

CHELMSFORD
Independent

August 10, 2006

Newsmakers

Thursday, August 10, 2006

Chelmsford resident **Stephen Bottari** will be joining FORGE, an international humanitarian organization, to help them in their efforts for Refugee empowerment and growth as a summer intern.

Bottari, a senior at Bishop Guertin High School in Nashua, has considerable experience in public relations at such a young age. Stephen is involved with public relations and public speaking through extracurricular and co-curricular activities such as Mock Trial, Model United Nations, and writing editorials for his school newspaper.

It also helps that Bottari, 17, hopes to pursue an interest in political science and law after his senior year at Bishop Guertin.

"We cannot just sit around waiting for the world to change," said Bottari as to why he applied for the internship, "If I don't act, then who will?"

The FORGE internship is an opportunity for Bottari to hone crucial yet often difficult skills such as writing press releases, event planning, and creating media contacts.

"The largest obstacle I face [with the internship] is trying to bring something thousands of miles away to peoples' doorsteps." said Bottari, "But, if I can get even just one person involved or interested in helping such a worthwhile cause, then I have done my job and made a difference."

FORGE (Facilitating Opportunities for Refugee Growth and Empowerment) is an entirely youth-run and privately-funded organization that partners with refugees in Zambia.

For more information or to find out how you can get involved please visit www.FORGEprogram.org.