



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 19, 2018

Legence Bank and American Farm Mortgage & Financial Services Contact: Tricia Johnson, Vice President, Marketing & Communications, 618-841-7868

## Legence Bank and American Farm Mortgage Donate Scholarships to Local Students

Legence Bank, locally based for over 110 years, invested \$12,250.00 in educational scholarships to support high school students in southern Illinois and southern Indiana as they pursue their collegiate dreams in the 2018 -2019 academic year. Our team is proud of the close relationships we have with our schools and students. It has been our privilege to watch each graduating class excel as they move through their high school years. Our mission of moving our communities forward and investing in the future starts with helping students further their education and bring their knowledge back into their hometowns. Living up to that mission is why we are awarding scholarships in each of the communities we serve.

"Legence Bank has made a long-term commitment to support, improve and foster a more significant focus on education in southern Illinois and southern Indiana, and this investment is an affirmation to that effort," said Kevin Beckemeyer, Legence Bank's President and CEO. Helping to raise the college graduation rate is a small investment in our communities economic success."

This scholarship program will provide a tremendous boost to many of our high-need, high potential students to access college, obtain a postsecondary degree, and become highly skilled producers in the growing economy. It is vital that talented, high-need students, who often face the highest barriers in becoming college and career ready, receive funding to pursue their educational goals.

With fourteen branches in southern Illinois and one branch in southern Indiana, Legence Bank and American Farm Mortgage continue to serve as a valued partner for our communities we serve. We were able to award 13 academic scholarships and 7 FFA (Future Farmers of America) scholarships throughout southern Illinois and southern Indiana. In addition to working with the local high schools, we have a strong partnership with Mr. Gene Alexander (Mr. A) in Benton to provide additional scholarships. He is a retired school teacher and principal who enjoys giving back to the community. His mission aligns with one of the Legence Bank core values of educating our youth and providing opportunities for growth.

For more information on any of the above scholarship initiatives, please contact Tricia Johnson, VP for Marketing and Communications at (618)-841-7868 or visit the website at LegenceBank.com and AmericanFarmMortgage.com.

