



June 17, 2009

County United Way hands out Senior Volunteer Awards

Submitted story

Every year the United Way of Sandusky County awards one graduating senior from each high school in Sandusky County with a Senior Volunteer Award and a monetary gift. Students are nominated by school counselors and recognized for volunteer activities in both their school and community. The 2009 Senior Volunteer Award recipients are:

BELLEVUE HIGH SCHOOL -- KAITLYNN SHARP

Kaitlynn has spent numerous hours of her high school career doing volunteer work. She is a Volunteer for the Bellevue Hospital, a preschool PALS volunteer and an elementary student tutor. She keeps a part-time job and maintains a close to 4.0 GPA. Some of her many honors include: All American Cheerleader, Catholic Youth Organization Leadership Award, Honors Choir Member, Elks Scholarship Award, VFW Americanism Essay Contest Winner and Citizenship Award.

Kaitlynn is the daughter of Kim and Monica Sharp, of Bellevue.

CLYDE HIGH SCHOOL -- EMILY DAGG

Emily is is a member of Key Club, National Honor Society, Art Club, Science Club, SADD, FCCLA and Ohio Model United Nations, just to name a few. She is a member of Sacred Heart Parish. She participates in the Relay for Life and has been involved in 4-H for nine years. She volunteers everyday at school with the special education students, helping them with homework, activities or doing homework. She is such a positive influence for these students and they look forward to seeing her daily.

Emily is the daughter of John and Toni, of Clyde.

GIBSONBURG HIGH SCHOOL -- REBECCA REYNOLDS

Rebecca is someone who takes pride in her community and is always willing to lend a helping hand. She has been on the Building Community together Youth Philanthropy Board for the past four years, logging over 200 hours in service. She is also an active member of St. Michael's Church, where she went on a weeklong mission trip to Kentucky to help build homes and deliver food to the needy. She is the President of the Student Council and a member of the National Honor Society along with many other clubs and organizations.

Rebecca is the daughter of Brian and Elizabeth Reynolds, of Gibsonburg.

ROSS HIGH SCHOOL -- ELLEN DEFRANCE

Ellen is always ready to help where needed, whether at school, church or the community. Notable among her volunteer activities are the two mission trips to New Orleans to help rebuild after Hurricane Katrina. She has been a bell ringer for the Salvation Army, helped with the Special Olympics Swim Meet and is a school library volunteer. She is a member of the Lutheran Youth Organization, Building Community Together and the Community Band.

Ellen is the daughter of David and Gail DeFrance of Fremont.

ST. JOSEPH CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL -- RACHEL WURZEL

Rachel is committed to community service. She has been past class vice president, Treasurer and a member of the Student Council. She has been on several volunteer committees for: Walk for Life, Community Lights Before Christmas, Senior Citizens Snow Ball and The Fremont Recreational Center Halloween Party. She also volunteered at many school functions such as: Catholic Schools Auction, St. Joseph's Phone-a-thon, St. Joseph Festival and The Link Team Leader.

Rachel is the daughter of T.J. and Anita Wurzel of Fremont.

VANGUARD-SENTINEL CAREER CENTER -- ALEX MORELOCK

Alex has volunteered for American Red Cross, Bethesda Care Center, St. Francis Health Care Center and Windsor Lane. She helped with blood pressure checks, sold baked goods for Vanguard's Community Help Day and lent a hand to elderly with their chores for Community Service Day. She assisted with "Mini Cheers" for elementary students who want to become cheerleaders. She works more than 25 hours a week and maintains outstanding grades.

Alex is the daughter of Joe and Amy Morelock, of Gibsonburg.

WOODMORE HIGH SCHOOL -- TAYLOR RIFE

Taylor plans to continue her education at Capital University, majoring in Biology/Pre-Medicine. She has contributed numerous hours of community service through her membership in Solomon Lutheran Church and National Honor Society. She is a member of Woodmore High School's Key Club and has served a past president and vice-president. Some of her other volunteer activities include: tutoring, donating blood, working the Holiday Bureau in Elmore, cleaning up highways and White Star Trail, bell ringing for Salvation Army, trick or treating for UNICEF, assisting with vacation bible school and Race for the Cure.

Taylor is the daughter of Dirk and Lana Rife, of Woodville.

ELLEN DEFRANCE

