



South County K-NEWS

Kiwanis Club of South County - St. Louis

"Serving the Children of the World"
#KidsNeedKiwaniis



Kiwanis International
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Missouri-Arkansas District
Number 35

NEXT MEETING
June 8, 2022
Key Club Officers and Advisors
12:30 pm

JUNE

- Jun 1** - Police Officer of the Quarter.
- Jun 8** - Key Club Officers and Faculty Sponsors.
- Jun 15** - Fun Meeting.
- Jun 22** - Open Space Control, Bonnie Harper.
- Jun 29** - Board/Business Meeting.

14 members and 2 guests present: Officer Marcus Bechtold, today's honoree and SGT Eric Tripp, both of the St. Louis County Police Department.

Louann opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and Pauline followed with the invocation. Louann reminded everyone that Ed is collecting \$10.00 per member for the Scratcher Raffle. Please pay Ed, if you have not yet done so. Bill said we had total sales of \$1,018.00 for the Bandana's fund raiser. We collected \$203.00, 20% of the sales. Thanks again to everyone who participated.

Connie said there are renovations going on at the Botanical Gardens and the main restaurant is closed until further notice. There is another restaurant on the grounds with a limited lunch selection. Connie will find out the menu and e-mail it to us. The tram cannot be reserved so everyone would need to show up at a given time so we could all ride together. Louann suggested we think about the trip in the Fall due to hot weather. We will decide next week whether to pursue this trip or not. Thanks, Connie, for pulling this all together!

SGT Tripp introduced Officer Bechtold. Tripp stated that Officer Bechtold has been with the Department for 5 years and has a great reputation with his peers and community. He has been actively involved in numerous drug and theft arrests. Officer Tripp is married with two children and is a veteran of the Marine Corps. Thank you, Officer Tripp, for all your service, in the military and now the community!

SGT Tripp then gave us an update of what is going on in the Affton/Southwest Precinct. He stated that Ronnie's is a hot spot for vehicle break-ins. The current criminals are targeting specific sport cars and breaking glass for entry, not just unlocked doors. Currently, violent crimes are down but property crimes are through the roof. Please remember to lock your car doors and close garage doors. SGT Tripp stated that the county council just recently voted to update the budget for the new precinct headquarters. The cost of the property and

Meetings: Wednesdays – 12:30pm - Frailey's Southtown - 4329 Butler Hill Rd. 63128 (at I-55) - 314-892-1866

President: Mrs. Louann Elledge
H (314) 892-5424
email: lledge@swbell.net

K-NEWS Editor: Mr. Ed Kurmann
H (314) 846-4895
email: ekurmann@att.net

Secretary: Dr. Richard Kircher
C (314) 623-6253
email: rakdvm@att.net

construction for their new headquarters has tripled since last year. Hopefully it will still get built! The Bayless School District is putting in a new security system. It includes sensors and speakers located throughout the high school and middle school school and grounds. All teachers will wear a panic button so when activated, their location is pinpointed, and the school will lock down. The sensors and speakers will automatically become active and will at the same time update local police. This new system is being funded by a federal grant of \$500,000.00. Current police staff in the precinct is 14 officers down. The entire St. Louis County Police Department is still having difficulty hiring and retaining officers.

Happy Dollars: All were happy for our Police Department and the great work that they do.

50/50: Drawing - Judy Burnette.
Lottery Ticket - Linda Hoppe.

Thanks to Jeanne for taking the notes of today's meeting.

Bandana's Fundraiser

We had a successful fundraiser at Bandana's. We will be receiving \$203.

Member News

Sherry Stevenson is feeling better, but tires very easily. She hopes to be back to meetings in a couple of weeks after more doctor visits. **Carla Rowell** fell again and had to go to the ER.

Oakville HS Key Club News

OHS Key Club meets twice a month on the 2nd & 4th Mondays, 2:15pm, library.

We conducted our last meeting of this school year on Monday, May 23. We also gave out cords and stoles to our qualifying seniors. Graduating seniors wear cords to signify organizations they belonged to over the years, and stoles are also worn at graduation signifying exec offices they have held in organizations. We had snacks and drinks and also hosted several Kiwanis members who told us about the upcoming Feed the Need event.

Anna Brand, Secretary

Mehlville HS Key Club News

**MHS Key Club meets once a month,
usually on the 1st Thursday,
but sometimes on the 2nd Thursday, 2:15pm, library**

Mehlville High School's last Key Club meeting of the year was held on May 12th after school. At this special meeting, we reflected as a club over everything we have accomplished this year through servant leadership, as well as the friends we have made by fostering an inspirational community of service-driven high schools in the St. Louis area. Liah Kahn (President) brought snacks to help celebrate this achievement. With

that being said, Mehlville Key Club is very excited for next year and has begun making preparations, including electing new officers for the 2022-2023 school year. They are as follows:

- President: Rachel Trosky
- Vice President: Madelyn Ramos
- Secretary: Tori Cafolla

On behalf of all of Mehlville Key Club, we extend a warm thank you to our Kiwanis family for supporting us throughout the year. We look forward to our continued collaboration as we work together to make our community a better place.

Alex Norrenberns, Vice-President

JUNE

Birthdays: Bill Leonard - 6/18

Anniversaries: Pauline and Gene Roth – 6/4/60

Kiwanis Anniversaries: Sherry Stevenson – 6/27/2000



The Kiwanis Club of South County - St. Louis recently honored Officer Marcus Bechtold of the Affton Southwest Precinct of the St. Louis County Police Department as its "Officer of the Quarter." Officer Bechtold's accomplishments are far too numerous to list here. Suffice it to say that Officer Bechtold was honored for his untiring dedication and service to the South County community. South County Kiwanis President Louann Elledge presented Officer Bechtold with a Certificate of Recognition and a gift card to a local restaurant. Officer Bechtold was accompanied to the meeting by SGT Eric Tripp.