

For Immediate Release
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Local Students Receive Casella Scholarship

The Ontario County Board of Supervisors presented \$29,496 in academic scholarships to twelve Ontario County college students who are pursuing majors in environmental studies, agriculture or agricultural business including waste management. Presentations took place at the Ontario County Board of Supervisors on Thursday July 10, 2008.

Casella Waste Systems, Inc. recently established a 20-year fund to support this scholarship to encourage students to pursue college-level studies and careers in the fields of environmental studies, agriculture and waste management. Geoffrey Astles, Ontario County Administrator said, "This scholarship is one way our citizenry benefits from the public/private partnership we have with Casella Waste Systems. We congratulate all of the winners and look forward to future opportunities for our students in Ontario County."

Each scholarship is valued at \$2,458 for the academic year. Joseph Marinelli, District Superintendent at Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES, which serves as the scholarship coordinating agency said, "We are pleased to partner once again with Ontario County government and Casella Waste Systems to facilitate this academic scholarship program supporting careers in the environmental, agriculture and waste management fields."

Recipients of Scholarships:

<u>Student</u>	<u>College</u>	<u>High School</u>
Eric Cooper	St. Lawrence University	Canandaigua
Ruth Dainty	Empire State College	Red Jacket
Hillary Lockwood	Clarkson University	Victor
Bridgette Rivers	Cornell University	Victor
Bryan Schweigert	SUNY-Environ. Science & Forestry	Marcus Whitman

Elizabeth Baker	University of Rochester	Clifton Springs
Emily Bonk	SUNY-Environ. Science & Forestry	Canandaigua
Anthony Bruno	FLCC	Geneva
James Carney	Clarkson University	Victor
Benjamin Hanggi	FLCC	Naples
Caitlin Rahm	SUNY Stony Brook	Canandaigua
Richard Rahm	SUNY Stony Brook	Canandaigua

Each scholarship recipient was chosen by a team of reviewers including, Carol Urbaitis, Dean of Student Services and Enrollment Management at Finger Lakes Community College; Tom Drennen, Associate Professor of Economics & Director of Environmental Studies at Hobart & William Smith colleges; Bonnie Lindsay, Assoc. Superintendent for Instruction from Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES. Recipients were chosen for their outstanding academic records and for essays written on their dedication to a career that will support the environment.

Ontario County college or college-bound students interested in applying for the 2009-2010 Casella Waste Management Scholarships are directed to view the requirements on the Ontario County e-government at (www.co.ontario.ny.us) or the Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES website at (www.wflboces.org) and contact Chris Semler, Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES Grants Coordinator at 315-332-7436 or csemler@wflboces.org.

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