



**Twin City Area Optimist Club**  
**P.O. Box 475**  
**Festus, Missouri 63028**  
**[www.twincityoptimist.org](http://www.twincityoptimist.org)**

Follow us on Facebook  
Affiliated with Optimist International  
Serving Youth and Community since 1919

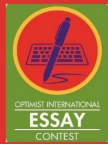
## **2022**

# **Winter Review**

# **Making a Difference for the Kids**

## **SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Twin City Area Optimist Essay Contest**



Essays must be postmarked  
by January 31, 2022



Recently the Twin City Area (TCA) Optimist Club held an essay and an oratorical contest. Students from local schools and homeschool students were eligible to enter.

The theme for the essay contest was **“Is Optimism the Key to Achieving the Dreams You iMagine?”** The top three winners of the essay contest received a cash price from the club and the winning essay went onto East Missouri Optimist District competition for a scholarship opportunity.



**Second Place: Liliana Knickman, Senior  
Festus High School**



**First Place: Ava Beers, Sophomore  
Festus High School**

**Third Place: Lucas Warren, Senior  
Festus High School**

The topic for the oratorical contest was "**Staying Optimistic in Challenging Times**". The top three winners received a cash prize from the club; the top two winners, Olivia Drinen and Olivia Blair, moved onto EMO District competition on April 30th.



Congratulations to Olivia Drinen on her first-place win at the EMO District Oratorical Contest on April 30, 2022. She was awarded a \$2500 scholarship. Olivia will compete in the Optimist International Oratorical Contest on July 21-22, 2022 where she could receive an additional scholarship.

Olivia is an eighth grader at Senn-Thomas Middle School in Herculaneum.



**First Place: Olivia Drinen  
Seth-Thomas Middle School**



**Second Place: Olivia Blair  
Seth-Thomas Middle School**



**Third Place: Kristin Hopkins  
Festus R-7 High School**

## COMMUNITY PROJECTS

### COATS FOR KIDS PROJECT

This is a long-standing club project,

providing new coats to area students. Coat requests come from Southern Jefferson County schools, Homeless Youth Initiative, and from school counselors or administrators. This is a needs-based program. We provided over 350 coats during this winter season.



## FOOD AND ESSENTIAL NEEDS

Springtime brings out the need to serve our community with food and other basic essentials. Semi-annually our club furnishes several months of groceries, person hygiene, and cleaning products for area Head Start families. In addition, we donate feminine hygiene products to the Aunt Rose Project which helps supply the Jefferson County Foster Children's Fund with tampons and sanitary pads. Both of these projects are completed for Easter.

## Upcoming Projects

Our club will hold a Youth Appreciation Day during a weekly meeting in May. Area schools select a student from their school for the honor.



Our annual Respect for Law is scheduled for July. Law enforcement agencies from southern Jefferson County select an officer for this award.

The TCA Board of Directors voted to continue supporting Brenden's Friday Backpack program with both a cash donation at this time and a product drive

in August.

The board also approved an annual drive for Nurses for Newborns which will take place this summer. Members can hand make newborn caps, tummy time quilts, or purchase baby items (diapers, clothing, etc.)

The club approved the purchase of two lending library structures to be built as an Eagle Scout project. One will be placed outside DeSoto Head Start and the other at the Fun 23 location. After the libraries are placed, club members will donate books.

---

**TCA Club members are busy planning our first  
in-person fundraiser since March 2020.  
Please mark your calendar for this event.  
We would love for you to join us.**



# MOUSE RACES

**Twin City Area  
Optimist Club  
Fall Fundraiser**

**DATE:** Saturday September 17, 2022

**TIME:** 7 pm (doors open at 6 pm)

**PLACE:** Festus VFW  
900 VFW Dr., Festus, MO

**Non-Refundable Tickets**

**\$20 in advance**

**MUST BE 21 OR OLDER**

**ATTENDANCE PRIZE:  
TABLET COMPUTER**



**Purchase tickets by phone: 314 471 7213**

**Venmo: @TC-Optimist2122**

**Mail: P.O. Box 475, Festus, MO 63028**

**Tickets include beer, snacks, & soda**

*Thank you for  
supporting our kids*

## **Junior Optimist Club (JOI)**

**Our youth club continues to be active. Currently, members are becoming pen pals with residents of a local nursing home. Their adult advisors have arranged great programs and projects for the kids.**



Thank you to all our 2022 sponsors. We could not continue to serve the youth of our community without your support. Your contributions allow us to expand our outreach to the community.

THANK YOU TO OUR  
PLATINUM PLUS SPONSOR  
\$2000



THANK YOU TO OUR  
PLATINUM SPONSORS  
\$1000



**MARIE NEEDEDY - KOHLER**

"Home is where the story begins"

**C: 314.952.0904**

[marie.needy@cbgundaker.com](mailto:marie.needy@cbgundaker.com)

[MARIENEEDEDY.COM](http://MARIENEEDEDY.COM)



Xi Theta Pi  
Hillsboro Chapter  
of Beta Sigma Phi

**THANK YOU TO OUR  
GOLD SPONSORS  
\$500**



**DAN GIELOW**  
**WEALTH ADVISOR**

<https://www.facebook.com/decisionwealth/>  
<https://www.decisionwealth.com>



**Colby Portell**  
Financial Advisor

232 Main Street  
Festus, MO 63028  
Bus. 636-931-6006 Cell 314-566-7950  
colby.portell@edwardjones.com  
www.edwardjones.com/colby-portell



**Jennifer Jones**  
**314-952-3994**



★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
**FIVE STAR HOMES**



Chrysler Center

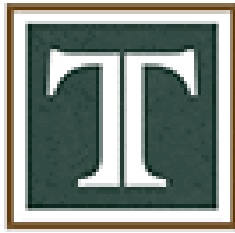


**Carol and Harold**  
**Hagan**





**Cynthia R. Cherry**  
**CPA, LLC**



**THURMAN**  
**LAW FIRM**



**Twin City**  
**TOYOTA**  
A TRADITION OF TRUST FOR 30 YEARS



**THANK YOU TO OUR**  
**SILVER SPONSORS**  
**\$250**



**State Farm**



**Kenneth  
Holdinghausen**

*Arnold  
Ready Mix*



**Laiben Homes  
Inc.**

**GOVERO  
Land Services**

**SURVEYING • ENGINEERING**



**FLESNER WENTZEL**



**Armstong-Young  
Family**

**HOMESTAR**  
Your Leading Mortgage Lender  
The *Keran Fears* Team  
314.420.3259

**THANK YOU TO OUR  
BRONZE SPONSORS  
\$100**

Amanda Mange/Coldwell  
Banker Realty-Gundaker  
Beauty by Karleh  
Bloomsdale Bank  
Canaday Agency, LLC  
Circle of Life Animal  
Hospital  
Edward Jones - John  
Scalzitti  
Festus Crystal  
Monument Co.  
Greenstreet Insurance  
Hillsboro Title Company

Hopson Lumber Co.  
Kelly Winkelman/Realty  
Exec. of STL  
Lowry Law Firm  
Matt Woods Ins.  
Agency  
Pharmax Pharmacy  
Pogolino's Pizza Place  
Ponder-Bates Stewart  
Law  
Taytro's Bar & Bistro  
The Adams Home  
Team

The Triton Group  
The Midwest Shed  
Vest Benefit Solutions  
Vinyard Funeral Home  
Waites Financial  
Services

**Sponsorships**

**We continue to rely on the generosity of  
our community to support the Twin City**



**Area Optimist Club in its service to our youth. Help us help the kids by sponsoring our club. Please send your check to the Twin City Area Optimist Club, P.O. Box 475, Festus, MO 63028. If you would like your donation of \$100 or more to be tax deductible as allowed by law, please contact Jean Naeger, TCA Marketing Chair, at 314-495-2822. She will provide instruction for donation.**

## **Platinum Sponsor: \$1,000 or more**

- **Greater visibility at our public events**
- **Includes photo and logo of you or business**
- **Sponsors announced on our public Facebook page**
- **Sponsors Facebook page tagged**
- **Sponsors included on our website**
- **Sponsors are displayed at all public events**

## **Gold Sponsor: \$500-\$999**

- **Includes photo and logo of you or business**
- **Sponsors announced on our public Facebook page**
- **Sponsors Facebook page tagged**
- **Sponsors included on our website**
- **Sponsors are displayed at all public events**

## **Silver Sponsor: \$250-\$499**

- **Includes business logo**
- **Sponsors announced on our public Facebook page**
- **Sponsors Facebook page tagged**
- **Sponsors included on our website**
- **Sponsors are displayed at all public events**

## **Bronze Sponsor: \$100-\$249**

- **Sponsors announced on our public Facebook page**
- **Sponsors included on our website**

•Sponsors are displayed at all public events



Members meet every Thursday from Noon - 1 p.m. at Taytro's. Please RSVP by 8:00 a.m. on Monday by contacting Cathy Elliott.

The last Thursday of the month is an evening meeting held at Poppy's Parlor. Meeting starts at 6:00 p.m. If you would like to order food, please contact Phyllis Neff on Monday prior to meeting.

---

Our VENMO account, **@TC-Optimist 2122**, can be used to make donations to our projects or Fundraisers.

**Please make sure to include your phone number and a memo indicating what the donation is for.**

**Board of Directors  
2021-2022**

**President  
Gerty O'Leary  
636-208-1395**

**President Elect  
Peggy Scott**

**Past President  
Mary Kay Scott**

**Secretary  
Cathy Elliott**

**Secretary Elect  
Debbie Hogenmiller**

**Treasurer  
Laura Elbl**

**Treasurer Elect  
Carroll Metzger**

**Board Members**

**2020-2022  
Janice Boyd  
Judy Kuhlman  
Barb Schmidt**

**2021-2023  
Elizabeth Check  
Pat Parsons  
Judy Williams**



[Visit our website](#)

Keep current with club activities,  
like us on Facebook or  
visit our website.