

Lewis & Clark **NEWS**

Community College

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NEW SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR JERSEY COUNTY NATIVES ATTENDING LEWIS AND CLARK *Scholarship Application Deadline is July 1*

GODFREY – Jersey County high school graduates who are planning to attend Lewis and Clark Community College have a new opportunity for financial assistance with the creation of the Calvin and Juanita Ritchey Whitlock scholarships. The scholarships are being funded through a trust at Jersey State Bank that was established by Calvin Whitlock Jr. in honor of his parents. The trust will fund scholarships for students who attend Lewis and Clark in the coming academic year. Whitlock, a lifelong resident of Jersey County, passed away in 2006.

Whitlock wanted to provide educational opportunities to Jersey County students, and the creation of this trust will help many individuals annually on an ongoing basis. Proceeds from the trust will provide scholarships to high school graduates who were residents of Jersey County at the time of their birth. The scholarships require that an applicant furnish a certified copy of a birth certificate showing residency in Jersey County at the time of their birth. An official high school transcript is also required with a “C” or better grade point average.

Whitlock spent most of his life in the Jerseyville area, and served as a principal in the Southwestern School District. His teaching career began in 1944 at East Junior High School in Alton. He later taught in Indiana and Virginia prior to becoming a rehabilitation counselor with the Illinois Department of Vocational Rehabilitation. In 1960, he began teaching at Western Military Academy and served there until 1964. He began serving the Southwestern School District as a fourth grade teacher at Medora Elementary in 1964, became principal of Shipman Elementary in 1971, and later served as both principal and special education coordinator for the district. He retired from the Southwestern District in 1985.

“Students who plan to complete a career program or a baccalaureate degree can benefit from the Whitlock scholarships,” Lewis and Clark President Dale Chapman said. “Mr. Whitlock attended many events and took part in several activities at Lewis and Clark. He developed a passion for the College’s academic and cultural offerings and was pleased to see graduates succeed. Most of the graduates who attend Lewis and Clark remain in the area and contribute to the region, and that factor was very important in his decision to establish the trust. He was successful in creating a memorial that will have an ongoing impact on Jersey County,” Chapman said.

Lewis and Clark Board of Trustees Chairman Robert Watson said the College lost a good friend with the passing of Mr. Whitlock. "I always enjoyed my conversations with Calvin. He impressed me with his perspectives on topics as a result of his travels throughout the world and his interests in numerous subjects. He's now helping others follow a similar path with the establishment of these scholarships," Watson said.

The number of scholarships awarded annually will vary based on the return earned by the trust. Kathy Landess, Trust Administrator at Jersey State Bank, said scholarships valued at \$2,000 are available for students who plan to attend Lewis and Clark in the coming fall semester. Jersey County residents who earned a GED with a minimum score of 2,500 are also eligible for the program. An application for a scholarship can be obtained by contacting Landess at 498-6466, or by email at klandess@jsbmail.com.

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