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PROMISE YOURSELF RP SUNRISE OPTIMIST, JUL 1, 2025 VOL 9 - ISSUE 29

Ray-Pec Students Take Carnegie Hall—and New York City—by Storm!

Over 40 students from the Raymore-Peculiar area embarked on the trip of a lifetime, performing on the prestigious stage at Carnegie Hall. Chosen from a nationwide selection of choirs, these talented young voices were invited to sing three powerful numbers—an honor they won't soon forget. Their New York

adventure included a meaningful visit to the grave of Alexander Hamilton, adding a historical note to their musical triumph.

But the excitement didn't stop there... On their return journey, students were stranded at Chicago's O'Hare Airport. Just when an overnight stay seemed inevitable, a chance meeting with a stranger named Stanley turned everything around. Thanks to his surprising connections, a larger aircraft was arranged, reuniting Ray-Pec travelers with their flight and securing a smooth ride home.

From center stage to serendipitous encounters, it was a journey packed with inspiration, resilience, and a touch of magic!

The Artists

RPSINGS - The Choirs of RAYPEC

The Raymore-Peculiar High School program, RPSINGS, has become a model choral program in Missouri. Located in a suburb of Kansas City, RPSINGS is one of only five schools in the state to receive five Gold ratings in the Missouri State High School Activities Association Competition for the 2024–2025 school year. In the summer of 2023, RPSINGS toured France and was invited to perform in the Normandy Choral Festival under the direction of Dr. Cameron LaBarr. In 2022, the RPHS Chamber Singers were selected to perform at the Missouri Music Educators Conference, the first in their school's history. They have also performed alongside the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music and Dance at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts. For the past eight years, RPSINGS has built a level of excellence with 70 singers from RPSINGS receiving All-State Honors, the highest number in the state during that time. In addition to their work as singing musicians, members of RPSINGS have helped to develop and maintain a culture of collaboration and excellence that extends far beyond the rehearsal space through their promise as "a place to belong." Members of RPSINGS presented the RPSINGS Choir Leadership Council model at the 2023 Missouri Choral Directors Association Conference and it has helped develop leadership councils all over the country and as far away as Malaysia.

THE OPTIMIST CREED

Promise Yourself

To be **SO STRONG** that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.

To talk **health, happiness and prosperity** to every person you meet.

To make all your friends feel that **THERE IS SOMETHING IN THEM.**

To look at the **sunny side** of everything and make your optimism come true.

To think only of the best, to **work** only for the best and to expect only the best.

To be just as enthusiastic about the **success** of others as you are about your own.

To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the **GREATER ACHIEVEMENTS** of the future.

To wear a cheerful countenance **at all times** and give every living creature you meet a smile.

To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have **NO TIME TO CRITICIZE OTHERS.**

To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear and **too happy** to permit the presence of trouble.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

You will see your Optimist friends at these events!

7/8 – Sunrise meeting at 6:30 – Jack of All Trades...a mini workshop by Denise Woolf

7/15 – Sunrise Meeting at 6:30 – Super Hero Tuesday! Chief Wilson and Officer Honoree from Raymore Police Department

7/17 – THURSDAY, Serving spaghetti Dinner to Camp Quality Kids, RSVP

7/22 – Sunset with the Chamber! Progressive Dinner evening with Raymore Chamber, RSVP before 7/19
7/29 – Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Planning

Visit: www.raypecsunriseoptimists.com

- Most recent newsletters
- Club Activity Pictures and Videos
- Blog Entries
- Upcoming Events
- Member application



Belton Optimist Club Members



Tom Circo with Denise Woolf and Guests: Kathy Wolff, and Debby Seneff!

KC Optimist Club members



Play Ball!

Carl Kent, Richard Sanders, Alan Klein and Jim Kopetsky attend a Monarchs Game fundraiser for Camp Quality!



