

Bob surprised Jeremiah with the Community Hero Award at our last Officers Meeting.

Curious Corner

The Drive caught up with Jeremiah Demus, Fifth Third Bank's Rockford Personal Banker and the recipient of the coveted "Community Hero Award" given to an employee who is committed to giving back to the community. He has volunteered with non-profit youth agencies, the Rockford Housing Authority and the West Side Business Association to help business people get more knowledge.

Jeremiah and his wife, Cassandra, have four children, twins Alexander and Brandon (17), Justin (20), and Trianna (24).

What inspires you to give back to your community? "Growing up in Chicago in areas that needed some kind of assistance in some way or another probably inspired me. I think it is something that is built into you. It is built into your personality. I love to help. I love to solve community problems."

We see you every day with a shirt and tie. Do you ever relax in casual clothes? "I always dress up. Some of my friends have not seen me dressed down. I have difficulty dressing down. I have a very limited supply of tennis shoes. I like business casual." What was it like receiving the Community Hero Award? "It made me feel great. Although I didn't expect it and I don't do things in the community for recognition. I've just always done things for others. There is a need for people to step up and correct situations that others might shy away from."

Tell us one thing about you that will surprise us? "My wife and I have a new company, Sandra's Soap Company that makes bar soap, body soap and laundry dish detergent. It's on Facebook, 'Sandra Soap." She has always wanted to be in the manufacturing cosmetics and skin care products business. She talked about it for 23 years and we finally did it."

Fun facts: He is a big music fan and loves everything from the big band sound to Prince and Stevie Wonder He plays the radio from one end of the dial all the way to the other. Not a big sports fan. You won't catch him playing – or watching – basketball or football. "My wife thanks me," he laughs.

Upcoming Events:

June

- 1 National Cancer Survivors Day. Whether you're a cancer survivor, a family member, a friend, or a medical professional, take some time to connect, celebrate milestones, and recognize those who help along the way. Watch for news in the coming weeks about the next phase of our Stand Up to Cancer campaign!
- 7 Art Institute Partner Day. 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Enjoy complimentary admission for you, family and friends and 10% discounts on museum shopping and restaurants. Just identify yourself as a Fifth Third Bank employee! Call 312-443-3121 or visit www.artic.edu for list of exhibitions, directions, travel, parking, and more.
- 14 Flag Day. Fly Old Glory with pride.
- 15 Father's Day. Send a card, make a call, visit and honor fathers everywhere for their important role in our lives.
- 18 Clarendon Hills Dancing in the Streets starts tonight and runs through July 16. Visit www.clarendonhills.us/concerts.cfm for more info!

July

- 2 Military Appreciation Night. Kane County Cougars at Fifth Third Bank Ballpark.
- 4 Independence Day. The United States celebrates the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776.
- 10 FTCH's H.E.R.O. BRG hosts a **Lunch & Learn** with Dr. Robert Rodriguez, Ph.D. (Email: HERO@53.com).
- 19 Craig Pratt Day @ Gary Southshore Railcats Baseball.
 In honor of Craig's service to the bank, he and family will
 enjoy a special day in his honor. Everyone's welcome to attend.
 Tickets available at www.railcatsbaseball.com.





ne Bank people most value and trust. FTCH Newsletter



Once again, throughout the affiliate, we celebrated our namesake day, Fifth Third Day (5/3), honoring where we work, all the hard working and talented people we work alongside and the communities we serve.

This year when all was said and done – we enjoyed having a distinction from our competitors. As Fifth Thirder's – we're people who take an opportunity such as our day and make a special point of celebrating one another and make a difference in the communities we serve. Thanks to all, our annual hunger relief campaign was very successful. This year we added a new project: donating three gardens to communities in areas referred to as food deserts. Our pilot sites are in Hammond, IN, Rockford, IL and in Chicago's Englewood neighborhood. Future editions of our weekly e-news #TW@53 will feature the latest news of the gardens and volunteer opportunities.

Fifth Third Day | 2014 Activities

- Donated 200,000 meals to the Northern Illinois Food Book
- \$6,000 to the Aurora Interfaith Food Pantry (from the sales of Shields and Jeans Day)
- Enjoyed an hourly raffle for all FTCH employees
- Launched Garden Donation program in Hammond, Rockford and Chicago



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