

Honoring
Our Donors and
Volunteers...!

Spring 2014

The Safe Haven Way

A Parent Publication of Safe Haven Farms, Butler County, Ohio



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The Safe Haven Way is published twice yearly.

If you would prefer not to receive our newsletter, send an email to

info@safehavenfarms.org

Type "REMOVE" in the subject line, and include your name and address so we can take you off our newsletter mailing list.

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Susan Wilson

Safe Haven and GE...More than a Handshake

A Caring Commitment and Continuing Partnership

The culture of the General Electric Company nurtures community involvement by its employees, who volunteer thousands of hours of work worldwide for worthy causes every year. Says Chairman and CEO, Jeff Immelt, "To be a great company, we must continue to be a good company" and work to improve our communities. Volunteering with an agency means that GE volunteers don't merely do a project and leave, but that they develop a long-term commitment that makes a difference.

When Denny Rogers, President of Safe Haven Farms retired from GE Aviation, he devoted full-time effort to helping a group of parents who, like himself, have an adult child with autism. The parents had dreamed of a farm community that had proven so successful for persons with autism in other parts of the world and more recently in the U.S.

Many who knew Denny at GE and others have volunteered over 600 hours/year at Safe Haven Farms. Safe Haven is a favorite site for volunteer work because it brings out the GE "inner engineer in-

stincts" to plan construction projects. GE volunteer, **Greg Cimmarusti**, says his favorite project was building the walkway from the road to the picnic pavilion because it started from bare earth and ended with an attractive and functional walkway, eliminating a muddy walk.

Alex Perez, remarks that his group enjoyed designing and constructing the sturdy horse mounting platform that riders will use to mount their horses, and the deck for relaxing and fishing next to our farm pond.

Continued, page 2

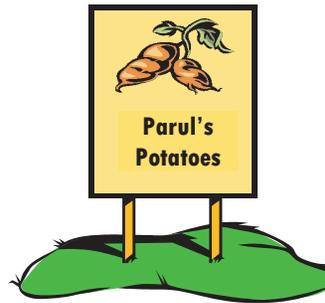


GE volunteers organized by **Amy Zurawka** planted 15 large shade trees and 16 bushes to create a park in front of the residential homes.

Let's Grow... My Veggies!



Safe Haven farmers will take personal pride in growing vegetables this year. Recently, 12 members of the Miami University Autism Speaks chapter helped the guys/gals paint and decorate signs for the garden vegetables based on the farmers' names and veggies they like, such as "Chris' Carrots," "Kevin's Corn," and "Peter's Peppers." Spotting their own sign in the garden



surrounded by a bounty of growing plants should make them devote special care to "their" rows and enjoy the delicious harvest.

After sign painting, the Autism Speaks Miami volunteers helped serve pizza to the farmers. Everyone enjoyed being together at such a fun event, and the Miami students are looking forward to another project soon.



GE Volunteers *Continued from page 1*

Sheldon Carpenter's favorite project was working alongside his son, Kurt, as Kurt developed planning and leadership skills designing and building the Carpenter picnic pavilion for his Eagle Scout project.

Ken Roth, Ken Kirchmayer, and Sheldon Carpenter all laugh as they recall the construction of the hoop houses when the farm first opened. That project was harder and took longer than anyone had predicted—even for engineers.

The GE volunteers bring skill and enthusiasm to their projects. Motivated by service to an organization of their choice,



volunteers work within the corporate structure on projects that encourage team building across different departments within GE and develop leadership skills and pride in the Company.



GE volunteers have been able to tap into GE grants at the corporate and local level to help fund many of their projects at Safe Haven, such as the purchase of the SmartBoard and cart in the Learning Center, three adult swing sets, the horse mounting platform in the indoor arena, and the decks at the above-ground pool, the outdoor riding arena, and the small pond.

The volunteers agree that they have been drawn to Safe Haven because of its mission; they love seeing their hard work being put to good use. They have observed first-hand the peaceful environment of the farm and the dedicated care provided by the staff—and are enthusiastic about the Farm's ability to provide a high quality of life for adults with autism. Safe Haven Farm is indeed blessed to have these committed volunteers return year after year.

Teresa Turns 50 — the Party was Nifty!



Over 90 friends, family and staff came together to celebrate the 50th birthday of our oldest farmer, Teresa, on March 22 in the Hatton Center.

And what a party it was with a barbeque dinner, entertainment by

an Elvis impersonator, and best of all, a surprise visit by Teresa's brother Chad, who lives in Seattle.

Whether Elvis or classical, Teresa loves music. A gal of few words, she often communicates by singing. Once after a home visit while riding with her parents through



Dad, farmer Teresa, and brother



Farmer Emily and 'Elvis' celebrate with friend Teresa.

the rural areas back to the farm, she burst into her own version of, "Take me home, country roads..."

Teresa has lived in several places in her 50 years, and of all the places, she is the happiest at Safe Haven. The farm neighborhood provides her with enriched living experiences and freedom of safe exploration around the large property not found in her previous urban and suburban communities.

Welcome our Newest Resident Farmer—Jade

Jade loves to snuggle under a blanket and wrap herself tight while she watches TV. She enjoys books, puzzles, walking, shopping, holding hands, and riding in the car. Disney movies are the "icing on her cake," according to her mother, Haidi. Jade's new bedroom is decorated in—what else—a Disney princess theme.



Jade moved into House 1 in March. Jade's parents, Haidi and Jerry, have been involved with Safe Haven from the very beginning, attending all of the informational meetings from 2009 on. Because Jade was still in school when Safe Haven opened in 2010, Jade was placed on the waiting list. Over the past four years,

Haidi and Jerry have helped Jade acclimate to Safe Haven by bringing Jade to almost all of the monthly dances and holiday parties.

Jade comes to Safe Haven from Toledo, where she lived in a home run by Lutheran Homes Society (LHS). After graduating from school at the age of 21, she moved home with Mom and Dad and waited for an opening at Safe Haven Farms.

When an opening became available, Bittersweet's 30-day intake program gave Jade time to adjust to her new surroundings before her move-in date. Over the course of thirty days Jade spent a few hours per week in Day-Hab and stayed overnight on weekends in House 1.

"One of Jade's caregivers from LHS came down for Jade's first overnight," Haidi says. "We were thankful

Continued, page 10

Community Foundation of West Chester/Liberty Keeps Us on Solid Footing

The winter of 2013-14 was the snowiest we have seen since the farm opened and one of the coldest in recent memory. Thanks to the Community Foundation of West Chester/Liberty, we were able to keep the roadways open and the walkways safe for our farmers, staff and visitors. The Foundation provided a grant to purchase a snow blade and salt spreader for our Kubota RTV. Farm

Managers Abby and Bill Ison, with assistance from farmer Jim spread 5 skids of salt and plowed the snow in a timely manner. We are grateful for the early December arrival of our new snow removal equipment and happy that doing this cold job ourselves saved us the money we would have paid an outside contractor. Thanks West Chester/Liberty!



Abby Ison and farmer Jim with their winter workhorse

Thank you donors
and volunteers !

The Safe Haven Way

Your gifts support the operation and maintenance of Safe Haven. Whether targeted to a specific project or unspecified, your funds help us buy the tools and materials to do construction, maintain structures and grounds and pay contractors when needed. The GE Volunteers organization funded the three adults swing sets for the farm and GE volunteers assembled and anchored them in place.

Donors 2013—March 31, 2014

- 10 Wilmington Place
- Ahlstrom, Patrick & Mary
- Anandpura, Parag & Shri
- Anderson, Kim & Wendy
- Anderson, Wesley
- Anglin, David
- Ayers, Nancy Sparks
- Back, Neil & Connie
- Barbee, Scott & Susan
- Barnes, Mark & Barbara
- Beck, Dave & Ronny
- Becker, Paul & Robin
- Benecchi, Roy & Gaie
- Benjamin Franklin Lodge #719 F&AM
- Blevins, Chad
- Blevins, Gary & Rena
- Blood, Stephen
- Bolduc, Wally & Kathy
- Bowers, Carol (Trust)
- Bramble Family Trust
- Brown, Bill
- Brown, Lloyd & Diana
- Brown, Steven & Mary Kay
- Burg, Terry & Sharon
- Campbell, Lex & Kay
- Caporal, Debra
- Claussen, Dennis
- Collins, Timothy J
- Community Found. of W. Chester/Liberty:
- JD Roberts Family Fund
- Conn, Glenda & Kenneth
- Crane Tec, Inc
- Cummins, Elijah & Linda J.
- Cybulski, Mary & Joseph
- Daiker, Don & Victoria
- Dalton, Dana
- Dana, Steve
- Davidson, Carolyn



Happy
Birthday,
farmer
Pete

- Davidson, Ron & Jatana
- Davis-Wendell Foundation
- Davis, Joseph & Nanci
- Dillingham, Robert & Harriett
- Dowling, Dennis & Mary Ann
- Dukart, David & Joanne
- Dunn, Wayne & Georgia
- Dusterberg, Richard
- East King Co. Estate Planning Council
- Ellenwood, Milton & Pat
- Fey Insurance Services
- Fisher, Richard & Julia
- Fitzer, Dr. Stephen & Susan
- Fletcher, Albion (Dick)
- GE Aviation
- GE Community Service Fund
- General Electric Foundation
- Griffin, Randall & Gianina
- Griffing, David & Louise
- H.E. Graves, Jr. Family Foundation
- Haaff, Dr. Eric & Kim
- Hagerman, Joanne
- Harshbarger, Al & Rita
- Hauser, Dan & Nita
- Henninger, Jean
- Herman, Patricia
- Holmes, Charles & Susan
- Hoover, Douglas & Joan
- Hornbeck, Chuck & Judy
- Humphries, Barry & Marilyn
- Imhulse, Donna
- Ivers, Susan
- Jacobs, Dan & Janice
- Jacoby, Kurt & Dani
- Jezeck, Carol
- Jezeck, Peter & Lineth
- John and Shirley Davies Foundation
- Johnson, Timothy & Janet



A grant from a SHF parent facilitated the Lockwood Garden, a lovely place for relaxing behind the Hatton Center. The generous gift funded a large concrete patio, Amish-built gazebo and patio furniture, landscaping and a gas grill for all to enjoy. In memory of farmer David's grandparents, the Lockwood Garden is a special tribute to his grandfather, who passed away last year and who believed strongly that Safe Haven would remain a wonderful place for his grandson to live.

Donors 2013—March 31, 2014

Judd, Debbie & Mike Deffinger
 Kane, Robert & Carol
 Keith, James & Dorothy
 Kersh, Bev
 King, Bill & Susan
 Kolkmeier, Bob & Carolyn
 Kubiak, Daniel
 Larison, Michael & Marian
 Lemaster, Ronald
 Lexis Nexis Cares
 Lindon, Paula
 Lockwood, Pamela J
 Marjorie Murphy Revocable Trust
 Martin, David & Barbara
 Matson, Karl & Michelle
 Maxfield, Susan
 Mayer, Bob
 McClintick, Cliff & Tara
 McDaniel, Fred & Nancy
 Mecklenborg, Barbara
 Microsoft Matching Gifts Program
 Miller, Martin & Ruth
 Miller, Matt & Sarah
 Moell Sr., George
 Molnar, James & Jennifer
 Moon, Craig & Melanie
 Moon, Thomas & Charlotte
 Morrison, George & Sarah
 Mullen, Kenneth
 Mullin, George
 Mundy, Al & Elizabeth
 Musnuff, Don & Trish
 Neal, Brian & Sue
 Nestico, Brian & Christine
 Niklas, Mary Beth
 O'Brien, Don & Suzanne
 O'Lenick, Tom & Imogene

Farmer Adam,
 "Make it well
 done, please."

Safe Haven Parents are our
 most dedicated, generous
 and loving volunteers!

Odioso, Mike & Leslie
 Ohio Valley Arabian Horse Association
 Oxford Presbyterian Church Women
 Oxford Presby. Mission & Outreach
 Page, Gary & Joan
 Pennington, N.E. & Sandra
 Pennock, David & Norma
 Pfohl, Ronald & Dawn
 Pittinger, Michael & Faith
 Poling, Wanda
 Poth, Alice
 Price, Jay & Sue
 Proctor, Larry & Connie
 Proctor, Lena
 Quay, Richard & Rebecca
 Quinn, James
 Redeemer Church
 Reinhart, Betty
 Reinhart, Johanna
 Riemann, Don
 Rogers, Denny & Ann
 Rogers, Stan & Barbara
 Rolfers, Jeffrey & Therese
 Rosenfeld, Taylor
 Sampsel, Joyce
 Schafer, Jim & Janet
 Schilling, Jan & Donna
 Schubert, Bob & Carol
 Segerman, Rita
 Sentrilock, LLC
 Sharp, Steven & Melanie
 Shearer, Karen
 Shikany, Alfred & Carol
 Shock, Joseph & Anne
 Siekman, Thomas & Amy
 Simmons, Eleanor





Faith Community United Methodist Church volunteers completed several projects including landscaping and mulching of the park area in front of the houses. Materials were funded by your contributions. So much of the work at the farm is funded by your gifts, with work and projects completed by our dedicated volunteers. **Donors and Volunteers, we couldn't thrive without you!**

Donors 2013—March 31, 2014

Singer, Tom & Judy
 Skillings, Sue
 Stebbins, Harry
 Steinmann, Brad
 Stidham, Kenneth & Debra
 Stillwell, Dale & Mary Beth
 Strizak, George & Phyllis
 Suit, Violet
 Suits, James
 Taffuri, Carmine
 Tamborski, Peter
 Taylor, Kevin & Colleen
 Tereba, Rich & Nancy
 Todd A. Jones Memorial Fund
 Troxel, Verne & Mary
 Ullman, Michael & Ann
 Ungar, Mark & Marcy
 United Methodist Women
 Valen, Judge Anthony
 Vance, Lillion O
 Vonderhaar, William & Beverly
 Wainscott, Jim & Darla
 Walther, Ginger
 Walton Family Fund
 Welter, Jim & Helen
 Wernicke, Eugene & Judith
 Wespiser, Joseph & Kate
 Wienholts, Margaret
 Williams, Dr. Todd
 Williams, Pamela Sue
 Wilson, Dave & Sue
 Wilson, Ken
 Winslow, Roland & Nicole
 Wissing, Tom & Holly
 Wollmershauser, Amy
 Wollmershauser, Charles Jr. & Kathy



Farmer Jade at SH dance with Miami University student volunteers.

Wollmershauser, Charles Sr
 Wollmershauser, Mark & Margaret
 Wollmershauser, Richard & Barbara
 Wossum, Morgan & Carol
 Wurst, Daniel
 Wurst, Tim

Donations In-Kind

Autism Speaks
 Benecchi, Roy & Gaie
 Blevins, Gary & Rena
 Bolduc, Wally & Kathy
 Front, Vince & Victoria
 Henning, Briana
 Herman, Patricia
 McKenzie, Donna
 Ratliff, Shawn
 Reisenfeld, Bradley & Constance



GE summer interns and farmer Jim show support for the GE Community Service Fund (CSF).

Foundation Grants

GE Volunteers Foundation
 Community Foundation of West Chester/Liberty



Valued supporters of Safe Haven Farm, the Board Members of the GE Community Service Fund, with Safe Haven staff member, after completing a barn project.



The pole barn, financed by a grant from the Hatton Foundation in 2012, with finishing work done by contractors and volunteers, gives us room to store hay, house our farm dogs, and provides a craft room for the farmers to do messy projects. We are fortunate to have our own hay field; the hay is cut and baled by a local farmer, saving us from having to buy hay for our animals from an outside supplier.



Volunteers from the Oxford Presbyterian Church decorated the Hatton Center for Christmas on December 8, 2013.

Shopsmith. . . Times Two!

Safe Haven is fortunate to have received two Shopsmith multi-purpose woodworking systems from friends of our farmers. Both donors were happy to donate this versatile tool and other workshop items to Safe Haven with the hope that some of our farmers would enjoy wood working as much as they did.

Dr. Ronald Pfohl, a retired Professor at Miami University, has known the Wilson family and farmer Jim since Jim was born. Dr. Pfohl is a skilled woodworker and craftsman who used the Shopsmith for many years until he and his wife moved to a condo.

The family of Tak and Sacchi Kariya, long-time neighbors and friends of the Norrises and farmer Jake, was pleased to pass on the system that was so enjoyed by Tak during his life. An engineer who created beautiful furniture, Tak and his wife took a special interest in Jake. They were both “souls of kindness” says Jake’s mother, and it was a natural gesture that the system follow Jake to his new home.

We Could Use Donations of Tools, Equipment and Supplies

Gardening equipment

- * Tools – iron rakes, shovels, spades, trowels, hedge trimmers, loppers
- * Wheelbarrows
- * Garden carts
- * Gas-powered weed-eaters
- * Garden pots – all sizes

- * iPad2 (or later models)
- * Point and shoot cameras
- * Craft supplies
- * Floor puzzles
- * DVDs
- * Portable CD players

Farm equipment & supplies

- * Used Bobcat-type small front loader
- * Large farm tractor with bush hog, front loader
- * Utility trailer
- * Hay wagons
- * Cold weather enclosure for Kubota RTV
- * Zero-turn lawnmower
- * Golf carts
- * Chipper/shredder (heavy duty)
- * Gas powered chain saw
- * Hand tools
- * Animal food – alpacas, chickens, dogs, cats, ducks

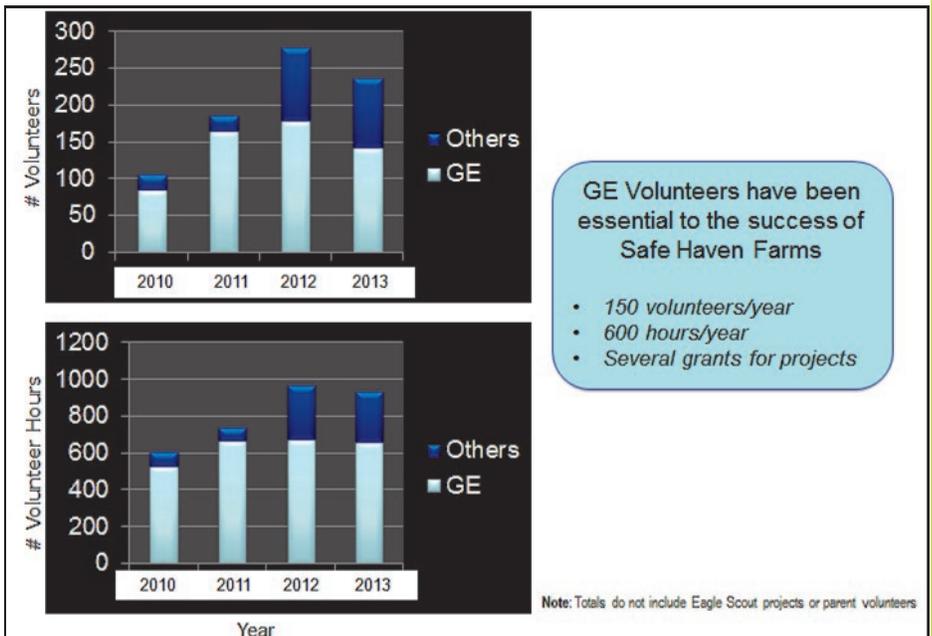
Equestrian equipment

- * English saddles
- * Saddle blankets, bridles, halters, lead ropes, bits
- * Storage trunks

Day program equipment & supplies

- * Programmable kiln

Volunteers at Safe Haven Farms—YOU Make All the Difference!



Equestrian Program for Children and Adults with Autism . . . Starting Soon!

Experience has shown that horseback riding has significant therapeutic benefits for people with autism and Safe Haven is thrilled to offer such an important activity. Our goal is to provide riders with a sense of personal achievement through therapeutic experiences, using equine-related activities. Do you know someone with autism who would enjoy therapeutic riding lessons? Contact Donna Farler, Equestrian Program Coordinator.

Donna Farler 513-422-1880 ext. 106 or 513-340-0688
Email equestrian@safehavenfarms.org
Website www.safehavenfarms.org (Watch for updates)

DONORS
You can help support our riding program by donating tack and equipment, sponsoring a horse, or making a financial contribution to our non-profit organization.

Physical and Sensory Benefits. People with autism often have decreased coordination, strength and muscle tone. Riding the horse develops strength as the rider constantly adjusts his body to stay on and control the horse during changes in speed, direction, hills and curves on a trail. Controlling the reins to steer or stop helps the rider develop coordination between the left and right sides of the body.

Cognitive and Language Benefits. People with autism sometimes struggle to comprehend directions and communicate. Riding a horse provides activities that require following directions—such as touching the mane and tail, steering the reins at a junction or saying "Go" after the instructor says, "One, two, three." The horse provides a natural learning environment because the rider is motivated to move, and the instructor can stop the horse to let him know that he must listen and respond before movement resumes.



Donna and Lucky

The rider often shows a great deal of pleasure and sense of accomplishment after learning to associate the words with the response of the horse. He learns to focus on something outside himself, an important step for a person with autism. He also learns to communicate and interact with the instructors and volunteers who are leading the horse or walking beside him and to respond to



Lucky, Sadie and Champ strut their stuff in our outdoor arena.

verbal cues from the instructor as he completes specific tasks.

Emotional Bond between Rider and Horse. Riding horses is much more than just a physical experience. While the movement of the horse is great for improving circulation, muscle control, and coordination, there is also a profound bond that riders—healthy and disabled—develop with their mounts.

People with disabilities know the horse will love them for who they are despite their difficulties in speaking or how they look. Caring for a horse helps the rider learn about the feelings of another living being. Hopefully, that bond will help the person with autism develop social and communication skills in other areas of his life.

Horses—We Have Big Ones and Little Ones!

Two miniature horses were recently donated to us by farm supporter, Ingrid Anderson. So doggone cute, Jack, a black gelding, and Lacy, a palomino mare, are about the same size as our Great Pyrenees, Riley. Farmer Emily has christened them the "horse puppies."

Ingrid also donated a riding cart for Jack and Lacy to pull, so any farmers who may be reluctant to ride our full-size horses can enjoy a ride around the property in the cart. Donna Farler notes that Jack and Lacy are sweet natured and have been well social-

ized to be around people. They arrived at the farm in style in a large full-size horse trailer, also donated with them.



Lacy & Riley go nose to nose



Farmer Emily smooches Jack

References: <http://www.livesstrong.com/article/85331-benefits-horse-therapy-kids-autism/> <http://www.regardingshorses.com/2008/03/11/therapeutic-horseback-riding-as-autism-treatment/>



In June 2013 our golf patrons, Rick and Sherry Fishbaugh (above) led us to another successful golf outing at the Wildwood Country Club. Many thanks to our event sponsors, tee and hole sponsors, golf foursomes, and prize contributors. Please support us again this year on **June 23, 2014**. More information on page 10. Watch our website for updates. www.safehavenfarms.org

Type	Sponsor
Gold	Erie Insurance in partnership with Moon and Adrion Insurance
Silver	Truepoint Inc.
Pearl	Erie Insurance Corporate
Pearl	State Auto Insurance Corporate
Pearl	Pamela Lockwood, MD
Jade	Noonan, Brockman & Pollock DDS, Inc.
Jade	Stefano's Italian Café
Jade	Jesal Patel DDS & Shawn Dornhecker DDS, Inc.
Jade	Ed & Betty Gentry in honor of "Kevin Judd"
Jade	Butler Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Jade	Fey Insurance Services
Jade	Al & Elizabeth Mundy
Jade	Greg Martin Excavating
Jade	Crane-Tec
Jade	Parrett Insurance Agency and Tanner Insurance Agency

Tee and Hole Sponsors	
Tee	Alliance Printing & Mailing Services (2)
Tee	Bill Conley
Tee	Dave & Sue Wilson in honor of "Jim"
Tee	Debbie Judd in honor of "Kevin"
Tee	Denny & Ann Rogers in honor of "Emily"
Tee	Don & Suzanne O'Brien - in honor of "Jon"
Tee	Fishbaugh Homes
Tee	Gary & Rena Blevins in honor of "Teresa"
Tee	Kenneth Cohen
Tee	Kleingers & Associates
Tee	Larry & Connie Proctor in honor of "Adam"
Tee	Limestone Insurance Agency
Tee	Mark & Paula Coleman
Tee	Middletown Ford
Tee	Pam Lockwood in honor of "David Edelstein"
Tee	River Trading Company, LTD
Tee	Shashikant & Aruna Anandpura in honor of "Parul "
Tee	Tom & Imogene O'Lenick in honor of "Pat" (2)
Tee	Wally & Kathy Bolduc in honor of "Joel"
Hole	Dave & Elaine Davis "Friends of Jon O'Brien"
Hole	Denny & Ann Rogers in honor of "Emily"
Hole	Denny Lumber
Hole	Dick & Pauling Hinkle in honor of "Andy Burdon"
Hole	Diver's Garden & Pet Supplies
Hole	Eugene Sherwood D.P.M., Inc.
Hole	Mike & Leslie Odioso in honor of "Audrey"
Hole	Tim Wurst
Hole	Wally & Kathy Bolduc in honor of "Joel"

In-Kind Prize Donations	
Abuelo's Mason	
Anonymous	
Bern's Garden Center	
Bravo Restaurant	
Cincinnati Bengals	
Dewey's Pizza	
Don O'Brien	
First Watch	
Graeter's	
Max & Erma's - Springboro	
Mimi's Café	
Mitchell's Fish Market	
P.F.Chang's	
Quatman Café	
Stone Creek Restaurant	
TGI Friday	
Widmer's Cleaners	



Our hard-working parent organizers:
 Lisa Eccles (L), Don O'Brien (C), Melanie Moon (R)

Theresa Ciampone Joining Safe Haven Board

Theresa Ciampone's career has been devoted to serving those with disabilities. A graduate of the University of Cincinnati with a business degree in marketing and management, Theresa has filled many roles, most recently as coordinator of events and fundraising for Linden Grove School, a not-for-profit school offering an alternative learning program for students diagnosed primarily with an autism spectrum disorder.

Board member **Sue Radabaugh** knows Theresa from Stepping Stones, where Theresa worked for 21 years, 15 of which were during Sue's tenure as Executive Director. Theresa held several key positions there including volunteer coordinator, summer camp director, development director, communications coordinator and special events coordinator. Notes Sue, "Theresa demonstrated incredible talent for all these jobs; she is so personable, everyone adores her. Full of life, energetic, creative and always willing to help, she will be a tremendous addition to our board."

Says **Denny Rogers**, "We are very excited to have Theresa joining the Safe Haven Board of Directors. She has a passion for our mission, and will bring a wealth of experience, knowledge and energy to the Board for the planning of our special events."

Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Events



Safe Haven Annual Golf Outing
June 23, 2014
Wildwood Golf Course
601 Aberdeen Dr.
Middletown OH 45042

- ◆ 18 holes of golf with cart
- ◆ Box luncheon, snacks, refreshments
- ◆ Dinner
- ◆ Prizes

Contact Sherry Fishbaugh 513-424-0384 or 513-594-6774

Neighborhood Garage Sale at the Farm
June 13 and 14



Have some items to put in our sale?
Email us
donations@safehavenfarms.org
No large furniture, please
5970 No Man's Rd
Middletown OH 45042

Jade Continued from page 3

for (their willingness to help with Jade's transition)."

Haidi continues, "Jade has adjusted very well from the beginning. Everyone in her home seems to enjoy her. She's very happy and contented, she's laughing. All of the staff in the day program have commented on how well she's doing, too.

"Jade could have lived at home as an adult," Haidi remarks. "We've always taken her everywhere. She's

never been sheltered. We've taken her to Disney World, we stay in hotels, we go out to eat. But what happens when we're no longer here? We have no extended family, nowhere for her to go after we're gone. This has been our real concern all along.

"We'll do anything for Jade to be happy. And we'll do anything for Safe Haven. We're here." Haidi hesitates for a moment. "We are hopeful this will be Jade's home forever."

Board Officers 2014

Dennis Rogers* (President)
Gary Blevins* (Vice President)
Dr. Pam Lockwood* (Secretary)
Scott Barbee (Treasurer)

Board Members

Wally Bolduc*
Theresa Ciampone
Peter Jezek
Craig Moon**
Suzanne O'Brien**
Sue Radabaugh**
Sue Wilson*

*Note: * son/daughter lives at Safe Haven Farms*

*** family member with autism spectrum disorder*

IN MEMORY OF JON O'BRIEN

In the words of Safe Haven parent, Dan Norris, "We have lost one of our boys, our sweet Jon."

The entire Safe Haven family joins Don and Suzanne O'Brien in grieving the loss of their son, and our friend, Jon O'Brien. Jon passed away unexpectedly after surgery on January 13, 2014, at the age of 40.

In his moving tribute read at Jon's Celebration of Life, Dan Norris said, "Our children exhaust us, soften us as men, teach us to cry and create a fierceness of spirit. Another crisis, a school break down, care givers not showing up, another police run, another hospital run, what are we to do with the future, to protect our deepest treasure? None of the options available are acceptable. We can't do it alone."

The Safe Haven family became true family through Jon's loss. We learned the deep truth of these words—we can't do it alone—and gathered together as one to support Don and Suzanne, and to support one another in this tragic loss even as we

celebrated Jon's life. We thank Bittersweet Farms for bringing staff in from Toledo to cover all four houses so staff who knew and loved Jon could attend his funeral; and Butler County DD for providing counseling for Safe Haven residents and staff.

Safe Haven residents paid tribute to Jon by gathering for Jon's favorite desserts, and then walking around the circle in front of the houses in memory of their friend. What a fine way for young men and women with autism to remember a friend's loss that they might otherwise not understand.

Jon, we smile as we remember your love for long hikes, swimming, dancing, and eating dessert. Those of us who were there at your final goodbye will never forget celebrating your life as we sang and clapped to that uplifting song, "Spirit in the Sky."

You are missed, but you live on in the legacy of this farm that your mother and father helped bring to reality. —KB

Anonymous

Aronstein, William & Patricia

Baker, Kevin & Grace

Bateman, Dennis & Sue

Blevins, Gary & Rena

Bolduc, Wally & Kathy

Bostrom, Glenn & Lisa

Brewer, Jack & Shelly

Brown, Richard & Jennifer

Carpenter, Sheldon & Mei

Conca, Christopher & Joy Lynne

Dager, Ronald & Sandra

Davis, Dave & Elaine

Decker, Brian & Hadley

Dees, Kyle & Meredith

DeWitt, Julia Ann

DeWitt, Robin

DeWitt, Stephanie

Dowling, Dennis & Mary Ann

Dryer, Brady & Ann

Dukart, David & Joanne

Dunn, Wayne & Georgia

Easter, Jill

Eger, Linda

Fordyce, Katherine

George, Timothy & Gail

Gerace, Jerome & Haidi

Green, Barbara Cappel

Hall, John & Tamara

Harris, David & Sheryl

Huminski, Stephen

Hutchins, Douglas & Tara

Jezek, Carol

Judd, Debbie & Mike Deffinger

Keith, James & Dorothy

Kelso, Gregory & Kelly

Kindler, Bonnie

Klose, Catherine

Kushner, Gail

Lubbers, Henry & Connie

Marsh, Robert & Maria

McCollum, David & Susan

McKinney, Linda

Moorman, Paul & Elaine

Muia, Janice

O'Brien, Thomas & Rebecca

O'Lenick, Tom & Imogene

Proctor, Larry & Connie

Radabaugh, Sue

Resident Home Corp.

Robison, Tricia

Rogers, Denny & Ann

Schroeder, Kathleen

Siemers, Terry

Soder, Karl & Carol

Spidare, Nancy

Sprague, Danielle

Stamp, Donn & Audrey

Temmesfeld, David & Alicia

Van Fleet, Larry & Kathleen

Wagner, Rich & Louisa

Walls, William & Toni

Wiederholt, Delores

Wilson, Dave & Sue

The O'Brien family and Safe Haven Farms are deeply grateful for your loving support and kind donations to Jon's memorial fund.



Safe Haven Farms

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New Book by Safe Haven Parent

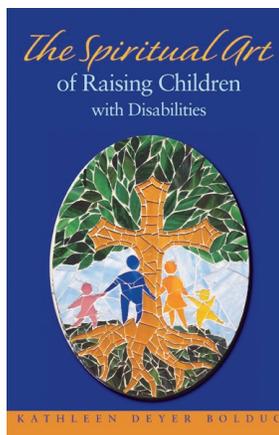
Resident farmer Joel Bolduc has been the inspiration behind the four books written by his mother, **Kathleen Bolduc**. Kathy's new book, *The Spiritual Art of Raising Children with Disabilities*, recently released by Judson Press, is receiving great reviews.

Rev. Betty Wright-Riggins, former speech pathologist, school administrator, consultant for students with special needs; and founder of TrustOne, a ministry of spiritual direction and coaching, writes: "Sharing her experiences as a parent of a son with autism, Kathleen Deyer Bolduc brings authenticity, inspiration, and discernment to this work. Writing in a conversational style, she allows the reader an intimate glimpse of real people as she walks alongside other parents

as they share times of questioning, grief, and anger, wondering where the hand of God is and finding it as they engage in the practice of spiritual disciplines. This book provides valuable spiritual insights for parents. It is also helpful to clergy, spiritual directors, churches ministering to families, and other service organizations privileged to provide space for grace to parents of children with special needs and catastrophic illnesses."

Former Safe Haven Board member **Tricia Herman**, Ph.D., remarks, "This is a realistic journey of raising a

child with disabilities. It is unique in



that it not only captures the emotions of parenting, but offers inspiration and direction for mental and spiritual health and well-being. For any parent of a child with a disability, this book can serve as a healing guide for their walk with their child. I highly recommend for all parents."

The Spiritual Art of Raising Children with Disabilities is available at

www.amazon.com or at
www.judsonpress.com