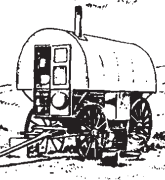




HERDER



MISSION STATEMENT

Providing family oriented Christian homes for adults who have developmental disabilities, on a working ranch.

VOL. 23, NO. 4

"Shepherding the Hesitant"

MARCH 2011

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



You have probably already seen and read in this newsletter the announcement of the upcoming Annual Fundraising Dinner on April 19th. Did you also notice that it is the 25th anniversary of the Starting of Special K Ranch? Yes, In April it will be 25 years since the members of the seven Kiwanis Clubs in Billings came together for a dinner and to hear about a dream to build a program that would serve adults who have developmental challenges. It would offer lifelong living in family centered Christian

homes with vocational opportunities on a working ranch. \$36,000 was raised that evening and the founding committee left committed to going ahead with the project.

With that vote of confidence the newly formed Non-Profit Board began a search for property and someone to put the program together and direct it. Five of these board members put their names on the line to guarantee a loan to purchase the 160 acres that is today the ranch. During this same time my wife, Joy and I were contacted and asked if we would be interested in coming to Montana to start the program for this place that was now known as Special K Ranch. In August 1986 Joy and I and our two young boys Erik and Allen arrived in Columbus to commit ourselves to this ministry. In January 1987 Lee Gagnon and Dallas Eide moved into the first resident home and they are still living at the ranch.

Today, twenty five years later another 68 adjoining acres has been added, 24 full time residents are being served in six homes with a seventh opening this year that will serve 8 more. We are also serving several young people from neighboring communities in our vocational program.

The vocational program provides meaningful and challenging work/ training. In the complex of 17 greenhouses tomatoes are grown and sold locally from April through October. Bedding plants and flowering baskets are contract grown for local businesses such as ACE Hardware stores from Billings to Anaconda and native trees and shrubs are grown for the BLM. Vegetables that are grown in the garden are sold at Farmers Market in Billings. Since three months after we started we have raised and sold sheep; today we still lamb around two hundred ewes and raise calves. We have recently taken on some assembling contracts with Montana Silver Smiths and Merco Products.

In the next twenty five years there will be additional homes built to serve the people on the always growing waiting list. Along with the increasing number of residents living at SKR the vocational program will maximize current production and seek additional meaningful and income producing work for the residents. To become as self-sustaining

as possible continues to be one of the goals for Special K Ranch.

I want to take this opportunity to say a celebratory thank you to the many generous, encouraging, and supportive friends of Special K Ranch from our very beginning and those who have joined us over these past 25 years.

Many stories could be told of how the right people have come on the board, staff, or volunteered at just the time when we were at a point in our development that the experience and talent they offered was needed. And, the many times that a special gift or bequeath has come in a time of special need. We recognize these moments not as coincidence but as the hand of God guiding Special K Ranch to be a very special place for some wonderful people who are often marginalized because of their developmental delays.

The following letter was recently received from a mother whose son lives at SKR.

"Oh! It's so good to be home!!" were Dallas' first words as we pulled into Special K Lane after his two weeks at home following his surgery. Those words moved me to tears of joy!

We got his stuff in the house. He immediately called Dawn. He listened a minute, turned to us and happily said, "I guess I'm going to work!" He started back, "I'll be OK, Mom!" I cried again.

Dallas is so confident that he is safe, needed, and loved at SKR. Thank God.

I cry again with gratefulness to God, the people who developed SKR and to the super, superb, caring, talented, dedicated - there aren't enough great adjectives to worthily describe the staff at SKR!!!

Thank you all from the hearts of all Dallas's family."

INTRODUCING STAFF



I would like to introduce you to a couple of our staff in this issue of our news letter. Leslie Zeigler started to work at Special K Ranch in February of 2005. She was hired as a Vocational Advisor in the greenhouse. One of Leslie's gifts is her heart for those who need a helping hand. She and her husband Kevin are always opening up their home to someone who is going through a tough time. I think we all could take a little lesson on compassion from her. It is that compassion that makes her such a great fit here at Special K. Leslie also gives her time to our residents by helping coach one of our Special Olympics basketball teams. She does this on her own time after working all day in the greenhouse. In Leslie's six years at Special K she has poured her life into the horticulture program and our residents. She has worked her way to co-manager of the horticulture program and has really found a home with us by investing in the lives of our residents. Leslie thank you for being who God intended you to be, we have all benefited from your obedience. And this is love: that we walk in obedience to his commands. As you have heard from the beginning, his command is that you walk in love.

2 John 1:6



Erik & Dawn Mugele our newest staff come to us from Colorado Springs, Colorado. They



have 2 children Gavin 14 and Anika 10. Erik and Dawn were hired in November of 2010 and are the Home Advisors for the Goehner guys our semi-independent house. Dawn is also helping our food coordinator with the food program and is becoming quite an asset to her. Erik has an extensive background in computers and network systems and along with his vocational responsibilities has been trouble shooting and upgrading our computers and network system here in the office. Both Dawn and Erik's parents have been missionaries with Wycliffe Bible Translators and understand what it takes to live and work in a ministry. We are very grateful that Erik & Dawn have chosen Special K Ranch as their mission field and we want to officially welcome them to God's ministry. There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. 1 Corinthians 12:4

Mike Oberg
Program Director

SPECIAL K HAS A NEW WEBSITE.

Please visit our new site at www.specialkranch.org and tell us what you think. New features are continuously being added so keep coming back to check it out.

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS November 1, 2010 - January 31, 2011

We are pleased that the people memorialized and honored on these pages are part of the on-going ministry of Special K Ranch. A special thanks to those making these gifts.

HONORARIUMS:

CHARLES AMDAHL

Louise Regelin

KEITH & DEBBIE BAKESLEY

Donna Beutler

DILLON & ERICA BARTELS

Jere Bogrett

LARRY & KORIN BARTELS

Jere Bogrett

BRET BEAVENS

Darrell & Pat McCammon

PAUL & MARY BLILEY

Eileen Davey

BRUCE BOGRETT

Jere Bogrett

LAURIE BOGRETT

Korin & Larry Bartels

Lawrence & Shirley G Benson

ROTH BOGRETT

Jere Bogrett

BEN & SARAH BROHL

Jere Bogrett

M/M CHUCK COAKLEY

Mrs Carole M Tetrault

WILLARD DALE

Christine Dale

DALLAS EIDE

Marshal & Gwen Haferkamp

Allene Helgeson

Richard & Mildred Parker

BOB EREKSON

Ray & Agnes Havig

LEE GAGNON

Kevin & Susan H Nickol

LARRY & JOY GOEHNER

Mom & Robert Bischoff

Bob & Twyla Steinburg

M/M MIKE GOODMAN

Mrs Carole M Tetrault

HENRY GREMMER

Ms. Jennine Budge

Louis & Nyla Musser

NITA & RON HATCHER

Bill & Karen McDonald

DR & MRS. THOMAS HAWKINS

Eileen Davey

SYLVIA & HANZ HAYNIE

Donna Beutler

DAN HICKMAN

Jerry Julson

SCOTT & TERRI KEYSER

Kerry & Doris Keyser

DEREK & CASSIDY KOENIG

Jere Bogrett

PETE & NORLEEN LANGDORF

Pete Langdorf

JANE & DOUG LARSON

Donna Beutler

DIANNE LUOMA

Mrs. Jo Bell

JACOB & KARA MAGHAN

Jere Bogrett

DARRELL & PAT MCCAMMON

McCammon Trucking Inc

BROCK MJOLSNESS

Beryl & Sylvia Mjolsness

CHARLES MORLEDGE

Pat Morledge

PAUL & VICKI NUNBERG

Donna Beutler

GRACE POTTS

Gary & Daneen Campbell

TIM POTTS

Gary & Daneen Campbell

BILL & MAYBELLE RITTAL

Donna Beutler

JIMMIE & MAE RITTAL

Donna Beutler

BOB & ANN SOLIE

Wilbur & Judy Solie

KAREN TIBBS

Billy Tibbs

DARYL & KIM TRANGMOE

Donna Beutler

BOB & VERA ULSCHAK

Bill & Karen McDonald

DAVID VESETH

Kathryn Veseth

CHARLES & LIBBY WARK

Bill & Karen McDonald

RICHARD & SHAREE WERON

Jere Bogrett

DORIS WHITHORN

Vern & Alta LeDoux

ROBIN WILLEMS

Art & Frances Teeters

DAN & DARLA ZIER

Donna Beutler

MEMORIAL:

HOWARD ALLEN

Dean & Laverne Frank

BONNIE ALT

Randy & Sheryl Knowles

GENE ANDERSEN

Eleanor Andersen

KENT ANDERSEN

Eleanor Andersen

GEORGE ARNOLD

Mr & Mrs Art & Bonnie D Daniel

KEITH ASBELL

Donna B Asbell

RUTH A. AUSEN

Mr Glen Ausen

TERRY AUSTIN

Gary & Linda Jones

NICK & MARIE BADILLA

Nick & Dora Badilla

GERRY BAKICH

Donna Bowersox

Maria K Burton

Jim & Linda Peters

PETER BAKKER

Nick & Dora Badilla

STEVE BAKKER

Kathe Bakker

William & Helen Bakker

Ralph & Margaret Brewer

Business & Estate Planning

Royal & Lynn Caraveau

Susan Carlson

Trudy Chester

Alissa Cox

Chad, Dani, Teagan

Clarence & Vicki Cunningham

Lowell E Darby

Robert & Patricia Debus

Florence Diede

Robert & Kea Fisher

Don & Marilyn Floberg

Gary & Jeanne Forrester

Lori Goodell

John & Linda Hagen

Teresa Hatfield

International Alliance Theatrical

Stage Employees

Mark & Avonne Johnson

Patti Johnson

Ross & Diane Johnson

Ray & Jo Ann Kastner

Kenneth & Barbara Klein

Wayne & Connie Klundt

Jay & Stacy Lemelin

Colleen McCauley

Boyd & Evelyn McGee

Debra Niemi

Jerry & Peggy Payton

Randy & Suzy Pendergraft

Ken & Linda Petro

Mark & Veronica Restad

Frank & Vicki Riesinger

Carolyn Ross

Mark & Sandra Scott

Maurice Shammel

Specialized Construction Inc.

Mark Venner

BARBARA BANTAM

Bill & Kathleen Dorsett

PATSY BARONE

Keith & Donna Nelson

LOLLIE BASTA

Keith & Donna Nelson

VIRGINIA BOGRETT

Korin & Larry Bartels

Alice List

HENRY BOHLE

Steve & Janet Stickney

ANN T BRANSTETTER

Brotherhood of Locomotive

Enineers-Div 232

YOUR WILL A Way To Help Others

A will is the simplest form of a planned gift and it affords everyone the opportunity to help others and have a living legacy. Consider naming Special K Ranch in your will for a percentage, a specific amount, or as the sole benefactor. Special K Ranch could also be named as beneficiary of a life insurance policy, your tax-deferred IRA or other retirement plan. The blessings you have received will continue to bless and help others. (Check with your attorney for the proper legal forms and wording.)

DON BRESTER

William & Gladys Bernhardt
Margaret & Leslie Frank
Virel & Dorothy Guinn
Robert & Kay Kraft

ED CHLAPOWSKI

Dean & Laverne Frank

KATE CLARK

Jan F Clark

PAUL CONROD

James Conrod

PAT CONROY

Harry & Sue Staley
Robert & Phyllis Willems

CHARLES COOK

Geri & Clayton Johnson

ADELINE COOPER

Betty Kuehn

LILLIAN CUNNINGHAM

Thomas Blankenship

EARLENE DAVIS

Jane Jones

PHILLIP DAWES

Marge Dawes

ADAM DECOCK

Esther & Ron Fischer

THOMAS DEIS

Bob & Betty Saxbury

JACK DELP

Donna Delp

MARY DERRYBERRY

Gordon & Florice Barrett

ANN DEWITT

Ken & Colleen Ekle

JACK DIETRICH

Blue Rock Prod/Pepsi Co

SAM DORMAN

Jeffrey R Peete

FRANCIS W. EATON SR

Frank & Susan Eaton

ARNOLD EGEMO

Robert & Rebecca Tirrell

AUBREY GENE EPLEY

Russell & Mary Hall

INEZ ERICKSON

Dennis Erickson

ROSS ERICKSON

Wheeler Construction

HENRY ERREBO

Jeffrey R Peete

WILLIAM FITTERER

Brotherhood of Locomotive
Enineers-Div 232

RONNY FORNEY

Mr & Mrs Samuel & Patricia Forney

JIM FOX

Bruce & Lillian Devries
Stan & Judy Eisenman
Margaret & Leslie Frank
Patrick & Helen Mullaney
Gerry & Bonnie Ready
Tom & Pam Robertus

LYLE FRENCH

Jim & Linda Peters

KITTY FRY

William & Rose Caton

MR. & MRS. BUD FUNK

Judith Smith

BETTY GAUSLOW

Ruth Bezdek

Bob & Betty Saxbury

GEORGE GEE

Larry Gee

Bobbie Ostrum

KASPER GLASER

James & Carol Swanson

JOHN & ESTHER GOEHNER

Steen & Trina Hudson

OTTO GOEHNER

Bob & Twyla Steinburg

STANLEY & ALBIE GORDON

Mrs. Bette Wolff

DON GREENE

Viola Helgeson

DONALD LEE GREENE

Stan & Judy Eisenman
Rudolph & Cheryl Meinhardt

ALVIN GREENO

Lance Eisenman

Stan & Judy Eisenman

Nancy Frank

WAYNE GRUBS

Ken & Colleen Ekle

Betty Kuehn

Jack & Audrey Parks

Larry & Delores Simons

JUDY HADLOCK

Shane & Tiffany Coleman

M. Victoria Decker

Loren & Michelle Eder

Don & Lee Eide

Virginia Fitzpatrick

Warren & Phyllis Gramley

Dorothy Haeske

Audrey A Hanks

Trish Ingalson

Thomas & Dormalea Johnson

Mrs. Beverly Owens

Richard & Susan Peterson

Sherry Rake

Georgia S Rowe

Linda Williamson

HERK HAGBERG

Beth & Thomas Keating

MERLE HAINES

Deb Haines

JIM HARNISH

Harry & Sue Staley

JOE HATHAWAY

Keith & Donna Nelson

HERBERT HELGESON

Allene Helgeson

MARK HENCKEL

Carol A Henckel

DICK HERGETT

Margaret & Leslie Frank

Bob & Betty Saxbury

CHARLES HERINGER, JR

Ron & Bartie Lebsock

DAN HICKMAN

A & J Realty, Inc.

Mike & Geri Borseth

Matt & Lori Holtz

David & Sharon Legalley

DANIEL HICKMAN

Billings Clinic

Wayne & Heidi Harsha

JOE HOEKSEMA

Lynne Hoeksema

BILL HOGAN

William & Colleen Cantrell

WALTER HOLMES

Ken & Tina Steele & Laura

LARRY HORNING

M.J. De Carlo

JIM HUCK

Tom & Pat Callaghan

Hilda Huck

Hazel Tanner

LUCILLE HUDSON

Chris & Melanie Munson,&

Kyra,Alyssa

Mike Munson

Frank & Lois Rooney - Munson

MILDRED YONCE HUDSON

Don & Dolores McClure

MARY HUGHES

Mr Winston Stahlecker

WALLY HUNTER

Moulton Bellingham

WILLIAM HUSCHKA

Mary Devries

Dean & Laverne Frank

Howard & Rosemary Guenthner

Robert & Kay Kraft

Ervin & Peggy Wood

GRACE JAKES

John & Rea Englund

AMON JOHNSON

Miriam Johnson

BRENT JOHNSON

Jill Quade

BRUCE JOHNSON

Fred & Janet Schock

ELEANOR JOHNSON

Doris Olson

DON F.JONES

Harry & Doris Andersen

Cranbrook Academy of Art

Frank & Vera De Haan

Robert & Karen Doolen

Dorothe Fisher

Jane Jones

Kirk Kroloff

Charles & Sharron Lee-Rider

Charles Leiner

Dona Mae Overfelt

Susan Sosnick

Richard & Nancy Steel

Delores & Mickey Wambolt

Arloa Weiss

John & Janet Wheeler

MARY ANN JONES

James W Jones

MARY ANN JONES

James W Jones

EBERHARD KARG

John & Susan Kroll

OBERT KARTEVOLD

Hermine Kartevold

James & Carol Swanson

AMANDA KELLER

Esther Cuthbertson

LEO KELSEY

George & Marlene Amen

Harold & Betty Blattie

Mike & Eva Hollenbeck

Jim & Linda Peters

EDITH KINNEY

Judith Smith

JOE & BETTE KINSELLA

Patricia A Holman

RAYMOND KOLSTAD

Mrs Carole M Tetrault

MARY DONETTI KONESKY

Rob & Lori Rosselot

LINDA KRAFT

Hazel Stevens

JOHN KUSBUSH

Keith & Donna Nelson

SALLY LAIRD
Carl & Gloria Fox
Freida McLaughlin
LARRY LAWRENCE
Maria K Burton
VICTOR LEIKAM
Doris Olson
TOM LINDBERG
Judy Brewer
MATT LOSE
Jim & Linda Peters
ROBERT LYONS
Bobbie Ostrum
LELAND MARSH
Michael & Lorrie Bernhardt
LYDIA MARTEN
Don & Lee Eide
BARBARA MARVIN
Ken & Colleen Ekle
DAVID MATTHEIS
Freida McLaughlin
RANDALL MCCORMICK
Ray & Mary Jane Spiroff
DAVID & JEAN MCCULLOUGH
Pete Langdorf
LISA MCJUNKIN
Donna Beutler
MAE MCKENNA
Jim & Linda Peters
MALCOLM MCRAE
Pat McRae
MARY L MEGERTH
Annegret Westwood
ED MELBY
George & Marlene Amen
Harold & Betty Blattie
Bruce & Lillian Devries
Mike & Eva Hollenbeck
David & Karen Kelsey
Roy & Rhua Kepferle
Sam & Jessie Mourich
Rapelje Schools
Vera Reineking
Dr. & Mrs. Lee Richardson
Leo & Pat Schmitt
Donald & Florine Smith
Dorthy Sonstegaard
Robert & Jyl Story Jr
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Tatman
Roy & Jean Williams
GRACE MEYERS
Robert & Phyllis Willems
JOHN W MOHR
William & Gladys Bernhardt
Marlene Donaugh

Stan & Judy Eisenman
Louis & Virginia Gauthier
FRANK MOSBRUCKER
Marvin & Kay Kappel
ARNOLD NEWMAN
Ken & Colleen Ekle
Wayne Krueger
Curtis Kuehn
Jack & Audrey Parks
LARRY OLSON
Bob Williamson
ROBERT W OLSON
Duane & Mary Ann Guentner
Donald & Florine Smith
VERNON OSTROM
Mrs. Mary Ostrom
ROGER PAUGH
Dan & Martha Downing
THELMA PETERSEN
Richard & Evelyn Redle
PHIL & BETTY POPE
Dave & Yvonne Robson
BOBBY PORTER
Maxine Anderson
Jim & Lori Birt
William & Marjorie B Brown
Jerry & Mabel Chester
Thomas & Dianne Clump
Conoco Refinery
Richard & June Coonfare
Al & Glenda Coyle
Alan Curtis
Doug, Lisa, & Trenton Eastman
Jennifer Heling
Joan Kimmet
Bob & Dee Koch
Alma Lalim
David Lalim
Grace Langued
Wm Ed & Jaci Leake
Charles & Gladys McDonald
Colleen Miller
Mark & Becky Mortimore
Bob & Joan Nix
Fred & Darlene Nix
Betty Porter
Harriet Rickman
Dorothy Rusler
Edward & Helen Scott
Wally & Carol Sims
Carol Spann & Family
Glenda Stickler
Frances Valdez
Bob & Kathy Verweyst
Orren & Elaine Vinger

Alan & Kaye Westlake
Scott & Susan Westlake
Cordell & Molly Wold
ERNEST RATHBUN
Pete Bertram
TONY REHLING
Margaret & Leslie Frank
Virel & Dorothy Guinn
Herbert & Betty Kindsfater
Shirley & Don Miller
E.C. & Iline Rehling
BRUCE REMMICH
Donna Beutler
GARY REYNOLDS
Sharon Reynolds
CURT RIEMANN
Helen & Mike Eastwood
Ken & Colleen Ekle
Arden & Edith Riemann
MICHEL RIVARD
Dan & Judy St Don
JANET RUDIES
Earl & Jackie Beck
CAROL SAXBURY
Frank & Lois Rooney - Munson
JIM SCHOLTZ
Ms. Nina E. Scholtz
MARGE SEVERSON
Mrs Ruth Warren
VIRGINIA SHADLE
Betty Hoeksema
Darrell & Pat McCammon
Robert & Judy Richman
TOM SIMDARS
Jean Simdars
GARY SMITH
Ms. Jennine Budge
Judith Smith
NATALIE F SMITH
Chandler & Karen A Worley
WILLIAM SORG
Margaret & Leslie Frank
Bob & Betty Saxbury
Gary & Jeanne Saxbury
John Saxbury
Jan & Irene Stingley
OLIVE SPARKS
Janet Stickney
KAREN SPRAGE
Bill & Kathleen Dorsett
KAREN STAHLECKER
Mr Winston Stahlecker
KAY STAHLECKER
Mr Winston Stahlecker

HOWARD STEINBURG
Bob & Twyla Steinburg
DOUG STORER
Dale & Nancy Elsberry
JAMES SYME FAMILY
Adrienne Gibson
GARY TAYLOR
Vernon & Joyce Knowles
SHIRLEY TAYLOR
Vernon & Joyce Knowles
WILEY ED TAYLOR
Christine Kuntz
JO THORMAHLEN
Dennis & Marlene Newton
MARGARET MILLER TOKARSKI
Dorothy W Johnson
Phyl Miller
B J TONEY
Bob & Paula Snelling
JAMES VAIRA
Keith & Donna Nelson
MARY VANOVER
Arlene Walch
Mrs Ruth Warren
BOB VOSS
Margaret & Leslie Frank
DELBERT WALTER
William & Gladys Bernhardt
Robert & Kay Kraft
Leroy & Norma Walter
Ronald & Donna Walter
RYAN P WALTER
Phyl Miller
ALTA MAE WARDELL
Connie Wardell-Stoddard
HARRY & ALTA WARDELL
Connie Wardell-Stoddard
JEAN WENTE
Eric & Sherry Silberhorn
DONNA WILLIAMS
Ken Williams
CAL WINTERROTH
Larry & Joy Goehner
Ursel Kammereck-Jones
Ida Radach
JOHN WOODMANSEY
Carol Woodmansey
RICHARD YARBROUGH
Virel & Dorothy Guinn
VIRGINIA YURIAN
Marvin & Kay Kappel
GAY PITSCH ZILER
Margaret & Leslie Frank



P.O. Box 479
Columbus, MT 59019
406-322-5520

www.specialkranch.org
E-mail: specialkranch@hughes.net

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Billings, MT
Permit No. 88



Grandpa Bob acting and Levie playing Christmas Carols at Beartooth Manor while the SKR Aktion Club delivered lap quilts to all of the residents.

Tell your friends about our website at www.specialkranch.org



The Special K Ranch "Reeling In The Years"

Fundraising Dinner Tuesday, April 19, 2011

Billings Holiday Inn Convention Center Doors open at 5:00 pm Dinner at 6:00 pm.

The doors open to a silent auction with a live auction later in the evening. You will enjoy a delicious dinner, fellowship with residents, staff, and other Ranch supporters. Guests will also be able to hear about the wonderful things that are happening at the Ranch through stories from the residents and staff.

Be a recognized Sponsor when you make a gift at one of these four levels:

Directors Club \$2,500 and above

Partners \$500-\$999

Barons \$1000-\$2,499

Herders \$250-\$499



We invite you to be a table host at no cost to you. Simply call the SKR office and ask to host a table. Then invite friends to fill a table that seats 8 people and turn their names into the SKR office by April 8th.

Questions regarding hosting a table or donating an auction item
PLEASE CALL JENNIFER AT THE SKR OFFICE at 322-5520 or email Jennifer@specialkranch.org.

If you are unable to attend the dinner we invite you to celebrate our 25th by using the enclosed envelope to send a gift showing your support of the Special K Ranch mission.