

In the 11-plus years I have worked at The Herald, I have had the pleasure of meeting some really neat, unique and wonderful people.

Every once in a while, one will stand out. Kaleb Helms is such a person.

For all his 11 years, he has more compassion for others than many adults I know.

I first met Kaleb two years ago when he decided to collect water for earthquake victims. He had seen something on TV about their situation and the person talking said everyone should help.

Well, Kaleb took that to heart and collected nearly a ton of water.

I thought he was a pretty neat kid then.

Roll forward a couple of years and now Kaleb, who is in to science and such, is taking the Youth Astronaut Class at the Neil Armstrong Air and Space Museum in Wapakoneta. He learned the museum has lost state funding and is struggling.

Of course he wishes to continue his classes because since he was 3 years old, he's also wanted to be an astronaut. He also sees the value in the museum and wants everyone to be able to enjoy it.

Yes, this child has spent but 11 years on this earth and he already gets it. He truly gets it.

Statistics don't even show philanthropy numbers for kids Kaleb's age. It starts with Generation Y. The Matures top the list with 77 percent giving. Generation Y is of course the least with 54 percent giving.

There are many lessons to be learned from young Kaleb. First and foremost, he sees a need and he finds a way to fill it. Secondly, he does it with no thought of his own gain.

Now, how is he going to accomplish his goal of keeping the space museum up and running for generations to come? He is raffling the mountain bike he earned selling popcorn with Boy Scouts and he also got someone else to donate one to raffle, too.

If just a fraction of us had the philanthropic insight this young gentleman does, the whole world could be a better place.

If you see young Master Kaleb out and about, tell him what a cool kid you think he is. If you don't think he's cool, knock it off.

Speaking of a better place, please join the Delphos Veterans Council, VFW and American legion members in honoring and remembering those who gave all in the fight for freedom.

They will unveil three new monuments at the park. I'm sure it will be a must-see event.