Beta Club inducts members at Wheatmore

By Debbie Hightower

Trinity — The family of Haley Johnson — including her parents Ben and Kim Johnson and grandmother Joyce Johnson — stood and applauded as she was inducted into the Wheatmore High School chapter of the National Beta Club on Nov. 10.

Johnson’s family had good reason to be proud. She was among 58 outstanding students, including nine seniors and 49 juniors, who were admitted into the elite academic organization with rigorous entrance requirements. According to Beta Club Advisor Sheila Dunphy-Atkins, all who walked across the high school’s stage have a 3.88 grade point average or above.

The second letter of the Greek alphabet, Beta represents bios, the Greek word for life. The founder of the organization wanted members to not only learn how to make a living, but also to actually make a life for themselves.

A candle ceremony played an essential role in the induction of students into the organization that promotes the ideals of honesty, service, morality, ethical conduct and leadership.

On the stage, Beta Club officer Destiny Guinn held a red candle as club Historian

See Members/Page 7

Nine Wheatmore High seniors and 49 juniors joined the ranks of the National Beta Club in a Nov. 10 induction ceremony. The National Beta Club began as a dream of Dr. John W. Harris, a professor at Wofford College in Spartanburg, S.C. in 1934. Beta Club recognizes and promotes high academic achievement and character and fosters leadership and service to others. All students admitted to the academic organization must have a grade point average of 3.88 or higher.
Rylan Young announced the names. The red candle represents the club motto “Let Us Lead By Serving Others.”

As Nathan Blanchard’s name was called, Secretary Kailyn Alston handed him a white candle representing the four tenets of Beta — achievement, character, service and leadership.

As they exited the stage, Beta Club President Ben Perez congratulated each new member.

Johnson’s family passed in the auditorium for photos before going to the cafeteria for a celebration reception.

“I’m just happy that she is getting recognized for all her hard work and that she’s making plans for the future,” said Kim Johnson.

Members of the Westmore High School Beta Club chapter who participated in last week’s induction ceremony included, from left: Vice President Christian Cogollo, Secretary Kailyn Alston, Treasurer Darcey Gunn and Historian Rylan Young.