

"SMSF Pfeffer awards \$204,050 in 2018"

The Southbury Middlebury Scholarship Foundation (SMSF) which includes the Delmont and Elfriede Pfeffer Scholarship Fund recognized local scholars for their hard work and academic excellence, Wednesday, June 13 at Pomperaug High School's Awards Night.

The top three Pfeffer recipients were: Justin Callanan (\$24,000 over 4 years), Skye Szabo (\$20,000 over 4 years), and Isabelle Messina (\$16,000 over four years)

The Delmont and Elfriede Pfeffer Scholarship Fund Awards which are administered by the SMSF, are made possible annually, through a memorial endowment by Elfriede Pfeffer who lived in Southbury since 1970. Mrs Pfeffer, a resident of Heritage Village since 1995 was an active member of the Heritage Village Women's Club and the United Church of Christ.

Eligibility for the Pfeffer Scholarship requires that the student be accepted by an institution of higher learning and is in the top 30 percent of their high school graduating class. Continuing college students are required to maintain a minimum grade point average of 3.0. This year's awards totaled \$177,000.

Including the three students mentioned above, the following students received awards. Pfeffer One-year: \$4,000 scholarships were awarded to; Natalie Kelly, Hunter David Kilson, Allison McCormick, Sahira Syed, Brooke Tweedie. \$3000 scholarships were awarded to; Kiley Harnish (Holy Cross H.S.), Taylor Kissinger, Hallie Magee, Grace Monagan, and Isabella Pasqualucci. The following six students each received a \$2,000 award; Sarah Kwashnak, Ronald Nemec, Gregory Pelletier, David Roper, Lauren Stango and Ashleigh Whitten.

Continuing their college education the following students are receiving one-year grants: \$5,000 grants include; Walter Manuel PHS'16, Claire Domogala PHS'15, Kelly Domogala PHS'15, Jenna Dwy PHS'15 and CJ Legato PHS'15. Six students received \$4,000 grants: Lauren Oemcke PHS'16, Meghan McCloughry PHS'15, Heather Weber PHS'15, Sean Dolan PHS'15, Joanna Rizza PHS'15, and Natalia Riedel PHS'13. Graduates who received \$3,000 grants include; Sarah Belden PHS'17, Gavin Birdsall PHS'17, Robert Caldaroni PHS'17, Peyton Flemming PHS'16, Megan Civitello PHS'15, Megan Cascella PHS'15, Alison Iaiennaro PHS'15. Finally, three graduates received \$2,000 grants; Sophie Stanko PHS'16, Mallory Blais PHS'16, Emilia Hudson PHS'16,

There are also eight PHS students currently in college who are continuing with four-year grants. They include: \$5,000 to Cameron Phillips PHS'17, \$5,000 to Isabella Pirelli PHS'17, \$5,000 to Tanya Miller PHS'16, \$4,000 to Matthew Doan PHS'16, \$4,000 to Jason Chiappa PHS'16, \$6,000 to Jessica Hicks PHS'15, \$5,000 to Rachel Meier PHS'15, \$5,000 to Tessa Teardo PHS'15,

The SMSF annually award scholarships to graduating high school seniors and continuing college students who reside in either Middlebury or Southbury. These awards are based on demonstrated need, academic achievement and community involvement.

The SMSF is funded completely by donations from local businesses and residents of the two towns. This year, awards to graduating seniors totaled \$27,050. The following students received awards: Ka Ying Kwok received the Tchaika Award in Fine and Performing Arts for \$1,000. In addition, Grace O'Connor received the Stiles Memorial Award in Writing/Communications for \$500, Julie Bilcheck received the Future Teacher Award for \$500 and Ian Bette PHS'16 received a \$700. award from the Southbury High School Class of 1959 Scholarship Fund.

The following four students each received a \$1,500 SMSF award: Madison Conroy, David Hanna, Morgan Rosen and Dallas Tuttle. (2016). In addition five \$1,000 SMSF awards were given to: Siobhan Flanagan, Gabriel Holmes, Ka Yeung Kwok, Madison Molnar and Juliana Pasqualucci. The following former graduates now attending college, receiving SMSF grants totaling \$12,500 include: Chase Belden PHS'17, Cameron Ellsworth PHS'17, Katelyn Oemcke PHS'17, Kateri Quinn PHS'17, Stephanie Thompson PHS'17, Ashley Del Vento PHS'16, Douglas Schmiedel PHS'16, Margo Doyle PHS'15, Brianna Richardson PHS'15, Rebekka Rosen PHS'15,

The Southbury Middlebury Scholarship Foundation, Inc. has awarded a total of \$624,450 since 1984, and the Delmont and Elfriede Pfeffer Scholarship Fund has given a total of \$3,055,083 since 1997. The following Southbury and Middlebury residents serve as directors of the Southbury Middlebury Scholarship Foundation: Dennis Jedlinsky, Virginia Middleton, Leeah Joo, Bob Crean, Louis Pontillo, Jr. George White, Manisha Pujari, Kenneth Varotta, Terry Latella, Janet Walker, Kim Dean and Donna Foss.

Tax-deductible contributions may be sent to Southbury Middlebury Scholarship Foundation, Inc. P.O. Box 1259, Middlebury, CT 06762. Those seeking additional information may contact the foundation at their website; www.smsfct.org.