Spring to me represents a time of growth and new beginnings. I love being able to look out my window and see new flowers appear, trees bloom, and hear birds chirping. After Pennsylvania's long and cold winters, spring can feel refreshing as we know that warm weather will soon be upon us. I feel hopeful during the springtime as the days begin to feel longer. I know that school will soon end and the fun months of summer will arrive!

This spring feels even more like a new chapter for me as I will be graduating from Central Mountain High School in just a few short weeks. My time in high school has left me with so many experiences and friendships that graduation is beginning to feel bittersweet. My life after high school will look very different as I will be attending Grove City College in the fall to major in Psychology with hopes of one day becoming a family and children's counselor. I am eager to begin this new chapter of my life as I feel excited to pursue this career and allow people to feel like they have someone they can talk to about what they are struggling with. I want to be someone who helps other people grow into who they want to be. In some ways, I guess that you could say that I am choosing a career path that embodies the idea of spring with the hope that new life will begin to grow from a quiet or cold season in someone's life.

Some of my favorite spring and summer memories include traveling with my family and friends to visit new places. Traveling has always been a passion of mine, and I look forward to being able to explore new places every summer! I have loved going to the beach ever since I was a little girl. Every year my family tries to take a vacation in July. It is so nice to all be together and make new memories as we explore the world around us.

During the summer, I work for the Keystone Central School District Park Program where I get to spend time with kids at local playgrounds in the mornings of the summer months. When I ask kids if there was anything they could change about the summer, most of them say that they

can get bored when both of their parents are at work and they have to be at home by themselves. I believe that BENV Kiwanis could help children grow and reach their goals during the summer by hosting events for them during the week that allow them to make new friends and learn new things. Perhaps you could bring in local organizations to help this become possible. Children thrive when they are surrounded by peers who are also learning with them, so giving them opportunities like this could allow them to better reach social and academic goals in the fall when school rolls around again.

In conclusion, I love the spring and summer months because of the memories that I've been able to make with my family. I think that BENV Kiwanis could help to make amazing summer memories for kids in our community as well.