



**For Immediate Release**

**Contact: Lynn Marie Oates  
Day (248) 371 6053  
Evening (248) 652 2765**

**“Rochester Junior Woman’s Club Awards Scholarships to Two Local Students”**

**Rochester, MI July 18, 2011** -- Rochester Junior Woman’s Club (RJWC), along with the Greater Rochester Area Community Foundation, awarded Valerie Adams from Stoney Creek High School and Martha Troy from Rochester High School, both a \$500 scholarship at the annual awards ceremony held May 24, 2011 at Stoney Creek High School Auditorium.

The Rochester Junior Woman’s Club Memorial Scholarship was established in 1994 to assist seniors from Rochester Community Schools. The recipients are selected based on their activities in community volunteerism and service during their high school careers as well as their overall grade point average.

Valerie Adams plans to pursue a major in kinesiology and double minor in business and environmental science at Saginaw Valley State University where she will attend this fall. During high school she participated in a wide variety of service that has focused on aiding many different groups. Some activities included participating in the annual CROP walk and Relay for Life, she volunteered hours at school, coordinating and mediating with various organizations to solidify volunteer opportunities for Key Club members as well as with the National Honors Society. She volunteers weekly at the First Congregational Church of Romeo as a church school teacher and “shepherd,” she has made fleece blankets to send to the Lighthouse of Oakland County, made holiday greeting cards for people in the Romeo community, raked leaves of the homes of the elderly in her community. And, she has worked diligently with the head of the "Senior Giveback" at Stoney Creek High School to raise money for the Heifer Project International. Of all of the volunteer activities, her favorite is working with the church school children at her church. “Whether it be teaching a class or serving as a “shepherd” to the kids, I

love building a relationship with them and watching as they learn life lessons and morals that they will carry with them through their life. The lessons taught and absorbed by the children in church are not bible-specific but are general concepts and ideas to be used to guide one's life. My heart is warmed to see them exhibit these ideal characteristics such as compassion, sharing, forgiveness, etc... I am blessed to have the opportunity to work with such wonderful beings. It may seem that I am the one helping them, however, I learn a tremendous deal from the kids as well” Adams said. Valerie plans on continuing her volunteer work once she is at school in the fall and hopes to continue working with children in some way. It is also important to her to volunteer time toward preserving the environment as the health of the Earth. “I am extraordinarily blessed in my life and I am very grateful for that. I recognize that not everyone has the same opportunities as I do and it is the least I can do to give back in some way. The emotional reward that comes hand in hand with volunteering is very fulfilling as well. It warms my heart to see the lives or situations of others improved and that, in turn, improves my mood and outlook on life and the world.” Adams said.

Martha Troy will be attending the College of James Madison at Michigan State University this fall. She plans on majoring in comparative cultures and politics, with a minor or double major in Spanish. In addition to her school activities, she has been involved in volunteer work through Rochester's National Honor Society and through her church. She has found all of her volunteer activities rewarding, but after playing softball competitively through out the nation for years, one of the most rewarding things has been being able to come back and teach kids basic skills. “I've loved running camps and clinics with my travel organization. Even though it may just be teaching a 12 year old how to pitch, it makes a difference. It gives these young girls someone to look up to, something to work for, and a means of learning hard-work and dedication,” says Troy. While at college she plans to continue her volunteer work and is looking forward to the opportunities that present themselves at Michigan State. She is looking forward to participating in Habitat for Humanity and joining a youth group dedicated to public service. “If such an opportunity comes my way, I'd like to study abroad in a Spanish speaking country and teach English as a second language there,” says Troy. When asked why she volunteers, she responded “I volunteer because I like to see the changes one can make. I'm a people person. I like working with people, helping people, and learning from people. Volunteering allows me to do all three!”

The Rochester Junior Woman's Club would like to congratulate both of these well deserving individuals and wish them well as they begin this new phase of their lives in the fall.

For over 50 years the Rochester Junior Woman's Club has contributed to the growth and vitality of the community through volunteer service and donation of funds to local charities and organizations. Since its inception, the Rochester Junior Woman's Club has donated more than 1 million hours of community service and raised more than \$760,000 to support the local community.

For more information on Rochester Junior Woman's Club, please contact Jennifer Hyvari at 248 770 8073 or [dolittle2748307@yahoo.com](mailto:dolittle2748307@yahoo.com). You can also visit their website at [www.rhpl.org/rjwc](http://www.rhpl.org/rjwc) or follow them on Facebook at "Rochester Junior Woman's Club."