



## Garrett Kalt Describes Washington D.C. Trip As Inspirational

Garrett Kalt, son of St. Patrick’s parishioners Alan and Kieran Kalt and a Churchill County High School (CCHS) senior, was one of two delegates chosen to represent the State of Nevada at the 52nd Annual Washington Week—a United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP) fully funded and administered by the Hearst Foundation since its inception in 1962—from March 8-15, 2014, in our nation’s capital.



Garrett Kalt

According to the event’s brochure, the national initiative “provides a yearly opportunity for talented young people with demonstrated leadership abilities to deepen their understanding of America’s political processes and strengthen their resolve to pursue careers in public service.” The application process is merit-based and highly competitive, and Garrett’s Student Statement to request consideration for

USSYP 2014 participation helped win him a coveted spot. Madison Eckert who attends Reno High School was selected as the other Nevada delegate.

Week-long activities for the 104 state delegates included listening to major policy addresses by Senators, cabinet members, officials of the Departments of State and Defense, and directors of federal agencies.

“I got to meet multiple Senators, listen to phenomenal speakers, and even meet the President of the United States,” Garrett recalled. That was very exciting but, he added, “My all-time favorite (activity of the week) was getting to meet 103 other delegates, some of whom have become close friends and role models. I talk with them over the

*(Continued on page 2)*



**CONFIRMATION RETREAT**—Twenty-six students and 11 leaders participated in a two-day Confirmation retreat held at St. Patrick’s Church on Sun. & Mon., March 30 & 31. Pictured above are, from left to right, in the first row, Viviane Ugalde, Sadie Venturacci, Nancy Moran, Addyson Harmon, Rebecca Mills, Mayra Alarado, Russell Peterson, Megan McCormick Chase McElvain, and Karla Lopes; in the second row, Jenni Coronado, Ramon Munoz, Maria Montes, Benedicto Villagrana, Marco Guerrero, Deisi Carrion, Yeleima Ugalde, and Marciela Mones; in the third row, Enrique Munoz, Yesenia Agulera, Iris, Mario Ugalde, Jaime Gonzales, Sean Cordes, Taylen Cordes, and Nate Narag; in the last row, Paul Loop, Missy McCormick, Cheryl Venturacci, Bill Hillary, Sandy Hillary, Amy McElvain, Father Tony Quijano, and Rudy McElvain. Not pictured are student Cesar Rosales and leaders Sherri Hall and Allen Chronister. The confirmands will receive the sacrament of Confirmation on Sun., May 11, 11 a.m. Mass. *Photo: Rudy McElvain.*

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duganmv@cccmm.net**Capital Campaign Update**

Dollar A Day: near \$50,000 raised so far (another \$100,000 needed to receive Catholic Extension grant of \$75,000)

Campaign Total To Date: near \$1,018,000 (includes Dollar A Day funds)  
The Build-Out Project Committee is currently considering additional fundraising efforts.

**Kalt** (Continued from page 1)

telephone regularly.”

In addition to being able to participate in 2014 USSYP, each delegate receives a \$5,000 undergraduate college scholarship.

Garrett feels that his Washington, D.C., experience “has helped me to become a better person, has opened my mind to different viewpoints, and has inspired me to follow my dreams instead of taking the easy way out.”

In his well-written Student Statement Garrett writes that he has had a passion for student government and leadership, sports and community service since he was in the 5th grade. As he matured into young adulthood he learned to step outside his comfort zone, he said, and has been rewarded with enriching growth and development. “I seized upon volunteer service as a way of sharing and giving back in a loving way to make improvements and create a positive change for those around me,” he concluded. “It has been my experience that the more I give to others in service, the more I receive in personal development and satisfaction.”

Garrett’s dedication to excellence and community service has been evident by his highly accomplished high school record.

At CCHS Garrett has held elected positions on the Student Council every year, culminating in his election as Student Body President for the 2013-2014 academic year. He organized a clothing drive for victims of Typhoon Haiyan and helped lead his school and community in collecting 400 bags of clothing to ship to the Philippines. With a weighted GPA of 5.1 (following outstanding performance in Advanced Placement classes), he is a member of the National Honor Society and also a varsity tennis player. Garrett received the President’s Volunteer Service Award for completing 100 hours of community service in his junior year



**2014 USSYP NV DELEGATES**—Garrett Kalt of Fallon and Madison Eckert of Reno were the two delegates representing Nevada at the United States Senate Youth Program 2014 in Washington, D.C. during the week of March 8-15. Photo: Garrett Kalt

at CCHS.

On Fri., June 6, Garrett graduates from Churchill County High School and welcomes everyone in St. Patrick’s parish “to come to the ceremony and celebrate the graduation of all 20 Catholic high school seniors.”

After graduation Garrett hopes to double major in political science and broadcast journalism at Washington State University, Pullman, WA, where he has been accepted into the honors program; the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) where his older brother Tharon currently attends; or Boise State in Idaho.

Garrett also has a younger sister, Stacy, who is an 8th grader at Churchill County Middle School. His father Alan is Churchill County Comptroller, and his mom Kieran is a 3rd grade teacher at Numa Elementary.

Indicative of his self-awareness and maturity, Garrett expressed his appreciation of all who have had a hand in his personal growth and development—especially his parents who, he said, have instilled in him the importance of lifelong learning and service to others as critical elements to success in life. But he would also like to give a huge shout-out and thank you to everyone who has helped to shape him into the person he has (and continues to) become. “I am so blessed to be a part of the parish family,” Garrett reflected.

(Editor’s Note: Photo on page 1 of Garrett Kalt by Susan Robertson)

**BOOK SIGNING—**

Author Judy Carlson is surrounded by fans of her book, *Reflections from a Garden*, whose sales so far of donated copies have provided St. Pat’s Building Fund with over \$4,000. Judy has often been available after weekend Masses to sign purchased books. Thanks ♥ - Judy & Deacon Kurt— for donating the books!