COMMUNITY SERVICE

UD-Lansdowne Rotary Club honors top graduates

By Peg DeGrassa
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Upper Darby–Lansdowne Rotary President Richard Heron had “Rotary’s moto is ‘service above self’ so we choose students to honor, we don’t just look at their grades. We want to see that they are involved in their community.”

Bridget Murphy

Murphy just graduated from Bonner & Prendegast in Drexel Hill.

She ranked second in her class and was captain of the rowing team. She has participated in Upper Darby Summer Stage and the school musicals.

Bridget has been named a Connelly Foundation Neu- man Scholar, where she was able to attend the Freedoms Foundation Service Learning and Public Policy. She attended the Notre Dame Summer Scholar Program where she took courses in cell biology and environmental con- sciousness. Bridget also did community service with the Boys & Girls Clubs in South Bend, Ind.

Bridget served on student council, helped to serve Masses and was a student ambassador. Her community service at school included the blood drive and getting books and coats for those in need. She is a daughter of Kevin and Colleen Murphy of Drexel Hill. She plans on starting her college journey at the University of Notre Dame this fall, to become a nurse and specialize in neonatal heart care.

“I’m just so thrilled and honored to be here,” Bridget said with an ear-to-ear smile, standing next to her proud mother. “I think the Rotary is such a wonderful organization. Everyone that I talked to today was so inspiring.”

Nhaomi Larney

Larney was top Student of the Month from Penn Wood High School in Lansdowne. She took five Advanced Placement courses during her senior year.

She was the president of her class in grades 10 and 11 and has been a member of the Mathletes, Mock Trial team, and HI-Q team.

Nhaomie got involved in local politics after being appointed as a junior mem- ber of Lansdowne Borough Council, where she organized community events and provided insight from a different perspective. Nhaomi was one of 12 students in the United States and five in Africa recognized for her leadership skills. She established a Bright Futures initiative to help Penn Wood students navigate their postgraduate plans and has donated her time to Ardmore Elementary School, tutoring students in math, English, and other subjects.

Nhaomi was in the Future Business Leaders at Penn Wood and will be participating in a statewide competition in Hershey. She is a member of the National Honor Society, Science Olympiad, school newspaper and student council. She was ac- cepted into Brown University, the University of Penn- sylvania, Massachusetts In- stitute of Technology, Yale University, Columbia University and Swarthmore Col- lege but chose Harvard University, where she plans to study computer science.

She is a member of many clubs and activities includ- ing the American Sign Language Club, the Upper Darby Arts and Edu- cation Foundation, student government, National Art Honor Society, National Sci- ence Honor Society and the Horticulture Club, where she and her team cleaned up the courtyard and grew plants.

Through the National Science Honor Society, Raisa volunteered for a three-week camp for ele- mentary students. Outside of school, she is on the SELL- ers Library Student Advisory Board, where she plans programs, raises money for key projects and reviews books for the library. Raisa has helped plan events for Sellers, such as the Har- vest Festival and a bake sale. Raisa plans to attend Thomas Jefferson Univer- sity in the honors engineering program. She is a daughter of Mohammad and Marcelia Hossain.

Amigon was chosen as the top Student of the Month from Delaware County Technical School, where he attended the Emergency and Protective Services program at the Fol-croft location.

He is a son of Ana and Frian Amigon of Upper Darby. Freddy is a give who wants to use his talents to help others. He is graduating from Upper Darby High School as well as the Del- aware County Technical School. He is interested in being an EMT and working on an ambulance.

He intends to go into the military and train as a paramedic.

An all-around athlete, Freddy is an excellent soccer player and has partici- pated in lacrosse, tennis and wrestling. While at Upper Darby, he was a member of the chess club. Freddy recently attended a leadership conference in the Po- cos. He will participate in the Health Occupations Students of America competition for EMTs and attend Delaware County Commu- nity College. While at Vo- Tech, Freddy spent time at the county 911 call center, where he hopes to apply for a job in the future.

Those at the luncheon were treated to a talk by Ruth Ndwiga, Interna- tional Rotarian who be- longs to a club in Embu, Kenya, and was visiting her sister in Primors. Ndwiga spoke about the impor- tance of Rotary as well as her club’s work to build a sanitation facility for 1,000 elementary school students. She told the UD-I. Rotari- ans that when she subdued for the president of her club, she was the very first female to be in that important role there.

The Rotary Club of Upper Darby Lansdowne meets on a bi-weekly ba- sis for fellowship and to learn about the community and plan community service events. New mem- bers are accepted all year, at any time. For more than 90 years, the UD-I Rotary Club has been serving and supporting local communi- ties. Each spring and fall, the club meets with Upper Darby teachers to give young readers a book bag, a couple of books and a stuffed animal to use as a reading buddy, to encour- age children to read more.

The Rotary Club of Upper Darby Lansdowne is always open to new members. The next meeting will be at Mc- Call’s Country Club in Upper Darby on Wednesday, June 18. To learn more, con- tact president Rich Heron at 610-252-9700 or Presi- dent Elect Ryan Stone at rstone19@gmail.com. To find out more about Ro- tary, visit http://RotaryDis- trict7450.org or http://Ro- tary.org. 