

Roslindale teen leads the way for local youth

Jennifer B. Mehigan

Bulletin staff

Profile of the Week

Caitlin Erwin, 16, is a role model for Roslindale teens and younger children. She is a peer leader with the Rossie Reps.

"I really like the idea of being a leader for these kids and being a role model for them," she said.

Erwin has been a Rossie Rep for three years, but not consecutively. She participated in the group for Roslindale teens from the sixth to the eighth

grade, then took a few years off and started up again this past January.

Erwin attends Mount St. Joseph Academy, where she is on the Student Council. She is also involved with drama and Students for Alumnae, a group of students who help plan reunions.

Erwin, who has always lived in Roslindale, said she would like to study nursing and

the arts when she attends college. She said she has always wanted to be a nurse.

"I just think that nurses really help people. They have a huge part in helping patients and helping doctors," she said.

She thinks she would like to become an emergency room nurse and said she liked watching 'ER' and 'Third Watch' on television.

"I haven't really picked a school yet, but I know it will be close to home," she said.

The youngest of three children, Erwin's older sister is 33 and a legal secretary at Liberty Mutual. Her brother is 26 and the assistant Director of Development at Catholic Memorial. Erwin's father works in the cafeteria at Sacred Heart School, where she attended elementary school.

Erwin is a member of the National Honor Society and likes history, pop music and rap.

"My parents never really pushed me, they just wanted me to do my best," she said. "They've never really pressured me."

She also likes to play softball and basketball. She has played center and left field on the Sacred Heart CYO softball team in the summertime.

She is also working with the Roslindale Mobilizing for Change in Alcohol, and is paid to help with the Sticker Shock program.



Caitlin Erwin

"It's a program to let adults and teens know that there are teens in the Roslindale area that are drinking," she said.

With the sticker shock program, liquor stores and convenience stores in Roslindale are contacted and asked if they would participate in a program where six teens go in and put stickers on multi packs of beer and wine, warning about the penalties for providing minors with alcoholic beverages.

"I think a lot of kids are get-

ting in trouble for it (alcohol), fights and auto accidents," she said. "I think we just need some education and some awareness about it."

On Thursday, from 4-6 p.m., the Rossie Reps and RMCA will host an activity filled afternoon at the Roslindale Community Center. There will be games and prizes. It is an opportunity for young people to get together and have fun in a safe way after school.



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