For Immediate Release

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Elizabethtown High School students receive scholarships from Central Kentucky Community Foundation

ELIZABETHTOWN, KY (June 20, 2020) – Several 2020 Elizabethtown High School graduates recently were recognized by Central Kentucky Community Foundation for receiving scholarships offered to students at their school.

Mary Kate Wheatley was awarded the Brianna Taylor Memorial Scholarship. Wheatley plans to attend Marian University to study biology and pre-medicine. She is the daughter of Helen and Christopher Wheatley Sr.

Bryan Herringshaw received the Brice Taylor Memorial Scholarship. Herringshaw plans to attend the University of Louisville to study math. He is the son of Chace and Donna Herringshaw.

The Brianna and Brice Taylor Memorial scholarships were established in 2015 by parents, David and Tonya Taylor, who created it in their children’s name to honor their memory and help other students attend college. Following two tragic accidents in 2014, that took the lives of siblings Brianna and Brice Taylor just a few days apart, the community rallied together to support family and friends of Brice and Brianna. The Angels in the Outfield Softball tournament has since raised money to award a scholarship annually to honor their memory. The $1,000 award is made to a male and female student athlete from Elizabethtown High School.

Jenson Harner received the Col. Michael Baymor Scholarship. Harner plans to attend Western Kentucky University to study biology. He is the son of Timothy and Michele Harner. The Col. Michael Baymor Scholarship was established in 1999, by Lahoma Baymor, to honor her husband’s service to our country in the military. The $1,500 scholarship is awarded annually (in conjunction with Military Officers Association of America) to local graduates who are the children or grandchildren of active or retired military personnel.

Bailey C. Thomas was awarded the Elizabethtown High School Class of 1966 Scholarship. Thomas plans to attend Western Kentucky University to study nursing. She is the daughter of Demond Thomas and Cris Riney. The Elizabethtown High School Class of 1966 Scholarship was established at their 25th class reunion to help future EHS graduates. The scholarship has been awarded to 24 students throughout the years and gives the class a meaningful way to support their school. It awards $1,000 annually.

Laura Beth Sumrall was awarded the Hardin County Bar Association Scholarship. Sumrall plans to attend Samford University to study business. She is the daughter of James and Michelle Sumrall. A portion of dues paid by each Bar member is used to fund this $2,000 scholarship awarded to an outstanding student in the Hardin County or Elizabethtown Independent school systems. The qualities of the recipient are excellence in school, dedication to the community, an overall stellar attitude exemplifying good citizenship and a keen sense of justice and fair play in their attitude towards others.

Bradley Lackey was the recipient of the Lisa Hays Charness Memorial Scholarship. Lackey plans to attend Western Kentucky University to study medicine and health care. He is the son of Sheldon and Renee Lackey. The Lisa Hays Charness Memorial Scholarship was established by Lisa’s mother, Lenelle Hays, in recognition of the 1980 Elizabethtown High School
graduate after she lost her three-year battle with cancer in 2014. The award is a $2,000 scholarship to a graduating senior from Elizabethtown High School.

Shelby Butler received the Mr. and Mrs. Lewis H. Hall Scholarship. Butler plans to attend Elizabethtown Community and Technical College to study elementary education. She is the daughter of Steven and Melissa Butler. The Mr. and Mrs. Lewis H. Hall Scholarship was established to help support local students continue their education. The $500 scholarship awards annually to a student attending or planning to attend Elizabethtown Community and Technical College.

Lauren Leath is the recipient of the Schmidt Family Scholarship. Leath plans to attend Elizabethtown Community and Technical College to study nursing. She is the daughter of Odis and Tammy Leath. The Schmidt Family Scholarship was established in 2016 to support an EHS student attending Elizabethtown Community and Technical College. The scholarship will pay up to full tuition.

"Through the generosity of our donors, students across our region can continue their education," said Davette B. Swiney, President and CEO of CKCF. "Our scholarship program, Scholarship Central, is a great way to empower local students and show them the impact of philanthropy. It's an honor to connect people to the causes they care about while helping people pursue their educational goals."

The scholarships are some of the 170 scholarships being awarded by CKCF this year through Scholarship Central. The scholarships total nearly $322,000 and were awarded to 145 students from 17 high schools and four colleges in the region. All scholarship awards were announced during Celebrating Achievement, Central Kentucky Community Foundation’s scholarship awards program. You can watch it at https://youtu.be/qql5ZY_XyKw.

To establish a scholarship fund or to find out more information on this scholarship and other scholarships available to students, go to http://ckcf4people.org/scholarships/.

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Central Kentucky Community Foundation is the philanthropic focal point in the region, serving as a resource, leader and catalyst to people who wish to improve life in their community. For more about CKCF, go to www.ckcf4people.org.