

Kids with Character

This recognition showcases students who have made a difference by accepting responsibility, showing kindness, valuing others' concerns, helping resolve conflicts and honoring their commitments.



RYAN

Ryan Egbertson, a Lorain County JVS plumbing and pipefitting student from Columbia, is being honored as The Chronicle-Telegram's "Kid with Character".

JVS Principal Jill Petitti, who nominated Ryan, says that while Ryan exhibits many outstanding character traits including trustworthiness, caring, respect and citizenship, she gives him "extra credit" for his sense of responsibility.

Ryan experienced the onset of a sudden illness at the start of the school year which caused him impaired vision, speech and mobility. He spent several weeks at the Cleveland Clinic as doctors tried to determine the cause of this health issue. Ryan continues daily therapy as he works to get better.

"I visited Ryan several times while he was at the hospital and the first thing he would say to me was, 'do you have my assignments?'" stated Petitti. "On days that Ryan could barely lift his head off the pillow, he wanted to do his school work and get back to the JVS as soon as he could."

"More importantly," continued Petitti, "Ryan keeps an amazingly positive attitude as he meets each challenge; always with a smile and never with a negative word or complaint."

"Many of us in Ryan's situation might be angry, feel sorry for ourselves, or just use the situation to stay home and slack off," stated Petitti. "This young man puts 100% effort into everything he does, no matter what obstacles stand in his way."

"Ryan Egbertson has his sights set on graduation and with the attitude and determination he exhibits everyday, there is no doubt this goal is within his reach," stated Petitti. Ryan lives with his parents Rebecca and Don Shaffer and siblings Aaron and Courtney.



For nomination criteria, go to www.chroniclet.com/nie, email bstephens@chroniclet.com or call 329-7239.