



By Jan Schultz

The Imperial Republican

Diann Schilke is another Chase County farmer who's been selected a winner in America's Farmers Grow Communities promotion, and was presented a check for \$5,000 Friday night.

Sponsored by the Monsanto Fund, check recipients have the opportunity to direct the funds to their favorite local nonprofit organizations.

To further support counties this year that have been declared disaster areas by the USDA due to drought, Monsanto doubled this year's checks to \$5,000. Chase County is among those counties with the disaster area designation.

Schilke chose the Chase County 4-H Council and the Imperial FFA for her donations, each receiving \$2,500.

Those two organizations have benefitted greatly from the Monsanto Fund program already.

In 2010 and 2011, Tom Terryberry of Imperial was among the check recipients. He directed his \$2,500 checks both years to Imperial FFA.

In 2012, Lisa Schilke was a winner, and earmarked her \$2,500 donation to the 4-H Council.

The past year, farmers in 1,271 eligible counties in 39 states could sign up for the opportunity to win a check from the Monsanto Fund for their favorite nonprofit.

The America's Farmers Grow Communities program highlights the important contributions farmers make every day to society and to help them positively impact their communities. It is part of Monsanto Fund's overall effort to support rural America.

Imperial FFA Sponsor Jason Speck said their donation will help FFA members attend the week-long Washington D.C. Leadership Conference in the summer.

Extension Educator Kimberly Cook said the 4-H Council will use its donation to help pay for camp scholarships and 4-H promotion.