



TO SPROUT A SEED -- Recently, five local, retired schoolteachers each donated \$100 to assist in starting an endowment for the Russell public schools. The endowment, which will be administered by the Russell County Area Community Foundation, is called the Apple Seed Program. Pictured in front of the bucking bronco statue at Russell High School, July 1, are: Byrne Wood, executive director of the RCACF, who accepted the donations; and retired schoolteachers Colleen Allen, Norma Jean Cook, Judy Arthur, Mariene Krug, and Marvel Castor.

Schools establish RCACF program

The public schools in Russell, Lucas/Luray, and Natoma are working to raise money for the establishment of endowments through the Apple Seed Program.

According to the program's press release, "The Apple Seed Program is a school endowment program administered by Russell County Area Community Foundation (RCACF) to provide grants for educational opportunities not included in the school budgets. For example, computer software, leveled reading libraries, and classroom endeavors. An advisory committee consisting of representatives from each

school area and one RCACF board member will recommend the grant requests to the Foundation Board."

The Kansas Health Foundation of Wichita is providing a 50-percent match of funds raised for the Apple Seed Program. The Kansas Health Foundation is offering a maximum match of \$200,000, meaning the total amount of funds, raised from other sources, which can be matched is \$400,000.

Each of the three school areas must raise the money required to establish their own endowments under the Apple Seed Program.