

PRESS RELEASE: Louisiana Rotary Packs Lane's Backpacks

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact:

Bart Niedner

Louisiana Rotary Club

(636) 699-6328

Bart@ResourceForge.com

www.RotaryLouisianaMO.org

Louisiana Rotary Packs Lane's Backpacks

Louisiana, MO, November 09, 2011 — At the Louisiana Rotary Club's November 3rd meeting, Rotarians spent part of their lunch hour helping with Lane's Backpack Program. These backpacks of food are sent home over the weekends to families who qualify for the Federal Free and Reduced Meal Program at the Louisiana Elementary School. Lane's Backpack's purpose is to bridge the weekend gap for families struggling to make adequate nutrition available each day. The need is great each week; but with many Rotarian-hands the work of packing 130 backpacks went quickly. The Louisiana Rotary Club intends to continue packing Lane's Backpacks the first week of each month. The club also challenges other community organizations in Louisiana to adopt a similar commitment or make other contributions to this important program. It is hard to imagine a more direct way to benefit the children and families of our community!

For more information on Lane's Backpack project call Jeanna Machon at (573) 754-6911 or visit www.fcclouisiana.com/lanes-backpacks.html.

About Lane's Backpack: Lane's Backpack (Love and Nutrition Enclosed) is a collaboration of community volunteers sponsored by the Louisiana First Christian church. The program works with the Louisiana Elementary School to provide a backpack filled with food on Fridays for children who participate in the Federal Free and Reduced meal Program or who struggle with food insecurity. The program provides elementary school students with backpacks filled with nutritional and easy to prepare food to be eaten throughout the weekend. Any food provided in the backpacks assists families who may be food insecure, meaning that their finances may force them to choose between food and other expenses. Students are not identified as participating. The backpack concept was started at several Food Banks throughout the country and has expanded rapidly.

Over 65% of the students at Louisiana Elementary School receive free and reduced meals each day. That is over 250 students. Lane's Backpack seeks to assist these families. Members of the Louisiana community have come together to begin this ministry for their neighbors. Donations have been made to help purchase the food items for the backpacks. Food donations have been made. Volunteers have signed up to pack backpacks every Thursday of the week and deliver them to the school on Friday. The first backpack were packed on Thursday, September 29 at the Louisiana First Christian Church and delivered to the school on September 30th.

You can help! Donations are welcomed. It takes \$100 to provide food to one student for the school year. You can make checks payable to Lane's Backpack and send them to the Louisiana First Christian Church, 517 South Carolina Street, Louisiana, MO 63353. You can also drop off food donations (listed on their Website) to the church. If you would like to help pack the backpacks or deliver them to the school, you may sign up on the listing posted at the church, or call the church office at (573) 754-5557.

For more information on Rotary call Tim Jenkins at (573) 754-3453 or speak with a Rotary member.

About Louisiana Rotary Club: The Louisiana Rotary was chartered in 1924 with 26 members and carries the inspiration of its founder Paul Harris. Rotary is about friendship and fellowship. We are a group of local business and professional leaders who dedicate themselves to giving back to our community and the world as well. Best of all, the Club has given high inspiration to its members in the Rotary ideal of unselfishness. The Rotary motto of "Service Above Self" lives in the Louisiana Rotary Club. Today our club has 44 members; we meet for lunch at twelve noon every Thursday at the First Christian Church 517 South Carolina Street in Louisiana Missouri.

#