

## **Burlington students receive scholarships**

Published 12:00 am EDT, Sunday, July 15, 2018



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BURLINGTON – Three Burlington residents were among the students who were recently awarded \$200,000 in scholarships from Main Street Community Foundation.

Hunter Cowger and Lauren McCard each received a scholarship from the Burlington Lions Charities Scholarship Fund. This fund was established in 2000 by the Burlington Lions Club to support post-secondary educational opportunities for Burlington residents. The Lions Club seeks students who represent good citizenship and commitment to their community through volunteer service.

The Jeffrey Downes Memorial Scholarship Fund for the Trades awarded a scholarship grant to Theodore Marcone. This scholarship was established in 2015 to honor the

memory of Jeffrey Downes who passed away in 2015 after a hard fought battle with cancer. For over 40 years, Jeffrey Downes drove commercial trucks; he loved his work, and truly had a passion for driving.

A scholarship is awarded annually to an individual residing in Bristol, Burlington, Harwinton, Plainville, Plymouth, Southington or Wolcott to provide financial assistance towards obtaining training and education as a commercial driver or other skilled tradesman.

The Burlington Lions Charities Scholarship and the Jeffrey Downes Memorial Scholarship Fund for the Trades grants were awarded during the Community Foundation's June 11, 2018 Scholarship Reception at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Bristol. 240 people attended the ceremony.

"This year's group of scholarship recipients is very impressive," says Susan Sadecki, President & CEO of the Community Foundation. "We are proud to support these students and grateful to the donors whose generosity has made scholarships possible for over 20 years."

Scholarship grants were awarded from 73 of the 231 named funds administered by the Community Foundation and established by generous local individuals, families and businesses. Although each scholarship fund has unique criteria, all donors seek to assist students in pursuing their education and career goals; they have a belief that helping students ease the financial obligations of education is an investment in the future.

All scholarships are awarded through a competitive application process and are available to students at varying levels of their academic careers from the towns of Bristol, Burlington, Plainville, Plymouth, Southington and Wolcott as well as other communities. An all volunteer selection committee appointed by the Foundation's Board of Directors evaluates all applications before recommending recipients.

The Main Street Community Foundation is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for both present and future generations in the communities served by encouraging and promoting gift planning, prudent stewardship of assets, effective grantmaking and community leadership. A nonprofit public charity, created by private citizens, the foundation works with donors in Bristol, Burlington, Plainville, Plymouth, Southington

and Wolcott who wish to build permanent charitable endowments to support their communities. Since its founding in 1995, the foundation has provided over \$15.5 million in grants and scholarships

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