

Chrysler Foundation Helps Students 'Reach for the Stars'

What happens to the formation of crystals in an environment with both increased radiation and microgravity?

This month, three 17-year-old seniors at Macomb Mathematics Science Technology Center (MMSTC) in Warren, will learn the answer to this question and potentially many others when their experiment travels to the International Space Station (ISS) as part of Student Spaceflight Experiments Program (SSEP) Mission 4.

Sydney Waynick, Steven Prascius and Hunter Montrose are the three seniors.

Earlier this year, MMSTC was selected as one of 11 communities across the country to participate in this national science, technology engineering and mathematics initiative.

Subsequently, The Chrysler Foundation, the charitable arm of Chrysler, provided the school with a \$17,500 grant to help fund the cost of sending the science experiment to the International Space Station aboard a rocket launched from the Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport (MARS) on Wallops Island, Va.

"The Chrysler Foundation is proud to help these students literally reach for the stars," said Jody Trapasso, senior vice president - External Affairs, and president, The Chrysler Foundation. "We hope this program inspires students to explore careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, which are vital to America's future."

Overseen by the National Cen-



From left, Hunter Montrose, Sydney Waynick and Steven Prascius

ter for Earth and Space Science Education, SSEP typically gives 300-plus students across select communities the ability to design and propose real microgravity experiments to fly in low Earth orbit, originally conducted on the Space Shuttle and now conducted on the ISS.

Mark Supal, a technology teacher at MMSTC, said having a team of his students selected is "fantastic."

"Part of my job was to come up with a written proposal and a way to fund the experiment," Supal said. "I contacted a lot of companies, and The Chrysler Foundation really came through. They are providing 78 percent of the funding for the experiment."

"Beaumont Health Systems and DTE Energy are providing the rest of the money."

Supal's students were divided into teams of three. The team of Waynick, Prascius and Montrose ended with the winning experiment for the school, which Supal submitted to the SSEP.

Back in May, the Mission 4 Step 2 Review Board met at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum, reviewed all 33 finalist proposals and selected one proposal to fly for each community, for a total of 11 flight experiments.

"Our experiment will test if silver nitrate crystals can be formed in space and if they have similar properties to the ones formed here on Earth," Waynick said.

The experiment will be contained within a six-inch, double-walled plastic tube, sealed at both ends with removal caps, Su-

pal said. A clamp at the tube's midpoint separates a solution of silver nitrate from a small coil of copper wire.

When the clamp is removed, the copper wire is immersed in the solution and crystals begin to form. The students will perform the same experiments on Earth.

"If our hypothesis is correct and these crystals that are grown in space have the same properties as those in our lab, they may show that the crystals, due to their porous and rigid nature, could have a use in storing natural gas in space," Prascius said.

As part of their research, the students will also compare the color, average size, symmetry, and structural differences between the samples.

By comparing the crystals in these categories, it will be evident if the space crystals are physically the same as those formed on Earth.

"The space project is a great way to apply math and science to real life," Montrose said.

The Mission 4 to ISS flight opportunity was announced on Nov. 15, 2012, Supal said. By the start of program operations on Feb. 25, 2013, 11 communities from seven states were aboard and 3,080 grade 5-12 students were formally engaged in experiment design.

The launch, which is scheduled for no earlier than Dec. 15, will be shown live on NASA TV. Go to www.nasa.gov/multimedia/nasatv for more information.

Owner Gets Stolen Model A Back - Doesn't Want It

By DAN NEPHIN
Intelligencer Journal/Lancaster New Era

LANCASTER, Pa. (AP) - Remember that Ford Model A stolen from a Willow Valley, Pa., resident this summer and recovered a few weeks ago?

The one where the insurance company had, shortly before its recovery, settled for \$20,000?

The one where if one-time owner Ralph Wright wanted the car back he'd have to bid on it at auction?

Well, he no longer wants it.

The insurance company offered last week to return it after learning he had wanted it.

But Wright and his son turned down the offer. His son had gotten the car for him about 13 years ago for a Father's Day gift.

"It just was more of a hassle than I needed at 84 years of age," Wright said.

He'd have to get a new title because the car now has a salvage title.

And he's got nowhere to keep it - he wouldn't use the place again where it was stolen from, he said. It's also got some damage, and well, he had even thought about selling it over the past couple years.

"Before too long, I'm going to have to give up my driver's license," Wright said.

He said he appreciated the insurance company representatives reaching out to him and said they've been cooperative throughout, but it's time to move on.

A spokesman for Assurant Specialty Property said "standard practice is that once a claim is paid, what if anything that is left of the property reverts to the insurer. This was an unusual claim as the car was recovered after the claim was paid in full."

The company was pleased the matter worked out, spokesman Robert Byrd said.

Southern Regional Police Officer Dianne Carter said the case is being wrapped up and charges are expected to be filed soon.

A suspect police aren't identifying is in jail on another matter.

The box trailer the car was being kept in has been taken from a fenced storage facility. The trailer and the car were found in Delaware several weeks ago.

Carter said the suspect had broken into the trailer in May and stolen tools. At the time, the car wasn't in the trailer. The suspect returned later and took the entire trailer, this time, with the car inside - unbeknownst to him.

The suspect intended to trade the trailer to another person, she said.

Tips eventually led authorities to a property in Delaware where the trailer and car were being kept.

UAW-Ford Takes Action to Support Child ID Program

UAW-Ford is joining forces with the American Football Coaches Association's (AFCA) National Child Identification Program to distribute inkless fingerprint ID kits to tens of thousands of families in communities across the country.

The kits, which are kept with the child's family, provide an easy way for families to create a record of their children's fingerprints and other identifying information for quick reference if ever needed by law enforcement, said Ford spokesperson Kristina Adamski.

The kits will be offered, free of charge, to all UAW-Ford employees at participating plants and parts distribution centers.

For every kit purchased by UAW-Ford for plant employees, the National Child Identification Program will donate a kit.

The matching kits will be distributed to families in the communities that are home to Ford manufacturing plants through local schools, churches and law enforcement. In addition, the National Child Identification Program will donate 50,000 kits to Detroit Public Schools.

"Safety is the No. 1 priority at Ford and it is also our responsibility to look out for the safety of our employees' families, as well as our neighbors," said Marty Mulloy, Ford vice president for Labor Affairs.

"The ultimate goal of the National Child Identification Program is to provide an ID kit for every child in the United States, and we're proud to partner with the UAW to help them achieve that goal."

The Texas-based AFCA created the National Child Identification Program in 1997 with a goal of creating a fingerprint record of 20 million children, Adamski said. The popularity of the program has far exceeded expectations, with more than 32 million kits distributed nationally and internationally, making the National Child Identification Program the largest child identification effort ever conducted.

"Our hardworking members are an integral part of the cities

and towns where they work, so we're happy to give something back to the community, especially if it helps keep kids safe," said Jimmy Settles, UAW-Ford vice president.

"We understand the importance of giving back to the communities where we live and work - it is a part of our heritage."

Ford's Chicago Stamping Plant implemented the program independently at an employee event during the summer, Adamski said.

It was so well received that the decision was made to roll it out across all UAW-Ford facilities.

"I want to thank the UAW and Ford Motor Company for their commitment in helping protect our nation's children," said Kenny Hansmire, executive director, National Child Identification Program.

"From start to finish, this project took less than 90 days. Ford and UAW leadership said 'this is the right thing to do,' then they rolled up their sleeves and got it done. Because of that, many of our nation's children will be safer today."

All U.S. plants and parts distribution centers were approached, and all UAW-Ford facilities have signed up for the program,

Winning Futures Program 'Empowers Today's Youth'

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and the Fiat Brand is looking forward to fulfilling this role," said Stoicevich.

The breakfast with local business leaders focused on building financial resources for Winning Futures so they can provide mentoring, strategic planning, and scholarship programs for high school students throughout metro Detroit, said Chrysler spokesman Kevin Frazier.

Students who have participated in the program say that Winning Futures' mentoring and curriculum have helped them make positive changes in their school and home lives.

Asia Nelson, a student in the Winning Futures program in Pon-

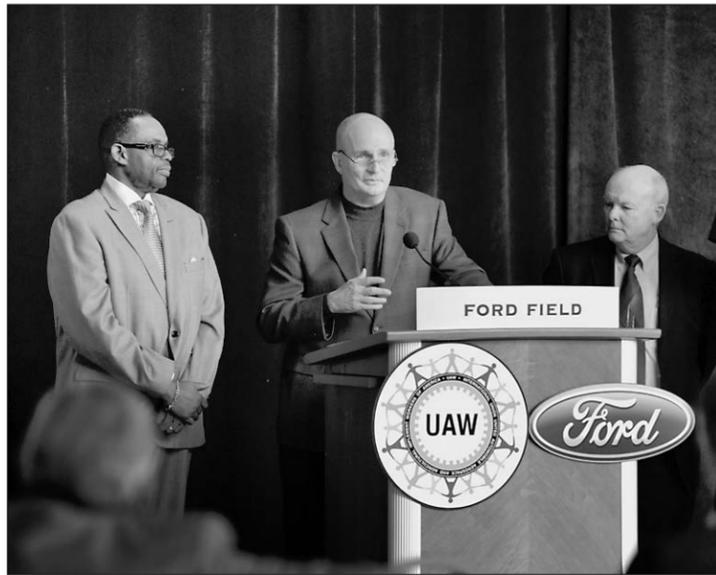
tiac, shared how much the program's study skills and goal-setting lessons had helped her to improve her grades to all As and Bs. Comments from other students were similar.

"Winning Futures' goal is to empower today's youth for a successful future by developing skills which can be used throughout their lives," said Kristina Marshall, Winning Futures' president and CEO.

"Through the program, students receive a positive adult role model, learn skills to improve their confidence and abilities, and set goals to advance their development. To have Chrysler make such a large investment in our youth speaks volumes not only to our students

and every DPS student the ability to have a record of their child's fingerprints certainly enhances the public safety measure we already have in place in case of emergency situations," said Detroit Public Schools Emergency Manager Jack Martin.

"We cannot thank UAW-Ford enough for its continued, strong partnership and for their commitment to the community."



From left, Jimmy Settles, Kenny Hansmire, Marty Mulloy

and mentors, but to the community as a whole. Companies do care and they are getting involved."

Frazier said Winning Futures has helped students from the following schools: Cass Technical High School and Jalen Rose Leadership Academy in Detroit; Harper Woods High School; Madison High School in Madison Heights; Cousino, Community and Mott high schools in Warren; and Pontiac Academy for Excellence.

More students like Asia will find their path to success through the program, Frazier said.

"We partner with high schools in metro Detroit to facilitate weekly innovative mentoring sessions in the school where we en-

gage youth through trusting relationships with mentors, energizing experiences, and unforgettable life lessons," said Marshall.

"This weekly program is unique in that it has a fun, structured curriculum where mentors teach students through hands-on activities, written exercises, and group discussions.

"We focus on character value development, self-exploration, goal-setting, job-readiness skills, overcoming obstacles, and strategic planning.

"Over 95 percent of students continue their education past high school and we have awarded over \$1.7M in scholarships to local youth. Since 1994, 30,000 students have been impacted by Winning Futures."