

GO JOE 20

Twenty years and over 10,000 miles ago morning meteorologist, Joe Snedeker decided he would like to join the rest of the WNEP team as they planned their annual telethon for the benefit of Saint Joseph's Center. (Channel 16 had already been conducting a telethon for Saint Joseph's since the late 1970's.) An avid cyclist, he thought maybe an endurance bike ride might inspire viewers to contribute even more to this cause. So in 1998, with almost no fanfare, he hopped on his bike and took off for Atlantic City, New Jersey. Loyal viewers were inspired by his effort and sent thousands of dollars to Saint Joseph's in Joe's name. This began an annual trek that has become an increasingly successful event.

Prompted solely by the daily challenges of Saint Joseph's residents, Joe decided to challenge himself each year for their benefit and he has maintained this commitment. Joe would be the first to credit the many people who make this ride possible. With the support of family, who afford him the time to train and who make the jaunts with him, (in a car, but who meet him at the daily stops), he has a built in cheering squad. In addition to family, WNEP videographer and friend, Paul Kielbasa has gone every mile with Joe. His co-workers from news and programming have applauded him on every excursion and have even helped plan his local routes and welcomed him at his viewing area stops. More than anything, Joe has been encouraged by the commitment of corporate sponsors and by the enthusiasm of local viewers. Fully aware that they may indeed be struggling themselves, he is awed when they come to wish him well or send a donation to Saint Joseph's.

In more recent years Joe has ended his journey at the Festival Telethon. Large crowds are always on hand to congratulate the exhausted traveler on a job well done. Attesting to the longevity of this effort, is that among the welcome home fans have been three separate Administrators of Saint Joseph's, Sisters Vincentia Dorsey, Therese O'Rourke and now Maryalice Jacquinet, all deeply grateful. In addition to the funds that have been raised, these Center leaders realize that this bike ride and telethon have also spread awareness of the



The Arrival – Longtime Telethon hosts, Marisa Burke, Mindi Ramsey and Don Jacobs welcome Joe Snedeker home from Toledo Ohio at Festival Telethon 2012. Joe was accompanied on the last leg of his journey by his son Joey.

Center's mission. The broader community now recognizes the humanity and the potential in young people who have multiple and profound challenges and in new mothers, hoping for a brighter future for their little families. People who need assistance now know where to turn. There is a greater sense that we are all in this together with a willingness to assist in the hard times and rejoice in each little success. The Sisters credit the compassion and professionalism of the WNEP family and the station owners for these priceless outcomes.

As Joe prepares for Go Joe 20, careful attention has been paid to maintaining the same challenges of previous years. Whether he is traveling to Plymouth Rock, from Kitty Hawk or Monticello or throughout the viewing area, Joe will try to keep his 500 mile commitment on the backroads of the Pocono Mountains. He and the crew will be working very hard from the early mornings to the later evenings, making every effort to share this milestone event with as many fans and supporters

as possible, both at the live stops and via the newscasts. Everyone who receives services from Saint Joseph's wishes Joe and the entire Telethon team well as they continue this very substantial endeavor on our behalf. Go Joe!!!

Don't miss
**WNEP's Saint Joseph's
Festival Telethon**

**Friday, July 28 at 7:00 p.m. and
Saturday, July 29 at 8:00 p.m.**

*Be there for the conclusion of GO JOE 20 as he
arrives Saturday evening at the Festival Grounds*



Take Your Child to Work Day

National Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day was celebrated at Saint Joseph's this year as a more informative opportunity for the children who attended. Of course part of the day was spent on the job with parents/grandparents but there were also a series of activities planned that would be both fun and educational. Dietary issues, money management, and health and fitness sessions were combined with sensitivity exercises to acquaint the young visitors with the challenges and the opportunities available to those who reside at Saint Joseph's.

At left, Luke tries out the adapted toys that are used by Center residents.

Saint Joseph's Night at the Railriders

With many friendly faces in the stands, Stephen, a Center resident, escorted by his brother Chris, tossed a first pitch at a recent Railriders game. Saint Joseph's was also acknowledged midway through the fourth inning with a generous donation from the Junior Leadership Wilkes-Barre, Class of 2017. This group of high school students and their mentors organized a Knockerball Tournament to raise both money and awareness for Saint Joseph's Center. As a conclusion to their very successful project the students set up the Saint Joseph's Night at the Railriders to make the check presentation.



Every year, Saint Joseph's Center is the honored beneficiary of bequests made by friends of the Center. Each bequest, whether large or small, has an impact on Saint Joseph's well beyond the time the gift is made. For more information please visit the website at www.stjosephscenter.org or call 570-963-1260 to request a Planned Giving brochure.

Thank you and may God continue to bless you for your goodness to Saint Joseph's!



Prudential Delivers

Crazy summer weather forced a rain date that also appeared not too promising, and yet volunteers from Prudential Financial's Scranton office came through. Three painting projects replaced intended outdoor plans but the half day gardening and clean-up jobs were all still completed. The group pictured (left) represents some of those who volunteered at the Main Center. Saint Joseph's Trinity Child Care Center and two community homes also received much appreciated volunteer assistance. It was a very busy but productive day. The Prudential Foundation's Office of Corporate Responsibility awarded Saint Joseph's a grant that funds specific volunteer projects to be completed by Prudential's local employees. The Scranton office will also be volunteering at two booths for the Center's big Summer Festival and gathering supplies for the Baby Pantry.

Baby Pantry Receives Generous Donations

Members of the Parker Hill Church deliver a truckload of disposable diapers into the welcoming hands of Saint Joseph's Maternity and Family Services staff. Diapers, an enormous expense to those on a limited income, are the single most requested item among those who seek assistance from the Center's Baby Pantry. The Parker Hill Church conducted a two month diaper drive. The drive came to the attention of Proctor and Gamble who agreed to match their collection. This combined effort enabled the Parker Hill Church to donate to Saint Joseph's as well as other area agencies.

Country Day Nursery School participants show off some of the items they gathered for Saint Joseph's Baby Pantry during a Mother's Day collection held in loving memory of Lindsay Dougherty. Mrs. Dougherty had been an advocate and active volunteer for the Center's Pantry and for many of the programs at Saint Joseph's.



Summertime in Therapy Garden

Residents who are off school for the summer or who haven't started school yet, take time to enjoy the Therapy Garden. It is a place for both fun and relaxation. Sprinklers or the glider, making crafts or listening to the birds, the activity is all based on individual interests. The strawberries were harvested by a few residents and enjoyed by even more. The lavender is in bloom and it is approaching blueberry season, another yummy time. Jeffrey, accompanied by Allison, his program staff, is taking a minute to water the flowers. Of course he prefers to play with the water, but it's all good.

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SAINT JOSEPH'S
CENTER



Dear Friends of Saint Joseph's Center,

Summer is always a happy and fun time at Saint Joseph's Center for many of the same reasons that you might enjoy summer - longer days with more sunshine, visits with family and friends, extra relaxation and outdoor activities. Like us, hopefully, you also include the Saint Joseph's Center Summer Festival among the season's highlights. We look forward and plan for it all year. It is hard to imagine that it is just days away.

This is an especially exciting year for the Summer Festival as it coincides with the 20th Go Joe Bike Ride. Since 1997, Joe Snedeker with the support of his family and WNEP TV-16 committed himself to the people and mission of Saint Joseph's Center by riding his bike and raising much needed funds for programs, services and capital improvements. Joe would be the first to point out that he doesn't accomplish all of this alone. In addition to the encouragement of his friends, family and colleagues at WNEP, the success is possible because of the generosity of so many, including you. This is truly an example when every gift matters.

Beyond the dollars raised which are so important to our ongoing commitment to providing quality care and meaningful opportunities for each one to reach their God-given potential, the WNEP Telethon and Go Joe Bike Ride has introduced the work of Saint Joseph's Center to thousands of people throughout Northeastern and Central Pennsylvania and beyond. Perhaps you are reading this Concern newsletter right now because of a contribution you made to the WNEP Telethon and Go Joe Bike Ride. Know how grateful we are for your gift and concern for the people we have the privilege to assist. Like Joe, we can't do it without you.

We hope to see you at the Summer Festival later this month. Please tune in and watch the WNEP Telethon and cheer on Joe during the Go Joe Bike Ride beginning on Monday, July 24th. Keep him in your thoughts and prayers as you will be remembered in ours. We are so grateful for the support that we receive from so many during the Summer Festival, Go Joe Bike Ride and WNEP Telethon.

With thanks and prayers,

Sister Maryalice Jacquinot, IHM

Sister Maryalice Jacquinot, IHM
President/CEO

Join the fun at
**Saint Joseph's Center
Festival 2017**

(on the campus of Marywood University)

July 28 and 29 4:00 to 10:00 pm

July 30 noon to 8:00 pm



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