

# O'Hara student organizes National Mother's Day Baby Shower

by NICHOLAS J. PRIMERANO  
Ken-Ton Editor

Let's face it — some parents have a hard time getting their teenager to pick up their room, take out the trash or even mow the lawn — but not change the world.

Kristina DelPrince, a sophomore at Cardinal O'Hara High School is single-handedly organizing an event called National Mother's Day Baby Shower, an event designed to raise resources for crisis pregnancy centers and homes for unwed mothers.

The idea is to collect diapers, blankets, formula and other items for these centers to be used for women in need. These centers provide care for women in a crisis pregnancy situation and are often times the difference between life and death.

"I am really active in the whole pro-life movement," said DelPrince. "I saw this event on the Web site for Stand True Ministries and knew I wanted to help."

DelPrince, a member of St. Christopher's Church, said that more often than not, young mothers do not have their families support during a crisis pregnancy and are forced to seek other avenues of assistance.

The Ken-Ton Family Center supports these mothers, takes them in and offers them assistance. But, because the Ken-Ton Family Center has an affiliation with the Catholic Health System it doesn't receive government funding.

Donations for this event will be collected at Cardinal O'Hara High School beginning on Monday, May 14 and running through Friday, May 18.

"We are collecting anything new or used that can help mothers and their babies — cribs, diapers, strollers and formula," she said. "We are really looking for all the necessities that these mothers need."

The donation drop-off ends at 3 p.m. on May 18 and then volunteers will take the donated items to the Ken-Ton Family Clinic.

"We are a Catholic school and we want to spread the message of helping others and practicing good works," said DelPrince. "These women are those who have chosen not to abort their babies, and we need to help them."

The Ken-Ton Family Center provides the mothers with medical and other necessities that relate to pregnancies.

O'Hara Campus Ministry and Religion teachers John Polasik and Tom Appenheimer are in full support of DelPrince and believe that her contributions are valuable.

"We're very proud of her. It is hard to spearhead an activity like this," said Polasik. "This extends to everything we teach her and shows that we are not alone. There are people who need help.

DelPrince approached the school administrators regarding this project and they were in full support.

The school halls are laden with



Kristina DelPrince

fliers and many organizations outside the school have offered help.

B.J.'s Wholesale Club has donated cases of diapers and the school is anticipating a donation from Kohl's department store, including store volunteers that will help bring the donations to the center, from the school on

May 18.

"This stems from our mission in what we are trying to accomplish with the students. The more the students realize that there are people out there who need help, the better the world will be. We don't help just at Christmas or just at Easter — but all year long," said Polasik.

Donations can be dropped off at O'Hara High School, 39 O'Hara Drive, Town of Tonawanda during school hours from May 14-18.

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## Wehrle Drive, Maple Road part of transportation improvement plan

An 11-year, \$6.1 billion transportation plan for the Erie-Niagara region will be aired in a public meeting from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, May 15 at the AAA Travel and Insurance Center, 100 International Drive, Williamsville.

Approximately 260 projects have been programmed for federal funding over the next five years. The total for those projects would be \$1.1 billion when local and state matching funds are added. The Transportation Improvement Program is the capital programming component of the draft Long Range Transportation Plan that extends to 2030.

Projects in Erie County that are outside Buffalo would receive \$91.1 million in federal aid during the five-year period. Highlights include two Amherst projects: widening Wehrle Drive at a cost of \$18.4 million and reconstructing Maple Road, at \$11.1 million.

At the hearings, staff presentations by the Greater Buffalo-Niagara Regional Transportation Council will be followed by public discussion. The plan also can be viewed at www.gbnrtc.org

Another public airing will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, May 17 in the Central Meeting Room of the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library at Lafayette Square in Buffalo.

## Erie 1 BOCES students win at SkillsUSA state competitions

Students from Erie 1 BOCES Harkness and Ken-Ton Career and Technical centers won awards at the SkillsUSA State Competitions on April 18-20 in Syracuse.

Winners were:  
Ryan Willett of Amherst Central and Gubinder Sran of Williamsville North, took second place in automated manufacturing technology.

Adam Kramer of Williamsville North, took third place in industrial motor control.

Louis Callari of Williamsville South, took third place in Internet working.

Samantha Kaczmarek of Tonawanda, took third place in nail care.

Maria Morais of Amherst Central, took third place in models.

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