

Counselor Corner
By Chris Lee

The Kansas Masonic Foundation awarded over 200 scholarships in 2023 in three categories. The Legacy Scholarship is for children of Masons. General scholarships are awarded to students that can demonstrate need to the 7 "state" schools. And the Cynthia Ruth Russell scholarships are for students with a disability as defined by the WHO. Find out more at www.kansasmasonic.foundation/program/scholarships. Deadline to apply is March 15.

Farm Credit of Western Kansas will offer three \$1000 scholarships that are renewable for three years to children or grandchildren of customers who live in northwestern Kansas. Dubbed the Mark Winger Scholarships, the applications can be found at [/www.fcwk.com/scholarship.html](http://www.fcwk.com/scholarship.html). Applications must be submitted by February 15. Lauren Patmon is still collecting payments from this scholarship she won two years ago.

The priority scholarship deadline at North Central Kansas Technical College is January 15; the final scholarship deadline is March 15. If you think you might attend NCKTC apply now at ncktc.edu.

Listed at the bottom of this column you will see Junior Days for Hays area schools. Barton Community College will host its Junior Day on February 14. This event includes Build-a-Cougar, explore majors, campus tour, free lunch, scholarship drawings, meet with coaches/activity sponsors, and more. Register by February 1 at juniorday.bartonccc.edu. Call 800-722-6842 if you have any questions.

The Kansas Crime Stoppers Association will award two \$500 scholarships. There are no specific criteria; your counselor will have a copy of the application. Your completed application form and required attachments must be packaged together and submitted by email and received by March 1, 2024 @ 11:59 pm CT (no exceptions). Please send to: Jacquelyn Ashcraft, kcsa1987@gmail.com.

The American Legion Sunflower Girls State will be held June 2 to 7, 2024 for women who will have just completed the junior year. Its primary goals include promoting leadership and fostering good citizenship among young women. The deadline to apply is May 15. Find out more at www.ksgirlsstate.org

Experience a day in the life of a K-State student! Join EXCITE to learn about STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) majors and opportunities on the K-State Manhattan Campus. High school students will be paired with a current K-State student who shares similar interests in STEM. Together they will attend classes/labs, tour campus, eat lunch at the K-State Student Union and discuss what it's like to be in a STEM major at K-State. There are four dates available, the first of which is February 21. You can find out all you need at <https://apply2.ksu.edu/register/KAWSE.EXCITE>.

Find out about all the visit options for the University of Kansas at <https://admissions.ku.edu/visit>. During Jayhawk Days, we provide an admissions presentation, campus tour, and the opportunity for you to meet with academic departments and other areas of interest. Rock Chalk Days are open house-style events intended for high school seniors, juniors and college transfer students looking to curate their own visit experience. There are also Admitted Senior Days and Junior Days if you want to have a more focused experience.

The Emporia State music department is hosting Music Workshop Day on March 20. This will be a chance for vocalists and instrumentalists to perform in a chamber and ensemble concert that evening. Participants will get to have breakout sessions, masterclasses, then rehearse with the groups you are performing with. Register by February 27 at emporia.edu/music, or call 620-341-5431. ESU also offers scholarships for music and non-music majors. Find out how to audition at emporia.edu/music.

Deadlines to remember: Feb. 1-Deadline to apply for Kansas Kiwanis, Midwest Energy, and KNEA Scholarships, Priority Deadline to submit FAFSA to KU; Feb. 15-Final deadline to apply for FHSU scholarships; Feb. 19-Deadline to apply for Ellis Foundation Scholarship; March 8-deadline to apply for April 13 ACT; March 31-Deadline to apply for Kansas Masonic Foundation Scholarships; May 3-deadline to apply for June 8 ACT; June 7-deadline to apply for July 13 ACT. Sophomore/Juniors Days: Feb. 15 at NCKTC-Beloit; Feb. 21 at NCKTC-Hays; April 15 at FHSU.