

Investing in Our Future Workforce

By Leanna Krotzer, Director, District 2
lkrotzer@northmasonschoools.org

Congratulations to our Class of 2017 scholarship recipients!

At the May 15 awards night at NMHS, a total of \$208,216 in scholarships were awarded to 39 well-deserving, hard-working seniors. Of that total, the North Mason Scholarship Foundation (NMSF) awarded scholarships totaling \$42,000.00 from our local community. Here are some of the highlights of that evening:

The NMSF was formed in 2000 with a generous initial donation of \$50,000 from the Peter Overton Family as the seed for an endowment fund, with additional donations of \$10,000 annually ever since.

Each year, two \$1,000 honorary Overton Family scholarships are awarded. Hannah Burch and Jenna Rock were this year's recipients.

Another annual contribution of \$5000 to the NMSF endowment fund is given in memory of Mary Sagerson; a long time Grapeview resident who truly valued education. Ron Sagerson presented two \$1500 Mary Sagerson scholarships to Cheyenne Filer and Marissa Covarrubias, in addition to a continuing \$2000 scholarship to Kenson Jean, a NMHS undergraduate student in his fourth year of higher education. Kenson will be finishing his Associates degree at OC this spring and attending PLU in the fall. He is pursuing a degree in Biology.

To honor their daughter's memory, Dan and Barb Goodell presented the annual Marissa Ann Goodell Shining Star scholarship to Isabella Breda, along with another renewal scholarship to Kenson Jean. This scholarship is awarded based on the student's humanitarian efforts and character.

The Tom Kelly Memorial Scholarship of \$1000 was given to Nico Ramirez. Tom Kelly served as North Mason School District's superintendent from 2003-2007 after retiring as a 30-year full colonel in the United States Army. Tom had a heart for the student who struggled to overcome adversity in pursuit of success.

For the very first time, the NMSF presented the Toni M. Smith Family Memorial Scholarship. Toni was a respected and beloved teacher at North Mason High School for over 30 years. This four-year renewable scholarship was awarded to Molly Green, who will begin her college education at Tacoma Community College.

Receiving an academic scholarship makes a huge impact on a student. Scholarship awards are not gifts, but rather they are given in recognition of high achievement, and serve as an investment in the future of our workforce.

By supporting scholarships, you are providing a lifeline to NM's talented students. Anyone can donate to the North Mason Scholarship Foundation. Checks made out to NMSF can be mailed to PO Box 1433, Belfair, WA 98528.

A list of local donors can be found on NMSF Facebook page at www.facebook.com/northmasonsolars.