

YMCA OF THE NORTHWOODS

2021

TEEN

CHARACTER

AWARDS



2021





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Welcome

At the age of 22, George Williams saw a need in his community of London, England. He saw a need to offer young men a place of good moral character and thus founded the first YMCA. He did this not for personal gain, instead, he did it for a better community.

We gather here tonight to recognize those very same principles in the youth in our community. Without hope of personal gain, award, or recognition, these teens show the good around us.

As our community's largest youth-serving charity, we nurture the potential of every child and teen. We encourage, support and motivate them to live up to the potential that lies within. With these future change makers in our community, we are convinced we are in good hands.

Join me in celebrating these impactful teens. For a better you. For a better us. For a better community.

Ryan Zietlow, CEO
YMCA of the Northwoods





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A Note For Tonight

Teens have always held a special place in the world and in my heart. These youth have a beautiful mixture of childhood dreams that combine with the developing skills of young adulthood allowing for special things to happen. They are our blooming future. They are the leaders of tomorrow. They will be the future difference makers of the Northwoods.

At the Y, we talk about mission moments, those great stories that we see, feel, or experience that reminds us the world is a good place and we are making a difference in someone's life. Each Teen here tonight is their own mission moment. They have their own story of greatness.

Tonight, while we think about their potential. We celebrate the present. Each teen presented in this program has already accomplished so much. It isn't about the grades, trophies, wins, or accolades. It is about everything that they have done to be great. It is about doing the right thing even though no one is looking or will ever know about it. Please help me honor these individuals that are willing to be part of the change that we all desire through the telling of their stories of character.

***Matt Steingraber, Youth & Family Director
YMCA of the Northwoods***





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Program

-Introduction-

Masters of Ceremony:

Geoff Weller, Chief Meteorologist, News Watch 12

Justin Betti, News Anchor, News Watch 12

-Invocation and Blessing-

Jen Metzger, Director of Faith Formation/Youth Minister
Northern Lakes Catholic Communities

-Welcome-

Matt Steingraber, Youth and Family Director, YMCA of the Northwoods

-Video-

Nominators and Sponsors

-Keynote Speaker-

Ellen Mathein: Business Professor, Nicolet College

-Presentation of Awards-

Rhineland Rotary Club, *Dan DeLisle*, Treasurer

-Y Teen Character Scholarship-

-Closing Comments-

Ryan Zietlow, CEO, YMCA of the Northwoods



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About the Awards

This special evening is the 19th Annual Teen Character Awards which celebrates the hard work and commitment of teens in our communities who make a lasting impact on others.

The YMCA Teen Character awards started in 2003 honoring twenty teens. Since then over four hundred and fifty teens have been honored with this award. The opportunity to share their stories and impact is unlike any other.

These award winners are a living example of strong moral character, leadership, and service dedicated to strengthening families, schools, and communities. Each one of these teens is a testament to the character traits of caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility. In a time when our communities are faced with immense challenges, it is vital that we reach out to each other and share these amazing stories.

Tonight we demonstrate character in action and applaud all of our winners for their accomplishments. We encourage them to continue to lead their lives with the positive character values they've displayed. Through their actions, we are reminded that even when no one is watching each of us can make a difference. That one person's actions are contagious and can inspire a family, a school, a community.

YMCA CORE VALUES:

CARING *is evidenced by helping and loving others.*

HONESTY *is evidenced by truthfulness and integrity.*

RESPECT *is evidenced by valuing the worth of others and self.*

RESPONSIBILITY *is evidenced by accountability to others and self.*



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Key Note Speaker

Ellen Mathein

Nicolet College – Business Professor

Ellen is a Business Instructor at Nicolet College. Ellen teaches Leadership, Human Resources and Management classes. She loves taking what she did in her two and one half careers and relaying that wisdom to her students.



Before she started teaching for Nicolet College in 2017, Ellen and her husband Larry owned and operated My Feed Store and Garden Shop in Tomahawk for ten years. When they bought the business, it was located in a small storefront and had limited inventory. Through the ten years of owning it, Ellen and Larry grew the business twenty-fold and employed fifteen local people. Ellen and Larry provided good quality products at affordable prices and their store was known as a great place to work. Ellen and Larry's mantra was that customers and employees were family. They also supported dozens of local not-for-profit organizations. Though they sold the store, Larry still helps former customers with their landscaping needs. During the time they owned the store, Ellen and Larry were active in the Tripoli Log Church. Larry was the Pastor and Ellen was the Sunday School coordinator and Treasurer of the Church.

Ellen is an EMT volunteer for the Little Rice Fire Department. She also taught EMT and CPR classes at Nicolet College. Before stepping into her own business, Ellen was a Vice President with Morgan Stanley Dean Witter in Chicago and New York for twenty-five years. Ellen even worked in the World Trade Center in New York. Ellen started her career in Accounting, ran Investor Relations and Human Resources for the Discover Card, an affiliate of Dean Witter. Ellen and Larry really don't have too much spare time with working and volunteering, but they love spending time with their three grandkids.



Amaya Adler

Rhineland High School - Senior

Nominator - Gena McKenzie

She is always respectful to others, especially her parents, and it has been so great to see her grow into the strong, independent, and sweet person that she is today. Amaya always treats others with kindness and is liked and respected by everyone she meets. She loves to post inspirational quotes and posts. Every post shows her love of kindness to others and loving ourselves. Her teachers from Rhineland High School have expressed that it has been a joy to have Amaya in their classes. They stated that her confidence has grown into leadership and she is a good role model for others. At school, Amaya is involved in student council, band, pep band, and dance team, where she received many awards of distinction. She also has created two businesses of her own.



David Bock

Lakeland High School - Junior

Nominator - Mike Mestelle

David respects military veterans very highly and has worked hard to help honor our local veterans. David was a big helper for Vietnam Veteran and local resident Wally Obermann in collecting money for the Never Forgotten Honor Flights. He continues to help others and be a happy, pleasant person. It is rare to see David without a smile on his face. He has been a volunteer coach for 3 years in the Flag Football program. As a class president, he leads many projects in his school including the planning of Homecoming Week activities, the planning of the Junior Prom, and fundraising activities. With the Covid virus this year, many of these activities have had to be modified to be done safely. David is currently preparing for the Mock Trial competition and has a possible career choice in the future of being a lawyer. He also is a member of the Drama Tech Crew that builds sets, runs the lights, and does the sound for the school plays each year. David is a member of the Thunderbolt Yearbook Staff and assists in the creation of the yearbook each year. David gives willingly of his time and talents and works diligently to make LUHS a better place.



Keaton Brewer Crownhart

Lakeland High School – Senior

Nominator – Ihor Myshchyshyn

Keaton is an exemplary student at Lakeland Union. He has carried a cumulative GPA of 3.7 over the course of his high school career. As a team captain he shows leadership and positive attitude to players no matter what their grade or placement on the team. Keaton has a great sense of humor

and the kind of personality that you don't have to ask him twice to get things done. He is a kind and bright young man. Keaton participates in soccer, basketball, baseball, Model United Nations, National Honor Society, math team and Spanish club.



Guinness Bruce

Northland Pine High School – Senior

Nominator Name – Peter Aerts

Guinness shows great leadership in the classroom and is an extremely intelligent student. His engagement in the material and willingness to ask thought-provoking questions not only helps him thrive in challenging classes but also raises the engagement and understanding of those around him. Guinness

works well with everyone and makes his classmates feel appreciated, no matter the dynamic of individuals. Guinness is also very humble and selfless. He pushes himself academically while putting in many hours outside of school to work a job and help his family. Guinness never makes excuses and instead does whatever is needed. His extra effort and determination allow him to look past life challenges and be extremely successful in the classroom. Guinness's positive attitude and commitment to others even in the face of adversity is a great asset to our school culture and the overall community. Mother Teresa's quote about doing small things with great love truly speaks to the life Guinness has lived so far.



Abby Cornella

Phelps High School – Senior

Nominator Name – Kevin Grafwallner

Abby has positively affected her peers by showing them what grit is and that hard work pays off. She strives academically and is successful despite some challenges in her personal life. She is highly respected by both students and teachers alike and displays tremendous growth. She is a leader and regularly

presents new perspectives using critical thinking skills. She demonstrates care for others and is welcoming to students. Abby is very active in the school yearbook and has been a leader for the Forensics program. She is a dancer and has also performed solo acts.



Hunter Cronauer

Laona High School – Sophomore

Nominator Name – John Markowski

Hunter demonstrates caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility by constantly helping others. When in class he is always respectful to teachers and fellow students and has never been dishonest. He is one of the hardest working students, stays on task, and still finds time to help others.

Hunter positively affects other students by making them feel more positive about themselves as they are comfortable talking and working with him. Hunter has good leadership characteristics and leads by example. He is also a very well-rounded young man who participates in Football, Basketball, and Baseball at the varsity level, along with being a member of the chess club. He enjoys the outdoors with hunting, fishing, trapping, snow skiing, and training his dog for pheasant hunting. Hunter is active in his church and has worked with their youth group. He is on the National Honor Society where he volunteers time in the community. Hunter Cronauer does all this and maintains an "A" average at school.



Ali DeNamur

Rhineland High School – Senior

Nominator – Melissa Krueger

Ali has a responsible work ethic that stands out among student-athletes. Ali has rarely missed a sports practice, follows the strength training plan, always chooses the longer running routes, does extra speed work, and is conscientious about mobility work. Ali does the things that many runners

are not willing to do and does them without complaint. Her character has positively affected her teammates as she is a strong leader who brings a light of positive energy to all. Ali has made the high school a better place from walking the halls, to the classroom, to extracurricular activities. She cares about her development as a runner and values the process of hard work and little things that make her a successful student-athlete. Ali has an enthusiasm for life and a bright internal light. She has a smile and an energy that makes everything not only more tolerable but more fun. She is a person who is easy to be around and just makes people feel better about themselves and the world. Ali goes out of her way to show how much she cares. She notices a need for service and quietly steps in to fill that

need. She is going to make a difference in this world and achieve the goals she sets for herself. She is a dedicated, driven, and thoughtful student-athlete. Ali participates in volleyball, Nordic skiing, track and field, cross country, DECA, and FBLA.



Makenzie Denny

Rhineland High School - Senior

Nominator - Mischell Fryar

Throughout her four years of high school Makenzie has always been actively involved in FBLA/DECA, especially in the area of community service. She has been at almost every FBLA/DECA community service activity during her four years. Makenzie has also taken on leadership roles which have allowed her to grow her leadership skills and to display how responsible she is. Based on the number of hours Makenzie has committed to community service she has a very large impact within her community. Whether it be presenting at a chapter meeting or setting the example of dedication to competition preparation, Makenzie takes her responsibilities seriously. Makenzie is a very respectful individual. Whether it be with other students or adults, Makenzie is always polite and respectful when dealing with people. Makenzie is also involved in the Band, Color Guard and Mock Trial.



Keirrah Epping

Northland Pines- Junior

Nominator - Joan Ploetz

Keirrah is extremely gifted in music. She not only plays many instruments and sings, but she also shares her music with those around her. Keirrah has played at Milestone Senior Living Center, church, and sung while ringing bells for the Salvation Army. She helps with the Backpack food program. She is respected by grade school and high school students who look to her when they are struggling with their music. She generously helps students. Not only does Keirrah play piano, clarinet, bass clarinet, saxophone, and guitar in the Northland Pines Junior and Senior choir, orchestra, band, and jazz band, but she has also written compositions that her bands have played in concerts. Keirrah has participated in the Great Northern All-Conference Choir, the Wisconsin Music Solo Ensemble Festival, the Wisconsin School of Music State Honors Choir and been nominated for the University of Superior Tri-State Jazz Festival. She is truly musically blessed.



Marissa Flannery

Crandon Middle School – 8th
Nominator Name – Tina Taylor

Marissa has been involved in various projects to help improve her school and community such as presenting to the school board on why the school needed a therapy dog, which became a reality this school year. Marissa also helped organize a food drive for a local pantry and a Penny War to donate to a local family in need. Marissa is a valued member of the Leadership Council and can be counted on to complete any task asked of her. She cares about making her school a fun and safe place for all students. Marissa attends the weekly Leadership meetings and when she has a different commitment, she makes sure to let someone know. Within sports, Marissa pushes herself to the fullest and works hard to make sure she doesn't let her team down. There's nothing Marissa starts that she doesn't finish. Another example demonstrating Marissa's drive is how she has started her own tech repair business. She taught herself how to fix a broken cell phone screen for her brother and now does the repairs for others along with designing cell phone covers.



Jordyn Franzen

Phelps High School – Senior
Nominator Name – Lynn Kolling

Jordyn is a kind-hearted girl by nature, being inclusive of those around her, not casting judgment. She has always been a leader in her class and sports. She is easy-going and encouraging. Jordyn volunteers throughout her community. (Brat Frys, community garden, Phelps Woman's Club, and within the church.) Jordyn is a hard worker, doing what is asked of her to accomplish the end result. If help is needed, you can count on her to be someone who will say "yes". Jordyn plays basketball and volleyball, and is a starter on the BOYS Varsity Basketball team. She dog-sits regularly for a local family and works at Sunrise Lodge in Land O' Lakes. Jordyn is also part of her church youth group.



Adia George

Three Lakes High School – Senior
Nominator Name – Jen Metzger

Adia began volunteering in junior high helping out with Vacation Bible School. As she got to high school, her presence did not diminish. She gets joy out of her interaction and the kids can sense that, coming to love her. High school students are generally very busy, and Adia is no exception. That being

said, she does not hesitate to volunteer in her school and community. Adia has been involved with the Volleyball and Track teams. Adia always treats others with a great deal of respect, including the young people that she serves. She also uses her artistic talents to create props for the school plays as well as materials needed for class for the young kids. She also finds time in her busy week to work at Catholic Charities. Even the adults of the community are positively influenced by her work. Just seeing a young person like Adia giving of their time serving others is an example to all.



Natalie Hicks

Three Lakes High School- Senior
Nominator Name – Jayme Wyss

Natalie demands a lot of herself but has also stood up to any challenge presented to her. Natalie was a key player on the 2020 volleyball team that made history for Three Lakes – with a back-to-back conference championship (after 22 years of none) and winning Regionals for the first time in 34 years.

Natalie was unable to play a final conference game for health reasons, but she sat on the bench and gave a lot of positive coaching feedback to her replacement. Natalie has served on Student Council for all three years of her high school career, as well as served as the Secretary of her class. Natalie has put in a lot of volunteer hours. She has helped with the School Recreational Camp for three years. She has volunteered at the Fireman's Picnic, worked the Sugar Camp Softball Tournaments, and run concessions for Ski Club, Student Council, and NBHS. Natalie is also involved with her church, St. Kunegunda in Sugar Camp.



Emma Houg

Rhineland Middle School – 7th
Nominator Name – Matthew Nichols

Emma is a standout student that all teachers would love to have in the classroom. She has a contagious smile and lights up any room. Emma embodies resilience by overcoming any challenges in her way with a positive attitude and willingness to put in the extra work. She comes to class prepared and

excited to learn. Her responsibility and accountability she takes in her education not only benefit her learning but also helps to make the classroom a better learning environment for everyone. She is not afraid to ask questions, even when other students do not want to speak up. Emma is respectful and kind to everyone she interacts with. She is happy to work with any student, and she always treats people in the same way: with dignity and love. Emma's kindness and joy spread throughout the Rhineland community in many ways. Her character can be summed up by simply saying she does "small things with great love."



Evan Janet

Northland Pines High School- Senior

Nominator: Amber Tilley

Evan is a student whom others can confide in and trust. He displays true caring for all students. Evan serves as the Student Council Treasurer. He was the student director of the high school musical (a very big job!), in National Honor Society, on the golf team, a Peer Mentor, and is a member of the forensics team as well. He volunteers in the community by bell ringing for the Salvation Army or assisting where ever needed. Evan works hard at a high level and with positivity.



Hutson Kane

Crandon High School – Senior

Nominator Name – Dan Witman

Hutson is a model student-athlete who is a role model for all in the Crandon School. Hutson has a 3.9 cumulative GPA and was awarded Academic All-State last fall by the Wisconsin Football Coaches Association. He is a member of several clubs and organizations in the school as well, such as the Spanish Honor Society. Hutson also volunteers to assist in several fundraising activities such as a fundraising booth held yearly at the Crandon Brush Run races. In the summer, Hutson works for the Mole Lake Tribe Department of Environmental Protection. While working there he has developed an understanding and love for protecting our environment. In addition, he demonstrates characteristics of being kind, patient, and empathetic. It is not uncommon to see Hutson on the elementary side of the school volunteering or just saying hello to one of his younger siblings.



David Kaufman

Three Lakes High School – Senior

Nominator Name – Don Phelps

David's caring and responsibility have earned him the respect of the Three Lakes Fire Department. He was named "Firefighter of the Year" in 2020. In his church, he has shown caring by visiting with the elderly and helping with chores. He has been involved in student government, sports, National Honor Society, and supporting his classmates along the way. He has also helped support the youth sports programs. David has been involved in doing grounds keeping for the town.



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He has helped during baseball tournaments and umpired games. His church community has been affected by his ministering to the elderly and providing the support they need in their everyday lives.



Samantha Krueger

Northland Pines High School- Freshman

Nominator - Jennifer Metzger

Samantha volunteers her time not only at fundraising and outreach events but also as a catechist in the Faith Formation Program at St. Peter the Fisherman. She positively influences the youth and adults of the community through her work. She is a part of their Vacation Bible Schools each

summer and is present at weekend liturgies and events like serving the Wounded Warriors Luncheon. Samantha is also in Cross Country, Basketball and Track.



Owen Kurtz

Rhineland High School - Freshman

Nominator - Paul Johnson

From elementary school to high school, Owen has stayed true to his character. A former teacher stated that "His strong character traits made Owen a teacher's dream to be able to teach." Other teachers speak glowingly of Owen. The one word that resonated with all who shared insight was humility. He has had early successes in academics and athletics,

successfully navigating each challenge that comes his way. He has stayed humble as well as loyal to his same-age friends. Owen is polite yet personable; shy yet confident. Owen created an exemplar character project for his leadership course. Owen can be both a leader and follower, depending on what the situation calls for. He is energetic for his love of sports -- football, wrestling, baseball, and strength training. He understands that hard work translates into success. He walks the walks where others talk the talk. Owen stands up for his convictions and does not cave into the temptations of peer pressure. He does this with grace and without judgment, focusing on living the actions that align with his goals.



Quinn Lamers

Rhineland High School – Senior

Nominator Name – Janet Jamison and Derik Lemmens

Quinn is a straight-A student who is also a multi-sport athlete and captain. He's been named a Commended Student in the National Merit Scholarship program, has a 4.6 GPA, and was recognized as a Wisconsin Academic All-State football player. He is a positive role model for our youth. He is respectful to everyone

and everything. Things like please and thank you are heard all the time. He is the first person to greet and give high fives to young fans that attend games and will go out of his way to make them feel special. Rather than viewing leadership as a position of power achieved by dominating others, Quinn understands leadership to be an opportunity to lead by example while cheering on each team member's successes. His true character shone when an injury forced him to miss most of his baseball season but rather than use it as an excuse to stay home or quit on the team, Quinn continued to come to every practice and game. He became the first base coach and spent his time teaching and giving positive feedback to his teammates.



Ceara McCarthy

Crandon High School – Senior

Nominator Name – Margaret McCarthy

Ceara is an individual that any community would be extremely grateful to have. She spends much of her time volunteering to cook dinners for the service club, helping at community events such as Fisheries, doing yard work for community members, singing at church services, and helping with 4-H.

She is very reliable and is always willing to help others. Ceara is an individual who sees a job to the end. She can often be seen cleaning up events after many would've gone home and works behind the scenes at events out of the goodness of her heart. When her school was left without a band teacher, Ceara stepped up and assisted with the program. Recently, Ceara has joined her local Fire Department and is working to become a first responder. She is very involved in the Fire Department fundraising events. Ceara's willingness to help others does not go unnoticed, and she is often seen putting a smile on someone's face. Ceara leads by example and is a prime example of having good character.



Hunter Meistad

Phelps High School – Senior

Nominator Name – Chris Rader

Hunter is an exceptional student. He is currently taking college classes on top of his high school schedule and is taking on this responsibility to further his future. Hunter has maintained a positive attitude pushing his teammates and being an extension of the coaching staff during a year when all senior athletes have had their seasons cut short. He has taken it upon himself

to mentor underclassmen, and continues to build the program that he has invested so much time and effort in. Hunter has made a positive difference by being a tremendous athlete and giving the community something to enjoy, but he also volunteers for fundraising opportunities for the programs he is a part of. During the sport's off-season, he works lawn/building/property maintenance at two different businesses.



Benjamin Nemcek

Lakeland Union High School – Junior

Nominator Name – Susie Scandin

Ben has an intense drive and strives to become a smarter, healthier, and better person every day. He is incredibly self-motivated and responsible. He is very passionate about youth sports because he feels it contributes to a happy, healthy lifestyle. Ben has been involved in wrestling for six years. He

volunteered at many youth wrestling tournaments as a table worker, scorekeeper, and referee. He shovels snow for his elderly neighbors at no charge and has repaired his mom's car at a fraction of what a "garage" would cost. He completed the Law Dogs online driving course, earned his motorcycle license by taking the Basic Rider Course at Nicole College in Rhinelander, and become a certified Open Water Diver by the Professional Association of Diving Instructors. In the future, he wants to obtain a private pilot's license. Ben's genuine smile, empathy, and willingness to help others make him a person you want to be around.



Skylar Peitsch

Rhinelander High School- Senior

Nominator: Tara Badgley-Westphal

Skylar's outgoing and charismatic personality is infectious. She consistently goes above and beyond for her friends, teachers, community, and herself. Not only is she a member of the Northern Edge Figure Skating Club, but she also is a coach for young skaters in the Rhinelander Figure Skating Club.



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Skylar has a passion for local history and has competed in National History Day since sixth grade. Through this, she was on the youngest Rhinelander High School group to compete at a state and national level. The Wisconsin Historical Society recognized Skylar's love of history and has invited her to join their Teen Advisory Committee. Skylar also volunteers her time and talents to Operation Shoe Box and Rennes Health and Rehab.



Emily Rottier-Douangmala

Northland Pines High School- Sophomore

Nominator: Jaclyn Halsey

Emily is someone you can always count on. Everything Emily has going for her today, she has had to work very hard for. Many students may have given up, but she has taken school seriously by putting forth her best effort and has been able to celebrate that success. School, however, is not the only place

where Emily has shown responsibility. Emily has worked since she has been able and her bosses are beyond impressed with her work ethic. She gives the utmost respect and responsibility to her employers and often takes on the leadership role. Emily also spends her time volunteering and being active in sports. Emily plays on the Varsity Basketball team where she has grown into a great teammate and player. Her love for the game also shows in her volunteer work. Emily never says no to an opportunity to help out with the youth basketball players. The little girls on the youth basketball team look up to Emily. Emily also volunteers for Sunday School at Our Savior Lutheran Church, where she has earned a scholarship to attend Impact Camp at Camp Luther. Emily is a positive role model and an outstanding leader. At her job, in her sports, or at school, she is always "doing what is right when no one is looking." She's confident in herself and makes her own decisions with very little peer influence. Emily brings out the best in those around her.



Mari Szews

Three Lakes High School - Junior

Nominator - Jennifer Metzger

Mari's life and the way she handles herself in every situation is an example of all of the YMCA's core values. Mari is quite simply a caring human. She works hard and when given a task, another thought does not need to be given to it. You can know with confidence that the task will be done and will be done well. She is not only respectful to those whom she works with

but also, gains the respect of those around her, peers and adults alike. Anyone who gets to know Mari is positively affected without a doubt. Mari is a strong quiet leader on her teams, in her interactions, and her volunteering. Mari is involved in many extra-curricular activities



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including; Volleyball, Basketball, and Softball. She is a member of the Student Council as well as the National Honor Society for Three Lakes High School. Mari is also an active member of her church, including the Faith Formation Program.



Liana Teter

Rhineland High School- Junior

Nominator: Susan Appell

Liana judges no one and accepts everyone for who they are. She is fiercely committed to rights and freedoms for all, regardless of race, gender, orientation, or religion. Her ability to see the positives in all people benefits everyone around her. Liana is in RHS drama, Nicolet players, Red Cross

certified lifeguard, RHS Nordic Ski team, Nativity Thrift Shop Volunteer, Youth appointee on Rabbi Search committee at Mt. Sinai 2020, accepted at UW-Milwaukee as a 9th grader and completed 2 semesters of college Hebrew, AP student.



Mary Voelker

Tomahawk High School- Senior

Nominator: Janel Voelker

Mary Voelker is a senior at Tomahawk High School. She is such an encouragement to the people around her and is always looking to help out where she can. Mary has had to overcome a lot of challenges in life, and she has become an amazing

individual. She helps teach Sunday school. She also participated in a church leadership summer event called Project Timothy, where she went to Duluth for a week to further develop her faith and leadership skills. She meets every need with a smile and can-do attitude. Everyone you talk speaks very highly of her. Mary participates in Solo and Ensemble, Forensics, and has a part time job.



Grace Weber

Northland Pines High School- Senior

Nominator: Amber Tilley

Grace is very coachable. She is approachable and makes others feel welcome. She has been on Student Council for 4 years serving as the Student Council Secretary for 2 years. Grace helped organize a socially distanced pep assembly and found a

way to have a Homecoming court. She also volunteers in her community of St. Germain with



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the 4th of July and other activities. Grace is on the Student Council, Mentoring Program, Homecoming Court, girls' basketball team, and Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) where she is an officer.



Ty Welk

Rhineland High School- Junior

Nominator: Bert Grant

Ty demonstrates aspects of good character in his everyday interactions at his job, with his team, peers, and community members. Ty is an individual who truly cares about others and is always willing to have meaningful conversations with friends, teachers, peers, or even strangers. Ty is a well-rounded individual who is involved in many different activities throughout the community such as Teen Court, Student Council, and FBLA. He is also a registered volunteer with the Red Cross, as well as holding a part-time job. Ty is a multisport athlete as he is on the basketball, track and cross country teams. Ty has also been awarded the Hodag award in basketball multiple times. This award is a testament to Ty's dedication and leadership abilities. Ty is an involved member of his community and seeks to be a leader for fellow students and teammates.



Kayla Whitehead

Northland Pines High School- Senior

Nominator: Amber Tilley

Kayla has been a representative on the NPHS Student Council for all four years of high school. She has also represented our school at the Rotary Leadership Conference, has chaired numerous activities, and serves as a liaison between students and administrators. She is currently the NPHS Student Council President. Kayla works to the highest degree, bettering herself at every opportunity. She is an awesome role model to others, showing maturity and friendliness, always. Kayla is known to volunteer her time in and around her home area of Conover and Land O' Lakes. She has spent time bell ringing for the Salvation Army and helps others in the figure skating program. She is also a member of Forensics, had a lead role in the musical, and is a member of the Eagle River Figure Skating Club.



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Lillian Williams

Crandon High School – Junior

Nominator: Jessica Keao

Lillian is an individual who demonstrates all the characteristics of having excellent character. Lillian is a selfless cross country captain who is always helping her peers on the team. She leads warm-ups, involves all members of the team, and seeks to motivate and lead others, not for her benefit, but the benefit of others and the team. Lillian also continued training with another teammate when that teammate qualified for sectionals. She dedicated her time to helping her peer and cheering her on at the sectional meet, demonstrating her caring and reliable character. Lillian is also involved in track and is a member of both the National Honor Society and Spanish Honor Society. In addition to holding a job, Lillian still finds time to volunteer at the Forest County Humane Society. Lillian is also taking classes to become a CNA. All of Lillian's activities demonstrate her caring personality and dedication to helping others.



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Teen Character Scholarship

The YMCA Teen Character Scholarship, made possible by the **Steingraber Family**, was created to reward students for exuding exemplary character in their lives and communities. For the past 19 years, the YMCA of the Northwoods has been honoring teens who demonstrate outstanding character and live the Y's core values of caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility.

This scholarship is a chance for the YMCA to help these students get a chance to prepare for a career in which they can continue to demonstrate positive character values. It is our opportunity to give back to one student but it is also just the beginning. The beginning of their future. The beginning of this award. The beginning of greatness.

Please join us in congratulating our 2021 Teen Character Scholarship Recipient: **Quinn Lamers**.





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Rotary is a global network of 1.2 million neighbors, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who come together to make positive, lasting change in communities at home and abroad. Solving real problems takes real commitment and vision. For more than 110 years, Rotary members have used their passion, energy, and intelligence to take action on sustainable projects. From literacy and peace to water and health, we are always working to better our world, and we stay committed to the end. Out 35,000+ clubs work together to: Promote Peace, Fight Disease, Provide Clean, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene, Save Mothers and Children, Support Education, and Grow Local Economies.

Rotary Motto: Service Above Self

Rotary Values: Service, Fellowship, Diversity, Integrity, and Leadership

Interact Club: Interact clubs bring together young people ages twelve to eighteen to develop leadership skills while discovering the power of Service Above Self. Find out how serious leadership can be seriously fun.

News Watch 12

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Justin Betti, News Anchor

Justin joined WJFW News Watch 12 in December 2019 as their weekday evening anchor. He's an award-winning news reporter, with more than a decade of experience working for different TV stations across the country. He's worked in Montana, Idaho, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and now Wisconsin. And he's served as everything from sports reporter to news anchor, even doing traffic or weather in a pinch.

Justin grew up in a small town called Peckville, PA, and he's a proud graduate of Syracuse University. When he's not at work, Justin enjoys spending time with his wife and two young kids. He also likes playing golf and tennis, as well as getting out and exploring the Northwoods.



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Geoff Weller, Chief Meteorologist

Geoff joined the News Watch12 team in November 2015 as a weekend meteorologist and reporter. Geoff didn't travel far to end up in the Northwoods. A native of Grayslake, Illinois, Geoff spent his summers at the family lake house near Stevens Point. A graduate of the University of Oklahoma, Geoff supplemented his broadcast meteorology education at Mississippi State University. Directly out of college, Geoff took a career detour. He entered the business world working in several large cities all over the country, including stops in Chicago, Miami, Orlando, Dallas, Phoenix, Cleveland, Atlanta and Las Vegas. While his experiences in the business world proved successful, they took him away from his true passion. In late 2013 Geoff decided the time was right to follow his dreams. He quit his job, re-enrolled in school, and picked up a full-time weather internship at WGBA-TV (NBC26) in Green Bay to compliment his previous years-long internships in Oklahoma City. Geoff loves the outdoors. While he is technically always working (observing the weather is a 24/7 job!), you can also find him skiing, biking, and boating that is, when he isn't up in the air sharpening his skills as a licensed pilot and Certified Flight Instructor. Geoff could not be happier to be working in north central Wisconsin.

Thank You

Many heartfelt thanks to all who have made this inspirational night possible!

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