



## MTW of the Month

Meet Britt Menzies, our Multi-Tasking Woman in this month's spotlight.

“Although my career in finance with a Fortune 500 company let me travel the world, the birth of my son inspired me to leave and re-visit my creative side,” says Britt. The result? StinkyKids™ A growing line of wearable art for kids and adults that each feature a special ‘StinkyKid’.

“The StinkyKids™ motto: "Always Be a Leader of Good" is a concept that we created to teach our children to make right choices - not to follow bad behavior, but be a leader of good behavior,” Britt says. “The StinkyKids™ spread this message, teaching kids the very important lessons of being good to people, making right choices and giving back to our community.



Along with the full-time duties of a ‘stay-at-home’ mom, Britt is an active volunteer with Books, Bears and Bonnets, a non-profit organization founded by her mother [Merrily Ansell](#) in memory of Britt’s aunt who died of uterine cancer. Books, Bears, and Bonnets provides whimsical gift boxes to courageous children and adults fighting cancer and other serious illnesses. A portion of the proceeds from StinkyKids™ is donated directly to this worthwhile charity. Britt also organized the 1st Annual ‘Kids Cuts for Cancer’, speaks regularly at school career days, and continues to be the “best wife and mom I can be.” And as she reminds us, “Love Your StinkyKids!!!!...they're so stinkin' cute!!!!

<http://www.stinkykids.com/>



## Multi-Tasking Woman

### Meet the Gals...

#### **Merrily Ansell**

<http://www.booksbearsbonnets.org>



Merrily Ansell's daughter, MTW [Britt Menzies](#), says her mom 'has more boxes of books and bears than furniture in her house' and that brings smiles every day. Why? When Merrily's sister died of uterine cancer, 'It changed my life,' she says. "Although there were many high and low points, I'll always remember what brought smiles to her face."

It was those smiles that led this grandmother to leave her career and, with her own savings, found Books, Bears & Bonnets. This award-winning non profit organization is dedicated to bringing those same smiles to cancer patients – men, women and children – by hand delivering whimsical gift boxes filled with goodies including 'a book to ease and refresh the mind, a bear to warm the heart, and a hat to lovingly cover the effects of treatment.'

Merrily runs the organization with her little dog Izzi by her side, and the help of dedicated volunteers, including school children who make colorful note cards and bookmarks for each box. And, Books, Bears & Bonnets is lovingly supported by a portion of the proceeds from Britt's StinkyKids™, inspired by Merrily's own 'stinky' grandkids, Max and Emma.

Doing good by helping others. With Merrily, it's all in the family!



Mother of 8 Stinky Kids? Meet Britt Menzies.

## It's not just a 'mom' thing...

May 2007 | By: Kyle Young

I met an amazing young woman last week who's starting her own business 'on the side' while still working in the corporate world. Single and loving it, she asked me about Multi-Tasking Woman, "But I'm not a mom; is it for me?" "YES!" I rushed to reply. All too often, it seems we are called to define ourselves by just one role in life. Well, for me, that's way too limiting. How about you?

I enjoy the diversity of my many roles. I've started and own businesses, mentor others in building theirs, and continue to create art that expresses my soul in a way that words often can't. At the same time, I have an amazing marriage, love being a mom, and receive so much by giving back and volunteering as often as I can. To me, it's never just one thing. It's the whole

package that makes life great.

Yes, my mother was my first role model for multi-tasking. But I've been lucky in my life to have so many women share, take the lead, open the door - and listen to the fears and doubts when they arise. (You know who you are, girlfriends.) It's what we do for each other. And it's what Multi-Tasking Woman is all about.

Just listen in this month as we talk to [Britt Menzies](#) of StinkyKids™. With a Fortune 500 financial background, this now stay-at-home mom has created a clothing line with a purpose – inspiring kids to 'do good' – and at the same time, is working with her mother [Merrily Ansell](#) whose foundation *Books, Bears & Bonnets* touches the lives of those with cancer.

You each have amazing stories to share, and we welcome you to our online community of women who do it all, all the time. [Let us hear from you](#) with your thoughts, your news, your needs. Our virtual doors are open 24/7, so we're here when you are. And, don't forget to [tell your friends](#) to join us!

In this season of mothers, I hope you'll take time to say 'thanks' to all the women who've 'mothered' you. Necessity may be the Mother of Invention, but always remember it's Mother Nature who changes the seasons, births new life, and keeps the world turning!

Happy Multi-Tasking!