

Central Fairfax Optimist

By providing hope and positive vision, Optimists bring out the best in youth, our communities, and ourselves.



June 2023

<https://fairfaxoptimist.org>

“Just 3 Things”

Central Fairfax Optimist Club P.O. Box 1271 Fairfax City, VA 22038 Email us at fairfaxoptimists@gmail.com Board meeting 2nd Tuesday each month at the VFW 8469 5703 Vogue Road 730P.M. and Club dinner meetings April-July on 4th Wednesday @ Elks Lodge, 8421 Arlington Blvd.



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We Appreciate Mountain View Students!

Mountain View High School students were honored Friday, June 2nd at a well-attended awards ceremony. The Grabowski Citizenship Scholarship and the Central Fairfax Youth Appreciation award were given to deserving students. See more information and pictures beginning on page 4.

Safety Patrol Kids are Great!

For our club's Respect for Law program, we recognized the Safety Patrol officers and members at Laurel Ridge and Oak View Elementary schools. Patrol members work hard to ensure the safety of their fellow students, but are rarely recognized or appreciated. The Peter Drake Memorial Respect for Law award was established to annually recognize the Patrol members for their effort. See more information and pictures on page 7.

Hot News

We still need volunteers to help at the Optimist International Convention.

We have vacant positions that need to be filled: Director (1-2), Sergeant of Arms, and lots of members!!

Anne Grabowski will be our Zone 4 Lieutenant Governor for the 2023-2024 Optimist year!

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JUNE

- 1**— Respect for Law: Safety Patrol Laurel Ridge Elementary 9:15am outside behind the school
- 2**— Mountain View Awards Ceremony
- 3**— Inter-Service Club Council 12-1 pm @ the Moose Club 3529 Chain Bridge Rd. Fairfax
- 9** — Respect for Law: Safety Patrol Oak View Elementary
- 13** — Club Board meeting 7:30 pm @ VFW 8469, 5703 Vogue Road, Fairfax Station
- 28**— Club dinner meeting 7pm for social time; dinner served at 7:30 @ Elks Lodge 8421 Arlington Blvd. Fairfax Youth Appreciation recipients

JULY

- 2-5 July**— Optimist International Convention @ Hyatt Regency Crystal City
- 4** — Fairfax City July 4th parade
- 11** — Club Board meeting 7:30 pm @ VFW 8469, 5703 Vogue Road, Fairfax Station
- 26**— Club Pot Luck picnic 7pm for social time; dinner served at 7:30 @ VFW 8469, 5703 Vogue Road, Fairfax Station
- 28**— Fairfax City Rock the Block fundraiser

AUGUST

- 2** — ISCC Volunteer of the Year 7:30pm @ Sherwood Community Center
- 8** — Club Board meeting and Annual Club Planning Conference (**ACPC**) 7:30 pm @ VFW 8469, 5703 Vogue Road, Fairfax Station
- 23**— **NO Club dinner meeting this month.**

BIRTHDAYS

JUNE

- 2nd Fred Kaiser
- 13th Sharon DeBragga

JULY

- 17th Peter Conklin
- 25th Jeff Johnson
- 26th Brooke Johnson
- 31st Diana Dawa

AUGUST

- 10th Ann Scott
- 12th Anne Grabowski
- 30th Douglas Harden

ANNIVERSARIES

JUNE

None this month. Let's recruit someone!!

JULY

- 2nd Dave and Jo Ann Gundry
- 5th Bob and Carol Devery
- 10th Susan and Edward Bond
- 30th Fred and Marty Kaiser

AUGUST

- 8th Maxwell and Pearl Anokye

FINANCE SUMMARY

(6/12/23)

- Operating Account \$1,904.09
- Community Service \$1,837.03
- Youth Fund (3/31/2023) \$4,020.67



Club News

New Club Board of Directors 2023-2024

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	DEE RUSHFORTH
VICE-PRESIDENT	ANNE GRABOWSKI
VICE-PRESIDENT	BRUCE GUY LAUTHER
SECRETARY	TONI DONOVAN
TREASURER	SUE BOND

DIRECTORS (up to 7)

BOB DEVERY
MICHELE HANSON
FRED KAISER
KIM MODEN
TRINKET TROY
VACANT
VACANT

APPOINTED POSITIONS

CLUB FOUNDATION REPRESENTATIVE	MICHELE HANSON
SERGEANT OF ARMS	<i>VACANT</i>

As mentioned in HOT NEWS on page 1, we have vacant positions that need to be filled: 1 or 2 Directors, Sergeant of Arms, and lots of members!!

We really need you to help keep the club functioning so we can continue to support the youth of our community. We sometimes forget that we are not just a group of people who really enjoy each other and do good things for kids. We are also an incorporated 501c4 business and an affiliated club of Optimist International.

Like any good organization, we have a mission, a purpose, and a vision. Our business entity, the Central Fairfax Optimist Club, needs to plan, obtain resources, and deliver community service to our customers: the youth and families in our community.

We can't do this without your support and involvement. Please contact Dee now to help.



Club News (continued)

Mountain View High School Awards: The Norbert Grabowski Citizenship Scholarship by Anne Grabowski

It was another wonderful ceremony at Mountain View and this was no exception - there were many tears shed. It is always such a great pleasure for me to participate in this occasion and to meet these incredible young people.



The winner of the Norbert Grabowski Citizenship Scholarship is Abdulai I. Kargbo. Abdulai is a very soft-spoken and talented young man. His teachers praise his work ethic and persistence in the classroom. Abdulai wrote, "Mountain View is a tight knit community that believes in second chances and reflects their values of family, love, and respect exceptionally well. I'm forever grateful that I was able to come from a place of hopelessness and continue my education in a place of empowerment. In the future, I hope this school continues to be a home for students, like it was for me."

My son-in-law, Tim Wallace, presented the award to Abdulai who is a very impressive young man.



Club News (continued)

Mountain View High School Awards: The Central Fairfax Optimist Club Youth Appreciation Award by Anne Grabowski

The recipients of the Central Fairfax Optimist Club Youth Appreciation Award are: Jefri Sanchez De La O, on the right in the photo, and Maheteme Boncampi. Jefri has hemophilia. This condition requires that Jefri make daily visits to the hospital to check his blood work. Jefri is doing much better in school than he has in the past. Aside from school he also has two jobs. Jefri is always positive, and he has hopes of having a career in the medical field where he can help others like himself who are dealing with chronic medical issues. Thank you for your continued positive attitude Jefri.



The second Youth Appreciation Award goes to Maheteme Bocampi. He exemplifies the first line in the Optimist Club Creed "Promise Yourself to be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind." Maheteme does just that. When he enrolled at Mountain View in 2021, he had just moved from Ethiopia and was very excited. All he could talk about was how much he loves to learn. He has demonstrated this love every day at Mountain View. It was only later that we found out the tremendous hardships that Megatee had been dealing with, but you would have never known this based on his smile and positive attitude, Mr Todd his counselor, wrote, " Maheteme is a great citizen at our school and a good friend to all. We will miss hiim next year."

Congratulations to both of these two very deserving students and we wish them continued success in all their future endeavors.



Club News (continued)

Peter Drake Memorial Respect for Law Award

Below is the letter that is sent annually to the schools. This will give you a better understanding of the program, and you can use this for future years.

Peter Drake Safety Patrol Award
Optimist Club of Central Fairfax

One of the purposes of an Optimist is to inspire respect for the law. The members of the Safety Patrol epitomize this value and have been recognized by our Club for many years. The Optimist Club of Central Fairfax established the Peter Drake Safety Patrol Award to honor an outstanding member of the school's Safety Patrol and named the award after a founding member of our club. His passion was all about honoring Safety Patrols and Crossing Guards.

Peter understood that the children who were Safety Patrols took their job seriously. He also believed that they deserved recognition for their service. He also knew that sometimes it is someone who may not be in a leadership position or noticed in a group that makes a difference in the lives of others and deserves some special recognition.

You are requested to select one Safety Patrol member to receive the annual Peter Drake Safety Patrol Award awarded by the Optimist Club of Central Fairfax. The Safety Patrol member does not have to be an officer; just someone that has been exceptional in your eyes.

The awardee will have his or her name engraved on the plaque that the school has agreed to keep and display in an appropriate place. The awardee will also receive a certificate and a monetary award. Toward the end of the school year, the Optimist Club recognizes all Safety Patrol members with certificates, and a monetary award for each of the officers in recognition of their leadership. The plaque will be presented at the same time as the other Safety Patrol presentations or at an appropriate time as determined by the school.

To allow time for engraving, we ask that the school's awardee be identified before the end of May if the ceremony will be in June.

Our Club thanks you for your continued support and the honor of recognizing the deserving Safety Patrol members.

Sincerely,

Dee Rushforth

Durward "Dee" Rushforth



Club News (continued)

Peter Drake Memorial Respect for Law Award Laurel Ridge Elementary

The presentation of certificates and monetary awards for the Safety Patrol at Laurel Ridge Elementary is done in conjunction with their end of year party. This year it was on June 1st. Each patrol member received a certificate and an envelope to protect it for the journey home. The Patrol officers (Captains and Leaders) received an upgraded certificate from the Central Fairfax Optimist Club, a certificate from our club's sponsor FVCbank, and a monetary award.

Nathan Rink received the Peter Drake Memorial Respect for Law Award. Nathan went above and beyond his duties as a Patrol Leader and exhibited extraordinary maturity, kindness and presence of mind while responding to unusual situations while on duty. In addition to the certificates and monetary award, Nathan's name was engraved and added to the memorial plaque which is displayed in the school.

Oak View Elementary

The presentation of certificates and Peter Drake Memorial Respect for Law Award for the Safety Patrol at Oak View Elementary was divided between the day of the Patrol party and their end of year awards event. Oak View does not have Patrol officers or leaders.



This year we were going to hand out the certificates at the day of the Patrol party. That didn't work!! It was a beautiful day. The Oak View PTA had given the school \$200 that was used to sponsor a Kona Ice truck. And the combination weather and truck resulted in uninhibited glee, excitement, and chaos! It was great!! So much fun!!! So the certificates waited until another day.

Emma Patel received the Peter Drake Memorial Respect for Law Award at the 6th grade end of year awards ceremony on June 9th. Emma received received an certificate from the Central Fairfax Optimist Club, a certificate from our club's sponsor FVCbank, and a monetary award. Her name was engraved and added to the memorial plaque which is displayed in the school as you come in the front door.



Optimist International News

Optimist International Convention

FRIDAY, JUNE 30

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM..... OI Board Meeting

SATURDAY, JULY 1

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM..... Vice Presidents/Governors Training

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM..... Vice Presidents-Elect and Governors-Elect Training

3:55 PM Ribbon Cutting

4:00 – 6:30 PM Registration Open

4:30 – 5:30 PM First Timers Program

7:30 – 10:00 PM Evening of Entertainment Featuring the Baltimore Children's Choir and DJ, Jon Boesche

SUNDAY, JULY 2 BRINGING OUT THE BEST IN OURSELVES

8-9 a.m. Workshop: How to Have Effective Meetings

8:00 – 9:45 AM District Chair Training Sessions

1. Growth
2. Member Engagement & Retention
3. Marketing
4. Leadership Development
5. District Secretary-Treasurer Training

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM..... Optimism Information Center Registration

9-9:45 a.m. Workshop: Optimist Institute: A Member Benefit for all!

10:00 – 11:30 AM Heritage of Optimism Brunch: Honor our Past Int'l Presidents and their Spouses

NOON – 2:00 PM Opening Ceremony and Keynote Speaker Amy Downs

2:30 – 3:45 PM Workshops

4:30 – 6:00 PM Optimist International Foundation Donor Appreciation Reception (By invitation only)

6:00 – 8:30 PM District Night Out/Dinners

9:00 – 11:30 PM Trivia Night



Optimist International News (continued)

Optimist International Convention

MONDAY, JULY 3 BRINGING OUT THE BEST IN OUR COMMUNITIES

- 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM..... Optimism Information Center Banquet Coupon Exchange
- 9:00 – 11:00 AM General Session with Keynote Speaker Frank Henderson
- 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM.....Town Hall
- 12:00 – 4:30 PM Service Projects
- 1:30 – 2:30 PM Workshops
- 3:00 – 4:00 PM Member Feedback Sessions: Future Focus
- 6:30 – 7:30 PM Pre-Banquet Reception
- 7:30 – 9:30 PM Presidents Banquet/Gala
- 9:30 – 11:30 PM President’s Gala/Dance Featuring the band Rock X

TUESDAY, JULY 4 BRINGING OUT THE BEST IN YOUTH

- 7:30 – 9:00 AM Optimist International Foundation Past Presidents Breakfast by invitation only
 - 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM..... Optimism Information Center
 - 7:45-8:45 a.m.Credentials
 - 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM.....General Session with Keynote Speaker Kelly Schaefer
 - 11:30 AM– 12:30 PM.....Workshops
 - 12:45-1:45 p.m.Credentials
 - 2:00 – 4:00 PM Annual Business Meeting
 - 5:00 – 6:30 PM Wm. H Harrison Reception by invitation only
- ENJOY FIREWORKS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5 FUN DAY

- 8:00 – 9:00 AM Club Presidents-Elect & Lt. Governors-Elect Breakfast Hosted by President Designate Tracy Huxley
- 9:30 AM Load Buses
- 10 AM Leave Hyatt Regency Crystal City for Ford's Theater and then George Washington’s Mount Vernon; Lunch at Mount Vernon

THURSDAY, JULY 6

Extended stays / Departures



The Puzzle!

“GOOD GRIEF!” said Charley Brown. Is it June already? School’s getting out and Summer is trying to get started. It’s been a busy May and the same with June. Take a few minutes in your life and relax with this puzzle. You’ll feel better when that is done!

E T C E P S E R X N Y S W D G
 H T D E G R E E O T Y C L O P
 D P A T R O L I Y T E O W R E
 U I G C D U S W R T O N O Q K
 R V P W I S W A A H E C X J A
 A N B L I F P L C L E F E B H
 L B P M O W I S H S K L A A S
 O M M J F M O T S T A F F S K
 H O V O I B A I R J T Z O N L
 C G Y R S V O H S E L B X S I
 S S K C H N M C Y U C P A C M
 Q H I H I B B A E I M Y Q C Z
 R O Y A N N X O J S B M J I R
 M D C F G X I C V T O C E F D
 M A E R C E C I C I N W D R S

Print this page and circle the words or just go down the list and find them.

Words can go in any direction.
 Words can share letters as they cross over each other.

CAP
 COACH
 DEGREE
 FISHING
 ICECREAM
 MILKSHAKE
 PATROL
 RESPECT
 SCHOLAR
 STAFF

CERTIFICATE
 COMMISSION
 DIPLOMA
 GOWN
 LAW
 PARTY
 PROCESSION
 SAFETY
 SCHOOL
 SUMMER

What words would you like to see in July’s puzzle?
 Send them to:
fairfaxoptimists@gmail.com



And in conclusion!!

The Optimist Creed

Promise Yourself --

To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.

To talk health, happiness, and prosperity to every person you meet.

To make all your friends feel that there is something in them.

To look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true.

To think only of the best, to work only for the best, and to expect only the best.

To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.

To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.

To wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile.

To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others.

To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.

Christian D. Larson

Mission

By providing hope and positive vision, Optimists bring out the best in youth, our communities and ourselves.

Vision

Optimist International will be recognized worldwide as the premier volunteer organization that values all children and helps them develop to their full potential.

Purposes

1. To develop optimism as a philosophy of life utilizing the tenets of the Optimist Creed;
2. to promote an active interest in good government and civic affairs;
3. to inspire respect for the law;
4. to promote patriotism and work for international accord and friendship among all people;
5. to aid and encourage the development of youth, in the belief that the giving of one's self in service to others will advance the well-being of humankind, community life and the world.



Member FDIC

Thanks so much for your continued support!



Contact our own Bob Devery to plan your travel.
Thanks for your support Bob!
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Prestige Dental Specialists

Thanks so much for your support!

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