

## **Thomas Parsons Receives 2019 Matthew Kent Stamper Memorial Scholarship**

October 29, 2019 (MANHATTAN, Kan.) – Thomas Parsons of Dexter, Kansas, a junior in agricultural economics at Kansas State University, has been awarded the Matthew Kent Stamper Memorial Scholarship through the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center and the Department of Agricultural Economics at Kansas State University.

Thomas is involved with K-State Collegiate Cattlemen’s Club, KSU Collegiate Farm Bureau and KSU Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness Club. He participated in the KSU Animal Sciences Leadership Academy and the KSU Animal Sciences Leadership Academy Premier Program. Thomas has a passion for the livestock industry and plans to be self-employed in the cattle feeding and cow-calf industries as well as possibly begin a farrow to finish swine operation upon graduation in May 2021. The Parsons family is affiliated with the following cooperatives: American AgCredit, Caney Valley Electric Cooperative, Land O’Lakes, Inc., Two Rivers Consumers Co-op Association and Valley Co-op, Inc.

The Matthew Kent Stamper Memorial Scholarship was established in honor of Matt Stamper who passed away in an automobile accident on May 23, 1999 just before his 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday. “The scholarship was established to honor and perpetuate the memory of Matt Stamper and to encourage an interest in the operation, management, and economics of agricultural cooperatives, beef production and grain production enterprises,” states Professor Brian Briggeman, director of the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center. Over \$72,000 in scholarships have been awarded from the fund since 2000.

To be eligible for the scholarship, a student must be either a junior or senior in K-State’s College of Agriculture and be affiliated with a Kansas agricultural marketing, supply or service cooperative as a member or as a child or dependent of a member. Preference is given to a student from Rooks, or a surrounding county, interested in pursuing a career in production agriculture and who is enrolled in one of the following departments: Agricultural Economics; Animal Sciences and Industry; or Agronomy.

The Matthew Kent Stamper Memorial Scholarship is funded by contributions made to the Center’s endowment fund with the KSU Foundation. “Additional contributions by those who want to honor Matthew and support the purposes of the scholarship are welcome,” Dr. Briggeman said. They should be made payable to “KSU Foundation/Stamper” and sent to the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center, Department of Agricultural Economics, 305 Waters Hall, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506.

## **About the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center**

The Arthur Capper Cooperative Center provides research-based information, education and assistance to people with and interested in cooperative businesses, including cooperative members, directors, managers and employees. The Center also works with students and faculty at educational institutions, the general public and public officials as well as owners, directors, managers and employees of agribusinesses. Further information can be obtained about this scholarship or about establishing additional scholarships by emailing Brian Briggeman at [bbrigg@ksu.edu](mailto:bbrigg@ksu.edu) or visiting the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center website at <http://acc.k-state.edu>.

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K-State Research and Extension is a short name for the Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service, a program designed to generate and distribute useful knowledge for the well-being of Kansans. Supported by county, state, federal and private funds, the program has county extension offices, experiment fields, area extension offices and regional research centers statewide. Its headquarters is on the K-State campus in Manhattan. More information is available at [www.ksre.ksu.edu](http://www.ksre.ksu.edu).

Story by: Arthur Capper Cooperative Center

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K-State Research & Extension News

Photo caption is as follows: (left to right) Bette Stamper, Thomas Parsons and Cynthia Bressler at the K-State Department of Agricultural Economics Awards Banquet, October 4, 2019.