

Press Release from the Littleton Commissioners of Trust Funds

The Littleton Commissioners of Trust Funds announced the scholarship awards for 2015 from the F.M Kimball- Second Scholarship Fund and the John & Eunice Morrison Scholarship Fund totaling \$47,000 to 13 recipients. A record 96 applications were submitted for these scholarships.

This was the nineteenth year for awards from the Kimball Fund that was established by H. Vincent Couper in honor of his uncle Frank M. Kimball. Mr. Kimball had established the original fund that enabled Vincent to earn a degree from the Massachusetts Agricultural College – now known as the University of Massachusetts in Amherst in the 1920's.

Mr. Couper, known as "Vince" was a very successful Littleton farmer who raised a variety of crops here in Littleton as well as in Florida. In addition to this scholarship he was very generous to the Reuben Hoar Library, the Children's Hospital in Boston, and the University of Massachusetts.

This is the second year of awards from the Morrison Fund. John and Eunice Morrison are probably best known as the former owners of what has become the last apple orchard in Littleton. John Morrison was a conservationist who ensured that the orchard, located at Nagog Hill and Nashoba Roads remain as agricultural land.

The recipients of awards this year were selected by the awards committee appointed by the Commissioners and were recognized by the Commissioners at an awards ceremony held on June 10th at Town Hall. They are as follows:

Stephanie Gentile – Stephanie has just completed her first of a 5 year program in occupational therapy at the University of New Hampshire. Stephanie is planning to explore as many options as she can and to take all opportunities. Her high GPA is only one demonstration of her abilities.

Kendra LaVallee – Kendra has just completed her sophomore year at the University of Pittsburgh, majoring in Chemical Engineering and a minor in Bio-Engineering/Chemistry with a goal to work in medical research. She has a strong interest in regenerative medicine and pharmaceuticals. In August 2015, she will start a 12 month co-op with Johnson & Johnson. Kendra is also active in the Society of Women Engineers, an organization that aims to inspire and empower women in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics fields (STEM).

Samantha Fleury – Samantha wishes to pursue a career in biology or biochemistry at the University of Virginia. She was captain of the tennis team. "Vacations" in Appalachia doing mission work for her church, and was accepted into an internship this summer at a biotech company.

Alexandra Autio - Alexandra has just graduated from Littleton High School and will be attending the University of Massachusetts, Amherst in the fall. There, she hopes to pursue a degree in either biology or neuroscience, while exploring her interests in psychology, sports medicine, and injury prevention. She has been the recipient of a number of awards citing her academic performance, including recognition

from National Honor's Society, the National Latin and Spanish exams, as well as the golden key from the Boston Globe. Out of class, Alexandra is active playing soccer and performing community service through her church youth group.

Isabella Goddard- Isabella just graduated from Littleton High School with strong academic performance for the past four years. She has been a dancer for the past 15 years. During those years she watched many of her injured dance colleagues returning to performing after receiving treatment from a physical therapist. As a result of these experiences, Isabella has a strong desire to help not only dancers but those in need of healing services and decided to pursue a career as a physical therapist and has enrolled at Sacred Heart University in Connecticut.

Devon Webster- Devon graduated from Littleton High School in 2014 and worked this past year in the health field. This strengthened his interest in mental health and helped him to realize he wanted to work with children and teens. His goal is obtain his degree in Psychology or Social Work. He will be attending Lesley University in the fall.

Gregory Thumith- Gregory is enrolled at the Riverview School. Riverview is an independent co-educational boarding/day school in East Sandwich, MA that provides a caring community for adolescents and young adults. Greg is an Eagle Scout; an enthusiastic genealogy researcher; an excellent cook and looks forward to a position in the culinary field.

Rachel Marshall – Rachel will be entering her senior year at the University of Rhode Island where she is pursuing studies in both fisheries science with a minor in marine biology, as well as stage management. Upon receiving her degree, she hopes to work on solving issues facing the commercial fishing industry, such as reducing by-catch, through developing novel fishing gear and practices.

Brittany Wile-Brittany is a nursing major at the University of New Hampshire, where she will be entering her junior year in the fall. During her academic career, she has remained a strong and dedicated student, being placed on the dean's list despite taking a rigorous course of study. As a future nurse, Brittany seeks to help those around her in the health care field. This past May, she traveled to Haiti to set up health care clinics and to give vaccinations to those in need.

Braedan McKee – Braedan will be entering his junior year studying environmental science at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell. At the University, he has had the opportunity to take courses covering topics ranging from oceanography and weather patterns, to resource conservation. He plans to use his acquired knowledge to help protect the environment.

Andrew Minior – Andrew is currently enrolled at U Mass Lowell as an undergraduate student majoring in Electrical Engineering with a minor in Robotics. His academic excellence is reflected in being named to the Dean's List every semester. Andrew is looking forward to the future application of his talents in the automotive industry and the challenges faced in the technological development of electric motors and alternative energy.

Josh Whitcomb- Josh is a recent graduate of Littleton High School with high academic achievement. He will be attending Holy Cross in the fall with the intent of being a pre-med major for a future career practicing medicine. While attending high school, Josh was active in a variety of extra- curricular activities including the initiation of a student led tutoring program and being a multi-sport varsity athlete.

Michael Wing- Michael is also a recent graduate of Littleton High School with high academic achievement. Michael will be attending Bryant College in the fall where he hopes to further develop his math skills with a focus on statistics. He would like to merge his experiences as a three sport varsity athlete with statistical analysis in future job opportunities.

The recipients of these awards illustrate the intent of Vince Couper and John & Eunice Morrison to help those who were interested in advancing their careers. To date, the F.M. Kimball-Second Fund has awarded over \$142,000 in scholarships to the residents of Littleton since its inception in 1996. The Morrison Fund has awarded \$55,000 over the past two years.

These scholarships are open annually to residents of Littleton who are pursuing higher education or additional skills training in order to advance their career objectives. Further information, as well as an application, is available at the Town's web site www.littletonma.org .