

2017 YOUNG CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Nominee: Madison Janes

Nominator: Kelly Knabe



In the Nominator's words:

I am nominating Madison Janes for the Young Citizen of the Year award for the City of Dublin. Madison deserves recognition for her work in 2017 with a precious dog named Rhinestone.

Madison worked hard to complete training to become a volunteer with Guide Dogs for the Blind. Once she completed the initial training, she was given a puppy who was named Rhinestone. Rhinestone was born in February and was assigned to Madison in April. I have watched Madison and Rhinestone grow this last year into a dynamic team, all because of Madison's hard work. Madison has always cared deeply for animals and, as a small child, she volunteered at the local animal shelter. For her Girl Scout Silver award, she created and organized a system for supplies at the animal shelter, and she has been a foster parent for kittens several times. Her journey helping animals led her to the awesome responsibility of volunteering to raise and train a service dog for Guide Dogs for the Blind. The agency places great trust in the people who take on the task of raising a guide dog. The time commitment required for this endeavor is massive. Besides training Rhinestone most hours of the day, Madison attends weekly trainings to keep her and Rhinestone on track for "graduation." You might have seen the two at some Dublin High School public events.

Rhinestone should "graduate" from the program this June and move to her new home assisting a person with a disability. In addition to working with Rhinestone, Madison has excellent grades, is an extremely committed team member of local and school soccer programs, a very active Girl Scout, and a kind and caring daughter and sister. Her positive attitude about life is infectious, and I know you will agree that she represents all that is great about our community: kindness and caring. Thank you for considering Madison Janes for this recognition. I am so proud to know Madison and of the work she is doing to make someone else's life better.