

Cline

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COVID-19 pandemic, involved children who were living out-of-state, altering the way Cline met with the children. Because of this, communication with the children was rendered exclusively via the telephone.

In both cases, reports were made and files were created, which the court reviewed to assess progress and determine additional needs in service to the children.

While working as a CASA involves long hours and arduous work, even for volunteers, Cline is proud to be involved with an organization that goes above and beyond for the children of Marion.

“I am happy that I got to play a small part...in

improving the lives of six kids, and restoring



to them some stability in their lives,” Cline said. “I think CASA’s services are very vital. These are kids who are likely to have major decisions made concerning their lives, and the idea that no one is going to speak up for them is intimidating and frightening. When you have this many kids in need of something, and if they don’t have a voice, a real voice...it’s intimidat-

ing.” CASA work is often grueling and difficult. CASA’s see the worst that humanity has to offer, witnessing the horrors that are inflicted on some of the population’s most vulnerable.

However, despite the challenges, for Cline, seeing the impact that CASA makes on children’s lives, and knowing that their work makes a vital and tremendous difference, makes it all worth it.

“[It’s rewarding] to see something be done for them,” Cline said. “Seeing a kid get into a home, whether it’s reuniting with parents or going to an adoptive family, giving the kid a home...that’s a good feeling.”

Easter

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down Main Street, we go to them. We will take the ATV right to their door if needed.”

Brittany Couse, Jonesboro Clerk-Treasurer, said, “Police Chief Dennis Conrad reaches out to Westview for a list of children that may not receive baskets. Then, the bunny will deliver baskets to them during the parade.”

Following the Easter Bunny on the ATV are the Jonesboro Fire Department and Police Department and the Mayor and his wife.

Mayor Bob McNutt, Jonesboro, said, “We invite churches and residents to participate as well. Anyone that wants to join the parade is welcome.”

House of Prayer, staff at Circle K, and the town of Jonesboro employees created about 20 baskets for delivery this year, said Elizabeth Adams, Jonesboro Council Member, Ward One.

Brittany Couse shared one of the highlights of the parade for the city staff: “We interact with the kids more when we do it this way. We also interact with adults who aren’t able to get out and give them candy as well.”

A few years before the parade, Jonesboro started

with an Easter Egg Hunt in Jonesboro Park in 2018. With COVID, the staff of Jonesboro needed another solution that would keep the residents safe and allow them to connect on Easter. Brittany Couse said they would like to bring the egg hunt back eventually. Still, for now, the Reverse Easter Parade is serving the city well.

Mayor McNutt said, “Last year, with everybody couped up, we decided to do the parade. People waved to us and are just excited to get out on the porch, so we are going again this year. Hopefully,

we can touch the lives of our families and older adults. We do have a lot of older adults.”

According to worldpopulationreview.com/us-cities/jonesboro-in-population, the current population of Jonesboro is 1,625 with a median age of 48.5 years - 46.5 years for males and 50.8 years for females.

Josephine Couse, an 8-year-old student at Northview Elementary School, said her favorite part of the parade is “being in it and giving people Easter baskets that don’t have them.”

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