

# "Optimist OPTICS"

OPTIMISTESINSPIRER
LE MEILLEUR
CHEZ LES
JEUNES
OUT THE BEST
IN KIDS

"Dare to Care"

### Optimist Club of Evansville - Downtown

**Rich Hawley - President** 

#### This Week's Program

**Next Week's Program** 

Mar 25th - Ann McKim Arts Council of SW IN

Apr 8th—tba



Jeff Olson led us in the invocation, followed by these words, inspired by Mother Teresa:

People are often unreasonable, and self-centered;

Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of ulterior motives;

Be kind anyway.

If you are honest, people may cheat you;

Be honest anyway.

What you spend years creating, others could destroy overnight;

Create anyway.

If you find happiness, people may be jealous;

Be happy anyway.

The good you do today, may be forgotten tomorrow;

Do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough;

Give your best anyway.

For you see in the end, it is between you and God;

It was never between you and them anyway.

This resonated with many members who were present!

We had one guest today, David York (Colleen's husband). That guy keeps hanging around us Optimists!

**Sunshine Report:** Colleen is filling in for Gary in his absence, and reports that Gary is still re covering from shoulder surgery and receiving Physical Therapy at Good Samaritan Home. She visited him last week and Gary was in good spirits! If you want to contact Gary, you can text him at 812-499-3045, visit him between 9:00 and 4:00, or send snail mail. He is in room 590 E. Washington at Good Samaritan at 601 N. Boeke Rd, Evansville, IN 47711. Give him a heads up if you plan on a visit. We look forward to Gary's speedy recovery and return to member and board meetings!

Please send your news or prayer requests for the next Sunshine Report to cfyork@wowway.com













Ed Harrison Memorial Golf Scramble

Financial Support for





Meetings: 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 11:45am
Old National Bank Building, Downtown; Blue and Gold Room
Mail Club at: P.O. Box 15905, Evansville, Indiana 47716 - 0905
www.evansvilledowntownoptimist.org
Evansville Downtown Charitable Foundation, Inc.

### "Optimist OPTICS" - continued









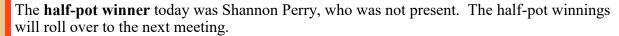






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Conscious money was given by Colleen (continued healing for Gary!), Sally (Good Luck to IU, ranked #11 in the Big Ten!), and Dan (Heritage Hills is in the Regional Basketball playoffs!)

Doc Bender offered conscious money with a **medical minute**...comments on the History of a Pandemic. A Pandemic occurs only once every 100 years. In 1918, Influenza killed 51 million people worldwide. This occurred at the same time as the end of WWI...about 100 years ago. The war killed 36 million people. "So any time you think this isn't a serious illness, history is repeating itself, and it will run it's course."

Dr. Jeff Olson also shared his views on the Coronovirus. The common flu kills 18,000-60,000 a year. There are so many fewer deaths caused by the Coronovirus so far, yet everyone is "freaked out". He struggles to understand the big panic, as the symptoms are mild, people get over it (60% of the people who have had it are recovered from it), and the only people who are seriously affected are the elderly, and those whose health is otherwise compromised. As far as stopping the spread, he says, "the cat's out of the bag", and it's going to be everywhere.

There were no trivia winners as President Rich once again stumped everyone with three questions related to St. Patrick's Day. Way to support the club, Rich! \$\$\$\$\$

Dan Phillips and Michelle Brummett won the buddy prize! Please remember to contact your buddy....it pays off (usually in candy!)

Kendall Paul, Executive Director of the Vanderburgh Humane Society was our guest speaker. She has been with VHS for 26 years, and ED for the past 14. We learned about their many successful programs, and the words they live by, "Alter, Adopt, Adore".

VHS serves their own animals and employs a full time veterinarian to <u>alter</u> (spay and neuter) the animals. They partner with other area animal rescue organizations to perform these surgeries for their animals in their own low cost clinic. This clinic also serves the public who have pets, but are not likely to have a private vet to care for them.

VHS takes in strays, litters, and personal pets that can no longer be kept. They take in twice as many cats as dogs. In 2017 they began partnering with the River Kitty Cat Café at 226 Main Street. They acquired the business last year, and are reaching their 450<sup>th</sup> cat adoption through this program! The cat café has a "cool vibe" and offers drinks and snacks (including wine and coffee). You can pay to sit and play in a separate room with the cats if you'd like. This has become a local attraction and they see a lot of business when big events come to the Ford Center. In addition to this program, VHS partners with humane societies in other states to maximize adoptions, sending cats to Chicago, and receiving puppies from Atlanta through the "Puppy Pipeline". She says they are constantly networking.



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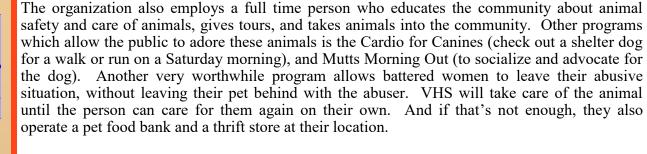






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So you can see they have a lot going on at VHS! Kendall appreciated the opportunity to speak with us and reminded everyone that <u>donations are needed</u> to keep it all running. They are a private organization and so their only funding comes from generous donors, fundraisers, and patrons of the River Kitty Cat Café.

Our next meeting is 3/26. The guest speaker will be Anne McKim, Executive Director of the Arts Council of Southwestern Indiana. Please join us!

The next board meeting is 3/17 at 12:00 in Room 205 at ONB. All are welcome.

Committee assignments are as follows:

March Programs and Bulletin: Colleen York

Buddy prizes: Sally Olson Invocation: Jeff Olson

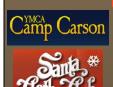
April Programs: Michael Burke

Bulletin: need a volunteer! Contact Rich.

Buddy prizes: Colleen York Invocation: Ron Eberhart

May Programs, Bulletin, Buddy Prizes and Invocation: Gary Burke (we hope Gary will be joining us by then but if not, we are sure someone will step in to volunteer to cover for Gary!)

Submitted by Colleen York



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