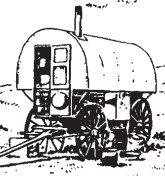




# HERDER



## MISSION STATEMENT

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

VOL. 23, NO. 2

*"Shepherding the Hesitant"*

JULY 2010

## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



There were two new records set at Special K Ranch this spring. The first was in April when the attendance at the annual fundraising dinner topped 800 by 1. That's a lot of people in one room. What is amazing is that they didn't come to hear a celebrity speak or entertain; they were there to hear the residents who live at Special K Ranch tell about their life and work at the

ranch, sing a couple of songs, and see the excitement and genuine joy of everyone when the "Rancher of the Year" and the "Most Improved Rancher" are recognized.

The second record set is the gross sales of the bedding plant crop. This year it's looking like we may go over \$300,000 in sales of bedding plants, tomatoes, garden produce, melons and livestock. The goal for the vocational side of the program has always been to offer meaningful and productive work for the residents. It's exciting to see that this is happening; I am reminded every two weeks when signing pay checks to the residents.

We believe that it is time to make room for more people who have developmental disabilities to have this opportunity for a challenging and fulfilling life.

The past two years in our newsletters we have talked about the expansion of our program with another home on the adjoining property that we were miraculously able to purchase with funds from a very generous and timely bequest from Arley and Millie Craig. We are excited to announce that a new resident home was begun three weeks ago following a ground breaking ceremony. Today the excavating has been completed and footings and walls have been poured. Framing will begin soon and take the project through the first phase that will completely enclose the building; framed, windows, doors, siding and roofing.

This house project is part of a 2.5 million dollar capital campaign that includes 1.2 million for this home that will offer handicapped assessable living for eight of our aging residents and provide space in the lower level

for a ranch community room that will accommodate nearly 180 people. The second part of the campaign is to increase our endowment by 1.3 million to insure the long term operating needs of the ranch.

A few days ago I came across a copy of a December "Herder". In my article I had written that \$300,000 had been committed to the house project but that an additional \$700,000 was still needed. In this article I am announcing just about the reverse; that a little over \$700,000 has been received and \$500,000 is needed to continue with the second and final phase of the project.

We are confident that the remaining funding to complete this home and community room will be raised to



continue and finish the house and that the total campaign goal will be met.

Your inquiries and questions are welcomed; one of our board members or staff would be glad to meet with you. Thank you for your prayers and consideration for how you may become involved with this campaign and the ministry of Special K Ranch.

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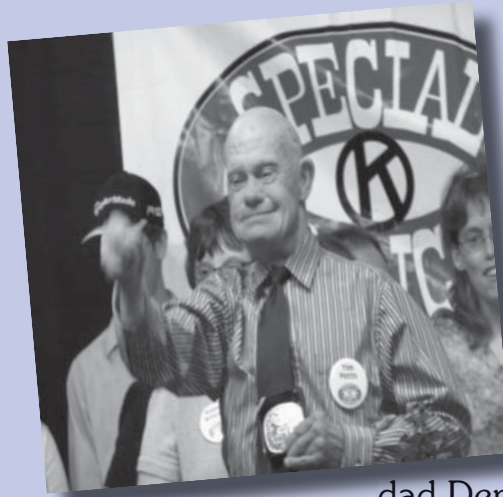
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## RANCHER OF THE YEAR



Tim Potts was voted this year's rancher of the year at our annual dinner. Tim has never been able to express himself vocally but he sure says it all with his expressions. His kindness, caring for others and willingness to help wherever needed indeed make him worthy of Rancher of the year.

Tim loves helping his house dad Dennis and meeting all of the visitors to the ranch. Congratulations Tim, we are extremely proud of you.

## MOST IMPROVED RANCHER OF THE YEAR

Most Improved Rancher this year goes to Kyle VanCampen. Kyle is one of our newest and youngest residents. Kyle has adjusted very well after facing the challenges that many young people face leaving their family to become more independent. We are very proud of the progress that Kyle has made and his smile is always a joy to experience. Kyle loves photography, shooting videos and playing the drums. Keep up the good work Kyle and welcome to our family.



## SKR Foundation Charitable Gift Annuities

A gift annuity can provide you:

A lifetime income for one or two people,

- A significant tax deduction (if a Montana resident a tax credit)
- Attractive, fixed interest rates for your lifetime,
- A worthy investment, helping to improve the lives of people with disabilities.
- Call our office at (406) 322-5520 and ask for Larry Goehner or Joe Burst for details.



## JOE BURST, DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

On April 20th we held our 24th annual fund raising dinner at the Holiday Inn Convention Center. Once again we did not know what to expect in these economic times but we went forward with doing everything possible to have a fun and informative evening. The end result: 801 meals served, a record set by people and businesses sponsoring the dinner, and a record \$135,000 raised for the event.

For this we are truly grateful. The funds raised help us with our operational costs and we raised enough money during the live auction to improve all of our greenhouses allowing us to replace side panels, new covers and install a new fastening system.

Even though the dinner is a few short hours, it takes months of planning by a dedicated committee of volunteers to make this event a success. I cannot say thank you enough to committee chair Jyl Story, committee members Vera Reineking, Jean Steele, Rhona Glassing, Kim Wallila, Mary Burst, Lynn Ketchum, Lori Ketchum, Christine Simonsen, Darla Huebner, Jenny McGahan, and Lisa Bollman. These

ladies work tirelessly making sure everything is just right, create the evening's theme, invite participation, and most importantly keep me on track.

The success also comes from many others that helped with this year's event. In this issue are the folks that helped by hosting a table, provided sponsorship or provided an auction item. Please take a moment to read the list and if you know them, please tell them thank you for their support of the mission of Special K Ranch.

So where do we go from here? That's a good question but next year will be our 25th anniversary and we will definitely do everything possible to make such a milestone a memorable event. We would love to hear your ideas and if you can, your help working with the committee to celebrate our Silver anniversary.

Thank you so much for your support of the mission of Special K Ranch. We could not do it without you.

Yours in Service,  
Joe Burst  
Development Director

## EMPLOYER MATCHING FUNDS

"I believe in the work that Special K Ranch does but graduating from school recently, and beginning my career, it's hard to give to the ranch at a level that I would like to give at this time. Fortunately my employer has a matching program. I decided that I can give \$9.00 per paycheck without causing a strain to my budget and with my employer matching it by the end of the year the ranch will receive \$486.00 in my name. I am grateful to my employer for allowing me this opportunity to contribute in this way. I encourage anyone that would like to give to the ranch to check and see if their employer has such a program in place. Together we can all make a difference in the lives of those with disabilities". *Scott Burst*

***Does your employer match charitable contributions?  
Please ask and help us double the value of your gift.***

## SPECIAL K HAS A NEW WEBSITE.

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



## OUR ANNUAL DINNER WAS A HUGE SUCCESS.

### WE'D LIKE TO GIVE A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR SUPPORT:

#### **A Special Thank You to The Dinner Committee**

Jyl Story- Chair  
Rhona Glassing  
Kim Wallila  
Vera Reineking  
Jean Steele  
Mary Burst  
Lynn Ketchum  
Christine Simonsen  
Lori Ketchum  
Darla Huebner  
Jenny McGahan  
John Pulasky, emcee  
Rick Young, auctioneer  
Pro Audio and Lighting  
Rob Cline & Big Sky Linen  
Lisa Bollman, program design  
The Staff at Econo Print  
The Staff at Holiday Inn  
Intermountain Distributing

#### **To our sponsors that made this dinner possible Presidents Club (\$2500 +)**

Bentley Foundation  
F.H. Petroleum  
First Interstate Bank  
Kiwanis Club of Lewistown  
Terry & Tina Moore

#### **Barons Club (\$1000-\$2499)**

Chenoweth Foundation  
CHS Refinery & Pipeline Operators  
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Crowley Fleck PLLP  
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Kampgrounds of America Inc.  
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Bobbie Ostrum  
Kent & Pamela Williams

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Axiom International

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Toodie Kunkel  
Larry & Sue O'dell  
Jim Tarr  
Bob & Betty Thuesen  
Ruth Warren

#### **Herders Club (\$250-\$499)**

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Dennis & Phylis Washington  
Robert Willems/ Jersey Dairy

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*Sponsorship of our dinner helps ensure a successful event and allows us to hold the event at no charge to the public. Every effort is made to be accurate and have all sponsors, auction donors and table hosts included at time of publication. If we have missed or misspelled someone, please accept our sincere apologies and let Joe Burst know so that we can correct it for our newsletter and other publications of thanks.*

## MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS March 1, 2010 - May 31, 2010

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:

#### HOME ADVISORS

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### **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.)

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Ken Williams	Mark & Vicki Williamson		
Ervin & Peggy Wood	VERNON OSTROM Mrs. Mary Ostrom		
CLARENCE & JANITH JENKINS			
Larry & Joy Goehner			
CLIFFORD JENSEN			
Tom & Ruth Drummond			
Jean Hansen			
James W Jones			
Dottie Leeds			
HARRY JENSEN			
Donna Beutler			
AMON JOHNSON			
Miriam Johnson			
MARY ANN JONES			
James W Jones			
DANNY KANUIT			
Randy & Sherry Kanuit			
JAMES KANUIT			
Randy & Sherry Kanuit			

The Ranch once again is listed as an eligible participant in the  
**State Employees' Charitable Giving Campaign.**

If you are a Montana State Employee, you can designate your  
 State Employees' Charitable Giving Campaign gift to Special K Ranch.





## THE MISSION FIELD

*Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. Matthew 9:38*

With the bedding plant season behind us we look forward to relaxing and enjoying the lazy dog days of summer. NOT! Summer really means it is time to focus on the tomato and native seedling programs as well as the garden and greenhouse complex maintenance. Not to forget irrigation of the fields, cutting, bailing and putting up the hay. Then there is the maintenance of the resident houses and the general upkeep of the Ranch itself. Ahh summer! All of these programs are labor intensive and demand the majority of our attention. Now don't take me wrong, Special K Ranch is a working ranch and we are very blessed that God has provided all this meaningful work and He never fails to supply the workers for his harvest fields.

This year we have more work groups coming to Special K than ever before. The year started with the Billings Master Gardner's coming out to the greenhouse and helping during planting season. This is their fifth year of service and they are always a God send to us. They also show up to help out at our two spring markets at Sears and Wheat Montana. Another returning group this year is the employees from the Billings Home Depot. This is their second year and they always show up at just the right time. I also would like to mention all the individual volunteer's who come out year after year to help out where ever they can.

This summer we have a group coming from Great Falls Montana and they are being joined by a group of students and adults from Sheridan Wyoming. The two groups will combine and become the largest work group to serve at Special K to date. They are planning to stay at the Ranch for one week in RV's and at the Wommack Center. We will break this group into three work groups according to work skills and assign them tasks according to their skill level. We have talked with the leader of the group about cleaning up the property around the new house being built. This would be a great project for them and would truly benefit us because it is something that needs to be done and we are struggling trying to fit it into our work schedule. One week after this group leaves we will be having a group of 21 coming from California. This youth group has a special tie to the Ranch as it is led by Pastor Erik Goehner, the son of Larry and Joy Goehner. Erik is bringing the Mount Cross youth group on a mission trip to Special K. We have a full week of work, horseback riding, BBQ's and worship lined up for this group. These youth groups are always a fun time for our residents. In August we have a group of 10 employees of the Schneider Electric Company from Palatine, Illinois coming out. They are going to help remodel and install new poly coverings on two of our greenhouses.

There are a couple of things that I love about work groups coming to Special K Ranch. The first is that the teams will always remember the Christ they saw in the faces of our residents and staff. The second is how people would spend their vacations and their money to come to Special K Ranch and work and how that validates the ministry and mission of Special K Ranch to our staff and residents.

Are you willing to sacrifice yourself for the work of another believer, to pour out your life sacrificially for the ministry and faith of others? Oswald Chambers

Have I told you how much I Love the ministry here at Special K Ranch?

Press On

Mike

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mike T. Chung".



# Join us at our Annual September Fest Open House



Saturday September 11<sup>th</sup>

11:00 to 4:00 pm

Great Food, Entertainment,

Live & Silent Auction, Fun Games & Prizes,  
Shrine Clowns, Tours, Carriage Rides,

50/50 raffle, Pie eating contest, sack races,  
hay rides, & much more



Fun for the entire  
family.

Don't be baaashful

Come on down





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

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



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Tell your friends about our website at [www.specialkranch.org](http://www.specialkranch.org)



Come see us and many other great produce vendors at the Yellowstone Valley Farmers Market Saturdays July thru October 8:30a.m.–noon in Downtown Billings. Come visit with our ranchers and take advantage of the best tasting tomatoes and melons around.

## CONSIDER A GIFT

- New or good used passenger van
- Feed ,Grain, and Hay
- Gift Certificate for tires  
(vehicles or equipment)
- Livestock, calves, and sheep
- Hand Tools
- Tractor 30 horse or larger
- Various building materials
- Designate a Cash Gift
- A commercial type popcorn maker for special  
events
- Carpeting and linoleum for one of our homes  
(est. \$7,000)

These are some items SKR could use.  
If you have any of these items that you  
would be willing to donate,  
please give us a call at 406-322-5520

Contact Joe Burst at 671-9635 or [skrjoe@hughes.net](mailto:skrjoe@hughes.net) if your club, church or organization would like a presentation on Special K Ranch and/or have a tour of the Ranch. We'd love to show you our new ranch video.