

Columbia Fire Co. No. 1 Presented Its Annual Scholarships

By Joe Martocci / Secretary - Columbia Fire Co. No. 1

ROSETO - Columbia Fire Co. No. 1 in Roseto presented its annual scholarships to students from Bangor Area, and Faith Christian High Schools. The awards are presented annually to seniors from each high school and are given in memory of Columbia's deceased firefighters. The awards are presented to the students who best exemplify the spirit of civic involvement in their community. Each school is provided the scholarship criteria and then selects the student from the senior class. This year's recipients are:

Bangor Area HS – Addison Priestaf

Throughout her high school career at Bangor Area High School, Addison was involved in scholastic, athletic, and volunteer endeavors. She has been an active participant in numerous clubs. Addison was a four-year member of Ecology Club, a two-year member of Envirothon, and an four-year member of Student Government, where she served as sophomore and junior class representative and now serves as president. She also takes pride in being in the National Honor Society.

Beyond the classroom, Addison is a dedicated student-athlete. In the fall, she is a dual-sport athlete, participating in soccer and cross-country, honored as captain of both sports her senior year. She won the Heart and Hustle award for soccer this year as well as the Lehigh Valley Scholar-Athlete award. She participated in cross country her sophomore through senior years, winning the MVP award all three years and qualifying for States her junior and senior years. She was also a member of the track-and-field team all four years and served as the girls' team captain this year.

She was nominated as Bangor's female Colonial League Academic All-Star this

PHEAA Hosts Scholarship Sweepstakes

By State Rep. Joe Emrick

The Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) is giving away \$2,500 no-essay scholarships through its PA Forward and Keystone Student Loan programs!

The scholarship sweepstakes is for college students, graduate students and their parents for the 2025-26 academic year who opt in to receive communications from PHEAA between June 5 and Dec. 15. The communications are designed to provide students and families with tips on planning and paying for college.

Twelve winners will be selected for each scholarship. Winners will be announced in August and December of this year.

The PA Forward scholarship - Click here to enter the PA Forward sweepstakes - and Keystone scholarship - Click here to enter the Keystone sweepstakes - are now open for applications.



year. She has volunteered in many capacities, serving as a team member for the care of Lutheran Brethren International Missionaries in Chad, Africa, a Vacation Bible School Counselor, and Audio-Visual Assistant for Mount Bethel Church. In the fall, Addison plans to attend Villanova University as a member of the Honors Program to pursue a major in Biology.

Faith Christian School – Ashlyn Todd

Ashlyn, the daughter of Adam and Rachel Todd, has attended Faith Christian School since her junior year. She took photography at her previous high school and ran a photography club in her freshman year.

She worked at Mt. Gilead Camp during the summers of 2022 and 2023 as the photographer. Ashlyn explored digital arts her sophomore and junior years and participated in the CILT leadership program both years, focusing on leadership, service, and communication skills. Ashlyn played on the Girls Varsity Soccer Team during both her junior and senior years and served as team captain her senior year. Throughout high school, Ashlyn was an active member of the yearbook staff and consistently enrolled in art classes.

In her senior year, Ashlyn joined the Praise Team, serving on the tech team. Ashlyn enjoyed skiing throughout high school and volunteered with children's ministry at her church during her sophomore and junior years. Ashlyn had the opportunity to participate in two missions trips.

Last year she went to Nicaragua for three weeks where she served at a camp and ran a Vacation Bible School program for children who lived in the sugarcane plantations and this past fall she served in Kenya for several weeks. She also served as a volunteer for a Dad-Daughter weekend in Stroudsburg at Mt. Gilead Camp by serving food, helping the girls with a craft, and taking a leadership role in their Chapel service.



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