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MORNING BRIEFING

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Glens Falls Kiwanis awards scholarships to graduating seniors

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GLENS FALLS – On Wednesday, the Glens Falls Kiwanis Foundation held a joint luncheon with the Grishkot Foundation at the Queensbury Hotel to award over \$100,000 in scholarships to local graduating seniors.

The Glens Falls Kiwanis Club focuses its efforts on fostering youth leadership through giving back to one's community, including sponsoring 10 Key Clubs and Scouting America.

The high school seniors awarded by Kiwanis held service leadership roles in Key Clubs at area school districts. The Glens Falls Kiwanis Foundation awarded \$33,500 in scholarships for 2025 to 19 Key Club seniors.

Three of those upcoming high school graduates received the annual renewable \$2,500 Kiwanis "Tony" Palangi Scholarship, which will total \$10,000 over four years.

This year's \$2,500 awardees include Maddie Moger of Queens-

bury, Hunter Charpentier of Fort Ann, and Emma Anand of Bolton.

Seven additional scholarship awardees will continue to receive their annual \$2,500 from previous graduating years.

"It's to give a scholarship with the hope they are going to make an incredible difference in the world. If they make it in our community, it's a cherry on top," said Terry Goodemote, treasurer of the Glens Falls Kiwanis Club, who has been a member for 35 years.

"Kiwanis is all focused on children, serving children through whatever avenue, with an emphasis on altruistic service and giving back," Goodemote told The Post-Star.

Founded in 1925, The Kiwanis Club of Glens Falls has been celebrating its 100th anniversary this year with multiple goals to increase visibility and membership.

Thus far, the Glens Falls Kiwanis Club has successfully increased its membership from 66 members at the start of this year to now over 100 members, mak-



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Key Club scholarship awardees.

ing it the third largest club in New York State, with hopes to continue growing.

"Every penny we raise for the community stays local, stays in scholarship funds, Key Clubs, shoes for kids going to school," said Jerrod Ogden, Kiwanis Club of Glens Falls president.

"We're very proud of our history here in Glens Falls and the surrounding communities, and we're very proud to continue that into the new future," Ogden continued.

However, there has been some challenges with getting previous

scholarship winners to return to Kiwanis Club as a full member.

"We've had over 30 [scholarship] recipients dating back to 2006, and none of the 30 graduates have come back to join us as a member," Goodemote said.

Kevin Milza, a recent graduate of Cornell University who majored in biology with a minor in economics, could become the first to join the Kiwanis ranks after being a previous scholarship recipient.

Graduating from Queensbury High School in 2021, Milza was awarded the Sheehan Scholar-

ship, in honor of former longtime treasurer Stephen Sheehan. Now, Milza looks to return to Kiwanis as he prepares for medical school.

"The reason why I want to join back is because I've really enjoyed the community in high school, and I just want to help out again while I have the time here," Milza told The Post-Star.

The Palangi scholarship is named for the man known as "Mr. Kiwanis" throughout New York State. Anthony Palangi died in 2007 at age 88 and was the only member of the Glens Falls Kiwanis Club to serve as governor of the NY District of Kiwanis International.

Together with longtime Kiwanians Stan Rummel and Dick Trowbridge, Palangi helped charter the Glens Falls Key Club in 1976 and served as the chairman for 31 years of his legacy, the Service Leadership Program.

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