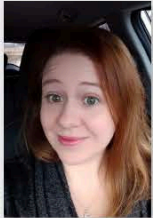




# ROTARY EXPRESS

Rotary Club of Harrisonville, Missouri | November 18, 2020 | **Service above self. One profits most who serves best.**

## Today's program



Jesica Junge's guest today is **Amanda Stites**, from Love the Square, a not-for-profit organization that promotes investment in the Harrisonville Square and spearheads a

variety of community events, including Christmas on the Square.

## Future programs

November 25 - No meeting

December 2 - Jon Kling

December 9 - Christmas program and white elephant gift exchange

December 16 - TBD

December 23 - No meeting

December 30 - No meeting

## Birthdays

November 18 .....John Foster

November 19 .....Samantha Cardenas

December 12 .....Cindy Greenwell

December 15 .....Lori Watson

December 31 .....Jeanette Flanner

## Officers & Directors

President .....Doug Meyer

Secretary .....Lori Watson

Treasurer .....Jesica Junge

Sergeant-at-Arms .....Carol Looney

Past President .....Nancy Shelton

Directors.....Judy Franklin,

Cindy Greenwell, Gabe Sweitzer,

Jeff Kleinsasser, Larry Pfautsch

Dist. Gov. ....Jacqueline Howard

Asst. Dist.Gov. .Bing Schimmelpfenning

## Contact info.

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## Fire Science students benefit from Career Center's training tower

**A**nne Hickman's guest last week was Cass Career Center's Fire Science instructor Bill Shaumeyer, a veteran firefighter and paramedic who gave an overview of a relatively new program that has grown in popularity with high school students.

Bill's 20-year career has included stints with the Battlefield, Centerville, Pleasant Valley and Claycomo fire departments. He received his certification as a firefighter in 2002 and became a paramedic in 2005.

The Cass Career Center program continues to grow and currently has 26 juniors and seniors enrolled, working on their certifications. A graduate of the program, Bill said, can immediately go into to a firefighting job earning \$35,000 to \$45,000 a year. Five former students are currently employed with Harrisonville Emergency Management Services.



One of the great advantages of the program is a fire training tower, which he said "allows us to be self-contained." **(See photo on back page.)** Students used to have to go other facilities in the area. The tower is frequently used by fire departments in the area for training. It was funded with the help of a state education grant and was built by Custom Container Living in Archie. "It was a five-year process to get the tower," he said. As he talked, Bill used a video to show how the tower is used for everything from search-and-rescue drills to live-burn scenarios. He also explained how the fire science curriculum integrates with other classes at the Career Center.

In the Q & A session, Bill answered the age-old question: Why are fire trucks red? It all goes back to the days when insurance companies ran fire departments and wanted their trucks to stand out. Red paint was expensive back then, so the red color tended

to signify the company was financially solid.

### In business before the program:

- Dessie Long won the Secret Greeter dollar coin.
- Nancy Shelton read the names of all those who had helped with the Flag Program this year as a way of thanking them for their service. She gave special kudos to Glenn Aversman for chairing the 2020 flag program.
- Jill Filer said most of the Classroom Partner students now have a Rotary pen pal. She distributed note cards for members to begin their correspondence, hopefully on a monthly basis..
- President Doug passed around a sign-up sheet for Shop With a Cop gift wrapping on two Saturday mornings in December. This will be converted to a Sign Up Genius for online registration.
- Doug also reported on the experience Rotarian volunteers had at Shepherd's Staff Food Pantry on a recent Friday afternoon. More than 150 families were served, and Doug called it "a good service opportunity" for the club.
- Assistant District Governor Bing Schimmelpfenning reported that our club ranked in the top 3 in the district for attendance for the past quarter. Many clubs are still meeting virtually, which tends to reduce attendance.

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In this 2019 photo, the Harrisonville Area Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting at Cass Career Center's new fire training tower. The tower is used for hose and ladder drills, team building, search and rescue drills, and live-burn testing by the CCC Fire Science program. Built by Custom Container Living LLC, a company founded in 2015 by Robert Wagoner and based near Archie, the tower is similar to one the company constructed for the Dolan-West Fire District. Funding for the tower came from the state's CTE (Career and Technical Education) Performance Grant program. Two area companies, Elliott Construction of Pleasant Hill and Reasoner Grading of Creighton, donated time and services at no cost to the school.

## Sign up to wrap gifts at Shop With a Cop

Club members will once again assist with the annual Shop With a Cop program by wrapping gifts at Walmart on two Saturday mornings — Dec. 12 and 19.

President Doug last week passed around a sign up sheet. Look for that sheet again this week. Online registration will also be available through Sign Up Genius, so look for that invitation coming via email soon.



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The program is conducted by local law enforcement agencies to provide a meaningful Christmas to disadvantaged youth and their families.

In past years, parents waited at the Elks Lodge and enjoyed a complimentary breakfast there while their kids shopped. This year, parents will wait in the Walmart parking lot.

## Early start time for Dec. 9 Christmas meeting

Start digging for those weird or wonderful white elephant gifts. Whatever “treasure” you find will become someone else’s funny or sad gift on Wednesday, Dec. 9, when the club holds a scaled-back Christmas luncheon and white elephant exchange.

The Social Committee is asking members to arrive by 11:30 a.m. Committee chair Jessica Junge says plans call for a charcuterie board to snack on while we

gather. A catered lunch will follow. Then the gift exchange will commence, but with some slight

alternations to reduce the amount of gift handling. We might also have time for a game or two before the meeting ends at 1 p.m.

Jessica will provide more details about the event at today’s meeting.



Congratulations to Jackson Anderson, our Service Above Self Award recipient for October at Harrisonville Elementary School.