MEDIA RELEASE



April 7, 2017

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Officer Bobby Taylor and Judy Crates Selected as Co-Champions for Youth, Megan Tsern Selected as Youth Champion

Celebratory Breakfast on May 3, 2017



Officer Bobby Taylor, 2017 Champion for Youth

Megan Tsern, LAHS Junior, Youth Champion



Judy Crates, 2017 Champion for Youth

MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA – For the first time in their 30-year history, the members of the Challenge Team of Mountain View, Los Altos and Los Altos Hills have selected Co-Champions for Youth, who will be celebrated at their annual fundraising event on May 3, 2017. The 2017 recipients are Judy Crates, a leader in education for over 45 years, and Mountain View Police School Resource Officer Bobby Taylor as Champions for Youth. Megan Tsern, a junior at Los Altos High School (LAHS), is to be honored as the Youth Champion.

The Champions for Youth event will be held at Michael's at Shoreline and will feature popular keynote speaker <u>Jim Wiltens</u>, who will speak about *The Importance of Teaching Meta Skills to Youth*.

About Dr. Judy Crates

Dr. Judy Crates has been a leader in education for over 45 years. She has taught at the elementary, middle, high school and university levels. Crates has been principal of Bubb Elementary and a district administrator for more than 17 years. She was known for her tireless dedication to underserved communities, and for her commitment to ensure a high- quality

education for all students.

She joined the Challenge Team in 2000, when she became principal of Graham Middle School. Upon retiring, she rejoined Challenge Team, and has been an active member of the Summer Learning Initiative.

About Officer Robert Taylor

Officer Robert Taylor, or Bobby T as he is affectionately known throughout the Mountain View Police Department, has been a well-known figure for the past two decades. A stand-out school resource officer, Taylor's easy-going personality makes him a favorite mentor and confidante of many students. Officer Taylor has an uncanny ability to positively change students' perception about their present and their future. A champion and organizer of the police department's annual Cops That Care, Taylor is no stranger to everyday interactions with children and teens, from playing sports with them during their recess to helping out after school.

About Megan Tsern

Los Altos High School (LAHS) Junior Megan Tsern is this year's Youth Champion. Megan was recently recognized nationally and regionally by the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society for her fundraising and service efforts. The Silicon Valley and Monterey Bay Area chapters hosted "Students of the Year," which is a philanthropic and leadership based campaign for high school students. Megan was recently awarded "Student of the Year," "The Shooting Star Award," and was recognized for her leadership nationally, having raised over \$50,000 in donations toward LLS. Megan fundraises in honor of her brother who passed away when they were both in elementary school. She also leads the Stand Up to Cancer Club at LAHS.

The public is invited to attend the May 3 Champions for Youth breakfast at Michael's at Shoreline, 2960 Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View. <u>Tickets can be purchased online</u>.

The <u>Challenge Team</u> is a community-based, non-profit partnership of students, school districts, police departments, community organizations, parent, health care, and faith-based groups that collaborate to bring positive influences into the lives of youth and guide them away from alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and gang activities.

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