



# Chesterland Rotary

June 2007

## Geauga Teens to Invade Normandy

Just when the French are finally coming around by electing a pro-American president, four students from West Geauga and one from Regina are invading Normandy France for part of the summer. Armed with good old American charm and unlimited enthusiasm, the students will spend the next month with host families in various Normandy towns. The students are part of Chesterland Rotary's short term Youth Exchange program. These young ladies will immerse themselves in French culture, language, and discovery, while having the time of their lives. They then will bring 5 French students from their host families back to the USA. These new friends will live with their American families for a month to experience our hometown hospitality and culture first hand. Let's think for a minute... Chesterland vs. Paris... Napoleon's castle vs. Chester town hall. We should have these kids negotiate our next treaty with France! Eight weeks, making life long friends, seeing the world, now that's the way to take a summer break.

**Katie Taylor** is active in West Geauga's marching band, Interact, Big Sister Big Brother, concert band and track. Katie is excited to learn another culture first hand with native guides as opposed to tour guides. She has taken four years of French. Katie will be staying just outside of Normandy.

**Stephanie Bricklebank** is a member of Interact, and Teen Institute. Stephanie loves to read, be with friends, and attend concerts. She is looking to join the video broadcasting team at West G. She is excited to experience other cultures at a much deeper level and has taken 2 years of French.

**Maddie Dicks** of West G loves the arts, singing, dancing, and acting. She has been in numerous plays. Maddie plays Oboe in the symphonic band and is on the drum line in the marching band. She is also on the gymnastic and track teams, Interact, and HUGS. She has studied Spanish but is not concerned with language difficulties.

**Jessica Haberny** of West G has a great sense of humor and fun spirit. She has studied 3 years of French. She is interested in art, music, acting, reading, and photography. Active in student council, musicals, and Girl Scouts, she is looking at industrial design or maybe owning her own fashion boutique.

**Angie Novelli** from Russell attends Regina High School. She loves biology and is an accomplished figure skater. Angie is a member of National Honors Society, SADD, and Pro Life clubs. Angie leads her class scholarship fund drives at school and is on the leadership team at her church. She wants to travel the world, coach figure skating, and become a veterinarian or pursue a career in art.

You can share the experiences of these young adventures online at the Chesterland Rotary web site. They will post emails and photos as their French invasion unfolds. Chesterland Rotary will be hosting a young lady from France next school year. **Alix Boulard** will be a senior at West Geauga High School next fall. Rotary is looking for one host family for three months of Alix's stay. Alix has studied classical guitar since she was 8, she sings, love to laugh, draws and plays piano. She is fluent in English. She is trying to get a black belt in Karate this year. She loves math, science, the internet and the sitcom "Friends". She wants to become an agricultural engineer and work in Africa to help improve agricultural techniques.