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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Abilene Chamber Announces 2020 Agriculture Scholarship Recipients

Every February, the Chamber's Agriculture Committee hosts an Agriculture Scholarship Luncheon to raise scholarship dollars for area high school students looking to continue their education in an agriculture related field.

The Chamber's Agriculture Committee is pleased to announce the 2020 Agriculture scholarship recipients: Tyler Beard of Albany High School in Albany, Texas; Braelyn Bevel of Haskell High School in Haskell, Texas; Kourtney Gibson of Haskell High School in Haskell, Texas; and Cameron Poteet of Ballinger High School in Ballinger, Texas.

"As the current chair of the Chamber's Agriculture Committee, I would like to congratulate this year's recipients," said Amanda Hatchett, Denton Valley Farms and Hatchett & Co Real Estate. "We appreciate the businesses and individuals who help us each year to support one of the foundational issues that our committee has worked hard to achieve over the years. Our youth who are involved in agriculture now are our future and it's important that we work to continue the education of our industry."

The selected students will receive \$1,000 to the college of their choice, and were required to apply stating their extracurricular activities, work experience and describe their future agriculture career goals.

"Agriculture has a billion dollar impact on the Big Country economy annually, and the Chamber is proud to play a small part in ensuring that we have food and fiber for future generations," said Doug Peters, President and CEO of the Abilene Chamber.

About our recipients:

Tyler Beard is the son of Susie and Chris Beard. Tyler was active in multiple extracurricular activities at Albany High School including FCA, FFA, Student Council, track, baseball, and football. He has received The Top Hand Award-FFA, participated in the Shackelford County Youth and Livestock Show, and was a participant at the state level in Cotton, Wildlife, Environment and Natural Resources Science Teams for three years. Tyler plans to attend Tarleton State University and pursue a degree in Agribusiness.

Braelyn Bevel is the daughter of Kendra and Brad Bevel. Braelyn was involved in FFA serving in various capacities such as Greenhand Secretary, Chapter Reporter and Chapter President. As a third-generation farming family member, Braelyn was actively involved in extracurricular activities in her high school career including National Honor Society, Student Council, UIL Academics, FCCLA, golf, cross country, and basketball. Braelyn will be attending Texas Tech University in the fall where she hopes to obtain a degree in pre-med.

Kourtney Gibson is the daughter of Kristi and Chad Gibson. Kourtney was very actively involved in FFA throughout her high school career qualifying for state in ag issues and meat judging as well as receiving the Haskell FFA Greenhand award and the Texas FFA Lone Star Degree. She was actively involved in basketball, track, cross country, cheerleading, student council, National Honor Society, FCCLA and UIL Academics. Kourtney will attend Texas Tech University in the fall and pursue a degree in Agribusiness.

Cameron Poteet is the son of Wendi and Dwane Poteet. He was actively involved in FFA creed speaking, vet judging, rodeo, national shooting team, and Tractor Tech. He was also a member of the Leadership Advisory Board, DEVA State Qualifier on Start-up Business Plan and served as class president his Sophomore and Junior year. Cameron has been accepted into Texas A&M University and Tarleton State University and plans to major in Agribusiness with a minor in Financial Planning.

For more information on the Chamber's Agriculture Committee, please visit www.abilenechamber.com

Since 1908, the Abilene Chamber has served as a catalyst for business growth, a convener of leaders and influencers, and a champion for developing and promoting the economy and quality of life. For more information on the Chamber and the 1,200 businesses it represents, visit www.abilenechamber.com

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