



THURSDAY'S CHILD Newsletter

Volume XXVII

Founded in 1984

August 2014

Memorial Trail Ride

This year's Memorial Trail Ride will be held September 21, 2014. It is being held at the same place and--as we call it--the "Chaffie Hollow Country Club". The ride leaves at 9:30 a.m. sharp. Riders are asked to bring their own lunches and a truck will bring them to you for the lunch stops. We ride through the scenic bluffs and valleys of Southwest Wisconsin. Last year we had riders from Illinois, Iowa and, of course, Wisconsin. We are very blessed to have the generosity of Ken and Jamie Howe that allows us to host this event and the wonderful landowners to allow us to ride through their land. Many friends volunteer their time to help. Jackie Ley has sponsored a Montana Silver Belt Buckle that is given away yearly. She also does a 50/50 drawing and has raised a great deal of money for Thursday's Child. A meal is served after the ride with a free will offering. We hold a Chinese raffle with items donated from businesses, family and friends.

For the past 20 years, we have sponsored 4-H horse camp scholarships, but since camp has been cancelled, we now donate to the Grant County 4-H Horse Project. Last year money was used for a clinic in which ten 4-H kids brought their own horse and the instructor taught them to become better in horsemanship. I heard it was an excellent clinic. The money we donated helped with the cost, so it was cheaper for them to attend. The money was used for a game night in which prizes were awarded for the kids and their horse. Doing this is helping more children at a time.

--Sandy Meier

Many thanks to Sandy for once again raising money to benefit not only Thursday's Child, but also the 4-H Horse Project.

**For information contact
Sandy at 608-732-7737**

Dear Friends:

Thursday's Child, like many worthwhile nonprofit organizations, is watching its pennies closely these days. One way to save money is to reduce the size of our annual newsletter, saving printing and mailing costs. Another way we have chosen to save money is to discontinue our toll free phone number. These days, with almost everyone using email or cell phones, we decided that having a toll free number was just an unnecessary expense.

Our minimal administrative expenses allow us to put just about all of the money we receive to good use helping kids who need a wish. Stamps, letterhead and brochures are the extent of our expenses.

We've had a good year. The Turnquist Fundraiser, College Turkey Trot, Kelly Meier Memorial Trail Ride, Culver's of Grafton, Dodgeville, and Tomah as well as all of our individual supporters keep us going. Thank you, everyone!

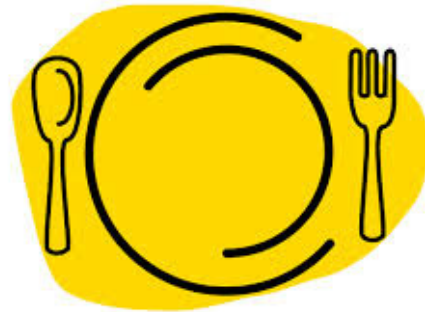
Santa's Helpers

We continue to be dedicated Santa's Helpers. During the 2013 Christmas season, the parents or guardians of 185 children received JC Penney \$50 gift cards per child for Christmas shopping for a total of \$9,250. Fifty dollars can stretch a long way on Black Friday. Young families hit hard by the costs of a child's major illness were very grateful for the gift cards and their receipts reflected their children's clothing needs--especially for coats, mittens, pajamas, boots, and shoes. Thursday's Child Vice President Susan Hefty and Treasurer Steve Maerz make sure that every child referred to them by social workers and doctors receive gift cards. For years now Sue and Steve--with the cooperation of their loved ones--have quietly gone about the business of helping Santa. Sue's own children, now adults, have grown up watching their mom tackle the annual Christmas project!

Whatever the wish, we want to make them come true. The generous support we have received not only this past year, but also for the previous 30 years allows us to continue to be able to meet all of the requests that come our way.



Hot Meals Provide Food for Comfort



Thursday's Child funds six evening meals per year for parents of seriously ill children who are patients at American Family Children's Hospital in Madison. Often the parent does not want to leave the child's bedside, the child does not want the parents to leave, and for some families who spend much time in the hospital, the cost of their food becomes a significant budget concern.

This is the 12th year that Thursday's Child has been able to continue this worthwhile service.

Each evening meal serves 50-60 people. Thursday's Child donates \$3,000 per year to provide six meals.

The hospital, through money donated by NFL Alumni, funds one meal per week. Other meals come from organizations like ours.

Any sick child's wish is to have Mom or Dad close by. Providing family members with a hot meal at the end of a stressful day is very much appreciated.

Congrats!

Thursday's Child Board member Angele Walsh and her husband Chad welcomed a son, Easton LaDell, born on July 16. He joins siblings Aspen, 10, Kadin, 8, and Irelyn, 4. Their mother reports that "they are all great helpers with their little brother!" Congratulations to all!



Gifts In Their Memory

Kelly Meier
Potosi, Wisconsin



Drew Morris
Janesville, Wisconsin



Morgan Turnquist
Madison, Wisconsin



Tom Harnes
Black River Falls, Wisconsin



Cyril Mumm
Cassville, Wisconsin

About Thursday's Child

For 30 years Thursday's Child has made wishes come true for thousands of seriously ill children living within and/or treated within southwest and south central Wisconsin, thanks to the generous support it has received from so many good people.

Thursday's Child has no salaried staff and its administrative expenses continue to hold at less than 10% of all donations received, which is a requirement of the organization's bylaws.

Charitable contributions are down and the cost of providing nonprofit services are up. Thursday's Child is no exception to this fact. Please continue to support this organization by sending your tax deductible contribution to Thursday's Child, P.O. Box 95, Mt. Hope, WI 53816.



Culver's Commitment

Culver's continues its long standing commitment to many area nonprofit organizations that greatly benefit from their contributions. Many thanks to Craig and Lea Culver, the Dodgeville Culver's, the Grafton Culver's, and the Tomah Culver's for their continued support of Thursday's Child.

Wishes Granted...

Thursday's Child sent two families to Florida this year. A Freeport, Illinois family escaped to the Florida Keys this winter and a family from Ft. Atkinson explored the excitement of Disney World the first week of September. In the works is a plan to send a young man and his family from McFarland to a Packers Game. All three young people are treated at American Family Children's Hospital in Madison.



Unexpected donation will help more families

Thursday's Child received an unexpected and generous gift from the estate of Nancy Van Dyke, Madison, who died on April 5, 2014 at the age of 94. Born in Stevens Point, she married her college sweetheart, Lt. Col. L.N. Van Dyke after he returned from military service in Germany during WW II. They moved to Madison to work on advanced degrees at the University. Lt. Col. Van Dyke was an assistant football coach at the University of Wisconsin and later became Director of Grant-in-Aid for the U.W. Athletic Department. Nancy was a librarian at Maple Bluff Elementary, Shorewood Hills Elementary and Phillip Falk Elementary. Mrs. Falk, who had no children of her own, bequeathed \$70,000 to Thursday's Child. At the time this newsletter was printed, Thursday's Child had received a check for \$43,500 from Mrs. Van Dyke's estate with an additional amount to be received at a later time.

Turnquist Fundraiser held by family

The Morgan Turnquist Memorial Fundraiser was held on May 17 at the Brat and Brau, Madison. A car show, silent and live auction, and \$5.00 lunch on a beautiful spring day raised \$15,000 for Thursday's Child. We thank Morgan's parents, Ted and Tammy, for organizing this benefit in their daughter's memory. Their kindness and generosity will touch the lives of many children and their grateful parents.

From Morgan's obituary: "All Morgan ever wanted was to be ordinary. This was not to be, she was extraordinary. She touched so many lives in her short time on this earth. While cancer was all she knew, she refused to let it define her. "

She died on July 7, 2013, at the age of 17. Thursday's Child is honored to be a beneficiary of Morgan's legacy.

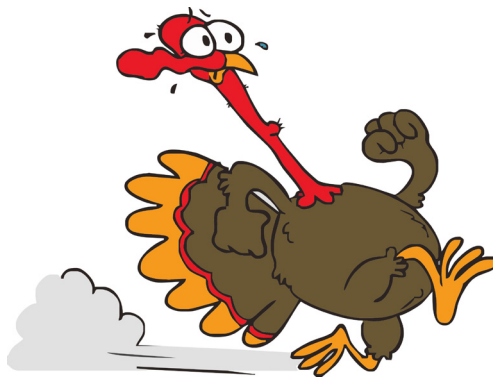
Many contributors to the Morgan Turnquist Fundraiser included heartfelt notes about their memories of Morgan. We share this special one:

"Morgan Turnquist was truly the personification of God's grace, an embodiment of courage, determination and faith - a really remarkable young woman. I have a vivid memory of Morgan after church in the Fireside Room fiercely encouraging one of her peers. I couldn't hear her words, but I did see their effect - and I was in awe of her courage."

TURKEY TROT 2014

This year's Turkey Trot is set for November 4, Warner Park, Madison. Once again the kind and generous people from the Madison College Athletic Department will be gearing up to offer a great day. The proceeds benefit our own Thursday's Child and the Madison College Foundation, which provides educational assistance to students. This is a huge fundraiser that involves many people and businesses. We thank Steve Hauser, Jason Verhelst and their great team for their continued support of Thursday's Child.

Find out more about this year's Turkey Trot at www.madisonturkeytrot.com.



THURSDAY'S CHILD, INC.

P.O. Box 95, Mt. Hope, WI 53816

608-988-4423 • www.thursdayschildwisconsin.org

Executive Director:

Noël Ferguson, Mt. Hope
noel@chorus.net

President:

Diane Puccetti, M.D.
American Family Children's Hospital
1111 Highland Avenue, Madison, WI 53705
puccetti@pediatrics.wisc.edu

Presidents Emeritus:

Paul Dvorak, M.D. DeanCare 1313 Fish Hatchery Rd. Madison, WI 53713 paul.dvorak@deancare.com	Ronald Thorstad, Madison Co-Founder of Thursday's Child & President from 1984-1995
--	--

Acknowledgments:

Kay Schmitz, Mt. Hope

Vice President:

Sue Hefty, Mt. Horeb

Secretary:

Andrea Urbon, Madison

Treasurer:

Steven Maerz, Madison

Directors:

Paul Dvorak, M.D., Madison
Dorothy Ferguson, Mt. Hope
John Kussmaul, Lancaster
Sandra Meier, Potosi
Bob Shea, Jr., Madison
Angele Walsh, Potosi

Director Emeritus:

Ivan Hoffland, Prairie du Chien