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Help Bethany go greener, please send us your e-mail address!

Keeping kids safe and helping parents care for their children for 110 years

The BUZZ @ Bethany



For Children & Families

Serving the bi-state community since 1899 OCTOBER 2009

In this issue:

Give Kids A Smile.....	2
A Day of Caring.....	3
The Hass Brothers	4
In Memory of Tom Lundeen..	4
A Charitable Contribution.....	5
Bethany Program Spotlight....	6
MERIT Award.....	7

Family Awards Night

Honoring outstanding families in our community

November 19, 2009

The Radisson Quad City Plaza

111 East Second Street

Davenport, Iowa

5:30 p.m.

Tickets: \$35.00/person

Bethany for Children & Families is pleased to announce the 2009 award recipients at the Family Awards Ceremony on Thursday, November 19th at 5:30 pm at the Radisson Quad City Plaza in Davenport, Iowa. This annual event honors an Adoptive Family of the Year, Foster Family of the Year, Leadership Family of the Year, Corporate Friend of the Family, and an Advocate of the Year.



We invite you to join us in celebrating the outstanding families and businesses in the community that aid in keeping kids safe and helping parents care for their children.



The families and companies we honor have made a difference – in the life of one child or several, one family or many, and in our bi-state community. And they have made our community not only more family friendly, but a wonderful place to raise children.

Event sponsors



Something to *Smile* about

Bethany for Children & Families is the new fiscal agent for the Give Kids A Smile (GKAS) Program designed to provide preventative and restorative care to underserved children who do not have access to oral health care.

GKAS is a national initiative by the American Dental Association to focus attention on the epidemic of untreated oral disease among disadvantaged children from at-risk families. In 2003, United Way's Success By 6 coordinated the first Give Kids A Smile Day in the Quad-Cities that served 303 children. Since then, approximately 85

community-oriented dental professionals in the Quad-Cities have teamed up to provide free, comprehensive dental care that includes examinations, cleanings, sealants, restorations, extractions, orthodontics, and oral surgeries. In early 2009, United Way concluded operational support for the program.

"Tooth decay is a winnable public-health problem," Bill Steinhauser, President/CEO of Bethany for Children & Families said. "Studies show that cavity-related childhood malnutrition and infection can impair mental and physical development and since the poor are most vulnerable to the impacts of illness, they should be afforded a greater degree of protection."

Medicaid recipients have difficulty locating a dental practice that accepts that form of insurance because the reimbursement rates are very low. Uninsured and under-insured children are the ones who suffer most. Untreated cavities hamper children's growth and learning as they miss school or deal with painful distractions.

The team of dental professionals in the GKAS program have given over 2 million dollars of in-kind services to over 2,700 children since 2003. Bethany for Children & Families looks forward to aiding the GKAS Program in eliminating the silent epidemic of dental disease for the thousands of children who find it challenging to eat, sleep, or simply smile.



Awards and *Excellence*

MOTIVATION
EXCELLENCE
RESPONSIBILITY
INTEGRITY
TEAM WORK



The monthly MERIT award recognizes an employee for distinguished service to the agency. MERIT awardees are nominated by their peers or members of the community and are recognized for their outstanding service to children and families served by Bethany.

July 2009
Award Winner



Nancy Shaffer
Adoption Case Manager

August 2009
Award Winner



Teri Hayes
Accounting Clerk

The nomination for Nancy stated, "Nancy works well with her families. She is always looking for new ideas and ways to connect with her clients so that each home is a place that children can grow in and become successful young adults. Nancy demonstrates to her peers and the families she works with that she truly cares about each of them as individuals and wants to see them succeed."

The nomination for Teri stated, "Teri comes in each day knowing the day's priorities and meets her deadlines with a great attitude. Even through constant interruptions and extremely busy "month-end" weeks, she makes sure every job duty gets completed correctly and on time. She keeps ahead of deadlines by staying late or working on weekends to prepare for the busy days ahead with no complaints or expectations, only knowing her responsibilities.

Congratulations on receiving this recognition and keep up the great work!

Bethany Program *Spotlight*

November is National Adoption Month

John and Stacy*, a loving couple from Moline, Illinois, had been in Bethany's infant adoption program for five years and were anxiously awaiting to be chosen by birth parents. Prior to their entry in the program, Bethany's Adoption Specialists performed background checks, home studies, and approved the couple for placement.



They had several "close-calls" of becoming parents only to be told the birth parents had changed their minds. John and Stacy waited patiently, but this was an extremely emotional and difficult time for them. At last, in April of 2007, they received a call notifying them they had been selected to adopt a little boy. They were absolutely thrilled to start a family. So thrilled, in fact, that John and Stacy stayed in the program for another two years with the hope of adopting a second child.

John and Stacy's dream of having a family was once again granted when they received a call in April 2009, stating they were selected for another little boy. The family is doing wonderful and are still debating if they would like to re-join the program to adopt another child. The couple shared that they feel so blessed and don't ever want to appear greedy. They want others to have the joy and wonderful experience they have had through adoption.

For more information about adoption please call Nancy Shaffer at 563-327-0183.

Bethany's Adoption statistics for FY 2009:

Home Study updates: 13

New Home Studies : 6

Total Adoptions : 5

*Names have been changed to maintain confidentiality.

A day of *Caring*

On September 2, an army of volunteers across the Quad Cities lent a helping hand in an effort to give back to the community in which they live. The Day of Caring is a community-wide day of hands-on volunteering in which United Way connects volunteers – businesses, corporations, union groups, donors – with local non-profit organizations to work on various projects that otherwise would not be completed.

Volunteers hit the streets to perform a variety of service projects including landscaping, building playground equipment, and reading or having lunch with children. Bethany for Children & Families recruited a highly motivated team of volunteers from Group Services and Missman, Stanley, & Associates to paint the second floor lobby area, conference room, and employee break room at the Moline office location. Thank you volunteers for a day full of hard work and your sincere commitment to making this community a better place!

GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.
LIVE UNITED 



United Way Day of Caring volunteers from Group Services

GroupServices
Benefitting you differently.



United Way Day of Caring volunteers from Missman, Stanley, & Associates

Missman
STANLEY & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

Honoring *Today*, Inspiring *Tomorrow*

This fall, Junior Achievement of the Heartland will honor six local entrepreneurs in the Quad Cities Area Business Hall of Fame. These individuals are role models in the community for their entrepreneurial achievements and are looked upon as leaders in their industry.



William M. Hass, James W. Hass, and Arthur J. Hass Jr. of Valley Construction Company, Rock Island, will be inducted into the hall of fame on October 15, 2009 at the Quad Cities Waterfront Convention Center. The Hass Family has been wonderful supporters of Bethany for Children & Families. James Hass

served on the board of directors from 1971-2007 and as board chairman from 1979-1980. Valley Construction has also been an instrumental part of our capital campaign.

In *Memory*

Thomas C. Lundeen, former Chairman of the Bethany Board of Directors from 1980-1982 and Director from 1966-1983, passed away on August 12, 2009.

Tom attended Moline public schools, and the University of Iowa before enlisting in the Navy during World War II. After military service, he completed his education at the University of Illinois, earning his degree in architecture. He opened his own firm in 1957 with partner, John Toline. The office was responsible for the design of numerous public and private buildings, schools, and churches.



**Tom Lundeen
1927-2009**

He retired in 1984, and the practice was sold to the present firm of Gere/Dismer, Architects. Tom was active in professional and civic affairs and loved to travel with his wife, Sallie.

Fun, Sassy, *Charitable*

Thank you



Members of the Quad Cities Chapter of the Blue Thong Society (Q.C. Blue-Pers) recently donated school supplies to Bethany's Therapeutic Recreation Program.

Items included several backpacks, lunch bags, themed folders, crayons, pencils, paper, and much more. Having readily available school supplies allows students and teachers to focus on what's really important: learning.

The Blue Thong Society is a national network of over 2,000 women age 21 and up. Their philosophy is to have fun and give back to their communities. The Quad Cities Chapter of the Blue Thong Society was formed in 2008 and chose to support Bethany for Children & Families as their favorite charity.



Every month, the group gathers and decides on something to do for the agency or donate to the agency. In the past they have donated baby items for the Teen Parent Services program, household items for the Independent Living program, and are donating 12 costumes for children to dress-up for Halloween.

Q.C. Blu-Per Members

Members say there's more to being a Blue Thong Society member than just being hip and chic—they focus on numerous goals including charity fundraising, group events, and simply enhancing life. Their main purpose is bringing together women of all ages, backgrounds, views, and perspectives to support numerous benevolent causes and have fun!

For more information about the Q.C. Blu-Pers please visit:
www.qcbluepers.webs.com

**Judy Ahlers
Jeanne Bacon
Judy Bearbower
Bonnie Cook
Diane Laake
Mary Ann Laake
Robyn Messerly
Connie Moreno
Denise Neilson
Susan Ramirez
Carole Scherz
Pat Steiger
Cindy Veber
Beth Vedvik**