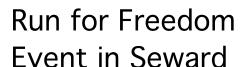
Nebraska District Optimists

June 2023

Carla Gries, District Governor



The Seward Optimist Club will be hosting their Annual 4th of July Freedom Run. You can register online for both the 10K–Run or the 2–mile walk:

www.GetMeRegistered.com

Registration fees are:

10K Race \$25 before June 20th; \$35 June 21 - July 3 2-mile Walk - \$15 before June 1; \$25 June 21 - July 3

Both races starts at 7:00 AM. Prizes will be awarded as follows:

10K Race - \$100.00 prize to male & female winners \$50.00 to second place winners 2-Mile Walk - \$50.00 to male & female winners \$25.00 to second place winners

Good luck to all those participating!

Remember Why You're an Optimist ...

How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world. -- Anne Frank



Choose Optimism

District 10 Upcoming Dates



June 1 – Nebr. Optimist Jr. Golf Qualifier at York Country Club – more info in last month's newsletter

June 3 – Omaha Miracle Hills Optimists hosting a social event for all Optimists, their friends, & families! Reserved seat tickets behind home plate, reserved parking, & tailgating before the game. contact Carol Sorensen for more info:

casrnsn@gmail.com

July 2-5 – 105th Optimist Annual Convention in Arlington, VA. Visit the OI web site for more info.

August 19-20 – District 4th Quarter Conference in Lincoln at the Downtown Graduate Hotel. Visit District web site for more info.

Some Thoughts on Patriotism & Optimism

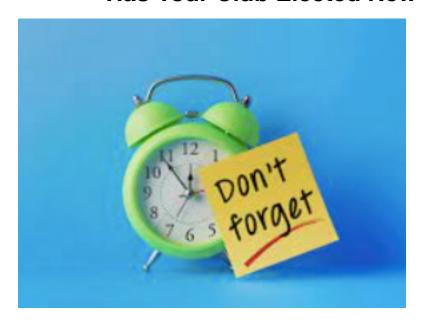
With Independence Day approaching, I was curious about how living with optimism impacts us as American citizens – in other words, how do patriotism and optimism align? Are patriotic people also more optimistic? Are people who live life with optimism, by nature, more patriotic? I did some research and found an article by Rose De Femery that deals with this topic.

Rose says, "Our focus, today of all days, should be on ourselves and each other. How will we rise to this moment and follow in the footsteps of the patriots who won our country's independence generations ago? ... This is what I will be reflecting on this Independence Day. I choose to re-affirm my commitment to this country that I love, this vibrant and messy work in progress that I still, at the end of the day, deeply believe in. It's only human to experience fear and uncertainty, but it's how we handle those feelings that defines us. And, perhaps more importantly, we should consciously reflect on what we believe because it's our beliefs that quide our actions."



To read the entirety of Rose's article entitled "On Patriotism and Optimism," visit her web site: https://rosedefremery.com/on-patriotism-and-optimism/

Has Your Club Elected New Officers for Next Year?



Has your club returned your completed Club Officer-Elect Report yet? It was due to Optimist International by May 20th, and can be found on the OI web site.

Please focus on completing the nomination and election process for club officer positions. Then return the completed form for the Optimist 2023-2024 year.



William Erickson - Holdrege

Connor Wade – Lincoln West

3rd

4th

Nebraska Optimists 2023 Pitch, Hit, & Run Competition

The Nebraska District Tri-Star Baseball Pitch Hit Run contest was hosted by the Star City Optimist Youth Foundation at the Optimist Youth Sports Complex on May 19. Winners of local contests were eligible to compete. Participants competed in either the baseball or softball division as they pitched 5 balls to hit a target, hit 5 balls off a tee for distance, and ran a 90-foot base path for speed.

Winner photos on the next page.

Winners were determined by total accumulated points and are shown below. In addition to receiving trophies, they're eligible to advance to the Major League Baseball contests.

Ages 7 & 8 Baseball	Softball
 1st Hudson Hernandez – Lincoln 2nd Breckham May-Hoffman – Lincoln West 3rd Samuel Haden – Lincoln Sunrise 4th Reid Carr – York 5th Madoc Johnson – Lincoln Evening 	Zoey Newman - York Anna Hendricks - Lincoln Evening
Ages 9 &10 Baseball	Softball
 1st Landon Donahue – Lincoln Evening 2nd Kasen Makovicka – York 3rd Fulton Hanley – Lincoln Sunrise 4th Samuel Behrendt - Holdrege 	Brooklyn Campbell - York
Ages 11 & 12 Baseball	Softball
 1st Liam Escher – York 2nd Race Ortgiesen – Holdrege 3rd Konner Steinmetz - Holdrege 4th Braylon Bartoo – Lincoln Evening 5th Benjamin Loos – Lincoln 	MacKenzie Nelson – Lincoln Sunrise Eden Schroetlin - York Kyper Vaughn - Holdrege
Ages 13 & 14 Baseball	Softball
1st Landon Powers - Holdrege2nd Alaric Mizner – York	Evelyn Ericksen - Holdrege















Optimist Communication Contest for Deaf & Hard of Hearing Students

The Nebraska District Communication Contest for Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CCDHH) was held in the Auld Pavilion in Lincoln on Saturday, April 29th. Seven students competed for two \$2,500 college scholarships in what was the 25th year of a collaborative relationship between the Nebraska District Optimists and the Regional Programs for Students who are Deaf & Hard of Hearing in Nebraska.

The winner of the Chet Arnett Memorial Scholarship was Lily Ardinger Stibal, a sophmore attending Lincoln East High School. This scholarship is provided annually to the Nebraska District by the Optimist International Foundation.

The winner of the Katie Gurnsey Remembrance Scholarship was Sydney Thompson, a Sophomore living in Denton and attending school at Milford Jr/Sr High School. This scholarship is made possible by donations for Optimist clubs across Nebraska, Hamilton Relay and the family of Katie Gurnsey. Participating clubs this year included Denton, Lincoln, Lincoln Evening, Lincoln Sunrise, Lincoln West, Miracle Hills, Norfolk Noon, Papillion-LaVista, South Sioux City and West Point.

Pictured (L to R: District Governor Carla Gries, Lily Ardinger Stibal (Chet Arnett Memorial Scholarship winner), Sydney Thompson (Katie Gurnsey Remembrance Scholarship winner), and CCDHH Chairman Mark Claussen.

