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**Ryan Benoit, Joseph Vitorino receive MMWEC scholarship awards**

LUDLOW, Mass. – June 10, 2011 – The Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company (MMWEC) has awarded \$1,000 scholarships to Ludlow High School (LHS) Class of 2011 graduates Ryan Benoit and Joseph Vitorino.

MMWEC annually awards two \$1,000 scholarships to LHS graduates pursuing a college education in engineering, environmental sciences, finance or accounting.

Benoit is planning to pursue a degree in civil engineering at Merrimack College. He finished high school in the top 5 percent of his class and as a member of the National Honor Society. He was active in a variety of community service projects and extracurricular activities, including the LHS golf, baseball, and ski teams as well as the French club.

Vitorino is planning to pursue a degree in mechanical engineering at Western New England College. His academic credentials also are very good, including membership in the National Honor Society. His course work reflects his dedication to higher education and achievement of his engineering aspirations. He also participated in a number of extracurricular and community service activities, including the French club, SADD and the LHS website redesign team.

“These young men have shown an ability to balance the demands of school, extracurricular and other aspects of their lives to achieve success through hard work and dedication,” said MMWEC Chief Executive Officer Ron DeCurzio. “Such attributes will serve them well going forward, and we wish them continued success in their academic careers,” he said.

As part of its commitment to the Ludlow community, MMWEC has awarded \$26,000 in scholarships to help LHS students defray the cost of higher education since the inception of the scholarship program in 1998.

MMWEC is a non-profit, public corporation that provides a variety of electric power supply, financial, risk management and other services to the Commonwealth’s consumer-owned municipal utilities. MMWEC is the operator and principal owner of the Stony Brook power plant on Moody Street and has been a corporate resident of Ludlow for more than 35 years.