



Important Dates:

- Upcoming Teen Nights – March 6 and March 20
- Pre Registration for Spring Break Ends – March 12
- Spring Break Begins – March 23-27
- T-Ball Registration – Ends April 26

YSCHOOL AGE™

DECEMBER/JANUARY NEWSLETTER

Strong Kids Campaign to Help YMCA families:

The YMCA of Southern Indiana has kicked off the annual Strong Kids Campaign. At this point the staff and volunteer campaign is ending and between the two we have already raised over \$37,000—61% of the campaign goal. The next phase is to get the community involved.



So, what is the Strong Kids campaign? The YMCA provides activities for youth and families, but it is the YMCA

emphasis on traditional values that provide strength of purpose. At the YMCA, children learn more than a sports skill or a day camp song. Through programs that emphasize character development, children learn the four

core values of caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility. Unfortunately, not everyone can afford the fees of these great programs.

In order to continue this valuable tradition we need your help. There are children and families that will come to us for assistance. Last year the YMCA was able to provide scholarships to 3,525 YMCA participants, as well as over \$80,000 in aid for before and after school care. All of these families and children were unable to afford the full fee. The YMCA stands strong behind our mission that states we are “for all”.

Help us raise these dollars that are critically needed if we are to provide the level of programming services anticipated in our community. If you would like to donate use the enclosed pledge card. Thank you in advance for your generous support of the YMCA.

From the Director:

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to go to Summer Camp? I grew up with 2 teachers as parents, so summer breaks were reserved for family fun. My brother and I would spend the day trailblazing through the woods, eating popsicles, playing wiffleball in the yard that was cut into a ball diamond, eating popsicles, running through the houses of all the neighbors, and you guessed it... eating popsicles. We played until the porch lights came on and my Mom would yell our names out from off of our back deck and we then knew it was time to come home.

Parents wouldn't feel comfortable letting their little ones run through the neighborhood these days, but the YMCA wants summer to feel just like that and offers many day camps to choose from. Camps range from Kinder Camp to Sports Camp to Camp Honor Bright for children ages 3-14 at locations in Clark and Floyd counties. Activities vary at each location, but all include two days of swimming, a field trip, and a chance to run the YMCA neighborhood with friends new and old. Oh, and maybe a few popsicles!

Registration begins in April and this year we will be hosting “A Day in the Life of Y Camp” on April 9 from 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at the YMCA Clark County Branch. It is a sneak peak of all the camps, a chance to ask questions of camp directors, register early for the camp you would like, and plenty of games and activities for the campers to be. Call the YMCA at 283-9622 for more information.

Decorations for Seniors:

School Age sites banded together and made decorations to brighten the rooms of seniors at local centers. Pictured here are Mary Watts, Brooklyn Traughber, and Ally Ragan with samples of some of the things they made and dropped off at the Green Valley Care Center. What a great way to share their crafting talents with others!



www.ymcasi.org

Looking to
make a
difference

4 Core Values at Dinner

Families eating dinner together has proven to be a vital part of a child's upbringing. It helps their relationships with adults and makes them feel united as a family. But, sometimes that awkward silence can make everyone uncomfortable. Here are a few conversation starters that focus around the 4 core values taught at the YMCA: 1. What are some ways to show people you *care* about them? 2. If we are *responsible* for the earth, what can we do as a family to help? 3. What jobs do you feel people show the most *respect* for and why? 4. Do you ever think there is a time when not being *honest* is ok? Have fun and be ready for some great dinner time conversations...



**YMCA of
Southern Indiana**
4812 Hamburg Pike
Jeffersonville, IN 47131-1525

NON-PROFIT
US POSTAGE
PAID
LOUISVILLE KY
PERMIT NO 828

Y SCHOOL AGE™

Community Service Projects

The sites are looking forward to another great year of community service projects. These projects encompass the YMCA 4 Core Values of caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility.

Over \$290 was raised to expand the YMCA video library by sites selling the Burger King Group Coups. Thanks to everyone who participated!

Upcoming projects include the 4 Core Value Art Contest where selected drawings will be framed and hung in each of the YMCA buildings and a Beef O'Brady's charity day. Beef O' Brady's will donate a portion of their proceeds to the YMCA on the chosen day. Look for more details to come.

Spring Break

Looking for something fun to do over Spring Break? Well, join us beginning March 23 for a Rockin' Spring Break. The YMCA will be offering activities ranging from Quarry swims (in the YMCA Aquatic Center), rock wall climbing, a trip to the Falls of the Ohio, a Guitar Hero Tournament, a visit from a band and much more for kids in K-6 grades. Spring Break Camp will be offered at both the Clark and Floyd County locations and is on a first come first serve basis. Flyers have been mailed to everyone and early registration will end March 12. Call 812-283-9622 for prices and more information.

Looking for a chance to run some errands minus the kids?

The YMCA will be offering Parent's Day Out for children newborn to 10 years old. Participants will be entertained with a craft activity, gym games, playground play and free time fun. Children will also enjoy story time and a snack. Parent's Day Out is on scheduled Saturdays from 2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. on March 14 and April 11. Fees are just \$10 per child for YMCA members and \$16 per child for non members. Pre registration is a must. Where else, besides Grandma's can parents get a break while the kids have lots of fun. For more information call 283-9622.

Kid of the Month

Each site picks a Kid of the Month who has had excellent behavior and demonstrated the YMCA 4 Core Values—caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility. Each winner receives a certificate and a one of a kind YMCA Kid of the Month t-shirt. Congratulations to all of our Kids of the Month!

December Kid of the Month:

Northaven: Tommy Gnadinger	Mt. Tabor: James Haller
Wilson: Suyash Uppal	Greenville: Jason Cundiff
Thomas Jefferson: Izabella Peters	Galena: Bailey Warren
Parkwood: Jonathan Largent	Grant Line: Katie Volpert
Greenacres: Zoye Toops	Floyds Knobs: Christina Black
Riverside: Kembra Maddox	Slate Run: Kaden Carpenter
Maple: Greta Reel	Children's Academy of New Albany: Chloe Jumper
Utica: Davie Fulks-Bishop	S. Ellen Jones: Brittany Hagler
Bridgepoint: Jennifer Armour	Fairmont: Brittany Watson
Green Valley: Ethan Vester	

January Kid of the Month:

Northaven: Danielle Royal	Mt. Tabor: Kailin Ussery
Wilson: Katie Hammett	Greenville: Bella Mattingly
Thomas Jefferson: Meghan Patton	Galena: Allie Fischer
Parkwood: Cassandra Baumgart	Grant Line: Kileigh Hobson
Greenacres: Raymundo Gonzales	Floyds Knobs: Riley Dever
Riverside: Mary Wilson	Slate Run: Sierra Franklin
Maple: Darian Underwood	Children's Academy of New Albany: Brendan Sandven
Utica: Riti Patak	S. Ellen Jones: Rondale Moore
Bridgepoint: Mary Niehaus	Fairmont: Oscar Martinez
Green Valley: Duncan McGary	