

## ***“Dare to Care”***

**Old National Bank - Bob Jones Family Community Room**  
**Riverside Drive at Main Street**  
**Downtown Evansville**



**July 23rd — Verdelski Miller  
Boom Squad**



**YMCA  
Camp Carson**



**Mail Club at: P.O. Box 15905, Evansville, Indiana 47716 - 0905**  
**www.evansvilledowntownoptimist.org**  
**Evansville Downtown Charitable Foundation, Inc.**



# Optimist Newsletter Continued



Ed Harrison  
Memorial  
Golf Scramble

Financial Support for:

YMCA  
Camp Carson



## Guest Speaker: Darlene “Dolly’s Dynamo” Short

Our speaker, **Darlene Short**, gave a wonderful presentation about the **Warrick Literacy and Education Connections (WLEC)**. Founded in 1995 with the help of Dolly Parton (yes, *that* Dolly), the program helps get books into the hands of young readers through **Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library**.

They currently serve **2,100+ children every month** in Warrick County! That’s a lot of bedtime stories and not a single overdue fine.

Darlene shared stories of local pre-teens raising money years ago to keep the program alive—proof that Optimism and Generosity have no age limits. Their dream is to build a self-sustaining Foundation with **\$750,000**, and we have no doubt they’ll get there.

She reminded us that reading to children under age five is not just sweet—it’s *critical*. It helps wire their little brains for reading success. So read *Goodnight Moon* like your life depends on it!

## Final Notes: Stay Cool & See You Soon

Our next meeting is on **July 9th**, and we’ll be joined by **Katie Schnautz** from the **Evansville Christian Choir**. She’ll bring harmony to our hearts (and maybe a breeze if we’re lucky).

Until then, stay cool, drink plenty of water, and remember: an Optimist is someone who carries sunscreen even when it’s raining—just in case the sun *feels like showing off*.

**Yours in Optimism and Ice Packs,**  
*Ron Eberhart, Scribe*



**Mail Club at: P.O. Box 15905, Evansville, Indiana 47716 - 0905**  
**[www.evansvilledowntownoptimist.org](http://www.evansvilledowntownoptimist.org)**  
**Evansville Downtown Charitable Foundation, Inc.**