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The Essex Foundation Announces Environmental Studies Scholarship Award Recipient *\$3,000 Grant Awarded to Tabitha Hardgrove of Ivoryton*

Essex, CT – The Essex Foundation Board of Directors has selected Tabitha Hardgrove of Ivoryton as the 2023 recipient of The Elizabeth Barnes Callender and Mary Francis Barnes Memorial Scholarship Award. The \$3000 grant is presented to honor the bequest and memory of the late “Diz” Callender and her sister Mary, and is available each year to one local Valley Regional High School graduating senior or graduate, or an Essex resident who is pursuing studies related to land conservation and preservation at a two or four-year college, a technical



school, or graduate school, or taking accredited courses in biology, botany, agronomy, ecology, horticulture, floriculture, forestry, landscape design, or environmental science. Ms. Hardgrove will begin her senior year of studies in biology at Rochester Institute of Technology this fall and plans on pursuing a career in fish and wildlife services. She is local this summer, working as an intern for the Essex Land Trust to identify microhabitats and document her findings.

“We were impressed with the quantity and quality of this year’s applicants, but Tabitha’s passion for and work in the field of conservation really stood out,” commented Bruce Glowac, President of The Essex Foundation. “Her spirit and community interests truly align with the values that Diz and Mary wanted to support.”

The Essex Foundation, Inc. is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to making a difference in the lives of Essex residents by providing funding for needs not met by other organizations or sources. The Foundation relies on donations from individuals, businesses, and other community groups to fund special community projects and needs that benefit Essex residents. More information can be found online at www.theessexfoundation.org or by emailing contact@theessexfoundation.org.

Pictured Above: Ivoryton resident Tabitha Hardgrove (center) was presented with the 2023 Elizabeth Barnes Callender and Mary Francis Barnes Memorial Scholarship award grant by The Essex Foundation board members (from l-r) Strick Hyde, Bruce Glowac, Jim Clark, and Jay Tonks.