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May 19, 2011

ASCEND FEDERAL CREDIT UNION AWARDS BEARDEN SCHOLARSHIP TO LESTER

The recipient of the \$2,500 Jimmie Bearden Memorial Leadership Scholarship for 2011 is Lindsay Lester of Tullahoma.

The scholarship was established seven years ago to honor retired Ascend Federal Credit Union President and CEO Jimmie Bearden, who served the credit union and community honorably for 48 years before retiring in 2004. She passed away in October 2010.

Lester is captain of the Cross Country Team, coach for Upward Basketball, and is very involved in her church on a local, state and regional level. According to her application, she intends to study pre-med and biochemistry in college.

"Lindsay is an asset to her school and community," Ascend President and CEO Caren Gabriel said. "With this award, we hope she will be able to combine her love of math and science to help people in need."

The Jimmie Bearden Memorial Leadership Scholarship is available to graduating Tullahoma High School seniors, and requirements include a minimum 2.5 grade point average and a minimum 20 composite score on the ACT or 1,000 on the SAT. Each year, graduating THS seniors who wish to apply for the scholarship can complete an application and return it to the school's Counseling Office. The scholarship winner is chosen by a committee of the credit union's Board of Directors and Supervisory Committee.

Ascend Federal Credit Union has a financial center on 1611 N. Jackson St. in Tullahoma, on 452 N. Hap Arnold Drive at Arnold Air Force Base and on 1929 McArthur St. in Manchester. Federally insured by the NCUA, membership is limited.

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