

## GCEC Provides Scholarships to Local High School Seniors

In May, Graham County Electric Cooperative and Graham County Utilities board members presented scholarships to deserving seniors to continue their education.

GCU President Jeff Larson presented a scholarship to **Bryanah Cervantez** of Thatcher High School, the daughter of Angela Guzzo and Gregory Cervantez.

During high school, Bryanah participated in many clubs and community service projects, including Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, Produce On Wheels With-Out Waste and culinary arts. She received the Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizenship award, which is given to a student who shows dependability, leadership and service.

“The GIFT classes inspired me to get a career in the medical field,” Bryanah says.

With a pharmacy technician license in hand at the end of the summer, she plans to attend Eastern Arizona College in the fall and earn a bachelor’s degree in science in human biology. She will continue her education through the University of Arizona and hopes to have a career in obstetrics and gynecology.

GCEC Vice President Mark Claridge presented a scholarship to **Sydney Fite** with her scholarship, who graduated from Safford High School. Her parents are Chase and Randi Fite. She was involved in Safford FFA, National Honor Society and volleyball. Sydney graduated with honors and was ranked 15th out of 180 students.

She participated in four Arizona FFA Champion teams: Dairy Management, Livestock Evaluation, Forestry and Agronomy. Sydney was Safford FFA president in 2017-18. She will attend Arizona State University, majoring in sports journalism and mass communications. Sydney hopes to write and report for the



**Bryanah Cervantez**



**Madison Michaels**



**Sydney Fite**



**Kasiah Montano**



**Brynn Pritchard**



**Brittany Carrizoza**

sports industry.

**Brynn Pritchard** from Pima High School is the daughter of Shelley and Jason Pritchard. Director Gerald Schmidt presented her scholarship. She has a 3.9 GPA and ranked 11 out of 53. Brynn received a special award from her senior English teacher for excellent writing. She participated four years in music classes and band, serving as band president and section leader in choir. She plans to earn a nursing degree from Eastern Arizona College and Arizona State University, with a minor in music.

This was the first time Willcox High School participated in the scholarship program. Recipient **Madison Michaels** received a scholarship from Director Steven Hooper. The daughter of Mark and Shelley Michaels, Madison was involved in volleyball, basketball, FFA, Arizona high school rodeo, Willcox junior rodeo, 4-H and vacation Bible school.

She received many awards and held

leadership positions in FFA and 4-H. She was freshman class treasurer and senior class secretary, and a State Star Farmer finalist in 2018.

Madison loves helping her family on their cattle ranch. She plans to major in animal science with a minor in agricultural business at New Mexico State University. After receiving a bachelor’s degree she plans to apply to a veterinary school.

Brother and sister **Austin** and **Kasiah Montano** were presented their scholarships from Director Gene Larson at Mt. Graham High School. Their parents are Anthony Montano and Shondee Preston.

Austin (photo not provided) was ranked fourth out of 71. Kasiah ranked sixth. Kasiah was involved with Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, preparing lunches and making contacts in the community. Both plan to attend Eastern Arizona College where Austin will study biochemistry and Kasiah will study dental hygiene.

**Brittany Carrizoza** and **Devon Cobb** of Ft. Thomas High School received their scholarships from Director Chris Claridge. Brittany lives in Bylas and is the daughter of Lucille Kitcheyan and Manny Carrizoza. While Brittany loves to read for relaxation and play basketball for fun, she had time to participate in a running club and FFA. She plans to earn a dental hygiene degree at Eastern Arizona College and Pima Community College.

Information about Devon was not provided.

This is the first time funds were provided by the Graham County Electric Foundation Inc, which administers money from unclaimed capital credits and Operation Round-Up.

The GCEC Foundation will continue to support leadership, learning and education for youth in our community. ■