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## Supporting over 40 Years of Excellence in Community Services

*August 2008*

### Late Edition

This newsletter edition is coming out late. For us, it is a sign that so much is going on that we have missed an important deadline. Be assured that our commitment to keeping you up-to-date on the many happenings at Sunflower is no less important to us.

### 2008 Charity Gala

In case you have not already heard, the Annual Charity Gala fund raiser held on March 8<sup>th</sup> was a tremendous success. The event raised nearly \$32,000 after expenses, compared to about \$15,000 last year. Funds raised through this and other events throughout the year are gifted to the agency by way of quarterly grants from the Foundation. Those funds help to supplement services for children and adults, and have become an important part of our operating budget.

In addition to this important financial support, it is also exciting to witness the number of persons who use this event to show that they care about the people served by Sunflower.

### Paws in the Park

On April 20<sup>th</sup>, Sunflower once again joined forces with the Golden Belt Humane Society for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Paws in the Park. This year the event was moved to Veterans Park, and included demonstrations by Barton County K-9 Unit, Hutchinson Kennel Club, "Show Off Your Dog Contest," booths with local veterinarians, and a silent raffle. Proceeds from the event were shared by Sunflower and the Humane Society.

Sunflower considers this event a chance to provide a fun activity for the community and to be a part of raising funds for another worthwhile organization.

### Therapy Center Start

Recognizing that you have been hearing about it for some time with no sign of activity, we are happy to report that planning and activity is underway to remodel the current greenhouse at CHS into a therapy center. We just had the deadline for submitting suggestions to name the facility, and a new name will be announced soon. The greenhouse itself has been cleaned out and the garage space is being remodeled as the water therapy/spa area. The next phase of the project will include the replacement of the existing roof and a plan for heating/cooling the area. We also want to include the back yard and the walking area into the overall plan.

There is a possibility for expanding to include a fitness/wellness program. This could require some modification of overall space to provide for a total therapy program. We will keep you updated.

## **Leon Goes to Washington**

Leon Ostrander has become a voice for persons with developmental disabilities. Leon is a member of the Kansas Council on Developmental Disabilities, a position appointed by Governor Sebelius. Council members meet every two months in Topeka. He takes that position very seriously and is an active participant in state and local activities associated with the appointment.

In February, Leon took that voice to Washington D.C. to attend the National Association for Councils on Disabilities. While in the nation's capital, Leon and two other Kansas delegates met with Kansas congressional members and their staffs. He also met with representatives from across the country to discuss current issues faced by persons with disabilities.

At Sunflower, Leon works with recycling operations, bulk mail preparation, and sub-assembly contracts, as well as on the community cleaning crew.



Leon seated at Congressman Moran's desk.

## **Board Retirees**

Sunflower Diversified Services recently saw the retirement of three of its long-term board members. Randy Watson, representing Stafford County, completed 8 years on the Board. Judith Reynolds, representing Rush County, completed 10 years on the Board. Judith also served on the Foundation Board of Trustees. Lee Rouser, representing Rush County before moving to Barton County, served a total of 22 years on the Board and was also a member of the Foundation Board of Trustees for a number of years.

Each of these people shared their time and talent to help promote the organization and to ensure the on-going quality of service that has become the trademark of Sunflower. They will be missed.

## **Early Education Playgroups**

During the first quarter of 2008 the Early Education Center (EEC) hosted three Play Groups a month, for a total of nine. Once a month a Play Group is held in conjunction with Barton County Parents As Teachers (PAT) at their facility or at the park, weather permitting. EEC holds two more Play Groups per month, one in Macksville at the Free Methodist Church and one at the Early Ed Center on Patton Road in Great Bend.

Play Groups are held for the purpose of bringing children together with their parent(s) and siblings to interact in meaningful play. EEC staff plan ahead to engage parents and children together in creative activities, including art and music. Through play, exploration and observation, toddlers learn self reliance, social interaction and problem solving. The Play Groups offer opportunities for interaction with other families from different income levels, who speak different languages, and who have children at various developmental levels. The Macksville Play Group was started mainly to initiate more involvement with the Hispanic population. The EEC staff at the Play Group includes an interpreter.

The average attendance at EEC's Play Group is 7 children, PAT is 12 and Macksville is 5 children for a monthly average of 24 children. Of these 24 children 8 of them are in early intervention services and are on an Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) at Sunflower's Early Education Center.

## In the first 3 months of 2008, you might like to know that...

- ◆ \$42,664 in wages were paid to disabled individuals working in Sunflower's manufacturing and recycling operations
- ◆ 35 individuals are working in Sunflower's Community Employment program
- ◆ 6 individuals are employed in community jobs
- ◆ Sunflower's Medical Services department facilitated a total of 233 medical, dental, therapy and counseling appointments
- ◆ 54 infants/toddlers received center-based developmental services
- ◆ 78 infants/toddlers received home-based early intervention services
- ◆ 20 children were screened in 7 different screening clinics in the 5-county area
- ◆ 37 children ages birth to 3 years were referred for evaluation or intervention services

## Spotlight On Personal Accomplishments...

**Conner** was referred to the Early Education program at age 13 days, 3 weeks premature, with multiple diagnoses at birth. At 35 months, he was taking steps in a gait trainer, beginning to feed himself, sitting on his own for a short period of time and is enjoying socializing with his peers in the classroom.



**Kaius** was born 16 weeks premature, weighing only 1 pound-8oz, and had several abdominal surgeries before ever leaving the hospital. With early intervention services, at 31 months he was using words, walking and participating in all activities.



**Chris** received his certification in forklift operation.



**Deb** needs full-time support, but is still able to live in her own apartment and has control over life after years of living in an institution.

# Our Core Values

People First

Integrity

Excellence

Stewardship

Personal Control

Dignity of Risk

Responsiveness

Quality of Life

*Founded on the principles of serving individuals with developmental disabilities, we are committed to eight (8) Core Values. As we celebrate our personal freedom during this month of July, we highlight three specific core values that depict the freedom we are dedicated to provide for those we serve.*

## Personal Control

*WE WILL protect the most basic right our society has to offer – the right to make informed decisions about how each person wishes to live his or her life.*

## Dignity of Risk

*WE WILL offer each person we serve the opportunity to try, to fail, and to try again. It is their right as human beings.*

## Quality of Life

*WE WILL dedicate our existence to the vision of our founders. Their actions had a single focus – to ensure that people could live their lives in the community of their choosing, close to family and friends, with access to education, work, leisure, and health care, and to enjoy the dignity and respect that goes with being a citizen of that community.*

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# **Contributions**

January 2008 through June 2008

The following individuals and businesses have contributed to the support of Sunflower's programs and special projects. Dollars received by the Foundation are gifted on a quarterly basis to supplement local, state and federal funding.

Our supporters and partners are very important to us, and we appreciate the involvement of each and every one. If you know of anyone we have missed, or if we need to update our information, please let us know.

Sunflower offers the services of an estate planning consultant, at no cost or obligation. Please contact us for details.

## **Donations**

Mr. & Mrs. Sal Bianchino  
Robert & Virginia Ballard  
Dr. Debra Barnes  
Thomas Bell  
Black Heritage Club  
Mary Brown  
Circle T Oil  
Randy & LouAnn Cobb  
Tom & Jan Crissman  
Aliease Dougherty  
Ann Engel  
Ben & Viola Enslinger  
Golden Belt Community  
Foundation  
Great Bend Appliance Center  
Great Bend Children's Center  
Calvin & Debbie Finn  
Stuart Hutchison  
Mary Ann Johnson  
Keller Real Estate & Insurance  
Kiwanis Club of Great Bend  
Knights of Columbus #1187  
Knights of Columbus #2630  
Knights of Columbus #2970  
Knights of Columbus #1500  
Arlene Kutina  
Larson Engineering, Inc.  
Stan & Marianne Miller  
MS & LZ Miner  
Mobile Radio Service  
Keith Mull  
Our Savior Lutheran Church  
Dennis & Kathy Pechanec  
Dr. Jean Pringle  
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Raffelock  
Verlin & Tamsel Rogers  
Roth Equipment Co., Inc.  
Eugene & Kristi Stos  
Morgan Wright  
AA Yost

## **Charity Gala**

Aaron's Repair & Supply, Inc.  
Adams, Brown, Beran & Ball  
Bob & Vicki Anderson  
Jim & Kathi Armatys  
Chris & Vicki Batchman  
Ed Batchman  
Greg & Susan Bauer  
Becker Tire  
Bell engine Service, Inc.  
Mike & Diane Bender  
Benefit Management, Inc.  
Darrell & Mary Bieker  
Lisa & Michael Burdett, DVM  
Scott & Lynne Bush  
Butterfly Supply, Inc.  
Dennis & Dianne Call  
Gail Carpenter  
Carr Auto Electric  
Ron & Carol Carr  
Central Kansas Medical Center  
Chlumsky Liquormart  
Classe Total Image Consulting  
John & Crystal Cross  
Dawson Jewelers - Designs by  
Dana  
Delgados  
Doerr's Ace Hardware  
Doonan Specialized Trailer LLC  
Joe & Glennnda Drescher  
Carl & Bonnie Dudley  
E&E Glass  
Wally & Deanna Eldridge  
Ellinwood Packing Plant  
Frank & Cathy Estes  
Farmers Bank & Trust  
Fuller Brush  
Golden Belt Feeders  
Mike & Jenny Gordy  
Great Bend Appliance Furniture  
& Sleepsource

Great Bend Farm Equipment  
Great Bend Packing  
Great Lakes Airlines  
HI-LA Engine, Pump & Supply  
Kenneth & Delores Hanhardt  
Janet Hipp  
John Ingalls  
Jane Isern  
Jim & Judy Johnson  
Margaret Johnson  
Gordon & Sharon Jones  
Dr. Mark Judd – 20/20 Optix  
KMW Ltd.  
Larry & Patty Keenan  
Marty & Julie Keenan  
Richard & Linda Kimple  
Philip Krug  
Kustom Floor Design  
Jerry & Margaret Larson  
M&F Plumbing, Heating & Air  
Esther Maher  
Ladeska Makings  
Marmie Ford, Inc.  
Marmie Motors, Inc.  
Gregg & Becca Maxwell  
Medical Park Pharmacy  
Mid-Continent LP Service  
Mike & Annetta Milhon  
Miller Ranch  
Kelly & Fawnia Miller  
Stan & Marianne Miller  
Todd & Kim Morgenstern  
Nex-Tech  
Daryle & Gaila Nielsen  
Lacey Oetken  
Ron & Connie Oetken  
Office Products Incorporated  
Glenn & Sandra Opie  
Victor Pechanec  
Mike & Lynn Pivonka  
Erin Powers

# **Contributions**

January 2008 through June 2008

*Continued*

Dr. Jean Pringle  
R&W Bit Service  
Gregg & Maggie Reinhardt  
Tony & Judith Reynolds  
Ritzmans  
Duane & Lee Rouser  
Hank & Connie Ruble  
Sanko's Conoco Service  
Satellite Pro's  
Pete & Lisa Schartz  
Kenny Schremmer  
Sears  
Leroy Shad  
Brad & Sarah Shirer  
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Southwind Drilling, Inc.  
STAR 107.9  
Thad & Kimberly Starr  
Barb Steiner  
Stickney Distributing, Inc.  
Straub International  
Stueder Contractors  
Robert Suelter  
Sunflower Insurance Group, Inc.  
Town & Country Supermarket  
Carol Tranbarger  
The University of Kansas  
Kenny & Cindy Vink  
Kim Vink  
Walgreen Drug Stores  
WalMart Superstore  
Waters True Value  
Watkins, Calcara Chtd.  
Kerry & Jan Watkins  
Wolf Furniture  
Joanne Wondra

## **Paws in the Park**

Animal Care Hospital  
Animal Medical Center  
Ark Valley Vet & Pet Supply  
Countryside Veterinary Assoc.  
Great Bend Farm Equipment

## **Memorial – Robert Adams**

Duane & Lee Rouser

## **Memorial – Floyd Anderson**

Robert & Doneida Baker  
Margie Bolig  
Michelle Burhenn  
Frances Hall  
William Dale  
GTRUST  
Clarence & Jolene Johnson  
Arlyn & Dorothy Lambert  
Dr. Neal & Jody Malashock

Ryan Malashock  
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Roy & Jacqueline Myers  
James Nolte  
Stephen Page  
Ralph Schulte  
Danelda St. Aubyn  
Deborah Gregg  
Ruth Stalder  
Ernest & Joy Stalder  
Leo & Jerry Stalder  
Randy Miller  
Patricia Stonebraker  
Jim & Alice Walter

## **Memorial – Clem Birzer**

Duane, Lee & Dennis Rouser

## **Memorial – Mary Boxberger**

Arlyn & Valerie Boxberger  
Esther Boxberger  
Margaret Krug  
Bill & Pattie Nicholson  
Terry Redetzke  
Dustin Vine

## **Memorial – Faye Carpenter**

Katherine George

## **Memorial – Darrell Clarke**

Barbara Burgett  
Francis & Coleta Haberman  
Mark & Julie Smith

## **Memorial – Thresa Fisher**

Doug & Dell Boxberger  
Dolores Boyd  
Rod & Charlene Engleman  
Bert Sharon Erwin  
Mr. & Mrs. Victor Fisher  
David & Dana Foss  
Lois Hart  
Mike & Danah Kaiser  
Robert & Jacquelin Kirmer  
Paul & Teddi Maneth  
Gerry Peschna  
Mari Jo Ray  
Richard & Ann Schenk  
Larry & Kathy Schugart  
Bill & Patricia Stueder  
Terry & Judith Turner

## **Memorial – Bill Henderson**

Lavina Scheuerman

## **Memorial – Willie Jones**

June White

## **Memorial – Glenn Koci**

Lavina Scheuerman

## **Memorial – Til Menekey**

Jim & Laura Pivonka

## **In Memory of David Scheuerman**

Lavina Scheuerman

## **Memorial – Louis Vigna**

Hattie Beran

## **Memorial – Herman Watson**

Harold & Sharlene Brooks  
Darin & Stephanie Brummer  
Bill & Charlie Cooper  
Harold & Ravera Edwards  
Lowell & Frances Fensky  
Mick & Lori Gechter  
George & Nita Keenan  
Douglas & Linda Lamb  
Lori Lamb  
Gregory & Susan Lewis  
Jon & Marilyn Lippelmann  
Audry Nusser  
Tammy Reed  
David & Renee Salem  
James & Anna Vee Searle  
Cathy Silvers  
Kenneth & Alvena Spangenberg

## **Memorial – Frank White**

Don & Mary Buhrl  
Sharon Fox-East  
Art & Margaret Herren  
Lorrie Hollaway  
Jim & Judy Johnson  
Sally Lloyd  
Edwin & Geraldine Piland  
Lawrence & Pauline Schneider  
Walter & Theoda Underwood  
June White

## **Memorial – Gene Zorn**

Katherine George  
Rose Marie George  
Norman & Pauline Herrmann