

## ROTARY CLUB OF TAVISTOCK MEDALISTS

# W-O students presented with medals

The Rotary Club of Tavistock presented their annual medalists at an Awards Night hosted by the Rotary Clubs of Oxford on Wednesday, June 4, 2014 at the Quality Hotel & Suites in Woodstock. There were fifteen recipients this year from the Ingersoll, Tavistock, Tillsonburg, Woodstock and Woodstock-Oxford Clubs. Among them were Waterloo-Oxford District Secondary School students Ashley Jeffries of Wellesley and Quinn Behnke of Tavistock.

Ashley Jeffries, 17, is extremely involved in school and community life. She is a member of the newly established Friends of Rachel Club, a club whose goal is to foster positivity and a positive environment in the school and community. As a side note, this Club and the school presentation that began it were sponsored by the Rotary Club of Tavistock. Ashley has shown an interest in making a difference in the world as a member of the anti-bullying group WAYVE and the global outreach group Students Without Borders. Ashley is incredibly talented and active in the school's music department as a member of the Concert Choir, Jazz Choir, Chamber Choir and the Appassionata group. She is on the Music Council and the Drama Council and in fact was the Chair of the Drama Council last year.

Ashley is also very active in the community. She is an active member of Community Theatre Groups but also helps raise money for community groups through activities such as Hallowe'en for Hunger and a Sweet 16 Christmas hamper



PHOTO / CONTRIBUTED

Waterloo-Oxford students Ashley Jeffries and Quinn Behnke accept their certificates and medals from Tavistock Rotary President Brian Bennett (right) and Woodstock Rotary President Ron Fraser.

fundraiser that she hosted.

What makes Ashley a deserving recipient of this award is her friendly and accepting personality as well as her positive leadership, two qualities she brings to all her activities. Ashley goes out of her way to try to make people feel included and welcome in whatever situation she is in. She always has a smile for friends and strangers alike. She is very respectful of others' opinions and she listens thoughtfully to what others have to say which makes those around her feel good about themselves and their ideas. She is not afraid to experience situations that are unique or outside her comfort zone and her positive approach to challenging situations is

a model for others to follow.

Quinn Behnke, 17, goes out of his way to make other people smile. He himself is always smiling and this has a contagious effect on the people around him. He has an intelligent sense of humour that he puts to good use in brightening the day of someone who might need it and he makes a point of trying to do this whenever possible. He is thoughtful, thinks of others before himself and he is always willing to try new things or consider new ideas.

Quinn is a leader at Waterloo-Oxford. As the student body co-president, Quinn takes part in most of the Student Activities Council activities which are designed to make our school a more meaningful

and comfortable environment for all students. In addition to this, he emcee's school assemblies, welcomes new grade 9's at Grade 9 night, and helps tour prospective students around the school during grade 8 night. What makes him so effective as co-president is that Quinn is considered open and approachable by students in all grades and with different interests.

Quinn has participated in two school sponsored Relay for Life events and is an ambassador for our school

in the community. His has also brought his positive influence to the rugby, football and DECA teams as well as his church community.

Also attending were the recipients' parents Paul and Linda Behnke and Juanita Jeffries and Libert Stanislas.

Each student will receive their \$400 bursary at W-O commencement in November. Making the presentations along with the Rotary presidents was Waterloo-Oxford Principal Beth Bodkin.

**Is your equipment in shape for Summer?**  
**Need a replacement baler or planter?**  
**Buying a farm and need a mortgage?**  
**Considering refinancing?**