

For Immediate Release:
April 28, 2014



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The GVTC Foundation Selects First Sorrells Scholarship Recipient

SMITHSON VALLEY, April 28, 2014 — Leah Lagoudis, a senior from Smithson Valley H.S., is the recipient of the first ever Ritchie Sorrells Scholarship for Leaders. The \$10,000 award goes to the graduating student who best exemplifies leadership qualities and holds a leadership position in their current school, community organization, club or committee. The scholarship was established in honor of GVTC CEO Ritchie Sorrells and presented by The GVTC Foundation.

Lagoudis was given the scholarship during a special ceremony at GVTC attended by her parents, school counselor, The GVTC Foundation board of directors and members of the Scholarship Committee.

“I am very excited and appreciative to receive this scholarship,” Leah said. “I’d like to thank The GVTC Foundation for selecting me for this honor.”

The senior had a strong collection of recommendation letters to support her application. Among her standout features include being designated to represent Smithson Valley H.S. at the Freedoms Foundation Conference, attended by students across the country. At the conference, she was voted by her peers as the Top Leader of all the students.

Lagoudis was also named president of Smithson Valley’s National Honor Society. While president, she organized and led several community service projects. Lagoudis is also projected to have the third highest grade point average in her class of 498 seniors.

Among her other accolades, she is a National Merit Scholar, Academic All-District, and was selected by the Smithson Valley student body as 2013 Home Coming Queen.

“Needless to say I was very impressed with Leah’s credentials and definitely feel our Scholarship Committee made the right selection,” CEO Ritchie Sorrells, said. “One of her references said Leah is a “sure bet” and I couldn’t agree more; she will represent GVTC well.”

Lagoudis says she will attend Texas A&M University in fall 2014 and will major in International Relations. Her career goal is to work as a Foreign Service officer for the State Department.

“My Generation might be remembered for its addiction to reality television, mind-numbing video games and social media, but there is a group that wants to help improve the world we were born into and I will be a part of that group,” Leah said.

About GVTC:

GVTC is a full-service communications provider offering high-speed Internet, digital cable TV, phone and interactive home security monitoring to residential and business customers. GVTC serves a 2,000 square mile region in select areas of North San Antonio, the Texas Hill Country and South Central Texas. More than two-thirds of GVTC’s customers are connected to its state-of-the-art fiber optics network, which enables the company to deliver the fastest Internet speeds in its service area. The company has received numerous awards for business excellence. Among the honors is being selected a *Broadband Communities Magazine*, Top 100 Broadband Provider, six consecutive years. The *San Antonio Express-News* and *San Antonio Business Journal* have also recognized GVTC as an exemplary employer, on multiple occasions. The company’s charitable arm, The GVTC Foundation, has donated more than \$1,000,000 to worthy causes, since its establishment in 2006. Learn more at GVTC.com and GVTCFoundation.com.