



# Big Brothers Big Sisters

July  
August  
September  
2018

## Big Brothers Big Sisters of Jackson County Newsletter

*A special thanks to our Golf Fore Kids' Sake event sponsor OmniSource for helping make this year's activity so special. With additional support from Hankerd Hills, Home.fm 106.9, Integro and Flagstar, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Jackson County was able to raise over \$13,000 on June 15th. Dawn Foods donated delicious breakfast items along with Hankerd Hills providing hot dogs at the turn. A delicious chicken barbecue dinner highlighted the festivities. Fun was had by all as you can see by the pictures bordering this cover page. We were fortunate enough to have 156 golfers supporting our program and enjoying the fellowship that an outing like this provides.*

*If you were not able to help out at the golf event but would like to provide support to our children that have mentors or are waiting to be matched, simply fill out the attached envelope included with this summer newsletter. As the donation envelope clearly states; Big Brothers Big Sisters of Jackson County IS MAKING A DIFFERENCE! However, it can only happen through generous donors like you.*

*Looking ahead: Wed. Aug. 1st—Frosty Boy / BBBS Summer Picnic  
Fri. Oct. 5th—Motown Entertainment Dinner/Auction  
To purchase tickets or find out more information about these events, please call our office at 517-784-7181.*



**Congratulations to our 2018 Golf "Fore" Kids' Sake competition winners!**



**Men's Longest Drive** went to Bob Ruppel, **Women's Longest Drive** went to Brie Hensley, **Men's Longest Putt** went to Dave Page, **Women's Longest Putt** went to Lindsay Noll, **Men's Closest to the Pin** went to Randy Denig and **Women's Closest to the Pin** went to Paula Durbrow. Congratulations to each and everyone of you!! However, we all know who the real winners are... the boys and girls of Jackson County that are able to be mentored. This is all made possible because of committed and very generous supporters such as all of you! We all at BBBS give a "Big" thank you for everyone who came out and supported us and our mission/vision.



### Mission:

The BBBS mission is to provide children facing adversity with strong and enduring, professionally supported 1-to-1 relationships that change their lives for the better, forever..

### Vision:

BBBS vision is that all children achieve success in life.

### Board of Directors:

- Sharon Rouse—President
- Emily Walainis—Vice-President
- Kathy Alexander—Secretary
- Gary Swartzlander—Treasurer
- William Baird—Trustee
- Garrett Dowell—Trustee
- David Hawkins—Trustee
- Harry Howard—Trustee
- Jerard Jarzynka—Trustee
- Lynn Kenworthy—Trustee
- Michael Luedecking—Trustee
- Sue Shirley—Trustee
- Adam Tabor—Trustee
- William White—Trustee

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- Jim Brian**,  
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Please Note! Our Summer Office Hours are changing:  
Monday-Thursday 8AM-4:00PM FRIDAYS 8-11



Many thanks to our 28th Annual Golf “Fore” Kids’ Sake Sponsor:



Event Co-Sponsors

**Hankerd Hills Golf Course**



Event Champion Sponsors



**Golf Planning Committee:**

**Committee Co-Chairs:**  
David Hawkins & Gary Swartzlander

**Committee Members:** Judie Holzworth & Karen Kishpaugh



**Team & Hole Sponsors**

- |                                  |                                  |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Advance Turning & Mfg.           | JTV                              |
| Allegra Printing of Jackson      | LJ Ross Associates               |
| Brandt & Dehncke Law Office PLLC | Northwest Community Schools      |
| Jack V. Butterfield Investments  | OmniSource                       |
| CCC Catering                     | Orbitform                        |
| Community Choice Credit Union    | Orthoaidic Rehab Specialists, PC |
| Flagstar Bank                    | Peak Manufacturing, Inc.         |
| Fraternal Order of Police #70    | Prosecutor Jerry Jarzynka        |
| Gerda                            | Rehmann                          |
| Jackson Glass Works              | Sharon Rouse                     |
| JAV's Lawn Service               | Sheets Family Dentistry          |

**Team Sponsors**

- Howard Adams  
Don Dally  
Dan Schoch

**Hole Sponsors**

- American Title Co. of Jackson  
Billy White Roofing, LLC  
Farmers Insurance—Kent  
Withrow Agency  
Frosty Boy  
Hankerd Hills Golf Course  
RW Mercer  
Sercombe Trucking  
South Central Credit Union  
Subway—Yes Sir E Bob  
The Cadet Tavern  
The Protection Center  
Uncommon Threads

**Greenie Sponsors**

- Rob Albertson  
JFP Benefit Management  
Howard Hanna—Bill White

**Closest to the Pin**

- Staff of Big Brothers  
Big Sisters of Jackson County

**Longest Drives**

- Regal Tire Sales, Inc.

**Longest Putt**

- Friend of  
Big Brothers Big Sisters  
of Jackson County

**Mulligan Sponsor**

- Emmons Service, Inc.

**Cart Sponsor**

- Dillion & Associates

**Food & Drink Sponsors**

- American 1 Credit Union  
Dawn Food Products  
Hankerd Hills Golf Course  
Ladwig's Culligan  
Polly's Country Market





**Match Highlight – Site-Based Program:  
Raegan Kennedy & Akaysha**



Raegan and Akaysha have been matched in our Site Based plus program for six months now! Raegan is currently a student attending Michigan State University while also working in Jackson. Akaysha will be entering the 7<sup>th</sup> grade this fall and enjoys school, sports and being with her friends. The pair has been working to get to know each other better and

growing their relationship. In addition they enjoy working on Akaysha’s Spanish homework and getting their nails done together. Moving forward the pair hopes to also add volleyball to the list of things they enjoy doing together. This match is off to a great start and we cannot wait to see how their relationship grows and how many goals they crush in the future!

*~Jenna Darling, Site-Based Match Specialist*

**Match Highlight – Community Based Program:  
Lori Frewen & Annalise**



The Community Based mentoring program is happy to celebrate Lori and Annalise who have been matched for two and a half years and have a wonderful bond. The girls enjoy going out to eat together, attending church functions and joining the Big Brothers Big Sisters family for monthly activities. Lori and Annalise have a very good connection, they understand each other and listen to one another. Over the next year Lori and

Annalise have planned to work on goals such as Physical health, Learning a new language and culture, and enjoy some time with animals. They will work on these goals by participating in activities such as going to the zoo, checking out Imagine Planet in Jackson’s downtown district, learning about the Spanish culture, going for walks, and having conversations about healthy foods and beverages. Annalise also plans on taking a Spanish class in school next year which she will share what she is learning with Lori while they learn about the culture together. This is a perfect example of a successful match, and we just want to give a “BIG” thank you to Lori for all of the hard work, attention, and dedication she has given to Annalise. Without Bigs like you we would not be able to help support the youth of Jackson County. Thank you again!!

*~Andrea Parshall, Community Based Match Specialist*

**BBBS UPDATES**

*Quality of Life grant*

The Quality of Life grant program honors the volunteerism of MDRT members who give their time to serve charitable programs in their own communities and worldwide. Award consideration includes the duration and depth of the members’ volunteer efforts with a particular charity.

Let me share a few facts you may not know about Lynn. She has been involved with the agency over 26 years, she has been President, Vice-President, Secretary, chaired each fundraising event at -least once, initiated an Endowment Committee, Fund Development Committee and has been active in volunteer recruitment for mentors as well as board members and agency volunteers. Her most important level of service was from 1994 through 2002 when she mentored her “Little”

Amber. **Thank you Lynn** for your support and hard work!

*Comcast Grant*

More good news, BBBSJC received notification and payment from the Comcast Foundation in the amount of \$10,000. A substantial portion of which is earmarked for new computers. This grant from the Comcast Foundation is in recognition of Comcast’s commitment to the communities where its customers and employees live and work. Thank you Comcast for your support!



**Community Based Match Anniversaries**

**July**

**\*One Year\***

Sue Paruszkewic & Kailynn

**\*Two Years\***

Kristen Hanna & Heather

**\*Three Years\***

Joshua Guy & Jayvian

**\*Four Years\***

Charles Pritchett & Christopher

**August**

**\*Nine Years\***

Helen Langford & Janazhia

**September**

**\*One Year\***

Jenna Darling & Josie

Victoria Moore & C'Asya

Emily McKay & Aliza

**CB Match Anniversaries Cont'd**

**\*Three Years\***

Breanna LaGore & Kristyanna

Daniel Mahoney & Dimitri

**\*Five Years\***

Scott Miller & Kolbe

**Site Based Match Anniversaries**

**August**

**\*One Year\***

Bill Blakemore & Kayden

Joe McGraw & Thailik

**September**

**\*5years\***

Andrea Parshall & Anna

**\*One Year\***

Sophie Falasco & Nora

Remember **Amazon Smile** for all your purchases.  
Press Ctrl & hover over the link below.



[smile.amazon.com/ch/38-2221204](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/38-2221204)

**Proud to Serve!**

**Brand Partner Hosts BFKS Event for Second Year and Bows with her Little to Strike the Perfect Match**

We're off to a great year of fundraising for Big Brothers Big Sisters, and another successful Bowl for Kids' Sake Event was held on Saturday, March 10 in Jackson County, Michigan. The Nerium Team was hosted by Independent



Brand Partner Darlene LaVoy and her enthusiastic team raised a whopping \$5,150 at the annual event. She was even awarded the BBBS of Jackson County Supporter of the Year Award, which she humbly accepted, for hosting BFKS two years in a row!

Darlene LaVoy has been a Nerium International Independent Brand Partner since 2014 and raves about using our Youth Factor, EHT and Prolistic wellness products for keeping her feeling her best! She is also a U.S. Air Force veteran having served five years overseas, married to Lanse and a proud mom to her grown daughter who recently graduated from Purdue University. So, it comes as no surprise that Darlene has always been a service-minded person who has lots of energy to give back.

While attending Get Real in 2014, Darlene saw Renee Olson and her Little Ryan on stage and was deeply inspired to become a Big. In June 2015, she found her perfect match with Little Shaniah. Fast forward three years later, Shaniah, now age nine, sees Darlene every other week for fun outings and just being together. Shaniah lives with her amazing single Mom, but it helps to have Darlene step in to provide additional adult guidance and focused time and attention for Shaniah. Darlene says a lot of people say how lucky Shaniah is, but she makes sure it's known that the reward of being a Big is really what it's all about. "Being a role model for my Little hopefully will make a positive difference in Shaniah's life, but she is really a blessing to me most of all," said Darlene. Little Shaniah has enjoyed various activities with her Big Darlene, from ice skating for the first time to going to Binder Park Zoo and feeding the giraffes. Sometimes they go on shopping excursions, recently they went Mom's Day shopping at the mall. Darlene said they will soon volunteer at the Humane Society together because of Shaniah's love for animals. They have a friendly bond that is developing and both are growing closer in the Big-Little relationship.



**JUST A REMINDER**, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Jackson County will be participating in the **United Way Grand Slam Detroit Tigers Game on Sunday, July 22nd. RSVP's are REQUIRED!** Call the office at **517-784-7181** to reserve your spot.



### 2018 Monthly Events

The Monthly Events program provides services during and after the school year typically falling on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month, through the generosity of our many community partners.

**JULY 22nd**

**Event:** United Way Grand Slam (Tigers Game)  
**Where:** United Way Center ([ride bus to stadium](#))  
**Time:** Be at United Way by 9am (back parking lot)

**AUGUST 1st**

**Event:** BBBS Annual Picnic  
**Where:** Cascades Park, Urban Fisheries Pond  
**Time:** 5-7pm



#### The Cascades

Enjoy the light show at Cascades. This iconic Jackson landmark is quite the sight to see with water cascading over 16 falls as the lights dance to music. These festivities take place all summer long from Memorial Day to Labor Day, Wednesday thru Sunday 8-11 pm. Family Fun Night is every Wednesday in the summer and you can expect live music and costumed characters, along with the Cascades Falls. Live music can also be enjoyed every summer Saturday in the Rotary Bandshell at Sparks Park.



#### Hot Air Jubilee, July 20 – 22, 2018

Over 25 hot air balloons will fill the skies over Jackson County with a balloon launch Friday evening & Saturday morning & evening and Sunday morning in Ella Sharp Park. Balloon night glows will be Fri. and Sat. starting at dusk. Other activities include carnival rides, helicopter rides, entertainment by Chris Beard & Third Down, arts & craft booths, car show, unique Kid's Kingdom, food and much more family fun. Check out [www.hotairjubilee.com](http://www.hotairjubilee.com) for more information.



Annual Picnic  
Wednesday, August 1st, 2018  
5pm at Cascades Park  
(Urban Fisheries Pond)

\*\*\*Park in the sledding hill parking lot\*\*\*

Urban Fisheries Pond



Join us for Food, Fun, and Games. Please bring a passing dish & we'll provide the hot dogs & bbq meatballs.

**This event is for all "Bigs", "Littles" (past and present), family members & friends of BBBS. Please RSVP to: 517-784-7181**

# Big Brothers Big Sisters

*County, Inc.*

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P.O. Box 1802

Jackson, MI 49204

(517) 784-7181

[www.bbbsjackson.org](http://www.bbbsjackson.org)

*START SOMETHING!*



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