

'09 Lilly Scholars are named

Comet staff report

The Carroll County Community Foundation has announced the Lilly Endowment Community Scholars for 2009.

Carroll senior Kevin Knaus and Delphi senior Nicole Springer will each receive full-tuition, four-year scholarships to an Indiana college of their choice. They will also receive a stipend for required books and equipment.

Kevin, who ranks first in his class at Carroll Jr.-Sr. High School, plans to attend Butler University and pursue a degree in pharmacy.

"When I got the letter that I was a Lilly recipient, I was extremely thankful to everyone involved, and a weight was lifted off my shoulders. I now know where I will be attending college and am very grateful to be able to attend a top-notch university like Butler," he said.

Kevin is active at his school, serving as president of National Honor Society, Historians Club and Spanish Club. He is also an officer for Student Council, and a member of Key Club. He serves as a Caring Connection Mentor and helps at the Kokomo Rescue Mission.

According to one of his teachers he is very committed

to community service. He not only performs his required community service through his various school affiliations, but he logs additional hours, while maintaining a rigorous academic course load and working four hours per week for Brenneco Fire Protection.

Kevin's awards have included Top 10, American Legion Good Citizen, Rotary Citizenship, and President's Award for Educational Excellence.

"Kevin is an excellent scholar, not just simply smart," wrote his art teacher Wyndham Traxler-Carter in a letter of recommendation. "He is not content to complete an assignment, but to also think about possibilities within the range of solutions, and evaluate options for what is best."

Kevin is the youngest of four children of Merl and Janice Knaus of Flora. He says his oldest (by 13 years) brother, Stephen, is his role model.

"...Steve continues to be the inspiring influence in my developing life and goals," said Kevin. "His actions show me to always make room for others, especially those who can be encouraged and positively influenced by a simple kind word or action."

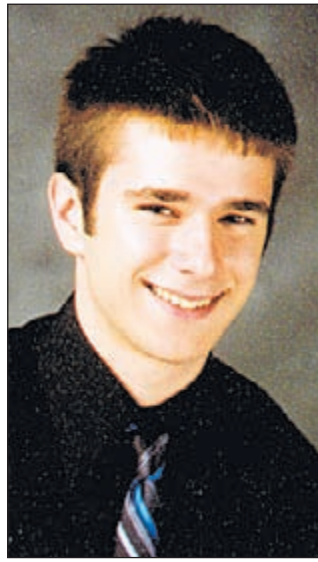
Nicole currently plans to study pre-medicine at St. Joseph's College. She is ranked second in her class at Delphi Community High School.

"When my mom informed me of the news, I was absolutely speechless," she said. "I began to cry as I realized that as a Carroll County Lilly Endowment Community Scholar, my educational goals are possible and my family will not have to struggle trying to fund my education."

Nicole is vice president of National Honor Society and a member of SADD, Key Club and Spanish Club. She is group leader for Battle of the Books and a Junior Rotarian.

Nicole competes on the DCHS girls varsity tennis team and has been a cheerleader for three years.

She is also involved in her church youth group and is a



Kevin Knaus

10-year 4-H member.

Her awards have included National Society of High School Scholars, Scholarship "D" Award, most improved for tennis, most improved for cheerleading, and student ambassador for People to People.

Besides excelling academically, Nicole places a high priority on service to her school and community. She also works ten hours a week at Hollister Co.

In a letter of recommendation DCHS science department chair Kirk Janowiak wrote, "Coaches and teammates value Nicole for more than just 'doing her job.' Nicole is seen as a valuable person who actively tries to improve the experience for everyone around her."

"She usually takes on the leadership role in her groups – not by force of will nor power of personality, but rather by gentle suggestions and solid information, offered freely and amiably."

Nicole is the oldest child of Alan Springer of Lafayette and Loretta Springer of Monticello. She says that her younger brother, Nathan, is her inspiration. He has Down Syndrome.

"Nathan does not care who you are, where you come from, how much money you have, or what you can do for him; Nathan will welcome you with open arms," she said.

"Nathan has made me realize that God put him on this



Nicole Springer

earth to teach other people the values and benefits of a beautiful life."

A committee of volunteers evaluated the applications from qualified and eligible Carroll County students who applied for the Lilly Scholarship. They selected eight finalists who were interviewed by the Carroll County Community Foundation board and scholarship committee.

The other six finalists are being recognized for their achievements with \$1,000

scholarships. They are: Nicholi Kauffman, son of James and Maria Kauffman, Hannah Strasser, daughter of Tim and Kathy Strasser, and Shawneki Windell, daughter of Angi Kemp, all seniors at Delphi Community High School; Sarah Griffin, daughter of Dale and Christina Griffin, and Travis Martin, son of Mark and Karen Martin, both seniors at Carroll Jr.-Sr. High School; and Megan Leverenz, daughter of J. Scott and Cindy Leverenz, a Twin Lakes High School senior.

A reception to recognize scholarship recipients will be held June 2 at the Wabash & Erie Canal Conference Center in Delphi.

About the scholarships

The Lilly Scholarships are the result of a statewide Lilly Endowment initiative to help Hoosier students reach higher levels of education. There were 216 scholarships awarded statewide.

This is the twelfth year that the Endowment has funded the Lilly Endowment Community Scholars program for outstanding students in Indiana. The Endowment hopes that this program will encourage

many of Indiana's most talented students to attend one of Indiana's higher education institutions and after graduation consider pursuing occupations in Indiana.

The Community Foundation defined the criteria based on the Endowment's stated goal to "raise the level of educational attainment in Indiana." The criteria identified by the Foundation and used in the selection process were: scholastic achievements; school, community, and work activities; essay; financial need; and an interview.

The Carroll County Community Foundation is a not-for-profit charitable organization created in 1997. The mission of the Foundation is to improve the quality of life of the community through the accumulation and stewardship of enduring charitable gifts. For details about making a charitable gift or establishing a permanent endowment fund to benefit a charitable organization or interest in Carroll County, please contact the Community Foundation at (800) 964-0508 or visit the Foundation's website at www.cfc Carroll.org.

Carroll County Comet
Delphi, Indiana
April 1, 2009

Carroll Kindergarten Round-Up announced

Kindergarten Round-Up at Carroll Elementary School will be Thursday and Friday, April 9 and 10.

Children must be five years old by Aug. 1, 2009, to attend kindergarten in the 2009-2010 school year.

Prior to the Round-Up, parents

should fill out a form (available at the school), indicating the child's name, date of birth, parent's name, address, and phone number, and choice of appointment time on April 9 or 10.

Parents must bring the following items to the Round-Up session: Child's original

birth certificate (from County Board of Health or hospital); medical history and physical form completed and signed by child's doctor; official copy of child's immunization record; and if applicable, divorce decree stating custody of the child.

DAR Good Citizens are named

Comet staff report

Charles Carroll Chapter of the DAR announces its Good Citizen Award winners for this school year.

They are Nicholi James Kauffman from Delphi Community High School and Megan Ayres from Carroll Jr.-Sr. High School.

Kauffman has been selected by the state DAR judges as one of the top 13 finalists in this year's contest. He will be a guest of the state DAR at the awards luncheon on May 2 in Indianapolis. The top three DAR Good Citizen winners will be announced at that time, and each will be awarded a check.

The DAR award recognizes senior high school students who possess the qualities of good citizenship: dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism in home, school, and community. Each award is given on a merit basis, including completion of a questionnaire, essay, scholastic record, and a letter of recom-



Kauffman



Ayres

Kauffman is the son of James and Maria Kauffman. He is a member of National Honor Society and participated in the Indiana Academic Decathlon. He was a cadet teacher for middle school math, and has received awards for excellence in math.

Activities include school athletics, Purdue research, Rotary International, and Scouts. He also is involved in his church and the American Cancer Society.

He works on the family farm, has a summer job at Indiana Beach, and enjoys playing the guitar.

Kauffman plans to attend Purdue University and pursue

a degree in mechanical engineering. He would like to obtain a career where he can design objects that will improve areas such as safety and productivity.

Ayres is the daughter of Kip and Cathy Ayres. Her high school activities have included FFA treasurer, Key Club, National Honor Society, RISE, Talent Show emcee, Spanish Club, cross country, track, and basketball.

Other activities have been 4-H club vice president, historian, and reporter, Junior Leaders, mentoring at Oasis, and working on the family farm.

She plans to get a degree in nursing, then a master's degree, and become a nurse practitioner.

CJHS swim awards



Carroll Junior High swimmers were honored recently. Award winners were (l-r): Front - Kayleigh Bordner, most points; Rebekah Forgey, mental attitude; Makayla Cowell, most improved girls swimmer. Back - Blake Claxton, most points; Brian Bordner, mental attitude; and Ethan Reinke, most improved. Photo provided

Carroll basketball awards



Members of Carroll girls' varsity basketball team who were honored with special awards are (l-r): Quincy Eller, most valuable player; Sarah Griffin, Wayne Esserman Lady Cougar Heart Award; Amber Hughes, most improved player; and Abby Reinke, Jack Malson Lady Cougar total team player award. Photo provided

Qualifies for national YMCA swim meet

Garrett Pringle of Fairborn, Ohio, son of Drew and Joni (Ayres) Pringle and grandson of Bill and Sue Ayres of Flora, has qualified for the YMCA National Swim Meet in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. The National meet will be held at the U.S. Swimming Hall of Fame aquatic center on April 6-9.

Pringle is a senior at Fairborn High School and swims



Pringle

for Beaver Creek YMCA. He has been swimming since he was 8. He qualified in the 200 backstroke, 100 breaststroke, and 200 free relay. His qualification times place him in the top 50 in the nation for YMCA swimming.

Pringle will be attending Wilmington College in Wilmington, Ohio, as a member of the swim team.

Bill Stauffer Sports Photos NOW AVAILABLE



Regular Prints Sports Memorabilia
Framed Prints Prints
Digital Downloads and many more
T-shirt Prints product prints available

Just go to the Photo Gallery at www.carrollcountycomet.com