



**THE GOLDEN ROTARY CLUB
LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE GOLDEN ROTARY
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM**

Getting off the plane in a foreign country where you barely know the language is a scary experience, especially when you're moving there for an entire school year. This is what our high school exchange students feel when they arrive, but they are quickly greeted and paired up with amazing host families. Students typically attend Golden High School and engage in school activities, Interact activities and Rotary club activities. This program helps promote international goodwill and better friendships, and it gives the exchange student and host families the opportunity to share cultures and create better understanding. This year The Rotary Club of Golden is hosting a female student from Denmark, Mallin. She sums up her year so far... "for me it has been an interesting ride. It has gone by so fast! It's really scary. My three host families have taught me a lot about different American cultures, that not everyone is the same. Because of my host families, I've tried lots of new things, like climbing. My best memories are hanging out with the exchange students and just having lots of fun!" So far this year, she has participated in the school cheer program, the art club, and Interact. With the Rotary Exchange Program, all students have been up skiing and before they leave for home in July, they will participate in a two week bus trip through the southwestern states and California. This is always a highlight for the students.

The exchange program helps provide exposure to new cultures and ways of life which can foster a better understanding between people from different lands. That understanding can be the foundation upon which lasting peace and harmony can someday rest. Benefits include immersion in another culture while adapting to a new way of life, improving foreign language skills, assuming leadership roles shaped by lessons from the experience, improving resumes for college or jobs and building memories and life long friendships. Local students also have the opportunity to participate in an outgoing exchange program.

Funds from the upcoming Golf and Gala will help support this program and ensure that we provide the best experience possible for the students.

Your support as a sponsor or golf/gala participant will be greatly appreciated. And remember, you can be a host family or if you have a teen-age student, they can apply to be part of the outgoing program! Quotes from past host families: "It goes without saying that the Rotary Youth Exchange Program could not exist were it not for the willingness of families to open their homes to students they have never met. It's a leap of faith. It is not necessary to be a Rotarian, to be married or to have children at home to be a host family for an exchange student." "As parents, we want to expose our children to the world in a safe way. This is an excellent start. Our children need to see that

