

Acknowledging student success

9 hrs ago

KUDOS: Praising positives in our community

Serving others and meeting the needs of the less fortunate is an admirable quality in people. It's even more impressive when the help is being delivered by teenagers.

Warm Blessings soup kitchen recently was the beneficiary of efforts of the Service Club at Elizabethtown High School.

As part of a project for Lead2Feed, a national service and leadership challenge, club members last month held a "We are Silent for Empty Bowls," a day of silence. Students committed to not talking or texting their classmates during breaks.

Participating students had family or friends sponsor them to be silent for an entire school day, with the exception of class discussions or being asked questions by teachers.

In all, 49 students raised \$600 from the effort. That money was spent to buy food for the soup kitchen.

Not only that, students also volunteered at the soup kitchen.

"Our team had always enjoyed service, but we did not realize how much of an impact we could make until this project," Elizabethtown junior Sarah Been said.

Lessons learned at a young age have a way of following you through life. The project is a foundation for future serving efforts beyond the students' high school lives.

FKHS STUDENT WINS STATE HONOR. Brandon Clay, a junior at Fort Knox High School, is this year's Kentucky Military Youth of the Year.

The award is based on an application and a written and public speaking component, and focuses on youth who lead and make a difference in life as part of the Boys & Girls Club of America.

Clay has been heavily involved in the Devers Middle School and Teen Center on post.

The biggest part of being Youth of the Year is having a vision for America's youth. Clay's passion now and always, he said, will be to reduce bullying.

In earning his state title, Clay received an \$8,000 scholarship and a laptop.

He next will compete in July in the Regional Military Youth of the Year in Chicago and will take part in June in the Boys & Girls Club 2018 Teen Ambassador Training.

GATTON ACADEMY SELECTS FIVE LOCALS. Hardin County always has had a strong pipeline with The Gatton Academy of Mathematics and Science at Western Kentucky University.

Next school year will be no different as five juniors-to-be in Hardin County are among 99 students selected from across the state to begin attending the elite academy. They are Catherine Appelman of Elizabethtown High School; Amara Danturthi and Patrick O'Boyle of John Hardin High School; JaMaur Lyons of North Hardin High School; and Christopher Nathaniel Smith of North Hardin Christian School.

After two years at Gatton, students will have a good start on their college degrees. Once they finish their junior and senior years of high school at Gatton, they will graduate high school with a minimum of 60 college credit hours.

Students are accepted at Gatton Academy after ACT and SAT scores, grades, awards, extracurricular activities, responses to essay and short answer questions, and letters of recommendation are evaluated, according to school officials.

This editorial reflects a consensus of The News-Enterprise editorial board.

