



Weekly eWheel for the

Rotary Club of St. Joseph-Benton Harbor



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DECEMBER 5, 2016

One of our favorite days of the year--the St. Joseph-Benton Harbor Rotary Club Foundation is announcing the grant recipients for 2016! It's so nice to learn more about the fantastic work that's happening right here in our community and a big THANK YOU to all Rotarians who contribute to the St. Joseph-Benton Harbor Rotary Club Foundation so that we can support the work of these organizations!

ST. JOSEPH-BENTON HARBOR ROTARY CLUB FOUNDATION NAMES 2016 GRANT RECIPIENTS

The St. Joseph-Benton Harbor Rotary Club Foundation has named the grant recipients for the 2016 funding cycle. This year, a total of \$57,000 was awarded as determined by the St. Joseph-Benton Harbor Rotary Club Foundation Board of Directors.

Established in 1980, the St. Joseph-Benton Harbor Rotary Club Foundation has awarded more than \$772,000 in grants to area causes. 2016 Grant funding has been awarded for the following projects:

Cornerstone Alliance, \$5,000 for the 2017 Southwest Michigan Mini Maker Faire. The Mini Maker Faire is an all-ages gathering of tech enthusiasts, crafters, educators, tinkerers, hobbyists, engineers, science clubs, authors, artists, students and commercial exhibitors. All of these "makers" come to a Maker Faire to show what they have made and to share what they have learned. These Faires occur worldwide and the

2017 event is scheduled to take place on June 3 at Whirlpool Centennial Park in St. Joseph. The grant was accepted by Joe Rommel from Berrien RESA and Stacey Stephens of Cornerstone Alliance.

Southwest Michigan Mini Maker Faire®

Hospice at Home, Inc./Lory's Place, \$10,000 for Peer Grief Support for The Readiness Center. Grieving youth and their adult caregivers that attend The Readiness Center will be the focus of this initiative. The program will be offered once a month initially and Grief 101, education for staff and adults, will be offered twice a year. The grant was accepted by Stephanie Kohler, Family Services Coordinator Leader for Lory's Place.



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IMPORTANT DATES

- ❖ 12/8: Rotary Holiday Party at the SJ Yacht Club, 6:00-9:00 PM
- ❖ 12/12 Meeting: TBD
- ❖ 12/17: Bell ringing for The Salvation Army
- ❖ 12/19 Meeting: TBD
- ❖ 12/26: NO MEETING PER CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
- ❖ 1/2: NO MEETING PER NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAY

Rotary

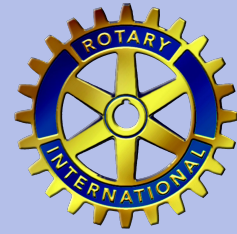


THE FOUR-WAY TEST

of the things we think, say or do

- 1 Is it the **TRUTH**?
- 2 Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
- 3 Will it build **GOODWILL & BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
- 4 Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

JOKE OF THE WEEK



VISITING ROTARIANS

Terry Allen & Stacey Stephens from Lakeshore
 Bob Becker from Paw Paw Lake
 Arnie Grahl from Rotary International

ROTARIANS WITH GUESTS

Jackie Huie brought Cleather Nichols



DOING THE MOST GOODSM

THE SALVATION ARMY FUNDRAISER

Bill Marohn has confirmed that, once again, Linda Upton will be matching donations made to The Salvation Army by our club members. In order to qualify for the match, you must make your donation directly to Bill at our 12/12 or 12/18 meeting.



VOLUNTEER BELL RINGERS NEEDED!

Ring a bell...help change a life

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Rotarians are needed to ring bells for The Salvation Army on Saturday, December 17 in front of Murphy's in downtown St. Joseph and at the grocery entrance to Walmart in Benton Harbor.

We have openings downtown at 2:00-4:00, 4:00-6:00 and 6:00-7:00. Walmart openings are 12:00-2:00, 2:00-4:00 and 6:00-7:00. If we don't get enough volunteers, we won't be able to support this great cause. Please contact Sean Ebbert at sebbert@personconstruction.com.



ROTARIANS WITH DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 12/2 - Elden Butzbaugh | 12/17 - Chuck Wells |
| 12/3 - Jerry Reimann | 12/18 - Don Radde |
| 12/6 - Brandi Smith-Gordon | 12/20 - Bob Judd & Charlie LaSata |
| 12/9 - Mike Hanley | 12/24 - Val Grimes |
| 12/10 - Tom Hollowell & John Proos | 12/30 - Tim Smith & David Kirshenbaum |
| 12/16 - Randy Bettich | |

10+ YEAR ROTARY ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 15 Years - Gyl Kasewurm & Bill Schalk | 29 Years - Dennis Bowen & Ann Keech |
| 19 Years - Stephen Ross | 33 Years - David Kirshenbaum |
| 20 Years - Mark Whitwam | 34 Years - Don Radde |
| 21 Years - Charlie LaSata | |
| 27 Years - Donna Probasco | |



THE STUDENT MENTOR PROGRAM EXPERIENCE

We had two teens join our meeting to share their experience with the Student Mentor Program.

Kayla Nichols (top picture, with mother Cleather) is a sophomore at St. Joseph High School and a recent Interact Club member. Kayla was able to spend time at WNDU studios with News Director, C.J. Beutien. Kayla was able to find out what journalists do on a daily basis and had fun meeting Maureen McFadden and sitting with her in front of the camera. Kayla shared that this opportunity reaffirmed her decision to pursue a career in journalism.

Alyssa Gould (bottom picture) is a St. Joseph High School junior with an interest in medicine and anesthesiology. Alyssa's interest in this field started because she spent time in the hospital when she was younger when she underwent back surgery for scoliosis. Alyssa spent time with Dr. Ryan Dudley who is an anesthesiologist at Lakeland Health. Dr. Dudley shared both the pros and cons of the job with Alyssa which she said was helpful because her research often focused on the pros--one of which, she found out from Dr. Dudley, was getting to wear scrubs to work every day which is pretty much like wearing pajamas.

Both teens expressed thanks to the Rotary Club for providing the opportunity for them to have this experience.



2016 GRANT RECIPIENTS (CONTINUED)

LOGAN Community Resources, \$10,000 for purchase of therapeutic tools for home use. Many families with children on the Autism Disorder spectrum cannot afford to purchase the items that their therapist have found useful in engaging a nonverbal or high anxiety child. Items purchased will include



Chewlry (safe tactile surfaces to chew on) and PECS, a picture program whereby a nonverbal child can communicate their needs and feelings. The grant was accepted by Dan Ryan, Director of Autism Services

and Pat Roemer, Director of Development for LOGAN Community Resources.

Overflow Christian Community Development Association, \$8,000 for Jobs for Life (JFL) program. JFL is a workforce development program that provides job training, life skills coaching, mentorship and work experience to prepare un/underemployed individuals to secure long-term employment. The grant was accepted by Princella Stringer, Jobs for Life Director.



Region IV Area Agency on Aging, \$5,000 for Music & Memory program. Music & Memory is a comprehensive, field-proven program that will train AAA volunteers to provide music therapy utilizing customized music playlists on iPods for local senior with dementia and Alzheimer's disease. The grant was accepted by Pat Arter, Senior Volunteer Program Director and Robin Ross, Senior Companion Program Coordinator for Area Agency on Aging.



Second Harvest Gleaners Food Bank of West Michigan, Inc., \$7,000 for Mobile Food Pantries. With Mobile Food Pantries, food is distributed in an area of need. They distribute fresh produce, dairy products, and grains directly to families in need. Each individual who visits a Mobile Food Pantry goes home with 50 pounds of fresh food. The grant



was accepted by Pattiejean McCahill, Development Director for Feeding America West Michigan.

2016 GRANT RECIPIENTS (CONCLUDED)



grant was accepted by Linda Strohl, Executive Director for Meals on Wheels of SWMI.

Senior Nutrition Services Region IV, \$7,000 for Meals on Wheels of SWMI/No Senior Hungry. Funds will be used to support meals to 15 homebound seniors in St. Joseph and Benton Harbor. This service helps seniors remain living independently in their own homes. The

grant was accepted by Linda Strohl, Executive Director for



United Way of Southwest Michigan, \$5,000 for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library (DPIL). DPIL is a program

focused on increasing early childhood literacy and learning for preschool children so they can be prepared to enter

kindergarten ready to learn. Children enrolled in DPIL receive a brand new, age-appropriate book each month that is mailed directly to their home. The program is provided free of charge to children, regardless of income. The grant was accepted by Rachel Wade, Vice President of Impact & Development and Sharon Polfus, Director of Major Gifts for United Way of Southwest Michigan.

To be eligible, a grant request must have been for a minimum of **\$5,000** and submitted by a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization or governmental unit within the St. Joseph-Benton Harbor area. Emphasis was given for efforts that seek to provide better opportunities for youth and special needs populations. Requests for sectarian religious projects and programs, national fundraising efforts, political organizations or funds for program deficits or previously incurred obligations are ineligible. Grant applications are accepted each fall to be considered for St. Joseph-Benton Harbor Rotary Club Foundation funding.

The mission of the St. Joseph-Benton Harbor Rotary Club Foundation is to improve lives in the St. Joseph-Benton Harbor community by supporting that focus on:

- Improvement of health
- Support of education
- Economic and community development
- Rotary International initiatives that have local impact

The resources of the St. Joseph-Benton Harbor Rotary Club Foundation come from gifts made by Rotarians and other individuals, families, businesses and local organizations. A volunteer Board of Directors from the club set policy and approve all grants.



WANT TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE eWHEEL?

Your weekly email is brought to you by Emily Hosinski, Jennifer VanBeck, Brandi Smith-Gordon and Lisa Cripps-Downey with photography by Jen Cole. If you have an announcement, a bit of news you wish to share, or a story you wish to see featured, please write to RotarySJBH@gmail.com.

Connect with the Rotary Club of St.
Joseph-Benton Harbor
online at www.sjbhrotary.org



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