



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**UNITED FEDERAL CREDIT UNION  
AWARDS SCHOLARSHIP TO SAINT JOSEPH HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE**

SAINT JOSEPH, MICHIGAN (June 5, 2009) - United Federal Credit Union recently awarded a \$1000 scholarship to Saint Joseph High School graduate Alexa Rae Kroonblawd. She was selected from a pool of approximately 30 candidates from Ohio, Michigan, Arkansas, and North Carolina. Kroonblawd has been an active volunteer for many community organizations, including Little Girl Poms, Brown Elementary School Tutor, and the Link Program at St. Joseph High School. During her high school career, Kroonblawd was active in the student government, Pom Poms, Show Choir, Symphony Orchestra, and Spanish Club. She served as the junior and senior class vice president. She also is involved in the music program at Trinity Lutheran Church.

In her original essay for the scholarship award, Kroonblawd stated, "I believe that raising children who are well-educated, hardworking, and honest benefit from people around them who care enough about their future to lend a helping hand along the way. That includes all of us; you, me, teachers, coaches, businesspeople..."

Kroonblawd's scholarship was presented to her by Gary Easterling, President and CEO of United Federal Credit Union. The presentation took place during Saint Joseph High School's senior award program. Kroonblawd's future plans will take her to Grand Valley State University (Allendale, MI) where she will enroll as a freshman for the Fall 2009 term.

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## **UNITED FEDERAL CREDIT UNION SCHOLARSHIP**

**ALEXA RAE KROONBLAWD**

**June 5, 2009 June 17, 2009**

The United Federal Credit Union scholarship is granted to an outstanding graduating high school senior based on academic achievement, community involvement, extracurricular activities, and an original essay. Eligibility for the scholarship includes active membership at United Federal Credit Union for at least one year, demonstration of dedication to community service, and acceptance into an accredited trade school, college or university for the upcoming fall term. Other United Federal Credit Union scholarship recipients included Jayme Marie O’Bryant of Buchanan (\$3000 award) and Kirsten Kortebein of St. Joseph (\$1000 award.)

“At United Federal Credit Union, we are committed to the youth in our communities,” stated Gary Easterling, President and CEO. “It is our pleasure to play a small part in encouraging fine young people like Alexa as they make efforts toward a successful future.”

United Federal Credit Union has served its members since 1949 by helping them to build a sound financial future. Presently UFCU consists of more than 76,000 member/owners worldwide, and manages assets in excess of \$917,000,000. Its corporate offices and main branch are located in St. Joseph, Michigan with additional Michigan branches located in Buchanan, Holland, Niles, Berrien Springs, Stevensville and Benton Harbor. In addition to our Marion location, branches are located in Ft. Smith AR, Van Buren AR, and Statesville NC, and Fletcher, NC. For more information about United Federal Credit Union, please call toll-free at 1-888-982-1400, or visit the credit union’s web site at [www.unitedfcu.com](http://www.unitedfcu.com).

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