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Summer 2017



## **Sharing Some Big Successes!**

#### Tristain Prosper named first National Ripken Scholar by Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation



The Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation recently presented Neenah-native and Grand Chute Police Department Community Service Officer Tristain Prosper with the inaugural National Ripken Foundation Scholar Award at its 13th annual *Aspire Gala* on February 24 in Baltimore, Maryland. A former participant in the Ripken Foundation's multifaceted youth mentoring program *Badges for Baseball*, Prosper will use the \$50,000 scholarship award to pursue a college degree in law enforcement.

"When we implemented the *Badges for Baseball* program, it was our goal to inspire underserved youth like Tristain to make a difference in their community and strive toward being the best version of themselves," said Steve Salem, president of the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation. "We are thrilled to present the inaugural Na-

tional Ripken Foundation Scholar Award to Tristain. His compassion and zeal toward giving back epitomizes the mission of the Ripken Foundation, and we hope this award provides him with the financial tools to pursue his dreams and look forward to watching his continued growth and success for years to come."

Since participating in the *Badges for Baseball* program as an eighth grader at Youth Go, Prosper progressed through the youth mentoring program as a participant in 2012 to an assistant coach in 2015. Tristain is a Community Service Officer for the Grand Chute Police Department and a full-time college student at the University of Wisconsin – Fox Valley. All of us at Youth Go are so proud of Tristain and can't wait to watch as he accomplishes his dreams.

#### Bailee Kasbaum awarded a scholarship to FVTC through the FVTC Foundation's Promise Program

Bailee will graduate in May from Neenah High School with plans to attend Fox Valley Technical College in the fall. She will be working toward her degree in Culinary Arts with hopes to one day go to a

pastry school so that she can own her own bakery or café.

We are so excited for Bailee! The FVTC Promise is a scholarship program designed to bring a college education within the reach of those who could not otherwise afford it. Through an application process, students are selected to be Promise Scholars. This program will allow Bailee to earn an associate degree or technical diploma at FVTC if she maintains solid grades, has good attendance, doesn't repeat classes, graduates on time, and provides service to their community. The FVTC Foundation's website says "Through the generosity of donors to the FVTC Foundation, Inc., the FVTC Promise will pay tuition, fees, textbook costs, and required material and supplies, after federal and state grants and scholarships have been applied. This is available to eligible students for up to six consecutive semesters (minimum 12 credits, up to 15 credits each semester; does not include summer semester). Congrats Bailee!



### 2017 Summer Schedule

**Regular Center Hours:** 

Middle School Programming (youth who have completed 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grades)

Monday-Wednesday from 3-5:30pm and Fridays from 3-8

**High School Programming** (youth have completed 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades)

Monday-Thursday from 6-10pm and Fridays from 3-8

## **Clubs and Programs**

**SEED** is a career exploration program for High School students and will meet on most **Monday** afternoons. Transportation will be provided and sessions will be held at Youth Go and in the community. A permission slip and schedule of events will be posted at Youth Go by the end of May. Contact Alice or Danielle with questions.

**Big Brother** – Timothy will be bringing Big Brother back for year 7. Competitors must be able to attend High School Programming on **Mondays** to participate. Competitiveness, strategy, and alliances are key skills to remaining in the game.

**Fit Club** is our summer fitness program to explore ways to stay active in our community. This program will take place on **Tuesdays from 4-5:30** with Megan and is open to all youth.

**SAFE Group** – Youth Go's LGBTQ support group will meet at **8pm on Tuesdays** during the summer. Youth who are at least 14 and have completed 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to attend.

**Community Service Club** – CSC will move to **Wednesdays** during the summer. Please see Angie with any questions or to sign up!

**Dance Club** will be offered this summer on Fridays from 6:30-7:30 with James. Do you like to dance? Want to learn some new moves? Come and give it a try!

#### Welcome Danielle



Hi there! I'm Danielle, the new Education Coordinator here at Youth Go. Being that I personally know how much a safe, fun, and positive environment can improve a youth's life, I am super excited to be a part of this organization and everything Youth Go stands for. I hope to provide a safe place for youth to express themselves by offering an open-minded and unbiased creative outlet and an ear for them to impart anything they feel like sharing. I am excited to get to know all of the youth through their individualities and hopefully offer a positive impact that will last all of their lives.

When I'm not at work, you can find me at my in-home studio here in Neenah. I am an artist, through and through, and being able to express myself creatively has greatly changed the fabric of my being. I work with all sorts of mediums including encaustic,

fibers/textiles, print, photography, and use numerous drawing utensils. When I'm not in my studio, I am often somewhere in nature. I love the outdoors and I enjoy hiking immensely. It provides very therapeutic subject matter for me to explore in a hands on way and I often end up incorporating it into my art.

I am really eager to begin teaching the youth many different areas of art they could pursue in expressing themselves, too. They have limitless subject matter right before their eyes. I want to help them see it, grasp it, change it, and make it their own. In this way, they become the makers of their own destiny and it offers support in handling any situations that arise later in life.

# **Badges for Baseball**

We are ready for our 8th summer of Badges for Baseball. This free program is funded by the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation and is for students in 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade. Badges for Baseball gives youth the chance to play baseball in a non-competitive environment, learn valuable lessons, and get to interact with Police Officers from the Fox Valley area! Our Menasha team will practice on Tuesdays at Jefferson Park from 1-2:30pm and our Neenah team will practice on Wednesdays at Memorial Park from 1-2:30pm. Scrimmages will start June 23<sup>rd</sup> and will take place at Roosevelt Elementary School. Visit www.youthgo.org for registration forms and more information.





## **Field Trips**

June 8: Barlow Planetarium and Mini Golf

June 15: Little Amerricka

June 22: Milwaukee Public Museum

June 29: Mt. Olympus July 6: No Field Trip

July 13: Cave of the Mounds

July 20: Madison Zoo and Goodman Pool

July 27: Bay Beach

August 1-3: Leadership Camping Trip (by invite only)

August 10: UW-Oshkosh tour August 17: Great America

### **Dates to Remember**

Monday, May  $29^{th}$  – Memorial Day - Center Closed Thursday, June  $1^{st}$  and Friday, June  $2^{nd}$  – Center Closed

Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup> – Midwest Sunsplash Festival Downtown Menasha Wednesday, June 28<sup>th</sup> – Backlot BBQ Family Night 6-8:30 Monday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> and Tuesday, July 4<sup>th</sup> – Center Closed Tuesday, August 1<sup>st</sup> – Thursday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> – Center Closed Monday, August 14<sup>th</sup> – Riverside Picnic Family Night 6-8:30

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Celebrating the value of all youth

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Please mark your calendar to join us <u>Downtown Menasha on Saturday</u>, <u>June 17<sup>th</sup> for the Midwest Sunsplash Festival</u>. Youth Go was invited to be the benefiting organization for this day full of culture, art, and music. Join us at 10am for a Diversity Walk and then the music starts at 10:30am and will continue until 10:30pm. There will be lots to check out: the stores downtown will be having sidewalk sales, there will be music ranging from Zydeco to Folk and Rockabilly to Reggae, and there will be a wide variety of food vendors. Many thanks to our title sponsors: Bergstrom Automotive, Community First Credit Union, Faith Technologies, and Festival Foods. Check out www.midwestsunsplash.com for more information.

#### 2017 Awards

On March 16<sup>th</sup> we gathered the Youth Go Family together at the Bridgewood in Neenah for our Annual Meeting, a wonderful meal, a chance to celebrate 2016 and an opportunity to recognize our youth for being awesome! Over 160 people joined us for a night full of kind words, laughter, and reflection. Below are some photos from the evening as well as a list of award winners!

**Adult Awards** 

Friend of Youth Go: Catalyst Marketing

James McDonald Service Award: Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation

Kelly Hicks Spirit Award: Gib Mueller

**Youth Awards** 

Attendance: Anna Horn and Kaeden Washington
Rookie of the Year: Ethan Hoffman and Tristan Bachand

Respect: Anthony Caraballo, Darynn Mueller, Kennedy Foss, and Brandon

Hermsen

**Friendship**: Kianna Fineran and Dayton Potts

Creativity: Alexis Carriveau, Aydin Castrop, Maddy Flores, Ethen Emenecker,

and Kaeden Washington

Happy Clown: Vega Brawley, Sam Hinrichs, and Kya Meunier

Multi-Dimensional: Kayla Carriveau, Gabe Fineran, Aris Greenwood, and Devyn

Arwood

Team Player: Caleb Bauman, Serena Timmer, and Haleigh Calaway Enthusiastic Involvement: Quentin Reichard and Jocelyn Perez Energy: Maddie Keeley, Katie Stevenson, and Dylan Timmer Resourcefulness: Andre Daniels and Brandon Oakley-Janness Dedication: River Brawley, Kendyl Horn, and Ricky Zielinski

Individuality: Jason Fisher, JoJo Mentzel, Bailee Kasbaum, and Maggie Reagen

Ripken Spirit: Joette Fulcer and Jordan Rusch

Helping Hands: Malcolm Anderson and Ethan Matthew

Youth Go MVP: Elliot Rusch and Gavin Rusch

**Optimism**: Joshua Arneson, Evan Greis, Jenny Laux, and Austin Raymaker **Student Achievement**: Jared Fellbaum, Marista Fraley, and Lizzie Blahnik

Positive Growth: Paige Lyons and Chance Parsons

Strong Spirit: Josie Fisher, Raeann Hefter, Erika Mills, Dayton DeWall, Juan Ortega, and Carly Pezewski

Middle School Leadership: Dayton Potts Ryan Burow Award: Kendyl Horn Willie Sabel Award: Lizzie Blahnik Mike McKinnon Award: Ethen Emenecker Dick Johnson Award: Kennedy Foss

Middle School Youth of the Year: Andre Daniels

Youth of the Year: Bailee Kasbaum

**Youth Go Continuing Education Scholarships:** Dayton DeWall, Bailee Kasbaum, Kye Kuhn, Jocelyn Perez, Austin Raymaker, and Destiny Smith

Josue Ortega Memorial Scholarship Award: Jocelyn Perez

Neenah Police Benevolent Second Year Scholarship: Tim Rosenbaum







# **Spring Break Service Trip to Kentucky**

This year's Kentucky Trip was one for the record books. For our 11<sup>th</sup> year 16 youth and six adults travelled down to Martin, Kentucky to take part in Christian Appalachian Project's Youthfest. Our group was divided into three teams and all together we built three wheelchair ramps, three decks, installed seven windows and replaced a few doors. We worked hard to make the homes of three families warmer, safer, and dryer. Thank you to all of the people who donated to help make this trip possible including the Rotary Club of Neenah and



#### **The Human Race 2017**

On Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, Youth Go staff and youth joined other local non-profits to take part in the Human Race, a non-competitive 5K run/walk organized by the Volunteer Center. Over the last couple months, Youth Go has raised over \$2600 in pledges for the event to help cover the cost of our daily transportation from the Middle Schools to Youth Go and our nightly Rides Home Program for youth who live in the cities of Neenah and Menasha. Thank you to everyone who donated. Your support truly makes a difference in the lives of the youth that we serve!



We are excited to report that we won the Spirit Award this year because "Youth Go is out of this world!"