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Students honored



Mylie Mederios looks up to Mayor R. Gerald Hethcoat as he reads the tribute to the second grader from Joyce Bullock Elementary School.

Story, Photos and Video

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WILLISTON –The last two students to be awarded the Student of the Month (or Outstanding Student) Award by Williston Mayor R. Gerald Hethcoat accepted their honors Tuesday night (April 3) at the temporary Williston City Hall.

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<https://youtu.be/SZxPDsUyNUI>

In this video, Williston City Council President Charles Goodman addresses the two students, He lets them know they have the special honor of being the final two students under the administration of the Honorable Mayor R. Gerald Hethcoat to be named as Students of the Month. And the mayor added, that he could not think of any more special and wonderful students to be his final honorees than those two.



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In the photos above, Mylie Mederios and Kevin Chen accept honors and certificates from Mayor R. Gerald Hethcoat.

The inimitable style of Mayor Hethcoat came full force as always, even though everyone knew this was the last of these classic events.

Mylie Mederios, a second grader from Joyce Bullock Elementary School was the first student recognized. Her teacher is Jennifer Tiller.

As he has on countless previous occasions, the mayor asked the student if she knew that her teacher had written so many wonderful things about her. On this occasion, the young Ms. Mederios said she did not know that. Her guardians are Angie and Frank Mederios.

The mayor read what Tiller had noted, while pausing on occasion and adlibbing a little as well as calling for the audience to applaud the little girl for her academic and social skills.

“Miley is a great example to her classmates,” Tiller wrote and the mayor read. “She completes her classwork in a timely manner. She works hard to complete her homework each week and turn it in on time. She is always willing to help her classmates if they need it.

“I have seen her go up to students at recess that have no one to play with and ask them to play, the mayor said as he continued to read what the teacher wrote.”

He brought attention to this and other traits that were noted about the girl.

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“That’s awful nice of you and I’m going to give you a hand for that,” the mayor said as the audience again joined him in applauding the little girl.

“She is a friend and wants to make everyone feel loved,” the mayor said as the teacher had written, adding, “Now that’s just great!”

Mayor Hethcoat stopped reading there and told the audience that he has been honored to give so many students this award each month. These positive and loving traits are what makes the students stand out from the others, he said.

“And you know,” he added, “it’s not just happening. Somebody’s teaching them that and it is probably at home. And this is a wonderful thing. They say you (Mylie Mederios) want everyone to feel loved and welcomed. Well, that’s nice.”

He then returned to the comments penned by Tiller.

“It is a joy to have her in my class this year,” Tiller wrote and Hethcoat read. “I am eager to see the progress that she will continue to make not only academically but also socially. I know she is destined for great things!”

This ceremony was conducted in the former Band Room of the former Williston High School, which is in the multi-purpose building of the old WHS. The City Council meetings will be here while the new City Hall is being built.

Interestingly, City Clerk Fran Taylor, 30 years ago, was in the WHS Band with Frankie Mederios. Mr. Mederios graduated with Taylor’s brother. He was able to enjoy some time with a “walk down memory lane” by being in that room Tuesday night.

The second student honored was Williston Elementary School fifth grader Kevin Chen, who was nominated by his teacher Tamara Lutz.

Kevin is the son of Laura and Charlie Chen.

“Kevin is a very intelligent young boy who is dedicated to his academic performance,” Mayor Hethcoat read as Lutz had noted. “He goes above and beyond to challenge himself to be a better student. He comes to school ready to learn every day and is quick to provide input in class discussions daily. He will help other students to understand a concept when needed. He is a delight to have in my class, I am thankful to be blessed to teach such a bright student.”

The mayor added to what the teacher had noted.

This fifth grader, the mayor added, is taking sixth grade classes on the Internet at the same time he is completing the work as a fifth grader.

Therefore, the mayor said, Chen will be in the seventh-grade next year.

Both students received the Outstanding Student certificate presented and signed by Mayor Hethcoat. That certificate shows they earned recognition by their academic excellence, leadership, citizenship and attendance at their schools.

The mayor also asked them the question “Do you like pizza?”

They both do. Both students also received a certificate signed by the mayor for one 14-inch, two-topping pizza at Angelina Mia’s Pizzeria of Williston.

City Council President Charles Goodman addressed the two students and let them know they have the special honor of being the last two students under his administration to be named as Students of the Month.

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IN OTHER NEWS



Derek Dykes (left) holds samples as Jason O'Brian (cast on left arm) points to them for the City Council members to consider what to choose on certain finishing aspects to be on the inside of the future Williston City Hall.



Carpet samples are placed on the floor for display.

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Senior Project Manager (for the new City Hall) Derek Dykes from (for the new City Hall), spoke to the City Council about his reasons for choosing metal for the roof rather than asphalt shingles.

The five City Council members – President Charles Goodman, Vice President Nancy Winger, Councilman Elihu Ross, Councilman Justin Head and Councilwoman Marguerite Robinson all agreed to endorse the metal roof rather than a roof with asphalt shingles. Goodman has his own construction company and is very well versed in building structures.

The City Council also discussed the progress in construction of the future City Hall and how to choose carpet colors and the like.

Joining Dykes to bring the City Council up to date on the City Hall construction project were Project Manager Jack McDonald, also of (for the new City Hall).

Jason O'Brian is the architect/project manager from Walker Architects, and he was present to speak about colors and the like. The engineering firm they are currently working with on this project is Wright-Pierce with Dennis Davis (a Williston area resident) as engineer. He was not present Tuesday night.