

FOR RELEASE: Thursday, February 27, 2020
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STEPHANIE MERCANDETTI SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM INVITES APPLICANTS

Keefe Tech, Framingham High School, and Medway High School Seniors May Apply

Funds raised in honor of the late Framingham Planning Board Member Stephanie Mercandetti will be used to award scholarships to students in the high school class of 2020.

The Stephanie Mercandetti Scholarship Program awards up to three \$500.00 scholarships to high school seniors who plan to study Public Policy, Planning, or Government Studies at a two or four year accredited college or university.

Who can apply?

Scholarships will be awarded to students currently enrolled in their Senior year at Framingham High School, Keefe Regional Vocational Technical School or Medway High School who will be pursuing a degree in public policy or government studies and plan to make a career in government or public service.

Who was Stephanie Mercandetti?

Stephanie Mercandetti was a talented, successful Municipal Planner and Economic Development Director. She was first elected to the Framingham Planning Board in 2012. She won re-election and also served as the Board's Chair. She had worked as the Economic Development Director and Grants Officer for the Town of Walpole and was The Economic Development Director in the Town of Medway at the time of her death. Earlier in her career she worked for Governor Michael Dukakis and Senator David Magnani. In each role she was greatly respected for her knowledge, professionalism, and the ability to bring people together to reach a productive consensus. Stephanie played a significant role in simplifying and expediting the planning and permitting process in Framingham while balancing neighborhood concerns and creating favorable outcomes for both the business community and the community as a whole. Stephanie loved her work and was an extremely dedicated public servant. She focused on it with passion and steadfast commitment while quietly battling cancer. She passed away January 14, 2018 at the young age of 42. In her short life she had a tremendous impact on the lives she touched and the strategic planning and economic development initiatives she championed which have permanently enhanced the communities she helped.

Bob Berman, Chair of the Stephanie Mercandetti Memorial Committee said, "Stephanie was a special person who spent much of her time working to make the world a better place through community activism and using her expertise in smart community planning. Providing future leaders with financial help through the scholarship is a great way to ensure that her legacy lives on."

What is the application process?

Applications can be submitted in one of two ways:

1. Email an electronic copy of the completed application form and essay described below to: mercandettischolarship@gmail.com
2. Mail a printout of the completed application to: Stephanie Mercandetti Memorial Scholarship Committee Attn: Bob Berman 62 Lanewood Ave. Framingham, MA 01701

When is the Deadline?

Applications must be received by 5:00 PM on Tuesday, March 31, 2020.

The Application Must Be Complete and Must Include:

1. Full name:
2. Home Address:
3. Email:
4. Phone:
5. Current school attending:
6. College or university you plan to attend. (If undecided, please list schools where you have been accepted.)
7. Major you plan to study:
8. Essay: In no more than 750 words, describe what public or government service means to you and why you have chosen to pursue a career in this area. Please include details of any current or past community service that you have performed.

Awards:

Winners will be notified in advance and should plan to attend the official award ceremony on Thursday, May 7, 2020 from 6:45 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. in the Costin Room at the Framingham Public Library, 49 Lexington Street, Framingham, MA 01702.