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NEWS RELEASE

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**PHS Teacher AFA Teacher of the Year &
VHS AFJROTC AFA Cadet of the Year**



HOUSTON COUNTY, GA – Emily Heath, Perry High School science teacher, was named the Air Force Association (AFA) 2010 Teacher of the Year by the Carl Vinson Memorial Chapter. Veterans High School junior Brian Smagh was also named AFA Outstanding JROTC Cadet of the Year. They were presented their awards by Maj. Gen. Robert McMahon, Commander of the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center, and Mike Trotter, AFA chapter president, at the annual awards luncheon held at Robins Air Force Base.

The AFA Teacher of the Year award recognizes classroom teachers for their accomplishments and achievements in exciting students about science and math and preparing them to use and contribute to tomorrow's technologies. This award recognizes teachers who are furthering excellence and making coming to class an adventure. Perry High's Col. Craig Lightfoot, USAF (Retired) nominated Heath for her incorporation of technology into the classroom. She was presented a plaque at the awards banquet and a \$250 check, tote bag and certificate at her school.

MORE

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Cadet Smagh was nominated by his instructor, Lt. Col. Steve Atkins, USAF (Retired). The Cadet of the Year displays: leadership characteristics which may lead to future positions of responsibility; a positive attitude toward training and all areas of school life; pride in personal appearance and wear of the uniform; personal initiative, judgment, and self-confidence; courtesy, promptness, obedience, and respect for customs; growth potential, capacity for responsibility, high productivity, adaptability to change, the highest personal and ethical standards and strong personal convictions.

Recent past winners of the AFA awards are listed below.

2009: Perry High School Angela Heath was named Teacher of the Year; Northside High Cadet J. Greg Floyd was named Air Force JROTC Cadet of the Year.

2008: Warner Robins High School Senior Master Sgt. (Ret.) Antoine Jackson was named Teacher of the Year; Warner Robins High Senior Cadet Col. Thomas Byrd was named Outstanding Air Force JROTC Cadet of the Year.

2007: Warner Robins High Master Sgt (Ret.) Ron Vaughan was named Teacher of the Year; Warner Robins High Cadet Col. James Robinson and Houston County High Cadet 2nd Lt. Nicholas Quenga tied for AFA Cadet of the year.

2006: Feagin Mill Middle School Tammy Strickland was named Teacher of the Year.

2005: Northside High Chief Master Sgt. Marvin James was named Teacher of the Year; Northside High Cadet Major Robert Anzalone was named Cadet of the Year.

The mission of the AFA is three fold:

1. Educate the public about the need for aerospace power and its role in a strong national defense.
2. Advocate aerospace power and a strong national defense.
3. Support the United States Air Force and the Air Force Family.

For more information, visit the AFA Web site at <http://www.afa.org/aef/aid/awards.asp>. Perry High School is located at 1307 North Avenue in Perry. Dr. Darryl Albritton serves as principal. Heath may be contacted at emily.heath@hcbe.net. Veterans High is located at 340 Piney Grove Road in Kathleen. Lionel Brown serves as principal. Lt. Col. Atkins may be reached at Steven.Atkins@hcbe.net.

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