

Scholarship news release

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Four scholarships issued by WVHI for \$4,500

The son of a central West Virginia retailer is the winner of the new \$1,500 college scholarship provided by the state's manufactured and modular housing members to honor former President Kevin Wilfong and his wife Donna.

In all, the West Virginia Housing Institute's 14-member board of directors provided \$4,500 in four scholarships on Monday to West Virginia students for the spring semester.

Twins from the Eastern Panhandle won separate \$1,000 scholarships and the daughter of a north-central retailer is a repeat winner of scholarship of \$1,000 from the trade association that represents factory-built housing in West Virginia. Three of the winners attend West Virginia University and one goes to Marshall.

Ian Young, whose younger sister is a student at Marshall, is 18, of Weston, and majoring in finance at West Virginia University. He is the first winner of the Wilfong award, and completed his first freshman semester with a 3.8 grade-point average.

"I would like to say thank you and when it comes to college every penny counts and I am very appreciative to have received this scholarship," Young said. He is the son of Tom Young, manager of the Clayton Homes Inc. retail center at Buckhannon.

Gillian and Hannah Brown, 19, are twins from Martinsburg, and attending WVU. They are the daughters of J.C. Brown, who works for Farmers and Mechanics Insurance Companies, a WVHI member.

Gillian, a sophomore at WVU, is majority in philosophy on a pre-law track.

"I am beyond blessed to have received this scholarship," Gillian said. "Having a twin sister who is also attending college at the same time, makes it financially difficult for my parents to cover all of the expenses needed for both of us. Words cannot describe the gratitude I have towards people and institutions who place such an interest in education for young adults."

Hannah, a freshman at WVU, is majority in international studies. "I am so grateful for companies like this one, who value and help students pursue their education," Hannah said. "The scholarship that I have won will be put to great use helping to cover the cost of tuition and living expenses while I am enrolled at West Virginia University."

Emily Hershberger of Fairmont is a sophomore at Marshall University and the daughter of Kris Hershberger, owner of Middletown Home Sales at White Hall. Emily is majoring in biology on a pre-med track. Her GPA overall is 3.74. She also won a \$1,000 scholarship in 2017.

“I have been very blessed for this to be my second time receiving this scholarship,” Hershberger said.

Since WVHI established its scholarship program in 2014, the association has helped 13 students with \$13,500 in awards.

Eligibility standards can be found on the WVHI website at www.wvhi.org.