

Webster Bank in Derby presents demonstration of adaptive bikes

Nonprofit seeks to raise funds, awareness

By Patricia Villers

Photos by Stacy Johnson and Patricia Villers

DERBY - Happy children and grateful parents filled the parking lot of Webster Bank Saturday morning as [Save the Kid Fund, Inc.](#) distributed and demonstrated adaptive bicycles.

The East Lyme-based organization raises funds and awareness to empower children with disabilities.

Save the Kid Fund also is known as [Robbie's Riders](#), which pertains to the organization's cycle program, according to its website. Donations to Robbie's Riders are used to fund cycles in the area from which the money was given.

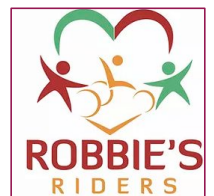
The custom-made adaptive bikes can cost between \$1,200 and \$1,800.

Webster Bank presented Saturday's demonstration of therapeutic trikes at its 500 New Haven Ave. branch.



Resident Trudy Lasky, a Save the Kid director, assembles adaptive bicycles acquired through fundraising efforts.

A public event showcasing the bikes and the smiles on recipients' faces is how Lasky works to raise awareness and monetary donations.



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"I thank Webster Bank [employees] for their support," Lasky said. "We're hoping to raise awareness. The kids have had a tough year [due to the COVID-19 pandemic] and have missed out on a lot."

Lasky said she got involved with the organization because her son, Nicholas, now 22, has cerebral palsy. She said when he was 6 he received an adaptive bike and it turned out to be "wonderful for him."



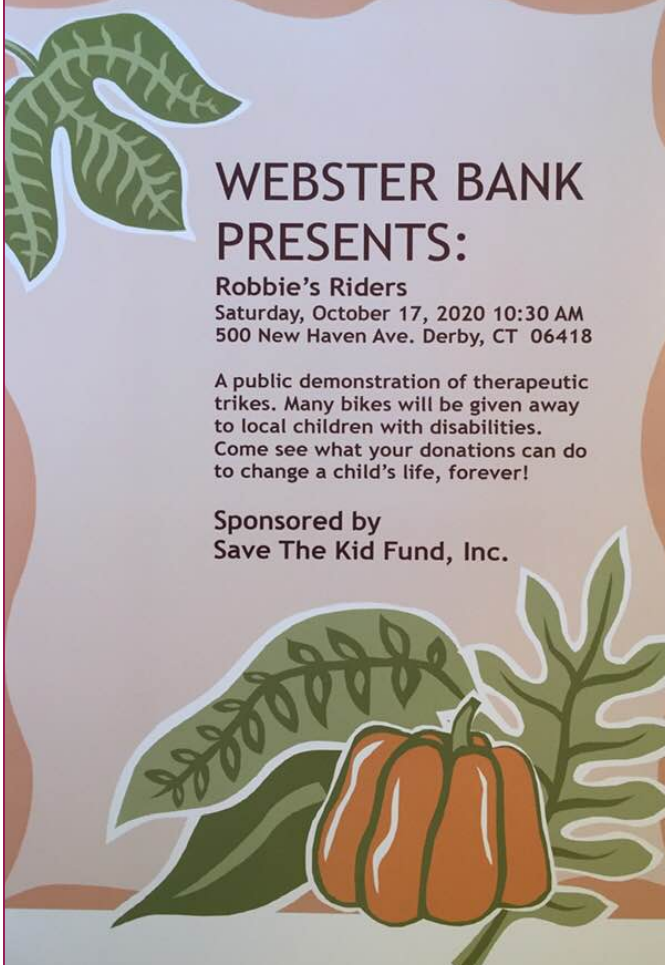
Lasky said last November her son's doctor gave them the good news he no longer needed braces on his legs.

Physical therapist Emily Messerschmidt, who works with pediatric patients at Yale New Haven Hospital said, "This is a great event; I know some of the recipients."

She said having an adaptive bicycle allows those youths who have disabilities to participate and ride along with siblings and friends.

Bridgeport resident Stacy Johnson was all smiles as she watched her daughter, Cheyenne Blake, 22, ride the bike she received.

She said her daughter had a full scholarship to Fairfield University but when she was a freshman she was afflicted with an as-yet undiagnosed disease that forced her to leave school.

**WEBSTER BANK
PRESENTS:**

Robbie's Riders
Saturday, October 17, 2020 10:30 AM
500 New Haven Ave. Derby, CT 06418

A public demonstration of therapeutic trikes. Many bikes will be given away to local children with disabilities. Come see what your donations can do to change a child's life, forever!

Sponsored by
Save The Kid Fund, Inc.



Donations for Seymour Pink 5K accepted through Wednesday



The dust has settled from our powerful virtual Pounding the Pavement for Pink race weekend, but donations ARE still open through Oct. 21. Make a donation at

<https://runsignup.com/.../PoundingthePavementforPink5K>

Every single dollar raised is critical to Seymour Pink fulfilling its mission of helping those breast cancer patients struggling with their financial burdens as a result of the diagnosis and treatments.

Seymour Pink thanks you for every dollar donated... please know you make a HUGE difference in the lives of those dealing with this horrific diagnosis.

Taken From the Seymour Pink Facebook page



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Thanksgiving Baskets



Our Lady Queen of the Apostles Parish Hosts

**A Monthly Drive-By Food Drive to benefit
St. Vincent de Paul Food Bank**

Sunday, November 1, 2020, 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

St. Jude Church Parking Lot, 71 Pleasant View Rd, Derby

Contactless drop-off – pop your trunk and our volunteers will gather your donations.

Help us fill St. Vincent de Paul's Thanksgiving food baskets. The following are suggested items:

- Instant potatoes (or fresh potatoes)
- Canned yams
- Canned cranberry sauce
- Canned gravy
- Egg noodles
- Box stuffing
- Ground coffee
- Instant hot chocolate
- Canned broth
- Bottled salad dressing
- Canned corn, carrots, green beans, mixed veggies, peas.
- Grocery store gift cards or donations to assist with the purchase of turkeys



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