

## **2014 Gene Thompson Scholarship Fund MDARD Scholarship Winners**

Several years ago, Gene Thompson, a supervisor at Michigan Department of Agriculture and strong supporter of the annual Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) employee golf outing, passed away and the annual golf outing and scholarship program was named in his honor. Thanks to the generosity of Dr. Gordon Guyer and the event participants, the fund has awarded 21 scholarships to MDARD employees and their children since 2007, for a total of \$10,500.

The scholarships are awarded to a student who is an employee of MDARD or a child of an MDARD employee attending MSU or enrolled in an agricultural-related program and seeking a Masters, Bachelors, Associate degree, or Certificate. All of the 2014 winners demonstrated a good academic record, a strong commitment to community and civic involvement, leadership roles in school, work and civic activities, plus an understanding of the importance of fun and enjoyment of the things they do and of the people they know. The 2014 Gene Thompson \$500 scholarships winners were:

Jessica Lauterwasser is from Mio and will be attending Colorado State University to study Agricultural Business. Jessica's father Kevin works for the Animal Industry Division.

Seth Lyons is from Jackson and will be attending Michigan State University to study Physiology /Pre-Med. Seth's father Tim works for the Pesticide and Plant Pest Management Division.

Daniel Metiva III is from Owosso and is attending Baker College to study Business Administration. Dan works as a Departmental Technician for the Animal Industry Division.

Andrew Trombley is from Commerce and will be attending Saginaw State University to study Bio Chemistry. Andrew's mother Susan works for the Food and Dairy Division.

The scholarships are annually awarded at the July meeting of the Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development.

To assist in raising funds for future scholarships, we are excited to announce that the second annual Quality of Life Scholarship Golf Outing honoring Gene Thompson (formerly the Gene Thompson scholarship golf outing) will be held on September 19, 2014. The outing will be held this year at the Eldorado Golf Course in Mason, Michigan. The QOL Scholarship Golf outing registration form is available on the MDARD intranet page. We will gladly find a team for individual golfers wishing to participate and accept prize donations from those unable to attend this great cause. The \$70 registration fee includes 18 holes of golf and cart, goodie bag and coupon for 9 holes of golf, coffee/donuts, lunch, and a steak dinner. Based upon past outings and new golfers from QOL, this event promises to be a good time.

Regardless of your golfing skills, come out for some fun, good fellowship, and a great day on the course for this great cause.