



**heartland
foundation®**



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WWII veterans honor the nursing profession by selling towels to support annual scholarship awards

St. Joseph, Mo. (August 25, 2016) – Heartland Foundation, along with Mr. Bill Russell and members of the Voiture 130 of the 40 & 8 hosted a dinner at the their Annual Meeting and Dinner on Thursday, August 18, 6:00 p.m. at the American Legion in Savannah, Mo. to honor the 2016 scholarship recipients.

Over twenty-five years ago Bill Russell and his late wife Mary approached Heartland Foundation with the idea of selling used surgical towels, laundered and donated by the Hospital, to support a scholarship fund for nursing students. Shortly after retiring from the nursing profession, Mary died in a car accident. In recognition of the nurses who served them in World War II and in honor of Mary Russell, Bill and the Voiture 130 of the 40 & 8, continue to build this scholarship fund mainly through the sale of the recycled surgical towels to individuals, businesses, and at flea markets. This scholarship has given out 415 scholarships equating to just under \$215,000.

The 2016 Bill and Mary Russell Health Care Scholarship recipients are as follows:

Lauren Black, St. Joseph, MO

Kaitlyne Chaney, Savannah, MO

Jennifer Losson, St. Joseph, MO

Krysta McGinnis, St. Joseph, MO

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Abigayle Miller, St. Joseph, MO

Macee Scott, Highland, KS

Shelby Swymeler, St. Joseph, MO

Hayley Thompson, St. Joseph, MO

Delaney Woodbury, St. Joseph, MO

Kylee Woodbury, St. Joseph, MO

For information on scholarship opportunities, please call Dr. Sandra Pettit Weber at 816.271.7571 or 1-800-447-1083, email her at sandra.pettitweber@heartlandfoundation.org, or visit www.heartlandfoundation.org.

Serving as a catalyst, convener, innovator, and connector, Heartland Foundation is a public charity dedicated to championing education and empowering people to build healthy and thriving communities. Founded in 1982 and leading the region's Healthy Communities movement since 1994. Learn more by visiting www.heartlandfoundation.org.

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