



THURSDAY'S CHILD

Volume XXX

Founded in 1984

December 2017

Dear Friends,

We are grateful for all of you who have contributed so generously to Thursday's Child this year. As always, we are well under the 10% our bylaws allow for administrative expenses, which are minimal. Stamps and stationery, an annual newsletter printing and mailing, post office box rent. Even our thank you card stamps are donated! -- that's about it for us. Because of your continued friendship and support, we can provide the best wish for any child or young adult who needs that magic touch in their lives.

A special thank you to The Platteville Optimist Club Friend of Youth, the Mt. Hope Cardinals 4-H Club, the Grant County Thrift Shop, Tricor Insurance (Jingle Bell Run 2016), Glen Haven Homemakers, and everyone who helps Sandy with her annual Trail Ride.

Our heartfelt thanks to all of you for a successful 33rd year.
-Noël Ferguson, the Board of Directors.

Sandy's Trail Ride

The 24th annual Kelly Meier Memorial Trail Ride was another Sandy Meier success, raising \$1,900.00 for Thursday's Child and the Grant County Horse and Pony Project. Sandy and her family (four generations strong now), as well as her friends and neighbors hosted 44 riders who enjoyed perfect September sunshine, picturesque trails, delicious food, and good company.

This beautiful 4ft x 4ft barn quilt (pictured below) was made and donated for the Trail Ride by Jolene and Giles Perkins and purchased by Jackie Retallick. Notice the real horse shoes in the corners!



"Thank you, dear friend for a wonderful ride in the memory of your lovely daughter. I know the time and energy that goes into a successful ride and you have gone above and beyond to have a beautiful ride. Thursday's Child should be very proud of you!"

Love, Cindy and Ken Aird, Cuba City

"Warmest thanks Sandy, for all you do to bring so much joy to others. Your trail ride is always wonderful and so much fun. All the time and effort you put into Thursday's Child brings so much happiness to seriously ill children. I am so blessed, lucky, and proud to have you for a friend."

Love, Mary Doering, Platteville



A Sample of Christmas joys



Once again, Sue Hefty is on Santa's team to help make Christmas wishes come true for children who have been referred to us by area social workers and doctors. This year, 170 children are on Santa's list. Their parents received \$50 JCPenney gift cards for each child in their family, with a \$200 limit per family.

Dear Thursday's Child...

"Thank you for your gift of \$50.00 per child for JCPenny's. We truly appreciate your generosity. Happy Holidays to you!!!"



"Hello. Thank you so much for the gift cards. We are so grateful. God bless you to all. Thank you!"



"Thank you very much for your kindness and generosity with these gift cards. Our three boys were so excited about all of their wonderful gifts. They had a great Christmas. We would not have been able to give them that without your help. We are truly grateful. Thank you for all that you do and for what you did for our family."



"We would like to thank you for the Christmas gift cards that we got. My kids were very happy and excited. Also I want to say that I have no words to thank all of you for the work of kindness that you do. We wish you the best of this earth to all of you and keep the kids happy. Thank you!"

Hospital Meals

For the 15th year, Thursday's Child is funding one meal every month for parents of seriously ill children who are patients at American Family Children's Hospital in Madison. Each evening meal serves 50-60 people. Thursday's Child donates \$3,000 each year to provide these meals. The hospital itself, through money donated by NFL Alumni, funds one meal per week. Other meals come from organizations like ours.



"We wanted to thank your organization for providing the dinner at AFCH in Madison on the night of Wed. Dec. 7th. We were in the hospital as our daughter recovered from a pretty significant spine surgery. Having a free meal available right there in the hospital was very convenient for us and we appreciated it very much. Thank you for all the work you do to help children and their families." - a Dad

"Thank you very much for your gift to our Child Life Fund. Hospitals can be frightening and overwhelming for anyone of any age, but especially for a child. Your contribution will help children understand and cope within a hospital environment. Your gift will facilitate hospital staff's work with children and families to promote a positive hospital experience. Thank you very much for being a partner with us here at American Family Children's Hospital." Sincerely, Lori Schultz



Layout and design of Thursday's Child Newsletter by Cassville High School Business Club Student, Christal Bean under the direction of Instructor Valerie Martin.

Thursday's Child Newsletter printed by:

Howe printing company

Giving Life to Dreams

Three-year-old Grace Peterson, Mt. Horeb, WI, and her parents enjoyed a Disneyland Adventure last January. Grace's wish came true, a chance to meet Tinkerbell and her sister, Periwinkle, and be "shrunk" to fairy size. Her mother, Sara, reports that Grace is doing very well, and everything is stable medically, "which we are thankful for." She recently started ballet lessons.



Savannah Grindle, Verona, WI, has had a few setbacks on her way toward her goal of going to college. She was diagnosed with bone cancer when she was in high school and underwent the course of treatment, still graduating with honors in May 2014. It has not been an easy road for her, but she is now in her second year at Southwest Tech, majoring in Agribusiness Science & Technology - Animal Science. Her grades are exemplary and Thursday's Child has helped her with some of her tuition, a worthwhile investment in this young woman's dreams. Savannah will graduate May 2018. "Someday I hope to take over our horse stable, beef farm, and cash crop farm. Thank you for helping me."



One of our recipients, who is on his own, holds down a job and continues his treatments, needed a boost. His social worker told us that a gas card, a grocery store card, and a card for new clothes would be much appreciated and used. So, that's what we did. \$500 for each.



Ryan Hamel, Madison, WI, attended a Seahawks/Packers game on December 11, 2016, at Lambeau Field in Green Bay. Ryan is a Russell Wilson fan, and thanks to many good people at Badgers Give Back, and the University of Wisconsin - Madison Foundation, Ryan attended the game and met Russell Wilson. "I just want to say a very special thank you to your whole organization and especially Noël for your work and contributions to #russellmeetryan. It was a truly amazing day that has given us memories to last a lifetime. Unfortunately there was not much to be had for Seahawks souvenirs, however, Ryan will now be able to order a few Seahawks items he's had his eye on. I will never be able to say thank you enough." -Kelly Hamel, Ryan's Aunt.



If you received last year's newsletter, you might recall reading about Jessica Thompson, Janesville, WI, who wanted to meet Ellen DeGeneres. We sent her to California and when she and her family attended the taping of the show, she did meet Ellen. In October, she and her mother went to NYC to see HAMILTON and HOLIDAY INN, a whirlwind weekend, courtesy of a very good Thursday's Child friend, a Broadway and television director, who also helped us get tickets to the Ellen show. Jessica loves music and was a member of the Parker High School Band.

Caleb Hatchett, East Troy, WI, and his family traveled to Myrtle Beach last July. "We had a simply fantastic time in Myrtle Beach! We basically lived on the beach. Every day the weather was fantastic. We would wake up, eat breakfast, and be at the ocean until supper. We enjoyed the meals and the incredibly healing time as a family. I cannot thank you enough for such an amazing experience. It wasn't possible without you all at Thursday's Child." Caleb is a junior in Nursing, will finish in Spring 2019. "I'm planning to return to Children's in Madison and work on P4 (pediatric oncology)."



Caleb and Family - Caleb is 4th from the left.

Upcoming Holiday Wish!

Anna Fowler and her parents, Janesville, WI, fly to Tampa on December 23 to embark on a Royal Caribbean Christmas Cruise December 24-31. We thank Lori Velte, Memories Travel, Platteville, for making the travel arrangements. We appreciate her professional and personal commitment to all of our traveling families, to provide the best possible experiences and accommodations to meet their needs and wishes.



Thank you to Culver's of Grafton (Here's the Scoop) and Culver's of Dodgeville for continuing to support Thursday's Child. Both restaurants have donation boxes on their counters, and proceeds are sent to us several times a year.



About Thursday's Child

Thursday's Child makes wishes come true for seriously ill children and young adults living within and/or treated within southwest and south central Wisconsin.

Contributions are tax deductible and can be sent to:

THURSDAY'S CHILD, INC

P.O. Box 95, Mt. Hope, WI 53816
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Gifts In Their Memory

from their loving friends & family

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Mt. Hope, WI

...
Kelly Meier
Potosi, WI

...
Charlotte Thorncroft-Schenkel
Potosi, WI

...
Nicolas Seta Ratsimihah
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