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NEWS RELEASE

**THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
AWARDS OVER \$163,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS
TO 65 AREA STUDENTS**

June 1, 2009

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The Community Foundation of the Dan River Region has awarded over \$163,000 in scholarships to 65 area students. Presentations were recently made from 25 different scholarship funds within The Community Foundation at a scholarship reception held May 31, 2009 at Danville Education, Arts and Cultural Center.

“We are so excited to help open the doors of the future to so many students,” said Debra L. Dodson, Executive Director for The Community Foundation. “We have awarded over \$1,145,000 in scholarships to over 380 students since the Foundation was begun in 1996.”

The **Bennett-Bushnell-Jones-Kaufman Scholarship** was established from four individual scholarships to benefit outstanding nursing students at Danville Regional Medical Center School of Health Professions. These scholarships were transferred to The Community Foundation in 2008 by Piedmont Health Foundation. Students will be announced on June 5.

The **James W. Bryant and James T. Collie Scholarship** was established with The Community Foundation of the Dan River Region in 2005 by a retired school teacher. The scholarship is for Pittsylvania County Public Schools graduates, with a preference for those pursuing education or nursing. Three scholarships of \$1,000 each were presented to Tunstall High School seniors **Yizhen Liu** (University of Virginia) and **Lesley Stowe** (University of Virginia) and **Ceseley Haynes** (currently attending Virginia Tech).

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The **Bernard C. Calvert Scholarship** was established in 2004 by the Brosville Council #51 of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics. The scholarship is restricted to Tunstall High School graduates, preferably students who attended either Brosville or Stony Mill Schools. The Calvert scholarship was awarded to **Sarah Terrell** (Virginia Tech) in the amount of \$1,575.

The **Dan River Inc Scholarship** was transferred to The Community Foundation in 2008 to continue the charitable work of the company based in Danville for over 100 years. Three scholarships were awarded to previous recipients of Dan River Foundation scholarships, each receiving \$2,000 - **David Copal** (Southside Community College), **Nicholas DeMasi** (James Madison University) and **Kacee Little** (Piedmont Community College).

The **Danville Academic Boosters Club Scholarship** was awarded to the top five scholastic students in Danville Public Schools – **Colleen Coyne** (Galileo), **Rachel Kilgore** (GWHS), **Robert Wiseman** (GWHS), **David Lemery** (Galileo) and **Parker Hodges** (GWHS).

The **John Watson Daniel Scholarship** was established by the JWD Retirement Club in 1997. One scholarship of \$575 was awarded to **Elizabeth Gee** to attend Mary Baldwin College.

The **Danville Regional Medical Center Auxiliary/Volunteers Scholarship** was established in 2008 for Danville Regional Medical Center employees and volunteers and their immediate families, who are studying in a medical field. Six scholarships of \$1,000 were awarded to **David Ellington, Jr.** (Shenandoah University), Westover Christian Academy senior **Rebecca Hand** (University of North Carolina-Greensboro), Dan River High School senior **Mackenzie Shelton** (Virginia Tech), George Washington High School seniors **Rebecca Stevens** (James Madison University), **Thaingoc Tran** (University of Virginia) and **Cara Weatherford** (currently attending Virginia Tech)

One student received the **John R. and Betty B. Eggleston Scholarship**, established in memory of Dr. and Mrs. Eggleston in 2002. **Alexandria Gwynn**, a Bartlett Yancey High School senior, received \$775 to attend Wake Forest University.

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The **Margaret Spruce Floyd Scholarship** was established in memory of Mrs. Floyd and transferred to The Community Foundation in 2004. The scholarship is awarded to female high school students from Pittsylvania County. Two Margaret Spruce Floyd scholarships were awarded this year to Chatham High School seniors - **Lyndsey Moser** received \$775 to attend Longwood University and **Marissa Thompson** received \$1,000 to attend Washington and Lee University.

Five Danville area **Gignac Scholars** will continue their studies at Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago with annual support totaling \$108,000. The Gignac Scholars are **Patrick Bray, Corey Hawker, Sayiddah McCree, Andrew Mey and Andrew Rust.**

The **John B. Grubb scholarship** was established in 2007 in memory of Mr. Grubb to benefit Danville and Pittsylvania County Public School graduates. **David Lemery**, a Galileo Magnet High School senior, received \$425 to attend Illinois Institute of Technology.

The **Ray M. Harris Scholarship** was created in memory of Mr. Harris and transferred to The Community Foundation in 2004. The scholarship gives primary consideration to Pittsylvania County high school graduates. Three **Ray M. Harris** scholarships were presented this year. **Rachel Brinkley** (currently attending University of Virginia) received \$1,450, Dan River High School senior Jessie Cutts (Roanoke College) and **David Divine** (Shenandoah University) were awarded \$1,000.

The **Stuart Harris Drama Scholarship** recognizes outstanding drama students in the Danville Public Schools. Galileo Magnet High School seniors **Taylor Gauldin** (Virginia Commonwealth University) and **Darius Montage** (DePaul University) both received \$525.

The **John L. Hurt, Jr. Scholarship** supports students from Gretna High School, with a preference for students who have attended the John L. Hurt, Jr. Elementary School. **Nicholas Hagood** received \$1,000 to continue studying at Radford University and **Mark Marstin** received \$875 to attend Liberty University.

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The **Main Street United Methodist Church Scholarship** was established in 2007 with the closing of Main Street United Methodist Church and is for local seminary students, with a preference for United Methodist applicants. **Martin Park Hunter** was awarded \$2,450 to continue his education at Duke Divinity School.

Four scholarships totaling \$4,750 were awarded from the **Onnie H & Bertie W. Milloway Scholarship** to assist area students who attend Averett University. Scholarships were presented to current Averett students **Benjamin Boatwright, Dustin Echols, Pattie Keatts** and **Brittany Shepherd-Walker**.

The **Patrick H. Musick Scholarship** was established recently for needy, talented students attending Averett University, with a preference shown to students who have a tennis-playing background. This year's scholarship of \$600 was awarded to **Pattie Keatts**.

Four area students received scholarships from the **Irene L. Pritchett Scholarship**, created years ago to benefit area black students. The Pritchett scholarship was transferred to The Community Foundation in 2001. Gretna seniors **Tierrah Austin** (Old Dominion University) received \$500 and **Jessica Stone** (Randolph Macon College) received \$1,100. Galileo senior **Kiristen Stephens-Evans** (University of Virginia) received \$500 and George Washington High School senior **Tonyette White** was awarded \$1,000, to continue her education at the University of Virginia.

The **Alger Pugh Memorial Scholarship** was created in memory of Alger Pugh, GW High School football coach, after his death in 1984. The scholarship was then transferred to The Community Foundation and is given to deserving GW athletes. Two students were awarded \$1,000 scholarships – **Lindsey Kreger** to attend James Madison University and **Robert Wiseman** to attend Washington and Lee University. **Christopher Ryan Dodson** received \$1,100 to attend The College of William and Mary.

Three scholarships of \$750 were given from the **Riddle-Francis Scholarship**, which was created in 2005 by a retired teacher to benefit Pittsylvania County students, with a preference for Tunstall and Dan River students. Scholarships were awarded to Gretna senior **Michelle Adams** (University of Virginia), Chatham High School senior **Desiree' Berrios** (Longwood University), and to Tunstall senior **Jme Myers** (Averett University).

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The **Percy and Velna Searce Scholarship** was created in 2001 to benefit area students. **Tia Miller** received \$625 to continue graduate studies at Liberty University and Bartlett Yancey High School senior, **Sandra Whitehurst**, received a \$625 scholarship to continue her education at Johnson and Wales University.

The **Spiros Skenderis Memorial Scholarship**, was created by the Danville Bar Association in memory of Judge Spiros Skenderis. Judge Skenderis served as a compassionate judge of the Danville Juvenile and Domestic Relations District for 19 years. A \$700 scholarship was awarded to **Darius Montague** who is graduating from Galileo Magnet High School and plans to attend DePaul University and **Holly Welch** who is a Gretna High School senior and plans to attend Valencia Community College.

The **Eileen and Joseph Stendig Scholarship** was created in 2005 to benefit area students. Galileo Magnet High School senior **Cynthia Carrillo** (Clark Atlanta University) and George Washington High School senior **Hunter Cassidy** (University of Virginia) both received \$1,000 scholarships.

Two scholarships were awarded from the **Louise P. Surles Scholarship**. The Surles Scholarship supports area students who attend the University of Virginia. Gretna High School senior **Michelle Adams** was awarded \$1,275 and Tunstall High School senior **Lesley Stowe** received \$1,250.

The **Andy Warren Memorial Scholarship** was created in memory of GW High School assistant football coach and is given to deserving GW athletes. **Daniel Burs** (Old Dominion University) received \$1,000 and **Rachel Kilgore** (Virginia Commonwealth University) was awarded \$1,475.

The Community Foundation of the Dan River Region, formerly known as DPC Community Foundation, is a public charity with total assets of \$17 million. The Foundation serves a region from Martinsville-Henry County to South Boston/Halifax County, including the neighboring North Carolina counties.

The Community Foundation of the Dan River Region is a fully tax-exempt organization. Individuals or businesses may establish their own endowment or scholarship fund or may contribute any amount to existing funds. For more information, contact Debra L. Dodson at 541 Loyal Street, P.O. Box 1039, Danville, VA 24543, (434) 793-0884 or visit their web site www.cfdrr.org.