

**IN MEMORIAM
ANNE CAMPBELL**

Anne Campbell first learned of OPI as a member of the Twentieth Century Cotillion Study Club in Pampa, of which she was a member for more than 60 years. Support of OPI through the study club grew into establishing, with her husband Jim, the Campbell Family Memorial Loan Fund. The fund has assisted almost 50 students with nearly \$500,000 in student aid. Anne served on the OPI Board of Directors and was instrumental in funding OPI's current building. She passed away August 25.



"The first time I met Anne, she told me she talked constantly about OPI," M. Keith Brown, OPI executive director, said. "It might be to her bridge club friends, encouraging them to support the program, or it might be to the young people living across the street or sacking her groceries. She was our best goodwill ambassador, and she will be missed tremendously by our organization."

The Campbell family was honored by OPI and the Texas Plains Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals with the Lifetime Service Award in November 2014. Contributions in Anne's memory may be made to the Campbell Memorial Loan Fund at OPI by mail or at OpportunityPlan.com.

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"Providing this incentive has continued to help students see the need for determining how to invest in postsecondary education."

"We will be that much more effective when we all work together to increase the education level in our region," M. Keith Brown, OPI executive director, said. "OPI is excited to have other partners in the community who have the same objectives."

NOTES OF APPRECIATION

Thanks!

Pat, Keith, & Pam,
Thank you all for the scholarship this year! What a wonderful surprise & blessing that was. I also want to say thank you for making the process of loans so much better. I love seeing all of your smiling faces & you are all so kind & helpful. Thank you for working with me & for all you do! Have a great week!

- Jayton Welch

Dear Marmaluke Family,
Thank you so much for this scholarship! I am very grateful for this scholarship in that it will allow me to pursue my degree without financial strain. This has allowed me to see how great the community is and this has inspired me to give back one day and help students as you have done for me. I have registered for classes and I'm very excited. I have decided to pursue pre communication disorders. I'm not decided on what I'd like to specialize in, but working with the elderly is an interest. After my bachelors in communication disorders, I will apply for the masters program at NT, and later plan to practice as a speech language pathologist. Thank you again for aiding me with this scholarship, I will keep you updated!
Sincerely, Marissa Medrano

Opportunity Plan inc.
Educational Loans and Scholarships
Box 1035 | Canyon, Texas 79015

KUDOS TO OPI GRADS!

Congratulations to our OPI students who have completed degrees! The following individuals completed degrees in May and August 2017.

AMARILLO COLLEGE
Lorena Herrera – Canadian

ABILENE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
Andrew Bullard – Colleyville

BAYLOR COLLEGE OF MEDICINE
Evan Jones – Canyon

BELMONT UNIVERSITY
Logan Hinders – Canyon

BOSTON CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC
Lucas Alvarado – Amarillo

CLARENDON COLLEGE
Kati Adams – Hedley

LIBERTY UNIVERSITY
Pam Guillen – Canadian

OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY
Mackenzie Odom – Happy

PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY
Emily Reitz – Amarillo

SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY
Jamie Kester – Spring

ST. THOMAS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW
Tanner Lakey – Amarillo

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY
Victoria Hamby – Canadian

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Abby Behrens – Canyon

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
Zach Berry – Panhandle
Ty Chavez – Amarillo
Mark Holloway – Dumas
Lauren Picon – Happy
Cesar Martinez – Farmers Branch
Ben Seth Ramsey – Quitaque
Logan Robb – Nazareth

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS
Kyleigh Head – Canyon
Ezequiel Tijerina – Krum

WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Trent Allen – Amarillo
Grayson Carnes – Amarillo
Jade Forward – Allison
Tarleton Holloway – Canadian
Shaun Kline – Amarillo

Alexander Mayhew – Canyon
Lindsay Ogerly – Lubbock
Edward Pando – Pecos
Leah Redwine – Claude
Korbin Richardson – Amarillo
Garrett Robinson – Amarillo
Sydney Robinson – Canyon
Jennifer Rodarte – Amarillo
Kylie Schulz – Spring
Laci Sciacca – Canyon
Riley Sizemore – Henrietta
Lydia Solomon – Canyon
Elizabeth Willis – Spring



making the DIFFERENCE

FALL 2017

Opportunity Plan inc.
Educational Loans and Scholarships



PICKENS ABRAHAM FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

A deal struck in 2008 between Canadian, Texas, leading citizens Salem and Ruth Ann Abraham and longtime Roberts County, Texas, land owner and philanthropist T. Boone Pickens continues to benefit OPI and help Panhandle youth attain the educational opportunities to pursue their dreams. Gifts from the Pickens Abraham Foundation have provided almost \$1 million in OPI scholarships for students graduating from Canadian and Miami high schools.

Pickens began supporting OPI in 1979 when he established the T. Boone Pickens, Jr. Student Loan Fund. In recognition of the role OPI played in Ruth Ann's higher education, the Abrahams set up OPI's Salem and Ruth Ann Abraham Scholarship Fund in 2005.

"I know what it's like to grow up in a small town and the challenges families encounter," Pickens, who was born in Holdenville, Oklahoma, and grew up in the Texas Panhandle, said.

Seven 2017 graduating seniors received the scholarship this year, bringing the total number of recipients to 56. Recipients receive \$3,000 per semester for up to eight semesters to attend the higher education institution of their choice.

"Ruth Ann and I are delighted to work with Boone in supporting the young people in Hemphill and Roberts counties," said Salem Abraham, a commodities trader. "These two counties are a special place for Boone, Ruth Ann and me, and it is nice to be able to give something back."

PARTNERSHIP WITH NO LIMITS NO EXCUSES



No Limits No Excuses (NLNE) got its start when a group of organizations in Amarillo began the Partners for Postsecondary Success initiative following receipt of a \$1.3 million grant from the Bill &

Melinda Gates Foundation in 2011. Research conducted by that group found that 70 percent of residents in Amarillo had no postsecondary education.

"As goes Amarillo, so goes the Panhandle, and if we are to continue to be viable economically and socially, we must improve our postsecondary educational attainment rates," Broc Carter, NLNE program officer, said.

The mission of NLNE is to make pathways to postsecondary credentials and living wage employment accessible for all individuals through community collaboration. The program's goal is for Amarillo residents to achieve an additional 10,000 degrees by the year 2025.

OPI, in conjunction with NLNE, provided six scholarships this year to AISD students who completed the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). One student from each AISD campus received a scholarship, and OPI's contribution allowed two additional AISD students to receive funds. Scholarship recipients are attending Amarillo College, Wayland Baptist University and the Fashion Institute of Technology this fall. Most importantly, each AISD high school saw more than 150 FAFSAs completed this year.

"FAFSA completion is an indication of a student's desire to finance their postsecondary education," Carter said.

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SADDLE UP FOR SUCCESS

Wesley Sims was chosen to receive \$2500 in OPI scholarships when he graduated from Happy High School and began his freshman year at Weatherford College, but those scholarships were not renewable. However, his performance at WC led to a spot on the Tarleton State University rodeo team where he was one of two recipients of the Sewalt Scholarship, provided by the Cowboy Capital Pro Rodeo Association in Stephenville.

Wesley is a senior majoring in accounting at TSU who plans to receive his master's degree before sitting for the CPA licensing exam. His career goal is to open his own accounting firm.

"I have always had great respect for the TSU Rodeo program and the coaches," Sims said. "They produce champions in each rodeo event and encourage excellence in every aspect of life. I felt like TSU would drive me to be the person I wanted to be both in and out of the arena."

OPI scholarships often give students the initial incentive to begin postsecondary education. But it's a student's drive and initiative that carries them through to a degree. OPI is proud of Wesley and his accomplishments and looks forward to his continued success.



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

OPI SCHOLARSHIPS = \$530,000



NEW IRS DEDUCTIONS

According to information received from OPI's long-time accounting partner Brown Graham & Company, recent tax regulations have acknowledged that computers, peripheral equipment, certain types of software, Internet access and related services are essential for postsecondary education. When those items are used primarily by a beneficiary of a qualified state tuition plan (Sec 529), the cost of the items can be reimbursed from the plan's funds, tax-free. OPI encourages you to check with your personal tax and financial advisors in order to determine what works best in your situation.

A BIG THANKS ON BEHALF OF 428 STUDENTS

The generosity of many people through the years has made it possible for 428 students to receive scholarship funds from Opportunity Plan for this fall semester. With the rising cost of higher education, it's more important than ever for many students to receive assistance to enroll in college and stay in college.

We thank our many donors for their amazing generosity and encourage everyone to continue to provide scholarship contributions that will improve young people's lives and give them hope for a future that only an education can provide.

This is truly the way to Make a Difference!

MEMORIAL AND HONORARY GIFTS

OPI is blessed to receive many gifts given as memorials and honorariums. The following gifts were given as such between March and August 2017. For a complete list of tributes in the last year, visit www.OpportunityPlan.com/memorials-and-honorariums.

AUGUST 2017

In Memory of Lee Banks
Cleo and Dr. Bob Robinson

In Memory of Anne Campbell
Brown Graham & Company, Pampa
M. Keith Brown
James Bradley
Nelda and Lee Callaway
Linda and Jim Davis
Gene Hall
Opportunity Plan, Inc.
Anne and Bob Steichen
Donna and Jack Vanderburg
Cathy and Carroll Wright

In Memory of Nolan Chandler
Cleo and Dr. Bob Robinson
Jussen and Currie Smith

In Memory of Betty Farrell
Jussen and Currie Smith

In Memory of Helen Hall
Lynda and Michael Tinsley

In Memory of Benjamin Hopper
Joyce Attebury
Sandra and Jon Beilue
Marita and Dan Cunyus
Tara and Russell Lowery-Hart
Rey Martin Family
Joe Bill Sherrod
Jussen and Currie Smith
Carol and Burk Whittenburg
Dr. John Young

In Memory of Wendy Marsh
Jussen and Currie Smith

In Memory of Bill McKinney
Jussen and Currie Smith

In Memory of Keeton McNutt
Cleo and Dr. Bob Robinson

In Memory of Mary Nesbit
Cleo and Dr. Bob Robinson

In Memory of Monty Platt
Cleo and Dr. Bob Robinson

In Memory of Allen Seymour
Cleo and Dr. Bob Robinson

In Memory of Patricia Ann Addington Perry
Sue and Thomas Buckner

In Memory of Ned I. Spiritas
Mary and Homer Smith

JULY 2017

In Memory of Russ Barnett
Cleo and Dr. Bob Robinson

In Memory of Gary Don Harkey
Cleo and Dr. Bob Robinson

In Memory of Wendy Marsh
Opportunity Plan, Inc.

In Memory of Jimmy Don Mitchell
Mr. and Mrs. Don Duncan
Debbie and Jeremy Jones

In Memory of Dan Rahlfs
Penny Rahlfs

In Memory of Bruce Rigler
Cleo and Dr. Bob Robinson

In Honor of Lynn Singleton on Her Birthday
Cathy Wright

In Memory of Landon Smith
Carmaleta Barnett
Stacy and Ross Glenn

In Honor of Lynda Tinsley on Her Birthday
Cathy Wright

In Memory of Craig Troub
Cleo and Dr. Bob Robinson

In Honor of Corey Weiss
Ruby Weiss

In Memory of Lee Weiss
Ruby Weiss

In Memory of Joe Wolf
Angie Cave and Family
Polly Herrington

June 2017

In Memory of Robert Adamson
Zeta Chi Sorority

In Memory of Paula Barbee Finney
Inelle Bagwell

In Memory of Charles Bogard
Lisa Wilson

In Memory of Louis Hinders
M. Keith Brown

In Memory of P. E. Hooser
Jo and Wayne Pierson

In Memory of John King
Lisa Wilson

In Memory of Jimmy Don Mitchell
Joe Bain
Lorraine and James Baird
Sandy and Max Borden
Joyce and Glenn Cockrell
Betty Cooper
Gladys and Chester Cunningham
Anne and Rick Easter
Renae and Phillip Freeman
Venita and Bill Gray
Cindy and Tom Hanson
Gloria Jackson
Rafe Jackson and Family
J. K. Jennings
Jeannie Jones
Aimee and Melanie Lamberson
Nancy and Andrew Nenstiel
Bill Semmelbeck
Holly Troth
Mr. and Mrs. Don Vance
Glenda and Kenneth Ware
Jackie Wino and Family

In Memory of Jimmy Don Mitchell
Mr. and Mrs. Don Vance
Glenda and Kenneth Ware
Jackie Wino and Family

In Memory of Jimmy Don Mitchell
Mr. and Mrs. Don Duncan
Debbie and Jeremy Jones

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In Memory of Dan Rahlfs
Penny Rahlfs

In Memory of Bruce Rigler
Cleo and Dr. Bob Robinson

In Honor of Lynn Singleton on Her Birthday
Cathy Wright

In Memory of Landon Smith
Carmaleta Barnett
Stacy and Ross Glenn

In Honor of Lynda Tinsley on Her Birthday
Cathy Wright

In Memory of Craig Troub
Cleo and Dr. Bob Robinson

In Memory of Lee Weiss
Ruby Weiss

In Memory of Joe Wolf
Angie Cave and Family
Polly Herrington

In Memory of Jimmy Don Mitchell
M. Keith Brown

In Memory of Edna Wilson on Mother's Day
Lisa Wilson

In Memory of Olen Wilson on Father's Day and His Birthday
Lisa Wilson

In Memory of Edna Wilson on Her Birthday
Lisa Wilson

In Memory of Edna Wilson on Her Birthday
Lisa Wilson

In Memory of Edna Wilson on Her Birthday
Lisa Wilson

In Honor of Susan Elise Buckner Boeckman on Her Birthday
Sue and Tom Buckner

In Memory of Doris Ann Branum
M. Keith Brown

In Memory of Virginia Daugherty
Carmaleta Barnett

In Memory of Peggy DePrang
Carmaleta Barnett
Stacy and Ross Glenn

In Memory of Dr. Tom Eck
Cleo and Dr. Bob Robinson

In Memory of Sloan Everett
Jussen and Currie Smith

In Memory of Charles Gambles
Polly and Mitch Chester Family

In Memory of Calvin Graham
Carmaleta Barnett

In Memory of Kylie Sheree Hiner
Panhandle-Plains M&SC
Cleo and Dr. Bob Robinson
Candace and John Stagner

In Memory of Diana Jones
Carmaleta Barnett
Stacy and Ross Glenn

In Memory of Wayne Long
Dani and Don Heathington

In Honor of Bobby McDonald
Dani and Don Heathington

In Memory of Gereta Meisner
Dani and Don Heathington

In Memory of Jimmy Don Mitchell
M. Keith Brown

In Memory of Ronald Nickum
Jussen and Currie Smith

In Honor of Dr. and Mrs. Bruce Purdy
Mr. and Mrs. Max King

In Honor of Erin Buckner Rosica on Her Birthday
Sue and Thomas Buckner

In Honor of Stanley Schaeffer on His Birthday
Rala and Jason Underwood

In Memory of Helen Schmitz
Jo and Wayne Pierson

In Memory of R. L. Scott
Dani and Don Heathington

In Memory of Misty Angeley Shaw
Jamie and C. L. Myers Family
Rhonda and Thurman Myers Family

In Memory of Charles Steel
Mary Carter

In Memory of John Steel
Mary Carter

In Memory of Larry Steel
Mary Carter

In Memory of Joyce Tyer
Jo and Wayne Pierson

In Memory of Gary Watkins
Dani and Don Heathington

April 2017

In Memory of Pete Aragon
Kuhlman & Sons

In Memory of Kathy Landers
Nina and Bob Landers

In Memory of James Brown
Nelda and Delton Wilhite

In Memory of Donna Burger
Twentieth Century Cotillion Study Club

In Memory of Joyce Clements
Fred Clements

In Memory of Helen Hall
Twentieth Century Cotillion Study Club

In Memory of Clyde Hancock
Kuhlman and Sons

In Memory of Charles Hester
Cleo and Dr. Bob Robinson

In Memory of Richard Keene
Lawanda and Richard Hughett

In Memory of Kristy Landers
Nina and Bob Landers

In Memory of Kerry Magness
Cleo and Dr. Bob Robinson

In Memory of Linda McCoy
Polly and Mitch Chester Family

In Memory of Lillis Moore
Cleo and Dr. Bob Robinson

In Memory of Cheri Nease
Cleo and Dr. Bob Robinson
Lynda and Michael Tinsley

In Memory of Frank Parker
Johnnie Parker

In Memory of Margaret Patterson
Lana Grogan

In Memory of Felicity Sena
Lupe Anguiano

In Honor of Liz and David Tipps
Maurine and Robert Hooten

In Memory of Margaret Tolbert
Latonne and Olen Douglass
Dana Kauk
T. Boone Pickens

In Memory of Peggy Tucker
Andi and Ronnie Gordon

In Memory of Wanda Marie Ward
Jenny and Steve Oliver

March 2017

In Memory of Otis Copeland
Jo and Wayne Pierson

In Memory Virginia Daugherty
Kathryn Ford
Esther Graham
Jay Harrell Family
Joe Helen Harrell
Robert Harrell Family
Minnie Lou Howard
Terry Jones
Pam Lister Family
Billy Milburn Family
Jenny and Steve Oliver

In Memory of Richard Harren
Donna and Mike Kuhlman

In Memory of Betty Jean Hurt
Donna and Mike Kuhlman

In Memory of Marilyn and Richard Keene
Kemi and Ross Taylor

In Memory of Lillis Moore
M. Keith Brown
Cathy and Carroll Wright

In Memory of Cheri Nease
Cathy and Carroll Wright

In Memory of Butch Nolen
Jo and Wayne Pierson

In Honor of Judy Shipman on Her Retirement
Cleo and Dr. Bob Robinson

In Memory of Spencer Tanksley
Cleo and Dr. Bob Robinson

In Memory of Bonnie Tatum
Andi and Ronnie Gordon
Cleo and Dr. Bob Robinson

In Memory of Howard Thompson
Andi and Ronnie Gordon

In Memory of Margaret Tolbert
Cathy and Carroll Wright

In Memory of Lola Faye Veazey
Marie and Randy Mahannah
North Plains Electric Cooperative, Inc.

In Memory of Edna Wilson on Her Birthday
Lisa Wilson