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WKU grads create scholarship for Owensboro, Henderson grads

By Bobbie Hayse Messenger-Inquirer 8 hrs ago

A couple who are Western Kentucky University graduates have established a scholarship for Henderson County and Owensboro high schools that will be awarded for the first time in the spring of 2019 for the 2019-20 school year.

Chris and Sherri Swanberg met on the Hill when they attended WKU in Bowling Green. Sherri Shuler Swanberg received an associate of arts in medical secretarial administration in 1979, and Chris Swanberg received a bachelor of science in environmental engineering technology in 1981.

The Swanberg Shuler Opportunity Scholarship Fund will be a \$5,000 scholarship available to one student from Owensboro High School, where Sherri Swanberg went to school, and Henderson County High School, where Chris graduated from, who are headed to WKU next fall.

The couple said, according to the university, that this scholarship is a way for them to give back to students. Both gained so much from their experiences studying at Western and wanted a way to help other students do so as well.

"We are at a place where we could show our gratitude to Western," Chris Swanberg said. "We wanted to support the high schools we went to because we got a great education in those schools, too."

Sherri Swanberg agreed, and said a scholarship like this would have been useful to the couple when they were starting their higher education.

"This is a way to help students who really want to be educated by opening up opportunities they may not have otherwise," she said.

Donald Smith, president of the College Heights Foundation that will administer the scholarship, said the WKU Opportunity Fund is one way to help remove barriers for access to education, through needs-based financial assistant.

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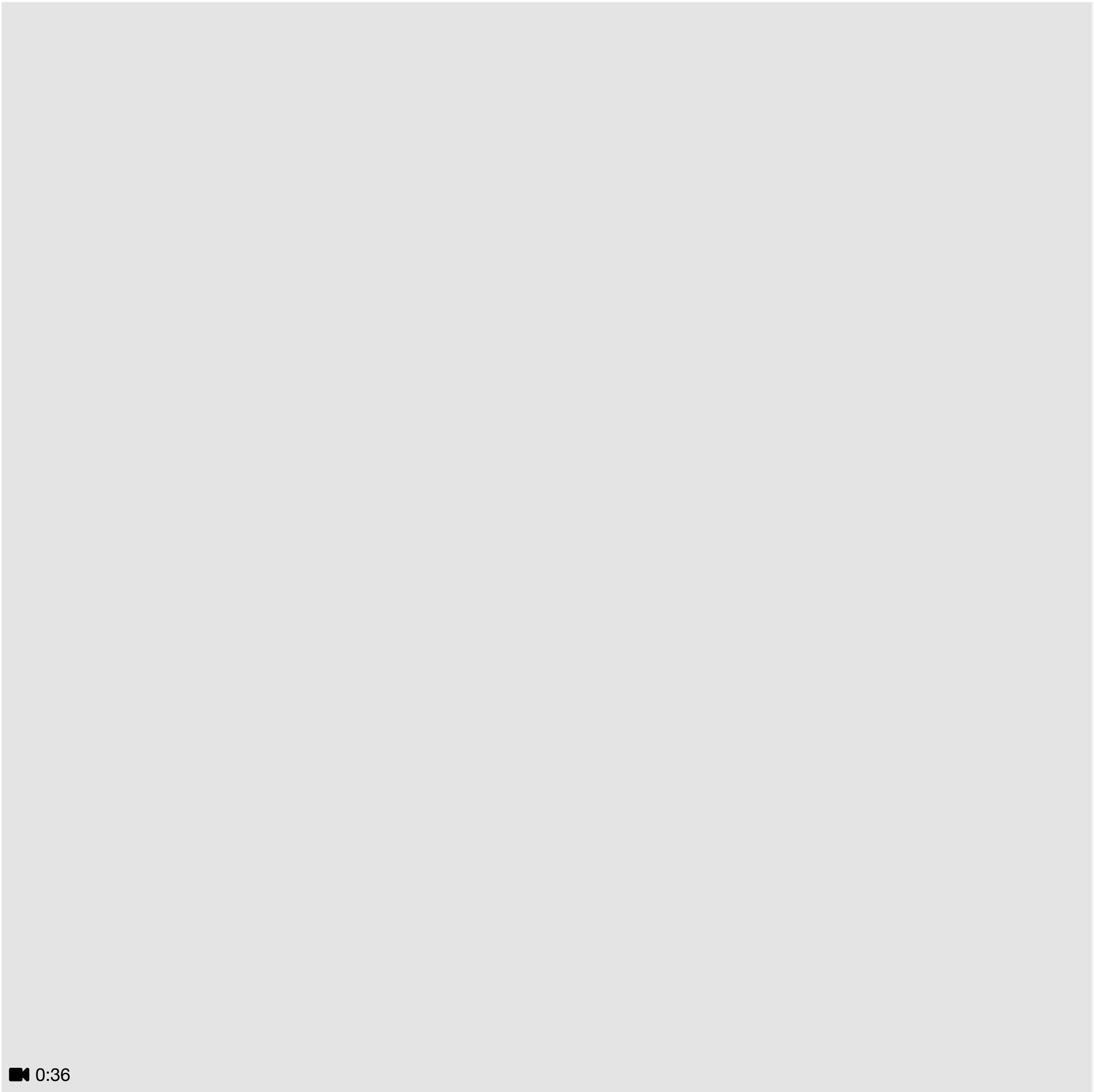
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"... We are extremely grateful to Chris and Sherri Swanberg for establishing the Swanberg Shuler Opportunity Scholarship Fund for supporting this important effort," Smith said. "This fund demonstrates their strong belief in the importance of education."

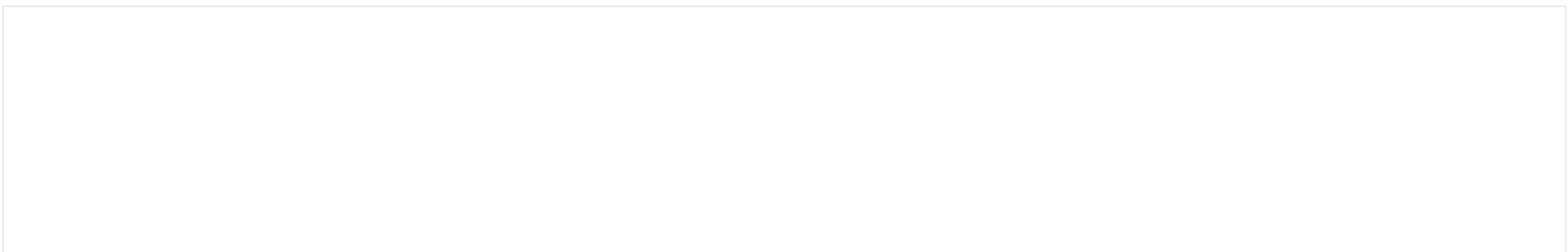
For more information about this scholarship or how to apply, visit wku.edu/topdollar.

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