

# Travel

CHATTANOOGA TIMES • CHATTANOOGA FREE PRESS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1999

## There She Is -- in a West Side Deli

### Former Miss America Waits Tables at Artie's In Manhattan

BY DIANE SISKIN  
Travel Editor

Since handing her crown over to Miss America 1999, Kate Shindle has had her hands full — of deli food. The former Miss America 1998 is waiting tables at Artie's Delicatessen on New York's Upper West Side.

Ms. Shindle, a former Miss Illinois, said she enjoys being a waitress, but she doesn't plan on making it her life's work.

"I moved to New York after graduating from Northwestern University last June and needed to get a job between acting auditions," said Ms. Shindle. "I didn't want to work in an office, so when I saw a help wanted ad for the restaurant I applied."

Why a deli?

"Because it was close to my apartment."

Restaurant co-owners Jeffrey Bank and chef/partner Chris Metz had no idea that Kate Shindle was a former Miss America when they interviewed her.

"We thought she'd make a great waitress — and she does," said Mr. Bank.

Her secret was revealed when a reporter from The Associated Press overheard Ms. Shindle telling someone what she was doing while at a charity event.

Since the revelation, Ms. Shindle's duties at the deli haven't changed. She handles the same job and works the same hours as the other waitresses and waiters.

Because of the recent publicity, including television talk show such as "Today" and an article in this week's "People" magazine,



Photo by Diane Siskin

Kate Shindle, Miss America 1998, waits tables at Artie's Deli on New York's Upper West Side.

#### FOR YOUR INFORMATION

■ Artie's New York Delicatessen, 2290 Broadway at 83rd Street, New York City. Phone: (212) 579-5959. Web site: [www.arties.com](http://www.arties.com). It is open every day of the year, including New Year's Eve.

more customers frequenting the deli are aware of Kate Shindle's background.

The only runway Kate Shindle now walks is between the guests' booths in the large, open restau-

rant lined with cobalt blue, mirrored walls. Ms. Shindle often stops by tables to say a few words to children.

The only reason Ms. Shindle is thrilled with this added attention

is because it has brought her work with The National AIDS Organization back into the public eye.

Ms. Shindle has recently been offered a position as a television correspondent. Artie's Delicatessen, which just opened six weeks ago, would hate to lose Ms. Shindle.

"Not only would we be losing a good waitress," said Harris Gibson, the deli's manager, "we would be losing a lovely person to work with."