

NEWCOMERS/LONGTIMERS NEWS & VIEWS



Debby Nickless,
2020-21 N/L President

From the President's Perspective

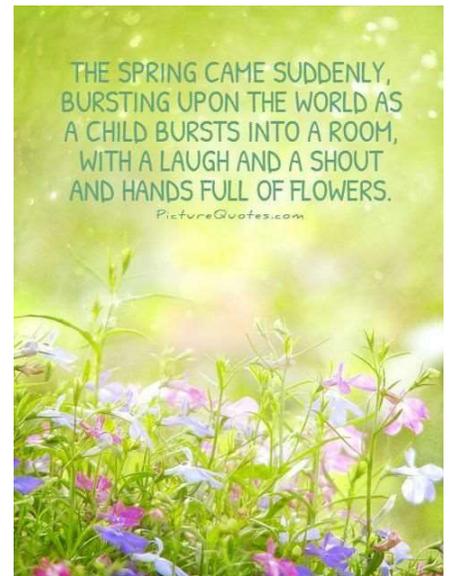
It's April...the spring showers have already started. The buds are on the trees and flowers are starting to bloom. The birds have started to chirp and sing their love songs!! Do you feel the "New Beginning," "New Cycle" of life? It's refreshing and gives us all something to look forward to.

The Newcomer/Longtimer functions have started. We look forward to seeing you and hope that you will participate. Hopefully you have received your invites or calls and will find something that interests you. Some will still not feel comfortable attending and we understand. Come only if you feel safe!!

The plans for the Road Rally are underway and it will be a great event. The committee is working hard on stops that will be interesting and fun....something for everyone!! Save the date, May 23, 2021!!

The officers for the 2021/2022 year will be presented at the April Luncheon. The luncheon will showcase a few of the fashions for spring....new colors, new styles There will also be two charity groups who will be honored with our gifts. Please plan on attending, purchase a raffle ticket and make a donation. The monetary donation goes to the Missouri Foster Care and Adoption Program. Another group, the Missouri Department of Social Services will also be represented. Please remember to bring donations of duffle bags, backpacks, suitcases & blankets for this group. There are so many people in need. If we can help just a little, we may help make someone's life better!!

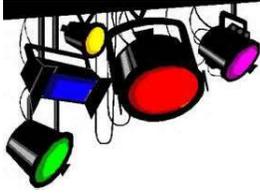
We Look forward to seeing you soon!!!



2020-2021 Newcomers/Longtimers Executive Board			
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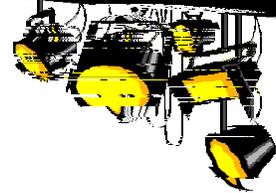
COMMUNITY AWARENESS SPOTLIGHT



THE CENTRAL MISSOURI
**Foster Care
& Adoption**
ASSOCIATION



Free services for
foster, kinship &
adoptive families
in Central Missouri



This month's community outreach spotlight is on **Central Missouri Foster Care and Adopt**. Founded in 2007 by a former foster youth, foster parents, and adoptive parents, the CMFAA is a community service organization that provides for the needs of foster, adoptive, kinship, and guardianship youth and families. What began as a small support group has grown into a multifaceted organization that provides direct support, education, services, and advocacy to foster and adoptive families in a 13-county central Missouri region. Currently, they are assisting over 640 foster families, over 1400 foster children, and over 400 adopted children in our service area. Their goal is to be a support to the families, children, and youth in this area, and they work tirelessly to provide much needed services to them.

Did you know?

The average age of foster children is 9 years old.

There are over 13,050 children in Missouri foster care.

At the beginning of 2015 there were 651 licensed foster homes.

14% of foster children without permanent family become homeless adults.

18-26% of foster children without permanent family end up in the prison system.

The average time in foster care before reunification or another form of permanency is 28 months.

Only 48% of children who enter care are expected to be successfully reunited with their biological family

From now through Wednesday, May 5, Newcomers/Longtimers will be collecting new or very gently used backpacks, duffle bags, carry-on size luggage and blankets to be distributed by the Missouri foster care program.

Keller-Williams Lake of the Ozarks Realty has graciously offered to be a drop-off location for the above-mentioned items. Items may be placed into the barrel marked Newcomers/Longtimers at each location between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm Monday through Friday:

- Lake Ozark drop-off location is 109 Horseshoe Bend Pkwy (the Four Seasons building)
- Camdenton drop-off location is 404 W. 54 (located in the Stone Castle building on the far right)
- Paula Constantini, at 128 Park Circle, Four Seasons, has also offered to serve as a drop off location.

Backpacks, duffle bags and carryon luggage will also be collected at the **April luncheon**. We will have representatives from the Missouri Department of Social Services and Mo Foster Care and Adopt as our guest speakers. In the meantime, please check out their website www.mofosteradopt.com. You can find out about their **Begin Again Backpack Program** and all the good work they are doing right here at the lake.



Thank you
for helping
foster
kids!

Local Realtor "Jump Starts" our May Community Activity

When dropping off a donation bin at the Horseshoe Bend Keller-Williams office, N/L member Carol Browne was asked by realtor Christine Bond what it was for. Carol explained our collection efforts for April and also gave her a short rundown on our upcoming May community activity. Christine immediately presented Carol with a \$100 bill to contribute to the May Feminine Products Drive. What a generous beginning! Thank you Christine!

MEMBERSHIP & ACTIVITY NEWS

It's time to fire up our activities at last! Here is the rundown on what we have coming up.

Remember too that it's it's 2021-2022 DUES time! Please look for Paula Constantini at upcoming Newcomers functions and come with your check for \$20 made out to N/L. You will receive your receipt via email and be eligible to participate in all our upcoming activities.

Not going out just yet? You can send your check to Paula Constantini, 128 Park Circle, Lake Ozark, MO 65049. If you have any changes of address, phone numbers or email addresses, contact Paula at paulac1610@gmail.com.



Join us for N/L's First Ever Road Rally Fundraiser

The plans for the May 23 Road Rally are coming together! We're taking you on a scenic and fun-filled journey through our beautiful lake area, starting at 1:00 and terminating at Lake House 13 in Sunrise Beach at 5:30 pm. There will be as many stops along the way - some historic, some new venues and some oldies but goodies. Some of our stops tentatively include

Harmy's Cheese Shop, Sailor's Brew, Randy's Frozen Custard, Bridal Cave/Thunder Mountain Conservation Area, Ha Ha Tonka State Park, Shawnee Bluff Winery, The Littlest Chocolatier, Captain Ron's, Brick House Cajun Restaurant....and more to come! You can pick and choose as many as you like but remember...it's not a race! Just a fun afternoon to reconnect with old friends and see some wonderful sights!

The cost to participate is just \$10 per Rally Card, which will go on sale at the April luncheon and will be sold at all events prior to rally day. You'll use the cards to record the color chips you draw at five locations of your choice (with two bonus chips!). We'll collect your cards at Lake House 13, determine the chip values by random draw, and our crack team of bean counters will tally up the scores. Great prizes will be awarded and we'll present the proceeds to a deserving local charity at the conclusion of the evening. We are very excited about this new activity, so please join us for a wonderful afternoon to benefit a very worthy cause. Please note you must be a member of N/L (or a guest of a member) to participate. Stay tuned for more information.

If you would like to volunteer to assist the Road Rally Team please contact Karen Robinson at 573-692-3544 or by email at stlgirl@charter.net .

Redhead lakeside Grill to Host our First Happy Hour in Over a Year - We Missed You!

We are happy to announce that we're resuming Happy Hours beginning on April 6 and the lovely folks at Redhead are waiting to welcome us with open arms! Please note that Redhead is a non-social distancing location and their servers will not be wearing masks...but we do plan to hold the event outdoors to the extent possible (weather permitting) so please attend as you are comfortable...and a lot of folks are feeling mighty comfortable as we have more than 90 people planning to attend as we go to print! Check the Evite for more information and to RSVP. Contact Pat Kreger (patkreger@yahoo.com) if you have any questions.



Membership & Activity News (continued)

It's so nice to be able to have a second page
of Activity News!



WE'VE BEEN WAITING A REALLY LONG TIME FOR THIS



We are excited to announce our first post-covid luncheon/style show at Ozark Yacht Club on April 15, and we're elated by the number of "yes" responses. This year's style show will follow a bit of a different format but we have three wonderful local boutiques (Chico's, the Corner Boutique and Under the Sun) that are eager to share the latest spring and summer styles with all of us.

Please remember we will also be collecting new or gently used duffle bags, backpacks, suitcases and blankets for the benefit of foster children in our area, and we will also be introducing our board candidates for the 2021-22 season.

The event filled up in record time so unfortunately we aren't able to accept any more reservations, but rest assured our May luncheon will be just as wonderful! We look forward to seeing you all then!

DEAL ME IN, MABEL !!!

The Cards and Games ladies made a tentative, small-scale step into resuming this hallmark N/L activity on April 1 with separate venues for Canasta and Bridge. The idea of starting back up was well-received and based on input from the participants, we are planning to host this event in its traditional combined format in May.

Please watch for the Evite later this month. We look forward to dealing you all in!

