

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Two Area Seniors Receive Scholarships from Lake Hopatcong Foundation

LAKE HOPATCONG, N.J. (June 15, 2017) — The Lake Hopatcong Foundation is proud to announce the winners of their 2017 scholarships; Benjamin Smith of Succasunna and Sarah O’Sullivan of Hopatcong. Each year, the foundation awards two \$1,000 scholarships to seniors from any of the four towns that border Lake Hopatcong. Qualified students must pursue college or trade school studies related to the lake environment or experience.

An avid hiker and Eagle Scout, Benjamin will be attending Susquehanna University in August where he will be studying Environmental Science. Ben’s childhood was filled with time on the lake with his grandparents. Ben reflects, “It is amazing to think that lying on the dock at my grandparent’s home, investigating all the wonders of nature below, would ignite a spark in my heart that would affect the rest of my life.”

Sarah will be studying marine biology at the University of Rhode Island this fall where she hopes to work towards finding a long-term solution to lessen the impact of plastics in the ocean. Growing up on Lake Hopatcong had a profound impact on Sarah. She explains, “My experiences on the lake inspired me to respect the marine environment and has motivated me to preserve the fish and wildlife of the lake, while also working to keep the environment clean and free of garbage.”

“The foundation is honored to be able to support our local seniors who plan to further their education in fields related to the lake environment. By investing in young people’s education, we feel we’re investing not only in our community but also in the future of Lake Hopatcong,” said Lake Hopatcong Foundation Managing Director Holly Odgers.

The Lake Hopatcong Foundation is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with a mission of “improving Lake Hopatcong for all, now and in the years to come.” Launched in 2012, the Lake Hopatcong Foundation aims to improve and enhance the lake experience and environment. Initiatives range from invasive species prevention to lake education to improved safety, and more. To learn more, visit www.lakehopatcongfoundation.org.

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