PRESS RELEASE

Woodbine—Mayor William Pikolycky is pleased to announce that Woodbine resident and Stockton junior Jessica Pikolycky* is currently in Australia as part of the Delegation on Journalism of the International Scholar Laureate Program. She was chosen by the National Dean's List to be one of 82 United States representatives, having maintained a grade point average of 3.78 for this past school year. The delegation will be in Melbourne and Sydney from May 18 to 28. From there, they will attend sessions in Cairns, through May 31. These representatives will be participating in an in-depth study of the history, multi-culturalism, and geography of Australia.

Jessica is currently majoring in Literature and in September will also be enrolled with the Education Department as an Elementary Education Teacher candidate, to be certified in Special Education and Speech Therapy. She is participating in this Delegation on Journalism in preparation for her future goal of publishing articles on research she will conduct on teaching methods for special education students.

Among the plenary sessions in Australia will be an Overview of Journalism in Australia, Establishing a Point of View, Free Speech, Free Press: Rights and Limitations, Broadcast Media, Media in the Millennium, Hallmarks of Journalism: Fairness, Balance, and Accuracy, and Synthesizing Lessons Learned in Australia. These will include trips to Australian newspapers, an on-site visit at the Australian Broadcasting Corporation which is equivalent to the CNN Center, with tours of both Melbourne and Sydney.
The Cairns phase will include a day-long excursion to the Great Barrier Reef and visits to the Kuranda Rain Forest Region and Tjapukai Aboriginal Cultural Park.

"I would like to thank those who encouraged and supported Jessica in this endeavor, as she was also supported over the years in her 4-H equestrian programs," added Mayor Pikolycky.

*(in the name of full disclosure: aka, his daughter)