



# JACKSONVILLE JOTTINGS

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

## Next Membership Meetings

April 4, in person 7pm. Essay winners are attending.

May 2, in person 7pm.

## Stock Market Challenge (SMC) Fundraiser

\$25 is a small investment in all the activities that our club provides. Thank you to the 155 entrants that are participating. It's not the 200 we wished for, so the top prizes will be reduced as published. Here's some data for you.

Entrants are mostly Optimists, family and friends, mostly MD but also 15 other states from FL to CA to MN to NY. We appreciate everyone of you!

Most expensive **\$743.89** Costco; Least **\$6.27** Anywhere Real Estate

Most picked **65** Amazon; Least **3** Wells Fargo

**33** from NYSE and **18** from NASDAQ

Chicos dropped from the NYSE and is now private so no longer in our SMC.

Midpoint results will be computed from the market ending March 29. Results and checks will be out mid-April. Keep your fingers crossed that you will be one of the 5 money winners. And then 11 more winners at the end of April. Even last place will recover their \$25. Best of luck!



## Zone 5 Meeting Saturday March 23 at 10am

Carol Applegate's house—4001 Chesley Ave. Baltimore, 21206. Brunch provided. Please RSVP. Park in church lot at Cedonia and Overlea Avenues. Come up my new ramp to back deck. Hear Zone 5 news.



## Essay Contest for Students

"Optimism: How It Connects Us" **April 4** is our club's Essay desert night. The top three essays (of 39) will be read by their authors and awards will be given. Their English Department Chair from Dulaney HS, Jason Bowman, will be present. The three students are Andrew Fleischer Jr., Sarah Tiedemann, Maxine Yeakel. They were within 4 points. All are 17 years old. Thank you to Judges Maria Barata, Barbara Crain, and Nancy Neal. We appreciate you!



## Optimist MDSD Meetings

3rd Quarter is in Ocean City April 19-21 at the Castle in the Sand. Carol A will attend. The MDSD essay winner will be announced and we are rooting for our club's entrant. There is a \$2500 scholarship award. Also, the MDSD Oratorical contest will be held. We have not planned a contest this year, but Timonium, Cockeysville & Hereford did. \$2500, \$1500 and \$1000 scholarships are awarded.

## Optimist Club Officers 2023-2024

### CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

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cappleg1@retiree.jh.edu

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### CLUB MEETINGS

First Thursday  
of the Month  
7:00 PM  
Call to confirm.

Meeting Site  
St. John's  
Evangelical  
Lutheran  
Church  
3911 Sweet  
Air Rd.  
Phoenix,  
21131

### **MDSD Optimist Hall of Fame**

Since 2016, MDSD have recognized outstanding Optimists. Many have come from our Zone such as Dick Price, Ken Bollinger, Jim Yates, Dennis Lane, and Mark Harris. If you have a suggestion to submit for 2024, please let me know.

### **Zone 5 Oratorical April 12**

Since there are 3 clubs in our zone that had/will have an Oratorical competition, we are hosting the Zone 5 competition. Each club can send their top 2 students. There will be drinks and snacks. Please attend at St. John's on Sweet Air Rd on Friday evening April 12 at 7 pm.

The students will be judged on their topic "How to Change the World with Optimism" and the top 2 will attend Ocean City Conference to compete against 7 other students. Top Winners will receive scholarship awards of \$2500, \$2000, and \$1500. RSVP to Carol 410-746-0150 or cappelleg1@retiree.jh.edu.



### **Student Support Network**

This volunteer group serves Baltimore County Public School students who receive free or reduced meals = 81,000, with donations of school supplies, clothes, snacks/food, and personal hygiene products. They have asked for a monetary or in-kind donation. This will be on the April 4 agenda.

### **Tidbits for March and beyond**

- March 17 St. Patrick's Day. Did you wear your green and eat corned beef & cabbage?
- March 19 First Day of Spring 11:06 pm EDT. Vernal Equinox.
- March 20 International Day of Happiness "Be mindful, be grateful, be kind" Give a stranger a smile, a friend a phone call, a relative a hug.
- March 23 National Chip & Dip Day—salsa, onion dip, or create your own!
- March 27 Manatee Appreciation Day
- March 31 Easter
- April 2 National Peanut Butter & Jelly Day
- April 4 National School Librarian Day
- April 7 National No Housework Day—My kind of day!
- April 10 National Sibling Day-just happens to be my sister's birthday!



### **Happy March & April Birthdays!**

<b>Nancy Neal</b>	<b>3/3</b>
<b>Hank Kolodner</b>	<b>3/29</b>
<b>Pam McCollum</b>	<b>4/25</b>



**Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does.**

### **Fireworks June 29?**

Baltimore County Public Schools Facilities has denied our fireworks saying in an email we lost the grandfather clause to hold it at Jacksonville Elementary since we did not have fireworks in 2023. We appealed, and were answered that since we hadn't applied formerly yet, they wouldn't say yes or no. They wanted our application. Even though we can't add all the items until May 1 (insurance, fire marshal, etc.) we sent it in early. The rules say fiscal year but they are denying calendar year. It just so happens by using the Saturday before the 4th, we are still in fiscal year compliance. We have started fundraising and we are half way there! Please join us for our next update with the committee.

**Zoom Meeting 4/8 @ 7pm.**

<https://jhjhm.zoom.us/j/93293894407?pwd=U2FubVlDHE5ZmNkbnR6Tk96b3FOZz09>