



MADELINE SHANNON/Daily Courier |

Averie Richter, 16, and Kippy Easley, 17, both members of Josephine County Foundation and students at Hidden Valley High School, help set up for a 24-hour event outside People's Bank of Commerce.

Josephine County Foundation kicks off year with 24-hour fundraiser

By Madeline Shannon
of the Daily Courier

The Josephine County Foundation held its first fundraiser of the 2017-18 school year starting at 3 p.m. Friday, reviving an event that the organization hadn't held in about three years: a 24-hour fundraiser.

Students in the Josephine County Foundation wanted to host a round-the-clock fundraiser because it fits in with the lifestyles of many teenagers.

"We want to make this fun and exciting," said Devin Pine, 17, a senior at Hidden Valley High School. "We're teenagers, and a lot of teenagers like to pull all-nighters."

The first fundraiser of the school year is meant to bring in money for the organization's various community projects, including the annual Vision Clinic; Pink Week, in which the organization raises awareness for breast cancer; and the Three Rivers School District's Campus Closet program, which gives clothing to homeless teens.

"We're all funded by fundraising and grants," Alison Ray, program manager of Josephine County Foundation, said. "So this is a huge event to try to keep us going for the rest of the year."

The first fundraiser of the year last year brought in about \$3,500, and the organization hoped to raise \$5,000 to start out the school year.

"We're really hoping to up that amount this year," Ray said.

The location of the fundraiser was the People's Bank of Commerce parking lot on Seventh and K Streets. Boredom wasn't expected to be a problem because the students brought along board games and a sound system to listen to music during the wee hours of the morning.

"We have some electronics and games we'll be playing," Pine said.

The students were excited to raise money they can use to help members of the community.

"I'm just hoping people come out and support us," Pine said. "We just want to start making money and helping the community that way."