

LAS LOMAS STUDENT RECEIVES MICHAEL W. DESA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

(Walnut Creek, Calif., June 1, 2014) - - The eighth annual *Michael W. DeSa Memorial Scholarship* administered by the Walnut Creek Education Foundation (WCEF), was awarded in the amount of \$2,000.00 to Las Lomas High School senior, Jordan Menkes. The scholarship was presented to Mr. Menkes during Las Lomas High School Senior Awards Night held on Tuesday, June 3rd.

The DeSa Family chose Mr. Menkes from among 16 Las Lomas seniors who applied for the scholarship. His achievements exemplify the scholarship criterion, which seeks a well-rounded graduate of the Walnut Creek schools (attending K-12) who has nurtured life's passions both in school and outside the confines of academia, through service in the community and other pursuits. After graduation from Las Lomas High School, Jordan will attend California State University Chico and will major in Business Administration (management) with a minor in Criminal Justice.

Jordan's involvement at school and outside activities, such as volunteering with the Walnut Creek Police Department as a police cadet and with the Heather Farms Baseball Association, have been his passions throughout his school years. Since 2011, he has been a volunteer police cadet helping the Walnut Creek Police Force at many city - sponsored events and receiving training on various aspects of law enforcement. In 2012, Jordan was promoted to Field Training Officer where he trains all new recruits and helps with digitizing police cases. In addition to his role with the police department, Jordan also works with the Heather Farms Baseball Association prepping baseball fields for upcoming games. As Jordan states, "I love seeing people smile and cheer as they watch baseball games. It's a small part of my day that brings a smile at other people's enjoyment". Jordan's future plans include applying to the Walnut Creek Police Department as a police officer which is his ultimate dream job.

When Walnut Creek Superintendent Mike DeSa passed away in 2006, his family requested that donations be made in his name to the Walnut Creek Education Foundation. DeSa's family, wife Lisa and children Caitlin and Sam proposed using

a portion of the funds to start a memorial scholarship fund to be administered by WCEF and awarded to seniors at Las Lomas High School. For more information about the Michael W. DeSa Memorial Scholarship or to make a donation, please contact Liz Davis, WCEF Executive Director by calling 925-933-WCEF (9233) or eadavisus@yahoo.com or www.wcefk12.org.

About the Walnut Creek Education Foundation The Walnut Creek Education Foundation K-12 is a non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3), non-profit tax I.D. # 94-2915151 organization founded in 2005 to maintain academic programs that have been eliminated or severely reduced due to the California state education budget shortfall. WCEF receives support through financial and in-kind donations from business and corporate partners, parents, alumni, volunteers, grants and the community-at-large. WCEF is managed by a volunteer executive committee, board of trustees, and a paid executive director, all of whom who share a deep commitment to maintaining excellence in the schools. For more information, contact WCEF at **(925) 933.WCEF (9233)**, or www.wcefK12.org. On-line donations can also be securely submitted through the WCEF website or mailed to WCEF, P.O. Box 186, Walnut Creek, CA 94597.