

## Local Students Receive Awards from Prudential Spirit of Community Awards for Volunteer Services

Written by Harold Banks  
Monday, 11 April 2011 13:14

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Sarah Cronk and Jori Colarusso, both of Bettendorf, Iowa, and seniors attending Pleasant Valley High School, will be officially honored for their outstanding volunteer service by The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program. Sarah was selected as one of Iowa's top two youth volunteers and will receive an engraved silver medallion. Jori will receive a Certificate of Excellence.

The presentations will take place on Monday, April 11, at 7:00 p.m. during a school board meeting in the board room at the Pleasant Valley Community School District Office, 525 Belmont Road, Bettendorf, [\(563\) 332-6176](tel:5633326176).

Sarah is being honored for co-founding a cheerleading squad at her high school that includes students with disabilities, and then forming a nonprofit corporation that encourages teens across the country to start similar squads at their schools.

Jori is being honored for founding her high school's Habitat for Humanity group helping to raise \$5000 to sponsor a local Habitat house.

As a State Honoree, Sarah also will receive \$1,000 and an all-expense-paid trip in early May to Washington, D.C., where she will join more than 100 other top honorees from across the country for several days of national recognition events. Ten of them will be named America's top youth volunteers for 2011 at that time.

**ABOUT THE AWARD:** The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards represent the United States' largest youth recognition program based exclusively on volunteer community service. All middle

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level and high schools in the U.S., along with all Girl Scout councils, county 4-H organizations, Red Cross chapters, YMCAs and affiliates of HandsOn Network, were eligible to select a student or member for a local Prudential Spirit of Community Award last November. More than 5,000 Local Honorees were then reviewed by state-level judges, who selected State Honorees—one middle and one high school youth—plus a select number of Distinguished Finalists from each state and the District of Columbia, based on criteria such as personal initiative, creativity, effort, impact and personal growth.

For more information on this year's Prudential Spirit of Community Awards Honorees and Distinguished Finalists, visit [spirit.prudential.com](http://spirit.prudential.com) .