

News and events from the Walker College Foundation

CELEBRATE

# PAST & FUTURE



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## Serving our community!

Since the beginning of our full tuition scholarship program, Walker College Foundation (WCF) has been focused on **developing scholars who are involved in college and community.** Over the last eight years, we have enjoyed watching students participate in a number of community service activities, some of which we do every year, and some that are new and different. **In 2022, we applied to become the stewards of Gamble Avenue for Jasper's "Keep Jasper Beautiful" program** and have made several trips up and down the street removing litter and keeping our community clean. Our most recent walk was in February during our monthly scholar's lunch on a beautiful, sunny day. We also worked with **St. Mary's Food Bank** and the **Walker County 8th Grade Career Fair Event** in early May.



*Ivie Gibbons packs bags for St. Mary's Food Bank*



*Scholars pick up litter on Gamble Ave during lunch*

Other service projects completed by our scholars include collecting and wrapping toys for **Capstone Rural Health Center**, ringing the bell for the **Salvation Army's Kettle Campaign**, decorating a tree for **Hope for Women's Festival of Lights**, helping with the **Walker County Arts Alliance's Art in the Park**, working downtown during **Jasper's Foothills Festival**, serving food at **Jasper Main Street's Dinner on Main**, and more.

Community service hours are a requirement to keep a WCF scholarship. WCF provides service opportunities, but scholars may also participate in service on their own. Scholars have been involved in community food drives, Toys for Tots, Trunk or Treat events, Angel Trees, volunteering at local schools, and helping with Christmas projects. One scholar is a volunteer firefighter.

## Scholars recognized for honors and awards

We are very proud of the scholars who earned recognition during **Bevill State's 2023 Honors Programs** in April.

### • ACADEMIC HONORS:

**Nicholas Fruci** - Outstanding Biology Student  
**Crystal Odom** - Outstanding Chemistry Student  
**Katlyn Hopper** - Outstanding Speech Student

### • SERVICE HONORS:

**Nicholas Fruci** - Student Support Services

### • TRANSFER SCHOLARSHIPS:

**Noah Ferguson** - Auburn University

**Aubrey Jones** - Auburn University

**Nicholas Fruci** - University of Alabama at Birmingham

Inaugural CEI class  
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# Scholarship funds change lives

**SYNOVUS BANK'S** corporate office recently announced corporate grant awards for 2023. Walker College Foundation was awarded a new **\$5,000 scholarship grant** for the 2023-24 academic year. The new scholarship recipient will be chosen this spring and will begin taking classes at Bevell State Community College in Fall 2023.

Synovus Bank's current scholarship recipient is **Matthew "Chance" Martin**. Chance is a **mechanical engineering** major. He plans to transfer to a four-year college after he graduates from Bevell State in Spring 2024.



*Synovus Bank Market President Shawn Morgan is shown with WCF Scholar Matthew "Chance" Martin (center) and Synovus Bank Senior Vice President Lisa Killingsworth.*



*The Clint McLain Agency's owner Clint McLain with WCF Scholar Raegan Dunagan and WCF President Holly Trawick.*

The **CLINT MCLAIN AGENCY** worked with Walker College Foundation to apply for a new "Make Tomorrow Better" grant from **Liberty National/Globe Life Insurance**. They recently announced new grant recipients and WCF/McLain Agency was awarded **a second \$7,500 scholarship grant!**

This new grant will fund a second McLain Agency scholarship for a freshman starting college in Fall 2023.

The current McLain Agency scholarship recipient, **Raegan Dunagan**, is a **psychology** major and plans to transfer to a four-year college after she graduates from Bevell State in Spring 2024.

# Inaugural CEI Scholars graduate

In Fall 2023, the **Carl Elliott Institute** was created with a partnership between **Walker College Foundation, Bevill State Community College, Walker Area Community Foundation**, and the **University of Alabama's Blackburn Institute**. The intent of the program is to mimic UofA's Blackburn Institute at the community college level and bring an ambitious group of students together to learn leadership skills from community leaders and life-changing programs around our community.

The program was named after U.S. Representative Carl A. Elliott (1913-1999) because the program encourages participants to be leaders in our community and inspire change.

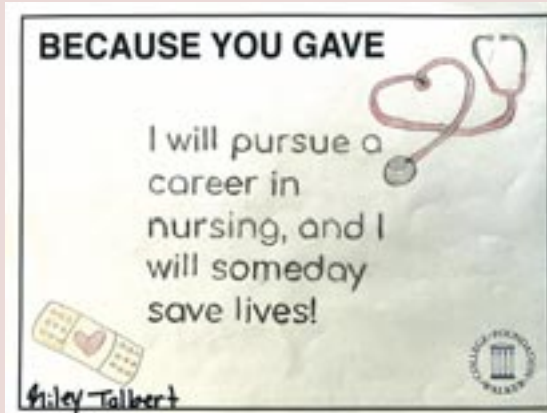
The four graduates of the program include **Noah Ferguson (WCF scholar), Anna Dutton (WCF scholar), Connor Calhoun, and Caroline Rider**.



*CEI grads Connor, Caroline, Noah, and Anna.*

## You can help students earn a college degree with a gift to WCF!

- **Cash/Check** - P. O. Box 2228, Jasper, AL 35502
- **Credit Card** - donate online at [www.wcfdn.org](http://www.wcfdn.org)
- **Matching Gifts**
- **Securities / Stocks**
- **Wills / Living Trusts**
- **Life Insurance Policy**
- **Charitable Gift Annuities**
- **Personal Real Estate**
- **Donations from IRA**
- **Establish a Scholarship Fund** and leave a legacy for generations.



*CEI students at Rotary Club meeting with Lenora Elliott Cannon.*



# Memorials & Honors

*Below is a list of individuals who have been remembered or honored by friends or family with a gift to the Walker College Foundation. Donations were made between January 2023 - mid-April 2023.*

## GIFTS IN MEMORY OF:

### Roy Cordle

Stanley and Jeannie Brandon

### Peggy Davidson

Robbie & Brack O'Rear  
Elizabeth & Shane Weber

### E. A. Larry Drummond

John Drummond, Sr.

### Jamie Dunlap

Abbie Drummond

### Marion Sis Grant

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### Jimmy Hill

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### Jacob Johnson

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### Tre Millian Larson

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### Sarah Catherine Murphy

Sue Ellen & Dan Summers

### Shirley Polk

Jeffrey B. Polk

### Dr. David J. Rowland

Mary Beth & Jody Barber  
Allen & Wanda Rowland  
Jan & Ryan Rowland  
Sue Ellen & Dan Summers

### Mary Ellen Stinson Rowland

Mary Beth & Jody Barber  
Allen & Wanda Rowland  
Jan & Ryan Rowland  
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### Claud Eddie Sartain

Steve & Sherrie Humphries

### Iva Fern Stinson

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### Lily Trice

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### George Wilbanks

D. Bryan Drummond  
Peter Schrader  
Tony & Tammy Smith  
Holly Trawick

### Nancy Weinard

Brandy & Chad Hill

### Jimmy Wingo

Kathy & Don Monroe

## GIFTS IN HONOR OF:

### June Hudson (VLS)

Dan & Sue Ellen Rowland Summers

### William "Bud" Long

Alan & Johnna Johnson

VLS – Viking Legends Scholarship

**Thank you so much!**

**Your gift keeps on giving and makes a difference through your lifetime and beyond!**

## WCF hosts students for Groundhog Job Shadow Day

We had the pleasure of hosting high school students from around Walker County during the **Chamber of Commerce of Walker County's Groundhog Job Shadow Day**. Students from Jasper City, Walker County and Sumiton Christian high schools visited and shadowed businesses in every career area in order to explore the "world of work." Groundhog Job Shadow Day shows students how their class work relates to the business community and prepares them to join the workforce.

**WCF hosted students interested in public relations, communications, graphic design, and digital web design.** Thank you to **Kennedy Stracner (2019 scholar graduate)** and **Kelsey Stracner West** for talking with our group of students about careers in these areas. We had a great day and learned from each other about the most current careers in the design field. We also learned how to use a "power pose" to boost your self confidence before entering a stressful situation like public speaking, an interview, or taking a test.



*Guests and students demonstrate their favorite "power pose."*



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## Walker College Alumni Reunion

*Walker College Classes of 1964-1967 hold reunion at Beville State*

In January 2023, Walker College graduates held an **alumni reunion for the 1964-1967 classes**. The reunion was held in the Wade Math and Science Building cafeteria on the Beville State campus. They had a wonderful time telling stories, looking at pictures, and catching up on their lives. This is the third reunion they have held in recent years, and they are looking forward to having another one in July 2023.

If you are interested in attending the next reunion, let us know so we can add you to their contact list. And, if you are in a different Walker College graduating class and would like to put a reunion together, we are happy to help.



## Galápagos Islands in 2024

Our next Alumni and Friends travel destination is Ecuador and the Galápagos Islands!

### ECUADOR & GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS

**JUNE 6 - JUNE 15, 2024 (10 days)**

**optional extension to Peru/Machu Picchu  
June 15 - June 21, 2024 (6 days)**

Scan this QR code with your smartphone camera to visit the **ECUADOR/GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS** tour website:



Trip is limited to 29 travelers. Tour includes hotel stays, all transportation, a multilingual tour director, guided sightseeing, select entrance fees, daily breakfast, and select lunches and dinners. Travel insurance, excursions, and the optional extension is an additional cost.

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