

People-to-people

Teen seeks S. Pacific study

By Sue Buck
Staff Writer

Adam Bryan Harris is a young man with a mission. You may see him out and about, operating a chore service. He's shoveling walks and baby-sitting.

"I thought that it would be cool to go to a different country and explore there and, to get away from home and be by myself. I'm an honor student and on almost every sports team. I try to have good citizenship."

Adam Bryan Harris

He needs to raise \$4,500 by April 1. Harris has applied to the People-to-People South Pacific Discovery Program. The challenging project combines a strong educational focus with fun activities.

from home and be by myself," said Harris, 13, a Power Middle school student. "I'm an honor student and on almost every sports team. I try to have good citizenship."

called Farmingtonopolis. Harris will contact Farmington area businesses to sponsor it. The businesses will have a place on the board game.

During the three-week itinerary, student ambassadors will visit Auckland and Rotorua on the North Island of New Zealand as well as Sydney, Brisbane and Moreton in Australia.

Harris will explore the rain forests and hot springs area of New Zealand's North Island. He will also study the tropical marine life of the Great Barrier Reef.

The South Pacific Discovery program is designed to give students a chance to experience Australia and New Zealand in ways some tourists just dream about.

Harris believes he was chosen because of his performance on the ACT, which he was allowed to take early to measure his potential.

"The emphasis is on the outdoors experience," a People-to-People brochure said. Students hand-feed wild dolphins at a marine research center, go on whale-watching cruises, snorkel on tropical reefs in supervised groups, hold koalas and wallabies and enjoy tobogganing on giant sand dunes to name just a few of the planned activities.

Student Ambassadors represent their nation through people-to-people contact.

Students also learn to appreciate the beauty and diversity of the world "Down Under."



ANN HALEY/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Student assistance: Power Middle School student Adam Harris, 13, has been selected to represent Oakland County in the "People to People" program, which includes going to New Zealand and Australia. Harris is trying to raise \$4,600 to make the trip possible.

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