

Westbank Optimist Club Summer 2020 News

COVID-19 Update

Our club continues to look for ways to interact with each other and members of our community while following safety protocols recommended during this COVID-19 Pandemic.

(1) Café Hope & Local Senior Citizens Meal Program – (Photo below)

The Optimist Club – Gretna Westbank has been a long-time supporter of Café Hope. Café Hope is an organization that assists at-risk youth to become trained in restaurant and culinary skills. They expressed in their Mission Statement, “Café Hope is committed to providing opportunity for youth throughout the Greater New Orleans area.” As a faith-based organization rooted in their nonprofit restaurant, Café Hope has created an establishment designed for full-service culinary training partnered with life skills courses that give students the confidence to have fulfilling futures supporting themselves and their loved ones.

We have supported Café Hope for many years by donating to the organization, participating in food cook-offs, supporting various projects/activities, and most recently attending Café Hope’s sponsored Celebrity Chef cooking and wine tasting events.

To assist our community during this COVID-19 Pandemic, the Optimist Club – Gretna Westbank decided to help financially support Café Hope to continue their mission. The Club voted to retain the services of Café Hope to provide meals at various Westbank Senior Citizen Centers for their residents so that they would receive nourishing meals and comply with Louisiana’s Stay-At-Home order. The senior centers selected were St. Joseph Senior Center in Gretna, Wynhoven Senior Center in Marrero, Westwego Senior Center in Westwego, and additional Senior Centers on the Westbank of the Mississippi River in the New Orleans region.

This Meal Program not only helps Café Hope but it also helps protect our area Senior Citizens that can’t get out at this time! In addition to the meals provided, the Optimist Club -- Gretna Westbank also voted to provide additional funds to Café Hope to purchase Chrome Books for continued learning remotely while the Stay-at-Home order is in place.

