

2011

## Tyler Curtis Scholarship Recipients

Kevin has just completed his senior year at PARKVIEW Arts and Magnet high school with a 3.4 grade point average. At Park View Kevin excelled in math, particularly calculus drawing high praise from his teacher who writes: "I have enjoyed watching the exponential growth of Kevin's mathematical ability over the past two years. He understands that determination and hard work are vital components for success..." Kevin's community service is even rarer than his affinity for the abstract equations of calculus. Kevin is part of a mime troupe at Park View, a troupe that brings its unique entertainment to numerous group causes such as the Epilepsy Awareness Walk and the Walk for Alzheimer's among others. In giving many hours of practice and performance to these causes the troupe illuminates and stimulates community participation and support for the organizations fighting these dreaded afflictions. At the end of his scholarship essay Kevin puts his community service into perspective by saying: "What we offer is as simple as entertainment, but can lead quickly to widespread aid for all those in need. All in all, we help the needy through the spreading of awareness." Kevin will attend the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville in the fall majoring in pre-med.



Kevin Matthew Strobehn



Ryan Patrick Stephens

Ryan Patrick Stephens will attend (and study business) at either Bethel University (Tennessee) or Arkansas State University in the fall with the razorbacks having an outside chance of landing him. Ryan is an honor roll student at Park View High School with a 3.0 grade point average. At Park View he has been editor of the yearbook while also lettering for the swim team. He has grown up in Otter Creek not only as a resident but as a member of the Otter Creek swim team and an employee of Paxton's Pizza. Ryan's community service emanates from his service with the community oriented Gentleman's club at Park View. As part of this group Ryan has helped with the Homeless Veterans Program while giving service to the group's beautification projects in Otter Creek, Camp Aldersgate, and Covenant Presbyterian. One of his recommenders says this about Ryan's community service: "Ryan's never-tiring efforts to our Homeless Veterans Project contributed to its success..." and Ryan himself says simply but cogently about community service: "I try to remember all the community has done for me and keep that in my heart, it's only right I give back in return."

Carolyn Kroger is another one of the fabulous Kroger girls. Carolyn is graduating from Parkview High School where she has been a member of the National Honor Society and an all state choir selection. At Park View Carolyn has excelled academically achieving 4.00 grade point averages or over in six out of seven semesters. Carolyn also participates in several school clubs and is a member of the school swim team. Like her sister, Carolyn picked up her love of swimming at the Otter Creek pool where she also served as a life guard during summer breaks from school. Carolyn's community service centers on her church, school, and community. She has volunteered at the Fox Run Senior center, entertained children as a puppeteer, and landscaped the club house grounds. How does she do all of this? One of her recommender says some of her peers are in awe of her abilities but "I know Carrie works long hours and puts great energy into being excellent in so many areas..." And about her community service, Carolyn takes a leg up from a quotation from the Dalai Lama. "if you wish to experience peace, provide peace for others."



Carolyn Kaye Kroger

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Amanda Kroger

Amanda is a nursing student at the University of Central Arkansas where she has achieved a 3.64 grade point average in one of the most rigorous disciplines on campus. Amanda has been an integral part of Otter Creek life for well over a decade serving Otter Creek as its head life guard for from 2008 through 2010. Amanda's dedication to community service is as strong as her dedication to her formal education. She has sold first aid kits to help the Conway Interfaith Clinic, volunteers for the Red Cross, works with local animal clinics at the post-op stage to assist their recovery from anesthesia, participates in food drives, and is a regular blood donor and so much more. One of her recommenders says this about Amanda: "The largest community service project that Amanda helped with was a food drive for our local homeless shelter. The shelter was about to close its doors. Amanda and another student coordinated a food drive involving the nursing department and a local church. It was the largest food drive the nursing department has ever put together and through that we were able to gather over 1,000 items to help feed the homeless in our area..." She (Amanda) exemplifies the mentality that we are more than simply nursing students, we are agents of change." And in Amanda's own words: I find that I have the power to make a difference...and no act is too small, because even the seemingly insignificant ones add up and serve as learning and growing experiences for both the one doing the serving as well as the one receiving the service."



Recipients

Pictured left to right:

Randy Curtis, Ryan Stephens, Carrie Kroger, Kevin Strobehn, and Cindy Curtis. Not pictured: Amanda Kroger.



Tyler Curtis Committee

Pictured left to right:

Randy Curtis, Cindy Curtis, Walter Moon, Mandy Moon, Ceil Wright, Bill Torrey and Art English. Not pictured: Mary Thiedeman