going to N.C. Central University to become a nurse. Going to college is one of the most important goals as an adult."

Lauryn Kinney said,

"Going to UNC-G means a lot to me as it is one step closer to becoming a special education teacher and one step closer to helping serve our community."

A goal of Sunnyside Ministry is to empower people to be self-sufficient and to be part of a community that cares for its neighbors. "The Sunnyside Scholarship Program empowers young people who already have a heart for service to receive an education and become assets to the greater community. We have scholar-

ship recipients who have majored in social work, psychology and religion. And through their work and lives, give back to this community every day," said David Holston, Director of Sunnyside Ministry.

The Sunnyside Scholarship program is funded by a bequest from the estate of Blanche May Vogler and was established in 1998. This fund is administered by Salem Congregation of the Moravian Church. Additional funds for the

program come from gifts Miss Vogler left to Home Moravian Church. With this year's award, 106 students have received scholarships from this program, 102 of those students are either still enrolled or have graduated. This gives the program a 96.2% graduation rate.

Sunnyside Ministry serves primarily southern Forsyth and northern Davidson Counties with food, clothing and financial assistance.

Foundation centered on pets receives \$20,500 in grants

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Sergei Foundation is pleased to announce it has received two charitable grants so far this year totaling \$20,500.

The first is a \$10,000 Banfield Foundation grant to be used for veterinary medical care to low-income families to keep pets and their companions together.

The second is a \$10,500 capacity-building grant from The Winston-Salem Foundation to assist with a part-time program manager position added this year to handle the increase in community applications for assistance.

"We are proud to have the support of two such recognizable organizations to assist with our mission," says the nonprofit's founder and president, Karen Fullerton. "These grants are imperative to us to best serve the public

in providing critical veterinary care and resources to families unable to afford it."

Fullerton started the foundation in 2009. Understanding how important a pet can be to family dynamics, she saw a local need to fill where many humane societies and other animal welfare organizations cannot. By focusing on the niche for veterinary care, The Sergei Foundation complements the good work of other animal welfare nonprofits by keeping drop-off rates down and educating applicants on the importance of veterinary preventative care and spaying/neutering of pets.

The Sergei Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. To date, the organization has helped hundreds of companion pets - dogs and cats - obtain veterinary medical care. Criteria for funding include meeting financial criteria for low/moderate income guidelines, the owner(s) having past veterinary history and the emergency level of the pet's sickness or injury.

More information can be found online at www.SergeiFoundation.org.



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As weather heats up, 'tip and toss' to eliminate mosquito breeding areas

SPECIAL TO
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Mosquito and tick-borne diseases are most commonly acquired from June to September, but residents of Forsyth County can "tip and toss" to eliminate mosquito breeding areas and take preventive measures to reduce the likelihood of mosquito and tick bites.

Tick and mosquito-borne infections are common in North Carolina. More than 790 cases of domestically acquired and travel associated tick and mosquito-borne diseases were reported in 2015, including Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, Lyme Disease, LaCrosse encephalitis, and West Nile virus. The first travel associated case of Zika virus in Forsyth County was reported in March 2016.

"Ticks and mosquitoes are common, but we can take measures to limit the risk of being bitten and contracting a tick or mosquito-borne infection," said Marlon Hunter, Forsyth County health director. "We can use the Tip and

Toss practices to protect ourselves and our neighbors from tick and mosquito bites this summer."

Basic control measures include reducing habitat for the pests and reducing exposure to them.

Tip and toss:

*Reduce mosquito breeding opportunities by emptying standing water from flowerpots, gutters, buckets, pool covers, pet water dishes, discarded tires and birdbaths at least weekly.

*Be sure to tightly secure screens on all openings on rain barrels used for water conservation.

*Clean up any trash or leaves that may be around your home or in rain gutters.

Reduce exposure and use preventive measures:

*Avoid tick habitats, which include wooded, grassy or brushy areas.

*Use tick and mosquito repellent that contains

DEET (or equivalent) on exposed skin and wear clothing treated with permethrin, a synthetic insecticide used against disease-carrying insects.

*If you find a tick attached to your body, carefully remove it by grasping the tick with fine-tipped tweezers as close as possible to your skin and apply a steady gentle pull until it releases.

*Reduce tick habitat on your property by mowing frequently and keeping your yard clear of old furniture and debris.

*Mosquito-proof your home by installing or repairing screens on windows and doors to keep mosquitoes outside, and use air conditioning if you have it.

For more information on preventing tick and mosquito-borne illnesses visit: <http://www.forsyth.cc/PublicHealth/> or call the Environmental Health Division at 336-703-3225.

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