

What has been your most important accomplishment?

By joining CSAY (council against substance abuse in youth), it serves as holding some of my most proud accomplishments in order to spread environmental awareness amongst my peers. In today's society, it seems that substance abuse involving teenagers in high school is inevitable. School is supposed to be a safe place for youth to learn and grow in positive directions without the presence of drugs and alcohol. Therefore, I and a few friends joined CSAY's mission to "have fun" without substance abuse. To practice what we preach, CSAY works to provide learning opportunities that involve fun activities. As a co-chair on CSAY's decision-making committee, I am in direct contact with designing these activities with the intention of involving the entire school community. Our activities throughout the year demonstrate our success in changing the ways of students to create a sustainable environment in which all can thrive.

If you participated in the Ligonier Country Market, How?

I believe my involvement with the Ligonier Country Market to be unique in that my participation has evolved over the last three years. As an employee for Sandhill Berries, I had become in direct relation and production for the market. My role first began behind the scenes by taking orders for the market. I would fill these orders along with our regular inventory that would be taken every Saturday morning. The next summer I would become even more involved by becoming an assistant baker to prepare the pies myself. Even though my presence was not physically at the market, my work was displayed and sold to the customers in attendance. This year I was eager to gain the full experience so I would finally travel to the market to represent Sandhill berries. I was overwhelmed with the authenticity and warmth that Ligonier Country Market had to offer. It was this summer that I had the pleasure of being surrounded by this atmosphere to sell what Sandhill Berries works so hard to prepare. I would always look forward to the early Saturday mornings knowing that I would be greeted by the loyal market customers as well as the neighboring staff. Having this opportunity to reach a new community of people in an agriculturally driven environment has been nothing but rewarding.

List any disciplinary actions from a school district, club, or a sport, and explain how the action does not affect your status as a role model.

When I think back to my childhood I do not recall having a reputation as a quitter. I take pride in this, as my parents raised me to always finish out the season even if I did not necessarily want to continue. I had always taken part in playing multiple sports with some even landing in the same season. I appreciated the discipline, dedication, and busy schedule I was adhered to. However, when I began to play at the varsity level, I learned the value of focusing on one sport per season. Because soccer and golf were both considered fall sports, I made the executive decision to focus attention on golf as I saw myself most successful in this area. If anything, I believe this enhanced my status in being a role model by proving my dedication to one team. Rather than splitting my time between sports, I was able to give all of my efforts to one team. This led me to

become a 4 year letterman and captain of the golf team. If I hadn't quit soccer 4 years prior, I would not have gained the respect I have from my golf teammates today.