

## **WALLMART SUPERCENTER in Cortland Presents:**

### **A Chocolate Cake for Evan**

Like the sound of a firebell in the night, Evan Rihel, a junior enrolled in Public Safety, will remember the day he saw a chocolate cake in the media center at the TCTC. “I was trying to concentrate on my school work, but the cake was like a magnet drawing my attention. The toughest part was the realization that it wasn’t being delivered for me. My English teacher, Mrs. DeToro, told me it was a reward for students in another class.”

As an experienced instructor, DeToro realized this could be a teachable moment for everyone. She explained to the students that one of the philosophies at the TCTC was to catch kids being good. Perhaps, if they continued to improve their writing skills, there could be a chocolate cake with their name on it.

Evan took DeToro at her word. The possibility of winning a cake provided him with the motivation to succeed in class. He also assumed a leadership role in helping other students to try harder.

Evan wrote an essay for the review of the administration at the TCTC. Before submitting it, DeToro insisted that he revise and edit. She told him that only his best work would qualify for consideration. On December 22, the last day before the Holiday recess, there was a knock on the classroom door. This time, the chocolate cake was meant for Evan. After hearing about his persistence, the WALMART SUPERCENTER bakery presented him with the dessert. Sometimes, wishes do come true, especially when they are accompanied by hard work.

