

# Community

## McLean Rotarians Award Scholarships, Donate to Park

The Rotary Club of McLean on June 2 awarded two scholarships and donated money for the improvement of Clemjontri Park in McLean.

The McLean Rotary Foundation each year awards scholarship grants to local high-school seniors on the basis of academic excellence, school and community involvement, volunteer work, life experiences, leadership and financial need.

During a ceremony at Lutheran Church of the Redeemer in McLean, club officials gave scholarships worth \$2,000 each to Sofia Nyaa Mondo and Daniel Felix Propp.

Mondo was born in the Central African nation of Cameroon. Because women's education is not a priority in her country, she was not encouraged to pursue her studies, club leaders said.

Mondo spoke no English when she came to the United States in 2010, but she soon learned she needed an education to succeed in America. A friend told her about the Fairfax County Adult Education program and she quickly enrolled.

Mondo currently attends the Pimmit Adult Education Center, where she has a grade-point average of nearly 3.5. In addition to school, she works as a certi-



Roberta Longworth (left), executive director of the Fairfax County Park Foundation, accepts a \$3,000 check June 2 from the Rotary Club of McLean. Pictured with her are John McEvilly, president of the Rotary Club of McLean Foundation; Amee Burgoyne, president of the McLean Community Foundation; and Vance Zavala, board member of the Rotary Club of McLean Foundation. The Rotary grant will be used to build a new picnic shelter in Clemjontri Park in McLean. The club previously contributed to the construction of the Liberty Swing in the park. PHOTO BY RICK NELSON

ified nursing assistant and volunteers with plans to attend Northern Virginia Community College. When she graduates, she

registered nurse.

Mondo received high marks and strong recommendations from her teachers during consideration of the scholarship awards, Rotary Club officials said.

Propp is a senior at Langley High School, where he has earned a grade-point average of 3.63. He also has earned a high score on his SAT's. In addition to his studies, he is an athlete who plays baseball and football. Despite his busy schedule, Propp finds time to hold a job and to do volunteer coaching for youth travel baseball.

Propp has won awards in the Langley Science Fair and the Russian National Essay Contest and has received a Scholar Athlete Award. He plans to attend Virginia Tech this fall. Propp also is interested in learning about investments and the stock market and plans to run his own business someday.

The Rotary Club of McLean on June 2 also presented a \$3,000 check Roberta Longworth, executive director of the Fairfax County Park Foundation. The grant will be used to build a new picnic shelter in Clemjontri Park in McLean. The club previously contributed to the construction of the park's Liberty Swing.