

2019 STAR Awards and Horvath Science Award

By Michael Ortoski

BANGOR - The Star Awards are given annually to a Bangor Area District student who has exhibited either classroom achievement and/or contributions to the school district or society that go above and beyond the classroom. Students are nominated for this award by their teachers, administrators, or other interested parties, and are chosen by a committee of alumni for this honor.

STAR Award Recipients 2019

Hannah Bledsoe: Hannah, a senior, is at the top of her class academically and balances that with high achievement in the arts. She has participated in PMEA District Chorus for 3 years, ranking first in 2019. She has participated in PMEA Region V Chorus for 3 years and ranked first in 2018. She has also participated in the PMEA All-State Chorus and the NAFME All-Eastern Chorus. Other school activities include tennis, the German National Honor Society and the National Honor Society. She has plans to major in biology and pursue a pre-med track in college. In addition, she will continue to explore her interest in music by participating in college music programs as well.



Will Menhennitt: Will, a senior, is a Boy Scout in Troop 38 of Bangor. He has earned his Eagle Scout Badge by completing a project to create a new pavilion for the Little League Field at Bangor Park. As a patrol leader in his troop he has learned communication skills. In 2017, he attended the Boy Scout National Jamboree where he had the opportunity to meet people from around the world. Will has held many jobs since the age of 14 when he worked as a masonry laborer, and then later as an electrician's helper, and currently as a substitute custodian for the Bangor School District. He intends to major in Criminal Justice in college and would like to become a State Trooper. He feels this may also give him a chance to use the many survival skills he has learned as a scout.

Tyler Carlson: Tyler is in the 5th grade at DeFranco Elementary School. Last year he had an anaphylactic reaction that sent him to St. Luke's Hospital. After receiving many gifts while he was there, he decided he wanted to do the same for other kids who were hospitalized. Knowing that a hospital stay is not fun, he asked his mother to help him post a video on Facebook asking for small toys and other items for other young patients. These items were dropped off at his mother's business, Grace on Broadway, in Bangor. The video was viewed 5000 times and he ended up visiting three local hospitals and distributing over 100 bags of toys. He decided to make this an ongoing project and has posted another video this year to continue his project.

The Horvath Science Award, introduced in 2011, is given annually in honor of Dr. Bert Horvath and his wife, Betty Gregor Horvath, both Bangor graduates who have distinguished themselves in the field of science research. This award recognizes an outstanding science student in the hopes of inspiring the recipient to continue to pursue a career in that field.

Horvath Science Award Recipient 2018

Andrew Bunn: Andrew takes Advanced Placement and Honors level courses and is currently studying AP Physics and Honors Human Anatomy and Physiology. He is earning top grades in both. His teachers say that he strives to understand both the theoretical and mathematical aspects of science as well as the real-world applications of class topics. His lab skills are superior, as is his ability to analyze data and draw logical conclusions. Andrew has a special interest in Aerospace Sciences and plans to pursue this interest in college.

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Wolf Administration Expands Routes for Clean-Fuel Drivers

By Deb Klenotic

HARRISBURG – Expanding routes for those who drive clean-fuel vehicles in Pennsylvania, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and Department of Transportation (PennDOT) today announced grants for electric vehicle (EV) charging stations and the designation of 500 more miles of highway as “Alternative Fuel Corridors,” with compressed natural gas (CNG) or EV charging stations readily accessible.

“Pennsylvanians are increasingly interested in protecting the environment and saving money by driving clean-fuel vehicles such as electric or compressed natural gas powered cars, buses, and trucks,” said DEP Secretary Patrick McDonnell. “DEP is committed to supporting these consumer choices and helping the state reach its greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals through sustainable transportation initiatives.”

Today, DEP announced the approval of two grants totaling \$660,000 to Giant Eagle, Inc., to install eight EV fast-charging stations for public use at four GetGo convenience stores in Allegheny, Butler, and Washington Counties in western Pennsylvania. When completed, the chargers are expected to eliminate 242 metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions annually.

The stations will continue increasing options for fast charging along Interstate 79, designated last year as an Alternative Fuel Corridor. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) permits states to designate highways as Alternative Fuel Corridors if they meet federal criteria for the availability of EV charging, CNG, propane, liquid natural gas, or hydrogen fuel stations.

PennDOT and DEP partnered to secure designations in April for about 560 more miles in eastern and central Pennsylvania. These highways have EV charging stations every 50 miles and CNG fueling stations every 150 miles. Stations are 5 miles or closer to the road.

“Pennsylvania is now a leading producer of natural gas, and the Alternative Fuel Corridor initiative aims to take advantage of this new, cleaner burning fuel source,” said PennDOT Secretary Leslie S. Richards. “PennDOT is excited to support this program that will bring benefits for the state, transit agencies, and the public for years to come.”

The following highways are newly designated as corridors for EV charging:

Interstate 83 from New Cumberland to the Maryland border

US Route 30/Interstate 676 from Gettysburg to the New Jersey border

Interstate 70 from the Ohio border to the intersection with the Turnpike (New Stanton exit)

The following highways are newly designated as corridors for CNG:

Interstate 81 from Carlisle to the New York border

Interstate 78 from intersection with I-81 to Allentown

US Route 30/Interstate 676 from York to the New Jersey border

Interstate 70 from the Ohio border to the intersection with the Turnpike (New Stanton exit) and from the Turnpike Breezewood exit to the Maryland border

These latest routes, combined with those designated in 2016 and 2017, give Pennsylvania a total of 14 Alternative Fuel Corridors, covering 1,763 miles. See FHWA interactive maps showing routes for each type of fuel.

Corridor designation allows roads to have additional signage indicating that specific types of alternative fuel stations are available. PennDOT is developing a signage package. The agencies will pursue opportunities for further corridor designations as alternative fuel stations increase.

Businesses and organizations are encouraged to learn more about DEP grant programs that support installation of EV charging, CNG, or other alternative fuel stations for fleet or public use. Find information at Alternative Fuels Incentive Grants and Driving PA Forward.

Supporting National Guard and Their Families

By Rep. Joe Emrick

NAZARETH -

Recognizing the sacrifices made by the families of PA National Guard Members, the House approved legislation to provide them with education benefits.

House Bill 1324 would extend our current Pennsylvania National Guard Military Education Program by including a Guard member's spouse or child in this benefit program.

The benefit would pay for 10 semesters/quarters, or five years equivalent, at the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education tuition rate.

The Guard member could earn these educational benefits for his or her spouse and/or children by committing to a second obligation of six years with the Pennsylvania National Guard. This would help retain current National Guard members and attract transitioning military service members to Pennsylvania while also supporting Guard families.

The bill now moves to the Senate for its consideration.

SUPPORTING
NATIONAL
GUARD
FAMILIES