



St. Columba/St. Patrick youth-group members Katrina Lambert, 14, left, and Elise Gominiak, 14, organize raffle tickets while selling them to attendees at the Livingston County Catholic Charities Country Jamboree.

decided to come back," said Mike, 14.

Holy Ghost's Katie Girvin, 13, said she plans to follow Mike's example.

"Even though this is my last year, I'm going to come back and help. I love little kids," Katie explained.

Katie and Mike noted that they got a taste of summer volunteerism through the Holy Ghost program itself. Last year, Katie recalled, her seventh-grade class visited a nursing home.

"It was nice because you saw a lot of smiling faces. And they don't get out and get that much entertainment," she said.

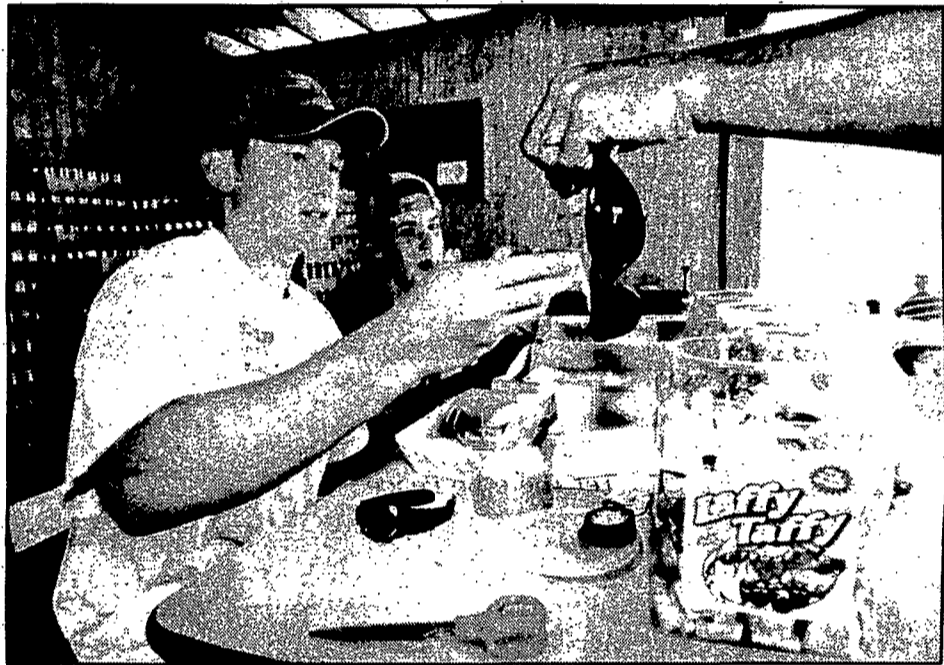
And Mike enjoyed the trip he and his religious-ed class took to an inner-city day care last summer.

"We took the kids to the playground. We walked them down and held their hand, just to give them a day out," Mike said.

Katie said that the service work made her more aware of people in need.

"You learn at the same time, and you don't even realize it," Katie said.

That attitude has carried over to this year's program at Holy Ghost: the week of Aug. 3-7, students were scheduled to visit



St. Columba/St. Patrick's Geoff Beresford, 15, left, accepts money for candy while operating the concession stand during the benefit jamboree. Helping Geoff staff the table (in background) is Justin Montemarano, 16, of St. Thomas Aquinas/St. Lucy youth ministry. A total of 22 teens and seven adults, mostly from St. Columba/St. Patrick and St. Thomas/St. Lucy, volunteered for the event.

an inner-city soup kitchen and an Hispanic migrant worker community.

The project is intended to show students that "what we have for ourselves is more than what a lot of others have," said Laurie Orman, Holy Ghost's youth minister, who also helps coordinate the summer religious-ed program.

While the Livingston County

and Holy Ghost teens perform their volunteerism among large groups of people, David Lander's service work is more individual in nature. He's sprucing up the Gates Cemetery, located off Buffalo Road behind a defunct church building, as part of his Eagle Scout project. David is a member of Troop 94 at St. Theodore's Church.

"The pioneers who settled this area, and buried their families here, didn't want these headstones to be covered up with weeds and vines," he remarked.

But what began as a summer project to clear weeds away has grown into a full-scale renovation. David explained that he found

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Beginning this fall, we're planning a periodic column, "Extra Credit," in which we recognize teens and their accomplishments on the "On the Move" page. Have you, your youth group or school club earned a community honor? Staged a big service project or fundraiser? Won a competition? Gone on a big trip? Had an audience with the pope? (Hey, you never know.) Keep us informed!

We'd also like to hear your comments about past "On the Move" stories as well as ideas for upcoming features. Mail your information and comments to Mike Latona at the *Catholic Courier*, P.O. Box 24379, Rochester, N.Y., 14624. Or, e-mail Mike at cathcour@frontier.net.

Adults, feel free to offer your input on "On the Move" as well! Hope to hear from you.

many damaged grave markers once the weeds had been removed.

"Most of the stones had tipped over," said David, 17.

David added that he hopes for the project to be completed by Veteran's Day. He also plans to seek donations for fixing or replacing damaged markers.

David said that the project isn't always a one-man show. Friends and family members have pitched in along the way, so David still has time to enjoy summer recreation with his friends.

"It's not as bad as it seems," David said.

Meanwhile, Mike said he cherishes his free time simply because there's less of it to spend due to his volunteer work.

"On days off I can appreciate sleeping in and watching TV more," Mike commented.

Coming next week: Heaven and Hell

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