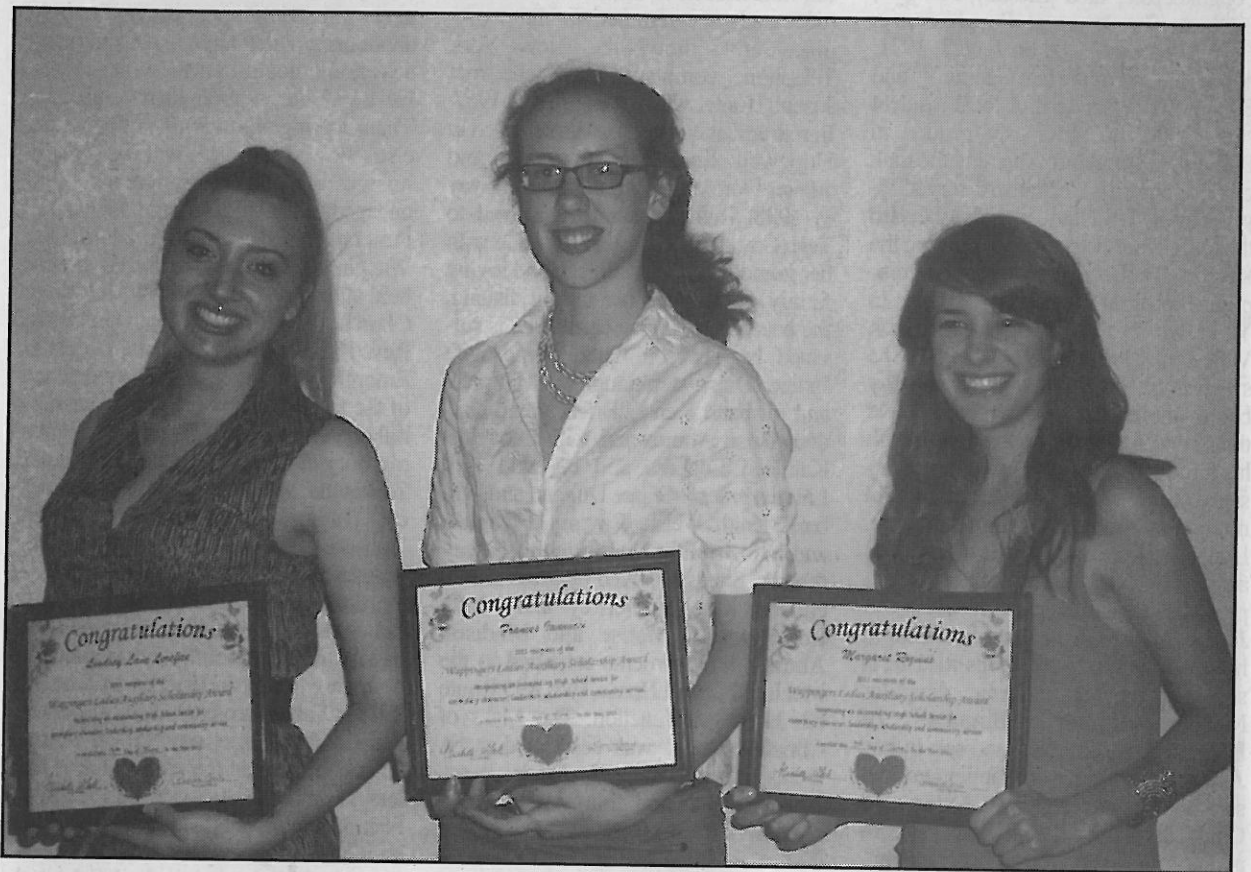


Wappingers auxiliary presents scholarships



The Wappingers Ladies Auxiliary presented college scholarships to Lindsey Lorefice of Ketcham High School, Frances Iannucci of Ketcham High School and Margaret Rozmus of John Jay High School for their community service.

Photo by Rich Flaherty

By Rich Flaherty

WAPPINGERS FALLS – Three local graduating high school students were presented with scholarships to help pay for their college educations by the Wappingers Ladies Auxiliary June 9, at the Knights of Columbus in Wappingers Falls.

Auxiliary spokesperson Sue Rose said the students were selected for their community service contributions. "We're really excited about (it) because, this is the first time we're doing it, getting the kids involved."

She said involving young people and their parents with the scholarship program will help inform more people about the auxiliary activities in an effort to increase membership.

The students honored were Lindsey Lorefice of Ketcham High School. She received a \$500 scholarship and will attend Penn State University in the fall. Lorefice was recognized for writing a two-person skit for a public awareness campaign on Ovarian Cancer screening and prevention.

"I love theatre and I think it's a great way to get messages across

to people," said Lorefice. "It's something fun and exciting and different, because we're so used to movies all the time. It's a personal thing, which I enjoy."

Lorefice lost her grandmother and her chorus teacher to Ovarian Cancer.

Margaret Rozmus of John Jay High School also received a \$500 scholarship and will attend the University of Scranton this fall. Rozmus was recognized for her volunteer efforts in Mississippi to help in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

"On a mission trip with my church and we worked with another church down there doing construction work, yard work, working in a hospital," said Rozmus.

Frances Iannucci of Ketcham High School received a \$250 scholarship and will be a student at the University of Vermont this fall. Iannucci was recognized for her information technology work where she worships.

"I redesigned my church's website, so that people could connect with the community better and learn more about the church," said Iannucci.

Rose said the Wappingers Ladies Auxiliary is involved with many community activities. In addition to the scholarship program, the group sponsors dances for local fifth and sixth grade students four times a year.

"The money that we get from that (dances), we donate to local charities," said Rose.

During the holidays, the ladies auxiliary adopts families to provide needed items. During Thanksgiving, food baskets are created and donated to needy families. Each month, donated money is sent to a group of nuns to help in their efforts.

"Little by little, we're getting out there, but we need more members," added Rose. "Hopefully, this (scholarship program) will attract everybody. We're open to everybody, we never say no to anyone."

For more information, or to join the auxiliary, go to www.wla2005.org. The mailing address is Wappingers Ladies Auxiliary, P.O. Box 533, Hughsonville, N.Y. 12537.