

## **Plover VFW 10262 2020 Awards Scholarships**

Plover Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 10262 awarded their annual educational scholarships to three graduating high school seniors in a special July ceremony conducted by Scholarship Chairman Mike Zynda.

Tahlia Rogers received the 2020 "*Plover VFW Post 10262 Scholarship.*" Rogers belonged to several high school clubs and was a science teaching assistant and health office assistant during the school year. She volunteered at the National Make A Difference Day Rake-A-Thon and contributed many hours to Ascension St. Michael's Hospital. She attended the Dance Education Center where she studied ballet, pointe, jazz and tap and was inducted into the National Honor Society for Dance Arts at the high school level. She also worked a part-time job at the Stevens Point Area YMCA in child care and is currently employed at Chili's Restaurant. During her free time, she enjoys getting together with friends.

Rogers will be attending the University of Wisconsin – La Crosse in the fall and plans to major in Business Management and minor in Photography. The \$1000 scholarship was presented on behalf of Plover VFW Post 10262 by Scholarship Chairman Zynda and Post Commander Al Tessmann.

Rachael Bower received the 2020 "*Bert Platta Memorial Scholarship.*" Bower has been a community volunteer with Operation Bootstrap and assisted with making blankets and selling raffle tickets. She has volunteered at Central Rivers Farmshed, Pacelli Panacea, St. Bronislava Parish and Salvation Army Stevens Point. She currently works at Buffalo Wild Wings as a hospitality team member. During her free time, she enjoys playing the harp and spending time with friends.

Bower will attend the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point in the fall and will pursue a degree in Psychology. The \$1000 scholarship was presented on behalf of the Plover VFW Rifle Squad by Scholarship Chairman Zynda and Post Commander Al Tessmann in memory of former Rifle Squad Commander, Bert Platta.

Taylor Scott received the 2020 "*Mike Helgert Memorial Scholarship.*" Scott served as a volunteer for the Portage County Business Council High School Leadership program. She was a Big Sister for a young boy in the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Wisconsin program, whom she mentored on a weekly basis as a friend and role model. She has also participated in the Portage County Cultural Festival. During the summer, Scott worked for Rockman's Catering as a prep cook and waitress and at Northwest Counseling and Guidance Clinic as a program assistant for their child mentoring program. Her hobbies include reading and playing with her two dogs.

Scott will be attending Yale University and plans to major in Political Science. The \$1000 scholarship was presented on behalf of the Plover VFW Golf Committee by Scholarship Chairman Zynda and Post Commander Al Tessmann in memory of long-time Plover VFW member and Vietnam Veteran, Mike Helgert, who in 2004 founded the now annual golf outing fundraiser.

Scholarship applications are accepted from any high school senior who meets requirements that include:

- having a family member (including grandparent, aunt or uncle) who has served or is serving in the armed forces of the United States of America or is a member of the VFW or eligible to become a member
- acceptance for admission to a program of higher education at an accredited college, university or technical college
- involvement in volunteer or service activities in school, church or community.

Applicants also submit an essay and high school transcripts that are evaluated by the Plover VFW Scholarship Committee.

For additional information, contact Plover VFW Post 10262 at (715) 341-8414.