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**LATROBE AREA HOSPITAL CHARITABLE FOUNDATION
AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS TO SUPPORT NURSING CAREERS**

LATROBE, PA, January 3, 2013 ... Three individuals are the recipients of scholarships presented by the Latrobe Area Hospital Charitable Foundation to encourage the pursuit of a nursing career. Two awardees benefit from the Elizabeth Shaw Gamble Nursing Scholarship for Graduating High School Students. The third is the beneficiary of the Walter C. Shaw Memorial Scholarship for Latrobe Hospital Registered Nurses, which is reserved for nurses employed by Latrobe Hospital who are enrolled in an accredited school of nursing for an advanced clinical degree.

Stephanie Stiles, a 20-year-old junior at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, was the first recipient of the Gamble scholarship in 2010 and continues to receive support from funds set aside by the late Mrs. Gamble, who was a resident of the Ligonier Valley until her death in 2012. Eligible students must be graduates of Ligonier Valley, Greater Latrobe or Derry Area School Districts, have an outstanding academic record and demonstrate financial need.

The daughter of Gary and Beth Stiles of Ligonier Borough is completing clinical rotations that will help her identify an area of nursing specialty. She is currently considering a career in obstetrics or pediatrics.

Rebecca Findle, 19-year-old daughter of Kevin and Bonnie Findle of Unity Township, is a new recipient of the Gamble scholarship. The 2012 graduate of Greater Latrobe School District is attending the main campus of the University of Pittsburgh in Oakland, with hopes of earning an advanced degree as a family health certified nurse practitioner.

Nursing is a family legacy. Findle's grandmother, Joann "Jody" Boettner, was a pediatric nurse at Latrobe Hospital for more than 40 years. Her mother has been a nurse at Latrobe Hospital for more than 25 years, first in oncology, and now women's health. Like Stiles, Findle participated in the Allied Health program through Eastern Westmoreland Career and Technology Center, where she shadowed various health professionals.

"My mother told me that a nursing career involves many aspects of other medical fields," explained Findle. "A nurse takes on the role of dietitian, social workers, psychologist, pharmacist and physical therapist. I find this to be both exciting and challenging."

Health education and wellness are important to the teen who has served as a lifeguard and swimming instructor at her community pool, as a school study buddy and mentor to children in her church.

Lauren Love, RN, BSN, a critical care nurse at Excelsa Latrobe Hospital, is the recipient of the Walter C. Shaw Memorial Scholarship. In 2012, she also was awarded the Thomas P. Gessner, MD Healthcare Scholarship administered by the foundation.

Love, a Unity Township resident, is completing a master's degree in Nursing at the Pennsylvania State University. At the conclusion of her program, she will become a certified nurse practitioner, with dual qualifications in family practice and acute care.

Walter Carlyle Shaw, Mrs. Gamble's father, was one of the founders of the G. C. Murphy Company and played a major role in the business and civic life of McKeesport for decades. Under his leadership, G.C. Murphy grew into one of the nation's major retail chains with more than 500 stores located in 22 states.

and the District of Columbia. A generous benefactor to McKeesport Hospital and many community-based organizations, he died in January 1962.

Elizabeth Shaw Gamble relocated to the Ligonier area in 1971 and wished to follow in her father's footsteps by supporting her community. She felt contributing in some way to further the nursing profession would have been something her father would have endorsed.

Information and application forms for the Gamble scholarship are available through the participating high schools. Applications for the scholarship program for Latrobe Hospital nurses are available through the Excelsa Health Human Resources department.