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Glittery Gems Match Local Artists' Sparkling Personality!!!

PONTIAC, MI. – November 21, 2006 – Her name sounds like a pop star and her gorgeous, bright, blue eyes tells you, she is a creative young woman with style and quite an eye for color!

Pontiac resident LisaMichelle Wentz may only be 19 years old, but her artistic flair for jewelry and other art forms paint the picture of a much more mature woman.



“I have a gift. It came from my grandmother who loved to quilt. My whole family is artistic and I just picked up on the gifts too! It’s because I love working with my hands,” said Wentz.

She has found her true passion for jewelry making at Gilda’s Club in Royal Oak (www.gildasclubdetroit.org.) This free, non-profit, non-residential cancer support community is for anyone touched by cancer. Gilda's Club is named in honor of the late comedian and former Detroit Gilda Radner. LisaMichelle had a brain tumor when she was just four years old. She underwent surgery and today she is healthy and cancer-free. She goes to Gilda’s Club 3 or 4 times a week and takes jewelry making lessons as well as other craft classes.

“I just love being with some of the older ladies. They make me feel so comfortable and I learn so much. I am also knitting, crocheting, quilting and drawing. It’s a very soothing environment,” said Wentz. “Now, I would like to sell my jewelry and a few other things that I am making. I just have so much fun doing it.”

Wentz is also considering offering jewelry making classes possibly close by January 1st. Her earrings, bracelets and necklaces range from \$10-\$25.

What does the future hold for her? “I want to take art classes at Oakland Community College some day, but for now, I’m having fun doing this!”

LisaMichelle lives in Pontiac and utilizes the services and supports of Community Living Services of Oakland County. Community Living Services (CLS O/C) is a non-profit organization that promotes full community inclusion, citizenship and a self-determined life for people with developmental disabilities. CLS believes the greatest opportunity to increase the production of income for people with severe disabilities lies within the

development of small businesses or microenterprises. CLS is committed to introducing, encouraging, and supporting innovative approaches to income generation for people with disabilities. CLS is dedicated to creative thinking and helping people plan a future that is based on their strengths, interests, and dreams for the future, regardless of the extent of their disability. Community Living Services is located in Berkley, Michigan and funded through the Oakland County Community Mental Health Authority. For more information, visit www.comliveserv.com.

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