

**McKay sisters' endowment announces scholarship awards and other gifts**  
*Southeastern North Carolina sisters' support favorite causes with multi-million-dollar legacy fund*

**LAURINBURG** – The Jane Graham McKay and Katherine Hill McKay Endowment recently announced \$20,000 in scholarship awards to seven local students. Recipients include: Noah Altman (Appalachian State), Caroline Bounds (East Carolina), Jonathan Bowling (UNC-Chapel Hill), John Harrison Hartwell (NC State), Stone Phillips (Mercer), Charles Augustus Purcell (NC State) and Haley Brooke Sellers (East Carolina).

The endowment also announced a \$25,000 grant to the Scotland County Humane Society for the purchase of a van to transport animals. The legacy fund, overseen by Foundation For The Carolinas in Charlotte, was established through a planned gift by the McKay sisters of Laurinburg, who passed away in 2016.

“Anyone who knew the McKays remembers them for their faith, love of education and love of cats,” said Dan Woerner, their close friend and fund advisor. “It’s fitting that the first distributions from their endowment are going to support the causes they held dear.”

Katherine and Jane were born and raised on a farm in Robeson County and graduated from St. Andrews College in Laurinburg. Katherine earned two masters degrees, and the sisters both became elementary school teachers. Katherine taught for 35 years, and Jane was the librarian for the Scotland County School System.

They lived in the same house they had built in 1950 and were known for taking their beloved cat Angel to church with them. Dan recalled that every Sunday they would leave Angel in the car with the engine and air conditioner running.

The McKays led frugal lifestyles, which allowed them to accumulate a significant estate. The multi-million-dollar Jane Graham McKay and Katherine Hill McKay Endowment Fund at FFTC will support a wide variety of causes, such as cancer research, religious organizations and more. To honor their love of education, the sisters also established scholarship programs at FFTC.

The funds are housed at Foundation For The Carolinas. Founded in 1958, FFTC currently ranks sixth among 800 community foundations in the United States. FFTC manages more than 2,500 charitable funds on behalf of individuals, nonprofits and corporations. FFTC distributes grants to 501(c)3 nonprofits throughout the U.S. from these funds as recommended by its donors. The Foundation also leads transformative community efforts to improve education, economic opportunity, the environment and more.

To find out more about your planned giving options or to establish a fund with Foundation For The Carolinas, visit [www.ffc.org](http://www.ffc.org) or contact Sara Piner at [spiner@ffc.org](mailto:spiner@ffc.org) or 704.973.4576.

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## About Foundation For The Carolinas

Foundation For The Carolinas is a nonprofit community foundation serving donors and a broad range of charitable purposes in North and South Carolina. With assets of \$2.2 billion, the Foundation encourages and makes possible philanthropic giving by individuals of all means to benefit their communities. Visit [www.ffc.org](http://www.ffc.org).

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