

Summer 2020 Review: Making a Difference

This has certainly been a summer to remember. Social distancing, mask wearing, ZOOM meetings, and drive through community service projects. COVID-19 has changed the way our club completes our mission: By providing hope and positive vision, **Optimists** bring out the best in youth, our community, and ourselves. Even though we haven't been able to meet in person our members remain committed to serving our community in new and unique ways.

Please take a few minutes to read this newsletter to see what we have been up to these past few months.

Jean Naeger

Marketing Chairperson

RESPECT FOR LAW

Congratulations to the nominees

Our club is pleased to honor outstanding law enforcement officers. Each department selected an individual who represents the best in his/her service to the community. Please read the tributes as presented.



Crystal City Police Department

Chief Chad Helms nominates Patrolman Jack Montgomery from the Crystal City Police Department

On May 26, 2020, Patrolman Jack Montgomery provided medical assistance to a subject in the process of childbirth. Not only did he do this, he provided critical medical assistance to the newborn infant which had stopped breathing. Patrolman Montgomery physically unwrapped the nuchal cord, which was wrapped around the infant's neck multiple times, thus allowing the infant to begin normal breathing. Patrolman Montgomery will be receiving a "Life Saving" award for his actions.



DeSoto Police Department

Chief Jeff McCreary nominates Officer Eric Robinson from the DeSoto Police Department.

Officer Robinson consistently led the department in activity of traffic enforcement and arrests. His proactivity has led to his ability to identify problem areas and persons who are persistent offenders. Officer Robinson has done this while also serving as a Field Training Officer

Festus Police Department

Patrolman Kelsey Schleusner is nominated by Festus Police Chief Tim Lewis.

Patrolman Schleusner did a long term drug investigation. She developed informants and worked with them to the point the department was able to obtain search warrants and make several arrests and seized drugs.



Herculaneum Police Department

The Herculaneum Police Department nominates Chief Mark Tulgetske.

Chief Tulgetske is recognized as much for his 40 years of dedication to law enforcement as he is to his dedication to the department and its members.

He has been a consistent driving force for the improvement of the department. His tireless efforts should be acknowledged and certainly have not gone unnoticed. Chief Tulgetske has stood by his officers through thick and thin and always made sure their needs were met first. Whether it was working night shifts and busting criminals or waging political battles to fight for officer salaries, he is the true spirit of law enforcement.

Hillsboro Police Department

Hillsboro Chief of Police, Steve Meinberg nominates Captain Darrick Curtis.

Although many officers in the department do an outstanding job, Captain Curtis stands out. Captain Curtis obtained the rank of Captain this year and acts as Assistant Chief. He's worked hard this year to help build the Hillsboro Police Department into a professional agency. His hard work, diligence, and attention to detail have made the agency and our community a better place. His knowledge and abilities have sped up the transition and has helped it to be seamless. He has been invaluable to the agency.



Jefferson County

Sheriff's Department

Sheriff Dave Marshak nominates Detective Corporal Shane Frazier.

Detective Frazier is responsible for technical investigations involving computers and phones. He retrieves digital evidence, analyses it, and documents various images and intelligence from crimes ranging from child abuse, sex crimes, to homicides. The job is not technically easy, but more importantly at time not mentally easy either. Detective Frazier does an incredible job balancing his responsibilities of his work and his home. As a result of his work, many Jefferson County victims have been rewarded with justice.





Pevely Police Department

Captain Larry Miller of the Pevely Police Department nominates Officer Kayla Boyd and Corporal Joe St. Clair for their joint effort.

On Sunday, June 7th, 2020, at 2:04 A.M., while patrolling Pevely Park, Corporal Joe St. Clair and Officer Kayla Boyd observed a vehicle parked at the end of the driveway on the southwest portion of the park. The officers observed the body of a white female laying on the ground outside of the open driver's door. The female was barely breathing, unresponsive, and her clothing were soaked in blood. They immediately summoned for an ambulance who upon arrival discovered a large vertical laceration on the females left arm just above her Humeral Trochlea from a suicide attempt. The actions of these officers saved the life of this person who would have succeeded in her attempt to commit suicide had they not checked the park. This woman was also able to get the help she needed at the hospital.

TWIN CITY AREA OPTIMIST CLUB RECEIVES GRANT



For the third consecutive year, the Jefferson Foundation has awarded a grant in the amount of \$5,000.00 for the coming fiscal year 2020-2021 for the Coats for Kids / Head Start Christmas Projects. Grant funds will be used to purchase coats and outerwear (hoodies, hats, mittens / gloves) for students in need throughout southern Jefferson County. Items are requested by contacts at area schools, Head Start, Homeless Youth Initiative, and via other special requests. In order to maintain privacy, the items are delivered directly to contacts. A portion of the funds may also be used to purchase sweatshirt and sweatpants for the Head Start Christmas Project. The club is proud to continue this on-going project and meet the needs of youth in the community.

Mary McDowell

Grant Chairperson



CONGRATULATIONS

Twin City Area Optimist Club Oratorical Winner

**Topic: "Just iMagine a World Without
Boundaries"**

Meet Janei Jackson. Janei was a sophomore at Herculaneum High School when she learned about the Optimist Oratorical Contest from her counselor, Renee Richardson. Through her own hard work and the opportunity provided by the Twin City Area Optimist Club, she won first place and \$500. Janei competed through two more contests, continually working on polishing her presentation. She went on to represent the Eastern Missouri District in the Midwest U.S. Regionals, ultimately winning a medal, plaque,

and a \$2,500 scholarship to the university of her choice. When asked where she learned to be such a good speaker, Janei said she belonged to the Speech Club at Herky. This club, sponsored by Melinda Fisher, competes with other area schools in speech contests. She loves doing this.

A few things we have learned about Janei are: Her mother is her hero for her kind and caring ways, she loves to read and write, her friends come to her for help, she wants to be a history teacher who really brings the human story to life, and she will be joining our JOI club. We are proud to have such a delightful person represent our community.

Mary Kay Scott, TCA President Elect

JUNIOR OPTIMISTS

During its September 3rd ZOOM meeting the JOI Club held election of officers which includes the following:

Teagan Capstick-President

Addisen Eldridge-VP

Olivia Blair-Secretary

Audrey Staley-Treasurer

Jacob Bohler-Supply Chair

BB 5K is getting ready for October 3, 2020, 8 am at West City Park at North pavilion. Registration at 7:30 am. Guest singer, Gina Otto will sing the National Anthem. In addition a trio from Festus High School choir will sing a song before walk/run. **(Please refer to Save the date below with link to more information and registration forms)**

PLEASE WEAR MASKS DURING REGISTRATION

& MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCE WHILE WALKING

Katie Huck
JOI Club Advisor

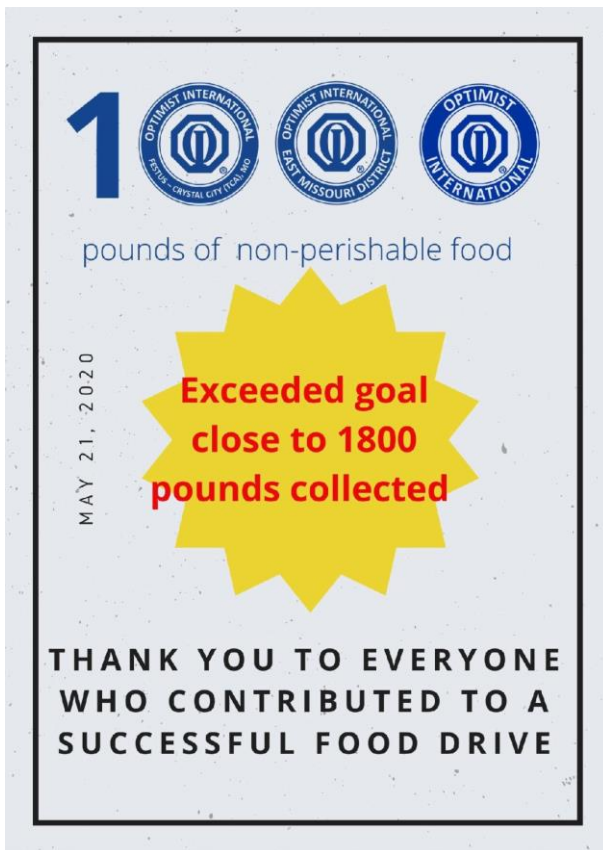


The JOI Club voted to purchase inspirational yard signs, “Don’t Give Up” movement. These signs will be placed around the Jefferson County area.

SERVICE PROJECTS

DRIVE THRU PRODUCT DRIVES

Our club did not remain idle during the summer of COVID-19. Hosting drive thru donation events allowed us to continue serving the community safely.



MORE... Our club sent \$600 each to:

United Methodist Church Food Pantry - Festus

United Methodist Church Food Pantry - Herculaneum

Hillsboro Food Pantry - Hillsboro

Victory Church Food Pantry - Pevely

Ozark Food Pantry - Festus

And our club sent \$1500 each to:

Brenden's Friday Backpack Program

Jefferson County Rescue Mission

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PCP DRIVE
(Personal Care Products)

WHEN: Thur. June 23, 2020

Thank You!

Yesterday's PCP Drive was an overwhelming success. In addition to the items collected, we received \$495 in gift cards and \$478 in cash donations. Homeless Youth Initiative works with local schools to provide basic needs, scholarships, and more.

GOAL: 1000 Items for
Jefferson County Homeless Youth Initiative
4771 received

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**Personal Care and Cleaning
Products Drive**

WHEN: Thur. July 23, 2020

Thank You!

CONTINUED SUCCESS WITH JULY'S PRODUCT DRIVE. THANKS TO OUR MEMBERS AND COMMUNITY FOR THEIR GENEROUS DONATIONS.

1000 Items for
St. Louis Crisis Nursery/
Jefferson County Outreach Center
Collected: **75 cleaning products,**
426 personal care products,
\$465 cash donations,
and 4853 Diapers/pull-ups



DICTIONARY PROJECT

Annual Dictionary Project on Schedule



Dictionaries are scheduled to arrive for sorting the week of September 28th. Southern Jefferson County third graders will be receiving their dictionaries in the upcoming weeks. This is a long standing club project. Even with technology, teachers continue to tell us the dictionaries are appreciated. Teachers use the dictionary as another learning tool for reading and referencing; including this resource in their English writing curriculum. We are sad we cannot personally deliver the dictionaries to each student this year but are pleased the tradition continues.

Thanks to Laura Elbl and Kelly Winkelman for chairing this year's project.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Shari Roberts

with sponsor Marsha Greenstreet



Megan Canaday

with sponsor Judy Williams



Karen Huskey

with sponsor Jean Naeger



Amy Baum

with Cindy Cherry (standing in for
sponsor Carroll Metzger)

New Board of Directors

October 1, 2020- September 30, 2021

We are pleased to announce next year's board of directors:

President Mary Kay Scott

Past President Phyllis Neff

President Elect Gerty O'Leary

Secretary Cathy Elliott

Secretary Elect Mickie Huskey

Treasurer Pat Parsons

Treasurer Elect Laura Elbl

2019-2021 Board Members

Megan Meyer

Patty Meyer

Debbie Schumaker

2020-2022 Board Members

Janice Boyd

Judy Kuhlman

Barb Schmidt

ART AND SCIENCE CHALLENGE

THE LEADER ART/SCIENCE CHALLENGE WRAPPED UP
SUMMER ONLINE PROGRAM AUGUST 13th

**The Art/Science Challenge was a joint project, with
community participation beyond our expectations.**

LEADER
Publications



Optimist Patty Meyer's
Art Challenge



Tracy LaRose, Science
Teacher for Antonio
Middle School in the
Fox C-6 District brought
her inner Einstein to the
science challenge



Optimist Jean Naeger's
Art challenge

SAVE THE DATE



Sat. Oct. 3, 2020

8 a.m.

Second Annual Take 10 for BB
(5K Suicide Awareness Walk)

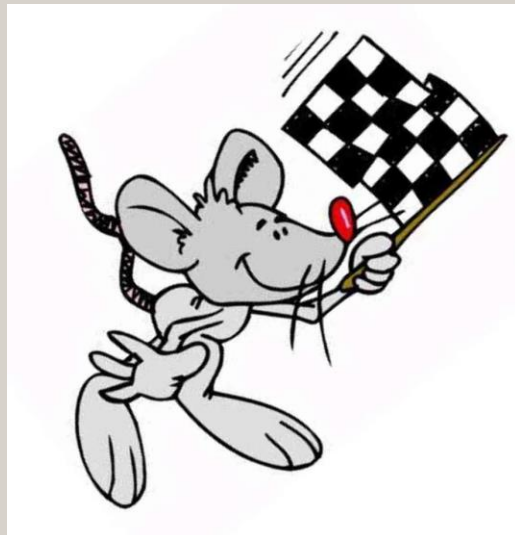
For details: Click <https://twincityoptimist.org/fundraisers>

NOTE: If you cannot participate in walk you can still support the event by making a donation. Please click on link above for registration form.

FALL FUNDRAISER **CANCELLED**

Unfortunately our fall fundraiser was canceled due to COVID-19. Our club hosts two large fundraisers each year. We were able to host our annual trivia night but the scheduled Mouse Races in September was not meant to be. We are committed to serving our youth. All financial support from the community is greatly appreciated during this unprecedented time. If you would like to be included in our sponsorship campaign please contact Jean Naeger at

314 495 2822. Request letters will be mailed in early January.



With the support of our sponsors we are able to aid and encourage the development of youth in our community, southern Jefferson County.

THANK YOU TO OUR PLATINUM SPONSOR:

H.W. Herrell Distributing Co

THANK YOU TO OUR GOLD SPONSORS:

Cindy Cherry, CPA

Harold and Carol Hagan

Hovis & Associates

Twin City Monuments

Twin City Toyota

Xi Theta Pi

THANK YOU TO OUR SILVER SPONSORS:

Colby J. Portell of Edward Jones

Commerce Bank

Crystal Coin and Jewelers, LLC

First State Community Bank

Home Service Oil

Ozarks Federal

Prescription Plus

Sapaugh GMC

The Optical Shop, Inc.

Thomas Industrial Coatings

Vinyard Funeral Homes Inc.

Wilburn S. Hinch, Inc.

THANK YOU TO OUR BRONZE SPONSORS:

Animal Clinic of
Herculaneum

Bank Star

Bloomsdale Bank

Cheri Phillips

Greenstreet Insurance

Hillsboro Title Company

Laiben Home Inc.

Lucas Smith Chrysler
Center

Meramec Valley
Mutual Ins.

MSD Liquor

Pharmax Pharmacy

Pogolino's Pizza Place

Ponder-Bates Stewart
Law

Sandra Overberg

Taytros, Lynn Tetrault

The Triton Group

Vest Benefit Solutions

Waites Financial

Services



**Members continue to meet every
Thursday at Noon - 1 p.m. via
ZOOM.**

**Our Club will continue looking at
the sunny side of everything and
being committed to bringing out
the best in our area youth.**

Keep current with club activities,

like us on Facebook or

visit our website.



Visit our website