

Featured on front page:

Local students participate in leadership training
EDUCATION, 9



Longtime band director bids farewell
NEWS, 3



The Warren Record

Serving Warren County Since 1896 — No. 3

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2018

warrenrecord.com

© 2018 WOLNACK PUBLISHING COMPANY, INC. \$1

Detailed article on page 9:

Wednesday, January 17, 2018

EDUCATION

The Warren Record Page 9

Students learn lifelong skills through leadership program

By Jennifer Harris
Editor

Two local students have been chosen to participate in a leadership program this summer, marking the second consecutive year that Warren County teens have participated.

Founded in 1958, the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership program, commonly known as HOBY, provides programs for rising juniors selected by their schools to participate in leadership training, service-learning projects and experiences that build motivation. HOBY's mission is to "inspire and develop our global community of youth and volunteers to a life dedicated to leadership, service and innovation." Core values of the program are volunteerism, integrity, excellence, diversity and community partnership.

Local students participating this summer at the East Region leadership seminar at N.C. State University in Raleigh are Alaina Pulley and Ryan Baskerville, who attend Warren New Tech High School. They both said they are "really excited" about being a part of the HOBY experience.

Pulley said she looked forward to meeting new people and giving back to the community when she returns. She currently performs community service work through her

dance studio.

Baskerville has been involved in community service work locally as a mentor for the robotics team and the STEM Club at Warren County Middle School and as a mentor for the NASA Science, Engineering, Mathematics and Aerospace Academy based at Warren County High School. Also, he helps keep local roadways clean since his mother adopted a highway here.

He said he also looked forward to meeting new people and sharing experiences with peers who have similar character traits.

Characteristics sought after for HOBY candidates include critical thinking, written and oral communication skills; being sensitive to others; and an interest in community service.

Last summer, the GF-WC-Warrenton Woman's Club sponsored for the first time local students who attended HOBY in June. They were Juan Luna from WNTHS, Danaja Lee from Warren Early College High School and K.W. Reid, a student at Warren County High School.

"I'm a true believer that you should teach young people to be true leaders, and give them the confidence and the background to do that," said Jana Miller, president of the Warrenton Woman's Club.

Luna said through attending HOBY, he gained



JENNIFER HARRIS/The Warren Record
Local students who participated in a HOBY State Leadership Seminar, or will be attending this summer, are pictured with Jana Miller, president of the GF-WC-Warrenton Woman's Club, from the left, Danaja Lee, Miller, Ryan Baskerville, Juan Luna and Alaina Pulley. The club sponsored participation of Lee, Luna and K.W. Reid, not pictured, last year.

leadership skills and enjoyed the community service projects of making blankets for dogs and planting trees.

Locally, he has helped edit videos for students to learn mathematics when they didn't have a classroom teacher.

Lee said her favorite part of HOBY was getting to know other people, and through social media she

still keeps in touch with people that she met. She also enjoyed the community service aspect.

She recently helped her school with its Christmas parade float, and she has been a volunteer at the Animal Ark shelter.

"(HOBY) was an open-minded place where they asked us questions about ourselves and you're around people like you,"

Lee said. "You learn different leadership skills, and the activities were really fun. I learned a lot."

Miller, who said she hopes her club can sponsor other students in the future, stressed the importance of networking.

"They (the students) can make lifelong contacts, connections that are critical for so many of these students going out of their

box," she said. "It's a lifetime experience that will be there forever and gives them educational opportunities they otherwise wouldn't have. Maybe they will come back to the community and bring new things to the county and their own ideas."

For more information on HOBY, visit hoby.org.