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## **ASCEND FEDERAL CREDIT UNION AWARDS BEARDEN SCHOLARSHIP TO RUTAN-WOODS**

The recipient of the \$2,500 Jimmie Bearden Leadership Scholarship for 2009 is Christian Rutan-Woods of Tullahoma.

In its fifth year, the Jimmie Bearden Leadership Scholarship honors retired Ascend Federal Credit Union President and CEO Jimmie Bearden. Bearden served the credit union and community honorably for 48 years before retiring in 2004.

According to one of his teachers who recommended him for the award, Rutan-Woods has been on the football team every year, dedicating an extreme amount of time and energy. He has remained committed to his teammates and goes out of his way to remind them of their schedules and duties. Along with being an excellent student and teammate, he is a member of Family Career and Community Leaders of America, and he volunteers at the Attic Outlet Store.

"We are proud to offer the Jimmie Bearden Leadership Scholarship to Christian, and we hope rising Tullahoma High School seniors will follow his example of leadership in their school and community," Ascend President and CEO Caren Gabriel said.

The Jimmie Bearden Leadership Scholarship is available to graduating THS seniors with a minimum 3.0 grade point average and 20 composite score on the American College Test (ACT). They also must be accepted into an accredited four-year college or university. 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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