

## She Did What?

She did what? She made a difference! Not just in our lives, but in the lives of hundreds of other people. In the past year, Britt Menzies (my wife) has taken an incredible journey—going from wife, mother and active volunteer, to wife, mother, active volunteer, entrepreneur and celebrated artist.

Britt is a Board Member of a nonprofit called Books, Bears & Bonnets, Inc.™ which donates whimsical gift boxes to children and adults in cancer treatment, providing hours of entertainment and pleasure to those who most need to smile. The charity was founded by Britt's mother, in memory of her sister who died of uterine cancer. Britt is committed to the fight against cancer and assembles and delivers these gift boxes to the Cancer Unit and the Child Protection Services Unit at Scottish Rite and Egleston Hospitals.

Last winter, Britt was asked by our daughter, Emma, to paint a picture of a ballerina for her room. Of course, it had to be pink and include blonde hair. Emma was delighted with her painting and soon her friends wanted one. Britt decided that her paintings could be an inspiration to young children and StinkyKids™ was born. StinkyKids™ is a brand of Tees and paintings with the motto, "Always Be a Leader of Good." Each character in the series is modeled after a friend or family member and exemplifies the innocence and good nature of children.

Working on a "shoe-string budget," Britt designed the artwork, set-up the infrastructure and built a first-class business. But her focus is not on the success of the business alone, it's on teaching the best of life's lessons—compassion, caring, and philanthropy—to children of all ages. The mission statement of StinkyKids™ is "Always Be a Leader of Good" and the designs celebrate the "innocence of childhood." (Please visit the StinkyKids™ website which demonstrates her professionalism and the stellar character of her business. [www.stinkykids.com](http://www.stinkykids.com))

Within 8 months of launching her company, Britt has sold more than 2,000 tee shirts and created 100 paintings, which are displayed in many Atlanta shops and businesses. Her StinkyKids™ products are sold on her delightful and informative website, and retailers in more than 10 states have selected her tees for their stores. Her creative artistry has been highlighted on Star 94s Cindy and Ray Show and featured on the Robyn Spizman Giffionary show.

Community involvement is Britt's calling card. She has partnered with multiple small businesses, churches/synagogues, parents and children to build her business and give back to people in need of a smile—children and adults fighting cancer! She has devoted countless hours and effort to support nonprofits. She is driven to help others, and from its inception, she decided that StinkyKids™ would focus on philanthropy and has pledged 10% of her profits to support the gift box program of Books, Bears & Bonnets, Inc.™ Even more, she recently collaborated with Pigtails & Crewcuts, a children's hair cutting salon in Buckhead, to initiate the first annual, "Kids Cuts for Cancer" event. All proceeds from each haircut and the sale of StinkyKids™ tees were donated to Books, Bears & Bonnets. Everyone who attended the event had a terrific time and Britt's begun planning for next year's event.

Britt is frequently contacted to donate her paintings, tees, her time and talent and always responds with a giving heart. Our local school invited her to speak to the students about StinkyKids™ and her message was one of commitment to the community, following your dream, and being philanthropic at an early age. Her talk inspired many of the students and she received several "thank you" calls from parents for her contribution to their children's education.

Whenever one reads books about great leaders, the one trait they all possess is PASSION. Spend 5 minutes with Britt and her excitement, exuberance, compassion and positive outlook fill the air and is contagious. She wears many hats and each fits her well: mother, wife, artist, volunteer, Board Member, entrepreneur and delightful human being.

Britt's philosophy of life and tag line for StinkyKids™ to "Always Be a Leader of Good" is her daily guiding principle and she instills it in the lives of her family. Everyone she meets is better for knowing her. She continues to strive to improve her community, help others that need it most, and build a successful business.

She did what? She made and IS making a difference. She is the best mother, wife and human being I know. Follow her career and see how much more she plans to accomplish--not for herself, but for others! See deserves the honor of this award!!

Sincerely,

Mark Menzies