Students receiving grants and scholarships

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UPPER MERION >> Grants to non-profit organizations and scholarships to Upper Merion students were to be distributed Tuesday night by the Board of Community Assistance (BCA) at the Radisson Hotel.

More than \$145,000 were to be given to 38 organizations and 30 students at a private reception in the Waterford Ballroom of the Valley Forge Casino Resort.

The BCA was established three years ago by the Upper Merion Board of Supervisors and Valley Forge Casino Resort (VFCR) to provide grants to organizations which serve Upper Merion residents and scholarships to high school seniors from Upper Merion Township who are continuing their education after they graduate.

This year the BCA awarded a \$10,000 and a \$5,000 scholarship to two senior students. The \$10,000 scholarship, known as the General von Steuben Scholarship, is the largest scholarship offered during the BCA's three year history. The \$5,000 scholarship is named after former Township Manager Ronald G. Wagenmann.

The BCA has five members including two chosen by the VFCR and three township residents appointed by the board.

"It was a pleasure to see so many important organizations and deserving students being honored," said Supervisor Greg Waks at an earlier board meeting.

The scholarships were to be given to Kira Marie Zadrejko, York College, \$10,000; Daniel Junttonen, Cabrini College, \$5,000; Kirsten Yatsko, Washington & Jefferson College, \$1,000; Scarlet Wu, Temple University, \$1,000; Rebecca Willgruber, Susquehanna University, \$1,000; Tracey Vo, Montgomery County Community College, \$1,000; Nicholas Tornambe, Temple University, Ambler campus, \$1,000; Sara Schoenlank, Temple University, \$3,000; Katherine Schauble, Temple University, \$1,000; Paul Simon Salamy, undecided, \$1,000; Alexis Orvieto, Pennsylvania State University, \$1,000; Kristine Nguyen, University of Pittsburgh, \$2,000; Taylor Nearon, Messiah College, \$2,000; Brendan Miller, Pennsylvania State University, \$1,000; William Michael, Montgomery County Community College, \$2,000; Jennifer Merritt, University of California, Los Angeles, \$1,000; Jessica Melck, Millersville University of Pennsylvania, \$1,000; Megan Grace McGee, LaSalle University, \$1,000; Brian Loane, Pennsylvania State University, \$1,000; Colin Krouse, St. John's University, \$1,000; Gabrielle Hnatin, undecided, \$1,000; Ryan Glauner, Rowan University, \$1,000; Thomas Ginnona, Pennsylvania State University, \$1,000; Steven Galban, University of Pennsylvania, \$1,000; Anna Derby, undecided, \$1,000; Molly Cooke, Georgetown University, \$2,000; Mirna (Eunice) Castro, undecided, \$1,000; Carter Buce, Rochester Institute of Technology, \$1,000; Charlotte Biegalski, Hofstra University, \$1,000 and Elizabeth Bauman, Drexel University, \$1,000.

The grants to non-profit organizations went to Boy Scout Troop 551, new camping tents, \$1,119; Candlebrook Elementary School, playground upgrade, \$7,500; Cub Scout Pack 551, Pinewood Derby Track, \$500; Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. National Holiday com., \$2,500; Elmwood Park Zoo, expanding zoological learning into Upper Merion township, \$5,000; Feel the Warmth-Matt Frangiosa, winter apparel to less fortunate, \$1,000; Friends of Valley Forge Park, July 4 community picnic in park, \$1,000;

Girl Scout Troop 7157, Night night & jared box project, \$350; Historic Philadelphia, Once Upon a Nation Valley Forge, \$1,000; KOP BID -Eric Goldstein, geo-targeted marketing initiative, \$1,500; King of Prussia Firefighters Association, LED lighting conversion, \$2,500; King of Prussia Historical Society, Keystone markers & student education, \$4,000; King of Prussia Youth Sports, new equipment, \$1,000; Literacy Council of Norristown, adult literacy education, \$2,500; Montgomery Child Advocacy project, \$2,500; Mother's Club of Upper Merion, Operation Backpack, \$1,000; Neighborhood Meals on Wheels, \$2,500; Swedeland Fire Co., firehouse renovations, \$2,500; Swedesburg Fire Co., training equipment modifications, \$5,000; The Outdoor School in Horsham, Upper Merion 5th grade student environmental education, \$8,000; Upper Merion Emergency Aid - Pat Ryan, back to school project, \$3,500; Upper Merion Crew Boosters, Pocock Racing Eight boat, \$9,000; Upper Merion Foundation - Concert Under the Stars, 31st annual series, \$7,500; Upper Merion Area High School track and field, equipment, \$800; Upper Merion Area Middle School, STEM, \$1,000; Upper Merion Music Boosters, tuxedo and gown replacement, \$2,500; Upper Merion Senior Service Center, cultural activities, \$5,000; Upper Merion Tree Tenders, trees for Upper Merion parks, \$1,000; Upper Merion Youth Wrestling Association, wrestling mat, \$2,500; Upper Merion Environmental Advisory Council, trail marker project, \$1,750; Upper Merion Library, summer reading medals, \$2,135; Upper Merion Library, write & illustrate your own book contest, \$830; Upper Merion public information office, public information portal, \$1,350; Upper Merion safety/codes, property maintenance fund, \$1,000; Valley Forge Chorale, Christmas Joy sensory-friendly concert, \$1,000; Valley Forge TCB, Valley Forge Revolutionary Run, \$2,000; Victim Services Center, \$2,500 and Women's Club of Upper Merion, expansion of services, \$1,000.

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