

July 2008

For Immediate Release

SOMERSET GRADS AWARDED COMMUNITY FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

Two recent Somerset High School graduates have been awarded the **Frank D. Sylvia Trust Scholarship** through the Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts.

Chad Stewart, a 2007 graduate of Somerset High School and current Connecticut College student, and **Megan Oliveira**, a 2008 Somerset High graduate, will each receive a portion of the annual scholarship.

This is the second year that Chad has received the scholarship to help finance his studies in economics and international relations at Connecticut College. He graduated from Somerset High School with a 4.2 GPA in Advanced Placement and Honors classes. Chad said the Sylvia Scholarship has given him fewer financial worries, allowing him to gain “a solid footing at Connecticut College during my freshman year.”

Chad has been able to explore and participate in numerous volunteer endeavors and clubs on campus, and was approached to serve as Dorm Governor, a position normally held by an upperclassman. This involves managing the dorm’s finances and implementing events, as well as attending government meetings on campus.

Megan graduated this year from Somerset High School this year with a 3.99 GPA, and was the recipient of the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship. In high school, she was involved in the Marching Band, Symphonic Wind Ensemble and Concert Band for all four years. Megan also was captain of the cross country team her junior and senior years, and participated in winter and spring track all four years. She is a member of the National Honor Society.

In the community, Megan has been active in the Girl Scouts, and has volunteered at soup kitchens and for the Relay for Life. She plans to study nursing at UMass Dartmouth.

The Frank D. Sylvia Trust Scholarship was established by Frank D. Sylvia to honor the memory of his late son, Frank P. Sylvia. It is limited to indigent deserving **Dighton or Somerset** students who plan to attend a college or university. The

scholarship (up to \$9,000) is granted for one year only, although recipients may reapply annually.

About the Community Foundation

Since 1995, area residents have been turning to the Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts to make their philanthropic giving as effective as possible. CFSEMA is a public charity serving thousands of people who share a common concern – improving the quality of life in Southeastern Massachusetts.

While the Foundation’s primary grantmaking focus is on the SouthCoast communities of Greater New Bedford, Greater Fall River, and Greater Plymouth County, CFSEMA is a regional foundation serving 41 cities and towns. To date, the Community Foundation has assets of more than \$18.5 million and has distributed more than \$6 million from 110 funds to humanitarian, educational and cultural organizations in the region. . More information about the Foundation can be found at www.cfsema.org.