

PRESSRELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Indiana Water Environment Public Education Awards

Michigan City, IN (May 1, 2003) – Mayor Sheila Brillson will present the 2002/2003 Indiana Water Environment Public Education Awards at a special press conference at 8:45 a.m. on Friday, May 2nd, at City Hall.

“I’m honored to announce that three of Michigan City’s educational centers have won Program Participation Awards,” said Brillson. “The Jack & Jill Center, Joy Elementary School, and Krueger Middle School have each won this award.”

Brillson said, “The primary purpose of Public Education Committee is to educate students, teachers and general public about maintaining and improving our water environment. Another goal is to involve cities, towns, districts and tourism boards in discussions about the Indiana Water Pollution Control Association (IWPCA) in our communities and the promotion of clean water quality improvement topics.”

The IWPCA agenda includes the year round Adopt-a-School Program, judging the Indiana Science and Engineering Fairs, awarding the state-regional Stockholm Junior Water Prize, involvement in the Hoosiers Association of Science Teachers, Inc., distributing and contributing information to Indiana schools and providing tours at Wastewater Treatment Facilities of Indiana.

“The IWPCA School Education Committee (SEC) Adopt-a-School Program is accomplished by mentoring and delivering water source materials and information to area schools,” said Sanitary District General Manager Al Walus. “The SEC provides and distributes Water Environment Federation’s Aqua Venturer CD-ROM, coloring books to kindergarten, first and second graders, and Water Source Books and Videos to all students from kindergarten to seniors. Water Quality Poster Drawings by the students are displayed and participants are recognized at the IWPCA Annual Conference.”

Randy Hansen, a teacher from Krueger Middle School, will receive the Michigan City Outstanding Teacher Certificate at the Friday press conference. “I congratulate Mr. Hansen for his dedication to teaching students about water quality issues,” said Mayor Brillson, “and for contributing to the efforts to improve our water environment through education and application.”

Jennifer Nuest, a senior from Kouts, Indiana, will be presented with the Indiana Stockholm Junior Water Prize during Friday’s event. The Stockholm Junior Water Prize is the most prestigious international award for high school students who conduct research projects in water science. The U.S. winner receives \$2500 from the Water Environment Federation (WEF) and travels to Stockholm, Sweden, for five days where they have the opportunity to compete for the \$5000 prize, meet and talk with students from all over the world. In the past, awardees have explored ways to clean up industrial wastewater, to prevent pollution of oceans, lakes and rivers and to help save the world's wetlands. Jennifer will represent the state while competing at the National level. From there the national winner contends internationally in Stockholm, Sweden with their water environment project.

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