

# Klein new holder of Purpose Driven Pancake Breakfast's Golden Frying Pan

*Morning event part of Balloons Over Mt. Vernon & Fly-In festivities*

**BY DAVID BELCHER**

MT. VERNON LIFESTYLES EDITOR

MT. VERNON — While many know Dr. Christopher Klein for his orthodontist skills, what is less known is he is a pancake flipper extraordinaire.

The latter skill came in handy Saturday when he won the coveted Golden Frying Pan trophy at the Purpose Driven Pancake Breakfast at the Mt. Vernon Airport Main Terminal as part of the Balloons Over Mt. Vernon & Fly-In.

Klein was one of a number of celebrity flippers who worked for tips and selling such toppings as blackberries, cinnamon roll, pecan pie, in addition to such fall-themed specialty toppings as caramel apple and pumpkin cheesecake. Also available were chopped pecans, mini chocolate chips, sprinkles and whipped cream.

Klein got his award based on those who sold the most toppings, and audience input.

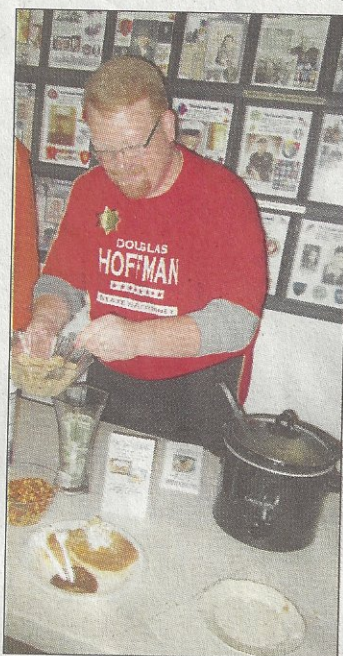
In looking at his success, Klein said, "My secret is I borrowed [Jefferson County] Sheriff [Travis] Allen's pan."

He said his plan was to display the trophy in his office.

There was a rumor floating around the airport that Klein had been seen practicing at home Friday evening. "Totally unfounded," Klein responded.

"It was a lot of fun," he said of the event.

Although this was geared to be a morning of fun, the backdrop of this event was serious — it was also the formal kick-off of the 2015 United Way Community Campaign.



Sentinel Photo/DAVID BELCHER

**PREPARING TOPPINGS —** Jefferson County State's Attorney Doug Hoffman prepares pancake toppings during Saturday's Purpose Driven Pancake Breakfast at Mt. Vernon Outland Airport.



Sentinel Photo/DAVID BELCHER

**SHERIFF SERVES —** Pancakes get toppings from Jefferson County Sheriff Travis Allen at Saturday's Purpose Driven Pancake Breakfast held at Mt. Vernon Outland Airport.



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**GOLDEN FRYING PAN —** Jennifer Miller, executive director of United Way of South Central Illinois, presents Dr. Christopher Klein with the coveted Golden Frying Pan Trophy at the Purpose Driven Pancake Breakfast at the Mt. Vernon Airport Saturday. The breakfast was also the formal kick-off of the 2015 United Way Community Campaign.



"United Way of South Central Illinois is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of people in Jefferson, Marion, Washington and Wayne counties by addressing critical human needs. The organization is unique in that we collaborate with a dozen partner agencies to affect positive changes in our communities as efficiently as possible," Jennifer Miller, executive director of United Way of South Central Illinois, said. "When non-profit organizations work together, not only can more good be accomplished, but also the cost of fundraising is dramatically reduced, leaving more money for what is important — helping people."

Miller said tentative plans call for the campaign to end in January. She said United Way will not know how much money it will have to allocate until it knows how much money has been raised.

Sometime, tentatively in February, "when we know

exactly how much funds we have," there will be an application window in which agencies in the four counties are invited to submit applications for funds. "There is a direct correlation between how much money we raise and how much we can help," Miller said.

A Citizens Review Committee will then review the applications. Representatives of the agencies will be interviewed by the committee and make a presentation in which they will discuss what their agency does and how it benefits the community. Finally, the board will divide the money among the agencies.

"The money we raised stays local," according to Miller.

United Way of South Central Illinois funds 12 pro-

grams provided by 11 local partner agencies. Last year, more than 13,000 people — 1-in-every-8 people received services from a United Way-funded program.

**The 12 programs served by United Way of South Central Illinois are:**

- Youth Success — CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), Girl Scouts, One Hope United, Foster Grandparents, Comprehensive Community Based Youth Services and YMCA;

- Family Financial Stability — Jefferson County Habitat for Humanity, Lifeboat Alliance and Seniors Services of Southern Illinois; and

- Good Health — The Amy Center, Comprehensive Connections and Epilepsy Foundation of Southern Illinois.

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