

Anderson awarded Benjamin E. Bower Scholarship

The members of the Benjamin E. Bower Memorial Scholarship Board are pleased to announce the recipient of the first annual scholarship created to memorialize its namesake. This scholarship is awarded

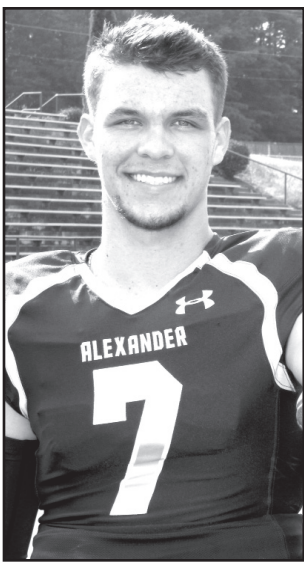
to a deserving scholar athlete from Alexander Central High School, Gunnar Anderson.

Benjamin E. Bower, son of Leo Bower and Kimberly Kelley, was a 2002 graduate of Alexander Central High School and a 2006

graduate of Appalachian State University. He grew up in the Bethlehem Community of Alexander County and excelled both scholastically and athletically throughout his childhood and adult life. He received many accolades during his high school career. Mr. Bower was a lifelong learner and was working on additional licenses and certifications for his position as a Licensed Personal Banker and Financial Advisor at Wells Fargo Bank in Wilmington, NC, up until two months prior to his passing in November of 2017.

Benjamin was extremely passionate about being health conscious. He chose to live a very clean lifestyle. He was a vegetarian for all of his adult life and worked out 5 or 6 days every week. When he attended ACHS,

he held the all-time bench pressing record and continued to set and reach new goals into his adult life, winning in competition in TN when he lived there. Even while battling throat cancer at UNC-CH, Benjamin continued to work out as much as he could and was given the nickname of "Hardcore" by hospital staff.



GUNNAR ANDERSON

BENJAMIN E. BOWER



KYLIE BROWN



GUNNAR ANDERSON



HALEY TEAGUE

Three Alex students receive Drum-Wilkinson scholarships

Twelve Memorial Scholarships, which include two Christian Studies/Ministry Scholarships, were awarded by the Drum-Wilkinson Educational Foundation, Inc., (DWEF) for the 2018-19 school year. Three of the recipients are Alexander Central High School students.

Kylie Marie Brown, daughter of Stephen W. and Ginger Eckard Brown of Hickory, 2018 graduate of Alexander Central High School in Taylorsville and future UNC/Chapel Hill student has been awarded the 2018 Inez L. Drum Memorial Scholarship for \$1000 from the Drum-Wilkinson Educational Foundation, Inc. Kylie plans to major in public health and minor in Spanish.

Gunner Zane Anderson, son of Ron & Cindy Johnson Anderson of Hiddenite is recipient of DWEF's Durant Pinkney & Bessie Eula Drum Scholarship for \$500. Gunner plans to attend Lenoir-Rhyne University, Hickory, to major in

Finance and minor in Education with a focus on Physical Education.

Haley Ruth Teague, daughter of John B. & Sonya Helms Teague of Granite Falls, is recipient of DWEF's Idelia Caldwell Reitzel Memorial Scholarship for \$250. Haley will be enrolling in Campbell University in Buies Creek, NC, to pursue studies that will enable her to become a teacher.

DWEF President Martin Evans of Lancaster SC was provided opportunity to present the organization's 2018 Scholarships to recipients at Alexander Central High School.

Scholarship recipients are selected through a "blind" process, meaning DWEF's independent Scholarship Selection Committee has no information as to applicant's identity, hometown, high school or college/university to ensure integrity in the selection process.

This is the highest number of scholarships granted in one year for the Foundation since its inception in 2000.



Osmers visit Colorado

Fred and Bonnie Osmer traveled to Colorado Springs, CO, during the middle of May this year. Their first granddaughter, McCall Fletcher, graduated from Air Academy High School (also known as the Kadets) and Fred and Bonnie were in attendance. They have visited McCall in Kansas, the Azores, California, and England.

While in Colorado Springs, they visited the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, The Air Force Academy, Denver, and Manitou Springs. They survived the 6,800 foot elevation and hail storms to return to Taylorsville, NC, where they call home.

Fred and Bonnie have four grandsons; Daniel Fletcher of the United States Marine Corps, Andrew and Christian Osmer, both of Hickory, NC, and Emet Fletcher of Colorado Springs, CO. They also have two granddaughters; McCall and Gigi Fletcher, both of Colorado Springs, CO.

ACHS Men's Tennis Awards



AWARD WINNERS - The 2018 ACHS Men's Tennis Award winners are pictured from the left; first row: Cameron White - Teammate Award; Carter Patterson - Most Valuable Player; and Josh Dietrich - Team Before Self Award. Second row: Jacob Campbell - Rookie of the Year; Jackson Barr - Career Performance Award; and Chandler Davis - Most Improved Player. Not pictured: Caleb Bolick.



SENIORS HONORED - During the ACHS Men's Tennis Awards Ceremony, the Class of 2018 team members were recognized with a honor graduate photo. Pictured from the left are: Kendall Flowers, Josh Dietrich, Cory Earp, Garrett Ferguson, Jackson Barr, Seth Fox, and Chandler Davis.

AC Track & Field Awards



AWARDS COOKOUT HELD AT MATHESON PARK - Last week, the Alexander Central High School Track & Field Team held its spring awards ceremony and cookout at Matheson Park. Award winners are pictured above from the left: Cooper Castellaw - Male Runner of the Year; Sage Harrington - Female Runner of the Year; Brianna Abernathy - Female Freshman of the Year; Daniel Morgan - Male Freshman of the Year; and Sarah Van Voorhis - Golden Baton. Award winners not pictured: Madison Ratchford, Lyndon Strickland, Seth Warren, Lanie Hammer, Abby DeJarnette, Logan Ellis, and Jesse Schronce.



GIRL SCOUTS HELP LOCAL SCHOOL — Alexander County Girl Scout Troop 02034 and, specifically, the Brownies, finished their journey this year "Improving their Community" by re-planting the garden at Bethlehem Elementary School. They weeded, added fresh plants, garden decor, and mulch. The Scouts appreciate Lowe's for donating the soil and Bethlehem Nursery for donating many of the plants. Pictured above, left to right: Claire Icard, Reagan Meadlock, Emily Hass, Abby Hass, Zoe Norris, and Makayla Hicks.

Mt. Bethel United Methodist Church sets June, July events

The church will be sponsoring the following activities and we invite everyone in the community to come and join us.

- Sunday, June 17, Father's Day Recognition & Worship 10 a.m.
- Monday, June 18, 3:00-7:30 p.m., American Red Cross Bloodmobile, sponsored by the UMM. To schedule an appointment, go to redcross.org, sponsor code: mtbethel. To speed up your appointment on the day of the drive go to: www.redcrossblood.org/RapidPass. Read the info and answer the questions. Print the pass or email it to yourself. "Give a pint and save a life."

- Thursday-Saturday, July 26-28, VBS Weekend 2018, 6:00-8:30 p.m. nightly, "Rolling River Rampage" (at Mt. Bethel). The church will be partnering with Shiloh Lutheran Church and Community Fellowship Church. There will be classes for all ages, including adults.

Everyone is invited to come out and join in any of the above events. The worship schedules and upcoming events can be found at www.mtbethelumc.org. Mt. Bethel is located on Hwy. 127, 1/2 mile north of Lowe's Foods grocery in Bethlehem.

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