



Volunteer Connection

The Rainbow Report - July 2019



40th Annual Dobson

With the help of generous sponsors, attendees, and volunteers, the 40th Annual Dobson was a tremendous success, raising over \$237,000!

Click on the video to the left to see the history of the Dobson and how it was the start of The Rainbow Connection granting more than 3,500 wishes!

To see pictures of the event, click [HERE](#). A special thanks to volunteers Mark Paterson and Austin Bashore for capturing some of these amazing pictures!

Volunteer Opportunities



38th Annual Allen Park Arts and Crafts Street Fair
Friday, August 2nd and Saturday, August 3rd
Shifts: 9:30 AM - 1:30 PM, 1:30 - 5:30 PM and 5:30 - 9 PM

Click [HERE](#) to sign up for an available shift.

Volunteers are needed to greet visitors at a Rainbow Connection booth and sell merchandise.



Arts, Beats and Eats

Saturday, August 31: 9:45 AM - 3:30 PM
Downtown Royal Oak

Volunteers are needed to help collect tickets and wristband guests as they enter the festival. All volunteers receive free entry into the festival for the entire weekend, a lunch

voucher and free parking on Saturday!

To volunteer, please reply to this email or contact Karen at 248-601-9474 or kjohnson@rainbowconnection.org.

Volunteer Spotlight



Jessica John

Jessica John may only be 16 years old, but she has proven that she is MIGHTY. To date, Jessica has raised over \$30,000 for The Rainbow Connection, enough to grant six wishes!

Each year, Jessica participates in the annual BMA (Bushido Martial Arts) Kick-a-thon. She has been a part of this event for nine years, and is in her 10th year of training at BMA. This is a one day event where martial arts students raise pledges from their friends and family for the amount of kicks they are able to perform during the four hour “Kick-a-Thon”.

Each year, Jessica competes with one of the BMA trainers to be the top fundraiser. Jessica spends one day kicking, but the entire year fundraising to grant wishes. She has gotten very creative in her strategies! In the past she has sold raffle baskets, hosted euchre tournaments, roller skating parties, and scrapbooking parties; she even got her school involved when they held a Penny War for Wishes! This year alone, she raised \$4,373!

Outside of Martial Arts and fundraising for The Rainbow Connection, Jessica enjoys playing violin, attending concerts, and swimming. She is also working on getting her driver’s license and saving up for a school-sponsored trip to Japan next summer!

Thank you, Jessica, for all you do to support our wish kids and families!

From the Wish Department

Scholarship Breakfast

We are proud to announce that 25 scholarships were awarded to some very inspirational wish children to pursue higher education! The Rainbow Connection strives to stay connected to Wish Children and their families before, during and after the wish – and this is a

perfect example of how we accomplish that.



Summer Wish Picnic

For over 20 years, our annual wish picnic brings together both former and current wish families in a day of celebration and summer fun! This year's picnic was full of exciting activities including inflatables, outdoor bowling, Harley rides, ponies, and more! Our new partner, Guernsey Farms Dairy, was also at the picnic to serve up some delicious ice cream and lemonade!



A big thank you to our event sponsor and hosts, the Sterling Heights Fire Fighters Local 1557 who put a lot of time and heart into making the food to make sure everyone was well fed and having a great time!



Thank you, too, to all the volunteers who helped make it a special day for everyone!

Happy July Birthday!

John Brennan * Julie Clark * Carrie Dollar
Judy Kilgore * Debbie LaChapelle * Jay Lamky
Janice McNamara * Angie Mocerri * Connie Salata
Joyce Saranathan * Susan Shanley * Margaret Solomon Karen
Straske * Lillian Swann * Savannah TerBush
Jennie Ureel * Sue Usiondek * Adrian Vega * Carol Vernier



Karen Johnson, Volunteer Coordinator
248-601-9474

