Cal State L.A. receives gift from Albertsons, Vons Foundation to establish scholarship in memory of Alhambra resident

Albertsons and the Vons Foundation have established an endowed scholarship with a gift of $10,500 to Cal State L.A. The scholarship, which is funded in perpetuity, honors the memory of Monique Rivera, a University student who died in April. She was 25.

Ms. Rivera, who was a psychology major, was an employee at Albertsons in Alhambra. The scholarship will be available to Albertsons, Vons, or Pavilions employees enrolled at Cal State L.A.

"Monique was a cherished member of our Albertsons-Vons family and determined in her pursuit of a higher education," said Carlos Illingworth, a Cal State L.A. alumnus and director of Communications and Government Affairs for the Southern California grocery chain. "We are proud to honor her memory by providing ongoing financial support to employees that will follow in her path to the University."

Ms. Rivera was a active with the University's Ethnic Studies Now Coalition. She was working to complete her bachelor's degree in psychology and a minor in Pan African Studies.

Ms. Rivera's mother, Rachel Rivera, accepted her daughter's diploma on June 13 at the Cal State L.A. Commencement.

The Alhambra Legion Post Auxiliary sponsored Alhambra High School junior Vanessa Gutierrez-Maya to attend California Girls State at McKenna College from June 28 to July 3.

From left: Mary Schmidt, committee chairman and auxiliary vice president, Alhambra High School junior Casey Moore, first alternate; Vanessa; Alhambra High junior Rebecca Lopez, second alternate; and Toni Rivaris, committee co-chairman.

Alhambra Legion Auxiliary sponsors Alhambra High student for Girls State

American Legion Post Auxiliary Unit 139 sponsored Alhambra High School junior Vanessa Gutierrez-Maya as a delegate who attended the 72nd Annual Session of California Girls State at McKenna College in Claremont from June 28 to July 3.

Alhambra High School recommended five candidates to the Alhambra Legion Auxiliary. Alhambra High School juniors Casey Moore and Rebecca Lopez were selected as alternates.

Girls State is a work and study program in functional government. It is not a forum for discussion of political philosophies. Current issues are discussed in group sessions and during the legislative process. "This is a very worthwhile program and a great opportunity for junior high school girls to participate in a week-long session learning about government in a hands-on manner," said Mary Schmidt, auxiliary vice president.

Selections were made by members of the American Legion Post Auxiliary Unit 139, Ms. Schmidt, Co-chairman Toni Rivaris, and Cassie Herrera.