

Reaching the

PINNACLE

A PUBLICATION FOR FRIENDS OF KETCH

SUMMER 2010

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PINNACLE

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Cargill donation allows KETCH homes to stock the pantry

When budgets get tighter we all look for ways to pinch pennies and deepen our pockets. This was no different for KETCH when the budget took a major hit earlier in the year. In an ideal world we would have been able to plant a money tree to fill the gaps without impacting services, but KETCH was forced to look at ways to cut costs.

When the initial cuts took place the KETCH Community Living Department reduced the food budget by \$35,000. Some of those funds were found elsewhere, though, as Cargill recently awarded KETCH with \$10,000 in credits to the Kansas Food Bank. When Cargill allocated \$190,000 to the Kansas Food Bank, the company specifically requested KETCH be given \$10,000 out of their contribution. The credits have allowed Community Living to enhance the current food budget.

"We have always had to be frugal about how the money was spent and what types of purchases were made," said Director of Community Living David Colucci. "This allows us to use the other part of the food budget for perishable and fresh products."

Typically, each home is given the same amount of food money per person which is then distributed on the home's grocery card in three installments through the month. Now that KETCH has access to the credits, these grocery cards can be stretched farther. Paper products, pantry items, and food staples are now purchased through the food bank. Purchasing these products at the food bank allows for healthier options to be purchased at the grocery store.

"The Kansas Food Bank has allowed us to purchase these healthier products by making the standard pantry staples more affordable, thus making the healthy items more obtainable," said Colucci.

Staff are also able to supplement lunches and provide a larger variety of meal options. Plus extra food is often kept on hand for when homes run short or when a client has forgotten their lunch.

The Community Living Department has worked well to organize the ordering, pick-up and delivery of the food



Director of Community Living David Colucci (left) stands in the Kansas Food Bank Cargill Cares Complex with Kansas Food Bank President/CEO Brian Walker (right) during the first pick up in March.

items. The food bank supplies a list of items they have available including the quantity and cost to the 250 non-profit organizations it serves throughout Kansas. The community living program coordinators are given the opportunity to request specific items if and when they are available. Though ordering may be done at any time, community living staff often place orders at the beginning of the month to ensure the largest variety of products can be obtained. Once the order is placed, the food bank will then schedule a date for pick up.

When the items are picked-up, the order is measured in pounds. The food bank then determines the number of credits used per pound. An average order for KETCH is several hundred pounds, valued at around \$1,000 and fills the back of the KETCH delivery truck.

To date KETCH has used \$6,000 of the credits. According to Colucci the department will spend the remainder of the credits by the end of the year.

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Update from the President



Dear Friends of KETCH:

Oprah Winfrey's search for someone to star in their own show on her newly formed TV network made headlines recently. This is the chance of a lifetime for some lucky person to host their own show about any subject they want. The public votes for their favorite amongst video auditions available online.

A fellow named Zach Anner is in the lead with over 8.8 million votes. Zach, a twenty-six year old with a ton of comedic talent, also has cerebral palsy and requires the use of a wheelchair. Controversy developed when another person entered into the competition and suspiciously took the top spot by amassing votes at a rate that made tech-savvy readers question the validity of the votes.

If chosen, Zach could become a hero and a role model to persons with disabilities who still largely remain on the fringes of daily life. We have passed important laws that guarantee the rights of persons with disabilities in public accommodation, employment, housing and transportation; yet they remain the largest group of unemployed persons. It's hard to get the general public to embrace disability issues because it remains a subject viewed as "*affecting someone else.*" What we need to realize is that disability is not a marginal issue. Disability is really part of the human condition. The baby boom generation is beginning to realize this through experiencing aging related disabilities.

A popular TV show hosted by a person with Cerebral Palsy, which he humorously describes as being "the sexiest of the palsies", would be an important milestone in educating the general public that persons with disabilities are people first, just like anyone else.

We all need public heroes who we identify with. There has been virtually no one in the media spotlight fulfilling this role for persons with disabilities. So, Zach Anner gets my vote. I hope he wins and becomes a big hit and inspires others with disabilities to follow their dreams.

Sincerely,

Ron Pasmore
President

117 golfers turn out for 7th Annual Champions' Tournament

The swing was in the air at the Seventh Annual Champions' Golf Tournament on May 24 at the Tallgrass Country Club. The weather was beautiful, as always, as KETCH hosted 117 golfers at the event that raised nearly \$20,000.

Prior to the tournament, the golfers were treated to lunch sponsored by Carrabba's Italian Grill, had the opportunity to take team photos in a photo booth, participate in the putting contest, practice on the driving range, visit the KETCH hospitality tent to mingle with KETCH clients and win door prizes, as well as bid on silent auction items.

"Our team had a blast," said Gary Black, district manager of Waste Management, "we will be back next year!"

This year the golf committee was able to round up great prizes including Coleman RoadTrip Grills, hotel stays, rounds of golf, gift certificates at some of Wichita's finest restaurants and shops, and many more.

The silent auction raised more this year than in years past with items such as the foursome of golf at The Raven in Phoenix, AZ, two tickets for roundtrip airfare donated by AirTran, and a KU basketball autographed by Bill Self.

Putting on the golf tournament is no small feat. Several volunteers, including KETCH staff and clients, parents/guardians, and local community members helped make the day go off without a hitch.

"I am very thankful for all the wonderful support our tournament has received over the years from our sponsors and our golfers," said President/CEO Ron Pasmore. "It is very gratifying to know that so many people value the work KETCH does in our community."

Thank you to all of these sponsors for their support: CBIZ Mayer Hoffman McCann, 100.5 the Wolf, Carrabba's Italian Grill, Digital Office Systems, Advanced Welding Technologies, Hampel Oil, House of Schwan, Star Lumber, Taco Bell,



Several golfers practice their game at the driving range before the shotgun start.



Carrabba's Italian Grill serves a delicious lunch to all the golfers and volunteers on the Tallgrass patio.

Coleman Company, Hardman Benefit Plans, DonLevy Lithograph, Wichita Vending, ING, HRN Management, Senior Care Pharmacy, Weber & Associates and all of our Hole Sponsors!

Continuing to make a lasting impact after you're gone

The journey of life often presents us with the wisdom to understand what is of real value. Our priority often becomes positive relationships with family and friends and others whom we surround ourselves. We become more patient and supportive of others and begin to think of ways we can make a positive impact on their future and the future of our community in which we live. There are a variety of options available to us today that can give our loved ones the continued support we wish for them long after we are gone.

Over the next few issues we will touch on some of the various options that are utilized other than the most commonly planned gift, the bequest of property, or through a person's final will. These topics will include:

| Planned Gift Types | Assets to Give* |
|---|--------------------|
| Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA) | Securities |
| Charitable Remainder Annuity Trust (CRAT) | Business Interests |
| Charitable Remainder Trust | Cash |
| Charitable Lead Annuity Trust | Life Insurance |
| Charitable Lead Trust | Personal Property |
| Donor Managed Investment Account | Real Estate |
| Pooled Income Fund | Retirement Plan |
| Retained Life Estate | |
| Testamentary Life Income | |

* Assets to Give were not listed in any particular order and do not necessarily coincide with the Planned Gift Type. This material is intended for educational purposes only. For more information, consult with a certified financial planner or attorney.

Achievements recognized at Annual Meeting, community members honored

Achievement at Home:

Ken Haun

Ken Haun was born on a Piote Indian reservation in Oklahoma. When Ken was six years old his adoptive parents were killed in a car accident. Ken received a severe traumatic brain injury.



Ken began receiving Supported Living services from KETCH in 1977 but terminated this service in 1987 as he felt he was capable of living in his own apartment. Ken then moved into an apartment owned by Claude and Elsie Engelke. Claude and Elsie began helping Ken with household chores and any other needs that he had.

In December 2006, Claude passed away. Elsie helped get Ken back into KETCH services. Ken's health is deteriorating and he is not able to care for himself well. Ken has a hard time accepting help from others and was very reluctant to accept KETCH services.

After much convincing Ken began receiving residential supports from KETCH in 2009. Since services began, he has improved in all areas of his life. Since moving to his new home he has blossomed. He showers daily, keeps his clothing clean, and keeps his apartment as clean as possible. Ken has adjusted to having assistance from KETCH staff and enjoys having the assistance. Ken has accomplished a lot at home in a short amount of time.

Achievement in the Community:

Leah Williams

When nominator June Schneider met Leah 16 years ago she was a very shy person who did not make eye contact and spoke very quietly. Now, according to June, she looks people in the eyes and speaks up for herself.

For 16 years Leah has worked at Sharpline Industries. During her time there she has learned to advocate for herself and prove her abilities. At one point, Leah wanted to transfer to another position but her supervisor didn't think Leah could handle the new job duties. Leah advocated for herself and received the transfer.



She has made progress in several other areas as well. Leah is now engaged and considering purchasing a home with her fiancé, she lost her Medicaid and successfully fought to win it back, and has volunteered and participated in Special Olympics as well as several ARC activities.

Leah has developed and matured into an active member of the community. She has striven to make her life better.

Achievement at Work:

Ron Jones

Ron started at KETCH on October 27, 1990. He is a soft-spoken and polite young man with a winning smile, who stays active with a full time community job, an apartment of his own and participation in Special Olympics.



Ron has grown a great deal in his years with KETCH, including branching out and accepting a full time position at Dillon's, a job he has held since 1999. Prior to working at Dillon's Ron had several community jobs but would always quit. He learned he needed to control his temper and went to counseling. Now, Ron is an exemplary employee. He does everything from product returns, retrieving carts, cleaning, and much more.

In 2005 a customer wrote a letter to Dillon's expressing Ron going above and beyond. He was then awarded with the Dillon's Gold Star Award. With this award he received a party, a gold star, and a cash prize. His job coach has observed Ron retrieving carts in the rain and stopping to help a customer put groceries in her car.

He continues to do well in his life as a well integrated and contributing member of the Wichita community.

Achievement in Day Program:

Kevin Wilken

In the past, Kevin has demonstrated aggression towards other people. His aggression has made it necessary for him to attend a day program centered on protecting others from harm while also keeping Kevin active. Over the past year the vision of Kevin's day program, the Alternative Behavior Learning Environment (ABLE), was restructured and Kevin accepted the change well. Few expectations were placed on Kevin in his old program. Now everyone has the expectation to participate in work, community, and volunteer activities.



Several staff persons were intimidated by Kevin and were afraid to put the expectation on him to work due to his history of volatile aggression. However, staff were able to improve their relationship with him and found a schedule that works well. Kevin's quality of life has been enriched as his relationships with his staff have been strengthened. Kevin has also been able to earn a paycheck which was a pleasant surprise to his mom as he had not earned a pay check in several years. Overall, Kevin appears to be happier in his day program and has adjusted to these changes better than expected.

(achievements cont'd)

**Employer of the Year:
Ray Baty & West Acres Bowling Center**

Ray Baty of West Acres Bowling Center was awarded with the Employer of the Year award. KETCH began a relationship with Ray in February 2008 through a client job trial. The trial went well and the client was hired by West Acres.



Nearly a year later the client left. Ray was eager to hire another KETCH client. Ray hired the individual to work three days a week. Eventually the individual hired was interested in working more hours and Ray agreed to schedule him five days a week. Not only does Ray try to make the job interesting by assigning different job duties but he also offers perks such as free pop and bowling passes.

Typically the current employee walks to and from work, though on occasion Ray and his staff have provided him transportation when the weather is bad.

Ray and his staff go above and beyond to make the KETCH clients hired feel comfortable and like part of the team. They even celebrate birthdays together!

Thank you for being an outstanding employer!

**Wilma Martin Pioneer Award:
Pauletta Raines**

Pauletta Raines, developmental disability advocate and KETCH volunteer, was honored with the Wilma Martin Pioneer Award.



The Wilma Martin Pioneer Award, named after humanitarian Wilma Martin who passed in 2006, is awarded every year to individuals who make a concerted effort to impact the lives of people with disabilities.

Pauletta, who has a daughter receiving services from KETCH, was chosen this year for the strong advocacy role she has played. At every opportunity Pauletta not only writes to her legislators but visits them in their Topeka offices. She has written tirelessly to her local newspaper speaking on behalf of those with disabilities who may otherwise go unheard and unseen.

Pauletta also serves on several committees in the community including the Sedgwick County Developmental Disability Organization's Community Council, ACT of South Central Kansas, and volunteers several hours for the KETCH Champions' Golf Tournament.

KETCH Wish List

- 3-Hole punch (industrial strength)
- 36" paper cutter
- Art/craft supplies
- Art/craft books
- Bath Towels
- Cleaning supplies
- Candlesticks
- Comforters
- Cookbooks
- Digital cameras (3 new)
- Empty wine bottles
- Fabric
- Fishing supplies/equipment
- Full size sheets
- Games
- Hand towels
- Kitchen towels
- Pliers
- Queen size sheets
- Ribbon
- Screw driver set
- Sewing machine
- Sewing supplies
- T-posts
- Tape measures
- Tupperware
- Twin size sheets
- Washcloths

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Mail to: Ashley Ruckman, KETCH
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COMMUNITY STRENGTH

Engaging persons with disabilities in work skills, community living skills, and daily living skills are some of the most important factors leading to future full of opportunities and independence. At KETCH, we do just that. Through our Employment Services programs, Community Living Services, and Adult Life Skills programs, KETCH is successful at developing comprehensive programs that teach adults with disabilities how to work and live more independently.

DONORS: 02/01/2010 to 05/31/2010

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
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| Bill Brier | AirTran Airways | Independent Lawn Service | The Consociate Group |
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Our Mission:

To promote independence for persons with disabilities through innovative learning experiences that support individuals' choices for working, living and playing in their community.



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Kansas Elks Association ladies major project raises \$26,000 for KETCH

Many Kansas Elks visited KETCH while they were in town for the Kansas Elks Association State Convention in May. KETCH hosted a lunch for the group, including Grand Exalted Ruler James Nichelson and his wife Mary Carolyn from Ohio, just before taking them on a tour of the KETCH campus.

Two days later the Elks played host to KETCH at the Ladies Brunch during which Ron Pasmore, president/CEO, was presented with a check from Ladies Major Project Chairperson Rosie Boone. This year the ladies raised over \$26,000!

The funds were raised through various fundraising activities such as pink ticket sales. According to Boone, the ladies mailed out over 8,000 envelopes containing 10 tickets each and sold \$8,484 in pink tickets. Some of the other fundraising activities included a silent auction, various raffles including a raffle of Omaha Steaks, 50-50 jars, and a Queen of Hearts game.

This year the funds from the Ladies Major Project will be used towards the purchase of KETCH vehicles. Thank you to everyone who had a hand in raising these much needed funds for KETCH!



Left: President/CEO Ron Pasmore accepts a check from the Ladies Major Project Chairperson Rosie Boone at the Ladies Brunch.



Right: Grand Exalted Ruler James Nichelson practiced his filter-making skills while touring the KETCH campus May 6.



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