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News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Local Medical Student Receives Blair County Medical Society (BCMS) Scholarship

HARRISBURG, Pa. — The Blair County Medical Society (BCMS) scholarship of \$2,000 was awarded to Anna Bistline by The Foundation of the Pennsylvania Medical Society. Anna currently resides in Philadelphia and is a second-year medical student at the Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson. She is the daughter of Jay and Maryann Bistline of Altoona, Pa.

Since a young age, Anna has always had an interest in medicine and wanted to be comprehensive in medical dialect. She notes, “As someone who has always had a deep interest and knowledge in the subject, medicine is that one language that is ubiquitous. Medicine is part of every life and it’s truly the unavoidable language of society. I did not want my understanding to be juvenile or that of a foreign language. I wanted to master it, and later give back to my community.”

In addition to giving back to her community, Anna has carefully considered reasons how a profession in medicine would be fulfilling to her. “First, I have always wanted to enter a profession where I can think critically and use problem solving skills. Secondly, I wanted to enter a noble profession where I would be able to leave at the end of each day and feel like I was making a difference in the lives of the community in which I serve.”

While her future career plans are not set in stone, Anna states she is sure of one thing. “I know I want a career that is valued by all ages,” she says. “My educational experiences have only reaffirmed my interest in returning to Blair County one day to practice medicine. Since my program is comprised of students who are predominately from small towns and non-metropolitan areas of the state, I can enjoy my studies while simultaneously not forgetting my roots.”

This scholarship is made possible by a \$50,000 contribution from the Blair County Medical Society (BCMS), which established the fund within the Foundation to assist local students with the cost of attending a U.S. medical school.

The Foundation of the Pennsylvania Medical Society administers the fund for BCMS.

The Foundation, a nonprofit affiliate of the Pennsylvania Medical Society, sustains the future of medicine in Pennsylvania by providing programs that support medical education, physician health and excellence in practice. It has helped finance medical education for more than 63 years.

For more information about this scholarship, or other scholarship opportunities, please visit www.foundationpamedsoc.org. For questions, contact the Foundation's Student Financial Services Director, Deborah Monko at (717) 558-7854.



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