

**Welcome  
to the 2012 Annual  
Teen Recognition Awards  
Banquet and Ceremony**

The Livingston County Teen Recognition Awards process was created by the Livingston County Youth Board in 1995. These awards are earned by teens, age 14 to graduation, who have demonstrated compassion, commitment to community improvement, or overcome personal challenges and are now a role model to others. These are the youth in your community who quietly, or not so quietly, go about making the world around them a little more special by their actions and attitudes. Since 1995, almost 1000 youth who have had a positive influence in Livingston County have been recognized.



# PROGRAM

**6:15 PM: All 2012 award winners report outside to entry way steps for group photo.**

<b>Opening</b>	<b>Ted Saunders</b> , <i>Chairman Livingston County Youth Board</i>
<b>Pledge to the Flag</b>	<b>Shane Carman</b> , <i>Board Member</i>
<b>Welcome</b>	<b>James Merrick</b> <i>Chairman of the Livingston County Board of Supervisors</i>

## BUFFET DINNER

<b>Introduction of Keynote Speaker</b>	<b>Ian Coyle</b> <i>County Administrator</i> <b>Betty McClenney</b> <i>Member of the original and continuing to present Youth Board</i>
<b>Keynote Speaker</b>	<b>Keith Mitchell</b> , <i>Retiring Director, Livingston County Youth Bureau</i>
<b>Awards</b>	<b>Keith Mitchell &amp; Ryan Snyder</b> <i>and presented by members of the Livingston County Board of Supervisors and members of the Livingston County Youth Board</i>
<b>Closing</b>	<b>Howard Mankoff</b> <i>Vice-chairman of the Livingston County Youth Board</i>

# Keynote Speaker

## Keith Mitchell

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### **Coordinator/Director 1990—2012**

#### *Reflecting on 22 years with Livingston County*

Keith Mitchell's life began on a farm in Moravia, Cayuga County. His introduction to Livingston County was as a psychology major student attending the State University of Geneseo. It was during this time that he met and married Enid. He graduated from Geneseo (and is not sharing the date with us) and began a career in banking and finance at the Beneficial Corporation and later at the Atlanta National Bank.

He spent the next 17 years in the banking business; often finding his way around the back roads of the county requesting loan payments. During this time Keith had two children; a daughter Heather and son Scott. He moved from Cuylerville and settled into village life in Dansville. Keith became active in Cub Scouts and in Dansville Little League. He was very involved with the League and served terms as manager, vice president, president, treasurer, safety officer and umpire.

In 1990, Keith underwent a major career change and applied for a position as Livingston County Youth Bureau Director. At that time, the Youth Bureau was a stand-alone county department. Keith was appointed director and was immediately handed the 3-year comprehensive plan to complete. In 1992 Livingston County merged the Youth Bureau with the Employment and Training Department under the direction of Gloria Brand and Keith was appointed as the department coordinator. The merger took place as a cost saving plan and allowed for Keith to become active in coordinating the Summer Youth Employment Program.

During these years Keith had an active youth council of teens from all of the county school districts. They planned annual youth conferences at SUNY Geneseo, attended statewide events and were active in providing youth input on issues to the Youth

Board. It was also at this time that Keith became a grandfather to Amanda, this lovely young lady has been very close to her grandparents throughout her childhood and adolescence.

Keith was also active with the Association of New York State Youth Bureaus (ANYSYB) as a board member and as the chairman of the statewide training committee. He was named chairman of the regional Genesee Valley/ Finger Lakes Youth Bureaus Association and held that position for 22 years. In April 2000, Keith was appointed as the Director of the Workforce Development/Youth Bureau. In 2005 he co-chaired a very successful statewide ANYSYB conference in Rochester.

Highlights of Keith's career as department director include the successful transition of the department from a county employment and training office to a Workforce Investment Act One Stop. This was achieved through the moving of the NYS Department of Labor into the county building and department. Also during Keith's tenure, Livingston County was designated as the manager of the funds for the four county Genesee Livingston Orleans Wyoming (GLOW) Workforce Investment Board. Most recently, the county Community Service Block Grant program was successfully assimilated into the department.

Keith will continue to be actively involved in community work as he retires. His commitment to youth work will continue as treasurer of the Partnership for Children Youth And Families. Recently, the Genesee Valley Health Partnership asked Keith to join the board and was elected treasurer. Keith goes to the State Comptroller's website to read audits for entertainment. What he has learned enables him to be an excellent board member. He has hopes to improve his golf game, travel and hang out at the Sunrise Cafe on Main Street in Dansville.

Livingston County has benefited from Keith's 22 years of commitment to the county as a whole, to employers and workforce. However, his passion for youth development will leave a legacy of asset building. It is fitting that as we *reflect* upon his twenty plus years of dedicated service tonight, as we recognize the outstanding achievements of so many youth from Livingston County.

## **YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**

*From National Youth Development Information Center*

**Youth Development**, *Noun*. A process which prepares young people to meet the challenges of adolescence and adulthood through a coordinated, progressive series of activities and experiences which help them to become socially, morally, emotionally, physically, and cognitively competent. Positive youth development addresses the broader developmental needs of youth, in contrast to deficit-based models which focus solely on youth problems. (National Collaborations for Youth Members, 1998.)

**Positive youth development** is an ongoing process that enables children and adolescents to meet their personal and social needs and build the skills and competencies to allow them to lead healthy, satisfying, and productive lives. It entails a commitment to enabling all young people to achieve their potential and is characterized by a positive, strength-building approach. By building internal competencies, successful youth development approaches strengthen protective factors for youth that are at-risk.

Positive youth development is done **with and by youth**, not to or for them, in a wide variety of organizations. Youth development programs give young people the chance to make decisions about their own participation, about the program and to assume responsible roles. They engage young people in constructive and challenging activities that build their competence and foster supportive relationships with peers and with adults. Youth development programs are developmentally appropriate and endure over time, requiring them to be adaptable enough to accommodate their participants' changing needs.

### **Principles**

- 1.The goal is more than prevention.
- 2.The process is enduring, comprehensive, and engages all youth.
- 3.Strategies (treatments, interventions, services, or programs) go beyond the basics.
- 4.Youth development happens everywhere.
- 5.Vision is required, not just coordination.



*All youth are developing;  
all youth have strengths,  
all youth have needs,  
all youth can contribute  
to their communities;  
all youth are valued.*

Each youth has a number of risk and protective factors that can predict their ability to become healthy productive adults. The community, the family, peer groups, and the child's own personality determine the risk and protective factors. The ratio of risk and protective factors can fluctuate over time and be influenced by the environment around the child.

The Search Institute, an independent research and education organization, has surveyed over 300,000 youth and has created a youth development approach based on the developmental assets, a set of protective factors that all young people need. The Search Institute identified 40 developmental assets which can be used as a framework to talk about what youth need, as well as a way to measure how our young people are doing.

The developmental assets represent everyday wisdom about positive experiences and characteristics for young people. Search research has found that these assets or positive factors are powerful influences on adolescent behavior—both protecting young people from many different problem behaviors and promoting positive attitudes and behaviors. This power is evident across all cultural and socioeconomic groups of youth. **Positive adult relationships, as between a teen and a person in the community, are one of the most powerful tools to influence and raise the number of assets for youth.**

Ideally, youth would have 31 of the 40 assets.

Only 9 percent of youth have this level.

More than half of our youth have fewer than 21 assets.

Do you want to know more about the risk and protective factors of youth in Livingston County?

**Contact the Healthy Communities that Care**



*An opportunity for youth participation ...*

**WHO:** Livingston Youth @ Goodwill is for teens from anywhere in Livingston County, kids who are average or unique, exceptional, mundane or loaded with issues. Kids who want respect from each other and adults.

**WHAT:** A youth led group that provides teens with opportunities to lead, serve, learn, and just have fun. Regular monthly meetings of 10-20 youth include activities, chat time, and planning. Special events include community service projects. Second and fourth Fridays of the month are open for hanging out. Adult facilitators encourage and supervise. A great way to meet new friends, and don't forget the free snacks!!

**HOW:** Just come to a meeting or call for more information.

**WHERE:** Meetings are usually held at the Goodwill Community Center on Lakeville Road in Geneseo.

**WHY:** Teens say there is nothing to do... this is the answer; be part of an organization of teens, for teens, teens that want to make a difference in their community. Have opportunities to make new friends, earn community service credits required by school, represent youth opinion on relevant topics, get references and experience for jobs and college, gain confidence, learn more about services for youth and families, develop teamwork and leadership skills, and .....*have fun!*

***Interested?***

*Call Rachel Pena with Healthy Communities that Care at 748-5146*

*Or Nita Hawkins, LC Youth Bureau at 243-6909*

*or [nhawkins@co.livingston.ny.us](mailto:nhawkins@co.livingston.ny.us)*

*Check it out on [facebook.com/livingstonyouth](https://www.facebook.com/livingstonyouth)*

# 2012 Recipients of the Livingston County Teen Recognition Awards

Sarah Berry	Kate Forrester	Kathryn Nesbitt
Samantha Bickford	Jessica Gallicchio	Joshua Norton
Max Borgus	Shaun Glise	Zachary Palmer
Alissa Brado	Hunter Grosse	Nicole Margaret Parsons
Victoria Burlly	Tom Guinta	Karleigh Perry
Ryan Calnan	Michelle Hand	Lucas Polito
Andrea Carbone	Thomas Hartvigsen	Heather Preen
Hannah Carney	Michael Holbrook	Austin Prince
Cheyenne Carnrite	Morgan Holsopple	Kyle Pullyblank
Alexis Carnrite	Alyssa Kimbel	David Reed
Jacquelyn Carson	Matt Klein	Heather Reinke
Elizabeth Chichester	Alexander Kunkel	Brittany Richards
Theresa Clancy	Javan Levey	Jonathan Ridler
Harper Coleman	Amanda Link	Sarah Russ-Clar
Abbey Cope	Jeffrey Macauley	Chauna Savastano
Sabrina Curtis	Steven MacDonald	Cody Schuster
James Damon	Alexander Matagne	Sierra Seybolt
Emily D'Imperio	Emily Mattice	James Symington
Michael Donegan	Brittany McChesney	Adrielle Watkins
Anthony Drum	Madison McIntee	Rachel West
BrieAnna Ellis	Austin Mcintosh	Zachary White
Nick Faulds	Daniel McIntyre	Steven Wyrosdick
Bradley Ferraro	Colin McKelvey	Journey Wynne
Jillian Foley	Trevor Mitchell	Dylan Yorks
Terry Forrester	James Morrison	



*“We cannot always  
build the future  
for our youth,  
but we can build  
our youth  
for the future”.*

*Franklin D. Roosevelt*



## Summaries of 2012 Recipients

Youth summaries are organized by township with youth from out of the county entered with the community where they have the most impact. An asterisk (\*) designates that two people nominations were submitted for that the youth.

### *Avon*

**Hannah Carney** is a natural born leader who demonstrates her superlative qualities in all walks of life. As a member of the theater and drama club, she organizes efficient duty rosters while working to bring new members into the fold. Hannah also works with the student council, mock trial team, yearbook organization, Salvation Army, Avon Summer Recreation program, and is a valued member of Together Including Every Student. She excels as a leader, and all those who have worked with her confirm her ability to work exceptionally well with others and garner a sense of camaraderie. Her track record with fundraising is extremely impressive and well known. As a community leader, her actions help motivate others and provide a shining example for all those looking to impact their local neighborhood.

*Nominated by Jeff Hancock, Drama Club Volunteer, Avon Central School*

**Theresa Clancy** comes from a family and environment that always rises to meet any challenge. Her mother is a cancer survivor and this has inspired Theresa to be involved in several cancer awareness campaigns. Theresa's story serves as inspiration to other students at Our Lady of Mercy High School in Rochester who are dealing with family members afflicted with cancer. She is an honor roll student, places in the top 10% of her class, and is a member of the National Honor Society. When her name was raised among faculty there was universal agreement that that she is a role model to others. Her volunteerism and compassion flow out of her personality. Theresa challenges herself and attended a leadership conference at SUNY Geneseo to train to better use her own gifts to assist others. Her gifts have affected and changed many members of the community for the better.

*Nominated by Colleen Trevisani, Teacher, Our Lady Mercy High School*

**Emily D'Imperio** serves as a remarkable role model for students and adults alike. She is a distinguished member of the State Leadership Council, where she has attended numerous conferences on the state and national level. Emily has also volunteered her time for various functions at St. Matthew Church. While enrolled at Livonia High School, Emily has worked hard and rightfully achieved a place as a member of the National Honor Society. One of her great joys is being involved in a number of varsity sports teams, where her skills as a player and teammate are equally valuable. Emily takes pride in her devotion both to her schoolwork and her community, which shows in her numerous and noteworthy accomplishments.

*Nominated by Karen Bennett, Principal, Livonia Central School*

**Shaun Glise's** commitment to enriching the lives of others through volunteer work and school activities shine through to all he comes in contact with. At 14, he is a member of the junior varsity soccer team, swim team, and participates in band and chorus. Furthermore, he has given his time to be part of the homecoming committee and the "peer buddy" program. This past winter recess, Shaun gave up 3 straight days of his winter recess to help construct and paint scenery for the high school musical. As part of the Avon drama club, he routinely volunteers his time for plays and various activities. His fellow Boy Scouts and teachers attest to the fact that Shaun enters tasks with a great outlook and sense of humor, seeking out ways to do better each and every time.

*Nominated by Jeff Hancock, Drama Club Volunteer, Avon Central School*

**Alexander Kunkel** is a born leader who attacks any project given to him with professionalism and devotion. Alex has served as a volunteer disc jockey for Avon Central School. He plays music for all events at the school and has recently expanded to doing so for neighboring schools. Recently, Alex has committed to entrance into the United States Marine Corps as ensuring the safety of our citizens is one of his main goals. He teaches firearm safety to Boy Scouts to provide an example for how weapons of that scale should be handled. Alex has always been a role model for other students. He has great follow through and is not afraid to tackle projects of considerable magnitude. All those around him describe him as a driven young man who has set lofty goals and will achieve them.

*Nominated by Judy Essig & Nicole Wilcox, Teachers, Genesee Valley Educational Partnership*

**Sierra Seybolt** is a role model to all of her peers as she does the right thing whether people are looking or not. Sierra has been integral in planning a number of school functions. She assisted in organizing Homecoming Week activities, the Snowball Dance, and prom. Her dedication to these activities was obvious to all those involved and her leadership brought successes in all the various events. Sierra's positive and encouraging spirit is contagious, often pushing others around her to do more. Her friends and peers describe her as a trustworthy and independent young lady with marvelous initiative. The school community will greatly miss Sierra when she graduates this year.

*Nominated by Ann Gallic, Teacher, Avon Central School.*

## ***Caledonia***

**Samantha Bickford** is deeply and personally committed to helping those afflicted with cancer or other life threatening diseases. She recently participated in a 24-hour marathon at St. John Fisher College; all of the proceeds from this event went directly to help those afflicted with a life threatening disease. Sam is also an active member of Cancer Mission 2020, an organization whose goal is to eliminate cancer by the end of the next decade. As a member of this organization, Sam routinely collects signatures from concerned members of her community that urge elected officials to make finding a cure for cancer a top priority. Sam's other activities include Camp Good Days and the Interact Club. Even outside of these events, Sam proves to be an outstanding individual on a daily basis. At the Recreation Program, Sam organizes games and craft activities, always with a smile on her face. Although she contributes in all of these ways, Sam is never one to seek out attention or grab the spotlight. Instead, she serves as a quiet and positive influence to her peers and a role model to all.

*Nominated by Ashley Cummings, Recreation Director, Village of Caledonia Recreation*

**Jacquelyn Carson** is always willing to step up and accept a challenge when she is called upon. The middle school boys' basketball team needed a coach and Jackie generously volunteered for the job. As a coach, she works to instill positive values and the players' parents have nothing but high praise for the job she is doing. In addition to her duties as a basketball coach, she has also volunteered to be the junior girls' softball coach. Jackie constantly makes herself available, even to organizations she is not a member of, such as helping with the cheerlead-

ing Kazoofest, even though she is not cheerleader. At Mumford Presbyterian church, she can commonly be seen with a smile on her face helping out with everything from church suppers to assisting with children's Sunday School. Jacquelyn has proven to be a valued member of her community who is both dependable and shows a propensity for reaching out to help others.

*Nominated by Merritt Holly, Principal, Caledonia -Mumford High School*

**Michael Donegan**, at just 14 years old, is a columnist for the Big Springs Museum newsletter. For the past several years, he has been an active volunteer at the museum, performing any number of chores and providing guided tours and useful information to every visitor. As president of his freshmen class, Michael is a leader at school as well. He is a member of student council, Wheatland youth court, and in March will attend a student leadership conference with the recommendation of his principal. Michael volunteers anywhere there is a need: museum, school, community, and church. As can be seen, Michael is a very motivated and driven young man who is eager for continued opportunities to lend a hand in any way he can.

*Nominated by Sally Santora, Staff Member, Caledonia -Mumford High School*

**Emily Mattice's** love for children, teaching, and her community have culminated in her lead role in several projects. The most significant being her associations with Super & Phenomenal Little Artists' Teams, an art program for children ages 5-12. Emily teaches various art techniques and couples them with relevant themes such as healthy eating, good citizenship, the dangers of bullying, etc. In addition to teaching, she has developed a marketing plan, which includes a website, brochure, Facebook page, and a gallery in downtown Caledonia to showcase the students' work. In the summer of 2011, volunteers were needed to assist a Christian group resurrecting an old youth camp located on Oatka Creek in Mumford. The renovations were completed and a weekend retreat for children from Rochester took place in July. Emily organized the majority of activities for these kids and gathered other peers in the community to help out. She is an outstanding member of her school, community, and an excellent role model for children.

*Nominated by Merritt Holly, Principal, Caledonia-Mumford School*

**Kyle Pullyblank** demonstrates a warm personality and friendly attitude which helps to make everything he does a success. He is an extremely active member of the community, taking part in band, chorus, varsity

baseball and football. Kyle was named to National Junior Honor Society and as a part of this organization he participated in many community service events. Kyle was recognized as Captain of the Livingston Blues Hockey team and given an award for the person who exhibits character, courage, and citizenship. He has a deep bond with his father who has always encouraged Kyle to pursue his community efforts. Kyle is a great help to the Summer Recreation Program where he is a role model for the young participants and teaches skills in sports. Respected by adults and youth alike, he is a selfless individual who would do anything to help another person in need.

*Nominated by Ashley Cummings, Recreation Director, Village of Caledonia Recreation*

**Sarah Russ-Clar** is very involved in her church community at First Presbyterian in Caledonia. She is always present at their activities and willing to volunteer wherever help is needed. She is a member of the Super Phenomenal Little Artists' Teams, in which she volunteers her time each week to instruct children in art and drama. Sarah is a role model for volunteerism, as she is visible in so many school, community, and church activities. You would be hard pressed to attend any of these organizations and not find Sarah hard at work, helping others.

*Nominated by Merritt Holly, Principal, Caledonia-Mumford School*

## ***Conesus***

**Ryan Calnan** is an active member of both National Honor Society and National Society of High School Scholars. He has also been selected for the career achievement award through the Fire Explorer Program. Over the years, Ryan has spent many hours helping and designing training programs to help youth learn the importance of fire and emergency service. His duties extend into the real world as he has been on fire and emergency scenes to assist the firefighters in their duties. Adults in charge of these programs all attest to Ryan's dedication, hard work, and willingness to be both a leader and a mentor for youth in the community. At Livonia Central High School, he participates in the Link Crew program, which focuses on helping freshmen adapt to high school. Ryan has proven to be an esteemed member of our community.

*Nominated by James Woods, Explorer Advisor, Conesus Fire Department*

**Adrielle Watkins** participates in many organizations and makes the commitment to excel in all of them. Adrielle has been a part of the local 4H, where she has trained and competed against other youth. She is a member of the Civil Air Patrol, Conesus Fire Department Explorer Post, and the Livonia Ambulance Squad. She is currently a certified first responder. Adrielle holds a number of distinguished honors for all of these organizations that are far too long to list and describe in a mere paragraph, but they cement her as a backbone of the various groups. Despite all these commitments, Adrielle holds a deep devotion to helping senior citizens. Many seniors are house bound and Adrielle visits them to check on their health. Even though she is there for a specific reason, she lifts the spirits of all those around her. Adrielle has proven to be an enormously helpful and dedicated member of her community. *Nominated by James Woods, Explorer Advisor, Conesus Fire Department*

## *Geneseo*

**Thomas Hartvigsen** is an honest and dedicated young man who has served the Livingston County Youth Court since January of 2008. During this time, he has served the court in a variety of positions, including but not limited to juror, bailiff, defense attorney, and judge. His superiors describe him as a unique and pivotal asset to the court, constantly commenting on the high value of his leadership skills. Thomas is described by his peers as a team player who always comes prepared to meet any challenge. As a senior at Geneseo High School, he participates in Drama Club, Odyssey of the Mind, National Honor society, Barnstormers, and the Academic Challenge Bowl. Outside of the classroom, Thomas is a violinist in the Geneseo High School Orchestra and loves to play soccer. Perhaps most impressively, Thomas has been elected to the Youth Court Steering Committee; a group that sets policy and assists in training new members. As this is an elected position, it speaks to how much confidence everyone involved in the organization has in Thomas.

*Nominated by Steven Todisco, Coordinator, Hillside Livingston County Youth Court*

**James Morrison** volunteers his time for a variety of school events. As a member of the Student Council, James is often the “go-to” person for setting up council activities. He is most known for starting everyone’s day on a positive note as he reads the morning announcements over the intercom system. He is involved in school musicals and performs in

two choral groups. James is always upbeat and friendly to adults and peers in the building.

*Nominated by Karen Bennett, Principal, Livonia Central School*

**Kathryn Nesbitt\*** is a role model and leader in both her school and community. She has strong personal character, deep compassion for others, and a genuine desire to help make meaningful changes in the lives of others. She possesses a “can-do” attitude that is infectious. While she participates in many school activities she still finds time to volunteer in her church, the local summer Bible school, and frequently sings the national anthem at many venues. Katie returned from a family vacation to find that a friend had been hospitalized and was unable to receive visitors. Kathryn organized a candlelight vigil to help those who knew her friend. She personally made all the arrangements for this vigil. Unfortunately, the vigil she had planned turned into a memorial service for her friend. She carried on with poise, calm, and purpose to help those who had gathered for their friend.

*Nominated by Bettina DeBell, Drama Coach, Geneseo Central School  
And Suzanne Perry, School Counselor, Geneseo Central School*

**Jonathan Ridler** has been a member of National Honor Society and in that role he has volunteered his time peer tutoring. He has played on the Geneseo football, wrestling, and baseball teams. As a result of Jon’s excellent team play and knowledge of the sports, he volunteered with a youth group to help other kids learn the sports. Not only does he educate them on the physical skills needed to play, but he also instills in them the responsibility inherent in being a quality teammate and supporting your peers even when they struggle. Jonathan has taken his sporting ability and turned it into an attribute that helps others learn the joys of sport while learning valuable life lessons.

*Nominated by Darlene Hunt, Teacher/Family Friend, Geneseo Central School*

**Jim Symington** is a thoughtful and caring individual who puts forth his best effort in everything that he does. Jim became a member of the Youth Court in March of 2010. Since then he has served the court in a variety of positions, including juror, bailiff and defense attorney. Jim’s leadership skills consistently shine while participating in court functions and show others how best to contribute. Although a quality leader, Jim is a team player who is most concerned with how the sanctions given by the court will help the offender and the community. This year, he has been elected by his peers to be a member of the Steering Committee, a group that sets policy and assists in training new members. As a senior at Geneseo High school, Jim participates in National Junior

Honor Society, the Century Club, choir and tennis. He is truly an active member of his community.

*Nominated by Steven Todisco, Coordinator, Hillside-Livingston County Youth Court*

## ***Groveland***

**Jeffrey Macauley\*** is an outstanding young man. He works on the family farm while keeping up with his full schedule of school duties and community activities. Jeffrey, or Jack as his friends call him, has been a 4-H club member for 12 years, a 4-H Teen Council member for 5 years, and a 4-H Exchange member for 4 years. In addition to those obligations, he has been part of the altar service at St. Luke Parish. Jack was named student of the month in September 2011 for his outstanding work in his vocational program at the Genesee Valley Educational Partnership. Inside the classroom, he is always on task, setting a great example for the underclassmen he works with. Jack routinely shares his knowledge whenever someone needs assistance. He accomplishes all this while holding down a part-time job and participating in basketball and baseball for his home school.

*Nominated by Ann Scharmberg, Advisor, Cornell Cooperative Extension 4-H Youth Development and Olie Olson, Teacher, Genesee Valley Educational Partnership*

**Nicole Margaret Parsons** is a talented, dedicated, and giving individual who is involved with numerous organizations. At school, Nicole is involved with the Yearbook Club and at church she teaches confirmation class, helps with younger children, and works on mission projects. This past December, she worked countless hours on a stunning powerpoint presentation that was a part of the Christmas Eve service. Since then, she has constructed a number of other programs that have been focal in regular services. Although Nicole was relatively new to the area, moving here with her Dad, brother, and sister last year, she did not hesitate to get involved and make a positive impact on the environment around here. Her fellow members of the United Church of Christ attest to the fact that she is always willing to help and lend a hand when needed.

*Nominated by Deborah Roof, Reverend/Minister, Lakeville United Church of Christ*

## ***Leicester***

**Amanda Link** is a kind, light hearted, benevolent young lady who has the ability to always be supportive towards others through positive reinforcement. Amanda assists with overseeing her church's youth group and will be attending the FFA Leadership Conference normally reserved for seniors (she is a junior). She is also deeply dedicated to ridding her school and community of bullying. Amanda has and continues to go out of her way to excel both academically and with her peers. She is always the first one to take initiative to complete any task and often volunteers to do the jobs that no one else is willing to do. This is not easy for a young lady who has had to overcome anxiety to even attend school. Her goals for the future include attending college while continuing her long standing tradition of helping others and ensuring that every person feels a sense of self-respect and self-worth.

*Nominated by Jessica Spike, Caseworker, Livingston County Mental Health*

## ***Lima***

**Sarah Berry** is an extraordinary young lady who never backs down from a challenge. As a friend, she truly has a desire to put others before herself and handles their challenges sensitivity and compassion. Her teachers at Honeoye Falls-Lima School all agree that she is willing to accept and beat any challenges that come her way. She volunteers her time generously to the Together Including Every Student program, which works with children who have differing communicative disorders. Sarah is also Vice President of the College Road Club, a member of the drama club, and organizes an independent vocal group. Music is one of Sarah's great passions and she has performed at a number of charitable events to raise money for underprivileged children. Her ability to persevere has allowed her to not only excel in her own right but also pass on her skill set to disadvantaged children who need it most. Sarah's sense of humility, stoutheartedness, and commitment to community make her an inspiration to all

*Nominated by Dianne Witkowski, School Counselor, Honeoye Falls-Lima School*

**Harper Coleman** is always willing to step up to the plate with added responsibilities and compassion. Harper's mother has had health issues,

so he and his three younger brothers pitch in with daily household activities to make her life easier in any way possible. Harper's volunteer record is quite lengthy. He is a part of the Calvary Community Youth Group, worked with 30 Hour Famine to raise money for world hunger, took part in Flower City Work Camp doing repairs at a Rochester church, and is a peer tutor. In addition to these responsibilities, Harper runs the teleprompter during Sunday services one to two times a month and arrives to church early every week to set up food services. Harper has proven himself to be a polite, hard working young man who always puts his best foot forward and challenge himself.

*Nominated by Sue Wiegand, School Counselor, Honeoye Falls – Lima Central School*

**Morgan Holsopple** is a very kind and compassionate young lady, showcased by her willingness to work building homes with Habitat for Humanity. As a top member of the girls' varsity volleyball team, she leads by example and is a dedicated, hardworking teammate. Her strong dedication also filters into the local community, as for the past 4 years Morgan has been a babysitter. Morgan is employed as a cashier for Tops in Avon. She is also extremely involved in her local church, continually volunteering for various functions. For the future, she intends to pursue a career in the field of wellness at college in order to continue the already noteworthy help she provides to others.

*Andrew Fleming, School Counselor, Honeoye Falls-Lima Central School*

**Madison McIntee** is a quiet young lady who lives her life in a way as not to draw attention to herself. However, her list of accomplishments and volunteer work is extremely impressive for a 14 year-old 8<sup>th</sup> grader. Madison assists with caring for the village of Honeoye Falls flower boxes, helped raise money for the local library by making a gingerbread house to be auctioned off, making beds for the cats at Pet Pride, making pillows for patients at Strong Hospital's cardio unit, and making clothing and dolls for little girls in the Dominican Republic. Madison has shown initiative by contacting the local food pantry in order to find what local families needed. Her family has hosted a party where people bring items and wrap them for donation at Christmas time. In addition to her numerous activities, she has been a horseback rider since the age of five and is a part of the junior varsity tennis team. At school, Madison has the reputation of being a hard worker who always does her best.

*Nominated by Sue Wiegand, School Counselor, Honeoye Falls-Lima Central School*

**Heather Reinke** is involved in numerous activities that speak to her willingness to contribute to the community and make others around her feel welcome. As a member of St. Catherine of Siena Church, she volunteers for altar service and received the Starlight Recognition for outstanding service. At school, she is a member of chorus and drama club, and varsity diving team. She is committed to participating in the American Cancer Relay for Life due to the loss of family and a friend to the disease. Heather gravitates to organizations that promote tolerance of those with differences. She is a member of Gay Straight Alliance, which works to make her school a safe environment for all students and Together Including Every Student, a program supporting students with disabilities. Everyone around Heather describes her to be a lovely, genuine and generous young person who is supremely dedicated to her endeavors.

*Nominated by Brenda Piazza, Friend & Confirmation Sponsor, St. Catherine of Siena Church*

**Dylan Yorks** is characterized by resilience. After sustaining injuries from being struck by a vehicle while on his bicycle, Dylan persevered and never let it break his spirit. Though previously involved in football, baseball, and basketball, he was forced to cheer from the sidelines after his accident. He has remained optimistic and enthusiastic. Dylan is self-sufficient and saved enough money from his part time job to buy a car. He is also an active member of the Big Brother/Big Sister Program, bringing guidance into the lives of younger children. Dylan exhibits hard work in and out of the classroom, and sets a positive example for those around him.

*Nominated by Patricia Tate, School Counselor, Honeoye Falls-Lima Central School*

## ***Livonia***

**Alissa Brado** is a resourceful and benevolent young lady. She routinely volunteers to help teachers in their classrooms and assists a family with daycare almost daily. Alissa is also an enormous help at her own home, where she is a loving big sister and assists her disabled mother in everyday household chores. In school, Alissa is a caring friend who always looks out for and supports her peers. In addition to currently attending Livonia High School, Alissa set a goal to attend Genesee Valley Educational Partnership for cosmetology. Due to her remarkable work ethic,

she excelled in her studies and was able to be enrolled in the cosmetology program. All of her fellow students attest to her dedication and compassion in all walks of life.

*Nominated by Karen Bennett, Principal, Livonia Central School*

**Victoria Burly** demonstrates deep commitment both to her studies and her community as a member of National Honor Society. During the year, these organizations run various events that Victoria has actively participated in. She works as a mentor by volunteering her time as a peer tutor for younger students, providing academic support as well as strong friendship. Victoria is active within her church community and volunteers at a Christian youth camp in Pennsylvania one week each year. She also volunteers her time for 6 weeks over the past 4 summers, as a youth assistant counselor for the Livonia Summer Recreation Program. All members of the program know her vibrant and willing attitude. Victoria displays her vocal and dramatic abilities through community plays, musicals, jazz band, and chorus. She has proven herself to be a responsible member of her community, outstanding student, and an overall joy to others.

*Nominated by Angela Grouse, Liaison to Recreation Program, Livonia Town Board*

**Andrea Carbone** is a Student at Livonia Central School and has been nominated for this award for her willingness to donate her time and demonstrate good citizenship. She volunteers to host Bingo at the local nursing home and is involved with organizing activities through St. Matthew's youth group. In addition, Andrea is an officer of Skills USA, a Genesee Valley Educational Partnership leadership club that competes with other schools. At school, her friends and teachers all comment on her loyal and understanding nature. This past Christmas, Andrea headed a Christmas change collection where all the proceeds went directly to the Teresa House, a hospice organization and residence. Andrea always sets a perfect example of quality citizenship, leadership, and community service. She shows compassion to everyone around her and takes pride in all that she does.

*Nominated by Suzanne Marcin, Teacher, Genesee Valley Educational Partnership*

**Abbey Cope** has a goal to become a registered nurse after graduation. Over the past year, she has worked to get her Certified Nursing Assistant Certificate and is employed at the Conesus Lake Nursing Home. She is

very dedicated to her residents and has a very natural, caring attitude when dealing with anyone she meets. At Livonia School, Abbey has volunteered to assist some of the diabetic students and guide them when they need a helping hand. This cause is extremely personal to Abbey since she has been a diabetic most of her life. Both teachers at her high school and workers at the nursing home confirm Abbey's ability to display a level of maturity well beyond her years. Given her current accomplishments, there is not doubt Abbey will display the same amount of *integrity and ability in her nursing career.*

*Nominated by Judy Hennekey, School Nurse, Livonia Central School*

**James Damon** is an extremely hard working and dedicated young man. He has excelled as a member of the Cornell Cooperative Extension 4-H Youth Development program. As a member of this program, James has done interactive 4-H animal science exhibits in Livonia and at Coyne's Farm in Avon. He has also been instrumental in talking with the public about the 4-H program and his various projects. Recently, James attended the 4-H Career Explorations at Cornell University and gained a unique insight into the programs and projects that are offered. Over this past summer, he designed, contracted for supplies and found volunteers, to build a new kiosk for the Town of Livonia and Conesus Lake Association at Vitale Park. James is not merely content with his current accomplishments and volunteer work, in April he will be visiting Costa Rica to assist people there in how to better understand and study science.

*Nominated by Mary Ann Scharmberg, Advisor, Cornell Cooperative Extension 4-H Youth Development*

**BrieAnna Ellis** has excelled in school where she has been involved in a number of activities and organizations, while maintaining outstanding grades. Her activities include Kindergarten Buddies, Spanish Club, Youth Court for Livingston County, the National Junior Honor Society, and Key Club where students develop core values of leadership and community service. During the past three years, BrieAnna has volunteered between 50 to 100 hours each year helping the Lakeville Volunteer Fire Department to serve the community. She has worked in the fire department kitchen supporting weekly bingo events and preparing food for firefighters. No matter the challenges, she works to maintain a positive and uplifting attitude. BrieAnna has used her skills in Spanish to tutor some of her classmates and has helped to collect donations for the local food pantry. She has been selected to attend the 2012 American Legion Auxiliary New York Girls' State program where she will participate in a week

long experience learning the privileges and responsibilities of citizenship in our community.

*Nominated by Craig S Nelson, Chief, Lakeville Volunteer Fire Department*

**Jillian Foley** is a young lady with an amazing work ethic. In her studies at Livonia School, she holds herself to the highest of standards and thrives in an environment where learning is paramount. In addition to her role as a class president, Jillian has been recognized for her academics and service with a nomination to National Honor Society. Outside of the classroom, Jillian is part of the school's volleyball team and all members of the squad agree that she is an excellent teammate. Jillian has completed a number of community service projects with the Rotary Interact. She is an altar server at St. Matthew's Parish. In the summer, she loves to sail and has volunteered her time to help teach younger children how to sail and assisted at the fundraisers. Everyone who has met Jillian agrees that she is a supremely dedicated, driven, and friendly young girl worthy of recognition.

*Nominated by Karen Bennett, Principal, Livonia Central School*

**Tom Guinta** always maintains a cheerful, light-hearted attitude while volunteering his time. At school, he is a member of the band and takes part in school musicals and plays. Furthermore, he has been extremely helpful giving his time at the fire department as an Explorer. As an athlete, he is a member of the baseball and football teams. A consistent member of his church's youth group, Tom helped with snow shoveling and served meals to the homeless. He has made trips to Oswego to help flood victims. When his family needed him, Tom pitched in by dog sitting, mowing lawns, and shoveling snow to raise a little extra money. Tom has always had a knack for knowing what was needed with little or no direction. He can be counted on and has proven his abilities time and time again as a Lakeville United Church of Christ trustee.

*Nominated by Sara S Miller, Chairperson, Lakeville United Church of Christ*

**Michael Holbrook** is described by his teachers as having an outstanding attitude and work ethic, consistently showing a high degree of effort with all that he does. Mike is a member of the Livonia Volunteer Fire Department. As a member of this program he shows his dedication and commitment to benefiting others before himself. His peers all agree that Mike is a tremendous and compassionate friend, always greeting everyone he meets with a warm and understanding attitude. Despite personal chal-

lenges, Mike has excelled inside the classroom where he even serves as a mentor to students in need of assistance. As someone who has shown that he is willing to put family and others ahead of his own personal needs, Michael is a perfect candidate for this award.

*Nominated by Teri Thielges, School Counselor, Livonia Central School*

**Daniel McIntyre** volunteers his time at the Lakeville Fire Department. Recently, a student in his classroom placed an item in the class's microwave and it caught on fire. Dan and another student immediately responded by putting out the fire with an extinguisher and removing the microwave. Thanks to their actions, this incident was merely a minor accident. Bravery, responsibility, and altruism are consistent words used to describe Dan's demeanor and actions on a daily basis. He is currently attending Building Trades at Genesee Valley Educational Partnership where he uses the same dedication seen at the fire department inside the classroom. Dan's peers all comment on his ability to help others and consistent selflessness.

*Nominated by Karen Bennett, Principal, Livonia Central School*

**Journey Wynne** is originally from South America but moved to the United States as a young girl. She is involved with Livonia Methodist Church, where she is constantly lending a hand for church dinners and various youth activities. In addition to her church service, her teachers at Livonia Central School all attest to the fact that she is known for volunteering her time in any way possible and she recently joined the cheer squad for basketball. Her friends all know Journey to be a loyal and compassionate friend who is always willing to put aside her interests in order to help out. Outside of school, she spends her time involved in childcare programs that benefit young children and their parents. Journey has proven to be an extremely responsible young lady who will never turn down someone in need.

*Nominated by Karen Bennett, Principal, Livonia Central School*

## ***Mt. Morris***

**Elizabeth Chichester** demonstrates a deep commitment to her community through her involvement in a number of organizations. At Mt. Morris Central School, she is a member of the varsity track and cross country team, band, chorus, and in dance training. Furthermore, she has been inducted into the National Honor Society. Elizabeth has dealt with

health issues that didn't cause her to vacillate, instead she displayed her ability to overcome challenges and thrive. Elizabeth is not only a member of various organizations but is deeply entrenched in all of them, never missing a practice or meet. This type of allegiance provides an example for those around her. Her peers all attest to Elizabeth's ability to demonstrate adult-like wisdom both in and out of the classroom. Whether academically based, community based, or a bit of both she constantly strives for perfection.

*Nominated by Heather Bowens, Teacher, Mt. Morris Central School*

**Anthony Drum** is a true leader who empowers both his peers and adults to give their best effort and never back down, no matter the challenge. While attending Mt. Morris Central School, he is a member of varsity baseball, basketball, Mt. Morris Lanes bowling league, Livingston County Summer Youth program, and was voted homecoming king by his peers for the 2011-2012 school year. Both his teammates and fellow students all attest to Anthony's ability to be uplifting even in the worst of situations. Academically, he carries the same ability and desire to overcome any obstacle regardless of the initial difficulty. Furthermore, his mother detailed how instrumental Anthony has been in assisting her with the oversight of younger children in his home. The consistent energy with which he pursues excellence serves as a model for others and never goes unnoticed.

*Nominated by Heather Bowens, Teacher, Mt. Morris Central School*

**Nick Faulds\*** is an inspiration to all who know him as his contributions both within and outside the school community are numerous. He was chosen to be captain of the basketball team and also runs track. When Rachel's Challenge, an anti-bullying campaign, visited Keshequa Central School, Nick volunteered to be a student leader. He worked in a number of classrooms, discussing with seventh and eighth graders exactly what bullying is and how it is not only extremely damaging to the specific individual but also the community. As someone born with Asperger's Syndrome, a form of autism, it would be easy for Nick to let the affliction get him down. However, he uses it as motivation to not only meet, but overcome any challenge put before him. Nick is always willing to share his story with younger students who find his continued success both uplifting and inspiring.

*Nominated by Stephanie Gehrig, Teacher, Keshequa Central School and Blaithe Donovan, Michelle Hand and Courtney Germack, Peers, Rotary Interact*

**Bradley Ferraro** works to encourage and inspire his class and teammates to positive action through his outstanding moral example. As an athlete, he participates in varsity soccer, basketball, and baseball. Bradley is also a member of the Big Brothers, Big Sisters program, high school student council, chorus, and took part in the Coaches Against Cancer program. He has seen first hand the devastating effects of cancer and has, in turn, dedicated himself to fundraising for research to find a cure. This type of selflessness is characteristic of his exceptional disposition and desire to put others before himself. Bradley does not impose his lofty standards, but rather compels others, through his actions, to be the best they can be. Whether on the field, in the classroom, or in the community Bradley finds a way to make the world he lives in a better, more equitable place.

*Nominated by Heather Bowens, Teacher, Mt. Morris Central School*

**Javan Levey** goes about the business of supporting others without drawing attention to himself. His contributions to the school's music and theater department are invaluable. Javan is routinely the only student member of the pit crew for school musicals. He has been awarded the Music Honor Key and the Outstanding Musician Award for his impressive efforts and leadership. As a self-taught guitarist, Javan has used this skill to support his classmates in theater productions and accompanies singers who are performing in talent shows. His peers and the faculty recognize his effort, consistent hard work, and humble attitude. All of Javan's volunteer activities support those around him while enriching the local community. His actions are that of a steady role model with deep dedication to all those around him and make him a perfect candidate for this award.

*Nominated by Cindy Wolfer, School Counselor, Mt. Morris Central School*

**Alexander Matagne** is a role model that takes it upon himself to lead by example. He never needs to be reminded of his academic obligations and is always willing to extend a hand to other students. As an athlete, Alexander participates in varsity swimming, track, and cross-country. He is deeply committed to the chorus and musical programs. Alexander is a distinguished member of National Honor Society and has a spot on Mt. Morris Central School District's student council. Furthermore, he volunteers his time at a CNR food warehouse, assisting in whatever they need him to do. Alexander holds a deep belief that everyone should lead an open and honest life. His belief in the beauty of every person compels

those around him to lay down any bias they have and be more accepting in all walks of life. Alexander is not only a leader but a role model for all those who wish to live their lives with high character and honesty.  
*Nominated by Heather Bowens, Teacher, Mt. Morris Central School*

**Lucas Polito** is more than a participant in organizations, he seeks out positions that give him the opportunities to positively impact those around him. Luke is an Eagle Scout and has donated countless hours to various community service events. He is also a member of National Honor Society, and plays golf, soccer, basketball and is on the swim team,. He has also served as class president each year. Both his fellow students and teachers describe him as n exceptional young man whose leadership skills, diligence, and willingness to become involved in worthwhile activities make him standout. For example, last summer Luke’s family hosted an exchange student from Chile. The experience was so positive, that Luke was invited to spend the next summer with the exchange student’s family. Consequently, Luke spent his time living and attending school in Chile.

*Nominated by Cindy Wolfer, School Counselor, Mt. Morris Central School*

**Steven Wyrosdick** is a young man with impeccable character and is an inspiration to all who meet him. He participates in numerous sports including soccer, basketball, and baseball. He is a member of Mt. Morris School's jazz band, concert band and placed in the All-County Band. Steven volunteers his free time as a youth coach and a ball boy for the Rochester Red Wings. He is also an active member in his school and was chosen as the Close-up Delegate and Boys’ State Candidate. Steven is always putting others before himself, pushing them to reach their full potential. This quality is exemplified in his involvement in the Big Brothers/Big Sisters Program and with his relationship with developmentally delayed student at school. Through his actions he has encouraged many of his fellow classmates and friends to participate in this mentoring. . Steven shows a strong commitment to his family, friends, and anyone he comes into contact with. His authenticity is truly his most excellent feature.

*Nominated by Heather Bowens, teacher, Mt. Morris Central School*

## *North Dansville*

**Brittany McChesney** prides herself on maintaining a very positive outlook and having a great willingness to help others. Her incredible drive has allowed her to overcome any obstacles in her path. Brittany is a member of National Technical Honor Society, honor roll, Skills USA, class club treasurer, varsity track and cross country, and is a Pony Express mentor. As one of 10 children, Brittany has responsibilities at home and helps assist her grandmother on the weekends. She is well liked by her classmates for her constant ability to show empathy towards others who are going through a difficult experience. Brittany is involved with class community service programs that organize various activities for children and the elderly. She has proven herself to be a hard working, dependable, and accountable young lady and deserves to have pride in her accomplishments.

*Nominated by Marcia Underwood, Teacher, Genesee Valley Educational Partnership*

**Trevor Mitchell** is a leader and a role model who his peers look up to. He routinely volunteers his time at the Dansville Fire Department, assisting in whatever needs doing. His leadership skills extend into the classroom, where he has a deep passion for math. It is common for him to contribute answers, actively participate in discussions, and aid the class in staying on task. In addition to these roles, he works as a manager at a local McDonalds where employees appreciate the way in which he handles supervising the restaurant. No matter the task at hand, Trevor tackles it with understanding and dedication that causes others to take notice and look up to him.

*Nominated by Edith Kort, Teacher, Genesee Valley Educational Partnership*

**Rachel West** is generous with her time and always willing to help anyone in need, directly or behind the scenes. She is extremely active in the United Methodist Church, where she is a Bible school teacher, Sunday school teacher, assists at church dinner functions, and participates in the church choir. In school, she is a member of the yearbook club and history club. In her community, she is a member of Girl Scouts, junior auxiliary at the Legion, and works at Moose Club as a hostess on Friday nights. Because cancer has touched close to her life, Rachel is an active

participant in Relay for Life. Though she has had to overcome personal challenges that may have crippled others, Rachel provides an inspiration for those around her and especially her church community. Everyone who comes into contact with Rachel is thankful for having her in their life.

*Nominated by Reverend James W. Stevens, Pastor, United Methodist Church*

## ***Nunda***

**Kate Forester** is a dedicated and successful athlete, student, and community organizer. She is a member of National Honor society and her desire to give nothing less than her best shines through in everything she does. Community leaders testify to the fact that Kate has been a strong advocate for identifying and working to rectify issues within the school community that require attention. Furthermore, she works with a number of support groups that provide an outlet to students who have suffered difficult and troubling life experiences. Kate is in the process of putting together a presentation for these students that will focus on positive reinforcement and lay the groundwork for their ability to overcome the various challenges in their lives. She has demonstrated initiative and remarkable leadership qualities that compel her fellow peers to also do their utmost.

*Nominated by Annette Prince-Lafferte, School Counselor, Keshequa Central School*

**Terry Forester** participates in several sports, community activities, and has constantly been willing to volunteer his time if needed. As a long standing member of the National Honor Society, Terry knows the value of working to do your best inside the classroom. His teachers all comment on his dedication to making the school environment a more inviting and supportive place. In addition, he has been essential in speaking with younger students and stressing the need to make quality decisions and not give into peer pressure. Terry has seen first hand the destructive nature that peer pressure and trying to live up to some unattainable standards can have on a student. Consequently, he has charitably volunteered his time to students suffering from disorders and provides an inspiration for his fellow peers.

*Nominated by Annette Prince-Lafferte, School Counselor, Keshequa Central School*

**Jessica Gallicchio's** empathy, understanding, and willingness to accept

others are some of her most outstanding qualities. At school, she is a member of Key Club, editor of the school year book, and works with the Keshequa mentoring program. Through the mentoring program, Jessica works with younger students to help improve their grades, social skills, and show them that through hard work success is possible. Though she has had to overcome a number of family issues, Jessica has used these experiences to make her understanding and empathetic towards the plight of others. She is the type of leader that can deal with any situation, be it working with younger students, providing useful direction to her peers, meeting yearbook deadlines, or providing positive feedback so others may grow as a result of her actions. This fall, Jessica plans to attend college and pursue a career in social work.

*Debra Beaumont, School Counselor, Keshequa Central School*

**Michelle Hand** is a caring, respectful young woman who never hesitates to get involved whether in school or in the local community. She approaches every day with a smile on her face, regardless of her personal challenges, and always lifts the spirits of those around her. Michelle is president of the Rotary Interact Club and a consistent member of the Kiwanis Key Club. As an important member of the Rotary Interact Club, she has been vital in recruiting valuable new members and never hesitates to take on various responsibilities. With the Key Club, she is instrumental in organizing and assisting with major fundraisers. In school, she is a student council representative and participates in junior varsity soccer, basketball, and softball. As a leader, she is always one to put service above self, and her enthusiasm coupled with a unique sense of fairness make her an inspiration to all.

*Nominated by Doris Marsh, Youth Advisor, Town of Nunda*

**Heather Preen** demonstrates a willingness to help and goes out of her way to put the needs of others before her own. In school, Heather is involved with several sports, volunteers to help out with school activities, and works hard to contribute in many ways. Her peers always comment on Heather's ability to assist other students inside the classroom and ensure that everyone reaches their full potential. In addition, she shows great empathy when particular students need assistance in overcoming either academic or personal challenges. Outside of the school, she is a trustworthy babysitter who is also an enormous help at her own home assisting with various household chores. In all walks of life, Heather is an invaluable role model.

*Nominated by Annette Prince-Lafferte, School Counselor, Keshequa Central School*

**Austin Prince** is a young man who is always looking to make a positive impact on the environment around him. Austin is a member of National Honor Society, class president, and is involved with the county youth court. As an athlete, he participates in soccer and varsity wrestling. His love for wrestling has moved him to volunteer with peewee wrestling groups and become a mentor to young kids who wish to learn and pursue the sport. Austin demonstrates great leadership skills in the way he carries himself. He understands the dangers of peer pressure and works to support a friendly environment where students can be themselves without worrying how others will judge them. These attributes make Austin a model citizen and inspiration to those around him.

*Nominated by Deb Beaumont, School Counselor, Keshequa Central School*

**Chauna Savastano** has demonstrated great leadership skills through her exceptional ability to help guide and direct her peers in a positive direction. Despite challenges in her own life, Chauna has the ability to use them as motivation to succeed in anything she does and not let initial failure get her down. Consequently, she is an inspiration to other students who have personal challenges and looks out for them when they may need assistance. Inside or outside of the classroom, Chauna maintains a cheerful and radiant personality that allows others to find happiness and confidence in themselves. Chauna has proven herself as someone constantly willing to assist others even when times are tough, being a perfect candidate for this award.

*Nominated by Annette Prince-Lafferte, School Counselor, Keshequa Central School*

## ***Portage***

**Max Borgus** is a very active, dedicated member of his church and youth group. Recently, he traveled to Pennsylvania on a mission trip to help with clean-up efforts from months of intense flooding. On this trip, he collected supplies for families in need and worked on homes that were heavily damaged from the flood. This trip has inspired him to do more, as he hopes to take part in a mission to Haiti. As a junior, Max is currently taking two college level music courses and excels in all areas of his studies. Outside of the classroom, he is involved as a member of the drama club and varsity chorus. Max is also an accomplished athlete, who is a member of the ski team, track and field, and goalie for varsity

soccer. When he doesn't have practice or a game, he helps with clean up after community dinners hosted by his teachers. Max has evolved into a responsible, respectful, and mature individual.

*Nominated by Holly Adams, Community Member, Keshequa Central School*

**Hunter Grosse** is an avid outdoorsman who is a member of Mt. Morris Sportsman Club. He volunteers to work several times a year at clean up days. Hunter is a member of the basketball team and is quite active in community activities. He helps his grandfather with jobs and chores on a farm. Neighbors in the area all confirm Hunter's ability to lend a hand whenever and wherever needed. This past summer, he was employed at Letchworth State Park on the grounds crew and participated in weekly nature hikes. Though generally quiet and unassuming, peers and adults alike are drawn to his compassionate and good willed nature. Hunter is not one to draw attention to himself but rather stands as an example with the manner in which he carries himself on a daily basis. His passion for the outdoors has led him to Finger Lakes Community College, where he will pursue a degree in Environmental Studies.

*Nominated by Holly Adams, Teacher/Neighbor, Keshequa Central School*

## ***Sparta***

**Sabrina Curtis** is a very accomplished young lady and an inspiration to other youths. At school, she is a member of the swim and indoor track teams, plus she participates in chorus, chamber singers, and honors band. Recently, she was selected for all county chorus and went on a trip with her jazz band to play for the children at School of Holy Childhood. As a hobby, Sabrina enjoys reading and writing, even publishing her first novel. At church, she helps out with Sunday school lessons and activities. Often times, Sabrina does special readings during congregation and organizes powerpoint presentations. In the surrounding communities, she has participated in fundraisers that work to benefit all types of institutions. Sabrina has proven to be supremely dedicated and committed to volunteer work and strives to continue such work in the years ahead.

*Nominated by Julie D. Guinta, Confirmation Sponsor, Lakeville United Church of Christ*

**Steven MacDonald** is a senior at Dansville Central School and takes part in varsity soccer, basketball, and baseball. Recently, Steven was selected to be captain of the soccer team due to his strong leadership capabilities. These capabilities also shine through off the field, as he is deeply committed to the peer mentoring program. This year, he volunteered to help a ninth grade student and has created a solid bond with him. Even when Steven is not able to have a formal meeting with the student he makes an effort to catch up and keep updated. His advisor explains that he has been extremely self-motivated and even takes the lead during check-in meetings. As a mentor, Steven is practicing the same dedication and skills he uses to succeed in everything else that he does.

*Nominated by Cheryl Keller, School Counselor & Mentor Supervisor, Dansville Central School*

**Cody Schuster** is a responsible young man who never shies away from commitment. He has been a distinguished member of National Honor Society for three years, is a constant on the yearbook committee, and is captain of the varsity football and wrestling teams. Being a captain of a team has taught Cody how to be responsible to his teammates, always offering words of encouragement and never letting them be down on themselves. Furthermore, he does not let his sporting obligations interfere with schoolwork. He is a positive role model to those who wish to excel both in school and athletic endeavors. Cody has also helped out his church community in a number of functions, such as church dinners. His determination is an inspiration to both his peers and adults alike.

*Nominated by Debra Halpenny, Councilperson, Town Board of the Town of Sparta*

**Zachary White** has shown great dedication and leadership to the number of activities he has been involved with. He has a longstanding commitment to his church and youth group. Zachary has shown his passion for helping others through leadership positions in his school's Peer Mentoring Program, student council, and as vice president of the Future Business Leaders of America. He also stays active by participating in soccer and golf. In his free time, he chooses to volunteer at various organizations around Dansville including Rod-n-Gun Club, donating blood, and helping at the library. Perhaps one of his most notable accomplishments is starting an "Anti-Bullying Week" at Dansville High School; organizing activities to promote student unity. Zachary's deter-

mination to bring awareness has personally touched the lives of many of his peers. His sense of fairness and drive make the world a better place.

*Nominated by Debra Halpenny, Councilperson, Town Board of the Town of Sparta*

## ***Springwater***

**Alexis Carnrite** is a student at Wayland-Cohocton with well-defined goals and aspirations. She volunteers many of her hours throughout the year with the Springwater Fire Department, helping to fundraise for various functions. In addition, she donates one Sunday a month working in the nursery at her church. Alexis has received multiple Regal Eagle awards throughout her middle school years, which are given to those who display leadership, respect, and a willingness to have a positive effect on others. Many students look up to Alexis due to her participation in the Eagle Pals Program, an in-school mentoring program. Through the program, she has spent time with students doing arts and crafts, various creative games, working out at the gym, and just listening to what the children have to say. Alexis has a special ability to forgive people who have let her down and has used life experiences to gain wisdom. She never shies away from assisting others and always aspires to be the best person possible.

*Nominated by Carolyn Tinney, Town Councilman/Friend, Town of Springwater*

**Cheyenne Carnrite** is a well-rounded person who participates in number of activities both in and out of school. Cheyenne is very active in volunteering her time with the Springwater Fire Department. She assists with fundraising and events by helping with serving the guests, selling tickets, and working wherever help is needed. In addition, she works as a teacher's assistant at her local church and assists at church functions. In school, Cheyenne is extremely committed to ending the destructive nature of bullying, as she has seen first hand how it can affect those around her. She sets an example by making those around her feel welcome and loved. Cheyenne routinely recruits her friends to assist her when she volunteers and thus introduces them to how fulfilling volunteering can be for all of those involved. As a person, Cheyenne is a perfect example of how engagement and perseverance can positively affect all those around her.

*Nominated by Carolyn Tinney, Town Councilman/Friend, Town of Springwater*

**Alyssa Kimbel** is a conscientious student who is always upbeat and positive in her attitude. As a senior at Wayland-Cohocton, she is president of National Honor Society, volunteers in the fall foliage festival, is a consistent member of the Kick-off Mentor program, and is student council secretary. Perhaps her most distinguished service comes as a member of the Sparta Fire Department and Livingston County Humane Society, where she has been a member from 2006 to the present. The extensive list of organizations she is involved in becomes even more impressive considering she holds down a part time job and is enrolled at the challenging Health Careers Academy. In addition to her scholarly accomplishments, she finds the time to manage the girls' varsity soccer team. Alyssa quietly and steadfastly steps up to the plate whenever and wherever she is needed. She never seeks recognition for herself but merely wishes to serve the general welfare.

*Cynthia Ott, Health Career Academy Instructor, Genesee Valley Educational Partnership*

**Austin McIntosh** has participated in a myriad of programs, including youth groups associated with his community church. He was selected for Boys' State through the American Legion. As a student at Genesee Valley Educational Partnership, he is the treasurer for Skills USA. His role as treasurer requires extensive leadership skills such as time management, peer communication, and assisting with all club functions. Austin has been able to show great compassion and willingness to make a positive impact on others. He has become a self-motivated leader, student and role model who remains extremely approachable and down to earth. His peers respect and value his perspective because of his desire to value their needs and goals over his own.

*Nominated by Nicole Wilcox & Judy Essig, teachers, Genesee Valley Educational Partnership*

**Colin McKelvey** is an outstanding, well-rounded person with an incredible work ethic. He has been a member of the Youth Court since 2008, completing his membership training in January of 2009. Colin's participation started as a juror, listening to cases presented in court. He has a keen sense of how the court's sanctions help offenders learn new skills that aid them in their rehabilitation. Furthermore, Colin demonstrates compassion for all who appear before the court and is eager to learn new skills himself, as evidenced by his personal involvement in participating as both a judge and prosecutor. As a prosecutor, he is

skilled in presenting his case to the court in a compelling manner while remaining unbiased. Colin is a member of varsity soccer, runs indoor and outdoor track, plays tennis, and is trained to play multiple instruments for the band at Wayland/Cohocton High School. He plans to attend Finger Lakes Community College in the fall for accounting.

*Nominated by Steven Todisco, Coordinator, Hillside-Livingston County Youth Court*

## ***West Sparta***

**Joshua Norton** is a leader in his school and community. Josh volunteers at Grow and Learn, and as a youth mentor to a 9<sup>th</sup> grader at school. Josh is responsible, consistent, hard working, and good-natured. Despite facing many challenges with his student he continues to reach out with optimism and care. He is consistent in his efforts to keep meetings and follow-up meetings with his mentee, even when he is up against an attitude and negativity. Josh also participates in many school activities, including track, cross-country, History Club, and Spanish Club.

*Nominated by Cheryl Keller, School Counselor and Mentor Supervisor, Dansville Central School*

**Zachary Palmer** is an open-minded, curious, tolerant young adult who is greatly aware of the diverse cultures that surround him. Despite having to overcome many challenges at home, Josh has become a young man with integrity and high moral standards. He is a great role model for young children. Zachary is an active member of the Dansville Free Methodist Church, where he serves on the worship team. Zach has served on the leadership council of the Dansville High School Senior Chorus, and volunteers for the Dansville 7-12 Environmental Wackos.

*Nominated by Adam Potter, Music Teacher, Dansville Central School*

**Karleigh Perry** is a conscientious student who is always upbeat and positive in her attitude, willing to give her best effort in anything she does. Karleigh participates in the peer mentoring/tutoring program, where she assists in helping a specific youth overcome the obstacles in their life. Furthermore, she is a member of indoor track and softball. Karleigh is also a distinguished member of the National Art Honor Society. Her supervisor in the peer mentoring program has nothing but virtuous praise for Karleigh's efforts, exulting her ability to remain a great role model no matter what challenges are set before her.

*Nominated by Cheryl Keller, School Counselor and Mentor Supervisor, Dansville Central School*

## ***York***

**Matt Klein\*** is a distinguished member of National Honor Society and has been a member of the Boy Scouts of America since 2005. Through Boy Scouts, Matt organized, planned, and executed an Eagle project at the Retsof Fire Hall. The project included doing various repairs and painting the building. Whether rain, sleet or snow, Matt continues to volunteer at the York Recycling Center on Saturday mornings. Despite the restrictive elements of autism, he has worked extremely hard to be part of the community. As a student, Matt has gained the respect of the faculty, staff, and his peers because of his attitude and willingness to help others with any challenges they may have. Outside of the classroom, he is a regular volunteer and participant in the Special Olympics. Overall, Matt has overcome every challenge in his path and wants to continue helping others overcome their respective difficulties.

*William MacKenzie, Teacher, York Central School  
and Jerry Deming, Supervisor, Town of York*

**David Reed** displays extreme maturity for someone only 17 years of age. David comes to school each day with a fun, positive attitude, ready to learn and contribute. He helps his fellow classmates when asked and is not afraid to take on challenges that test him mentally. Last year, David enlisted in the Army Reserves. In the metal trades program at Genesee Valley Educational Partnership, he has been involved in community service projects. Students create sculptures that are then auctioned to raise funds for local organizations. David's commitment to graduating and finding a job in welding is fueled by his desire to provide for his two-year old son. He is committed to making a good life for his family.

*Nominated by Olie Olson, Metal Trades Instructor, Genesee Valley Educational Partnership*

**Brittany Richards** is involved with numerous activities at York Central School. Those activities include Tech Club, Science Club, Culture Club, Math Team, National Honor Society, varsity volleyball, cheerleading, varsity track, jazz band, and chorus. Outside of school she participates in Youth Court, Habitat for Humanity, lifeguarding, and various Catholic charitable organizations. Despite her considerable obligations, Brittany has a large group of friends that respect her volunteer work. As a friend, she is always willing to help others when they are in need and never hesitates to lend a hand when someone is having a problem. Brittany is a kind and determined person that has made an impact on the society she lives in.

*Nominated by Ashley McMaster, Teacher/Coach, York Central School*

# *Acknowledgements*

Keynote Speaker

C. Keith Mitchell

Photographer

Bob Oswald

Nominating Committee

Sharon Deming, Carol Godsave,  
Howard Mankoff, Jim Peraino,  
Ted Saunders, Rita Wittig

Event Planning Committee

Nita Hawkins, Donna Horton,  
Carrie Malone, Howard Mankoff,  
Betty McClenney, Alise Rounseville

County Officials taking part in the Program

James Merrick, Ian Coyle

Livingston Youth Member

Shane Carman

SUNY Geneseo Interns

Jillian Flannagan, John Bernesser

Filling the balloons

Wegmans

Volunteers who helped with Program Summaries

Joe Matteo, SUNY Geneseo History Major

For affordably accommodating us

Genesee River Hotel

Board of Supervisors

**For continued support of the  
Teen Recognition Award Process and Event!!**

***Livingston County  
Board of Supervisors***

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Gary D. Moore, Vice-Chairman

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Sparta .....	Mark J. Schuster
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West Sparta .....	Gerad Levey
York .....	Gerald L. Deming

## *Livingston County Youth Board*

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Caledonia .....	Betty McClenney
Conesus.....	Edward Erhard
Geneseo.....	Larry Kelley
Groveland .....	Ted Saunders
Leicester.....	Howard Mankoff
Lima.....	Martin Gardner
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N. Dansville .....	Lauren Schwenzer
Ossian .....	Rita Wittig
Portage .....	Holly Adams
Sparta .....	Alise Rounsville
Springwater.....	Donald Haywood
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York.....	Sharon Deming
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Dept. of Health.....	James Peraino
Probation Department.....	Michelle Wolfanger
Public Schools .....	Carol Godsave
Sheriff's Department .....	Brian Applin
Youth Member.....	Shane Carman

# ***Livingston County Youth Bureau***

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## ***Mission***

To develop, implement and evaluate a county-wide system of services for youth.

## ***Vision Statement***

All Youth in Livingston County will have the opportunity to become healthy, productive, responsible, caring and committed community members

## ***Staff***

Director	Keith Mitchell
Deputy Director	Ryan Snyder
Coordinator	Nita Rae Hawkins
Account Clerk	Sandra Morris

