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Madeira Community Helps Students Serve Others

Two Madeira High School (MHS) students started the new school year off with projects that help others.

Junior Adam Konieczny started a community service project that will help Cincinnati's Ronald McDonald House provide care to families with critically ill children. 'Madeira Pulls Together' asks community members to contribute pull-tabs from aluminum beverage cans and drop them off at designated areas.

"I came up with this project during the summer, when I was trying to figure out a creative way that could involve the Madeira Community in helping for a good cause," Konieczny stated. "Since it is hot outside and a lot of people drink beverages from aluminum cans, people can help support my project and not let the pull tabs go to waste. The project is simple, and it can help a lot."

Pull tabs can be dropped off at one of two downtown Madeira businesses - Starbucks or Creativities Studio. After 'Madeira Pulls Together' ends on October 31, Adam will personally hand over the pull tabs on behalf of the Madeira Community to Ronald McDonald House in Cincinnati. The Cincinnati's House typically earns more than \$15,000 per year from pure aluminum pull-tab collections to help support local families.

MHS Senior Alexandra (Lexi) Born built bookshelves and filled them with books for Adopt-A-Book, whose mission is to provide at-risk kids with books of their own. Born raised the funds through a Go Fund Me account and set up drop-off days for the book drive at Madeira Elementary School. The project was for her American Heritage Girls Stars and Stripes project.

Lexi began planning her project in the winter of 2019 and originally planned to wrap it up in March of this year. "With COVID-19, I had to alter some of my plan and drastically alter the structure of my workdays that included volunteers, a requirement of the Stars and Stripes award, to accommodate social distancing and proper sanitation guidelines," Born explained. "The community was overwhelmingly generous with both time and money, and I could not be more thankful to all those who donated money, books, or their summer evenings to help me complete this project."



(Above) Adam Konieczny

Through Adopt-A-Book, her project benefits Mayfield Elementary. The bookshelves were delivered to the school in July, prior to school starting. Placing bookshelves full of books in this school will give the students more access to reading material to help them become more proficient readers.



(Left) Lexi Born