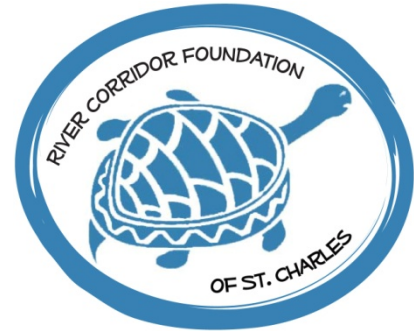


**River Corridor Foundation of St. Charles**

**Contact: Jennifer Leonard-Biddle & Deb Pfaff, Race Co-chairs**

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Run or Walk for the River – Saturday, August 6<sup>th</sup> in downtown St. Charles**

One of the most impressionable features of downtown St. Charles is the panoramic views of the Fox River from Pottawatomie Park to Mount St. Mary's Park and vantage points in between. The River Corridor Foundation of St. Charles is hosting the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Bob Leonard 5K Run and Walk-A-Thon on Saturday, August 6<sup>th</sup> which not only takes place along the river, the event is the primary fund raising activity for the organization.

The Bob Leonard 5K Run begins in Pottawatomie Park at 8:00 a.m. with onsite registration starting at 7:15 a.m. The USTAF-certified course follows the scenic Fox River Trail, St. Charles city streets and cross-country trails in Timber Trail Park. The finish line is conveniently once again in Pottawatomie Park where runners will complete the race next to the Fox River. Medals will be awarded to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place finishers in each age group with additional prizes awarded to the best female and male overall time winners.

Families are encouraged to participate in the Walk-A-Thon and both strollers and pets are welcome! Beginning at 9:30 a.m. walkers will be lead on a 2 ½ mile route through downtown St. Charles into Mount St. Mary Park. Walkers will enjoy viewing the Sculptures in the Park outdoor exhibition and the newly completed outlook points along the river. There will be an opportunity to have a family picture taken along the river in Mount St. Mary Park.

Even though the 5K run and the walk route have separate starting times and different courses, they both showcase beautiful views of the Fox River through downtown St. Charles. Both events begin and end in Pottawatomie Park and all participants are invited to a party at the grand pavilion immediately following the walk with live music, great food and prize drawings valued over \$3000.00

Early registration is available online at [www.Signmeup.com/74550](http://www.Signmeup.com/74550) and strongly encouraged as t-shirts are guaranteed for early registrations only. Additional registration forms can be downloaded at [www.stcrivercorridor.org](http://www.stcrivercorridor.org).

The River Corridor Foundation is a 501(C) organization dedicated to creating a lively river front environment in St. Charles. The foundations' goal is to provide the inspiration and initial financial leadership for the execution of the River Corridor Master Plan as developed in conjunction with the St. Charles Park District, the City of St. Charles and the Downtown St. Charles Partnership. Recent projects include providing the initial funding for the engineering effort to create the Bob Leonard Walkway along

the west bank of the Fox River, just south of Illinois Street. Construction is anticipated for completing this walkway further south to connect to the newly re-designed Mount St. Mary Park in the near future. Current fund raising efforts are directed at creating the initial engineering design for the junction of State Street Creek and the Fox River (west bank of the Fox River immediately south of Salerno's).

**PHOTO CAPTION:** Runners cross the bridge and finish line of the 2010 Bob Leonard 5K Run located next to the scenic Fox River in downtown St. Charles.



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