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IBEW 2213 NEWSBEAT

July 9th 2021



SCHOLARSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Tyler Basle is the son of Theresa Basle. He is the winner from Northeast Unit. Here is his winning essay!



My Name is Tyler Basle. I am a Senior at Averill Park High School and a Volunteer Firefighter with the Poestenkill Fire Co. along side my father and my grandfather. I am enrolled in the Electrical, Construction and Maintenance Program at Hudson Valley Community College in Troy NY. My goal is to be a lineman for a Utility company and to be a union member myself.

My mother Theresa Basle works in the Menands BSBC. My mother has been a Union member for 33 years, the last 24 with IBEW 2213. I am fortunate to come from a long line of Union workers, my grandparents belonged to The Teamsters, PEF, The Teachers Union and NY State Police. My Uncle worked for Ford Motor Co. in Green Island NY. When the plant closed he was able to keep his job and move to Michigan and retire with a great pension and benefits all thanks to his Union. My cousins also work for Ford Motor Co in Buffalo NY and Dearborn MI.

My mom being a Union member has made a huge impact on my life. I have learned over the years the importance of a union and it's benefits. My brother and I have walked the picket lines with our mom over the years. The Union provided her with job security which made it possible for her to provide for us. Thanks to the Union we had health, vision and dental benefits, which was very helpful. We were able to have well care visits. Thankfully she only had to pay co-pays for prescriptions, at the Dr and hospitals. The dental helped pay for our braces, cleanings, fillings and when we needed teeth pulled. The Vision covered glasses and eye exams. The Union made it possible for my mom to have holiday and vacation time to spend with us. Because of the Union my mom had sick time and she was able to use gradual return to work when we were born. She was able to take time off to care for my grandfather when he was going through his treatments, and bereavement days. The most beneficial thing has been the excellent pay she receives has made it possible for us to live the great life that we have. We are able to play sports, have fun toys like a camper, snowmobiles and four wheelers. We are able to take great vacations and go camping. We have a nice home, we never had to worry about having clothing, heat and food, We have always been able to have reliable vehicles to get us everywhere we needed to get us to school, sports and to tow our camper. When she retires she will have her pension and a 401k.

The biggest impact on our lives has been the ability for my mom to keep her job throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. She was able to work from home when so many people lost their jobs. She has been able to manage her work and our school needs. We never know what is next, we are home school one week, hybrid the next. In a year full of unknowns and what if's we have been so fortunate. Thank you IBEW 2213 for everything you have made possible. I look forward to my future as a Union member.

