

http://www.idahopress.com/community/front_porch/front-porch-idaho-diaper-bank-executive-director-named-mother-of/article_5b0a0fc5-ab33-5223-acd7-ea86c0871d88.html

Front Porch: Idaho Diaper Bank executive director named 2017 Mother of Achievement

Elizabeth Thomas ethomas@idahopress.com 9 hrs ago

Tired of seeing surveys on articles? If you are a subscriber, simply [log in](#) or [Subscribe now!](#) ×

Shawna Walz, executive director of the Idaho Diaper Bank, has been named the 2017 Mother of Achievement in both Idaho and the nation by American Mothers, Inc.! What a cool accomplishment, don't you think?

Idaho Gov. Butch Otter gave Shawna the award on Thursday at the State Capitol, and in April, she's going to go to Washington, D.C., to receive the national award alongside three other women.

Shawna is a mother of two boys, and in a press release, she explained she started the Idaho Diaper Bank because raising kids isn't easy and she wanted to help families all across Idaho. The Diaper Bank, which is based in Meridian, ensures low-income families have access to a reliable supply of diapers. (Every mother knows how valuable that resource would be!)

Outside of the Diaper Bank, Shawna has been employed in senior roles at Nike, where she helped start a Global Women's Leadership Council.

Congratulations, Shawna! I hope all is going well with the Diaper Bank.

Skyview senior selected for medical congress

Congratulations are due to Gabriel Iordanescu, a senior at Skyview High School who has been nominated to represent Idaho as a delegate to the Congress of Future Medical Leaders in Massachusetts in June!

Gabriel was nominated by Dr. Robert Darling, the medical director of the National Academy of Future Physicians and Medical Scientists. According to a press release we received, the nomination was based on Gabriel's "academic achievement, leadership potential and determination to serve humanity in the field of medicine."

During the three-day Congress, Nobel laureates and National Medal of Science winners will speak about leading medical research. Delegates will also get advice from top medical schools about what to expect in school and hear from patients who are "living medical miracles."

The point of the whole thing is to honor and encourage "the top students in the country who aspire to be physicians or medical scientists to stay true to their dream and, after the event, to provide a path, plan and resources to help them reach their goal."

Gabriel, I hope this Congress gives you a lift in the right direction. Good luck with school!

BSA Troop planning May 13 plant sale

Dear gardeners,

Boy Scouts of America Troop 255 is planning its annual plant sale from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 13 at the Middleton United Methodist Church (104 E. Main St.). The boys raise all the plants themselves with the help of Advanced Master Gardener Mary Van De Bogart, and it's a major fundraiser for the troop.

This year, they will offer a wide variety of vegetables, herbs and annual and perennial flowers.

Note that the sale is the Saturday before Mother's Day, so if you're trying to think of a gift, this may fit the bill. Save the date!

Love,

Elizabeth

Advanced Heating and Cooling donates to Rescue Mission

A short but special thank you goes out to Meridian's Advanced Heating and Cooling for its December fundraiser on behalf of the Boise Rescue Mission's four shelters. The company made a \$10 donation for every customer who made a purchase or chose a service, and that totaled to \$2,510 donated. What a nice way to reach out and serve others.

Over snow? See how your state's winter stacked up

MaxRead

Elizabeth Thomas