

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
CONTACT INFORMATION**

United Way of Door County
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United Way Awards Youth Scholarships

United Way of Door County has announced the four winners of their scholarship program targeted to high school seniors who demonstrated strong community involvement during their high school career. Scholarships were given to students on the basis of their community involvement through volunteering, rather than based on academic or athletic achievement. Each award is in the amount of \$500, which can be used for any educational expense, including books and fees.

Matthew Christofferson, of Ephraim, won a scholarship award for Gibraltar High School. He spent many hours volunteering at the YMCA, the Ephraim library, numerous local festivals, and most notably, Boy Scouting activities. He became an Eagle Scout recipient at the age of 16 and has remained active in Troop 1120. Laura Anschutz, Assistant Scoutmaster for Troop 1120 stated "Matt's scouting experiences have helped him be a better student, athlete and community member and have helped him learn patience, perseverance and commitment."

A second Gibraltar High School scholarship award was presented to Molly Dickson of Egg Harbor. Molly stated "When everyone helps out without the expectation of being paid, many great things come together and are enjoyed by everyone in the community." Her volunteer involvement with organizations such as the American Red Cross, Door County Humane Society and the Door County Triathlon truly demonstrates her understanding of the importance of community involvement.

Kimberly Malvitz of Gardner was the scholarship award winner from Southern Door High School. She has contributed hundreds of volunteer hours to numerous organizations including Southern Door FFA, Habitat for Humanity, Feed My People and 4-H. She was instrumental in organizing an FFA event called Fall Clean Up which provides personal service to someone in the community who needs a helping hand. "Kimberly will use her love of the community and her leadership skills to be a successful college student and then to make a positive difference in her future career", said Trish Follen, Southern Door Agricultural Educator/FFA Advisor.

Realizing that "just one person can really change the lives of many others" has helped Molly Petersilka find a love for volunteering. Sevastopol High School's scholarship award recipient has readily volunteered more than 100 hours for the Girl Scouts of Lac Baie Council, the Salvation Army, and SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions). She shared that "I am proud to say that volunteering has helped me change many lives and also changed my life in drastic ways."

Door County has been the beneficiary of the skillful, enthusiastic efforts of these students. The students, in turn, recognize the invaluable lessons learned through their community service. The United Way of Door County is proud to recognize Matthew, Molly, Kimberly and Molly for helping to forward their mission of empowering people to build better lives.

Any questions about United Way of Door County programs or volunteer opportunities can be directed to the United Way of Door County office at (920) 746-9645 or at christine@unitedwaydc.com.