

## **Investing in the Future: Lauren Ellenz Receives 2025-2026 Matthew Kent Stamper Memorial Scholarship**

The Arthur Capper Cooperative Center (ACCC) in the Department of Agricultural Economics at Kansas State University is proud to recognize Lauren Ellenz of Tipton, Kansas, a junior in animal sciences and industry, as the 2025-2026 Matthew Kent Stamper Memorial Scholarship recipient.

Lauren is actively involved in many campus organizations including Collegiate Cattlemen, Pre-Veterinary Society, Block and Bridle and Sigma Alpha. The networking and ag sorority events on campus through Sigma Alpha have been especially meaningful to her professional and academic growth. Lauren works at the Kansas State Rabies Laboratory while going to school. She plans to have a career in veterinary medicine while also continuing to work with the family's cow-calf operation after she completes her education. The Ellenz family is affiliated with the following cooperatives: Central Valley Ag Cooperative, Prairie Land Electric Cooperative and Rolling Hills Electric Cooperative.

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. \$102,300 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. Continuing K-State students are encouraged to fill out the K-State scholarship application to be included in the university scholarship process.

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 is a public-private partnership in the Kansas State University Department of Agricultural Economics that 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. <http://acc.k-state.edu/>

**Photo caption:** Heather Stamper-Voss, Lauren Ellenz, Luke Voss