2002 AYC AWARD OF EXCELLENCE PROGRAM

Two Youth City Councils submitted YCC Award of Excellence applications for the 2002 Awards of Excellence. Brigham City YCC earned the 1st Place Award of Excellence and Woods Cross YCC garnered the 2nd Place Award of Excellence.

2002 1ST PLACE AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
Brigham City Youth City Council

Some of the highlights from the Brigham City YCC were:

< Actively sought to have members regularly attend City Council by having a majority of their council members attend at least one Brigham City Council meeting each month.
< Joint projects with the Brigham City’s Youth Volunteer Council, the local high school and middle school to promote character development in youth
< Sponsored a freedom essay contest for students in schools that gave them an opportunity to learn about government and express their views and opinion about how to serve our country.
< Promoted community improvement through cleaning up local parks and ponds.
< Helped young children learn to read.
< Held regular organized meetings with agendas and had a recorder take minutes at each meeting.
< Planned activities and service projects in advance in order to have all the details worked out.
< Work with the City Council to create a lasting relationship with the city and to promote learning and growth in the individual members of the Youth Council.

2002 2ND PLACE AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
Woods Cross Youth City Council

Woods Cross Youth City Council accomplishments included:

< Holding monthly meetings
< Having at least one activity or service project each month
< The youth volunteered at the annual Easter “Egg”stravaganza, Trick or Treat for canned food for the Food Pantry, City’s Memorial Day Celebration, and Woods Cross Elementary School Carnival.
< Helped the Woods Cross Community of Promise with the After School Program, Welcome Baby Program, and the Summer Literacy Program.
< Designed and decorated a float for the West Bountiful and Centerville 4th of July parades, and the Handcart Days Parade. Added thousands of Christmas lights to the float and entered the Clipper Christmas Light Parade.
< Made family fun kits for each of the Angel Tree sub-for-Santa families.
< Decorated Christmas cards and hand delivered the cards and goodie sacks to the senior citizens in Woods Cross.

2003 AWARD OF EXCELLENCE PROGRAM

Five youth councils submitted YCC Award of Excellence applications for the 2003 Awards of Excellence. These councils were Brigham, Highland, North Ogden, Orangeville, and Springville.

2003 1ST PLACE AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Springville Youth City Council

The Springville Youth City Council, under the leadership of youth Mayors Erin Snelson and Christy Finlayson, City Council Member Jay Knight, and Advisors Keri Gordon, Dell Gordon and Jamilah McMurdie embody the Association of Youth Councils’ mission to provide opportunity for youth to develop mature citizenship, leadership, a sense of personal achievement, and an understanding of government.

They were heavily involved in the city’s annual community celebration known as Art City Days. Members assisted with activities such as the Teddy Bear Picnic, Fun-A-Rama, Children’s Art Festival, cleanup after the parade and provided support at the nighttime concert and fireworks. They also delivered posters and served a picnic lunch and dinner for dancers at the regional World Folk Fest.

Each month the YCC plans an activity with participants of the Springville City Outreach to Students (SCORS) program. They have provided hours of service in fundraising, tutoring and one-on-one mentoring for SCORS’ 11 to 15 year old at-risk students. An ambitious “End of Summer BLAST” for teens, was planned and carried out that raised $400 for SCORS and 400 pounds of food for the Utah Food Coalition.

The Springville YCC participated in an IHC Mock Disaster and assisted with traffic control while children trick-or-treated along main street. During the city elections, they held two “Meet the Candidates” nights.

The Springville YCC initiated an organization with all other youth councils in the county which is known as the Utah County YCC. This group organized a county food drive and activities to foster better relations between the cities and the youth group.
The Springville YCC is well organized using agendas and minutes for their meetings. They plan activities in 6 month increments and have logged over 2000 hours of service to their community.

Springville City Mayor Fritz Boyer says they are “an impressive group of young people who are busy at making an impact in their community. They are tremendous examples of responsible citizens and have truly made a difference with their involvement.”

**2003 2**ND **PLACE AWARD OF EXCELLENCE**

**Orangeville Youth City Council**

The Orangeville Youth City Council made much progress in the year 2003 after not having a Youth City Council for a couple of years. Through the Leadership efforts of Chandler Tanner, Youth Mayor, and Youth Council Members Alyssa Cox, Casey Murray, Rachel Cox, and Jessica Tuttle the Council got involved with activities to help their community. Other members of the Youth City Council are Tony Heaton, Luis Duke, Sonny Robertson, Kira Humphrey, and Tyler Tuttle. Dannette Waite is the YCC advisor.

The Orangeville YCC sponsored a “RECYCLE RACE” at their elementary school that resulted in a clean city and three dump trucks full of aluminum cans. They also held an Easter Egg Hunt, dividing the hunt so activities and prizes were age appropriate. They worked hard tutoring classes, had an auction where YCC members auctioned themselves to go do service, and had a game night for Senior Citizens.

The YCC was involved in the Emery County Fair, volunteering to work the Kids Fair which consisted of two days working in shifts taking tickets and running the games kids were playing. They also served and cleaned up at the LAMB FRY which lasts 10 days, coinciding with the Castle Valley Pageant. To promote community unity they sponsored a Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony that included an ornament contest and coloring contest. The YCC planned a dinner for past and present City Council members who shared why they serve, and what concerns they have for the city. This gave the youth and adults a relaxed time to get to know each other.

The YCC attends City Council meeting every month to update them on their plans and interests, and to see if the Council has any tasks they want them to complete.

The older YCC members went to the Jr. High and the High School to inform students of what YCC is about, what it could do for those who get involved, and handed out applications. The Orangeville YCC has guidelines that the youth sign and follow in order to remain a member.

Orangeville Mayor Thayne Cox appreciates the assistance the YCC gives to the major programs Orangeville City sponsors each yea. The Mayor and City Council are proud of the Orangeville Youth City Council.
2003 3rd PLACE AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Highland Youth City Council

The Highland Youth City Council, led by Youth Mayor, Megan Lux and governed by Youth Council Members Jessica, Melissa, Aspen, Jason, Lauren, and Rebecca is an exceptional youth City Council. Other members are Phillip, Elise, Jace, David, Chelsea, Jeff, and Rebecca. Through their leadership, and with assistance from Advisors Allen and Brenda Olsen and Steve and Janet King, the Highland Youth City Council is getting better and better each year. There is more interest in the program, more excitement, ideas, and service to the community.

As part of the application process for the Highland Youth City Council, applicants must attend a City Council meeting, participate in a service project and have a personal interview.

They pattern their Council using guidelines from the City Council and meet twice a month. The Mayor is in charge of the agenda with motions, seconds, discussions and a vote taken on agenda items. Council members also serve as members of the Highland Youth Court.

Members’ continually improve the council by attending Youth Council Day at the Legislature, Leadership Conferences, Youth Court training classes, and the newly formed Utah County Youth Council.

The Youth Council provides monthly service projects to the community including an annual legacy project paid for from worthwhile fund raising efforts. They constructed and maintain a City Marquee to keep citizens informed of up and coming city business and events; purchased and placed three flagpoles and flags in the city cemetery; have annual senior dinners, and take charge of the Santa Comes to the City Building festivities. They also had a car wash with proceeds going to the fire department to purchase red paint for fire hydrants and curbs; tied eight quilts given to a handicapped organization; served dinner to the election judges, and held an Easter egg hunt.

Jess Adamson, Mayor of Highland City notes that, “The Youth Council is seated with qualified and enthusiastic youth...and are committed in their endeavors on behalf of Highland City.”

Brigham City Youth City Council

Throughout the 2003 calendar year, the Brigham City Youth City Council has worked to make a positive contribution to our community, both collectively and individually. We have worked with the Brigham City Council and the local planning and zoning
committee in order to prepare for the future of Brigham City. Each council member has also learned many things that will prepare them for future service in the community. We accomplished many service projects that have helped to build and enhance Brigham City and to enrich the lives of the people living here. Service to others was also a benefit to our own lives. As we participated in the 30 Hour Famine with the local Boys and Girls club and Brigham City’s Youth Volunteer Council, we were able to experience part of the hunger that goes on every day in third world countries while raising money to benefit them. We were also able to help with a Special Olympics Lawn Bowling activity, which increased our gratitude for our own lives and abilities. Sometimes the simplest service projects, such as volunteering at the local Fine Arts Center or singing Christmas carols to the residents of a nearby rest home, helped us know that we truly can make a difference in the lives of others. We were also able to learn many things about the different possibilities and options in city employment, such as the education and training needed and also the duties of that particular job. Many of the members of our council have expressed a desire to serve in local government positions because of the knowledge they have gained by listening to local government officials. As we have learned and served in our community, we have gained a greater appreciation for it while enriching the lives of the citizens who live here.

Brigham City’s Youth City Council has worked closely with the Youth Volunteer Council as well as many other local organizations, businesses, and schools. We sponsored an essay contest for the high school students which gave them an opportunity to learn more about American History while expressing their views on how to best serve our country. We also had the opportunity of working with many community organizations, from cleaning shelves at the library to helping sort food at the local food pantry. We were also able to work closely with the city as we helped with the local “Peach Days” and “Boo Fest” celebrations. As we worked with these other organizations, we not only increased our character and leadership skills but were able to help others increase theirs.

For many years, our council has tried to attend City Council meetings and work closely with City Council members, an immense effort which requires quite a bit of commitment from Youth City Council members. This year we tried to follow the great example of last year’s Youth City Council and have a majority of our members to at least one City Council meeting a month. It was quite difficult considering that we have several extremely busy teenagers who are not all available to get to City Council on the same night. However, when Youth Council members were not able to attend, they would as much as possible find someone to go in their place. Although it was difficult, the effort was worth it. We have learned so much and have been better able to work together as a council. It has also helped us as we strive to work together in planning activities and service projects in conjunction with other clubs and organizations while trying involving as many YCC members as possible. We have also learned through these and other high but attainable goals that anything worth something in this life requires dedication and commitment.

As a council we have learned and grown much in this past year. We hold regular,
efficient meetings with agendas and a recorder who takes minutes at every meeting. We also try to encourage all members to grow in leadership experience and capabilities by planning service projects and activities well in advance so that as many people as possible can participate. We attend YCC training and leadership conferences and try to implement the things we learned into the planning of our service projects and government activities. We carefully select a new council based on an application and interview process. As a council we look forward to the future while working in the present to better ourselves, the other council members, and the whole community.

North Ogden Youth City Council

YCC Award of Excellence Activities
North Ogden City Youth Council, North Ogden, Utah:

1. Holding meetings twice a month with a majority of Youth Council in attendance.
2. Took attendance at each meeting with a recorder that took minutes as well as making agendas.
3. End of School Dance where we collected canned food to donate to a local shelter.
4. Helped the North Ogden Civic League distribute cookies at the North Ogden City Christmas Tree Lighting.
5. Decorate a float for the North Ogden Cherry Days parade which won an award.
6. Held a fundraiser breakfast for the local skate park.
7. Donated most of the various fundraiser money received from a North Ogden Cherry Days booth to our local Senior Citizens Center and Skate Park.
8. Had a hand in getting a skate park built in our community.
9. Had meetings with the City Council for finance, activity, and fundraising reasons.

North Ogden City Youth Council, North Ogden, Utah State University

1. The positive contributions that the North Ogden City Youth Council has made on the City of Ogden are:
   - Having many safe and fun activities for youth to participate in.
   - Donated to the local Skate Park and Senior Citizen Center.
   - Held a fundraiser breakfast for the local skate park.
   - Given each member of the council a good understanding of how our city works.
   - Each member has set a good example by being responsible and consistently coming to meetings.
2. Our Youth Council has given many individuals as well as many groups a chance to participate in their community. When we held an activity for youth we asked that they bring a canned good to donate to a shelter in the area. We collaborated with the Kiwanis club to put on breakfast to help raise funds for our community’s skate park.
3. A difficult task that our Youth Council sometimes faces is getting a consistent amount of people to come to the meetings. One way that we plan on overcoming this difficulty is by setting a goal to get at least 75% attendance in at least one of our monthly meetings. We have also set up a calling three in the council to make
sure all members get called and reminded.

4. I think that since the beginning of the Youth Ogden Youth City Council, the amount of members in attendance has grown a lot. Our Youth Council is now a very stable one, and for the most part very self-sufficient and dependable. The Youth Council as a whole has set a very good example in our community; all of the members are outstanding students as well as teenagers. We make our opinion heard and I think that we set good examples for the youth of our fair city by showing that if you have enough determination your voice can be heard. As well as setting good examples to peers we also help the elderly in our city by donating money to the Senior Citizen Center.

2004 AWARD OF EXCELLENCE PROGRAM

There were six Youth Councils that submitted Award of Excellence applications for the 2004 Awards of Excellence. These councils were Highland City YCC, Murray City Youth Government, Murray Youth Chamber of Commerce, Orangeville YCC, Smithfield YCC, and Springville YCC.

2004 1ST PLACE AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Springville Youth City Council

The Springville Youth City Council has accomplished an incredible amount of service over the last year. They are heavily involved in the Springville City Outreach to Students (SCORS) program which is a safe place for junior high and middle school children to go after school. YCC members take turns forming committees to plan monthly activities that help these kids develop social and cooperation skills.

They participated in “Packs to School.” Neighboring Youth Councils joined them in efforts to collect outfits, shoes, hygiene products and school supplies that go inside backpacks given to school children.

The YCC consistently helps Springville City with the annual Art City Days Celebration, including the youth Fun-A-Rama, Teddy Bear Picnic, fireman’s breakfast, and parade. They help with the Folk Fest and the Chamber of Commerce’s Safe Halloween night. The Council provided coloring books and Halloween treat bags to the Utah Valley Regional Medical Center. The Council collected coins from the University Mall fountains, cleaned them, and donated the proceeds to Intermountain Health Care.

The Springville YCC met challenges during the past year. Due to weather complications the city canceled an outdoor concert that was part of Art City Days. The YCC had made commitments to the performing artists so they located a building for the concert. They spread the word that the concert was not canceled. Despite the last minute changes, they were able to meet their financial commitments to the performing artists and broke even on the concert.

The Springville YCC is very organized. They have monthly meetings with the entire council and additional meetings with the Executive Council. They maintain
descriptions of each Council position - Mayor, Recorder, Historian, Parliamentarian, and Council member and they elect an Executive Council. They use agendas; maintain minutes; and calendar events. The Council tracks the hours of service given to the community and they hold an annual City Council Dinner where the youth show their accomplishments to the Mayor and other City Council Members.

Springville Mayor E. Fritz Boyer states,” I’m always impressed with the number of worthwhile projects our Youth City Council undertakes.”

2004 2ND PLACE AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Murray City Youth Government

Murray City Youth Government (MCYG) is involved in many activities which contribute to the community. They participate in Murray’s Fund Days Celebration by entering the parade and having a face painting booth for children, hold an opening social for students at Murray High School to join the Murray City Youth Government. During the Halloween week they provide a “Trunk-Or-Treat” for the preschool and walk in children at the Murray Boys and Girls Club. They also assist with the “Haunted Trail”, a Murray Parks and Recreation event that drew 1000 people from the community. They hold an annual Easter Egg hunt for children.

In November the MCYG are paired up with their counterparts in Murray City Government for a “Shadow Day.” They follow the Mayor and City Council members and learn how their municipal government functions and what their City officials do in a typical day.

For the past 13 years, Murray City Youth Government has put together a program featuring Mr. B. Murphy, a renowned local artist, as guest conductor of the Murray High School A’ Cappella Choir, to celebrate Martin Luther King Day and human rights.

They participate in the Day at the State Legislature and the Youth Leadership Institute provided by the Association of Youth Councils. MCYG has also embraced the members of the Murray Youth Chamber of Commerce in their meetings and activities.

The MCYG found that their seniors are extremely busy with school and are involved in a multitude of school related activities. To make up for this, the MCYG has actively sought sophomores and juniors to join their group, inviting them to serve in leadership capacities.

The MCYG have met their objectives to help youth acquire a greater knowledge of the workings of a republic form of municipal government; have planned in cooperation with the mayor, city council and civic clubs youth activities which have fostered community pride among the youth; and have provided information on youth interests to the mayor and city council.

Mayor Daniel C. Snarr notes the Murray City Youth Government members are “fine examples to youth and adults alike for their outstanding contributions to Murray City.”
2004 3rd Place Award of Excellence

Murray Youth Chamber of Commerce

The Murray Youth Chamber of Commerce has organized and participated in many service projects based on their assessments of the needs within their community. They organized, facilitated, or participated in twenty-nine different volunteer community and business projects. These have included working with Boys and Girls Clubs, Make-A-Wish Foundation, running a children’s fair for the Juvenile Diabetes Association, helping the Murray Chamber of Commerce on a weekly basis, planting trees along Jordan River Parkway, and facilitating the Murray Arts Advisory Program in Fashion Place Mall.


The members have helped out with volunteer internships with the Economic Development Dept., the police department, the school district, and area Chambers of Commerce.

Being a relatively new youth group they have overcome challenges in establishing credibility with the school district, the chamber, and the community; gaining both financial and emotional support. They developed a mission statement, by-laws, founding principles, requirements, and objectives. They’ve learned how being actively involved in their community has many advantages, benefits, and opportunities. Many of the members have been hired after spending hours volunteering and getting involved with local businesses.

Through their dependability to follow through with projects their credibility has grown tremendously to a point where they receive phone calls on a weekly basis asking for their services. Many business owners have come forth to offer assistance in support of the Murray Youth Chamber of Commerce. They started with six students, and now currently sit with twenty-six members. They received a stipend for $1000.00 dollars from Sam’s Club in order to support their goals and endeavors.

Clay L. Neves, Former Executive Director, Murray Area Chamber of Commerce said, “They (Murray Youth Chamber of Commerce) repeatedly rose to the occasion with community service projects, business internships, leadership training, and government involvement. They have proven to be action oriented and have exceeded their own goals.”

Highland Youth City Council

Again this year, the advisors with Highland’s Youth Council have had the honor and pleasure of working with fifteen of the best high school age youth in the state of Utah. Our council this year is made up of one sophomore, seven juniors and seven
seniors. We have four returning council members and the privilege of having a youth
mayor serving her fourth year on the council.

There are many positive contributions that our council has done during the 2004
council year. We do a monthly service project headed by one or two of our council
members. We place flags in the city park on appropriate holidays, maintain flags placed
in the city cemetery, and manually change the message on the city marquee twice a
month. These were legacy projects from past youth councils. The following is an outline
of our service projects:

1. January – Day at the Legislature sponsored by League of Cities and Towns
2. February – Valentine Gift Baskets to elected city officials and all city employees
3. March – Shadow of Light Backpacks for less fortunate school ages students in
Utah County. Highland Youth Council organized this project along with Payson,
Alpine, and Springville’s Youth Council contributing greatly with backpacks and
supplies making this a very successful service project.
4. April – Easter Egg Hunt involving Highland’s Art Council. The Art Council had
cookies to decorate and a coloring contest for all the youth attending the Easter
Egg Hunt.
5. May – Dedication of the 2004 Youth Council Legacy project and BBQ for city
staff and youth council members. This years Legacy project was designing and
having a new concrete and rock monument for a city park. This new monument
will be used in the future to welcome people into Highland and continue to be
used in all new city parks.
6. June and July – Training courses and preparation for the Highland Fling in
August.
7. August – Highland Fling Dance. This is our big fundraiser for the year. We also
set up, operate, purchase and hand out prizes for the Children’s Games, help with
the candy toss and participate in the parade.
8. September – Appreciation BBQ for city police, fire department and other public
safety employees.
9. October – We purchased and were given donations to put together a care package
to send to the military men and women from Highland that are deployed overseas.
10. November – We made and served dinner to the volunteers that helped at all poling
places in Highland. We also do a yearly dinner for all the senior citizens to let
them know we are thankful for them and all their contributions to our fine city.
11. December – Santa Comes to the City. We hand out toys, candy and decorate
cookies while Santa shares his Christmas spirit. We try to coordinate this with the
Art Council. We also put up Christmas trees and decorate the inside of the city
building.

We assign council members a month to be in charge of the service project. We
give them suggestions and let them decide what, how and when they will do. The council
stays very busy the entire year.
We try to involve other community groups as often as possible. We try to coordinate projects with the Art Council. We also work very closely with the Alpine Highland Police Department. Our council members serve on Youth Court hearing Class B and C misdemeanors. Many times the defendants are referred to the Art Council or other city organizations to complete their required service hours. The Youth Council does attend several City Council meetings during the year and we attended the Day at the Legislature. We try to run our meeting using proper protocol, making motions, second, discussion and voting on all council business. It has also been a pleasure to work with Alpine and Springville’s Youth Councils on service projects and we have attended social gatherings with Alpine and Cedar Hills Councils.

Our biggest challenge this year was the Shadow of Light Foundation backpacks for school age children project we did with Payson, Springville and Alpine. We had to meet with the Shadow of Light Foundation and find out what they needed in each backpack. Then we invited many Utah County Youth Councils to a meeting and encourage them to get involved. The four councils that participated were given a gender and age range along with a list of times needed in each backpack. We supplied a new backpack clothes, shoes, school supplies and personal hygiene item. We tried to get as much donated as possible and purchased the other times. Springville was awesome. They really went above and beyond what was needed to make this successful. When we had collected all the backpacks, we had a pizza play party at Extreme Sports as a reward for everyone’s hard work.

Highland’s Youth Council is amazing. The youth show outstanding leadership, commitment, they are dedicated and responsible. Each council member has a responsibility that must be fulfilled to keep the council moving forward. The youth do the work and the advisors do just that. We are there to give advice and offer any needed help. We are very fortunate to work with such a great group of young adults that set an example we hope many will follow.

Thank you for considering Highland’s Youth Council for the Award of Excellence.

Orangeville Youth City Council

This is in regards to our Orangeville Youth City Council program. Our program is growing and getting stronger every year that we are running. It has been a great opportunity for myself to be the advisor for this city for the last 3 years. I have seen changes in the youth leadership qualities and there ability to talk in front of people and to be able to take charge in their responsibilities. Our YCC I know has made an impact on our community because there are many activities that we provide to the city that would not be there with out the hard work of the YCC. One of these activities is the Easter Egg Hunt that our YCC puts together on their own and schedules with the city and the Elementary school to let the youth of our community participate. The youth provide a tutoring program once a week at the City Hall where the youth can come and get the help
they need and even just read a book to our YCC members. Our new goal this year was to provide an art project to be taught by someone in the community once a month allowing our youth to come and learn a new art once a month. This we thought would bring our older community closer with our younger community and also allowing the youth of our community to see the talents that many in our community have and are willing to share and teach to them. Once again we also sponsored the RECYCLE RACE at the Elementary School here in Orangeville. This is the most fun and invigorating activity we have done. The teachers in our school system love for our YCC to sponsor this race because it gives them the chance to encourage the learning of recycling and also the children learning to keep our community clean. We use this as a beautification tool for our city. Our Elementary School collected 1,600 lbs in aluminum cans in one month period. What a great result and a great reward for our children to see just how much they can accomplish even as children. We do give the winning class with the most lbs. a pizza party when all is done.

This year we worked together with the other YCC in our county to put on a Youth Leadership Conference in May where we brought in a Band from Las Vegas and a guest speaker, Chad Hymas, and had 5 workshops for our youth to attend. We participated in a service project of helping a young man finish his Eagle Project for Scouts. We did a revamping of an old property, cleaning up weeds, trimming trees, cutting bricks for a sidewalk and garden paths in yard. This was a great experience to see the youth working together with fellow members of the YCC and those who are not involved. Helping them to understand how our involvement in service and in our communities can be fun. We will be having another conference this year in which all of the members of our YCC have had to be involved just as they were last year to make this a success.

At Christmas time our City Park Lighting and our 3rd Annual Community Tree Lighting were both held together with our City Council and our Youth City Council working together to make this evening a fun and successful family night. For this activity the City council and the YCC worked together to find a tree that could be planted in the park and this tree would be designated as our community tree. This tree was picked out, transported and planted by the help of both the City Council and the YCC. Both organizations had their responsibilities to carry out and it was a great success. We sponsor a coloring contest in the elementary schools and a tree ornament contest for all ages. The winners are announced at our Tree Lighting. Santa also makes a special appearance.

Our YCC also helped in sponsoring an ICE BLOCKING party we ice blocked down a hill and afterwards treated the youth not just YCC members with chili, hot cocoa and donuts. This activity was a lot of fun. You take a block of ice and sit on it and slide right on down the hill. We will sponsor another party in the summer when the ice can melt a little faster making your trip down the hill a little faster too.

We continue to do our annual helping the Fair parade with the D.A.R.E float. We also help the Chamber of Commerce do their annual Lamb Fry. Our YCC has 2 nights in which they have to help prepare the food, serve the food, and then clean up. This shift
runs from 4:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. This gives us an opportunity to show the community who we are and what we do in our area.

Also this year at Christmas time our YCC did a coat and blanket drive for the homeless people. Again each member had their jobs and assignments to complete and what a great reward this was to give to those who are less fortune than we are. This was a great blessing for these youth.

Our Youth does have to do a fund raiser in our community, so that we may have the funds to do the many activities that they like to do. They organized a Dinner Roll fund raiser in which they sold frozen rolls for Thanksgiving. This was a huge success. They sold 480 dozen rolls to our community. They had to have sheets for sign up and find out who and where we could make the rolls and how the best way was to accomplish this great task. It also took a lot of time on their part to make sure all rolls were delivered before Thanksgiving and money turned in.

We also had a mock election at our elementary school in which the children were able to voice their opinions on whom they would vote for as our officials in government. They actually had the voting booths that the adults use and they were set up in their school and votes were tallied and read to the school when all voting was done. Not only was this fun for the children voting but for the YCC members who watched and were involved in getting things ready and again making sure this could even take place.

One thing our YCC was asked to do by citizens was when our service men came home if we could take care of the decorating and putting up of flags and letting everyone know that they were coming home. That was a great experience to learn just how many we had from our little city in Orangeville and learning a little about what they did in the service and how long they had served. This was one thing I feel mad my YCC aware of supporting and honoring our servicemen and the great job they do in order for us to live in a country that is free and have the freedoms that we do have.

Some of our activities that have been done before are easier to get ready for because we learn a little more each time we do them so we know how to change what we did for the better. Our hardest activity and most difficult was planning for our Youth Conference because we needed to find what the youth are looking for and wanting in a Youth Conference. Also funds for these are quite large and how do we get these funds. When you figure out who you might like to come for your conference can they and if not try, try again. Advertising took a little more time and consideration because we wanted this to be a success. Trying to reach out to all of the youth in your community and not just those who are involved in YCC. We thought if more would come to the Conference they might gain a more understanding of what YCC was and that maybe we would see them in our meetings. The YCC here in Orangeville are very good about supporting one another and helping out in anyway they can. They also have great parents who support them and when that support system is there you can accomplish just about anything. Working together to complete a goal in which many benefit. So we continue to do more and more because these youth are willing, wanting and responsible and totally outgoing. They
support one another and want to succeed and want there to be something for the youth to be proud of.

Our YCC attends every City Council meeting and are part of the agenda. We have to report our doings and what we have plans to do. Then we ask the city what we can do for them in our community. The YCC has also fed the City Council in Nov. a dinner in which all is prepared by YCC so that the City Council members can get to know the YCC members and any questions can be asked by either council at that time.

My YCC is picked by all youth ages 9 grade and up being informed at the Schools about YCC and then they are asked if interested to fill out an application in which many questions are asked and they are asked to put down their ideas. It also states to them rules that have to be followed when appointed to a member. I then with the help of the Mayor Elect from previous year who now is Mayor we look over and read each application and then chose from these our members. We felt when there was a voting process going on that it tended to be a popularity contest and those who really work hard are not the ones voted for. We encourage 8th graders to attend our meetings and participate so that when they are in 9th grade they know about YCC and how it runs and that you really have to be dedicated to learning government and helping others. They are than asked to keep track of their hours they put in to YCC because at the end of each year our City does give out a scholarship to those who have worked hard and been dedicated to our City.

I honestly feel that in the last 3 years that I have been the advisor of YCC we have grown not only in numbers but also being respected by our community for the things that we do. We find now that we get asked by our community leaders and just the people in our community to do things and people come to us and ask if we can be involved in many other areas so that the youth in our area are having learning experiences and growing experiences. Also wanting us to get things done in our community for the youth to do. One project we are working on is a skate park in our City. That doesn’t happen over night but we are getting closer all of the time. We are the voice of the youth and the leaders of tomorrow.

I know that by our YCC members working closely with the younger generation that they think it is really cool that as a teenager you could be a Mayor. My members were their T shirts proudly and proudly put their name tags up in front of their seats when we have our YCC meetings. We have them every month and sometimes we get together more often when time arises.

I feel that these young adults are deserving of this award for their hard work and excellence in their community. I tell them at the beginning I am not their doer I am their advisor and here to help and advise in all I can. This is their city and their duty. They have learned to become very responsible and hard working. Organized and willing to accept their duty. They are a great bunch of young adults wanting the best for their community and something for all to do. We are supported greatly by our City Council and are respected by them and our Community. We have made a name for YCC where
before people didn’t even know what that was. What great steps forward we have made and will continue to make in our city. They have more energy and willingness to serve and do and do and do all of the time. They are constantly doing and serving with a smile for they are truly today’s youth but tomorrow’s leaders. I am very pleased and honored to be involved with these fine young people they are a light to all and a great example to everyone in our community. I live them and their hard work. In a world where so many other things can get in the way my YCC stays focused on being their very best self. They truly are the greatest.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our YCC and all that you do for helping the YCC in our State be the best that they can be.

Smithfield Youth City Council

I would like to take a moment to speak about and on behalf of the Smithfield Youth City Council. Without question, the Smithfield City Youth Council is one of the most organized and beneficial groups in the community. Comprised of students form Sky View High School, the youth city council has dedicated their time and resources to bettering the quality of life we so eagerly embrace. With an emphasis on service, the youth city council has assisted other service organizations such as the Lions Club in sponsoring activities ranging from a pancake breakfast during the community celebration to organizing and conducting a special dinner and dance for Smithfield’s senior citizens.

City government has been the recipients of youth city council volunteers who have assisted in many municipal functions. Satellite voter registration was recently held in the city offices and members of the youth council worked with city staff in carrying out this important function. When called upon, the youth city council has assisted in providing door to door notice to residents of upcoming city meetings and functions. They are currently serving on the citizens advisory committee who are charged with developing a new general plan which will be used to guide the city over the next 25 years.

As the years go by the value of this important organization appears to swell as their potential is recognized. They are looked upon as a valuable resource at a time when volunteerism appears to be in steady decline. While the Smithfield Youth City Council provides its membership with a unique opportunity to interact with the municipal government it also enhances the community while enriching its most valuable resource, today’s youth.