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**PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**LOMPOC ROTARY CLUB TO GIVE OUT SEVERAL SCHOLARSHIPS**

The Lompoc Rotary Club will have several $500 and $1000 scholarships available to Lompoc Valley graduates who are seeking to attend a 4-year academic institution or a vocational training school. The money can be used for tuition, supplies, tools, books, transportation and living expenses.

Any student from any high school or home-school are invited to apply by April 1, 2023. The applications are available at Lompoc, Cabrillo and Maple High Schools as well as online at LompocRotary.com.

Since its inception in 1925 the Lompoc Rotary Club has granted more than $50,000 in scholarships to college-bound high school seniors graduating from Lompoc area schools.  This is the first year that scholarships will be awarded to vocational or trade school applicants.

“We have had a lot of success as a club with our academic scholarships in the past”, reports Heather Bedford, Rotary President. “But we can do better for people by opening up the process to include 2-year programs or vocational or trade schools. Many young adults are finding the benefits of these shorter programs, but they can be very expensive. Our scholarship process will help them.”

Rotary International reports that over 775 million people over the age of 15 are illiterate. That’s 17 percent of the world’s adult population. Rotary’s goal is to strengthen the capacity of communities to support basic education and literacy, reduce gender disparity in education, and increase adult literacy.

Rotary supports education for all. Donations to the Lompoc Rotary Scholarship Fund can be made at: LompocRotary.square.site

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