

2015 Scholarship / Citizenship Awards

May 12, 2015



Lafayette Rotary Club

Scholarship Guidelines

- 5 - \$1,000 Awards for 2015
- Criteria
 - Community Service and Activities
 - School Service and Activities
 - Academic Merit
 - An Essay
 - Recommendations
- 35 Applicants from
 - Central Catholic
 - Faith Christian
 - Harrison
 - Lafayette Jefferson
 - McCutcheon
 - West Lafayette

Thank You Scholarship Committee

- John Barrett
- Cathy Barron
- Nancy Brandt
- Marti Gutwein
- Bob Hannemann
- Eldon Ortman
- Liz Solberg

Introductions

- School officials
- Families of our 2015 Rotary Scholars
- Congratulations to our 2015 Rotary Scholars
 - Let's meet them!

Julianne Delaney

Knightly News

2011-2012
April



CENTRAL CATHOLIC

Introduction by Nancy Brandt:

I have the privilege of introducing **Julianne Delaney** from **Central Catholic High School**.

Welcome, Julianne!

Let me start by saying that I would like all of you to meet a **real student leader**.

Julianne has been.....

- the **Student Council Class President** this year and most of her years at CC;
- the multi-year **President of the Mayor's Youth Council** in Lafayette;
- the **President of Interact** (the high school Rotary group);
- She was selected to participate in **RYLA**, the Rotary Youth Leadership Academy
- She was a member of CC's **Student Tech Leadership Team**;
- and she was a **Central Catholic Student Ambassador**.

In so many of her school and community activities, Julianne provides that critical **leadership** component and **selfless dedication** that **engender success**.

Think about the **painted rain barrels** that have appeared around the community or the **mural on the Ferry Street bridge**;

In her church activities, she has been a

- **confirmation retreat leader**
- active in the **bible study and youth group**, and
- in the **folk group choir**.

She has also lent a helping hand in doing such things as

- **delivering communion to the sick**,
- Jubilee Christmas, and many other community service projects.
- And then a little **glamour-for-a-good-cause got thrown** in when she did modeling for the **Make-a-Wish Foundation fundraiser**.

I should also mention that one of her recommendations **praised her communication skills**. He noted: "I have witnessed Julianne giving impromptu interviews to TV media on city projects **without hesitation** and **with the poise** and **confidence** of a **trained broadcaster**."

(continued)

Introduction by Nancy Brandt (continued):

In addition to leadership and dedication, we were struck by the **excellence** that Julianne has evidenced in many different areas of **endeavor**:

In each of her 4 years at CC, she participated in.....

- the World Language Club,
- the Choir, and was recognized as the outstanding student in that group,
- Spell Bowl, and has placed high in conference and state spelling competitions,
- and for 3 years has had a leading role in the school musical

Her varied scholastic accomplishments include:

- Science Fair, Academic Super Bowl, mock trial, History Day, and English competitions,
- being named the outstanding student in Speech,
- as well as **being among the top in her class overall**.

Then go back and **add to her governmental experiences** that she received the “**Outstanding County Official award at Hoosier Girls State**.”

Julianne is a member of the **National Honor Society** and has been the recipient of a number of other awards.

And she also played a little **tennis** and **volleyball** along the way.

But let me mention two factors that are a backdrop to all of this:

Factor #1 - She works!

- for three years doing a lot of babysitting;
- and then since last year, she has been a soda jerk at the Original Frozen Custard in Lafayette,
- while also doing tutoring in junior high math and literature, and in high school Spanish.

and then the second, **really significant** factor – Julianne has shown **incredible perseverance** in keeping up her grades and extracurricular responsibilities -- all while....last year.... she was in and out of **Riley Hospital** with **serious health issues**.

- Fortunately, effective medications have now been identified and her health is stable.
- This is such a relief as she **turns her sights toward** Butler (or IU) this fall to study **business management and Spanish**.

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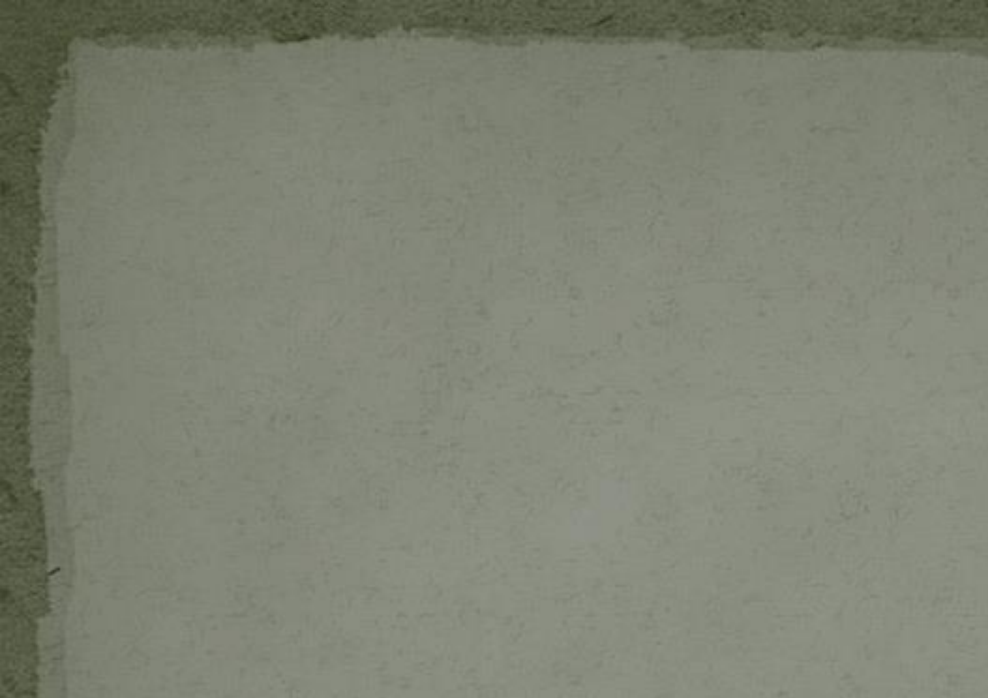
Introduction by Nancy Brandt (continued):

We say **Hooray**, Julianne, and many **Congratulations** to you for all that you have accomplished – for yourself, but for **so much more** that you have already contributed **to your school** and **to our community**!

Again, Congratulations!



SARAH PARENT
PHOTOGRAPHY



Joshua Groh



WM. HENRY HARRISON HIGH SCHOOL

Introduction by Nancy Brandt:

I am very pleased to present Joshua Groh, the Rotary scholarship winner from Wm. Henry Harrison High School! Joshua is ranked #1 out of 399 students in his graduating class. He will attend Purdue University to pursue a degree in Industrial management with international finance and economics concentrations. Additionally he plans to expand his study of foreign languages. Having mastered Spanish and French, Chinese is next in his plan to prepare for a global career.

As I outline many of Joshua's Community Service and Activities you will be able to recognize that he is extremely organized, has a very engaging nature, is a creative leader and is a risk taker! His varied volunteer activities include Food Finders (collecting food and donations, packing and distributing food). Additionally he was active in a school wide collection and sorting clothing for Lafayette Transitional Housing and collecting donations for Almost Home Animal Shelter. One of his more creative volunteer jobs was at the Columbian Park Zoo. After being selected from a large group of candidates, Joshua was trained for 2 days and then volunteered for over 100 hours of service. Some of his responsibilities were cleaning animal holding areas, feeding animals and grounds keeping. He introduced Zoo visitors to snakes, spiders and millipedes through hands on encounters. On one occasion he had a snake around his body for 6 hours, YIKES!! Being observant and creative Joshua realized he could engage some of his visitors more effectively by utilizing his skills in foreign languages, namely Spanish and French. Zoo patrons were very appreciative of his determination in speaking to them in their native tongue. Visitors readily thanked him when they saw him in the grocery or drug store. Joshua also felt rewarded by their sincere appreciation of his efforts! Additionally he was the "Butterfly Guy" and was able to hold the attention of young kids and their families as he provided "show and tell" and discussed the fragile wings and habits of this beautiful species. These volunteer jobs plus others allowed for Joshua to display his foreign language and teaching skills. It sounds like it was a win-win experience for the Zoo and for Joshua. What Fun!!

Academics is clearly a strength of Joshua's. Being Valedictorian of his class while taking numerous AP courses and Dual level credit courses requires the ability to focus, retain material and perform well on national and local tests. Time management skills are also critical. Joshua was named Outstanding English student his Freshman, Sophomore and Junior year and Outstanding student in Spanish 1, Spanish 2, and Spanish 3. He was also the Outstanding student in French 1. His freshman, sophomore and Junior year he was also named to the Principal's Honor Roll for academic excellence. His positive work ethic has enabled him to succeed in making the school Honor Roll in his Freshman, Sophomore, Junior and Senior year. In addition to earning an AP Scholar Award for achievement on AP exams, he will graduate with Academic Honors and Distinction.

Spanish Quiz Bowl has been another outlet for Joshua and he has earned 2 first place trophies and 1 third place trophy in yearly competition, thus helping Harrison High School maintain its number one spot for the last 3 years. Needless to say Joshua is a student with diverse interests, is a risk taker with a great work ethic and is determined to succeed! Theater, student council, future business leaders, current events club, and Lafayette Spelling Bee are also part of the mix of activities.

As a creative way to give to others, Joshua utilized a Quizlet study website to help others. He created 4 classes and sets of vocabulary and grammar to help prepare other students for language classes; Spanish 1-4, AP and Honors English and French 1 and 2. He currently has 330 students in his classes and studying his sets. Additionally as a member of National Honor Society he has served as a frequent tutor in Spanish to help other students improve their skills. His selfless nature, enthusiasm and patience are reportedly very evident to those he assists. (continued)

Introduction by Nancy Brandt (continued):

In closing I would like to read a quote from one of his teachers...

“Joshua shines way beyond academic success. In the classroom, especially with group activities or in working on assignments, Joshua has the remarkable ability to discern which students are struggling, and then extends himself to help explain to them the complexities of Spanish grammar. Students appreciate Joshua’s positive energy, genuine kindness and patience”.

It gives me great pleasure to present a Lafayette Rotary Club Scholarship to Joshua Groh!!!





Sarah Cooper



JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL

Introduction by Cathy Barron:

Our next Award-winner is Sarah Cooper, from Jefferson High School. Sarah could not be with us today because she is in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania this week, at an International Science and Engineering Fair.

I would like to tell you just a little bit about her though as we show you a few pictures of her.

Sarah is #1 in a class of 400+ students at Jefferson High School. She will go to Berry College in Georgia in the Fall, with a major in Biochemistry and a minor in Animal Science.

She has been involved as a 4-H Junior Leader member, volunteered at Food Finders, volunteered with the Commemorative Air Force, is a mandolin player in the Bluegrass Pickers, and rides and shows horses at the state, regional and national levels.

She's an accomplished member of the Varsity Singers at Jeff and a violinist in the Cantabile Orchestra.

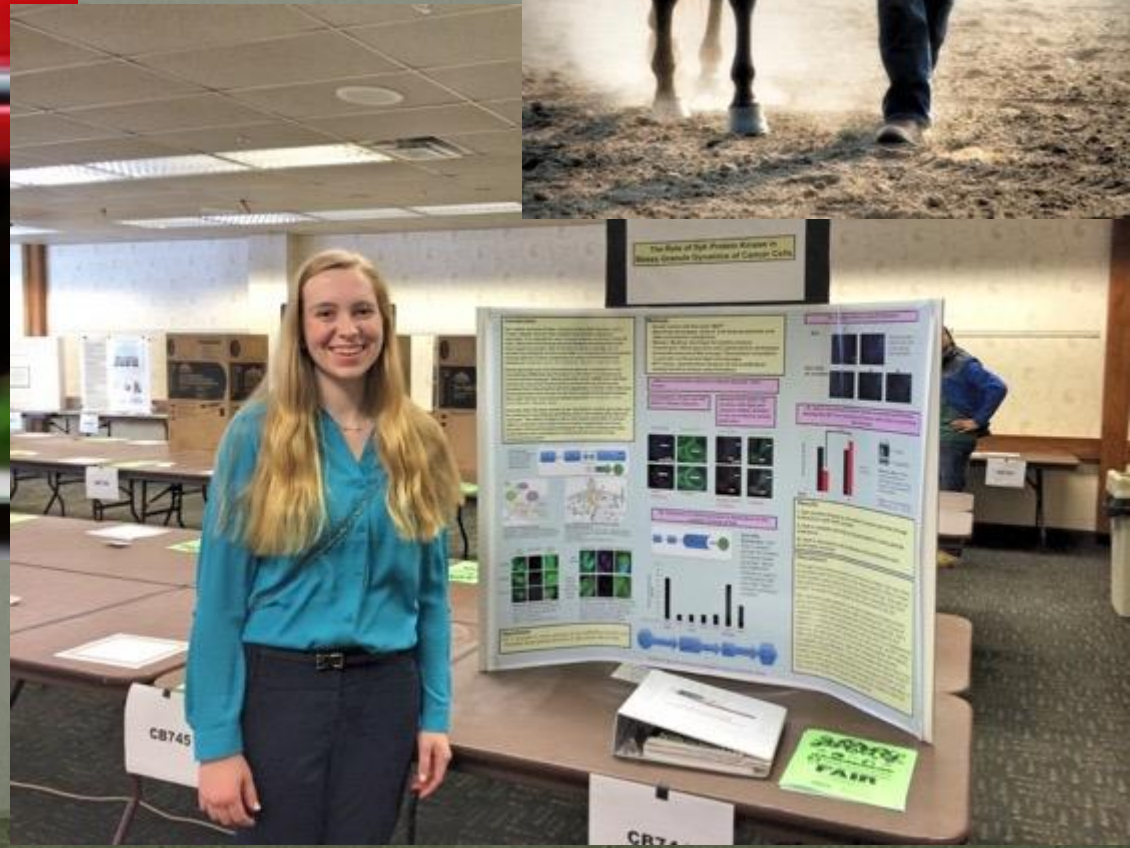
She has won Choral member awards, AP awards, English awards, Kiwanis awards and competed as an Intel International Science Fair finalist in Los Angeles and now, this week, in Pittsburgh.

Sarah has worked with graduate students in a cancer lab at Purdue and says in her essay "the realization that there will never be one single cure for cancer was very humbling to me. It inspired me to dedicate my life to continuing biological and pharmaceutical research with terminal illnesses.....I want to work to uncover the mysteries.....and contribute to the improvement of medicinal treatments and care".

From one of her letters of recommendation we have the following: "Diligent, respectful, cooperative and scholarly: these few words are among so many that rise to the surface when judging the quality and character of Sarah Cooper, a truly remarkable student". At the same time, she exudes a pleasing personality that brightens everyone's day. She has earned my highest recommendation".

So Sarah - we commend you, in absentia, for your accomplishments thus far and wish you the best for the future.





Emilie Eros



Introduction by Cathy Barron:

It is my pleasure to introduce to you today, our award winner from McCutcheon High School, Emilie Kathryn Eros.

Emilie will graduate from McCutcheon in early June with excellent GPA and test scores and will receive the “Academic Honors with Distinction Diploma”. She will enter Xavier University in the Fall, majoring in Business Finance.

Emilie’s service and activities throughout high school have already begun to prepare her for a career in business leadership. She has not only been a member of many clubs and activities, but has chosen leadership roles within those environments.

Emilie has served as a Senior Leader in helping with set construction for various school productions and has worked as Backstage Manager, supervising the backstage crew, for all four years of high school. She has served on the Student Council and been involved in the Drama Club, the International Club, and a group called “Friends of Rachel”, which advocates for those who are being bullied by others.

Music has been an important activity in Emilie’s High school career also. She has, for all four years, played with the band and also the jazz band. She has participated in Solo and ensemble contests each year during her high school career.

Her leadership and service continues.....Emilie served as chair for homecoming, for snowcoming and for powerpuff football and has managed volleyball for all three levels – Freshman, Junior Varsity and Varsity teams.

When Emilie was selected to be a member of the National Honor Society, one of her letters of recommendation states that “Emilie not only met these qualifications, she rose to the top of her induction class (and) was voted by her peers to represent them as President of the McCutcheon chapter. (she) has been diligent over the course of her senior year to complete her service hours.....and consistently...encourages other members to participate”.

And now on to community service and activities: Throughout her high school years, Emilie has participated in Hunger Hike, raising over \$12,000 as a family. She has worked at LUM’s Jubilee Christmas all during high school and has been a 4H member for 10 years, winning blue ribbons each year. She has sent 5 projects to the State Fair.

In 2013, Emilie took a mission trip to Chattanooga, Tennessee where she helped clean up neighborhoods.

Emilie states in her essay that one of her favorite volunteer activities this year was helping at a local elementary school in a program called “Bornlearning”. This program invites underprivileged families to come to the school, where they are served dinner, after which while the parents learn parenting skills, National Honor Society students, like Emilie, entertain their children for the evening.

Emilie has been honored with several awards for her outstanding work. She was selected to attend the National Young Leaders’ State Conference in 2011 and was also selected to attend the Freedom Foundations’ National Leadership Conference in 2013.

Emilie, you have been one busy young woman!

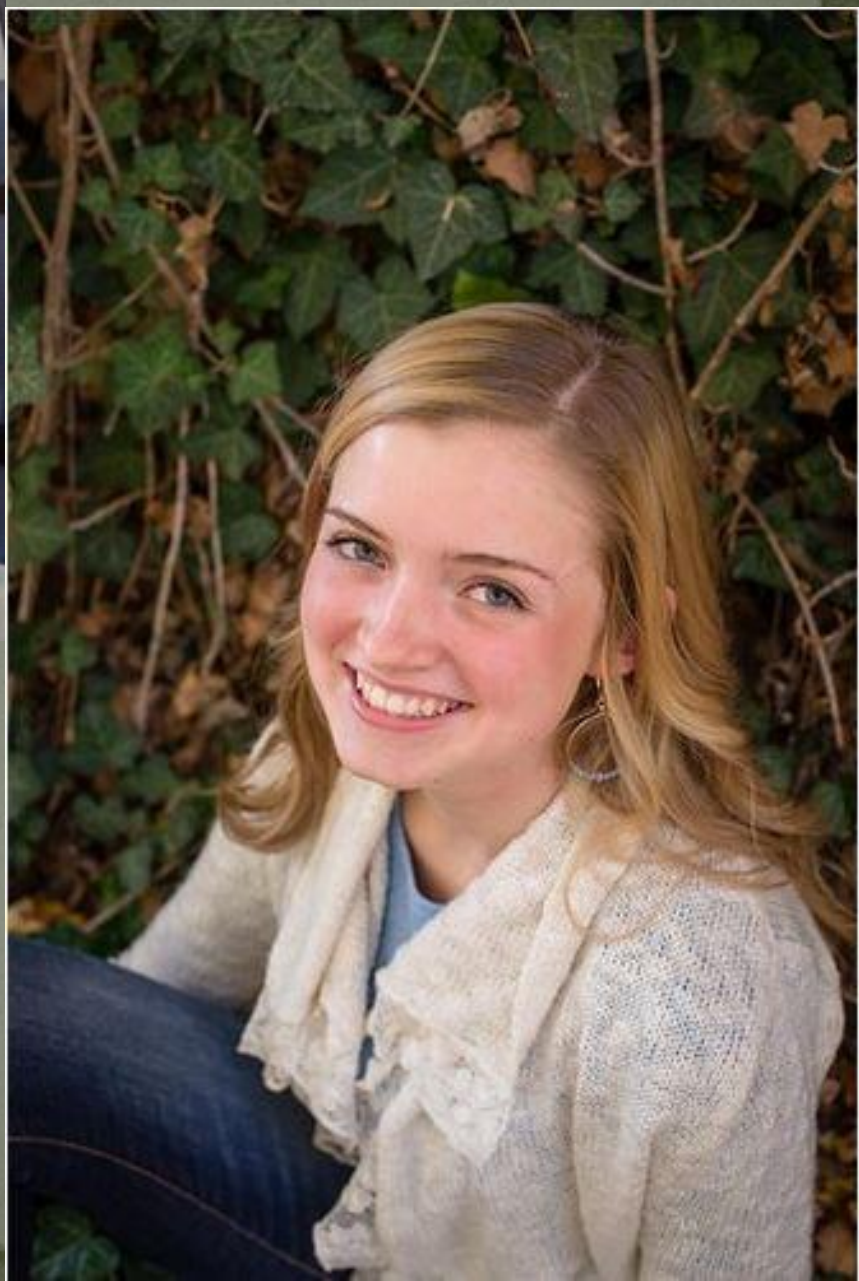
But there is more.....With all of this school and community activity, Emilie has also held down part-time jobs during high school. In addition to babysitting for families, she has worked at Judi’s Catering since 2012 and is a part-time associate at Crew Car Wash. Both jobs continue to the present. (continued)

Introduction by Cathy Barron (continued):

All of these awards, activities and accomplishments are amazing and speak to Emilie's intelligence, leadership and service. But equally , if not more importantly, are the comments we received about Emilie from letters of recommendation.

To quote: "Based on Emilie's exemplary academic record, rigorous course work and involvement in extra-curricular service and activities,she is a very deserving candidate. Emilie is a fine young woman who exemplifies Rotary International's motto of "Service Above Self

We applaud you, Emilie and wish you continued success in all that you undertake!





Mahera Husain



Introduction by Marti Gutwein:

Last fall, I met Saina Husain, Mahera's mother, on the tennis court. As we visited we discovered we both had seniors at West Lafayette. That evening, I asked my son if he knew Mahera, and his response to me was "Yes, everyone knows her, and everyone likes her. She is one of the nicest girls in the school!". In addition to that, you will see that she is also quite accomplished and deserving of this award.

Although West Lafayette schools do not weight classes, Mahera has a cumulative GPA of 3.92/4.0 while taking an academically rigorous schedule. She plans to attend Purdue University and major in chemical engineering with a goal of researching and developing novel technologies in medicine to benefit those most in need. She chose this major after being inspired at a summer camp at the University of Illinois where she learned of research on chip technology being used to run HIV/AIDS diagnostics.

As far as her school activities, Mahera has been involved in both Music and Athletics. She plays violin in the school orchestra, as well as the musical pit orchestra. She is on the Tennis team for the third year, and for ran Cross Country for two years. Other school activities include the Robotics team; WeSSO, a service organization; and Red Cross Club where she is currently serving as Vice President and recently organized a large-scale Ping-Pong tournament fundraiser. As a Student Council representative, Mahera chaired the tri-annual Blood Drive, and organized the Homecoming parade and Hoops-for-Hope basketball game fundraiser for Wish-for-a-Cure.

Outside of school, Mahera, has volunteered in several local organizations. She has been very active in the ICAN Youth Foundation. The ICAN Youth Foundation is a Youth Group for Muslim girls and young women in the Lafayette/West Lafayette community. Through ICAN, Madera has served at the Lafayette Urban Ministry homeless shelter, volunteered with the Food Finders Food Bank, and prepared dinner for the Muslim community on Saturday nights. She is also a Jr Counselor within this group with the responsibility to help younger children and plan community events.

In addition to her work with ICAN, Mahera volunteered at the Indiana Veteran's Home, helping to transport residents to an from the beauty salon and tending the flower gardens; worked at the after school program for the Tippecanoe Youth Center at Klondike Elementary School supervising homework and playing games; and was an intern/volunteer at the NEXTRANS Center in Purdue Discovery Park. There she developed a checklist for the team of undergraduate and graduate students to use when running the Driver Simulation experiment.

One of Mahera's teachers described Madera as "the type of person we all hope our children will become."

Over and over people mentioned Mahera's kindness and concern for others, along with being approachable, honest and responsible.

Ms Leslie Smyser, a biology teacher and volunteer coordinator at West Lafayette schools said "Our school and community have been better for having her." And we, at Rotary, couldn't agree more. Congratulations to Madera Husain, the Rotary Scholarship recipient from West Lafayette High School.

