

## Volunteer



Brittany Gibbs, a senior from Niles, enrolled in the Restaurant Services Program would be a smash hit in the commonwealth of Tennessee. After all, it is nicknamed the *Volunteer State*. The people familiar with her in the Buckeye state are pleased that she lives here. To paraphrase a quote about Will Rogers, “She never a met a worthy cause that she did not like.”

On Monday, September 21, Brittany was called to the office for an interview. Before she could be asked a question, she posed one herself. “Would the interviewer be interested in purchasing a candy bar as a fund raiser to pay for medical bills of a boy who was hit by a baseball at a Scrapper’s game? This is only Brittany’s latest endeavor in extending good will to others. Within the past year she has sold raffle tickets at baseball games to award scholarships and organized blood drives at her home school. She is also a gift wrapper, bell ringer and Christmas Angel for the Salvation Army. Additionally, she works Operation Child at the Trumbull County Fairgrounds, and is a volunteer at the Mt. Carmel Festival.

Readers are probably wondering where she finds the time for all of these charitable activities. Throughout her high school career she has been a solid B student in her academic classes.

Brittany credits her membership in the Niles McKinley High School Key Club. The organization sponsored by the Kiwanis Club encourages students to reach out to community members who need a helping hand. Brittany is currently vice-president of the Key Club.

Jim Antenucci is one of the instructors for Restaurant Services. He addressed Brittany's performance in the program. "She was selected as our General Manager for the Cove Restaurant based on the leadership skills and maturity that she displayed as a junior. Brittany is a problem solver and possesses excellent people skills. She is also a perfectionist who insists that every task is completed to the highest standard. Regarding the amount of extra-curricular involvement in good works, he added, "She is not looking to pad her resume with superficial or transparent involvement. She truly cares and wants to help other people."

Some adults have stereotypical perceptions of teenagers. They believe they are not self-centered and concerned only with short term rewards and pleasures. They should be introduced to a person like Brittany Gibbs. Never again will they paint all teenagers with the same brush. She wears a smile instead of a frown; she has a very small ego, but a very big heart. The TCTC is very pleased that she is a student in our building.

The Bob Evans Restaurant on Youngstown Road in Warren presented Brittany with a pie to recognize her good deeds. The TCTC adds one admonition. This is one instance where charity begins at home. "Dear Brittany, You can't give it away.'

