



# IBEW 2213 NEWSBEAT

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IN SOLIDARITY



## Scholarship Spotlight

**Louis E DeCarolis son of Lou DeCarolis and April Millich. Lou was one of the two winners from the Western Unit. Here is his winning essay!**



**Just like families, unions stick together. However, when the union stands strong it is to make a difference. There are many aspects of the work environment that unions fight for. Whether it is pay, fair working hours, better working conditions, benefits, or job stability the union always comes together to fight for what's right. Personally, the union has allowed me to do many great things. Thanks to the union's negotiated wages,**

**the union has allowed me to play sports because my parents did not have to worry about where the money will come from and how I would get home from practices and games. This is phenomenal as I have played sports my whole life and could not imagine life without them. The ability to be given a chance to play sports has improved my life and I have my parents and their union to thank for it. Also, I never have to worry about whether or not there will be food to eat because the union makes sure my parents' jobs are secure. Currently, I am attending The State University of New York at Fredonia, where I am getting a master's degree in math adolescents education. With this degree I plan on becoming a high school math teacher, preferably geometry or algebra. In this profession it will be important to join the union, like my parents have. This way I can assure myself and my future family that I will be able to provide for them safely. Not only will the union help me battle for a fair wage, but they will also make sure that I get the benefits that me and my family will need. While as a teacher I cannot legally go on strike, I will still do my part to show my support for the union. Ever since I was eight years old I was involved with the union. When I was eight I attended my first strike. At the time I was oblivious to my contribution, but I still felt that I was doing the right thing. Now, when I look back I realize that we were doing the right thing by standing together and raising our signs, we were proving that the union is strong and protects those that are in it. Now as the coronavirus pandemic has spread worldwide, I have seen how it can be scary for many families as parents can no longer go to work and support their families like they used to. However, my parents still have their jobs because of the union. By giving my parents the ability to work from home, they have made it so there is nothing to worry about.**



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