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# The Anacortes Agent

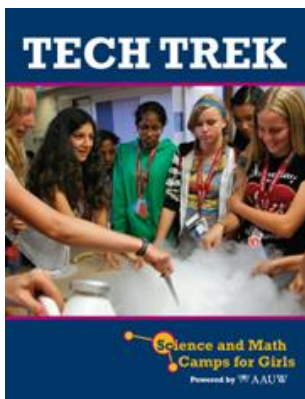
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## Three candidates were chosen by our Scholarship Committee to receive awards this year.

Laura Smythe, an Anacortes High School Senior who will be attending Stony Brook University in New York, will receive our \$2000 scholarship. She wants to craft a fashion merchandising career and plans to major in Business and Psychology. Elizabeth McKeen, an Anacortes High School Senior who will be attending the UW and studying to be a speech therapist, will receive \$1000. After graduation she plans to join the Peace Corps. Emma Watson, a 2010 graduate of Anacortes H.S. who has been at the University of Arizona, is finishing up at Skagit Valley College. She plans to attend the University of Georgia to major in Microbiology. She dreams of working for the Center for Disease Control to research infectious diseases.

GOOD NEWS - This summer three Anacortes Middle School students, Kaitlyn Jensen, Giulia Ward and Emily Talbot, will be attending Tech Trek at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma. Our branch is funding one student, Tesoro will fund the second, and Tech Trek is paying for our third camper. What a great start to this program, which is new to Washington State.



Tech Trek is a science and math camp designed to develop interest, excitement, and self-confidence in young women who will enter eighth grade in the fall. It features hands-on activities in math, science, and related fields. All sleeping, eating, instructional, and recreational facilities are located on a university campus where camps are held. Seventh grade science and/or math teachers recommend camper candidates who must then pass through an extensive qualification process that includes an application, an essay, and a personal interview. Camp curriculum is targeted specifically at girls entering 8th grade. In most camps, girls are assigned either a math or a science core

class that they attend daily (in some, they do both), sometimes with field trips to encourage maximum interaction and instruction. All instructors and staff members are women.

Most important of all is the university campus experience. No matter which campus they attend, campers will have the opportunity to live the life of a college student for a week. They will learn to live with someone other than a sibling or a relative, share community bathrooms, eat dorm food, and explore the campus area under the careful supervision of camp staff. They also will interact with women who model a high degree of science, mathematics, or computer expertise as part of their daily lives. Each camper is exposed to the core subject chosen, as well as a selection of rotating labs designed to explore individual specialties more deeply. Hands-on activities in core classes, rotating labs, and field trips at Tech Trek camps help to make math and science fun as well as educational. While there is no homework and no testing, girls are expected to participate in class work.



Betsy Cave (6/10) and  
Elizabeth Smith (6/14)

**STEM awards start at Anacortes Middle School. Unlike many AAUW Branches, we believe that encouragement should begin as early as possible.**



The 8th grade moving-up ceremony will be on June 8th in the high school gym.


The three branch members attending will be Leslie Lukasik (our speaker), Réanne Hemingway-Douglass (certificate distributor) and Rosette Dawson (photographer).

Recipients have been chosen by their teachers; each one will receive \$100.

The **International Relations** group does not meet over the summer, however, when they resume in the fall they hope to attract more members. Beginning in September, they will meet on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 9:30 a.m. in homes of members to discuss chapters from the Great Decisions publication. Members alternate moderating the meetings.

**A BOARD RETREAT** is set for Monday, June 24 from 6-9 p.m. at Meredith's house. This planning meeting is for the outgoing and incoming members of the Board. Meredith is providing greens and board members should one item to add to the salad.

**JUNE FORUMS** - The League of Women Voters of Skagit County is planning to host a mayoral candidates' forum on Saturday, 22 June, from 6-9 p.m., at Brodniak Hall. Chris Borgen will be the master of ceremonies and Dr. Leslie Lukasik of AAUW and Loretta Saarinen, the new league president, will be the moderators. Also, the League is sponsoring a forum on the Tethys project on Wednesday, 26 June, 6:30-9 p.m., at Brodniak Hall.

 Mark your calendars for the **Skagit Symphony's Gardens of Note tour**. It will be Sunday, 30 June, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., with six gardens in the La Conner area. For more information, contact Bunny.