

Generous Boot Block Giving Sets Record

(KAIR)--Despite the passing of the once traditional Labor Day telethon, long hosted by comedian Jerry Lewis to raise funds for the Muscular Dystrophy Association, the effort of collecting the needed monies continues.

That was shown locally in the work last weekend of the Atchison Fire Department, whose members stood along the median at 10th Street and U.S. Highway 59, accepting the donations provided by passersby, during the annual Boot Block MDA donation drive. “We collected \$3,430, which is, I believe a record for us,” Interim Atchison Fire Chief Ted Graf, tells MSC News. “Years ago, we used to shoot for a \$3,000 mark. We never could quite get there, so we backed that off. This year we were trying for \$2,500, we exceeded that by over \$900, which is just incredible. We have the citizens in our community, and our visitors to our community, who are so generous every year to help us out, to make it one of the best years we've ever had.”

Despite the end of the once must-see viewing of the telethon, which saw the exit of Jerry Lewis in 2010 and a complete conclusion in 2014, Graf says the national effort to support MDA has not waned. Instead, he says despite the lack of televised attention, the organization continues strong in their goal to support those once affectionately known as “Jerry's Kids.”

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