

NEWCOMERS/LONGTIMERS NEWS & VIEWS



Debby Nickless,
2020-21 N/L President

From the President's Perspective

Happy New Year!! Let's pray for a healthy and safe 2021!! The vaccine is here and hopefully it works to its fullest potential--

Did you have a safe, quiet Christmas? One full of reflection? One full of hope? One full of love?

The past year has been very stressful. We could not get together with family and friends as we usually do. A time we have not had to endure previously in our lifetime. Hopefully we met the challenge with grace.

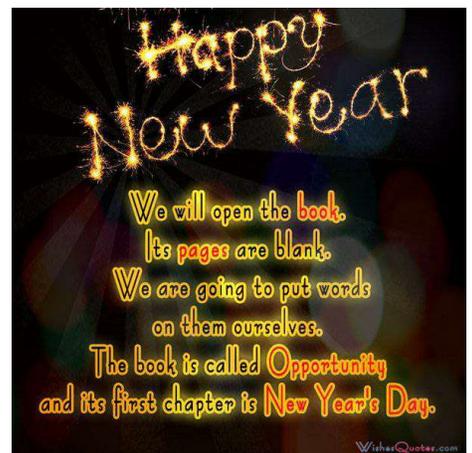
The political extravaganza was one to watch carefully and to pray for our country that the future will bring brighter days. This display was not our brightest hour!! Pray for unity in the future so we as a people can rise up and display the intelligence to lead us to new beginnings, a brighter tomorrow-- We as a group will not have any social gatherings for January & February due to the rising Covid cases. Our goal as a group is to keep our members safe. We realize that not having these social outlets sometimes brings a certain sadness to our lives....keep the faith!! We will eventually be able to socialize as we have done previously.

Happy New Year and let's pray for a great 2021!!

We think of all of you and wish you the best. If you would just like to talk or have a suggestion or recommendation we are here....just a phone call away.



A quote for the New Year: (Edith Lovejoy Pierce)



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MEMBERSHIP & ACTIVITY NEWS

January is a time of fresh beginnings and an opportunity for renewed dedication to helping others. This month we received a lovely thank you from our scholarship recipient, and sent several cards to members just to let them know we have their backs!

Note of Thanks Received, Notes of Support Provided



December 6, 2020

Dear Newcomers/Longtimers Scholarship Committee,

I am writing to thank you for your generous gift of \$2,500 from the Newcomers/Longtimers Scholarship. I was very thrilled and appreciative to learn that I was selected as the recipient of your scholarship.

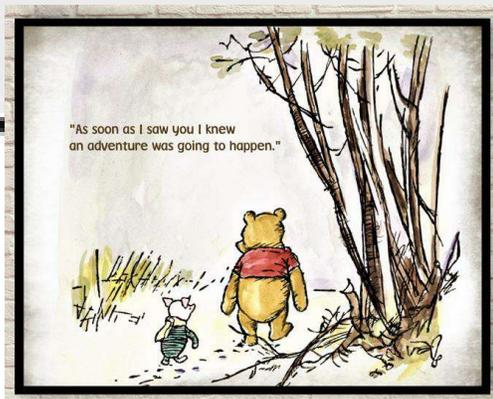
I am currently in the Practical Nursing Program at State Fair Community College in Eldon graduating in less than a week! I will be continuing my education this coming January by transitioning into the Associate Nursing Program at State Fair Community College in Eldon with anticipated graduation in December 2021 with my RN. The financial assistance you provided will be of great help to me in paying my educational expenses, and it will allow me to concentrate more of my time for studying. Thanks to you, I am one step closer to achieving my goal of becoming a registered nurse.

With the effects of the global pandemic, what a time to learn flexibility as a nurse with adapting learning styles from in seat to online. The transition of not meeting with classmates every day, minimal hands on learning for several months, and seeking motivation at home was a burden for us. But our teachers were very motivating and kept us on our toes to keep striving and doing our best. We were fortunate to start clinicals in person in August, which we were not able to do since March. As a nursing student, this was the best news to actually participate in bedside nursing.

Thank you again for your generosity and support. By awarding me the Newcomers/Longtimers Scholarship, you have lightened my financial burden which allows me to focus more on the most important aspect of school, learning. I hope one day I will be able to help students achieve their goals just as you have helped me.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Bure



The following cards were sent in the past month to members in need of our love and support:

Thinking of You:

Jeanne Laminger

Get Well Soon:

Lynda Hartwick
David Stewart (Mary)
Judy Webb

With Sympathy:

Sharon Spencer - loss of partner
Iris Wright - loss of brother-in-law

Please be sure to let a board member know of anyone needing an extra boost from their many friends at N/L.

Friendship is giving someone,
a portion of your heart.
Friendship is thinking of them,
when you're close or far apart.

Friendship is caring when they're glad
and caring when they're blue.
Friendship is sharing good and bad
as though it's part of you...

COMMUNITY NEWS

As we start off the new year, we look forward to something new and wonderful happening to help us forget the trials of 2020. For many, it's the promise of bringing new life into the world. We forget sometimes though that there are many women for which the responsibility of raising a child can be daunting and downright scary. We are lucky to have an organization here at the lake that exists for the sole purpose of helping those women achieve a safe and healthy birth and become prepared to be wonderful, successful and well-adjusted mothers.

Community Awareness Spotlight



The January Community Outreach focus is on the **Pregnancy Help Center**, located as of March 2020 at their new facility at 948 East Highway 54 in Camdenton. According to their mission statement, "PHC Lake of the Ozarks exists to provide faith-based resources and services that address the spiritual, physical, educational, and emotional needs of pregnant and single mothers by supporting, training, and equipping them with skills for competent living. In short, we are a faith-based 501(c)(3) ministry that seeks to promote a culture of Life!"

At their expanded new location, executive director Teresa Fabor reports that they see an average of 40 women each month for various reasons. At this confidential and no charge center, services such as pregnancy testing, ultrasound scans, professional consultation and parent education classes are provided. Women who are considering abortion can find alternatives through counseling, medical consultation, pregnancy evaluation as well as adoption possibilities. Many women who visit the center are involved in their **Bright Course Program** which gives them the opportunity to earn while they learn and "shop" in the baby boutique. Not only do these new moms receive parental education, but with their ongoing education they receive help with diapers, wipes and gently used clothing, blankets, and other baby necessities.

A presence here at the lake since 1989, The Pregnancy Help Center has recently launched a new website at **phclozpartners.com**. A visit to the website will allow you to watch video testimonials, find upcoming events, volunteer opportunities, and donate with their giving tier program. They have amazing volunteer options, and as we know, we all seem to have some spare time these days!

The Pregnancy Help Center offers the hope and security women need to choose life for their unborn babies. This non-profit organization relies solely on funding from churches, local businesses, and individual donors. The next time you see the **Baby Bottle Campaign** in the spring at your church or around the community (see related story below), we hope you will think of Pregnancy Help Center, a very worthwhile organization.



Every spring you have the opportunity to put that pesky change you find in your car or wash machine to good use! Beginning Mother's Day, you can pick up an empty baby bottle from your local church (or at the Center) fill it with coins, bills or a check and return it by Father's Day. You wouldn't believe what a big difference a tiny bottle can make! Despite 2020 being a very difficult year the center raised \$43,971.92! Wow!



The Feel Good Page

Welcoming 2021 with a bit of humor...and a whole lot of hope!

2020 is finally over,
and I think I speak for
most of us when I
say,

“WHAT THE HELL
WAS THAT.”

Nobody claim 2021 as "your
year". We're all going to walk
in real slow. Be good. Be quiet.
Don't. Touch. Anything.



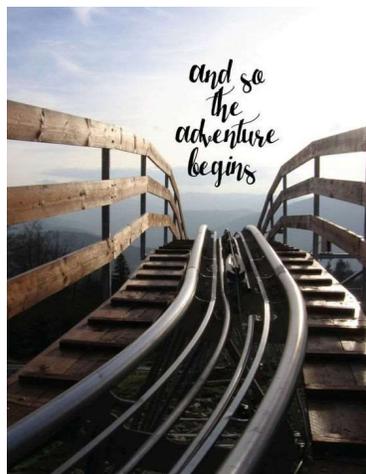
A Brief History of the New Year's Resolution

I was going to quit all my bad habits for the new year, but then I remembered that nobody likes a quitter.

The ancient Babylonians are said to have been the first people to make New Year's resolutions, some 4,000 years ago. During a massive 12-day religious festival known as Akitu, the Babylonians crowned a new king or reaffirmed their loyalty to the reigning king, and made promises to the gods to pay their debts and return any objects they had borrowed. These promises could be considered the forerunners of our New Year's resolutions. If they kept to their word, their gods would bestow favor on them for the coming year. If not, they would fall out of the gods' favor—a place no one wanted to be.

A similar practice occurred in ancient Rome, after the emperor Julius Caesar established January 1 as the beginning of the new year. Named for Janus, the two-faced god whose spirit inhabited doorways and arches, January had special significance for the Romans. Believing that Janus symbolically looked backwards into the previous year and ahead into the future, the Romans offered sacrifices to the deity and made promises of good conduct for the coming year.

For early Christians, the first day of the new year became the traditional occasion for thinking about one's past mistakes and resolving to do and be better in the future. In 1740, the English clergyman John Wesley, founder of Methodism, created the Covenant



Service held on the New Year. Also known as watch night services, they included readings from Scriptures and hymn singing, and served as a spiritual alternative to the raucous celebrations normally held to celebrate the the new year. Now popular within evangelical Protestant churches, especially African American congregations, watch night services held on New Year's Eve are often spent praying and making resolutions for the coming year.

If you want 2021 to be your year;
Don't sit on the couch and wait for it.
Go out. Make a change. Smile more.
Be excited. Do new things. Throw away
what you've been cluttering. Unfollow
negative people on social media.
Go to bed early. Wake up early. Be fierce.
Don't gossip. Show more gratitude.
Do things that challenge you.
Be brave.



Despite the tradition's religious roots, New Year's resolutions today are a mostly secular practice. Instead of making promises to the gods, most people make resolutions only to themselves, and focus purely on self-improvement (which may explain why such resolutions seem so hard to follow through on). While as many as 45% of Americans say they usually make New Year's resolutions, only 8% achieve their goals. But that dismal record probably won't stop people from making resolutions anytime soon—after all, we've had about 4,000 years of practice.