

MVCCA ANNOUNCES 2014 AWARD WINNERS

MOUNT VERNON, VA, MARCH 17, 2014: The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations (MVCCA) is pleased to announce the recipients of its 2014 Citizen of the Year, Organization of the Year and Student of the Year awards.

Citizen of the Year: *Bruce Leonard* has given much to his community, MVCCA and the Mount Vernon District. He ensured that MVCCA was successful in changing the Comprehensive Plan language which put the Mount Vernon District on a path to revitalization that would bring quality economic, cultural and community development to our area. As a member of the MVCCA's Listing Tours he helped educate our Mount Vernon citizens on the value of economic development.

Organization of the Year: *Psi Alpha Alpha (PAA) Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.* The Psi Alpha Alpha Chapter (PAA) of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. has been an asset to the Mount Vernon and Fairfax County communities since its inception in 1980. PAA's stated purpose is to attract and build a strong, effective team of men dedicated to assisting efforts while improving the Mount Vernon and Fairfax County communities. Through execution of the Fraternity's Cardinal Principles of manhood, scholarship, perseverance, and uplift, the PAA makes its improvements to the Mt. Vernon District, as well as Fairfax County.

Students of the Year: *Sarah Valencia* (Mount Vernon High School) and *Shea Ruffin* (West Potomac High School). Both students have strived to make life better in their school and neighborhood communities.

Sarah Valencia started volunteering at her elementary school library. She continued volunteering as a daycare teacher's assistant. Sarah has given over 100 hours to a local child care center. Sarah will be the first in her family to attend a four-year university.

Shea Ruffin combines her passion for food and service, assisting in preparing and serving meals in a most dignified manner at Aldersgate United Methodist Church. Her Girl Scout Gold Award project achieved renovating the walkway at Darsey Field, home of the Fort Hunt Little League teams. Her team of volunteers removed and renovated an outdated

walkway to build a new wheel chair accessible passage.

All of these outstanding awardees will be recognized at the MVCCA Gala being held on April 26th at the Fort Belvoir Golf Club from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Tickets are \$55 per person. An electronic reservation invitation and reservation form may be downloaded from the MVCCA website: www.mvcca.org. Hardcopy invitations and reservation forms will be available at Supervisor Gerry Hyland's office. For more detailed information or questions, contact Carol Coyle at carolcoyle@cox.net or 703-780-7955 or Queenie Cox at queenecox@aol.com or 703-360-2414.