



Rotary Club of Hinsdale

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Rotary District 6450

FIVE STUDENTS EARN HINSDALE ROTARY'S YOUTH MERIT AWARD

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – April 13, 2012

Five students who attend Clarendon Hills Middle School, Hinsdale Middle School and Hinsdale Central High School received the Rotary Club of Hinsdale's Youth Merit Award Friday, April 13, 2012. This award recognizes high school and middle school students for scholarship, leadership and service.

The Rotary Club of Hinsdale honors students from area public and private schools at award ceremonies several times each school year. Rotarian Cheri Vana, Vice-President of Commercial Real Estate with Charter One Bank in Hinsdale, coordinates the program. Staff members at Hinsdale Central High School, Hinsdale Middle School, Clarendon Hills Middle School, Hinsdale Adventist Academy and St. Isaac Jogues School nominate students. The award winners attend a Rotary meeting, address the club members about their activities and interests, and receive a certificate to commemorate the occasion. Middle school students attend with their parents and invite an individual they consider their influential teacher. This month's teacher guests were: Ryan Cantrell and Jen Scheuerman Clarendon Hills Middle School; and Debby Cornacchia, Hinsdale Middle School.

The April 13 program was the seventh Youth Merit Award presentation of the 2011-12 school year. The following students earned the award:

- **Millie Culbertson**, grade 8, Hinsdale Middle School, Hinsdale resident
- **Genevieve Heidkamp**, senior, Hinsdale Central High School, Hinsdale resident.
- **James Lee**, grade 8, Hinsdale Middle School, Hinsdale resident
- **James Walker**, grade 8, Clarendon Hills Middle School, Hinsdale resident
- **Mita Ramani**, grade 8, Clarendon Hills Middle School, Clarendon Hills resident

"Rotary Club of Hinsdale has presented its Youth Merit Awards for more than 20 years. The awards identify and honor students who set the example for their contemporaries in academics, athletics, the arts and community service," said President James Slesser. "We are pleased to announce that Hinsdale Bank and Trust has joined us as the community sponsor of this program. Both Rotary members and the bank staff are continually impressed and amazed with the achievements of these young members of our community."

The Rotary Club of Hinsdale meets weekly at 12:15 p.m. The club, founded in 1959, consists of men and women of diverse backgrounds whose commitment to service ranges from support of local youth programs to assistance for the poor and sick across the globe. Their major fundraiser is the Rotary Run Charity Classic, slated for Sunday, October 14, 2012. For more information, visit www.hinsdalerotary.org.

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