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Main menu



Oriskany recognizes top scholars



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KARA DASKIEWICH



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ORISKANY — The Oriskany Central School District's valedictorian for the Class of 2020 is Kara Daskiewich, while the salutatorian is Angelina Hays, announced junior/senior high school Principal Jamie Grimshaw.

- Daskiewich, daughter of Scott and Jean Daskiewich, plans to attend Cornell University and major in nutritional sciences. She hopes to someday become a pediatrician.

Among many accolades she has received are the Clarkson University High School Leadership Award, St. Michael's Book Award for Academic Achievement and Social Conscience, Whitestown Optimist Student of the Month, plus various other academic achievement awards. She was a Centerstate All-Conference Soccer player and was named MVP for her high school team.

Daskiewich "has taken an extremely rigorous course load" at Oriskany Central School (OCS), according to the announcement, including AP English Literature and Composition, AP Chemistry, AP U.S. History, AP World History, and many Mohawk Valley Community dual enrollment courses.

In addition, she is "very involved in activities at OCS," the announcement noted, and is the Senior Class president, the National Honor Society vice president, as well as president of the Language Club. She has participated in the FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America), done an internship with the Regional Program for Excellence, and played varsity soccer plus indoor and outdoor track.

Outside of school, Daskiewich likes to spend time with family and friends in the Adirondacks, volunteers at Lutheran Care, and coaches youth soccer.

- Hays, daughter of Scott and Lisa Hays, has been accepted at several colleges and is deciding where she would like to further her academic career. She plans to major in Biochemistry and eventually work in the medical profession.

Hays has received both the Fredrick Douglass and Susan B. Anthony (University of Rochester) awards, as well as the Elmira College Key Award. Additionally, she has received Honorable Mention in the Centerstate Conference for softball in 9th, 10th, and 11th grade, plus she was named a Centerstate Conference Scholar Athlete all four years of high school.

Her “very rigorous course load,” said the announcement, has included AP World History, AP English Literature & Composition, AP U.S. History, AP Calculus, and many MVCC dual enrollment courses. The announcement added she “is very involved in extracurricular activities” and is a member of the National Honor Society and the Drama Club. She has balanced her academics while also participating in a number of athletic teams including soccer, basketball and softball.

Outside of school, Hays volunteers with the local Little League and enjoys playing travel softball.

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