

Scholarship Winners Announced

Graham County Electric is excited to provide scholarships to six students from five local schools.

Greg Smith graduated from Safford High School and is excited for the next chapter in his life. Born in Middletown, Ohio, he was sick and struggled to survive. After two years of being in and out of hospitals, the doctors recommended he move to the desert.

Around age 15, he landed in Safford and found teachers and people ready to help. After playing football as a freshman, he found huge benefits in FFA.

“The qualities I learned from my coaches and teammates carried over to every aspect of my life and helped me to succeed in the FFA and automotive circles for the next several years,” says Greg.

Safford teachers, coaches and volunteers have prepared Greg for the future. His parents, Scott and Brenda Ratliff, express pride in his accomplishments as FFA Star Chapter Businessman for 2015 and 2016, autos secretary in 2016. He graduated with a 3.5 GPA and ranked 42nd in his class of 168. He is attending Eastern Arizona College and majoring in engineering.

Alexandra Alvarado, from Mt. Graham High School, was born in Denver, Colorado, and moved to Safford when she was 5. Alexandra attended Safford Schools most of her life. She plans to pursue the medical or psychology field at Eastern Arizona College.

Alexandra, the daughter of Santos Alvarado, has a 1-year-old son.

Corrie Hawkins is from Thatcher High School and ranks 17th out of 109 in her class.

Corrie volunteered at the Graham County Rehabilitation Center to help with Special Olympics and in the back-to-school clothing drive. While at THS, Corrie participated in the art and fashion club.

She is attending Eastern Arizona College to study graphic design, then transfer to a four-year university. Corrie is the daughter of Betsy Kay and Mark Layton Hawkins.

Camryn Wilson, born in Phoenix, is from Pima High School, with a graduating class of 55. Her parents are Kiley Pearson and Rory Wilson. Camryn participated in PHS choir and show choir

for two years. She is attending Eastern Arizona College and plans to become a film director.

Savannah Talgo of Ft. Thomas High School is the daughter of Geron and Tammie Talgo. She ranks 7th in her class of 26 and loves math and reading. Savannah participated in art club, Skills USA, Future Business Leaders of America and the March of Dimes. She is attending Eastern Arizona College.

Deidra Chase graduated from Ft. Thomas with a 2.94 GPA and ranked 6th out of 26. During high school, her interests included FFA, playing volleyball and basketball her freshman year and then being manager for both teams. She received a certificate for passing carpentry CTE testing. She is attending Central Arizona College in radiology and plans to complete a bachelor's degree at a four-year university. Her parents are Debra Chase and Loren Jackson. Congratulations to all of the recipients.

For more information on GCEC/GCU scholarships, speak with your high school counselor. ■



Greg Smith



Alexandra Alvarado



Corrie Hawkins



Camryn Wilson



Savannah Talgo



Deidra Chase