



*Senator
Bill Stouffer*

DISTRICT 21

Senator Bill Stouffer – Cultivating Rural Missouri.

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The Stouffer Report: Better Communities Come from Great People

I am proud to say the 21st Senatorial District can lay claim to some of the best people and towns in the state.

Recently, the annual [Missouri Community Betterment](#) (MCB) conference was held in Jefferson City. The City of [Higginsville](#) took several awards, as did many communities in our district. Higginsville has taken part in the Missouri Community Betterment rating process for over 20 years. Over this period of time, Higginsville has received numerous awards for outstanding volunteerism and leadership.

This year, Higginsville is the recipient of three prestigious awards: first place for youth, second place for community, and the Glenn Smith Memorial Youth Award. This is the top award for the entire state, and they had tremendous competition. Plus, a couple of individuals were nominated for the tireless service in the community. Rick Sengstacken was an adult leadership nominee and Brandon Draisey was a youth leadership nominee. Altogether, there were 36 communities and 18 individuals honored by MCB.

Students involved in Higginsville Youth Directing Realistic Opportunities (HYDRO) compile what they call a "project book" that is submitted for judging by MCB. In doing so, they put together a study of all the volunteer hours that youth perform in the community. Over the past year, Higginsville kids racked up nearly 111,000 hours of volunteer time. The amount is calculated from not only HYDRO, but the FFA, 4-H, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Peer Helpers, church groups, and many more groups.

The awards banquet capped off Missouri Community Betterment's 45th conference. Roughly 350 volunteers, community leaders, and youth

from all over the Show-Me State came to Jefferson City for the three-day event.

It is a true honor for me to represent an area where so many young people have such a concern for their community and already contribute so much at such an early age. I thank them — and all of the folks who were nominated and who won awards at the MCB conference.

Grand Prize: Clinton

Category I:

First Place	Allendale
Second Place	Annapolis
Third Place	Howardville
Fourth Place	Caledonia
Fifth Place	Jameson

Category II:

First Place	Mansfield
Second Place	Grant City
Third Place	Bourbon
Fourth Place	Higbee
Fifth Place	Green City

Category III:

First Place	Houston
Second Place	Albany
Third Place	East Prairie
Fourth Place	Shelbina
Fifth Place	Louisiana

Category IV:

First Place	Brookfield
Second Place	Higginsville
Third Place	Eldon
Fourth Place	Lamar
Fifth Place	Salem

Category V:

First Place	Cameron
Second Place	Perryville
Third Place	Sullivan
Fourth Place	Pleasant Hill
Fifth Place	Aurora

Category VI:

First Place	Clinton
Second Place	Moberly
Third Place	Maryville
Fourth Place	Kennett
Fifth Place	Ozark

Certificate of Merit:

Category I, Graham; Category II, Crane; Category III, Cabool, Arcadia Valley, El Dorado Springs; Category IV, Bonne Terre

Glenn Smith Memorial Youth Award: Higginsville

Youth Groups

Category I:

First Place Annapolis
Second Place Caledonia

Category II:

First Place Mansfield
Second Place Higbee

Category III:

First Place Cabool
Second Place Houston

Category IV:

First Place Higginsville
Second Place Brookfield

Category V:

First Place Perryville
Second Place Cameron

Category VI:

First Place Clinton
Second Place Maryville

Certificate of Merit:

Category III:

East Prairie

Adult Leadership Award:

Avis Parman, Albany; John William Lucas, Caledonia; Frances Harvey, Clinton; Richard Sengstacken, Higginsville; Vannessa Frazier, Howardville; Robert "Bob" Douglas, Lamar; Jean Coday, Mansfield; Stan Podorski, Salem.

Youth Leadership Award:

Kristin Esmahan, Albany; Katy Tyler, Bonne Terre; Andrea Herington, Brookfield; Jacob Kearns, Caledonia; Alexis Marlay, Clinton; Brandon Draisey, Higginsville; Shakeya Bell, Howardville; Stephanie Morgan, Lamar; Josh Ince, Louisiana; Luke Heithold, Salem

Senator Stouffer serves the counties of Carroll, Chariton, Cooper, Howard, Lafayette, Macon, Ray, Saline, and a part of Clay.

If you have questions or comments about this or any other issue, please call toll free (866) 768-3987 or by e-mail at bstouffer@senate.mo.gov.

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