

SUMMER 2010

Paying it Forward

Mariah Drazer is eager to turn scholarship into a career helping others

Just four years ago, Mariah Drazer was on the receiving end—as the winner of a Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship through the Foundation. Today, she’s preparing for a career in nursing that will allow her to help others.

“I’ve always loved helping people and have been intrigued by medicine and healthcare. Nursing was a natural fit for me,” said Drazer. Yet without the Foundation’s help, Drazer may have been a commuting student, juggling classes and a job. The Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship covered four years of tuition and fees (including books!) to any Indiana college or university. Drazer chose Purdue University and was able to focus her time on being the best student possible.

Her hard work paid off. The Purdue University School of Nursing recently selected her for the “Outstanding Achievement Award” on the basis of her professionalism, academic excellence, and service. During her four years, she was elected President of Purdue’s Nurses’ Christian Fellowship, served as a nurse extern in Orthopedic Trauma at the Mayo Clinic, was chosen as a peer mentor, and made the Dean’s list. She is currently preparing for her Nursing Board exams and hopes to be working by fall.

“I’m looking forward to being able to pay forward the opportunity I’ve been given. I’m excited to put the last four years into action,” she said. “Through this scholarship, the Foundation has made a bright future possible. I am so grateful for the opportunity.”

Since 1998, the Porter County Community Foundation has presented 187 scholarships to Porter County students. The recipients are now doctors, teachers, engineers, nurses, architects, and more. To get involved in helping students like Mariah Drazer, contact the Foundation at 219-465-0294.



Past recipients of the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship attended the 2010 Scholarship Banquet. (left to right) Mariah Drazer received a degree in Nursing from Purdue University. In 2007, Danielle Crider from Morgan Township was awarded the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship. She has just completed her junior year at the University of Indianapolis. Elizabeth Gonzales from Chesterton was a 2004 recipient and graduated from the University of Notre Dame in 2008. Alexander Buff from Chesterton was a 2009 recipient and is now attending Butler University. Jamie Schmidt from Portage, a 2008 recipient, has just completed her sophomore year at Saint Marys. Maddie Baker from Valparaiso, also a 2008 recipient, has just completed her sophomore year at the University of Notre Dame.

In this Issue:

Paying It Forward



Page 1

Futures So Bright



Page 2-3

Where There’s a Will...



Page 4



P. O. Box 302 • Valparaiso, IN 46384

Barbara A. Young
President

Brenda Sheetz
Vice President

Carol Costakis
Community Resource Director

Kim Kilander
Administrative Assistant

Telephone 219-465-0294
Facsimile 219-464-2733

Email info@portercountyfoundation.org
www.portercountyfoundation.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Fred Berglund
Berglund Construction

Debora Butterfield
Deb Butterfield Communications

Kenneth B. Elwood
Rhame & Elwood

Dr. John Felton
Retired Ophthalmologist

Tricia Geno
NIPSCO

Stephanie Gerdes
Centier Bank

Minakshi Ghuman
Century 21 Pace Estates

John Hannon
Great Lakes Engineering

Heather Harrigan
Prudential Executive Group

Bill Higbie
Moeller Funeral Homes

David A. Kelly
Retired Executive - NiSource, Inc.

Susan Kelly-Johnson
Attorney at Law

Sharon Kish
United Way of Porter County

R. Bradley Koeppen
Douglas, Koeppen & Hurley

Jon Leetz
North Coast Distributing

William P. Maar
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans

Mark Maassel
Krieg DeVault LLP/Northwest Indiana Forum

Jane Maxwell
Maxwell Farms, Morgan Township

Jonathan Nalli
Porter

Ralph Neff
Mechanical Concepts, Inc.

Gerard Pannekoek
IPXI

Leslie Plesac
Purdue North Central

Paul Reisen
Emerson Power Transmission

David Rose
Horizon Bank

Gregory Sobkowski
Hodges & Davis

Spero Valavanis
Design Organization

William Wagner
Hoepfner, Wagner & Evans, LLP

Linda Woloshansky
Center of Workforce Innovations

Futures So Bright!

Foundation has Awarded 187 scholarships since 1998

This year's recipients are:

Porter County Community Foundation Scholarships

The Porter County Community Foundation is pleased to provide \$4,000 scholarships to Morgan Galloway Daly (Washington Township High School), Alexandria Roman (Portage High School), Hayley Trezzo (Chesterton High School).



Recipients of Porter County Community Foundation scholarships are Hayley Trezzo, Morgan Galloway Daly and Alexandria Roman.

NIPSCO Sponsored Scholarships

NIPSCO has partnered with the Foundation to provide the following \$1,000 scholarships: Brianna Largent (Hebron High School), Luis Murillo (Portage High School), Robin Rhodea (Kouts High School), Daria Wolf (Morgan Township High School), Grant Cooper (Andean High School).



NIPSCO Scholarship Recipients are Luis Murillo, Brianna Largent, Daria Wolf and Robin Rhodea.

High school graduation is just the beginning for the 18 talented students recently recognized at the Foundation's annual Scholarship Banquet. "We're so proud of these extraordinary students. Combined with their talent and hard work, these scholarships will help build extraordinary, bright futures," said Leslie Plesac, a Foundation Board member who has chaired the Scholarship Committee for the past 8 years.

Lilly Endowment Community Scholarships

Since 1998 the Porter County Community Foundation has awarded 58 Lilly Endowment Community Scholarships to Porter County students, totaling over \$3.8 million. The scholarship pays full tuition and fees to any college or university in the state of Indiana and \$800 each year for books. This year's winners are Michael Bradney (Valparaiso High School), Lynsey Sell (Wheeler High School), Catalina Roldan (Valparaiso High School), Daniel Hartwig (Boone Grove High School).



Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship recipients Michael Bradney and Daniel Hartwig plan to attend Purdue University, Lynsey Sell plans to attend Butler University and Catalina Roldan plans to attend Valparaiso University.



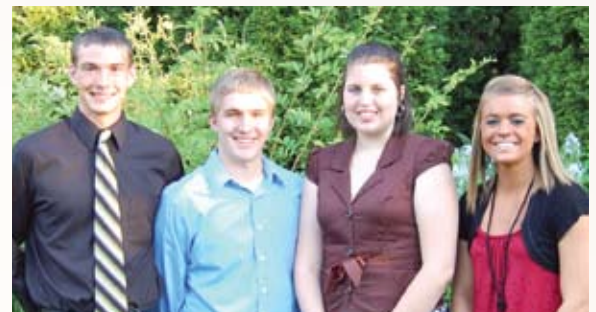
Shawn's parents, Nicholas and Beverly Moyer, and his sister, Kayla, are pictured with recipients of Shawn Moyer Memorial Scholarships Jessica Duncan and Kevin Freyenberger.

Shawn Moyer Scholarship

Shawn Moyer was a 1999 Lilly Endowment Community Scholar who passed away during his sophomore year at Taylor University. Lilly Endowment and the Foundation endowed the remaining balance of Shawn's scholarship to create this award for graduates of Kouts High School. Jessica Duncan and Kevin Freyenberger received \$1,000 scholarships in memory of Shawn Moyer.

Launch Your Career Scholarships

The Launch Your Career scholarship is available to students attending the Porter County Career and Technical Center. North Coast Distributing is a partner in awarding these \$1,000 scholarships. Recipients are Kayla Bachert (Morgan Township High School), Zachary Devereux (Boone Grove High School), Kara Moon (Morgan High School), Olivia Rivera (Portage High School), Ryan Hough (Hebron High School), Mark Passine (Hebron High School).



Recipients of the Launch Your Career Scholarship are Ryan Hough, Zachary Devereux, Kara Moon and Kayla Bachert.

All scholarships were awarded based on financial need, academic accomplishment, ability to communicate, motivation/desire to succeed, activities/leadership, and capacity to succeed. Porter County high schools are invited to submit nominations. In addition, Porter County residents who attend high school elsewhere are invited to submit applications directly to the Foundation. Each applicant submits a written narrative explaining why the scholarship would be important to achieving future goals. The Foundation's Scholarship Committee reviews applications, interviews applicants, and makes selections based on the criteria above. For more information about establishing a scholarship fund, contributing to an existing fund, or applying for a scholarship, visit our web site at www.portercountyfoundation.org or call the Porter County Community Foundation at (219) 465-0294.

Where There's a Will...

Consider making your wishes known in a will or estate plan

If Porter County is one of the causes you care about today, you may choose to include the Foundation in your will or estate plan. "Planned gifts really put you in charge so you can make your wishes known," said Barb Young, President of the Porter County Community Foundation. "There are many ways to give and you can designate how you'd like the funds to be used. By giving through the Foundation, your gift can continue on in your name forever," she said.

There are many options for bequests. You can choose to give to the Porter County Community Fund which generates earnings to be awarded each year in grants to nonprofits serving our community or you can choose the individual organizations to benefit from your gift. You also have the option of leaving assets other than money, such as real estate, investments, or IRAs. You can leave a specific item or amount or choose to give a percentage or an amount after obligations are paid. "We can help you to structure a gift to reflect your intentions. You may also be surprised to learn that there are favorable tax benefits to many forms of planned giving," said Young.

If you're including the Foundation in your estate plan, we encourage you to share this information with the Foundation so that you can be included in our special Echo Society. The Echo Society was established to honor and thank those who have chosen to make a planned gift to the Foundation. Through the Foundation, your gift in any amount can truly become a legacy. For more information on how to create a charitable bequest please contact the Foundation at 219-465-0294. This information is provided for general information purposes only. It is not intended as legal or financial advice.

Making a Bequest

To remember the Foundation in your estate plan, simply list a percentage of assets or a specific dollar amount to the Porter County Community Foundation, Inc.

