

February /March 2022

Community Series

WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

- Future Plans
- Member Spotlight
- Good News
- Central Catholic President Interview

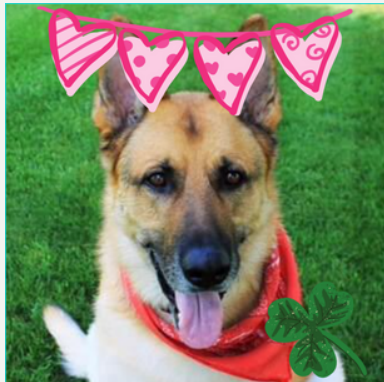
ABOUT US

Good Shepherds Foundation is a 501 C 3 organization. It is a collaboration between youth as part of the Youth Advisory Council (ages 13-18) and adults as the Board of Advisors. We focus on helping others, one person at a time.

Our organization focuses on helping the young leaders of our community fulfill their goals in providing support, educating, and increasing the volunteer base so that others can learn how to give back.

HISTORY

Good Shepherds Foundation was founded by the Baird Family- Bella, Stephen, and Sophie. The organization has evolved to include members of different communities and helping in different capacities in the community.



MISSION

To help build up the lives of those needing assistance to their full potential.

VISION

To grow our volunteer base and create opportunities in order to assure families have the essentials to lead healthy lives.



MEET OUR TEAM

Youth Advisory Council

- Sophia Baird
- Stephen Baird, II
- Sean Kelly
- Jaxon Pereira
- Becca Farnum
- Delaney Petri
- Maddie Hajduk
- Lucas Dickinson
- Beau Dickinson
- Kenzie Daneau
- Maddie Frank
- Brooke Currier
- Abby Levine

Board of Advisors

- Jennifer Baird
- Tom Baird, Jr.
- Isabella Baird
- Ethan Wasiejko
- Mateo Peguri
- Jada Gaudreau
- Joselyn Simmons

Our Furry Mascots

- Gronk
- Nikita

Future Plans

Written by: Maddie Hajduk



ADOPT A BEACH

One of our Youth Advisory Council members Maddie Frank, a senior at Pinkerton Academy, is currently researching and coordinating a plan for Good Shepherds Foundation to adopt a beach! Our groups would be tasked with taking care of the beach by cleaning it up to help rid of pollution. We're so excited to start this project!

FREE LIBRARIES

One of our Youth Advisory Council members Maddie Hajduk, a sophomore at Pinkerton Academy, is working on a way to give local kids access to books when they may not be able to go to the library. Her idea: free libraries all over the local towns!

A cute and decorated mailbox-sized library with books of all genres where kids can exchange a read for a new one! We love this idea!



Member Spotlight: Joselyn Simmons

Written by: Jada Gaudreau

This month's spotlight goes to Joselyn Simmons. Joselyn grew up in Derry, NH and graduated from Pinkerton Academy in 2020. She is a member of the Good Shepherds Foundation's Board of Advisors as well as a sophomore at the University of Pittsburgh where she is majoring in Global Health and Emergency Medicine. In the future, she wishes to work as a flight medic in Boston, Massachusetts. She has always had a love for helping out her community and she joined the Good Shepherds Foundation in her early high school years as a member of the Youth Advisory Board. Joselyn loves to read, spend time with friends, and has a very special place in her heart for her dog Max. A few of her goals in life are to see a moose in person and to shake hands with Shaquille O'Neal. Wish her luck!



Good News

Written by: Maddie Hajduk

With spring just around the corner, this month's Good News article is about one man's kindness and his blossoming flowers.

Keith Owen was born in 1938 in Totnes, and later went to Montpelier Preparatory School in Paignton. He served the British armed forces for 20 years of RAF service and retired in 1976 with a Squadron Leader rank. He was diagnosed with terminal cancer in 2007 and died later that year on December 3rd.

Before his death, Keith called the Sid Vale Association and informed them that he wished to donate his life savings of \$3 million to the local voluntary conservation society. He called the SVA and told them that he wanted his money to be used to “support local projects, which made use of voluntary labour, and in particular to sustain the ambience and way of life, recognised in Sidmouth and its surroundings.” The association planted more than 150,000 flowers to honor his memory, including snowdrops, daffodils, and crocus bulbs worth £166,000 at over 50 sites. Ed Harrison of the Sidmouth Civic Society said, “Every year it brings back happy memories of this man who did this amazing thing for the town.”

And the flowers have just begun to bloom.

Story credit: ([click here](#))



Interview: Central Catholic President

Written by: Lucas Dickinson

1) How did you become President at Central Catholic High School?

I started at Central Catholic as a teacher in 1985. Through the years, I have taught English and Religious Studies, and eventually became the first Admissions Director in the school's history. I later assumed the role of Dean of Academics, a job I did for 16 years. I have always embraced the important role of Campus Ministry in our school's mission, and in 2012 I was given the newly created role of Director of Religious and Spiritual Life. In 2016, when Br. Rick Carey, our President, decided to step down, it was clear that Central Catholic would be welcoming our first Lay President. After many conversations with the Marist Brothers and our school's Board of Directors, I assumed that role in 2016.

2) What has been your biggest challenge yet?

There have certainly been many challenges...though there have been many more blessings, but...I would say the greatest is always making sure that a Central Catholic education remains accessible for everyone. We intentionally keep our tuition as low as possible, while continuing to expand programs and offerings for our students. We need to constantly grow our school's endowment so that we can continue to offer (and offer more of) the financial assistance that families need. That being said, the pandemic was certainly a challenge as well. The last two years have not been easy, for anyone....but I am incredibly proud of the way our school, and our staff in particular, have responded, and continue to respond to the unique challenges that the pandemic has presented.

3) What is your favorite part of being President?

Wow! This is a tough one to answer. On a very personal level, I love working in a place where I am not only allowed to express my faith, but am encouraged to do so. I often think about how lucky I am to have a chapel on campus, where, when I need to (which is often) I can stop in to be with Jesus. On a bigger picture, I love the people of Central. I work with some incredible people who genuinely like kids. The students, alums and parents that I have gotten to know through the years have sustained me and been blessings to me...and have motivated me to continue to work for our mission. As I have often said, I go to sleep at night thanking God that I get to do what I do, where I do it.

4) If you could tell your 20 year old self one thing, what would it be?

Another tough one....I guess I would say, as you go through your life...each day...be open to those little moments, which I call "grace-filled moments" that God puts in your day. If you do that, you will be more positive and present to the people with whom you interact. You will undoubtedly find your passion and purpose, AND you will be developing a relationship with our God.

