



City of Pittsburgh

510 City-County Building
414 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Text File

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Committee: City Council

Status: Adopted

WHEREAS, Gregory Bolar, age 18, a senior at North Catholic High School and an eleven-year member of the Sarah Heinz House, on April 29, 2008, was named the Youth of the Year for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania by the Boys & Girls Clubs of America; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bolar will also receive a \$1,000 scholarship from the Reader's Digest Foundation, \$2,500 from Rite Aid Foundation, and \$1,400 from the Sarah Heinz House; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bolar is among 200 national "club" Youth of the Year winners across the country recognized by Boys & Girls Clubs of America for his sound character, leadership skills, and willingness to give back to the community, and is one of sixteen Pennsylvania honorees who competed for the statewide honor; and

WHEREAS, the Youth of the Year program was founded over 60 years ago through the generosity of the Reader's Digest Foundation, and being named Youth of the Year is the highest honor a Boys & Girls Club member can receive, the title recognizing outstanding contributions to a member's family, school, community, and Boys & Girls Club, as well as overcoming personal challenges and obstacles; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bolar has already displayed leadership in his family - when his father, a 911 dispatcher in Pittsburgh, died suddenly at the age of 37, Greg was just 13 and the oldest child; devastated, he nevertheless immediately stepped up and assumed a role of mentor, caregiver and support to his mother and two younger brothers, ages 9 years and 8 weeks, one of whom has special needs; and

WHEREAS, at Sarah Heinz House, Mr. Bolar also makes his presence known by participating in many aspects of the Club's programs and events, including its two leadership programs that are "by invitation only"; he also is a valuable member of the Production Club which provides audio support for major events; and he was recently awarded the President's Volunteer Service Award for having completed 150 hours of service at Sarah Heinz House in the past year; and

WHEREAS, working also on the annual festival at Holy Wisdom Parish, being an outstanding student at North Catholic High School, a member of the hockey team, and the morning announcement student, Mr. Bolar has been accepted at Duquesne University where he plans to pursue criminal justice; and

WHEREAS, in July Mr. Bolar will compete against other youth from the Boys & Girls Clubs' Northeast Region, vying for a \$10,000 scholarship from Reader's Digest and advancement to the national competition;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby commend and celebrate the outstanding achievements and bright future of Gregory Bolar and his inspiration to others, and congratulates him on winning the Boys & Girls Clubs of America Youth of the Year award for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.