

June 13, 2008 Binghamton, NY



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Kaitlyn Howard - Community Service Award Winner



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By WBNG News

A teenager in Tioga County helps her community by volunteering at her church and a local hospital.

She's one of more than 40 high school seniors honored with a Student Community Service Award, presented by State Senator Thomas Libous and WBNG-TV.

Action News reporter Gabe Osterhout introduces us to Kaitlyn Howard of Owego.

Owego Free Academy Senior Kaitlyn Howard enjoys giving back.

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When she's not in school, you can find her at the Twin Orchards Baptist Church in Vestal.

She's part of a youth group that volunteers to help people here and throughout North America.

After the June 2006 flood, the group helped an Apalachin neighborhood clean up.

"In Montreal, Canada, we fed homeless on the streets. In Carbondale, Pennsylvania, we did some clean up around the courthouse, police station and library area. We also ran a day camp in Carbondale," says Howard.

For the last four years, Howard has also spent Friday afternoons at Lourdes Hospital.

Donating more than 550 hours to deliver meals for patients and their families.

"Being involved in your community is a great way to not only build up your reputation but to help others. It's beneficial to the community, obviously and it gives you a great feeling to help other people," she says.

It's not just people Howard wants to help.

She also works at the Vestal Veterinary Hospital.

"We do a lot of clean-up work. After hours, when the technicians and doctors go home from seeing patients, we clean, we mop, we also take care of the animals. We feed and give them water, let them out," Howard says.

Training for her future occupation.

Howard will be going to Alfred State in the fall to study veterinary science technology.

In Vestal, Gabe Osterhout, WBNG-TV Action News.

Howard, and all the other student winners were presented a 15-hundred dollar scholarship to the SUNY school of their choice.

To learn more about all the winners, log onto [www dot tom libous dot com](http://www.dot.com).

We'll introduce you to another student community service award winner next Thursday during Action News at 6.



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- (soft) Class "A" Finals
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