

JESSE FRANK JUNIOR GOLF SCHOLARSHIP FUND 2024
History And Update

Dear Friends,

It is with great pleasure to announce that over the past nineteen years, and with your help and support, we have raised almost (270K) two hundred and seventy thousand dollars for deserving area golfers to attend the popular Tennessee JR PGA Golf Academy at Golf House Tennessee and Vanderbilt Legends Club. Our goal in 2005 was to raise (2K) two thousand dollars and provide three scholarships which were valued at \$695.00 each. By summer's end, we will have provided funding for (325) three hundred and twenty-five children to attend The Academy.

It is my hope that we can continue to provide a means for deserving young golfers, from diverse walks of life, to attend the Academy which began in 1973 and has over 16,000 graduates to date. Our benchmark set a few years ago, is quite high, but with your help and generosity I am certain we can once again raise the funds and provide numerous opportunities for deserving children. Our goal as we move forward will be to raise enough money in order to fund a minimum of thirty scholarships per year. Ideally, we like to have an even mix of boys/girls. I have been honored to have the opportunity to speak to the children and their parents, and have witnessed the appreciation they feel when told funds are available to attend utilizing the Jesse Frank Junior Golf Scholarship Fund. Your contributions have allowed me this great pleasure. I thank you...

Nearly two years prior to Jesse's passing, I set out to "build" a five hole golfing and fishing facility that would allow my daughter, Ann Catherine, an opportunity of making new friends while learning and growing the game of golf. On July 31st, 2004, the grand opening of Lightning Bug Golf Course, in Triune, was celebrated and well attended by friends of our family, with contributors and supporters alike. (The last four holes were completed and ready for play in early fall of 2009.) Unfortunately, Jesse was gravely ill and unable to leave the house to be a part of the ceremonies outside. Quite honestly, I do not believe he ever fully comprehended what we were creating as the horrible Parkinson's Disease and dementia had taken full control of his faculties. Had he been in good health, I am certain he would have played a huge role in the creation, upkeep, and promotion of Lightning Bug. While being an educator and elementary school principal for well over thirty years, Jesse, with his solid values, beliefs, and ethics, positively influenced countless children and families through the decades. At Lipscomb Elementary, he knew every child by name and pulled more teeth than did most dentists. Each child's self-esteem was of highest personal and professional concern. Those same philosophies and core values that Jesse believed in pertain directly to the game of golf.

My mother-in-law of thirty-six years, Ann Frank, continues to play a vital role in the success and upkeep of Lightning Bug. Having grown up on her family's farm that was established in 1802, Ann remains diligent in the aesthetics of the course. Often you will find her planting, pruning, or weeding the flower beds on each hole. While we continue to miss Jesse, we are extremely grateful that Ann remains in great health and continues to promote the development of a place for "kids to be kids."

Bill Blackburn
615-603-8746

Name _____
Address _____

E-mail _____
City/State/Zip _____

_____ Please designate my gift/pledge to the *Jesse Frank Junior Golf Scholarship Fund*

Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____ Please return your gift to: Tennessee Golf Foundation
(Make checks payable to Tennessee Golf Foundation) 400 Franklin Road
Franklin, Tennessee 37069