

Washington, DC -- U.S. Representative Michael A. Arcuri (D-Utica) announced today that 28 students from the 24th Congressional District have been nominated to compete for appointments to the U.S. Military Service Academies.

“It is an honor to nominate these outstanding young men and women from our community,” **Arcuri said**

. “These nominees have worked extremely hard both inside and outside the classroom. I know they will make their communities, and their country, proud.”

Appointments to all four U.S. Military Service Academies are chosen from nominations received from Members of Congress throughout the country. Arcuri’s Veterans’ Advisory Committee recommended candidates in the 24th Congressional District for a nomination from Arcuri. Final appointments are determined by the U.S. Military Service Academies, selecting from a nationwide pool of nominees. In 2008, nine students nominated by Arcuri received appointments to one of the four U.S. Service Academies.

The following students have been nominated to one of the four U.S. Military Service Academies:

United States Air Force Academy (Colorado Springs, CO)

Justen David Fazekas, son of Mr. and Mrs. David and Melissa Fazekas of Verona (Oneida County), has been nominated to the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, CO. A senior at Westmoreland Central School, Justen’s activities include: Civil Air Patrol, Secretary of Treasury-Westmoreland High School Student Government, Ice Hockey, National Honor Society, Cross Country, Martial Arts, SADD, Drama Club.

Bryan Frederick Sheppard, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alan and Kathleen Sheppard of Poland (Herkimer County), has been nominated to the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, CO. A senior at Poland Central School, Bryan’s activities include: Cross Country (Team Captain), Tennis (Team Captain), National Honor Society, Wrestling, Boys State, BOCES Regional Program for Excellence, Science Club (Treasurer).

Kurt John Hakola, son of Mr. and Mrs. John and Cheryl Hakola of Port Crane (Broome County), has been nominated to the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, CO. A senior at Harpursville Central School, Kurt's activities include: National Honor Society, Boys State, Wrestling, Advanced Placement Classes, Expert Marksman.

Joseph Alan Gulat, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles and Mary Gulat of Greene (Chenango County), has been nominated to the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, CO. A senior at Greene High School, Joseph's activities include: Soccer, Swimming, Track and Field, National Honor Society, Academic Challenge.

United States Merchant Marine Academy (Great Neck, NY)

Dustin Ross, son of Ms. Janice Wagner of Bainbridge (Chenango County), has been nominated to the United States Merchant Marine Academy in Great Neck, NY. A senior at Bainbridge-Guilford Central School, Dustin's activities include: National Honor Society, Track and Field (New York State and National competitor), Football

United States Military Academy (West Point, NY)

Cody Allen Smith, son of Mr. Timothy Smith of Cortland (Cortland County), has been nominated to the United States Military Academy in West Point, NY. A senior at Cortland Junior-Senior High School, Cody's activities include: National Honor Society, President-Student Government, Football, Baseball, Rotary Science Olympiad, Basketball, volunteer for Salvation Army and American Red Cross.

Robbie John Edgin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gary and Marilyn Edgin of Marcy (Oneida County), has been nominated to the United States Military Academy in West Point, NY. A senior at Whitesboro High School, Robbie's activities include: Football, Lacrosse, National Honor Society, volunteer for Relay for Life and as a tutor.

Craig Alexander Champlin, son of Mr. and Mrs. James and Maryann Champlin of Oxford (Chenango County), has been nominated to the United States Military Academy in West Point, NY. A senior at Oxford Academy, Craig's activities include: National Honor Society, Boys State, Class President-Student Government, Football, Basketball, Baseball, New England Young Writers Conference, volunteer for New York State Veterans Home and Big Brothers/Big Sisters (2007 Big Brother of the Year).

Randy Adam Mills, son of Mr. and Mrs. William and Cindy Mills of Rome (Oneida County), has been nominated to the United States Military Academy in West Point, NY. A senior at Holland Patent Central School, Randy's activities include: New York State Army National Guard, National Honor Society, Football, Track and Field, Advanced Placement courses.

Anthony M. Cadieux, son of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony and Marion Cadieux of New Hartford (Oneida County), has been nominated to the United States Military Academy in West Point, NY. A graduate of New Hartford Senior High School and a student at LeMoyne College in Syracuse, Anthony's activities include: All star Ice Hockey player-currently plays on Syracuse Stars, substantial volunteer work.

Cody Huxtable Dye, son of Mr. and Mrs. David and Colleen Dye of Richfield Springs (Otsego County), has been nominated to the United States Military Academy in West Point, NY. A senior at Mount Markham High School, Cody's activities include: Wrestling, Cross Country, Golf, Outward Bound, Millers Mills Grange, American Wilderness Leadership School.

Thomas Childeric Zenon, son of Mr. and Mrs. Yves and Mary Zenon of Waterville (Oneida County), has been nominated to the United States Military Academy in West Point, NY. A senior at Waterville Junior-Senior High School, Thomas' activities include: Football, Boy Scouts of America, working on his pilot's license, working at La Petit Maison.

Robert Orlie Kohlbrenner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mark and Lauri Kohlbrenner of Rome (Oneida County), has been nominated to the United States Military Academy in West Point, NY. A senior at Rome Free Academy, Robert's activities include: Lacrosse, Basketball, Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps, Kitty Hawk Air Society, volunteer for the New York State School for the Deaf.

Paul McBride, son of Mr. William McBride of Seneca Falls (Seneca County), has been nominated to the United States Military Academy in West Point, NY. A senior at Mynderse Academy, Paul's activities include: National Honor Society, Boys State, President-Model United Nations Club, Football, tutor.

Cameron DeMayo, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mike and Kim DeMayo of Mohawk (Herkimer County), has been nominated to the United States Military Academy in West Point, NY. A graduate of Mohawk Central School and a student at SUNY Brockport, Cameron's activities include: Baseball, Basketball, Football, Altar Server, Knights of Columbus, American Legion Baseball.

Jessica Catherine Persoon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack and Jenifer Persoon of Interlaken (Seneca County), has been nominated to the United States Military Academy in West Point, NY. A senior at South Seneca High School, Jessica's activities include: National Honor Society, Soccer, Track and Field, Honors/Advanced Placement courses, President's Gold Award for Excellence 2007.

Eric David Scorzafava, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles and Nancy Scorzafava of Oneonta (Otsego County), has been nominated to the United States Military Academy in West Point, NY. A senior at Oneonta High School, Eric's activities include: Golf, Snowboarding, Baseball, Future Business Leaders of America.

David Wroblicki, son of Mr. and Mrs. Don and Janet Wroblicki of Yorkville (Oneida County), has been nominated to the United States Military Academy in West Point, NY. A graduate of New York Mills High School and a student at Clarkson University, David's interests include: American Legion Boys State, Cross Country, Track and Field for New York Mills and Clarkson.

United States Naval Academy (Annapolis, MD)

Mr. Wayne Ralph Cleary, III, son of Ms. Claudia Tenney and Mr. Wayne R. Cleary, Jr. of Whitesboro (Oneida County), has been nominated to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD. A senior at New Hartford Senior High School, Wayne's activities include: Civil Air Patrol, Swim Team, Cross Country, Film Club, Model United Nations, Advanced Placement and Honors courses.

Paul James Zimmerman, son of Mr. and Mrs. James and Joelle Zimmerman of Homer (Cortland County), has been nominated to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD. A senior at Homer Central High School, Paul's activities include: National Honor Society, Ice Hockey, Soccer, Lacrosse, Jazz Band, Military History, Advanced Placement and Honors courses, substantial volunteer work.

Roman Michael Klimchuk of Auburn (Cayuga County), son of Ms. Patricia Klimchuk of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, has been nominated to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD. A senior at St. Thomas More Catholic Secondary School, Roman's activities include: Track and Field, Wrestling, Drama, Royal Air Cadet, Canadian Private Pilot License.

Andrea Jennifer Rosen, daughter of Dr. Raquel Rosen of Cooperstown (Otsego County) and Mr. Kuross Samii of Washington, DC, has been nominated to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD. A graduate of Cooperstown High School and a student at the United States Naval Academy Preparatory School, Andrea's activities include: Drama Club, Choir, Honors courses, substantial volunteer work.

Amy Patricia Sleeper, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Richard and Catherine Sleeper of New Hartford (Oneida County), has been nominated to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD. A senior at New Hartford Senior High School, Amy's activities include: Soccer, Track and Field, CYO, Religion, volunteer work.

Michael Francis Barrow, son of Ms. Maureen Barrow of Hartwick (Otsego County), has been nominated to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD. A senior at Valley Forge Military Academy and College, Michael's activities include: National Honor Society, Class President, Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps, Honor Roll, Academic and Physical Fitness awards.

Erica Lynn Romer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Steve and Nancy Romer of Middleville (Herkimer County), has been nominated to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD. A senior at West Canada Valley High School, Erica's activities include: National Honor Society, Track and Field, Soccer, Band, Drama Club.

Arron Michael Canarelli, son of Mr. Raymond Canarelli and Ms. Tina Carey of New Hartford (Oneida County), has been nominated to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD. A

senior at Vermont Academy, Arron's activities include: Ice Hockey, Lacrosse, Football, Concert and Jazz Band.

Peter M. Capone, son of Peter P. and Susan Capone of Johnson City (Broome County), has been nominated to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD. A graduate of Johnson City Senior High School and a student at the United States Naval Academy Preparatory School, Peter's activities include: Varsity Wrestling (Captain)-7th-11th grade, Varsity Soccer-10th-11th, Varsity Baseball-9th-10th, National Honor Society, Johnson City Varsity Club, Volunteer Work.

Brendan Thomas Lewis, son of Thomas and Jean Lewis of Auburn (Cayuga County), has been nominated to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD. A graduate of Auburn High School and a student at the United States Naval Academy Preparatory School, Brendan's activities include: Varsity Hockey, Varsity Lacrosse, National Honor Society, Volunteer Work.

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