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Affiliated Workers Association Awards Scholarships to Two Members' Dependents

Funds to be applied to planned-for careers in speech therapy and civil engineering

ALLEN, Texas -- The Affiliated Workers Association (AWA), a national, non-profit network of professionals, small business owners and the self-employed dedicated to providing quality benefits and services to the American worker, has awarded college scholarships to a daughter and son of two of its members.

Natalie Elkins, a sophomore at Mesa Community College in Mesa, Ariz. and daughter of AWA member Billy Elkins, received a \$1,000 scholarship from the AWA administered by the College First Foundation. She plans to use the scholarship to further her studies in speech therapy.

Joshua Gluch, the son of AWA member Patrick Gluch, was also awarded \$1,000. He will be a freshman at the University of Notre Dame and plans to apply his scholarship to his studies in civil engineering.

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“Our goal at AWA is to further the personal and business goals of our members,” said Neil Peterson, AWA president. “By helping their parents provide a quality education for Natalie and Joshua, we hope to help not only our members, but also the next generation of business leaders and entrepreneurs. I look forward to congratulating each of them personally for their successes to date.”

Elkins shadowed a local speech therapist on home visits with clients, and that, she says, is where she fell in love with the field. She looks forward to her future career in medical services.

Gluch plans to use his civil engineering education as a springboard for a possible career in patent or trade law. He credits his involvement with his local 4-H chapter as helping him win the scholarship. “The experience I was able to get from 4-H was just invaluable,” Gluch said. “I learned so much about public speaking, responsibility, accounting, just general life skills that really need to be applied and learned and aren’t necessarily taught in school.”

Both students said they place great value on higher education and credit the AWA scholarship with helping them pursue their educational and professional goals.

Business Wire - Natalie Elkins will be a sophomore at Mesa Community College studying speech therapy.



The scholarships were open to active AWA members between the ages of 18 and 28, as well as legal dependents between the ages of 16 and 28. The students selected are both dependents of members. Consideration was based on academic performance and teacher/supervisor recommendations. College First Foundation is the third-party administrator for the scholarship program.

About the Affiliated Workers Association

The Affiliated Workers Association was created in 2001 to ensure that the American worker is empowered to make sound financial and health decisions and to help them strive for success in the small business arena. The AWA is governed by a board of directors who come from a variety of industries and backgrounds to represent the membership base. AWA members enjoy access to quality benefits, programs, services and discounts, including health insurance, and wellness, consumer and small business discounts. To find out more about the benefits of an AWA membership, visit www.affiliatedworkersassociation.org.

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