



Written by [Raven Clabough](#) on May 21, 2021

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The Goodness of America

Kendall's Homemade Potholders

Eight-year-old Kendall Manuel of Locke, New York, used her favorite COVID-quarantine hobby to raise more than \$1,400 for several children's hospitals and an area animal shelter.

In an interview with *The New American*, Kendall said it all began when her father came down with COVID in January, forcing Kendall and her family to quarantine at their home. Kendall's teacher dropped off her assignments, which included a potholder-making project she started for Valentine's Day. Kendall enjoyed it so much that by mid-April, she had made more than 150 potholders and decided she would sell them.

Kendall's mother, Amy, assumed Kendall would use the money she would earn to purchase a Nintendo Switch, but Kendall apparently had other things in mind. She told her mother she would donate the money to Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital in Syracuse, New York, and the Home Stretch Dog Haven in Moravia, New York.

Kendall told TNA she chose Golisano Children's Hospital because she saw her grandmother endure chemotherapy and was devastated to learn that children have to undergo chemotherapy for cancer as well.

"My nana went through chemo two times and I thought about how I would feel if I had cancer," Kendall explained.

Kendall already had close ties to the Home Stretch Dog Haven. Her Girl Scout troop visited the facility when the organization rescued puppies, and her family has donated to the shelter in the past.

Kendall has since added St. Jude Children's Hospital to her list of beneficiaries.

Amy was both surprised and proud of her daughter's generosity.

"When she told me I instantly started crying because I was so proud," she told the *Cortland Standard*. "At her age I never would have thought of that."

Kendall has created a Facebook page called Kendall's Homemade Potholders through which she accepts orders via Messenger. Kendall's customers include family and friends, as well as strangers from New York and beyond.

As of May 5, Kendall had donated \$200 to Home Stretch Dog Haven, \$500 to St. Jude Children's Hospital, and \$750 to Golisano Children's Hospital. Donations include checks and supplies, including toys for children at the hospitals. Kendall told TNA she was excited to find toys the hospitalized children could relate to, including a wheelchair Barbie, a bald Barbie, and a Barbie with a prosthetic leg.

She told TNA her next charity of choice is likely to be a domestic-violence shelter. "I'm going to also donate toys to some people who have to leave their house because of violence and have nothing," she said.

As far as Kendall's hope of getting a Nintendo Switch, Amy told TNA Kendall was doing chores to earn enough money to buy one and was approximately \$150 away from having enough money. But upon learning of Kendall's altruism, an anonymous donor gifted the remaining balance to Kendall's family so



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they could surprise her with the Nintendo Switch. Kendall's Facebook page posted a video of her big surprise on April 29.

Kendall told TNA she hopes to be an inspiration to other children her age.

Don't Shoot the Messenger

Americans all over the country are fed up with the COVID paranoia and restrictions, but restaurant patrons at a brewery in New Jersey took their anger out on the wrong person, prompting the local community to step up and save the day.

The Glenbrook Brewery in Morristown, New Jersey, reopened in late February at 50-percent capacity and has adopted a number of COVID "safety" measures, including digital menus, TODAY.com reported. In an effort to make a profit despite the state's capacity limitations, the restaurant asks all of its patrons to limit their dining time to no more than 90 minutes so staff can turn over as many tables as possible.

And while the policy is understandably frustrating for patrons who do not want to feel rushed while dining out, the brewery is hampered by the state's mandates. All diners are made aware of the policy upon arrival, and signs pertaining to the policy are posted outside of the restaurant as well as at each table. Simply put, if diners do not like the policy, they do not have to patronize the restaurant.

According to the brewery's creative director, Darren Cregan, diners at a table in the restaurant became angry on April 2 when their server, Beth, approached them to let them know they had been seated for approximately 80 minutes and had 10 minutes left.

The diners paid their bill, but refused to leave a tip for their waitress. Instead, they left an angry note on the bill: "I'm sorry the server gets screwed on this. Don't kick paying customers out after 90 mins."

"It's not like we're trying to keep people from staying here, it's just something that needs to happen in 50 percent capacity for a business to survive," said Beth, NBC New York reported.

If the patrons wanted to express their distaste with the restaurant's policy, they could have done so without hurting the waitress in the process. Waitstaff at restaurants have been some of the people hardest hit by the pandemic and the government's overzealous and egregious policies.

Beth in particular is a hard worker, according to Glenbrook Brewery's head brewer, Heath Traver. She is working to put herself through a doctoral program and is "a sweet girl." Traver said the patrons' actions were particularly upsetting because Beth is "outstanding."

The story gained a lot of attention in a local Facebook group called Morristown Stimulus Plan, which encourages the community to support new local restaurants, when a user, a waitress at a neighboring restaurant, shared a photo of the receipt with a note.

"This is a reminder to be kind and respectful to your servers," the note read, in part.

Followers of the page immediately began to raise money for Beth. Before long, donations reached \$1,700.

Beth plans to take just a bit of the money for herself and put some of it back into the community. She will be splitting the rest with the other servers at the restaurant.



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