



DIVERSIFIED SERVICES, INC.

July 2019 Issue

Did You Know....We Make Mats!

*Design your own custom doormat!
Use your family name, a holiday
greeting, or maybe your company logo.*



1521 K-96 Hwy., Great Bend, KS 67530
(620) 792-1325 Fax (620) 792-9119

Pro-Green donation

Brian Mitchell, owner of Pro-Green at 1720 Main in Great Bend, wants to “go all in” for the 25th anniversary of his business next year. We couldn’t be more grateful that Sunflower is part of his plans.

Brian will donate a brand-new riding lawnmower and aluminum trailer to the live auction at Sunflower’s March, 7, 2020, Charity Gala. The Hustler Raptor SD features a 54-inch welded-steel deck; the Aluma trailer is 78 inches wide and 10 feet long.

The Raptor retails for \$4,249, while the trailer is valued at \$2,410.

“Hustler builds its great products in Hesston, KS.” Brian said. “This Raptor lawnmower has many heavy-duty qualities at a homeowner’s price. It features a great design, and ease of operation with raw performance.”

Connie Oetken, Sunflower’s director of development, approached Brian about an auction item possibility. He decided to take advantage of this opportunity to give back to his community.



“Sunflower is a great organization,” Brian commented. “It provides numerous services to help children and adults with disabilities and delays. Since the Gala is Sunflower’s major fundraiser of the year, we thought this would be a good way to support the agency and our community.”

Connie noted the mower and trailer are “wonderful and practical items that are a perfect fit for our auction. When Gala time rolls around, it will be the season to start thinking about lawn care. Brian should be commended for his care and compassion for the people we serve at Sunflower.”

Poker Run—Ride For Independence

All participants in our third annual Ride for Independence enjoyed their outing throughout central Kansas. But a few may have enjoyed it more than others.

Gerald Postlethwaite, Great Bend, won \$150 for the best poker hand, while Vic Miller, Offerle, earned \$75 for the second-best hand. The \$50 prize for the worst hand went to Sydney Soukup, Great Bend.

The ride started at Sunshine Garage in Larned. Stops along the way included Gregg’s Sports Pub and Grub in Rush Center; Tap Room in Hoisington; Odin Store in Odin; and Squeegy’s Bar and Grill in Claflin. The final destination was Jack Kilby Square in Great Bend where June Jaunt activities were in full swing.

This was Sunflower’s first year for coordinating the poker run with June Jaunt organizers. And it won’t be our last.

We are grateful to the 26 participants, sponsors, volunteers and the city of Great Bend for making this possible. Over \$2,000 was raised and all proceeds will benefit the Beautiful Minds Art Studio.

Sunflower Diversified Services, Inc.



Roy Titsworth puts a golf ball to earn a card for his poker hand at the third annual Ride for Independence at Jack Kilby Square in Great Bend.



Coffee & Pancakes

It's time to mark your calendar for the 19th annual Sunflower pancake feed, which is scheduled for the same day as our Great Bend Chamber of Commerce Coffee.

The popular events are scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 19; the coffee starts at 9 a.m. and pancakes will be served from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Prince of Peace Parish Center, 4100 Broadway.



Tickets for the all-you-can-eat pancake-and-sausage dinner are only \$5 each. They are available in advance or at the door for dine-in or carry-out.

In addition, raffle tickets are available from now until the Sunflower pancake dinner, where Scott Donovan of Eagle Radio will host a live remote and DJ Cain.com, DJ, will entertain with background music.

Each raffle ticket is \$5 but if you buy five, the sixth is free. Prizes include gift cards to various restaurants, Dillons and Ellinwood Packing; you do not have to be present to win.

Brad and Sarah Shirer have once again agreed to be raffle-ticket sponsors. We can't thank them enough for their willingness to support Sunflower.

All proceeds from the events, which launch our annual Sunrise Campaign, benefit infants, toddlers and adults in our five-county service area.

For dinner or raffle tickets, please call 620-792-1325.

Personal Accomplishments—Isaac

Isaac's dedication paid off when he recently graduated from our Incredible Years Preschool and led his class during the graduation ceremony. He once again demonstrated he is a dependable leader and is prepared for kindergarten.

During his two years with us, Isaac has been an excellent student who loves learning. Even when he was in our program for 3-year-olds, he would practice his Zoo Phonics in the evenings. He continued this type of diligence throughout preschool.



While Isaac can be cautious and thorough, Incredible Years has given him the confidence to shine. He is a kind, thoughtful friend to his peers and has a great love for sports.

Isaac's mom, Monica, said Incredible Years allowed her son "to come out of his shell. He used to be pretty shy and reserved. But now he is not afraid to ask questions or voice his opinion. He absolutely loves going to school."

Monica also noted Isaac has always been kind-hearted and willing to help those in need.

We are proud to be part of this graduate's journey; we can't wait to see all that he accomplishes in the future.



Personal Accomplishments—Robert / Avian

Sunflower's two featured adults this quarter are long-time clients who live productive and rewarding lives thanks to their hard work and great personalities, along with the support of our professional staff. Their daily activities illustrate the scope of Sunflower's services and opportunities.

Robert Davis and Avian Rincones demonstrate every day that people with disabilities work and participate in leisure activities with dignity and self-confidence. They are testament to how Sunflower changes lives with its philosophy of independence.

Robert Davis

Robert Davis has been part of the Sunflower family for 20 years. Since he is outgoing and very social, Robert excels at work and during his leisure hours.



Robert Davis prepares a book for shredding.

For example, he wraps hoses at our manufacturing plant and is part of the team that travels on business pick-up routes to collect recyclables.

When he is not earning his own paycheck, Robert rides go-carts and scooters when visiting with his family. He also enjoys watching movies and wrestling, bowling and Great Bend Recreation Center dances.

He somehow finds the time to volunteer at the Golden Belt Humane Society.

Robert is a Lyons High School graduate and lives with two roommates by choice. He and his girlfriend enjoy date nights and attending church together.

Avian Rincones

Avian Rincones has a great personality and loves to smile – both of which have contributed to his many successes. Avian has been with us for 21 years.

He works at our manufacturing plant, as well as at Sunflower Recycling. Outside interests include music and entertainment, arts and crafts, swimming, dancing, attending church and going on vacations with family.



Avian Rincones sorts materials for recycling.

A graduate of Great Bend High School, Avian lives with family members. He contributes to the household by planning meals, buying groceries and cooking up some favorite recipes.

Avian also has joined a motorcycle club called "Bikers for Christ"; he is a support rider.



Email Delivery of Newsletter
If you would prefer to receive this newsletter by email in the future, please send your email address to info@sunflowerdiv.com.

Contributions—April through June 2019

The following individuals and businesses have contributed to the support of Sunflower's programs and special projects. Dollars received by the Foundation are gifted on a quarterly basis to supplement local, state and federal funding. Our supporters and partners are very important to us, and we appreciate the involvement of each and every one. If you know of anyone we have missed, or if we need to update our information, please let us know.

Invest In Kids

Leonard & Linda Bunselmeyer
 Cecil & Esther Cromwell
 John & Crystal Cross
 Nicole Doyle
 Dave & Betty Evers
 Neil Frieb
 Daniel & Jessie Habiger
 Isern & Carpenter Law
 Keller Real Estate & Insurance Agency
 Leslie Klug
 Karen Kramp
 Harvey & Rosemary Linn
 Paul's Oilfield Service, Inc.
 Pilot Club of Great Bend
 Victory Barber Shop
 WHB, Inc.

3rd Annual Ride for Independence

Aaron's Repair & Supply, Inc.
 Benefit Management, Inc.
 Carr Auction & Real Estate, Inc.
 Community Bank
 Darin's Auto Repair
 Doerflers' Harley-Davidson
 Eldridge Fencing, Inc.
 Farmers Bank & Trust
 First Bank
 Hejny Liquor
 Office Products Inc.
 P & S Security
 Sanko Auto Service
 Karen Shaner
 Spectrum CPA Partners LLC
 Troy's Color Clinic LLC

Contributors

Beck Chiropractic
 Tom & Marcia Coleman
 Tom & Jan Crissman
 Donald & Phyllis Whelan Memorial
 Endowment Fund
 Neil Frieb
 JC & CA Haas
 Jim & Pam Jordan
 Knights of Columbus #1187
 Beverly Komarek
 Dale & Alto Liden
 Fred & Pat Lohrey
 Lutheran Women's Missionary League
 Marjorie Miller
 Dennis & Kathy Pechanec
 Rush County Parade Fund
 Sanko Auto Service
 Curtis & Lila Schartz
 Dennis & Jann Sherman
 Don & Sharon Urban
 Shirley Willhaus

Charity Gala

Office Products Inc.
 Oilfield Machine & Repair, Inc.
 Brent & Lori Waters

EEC Playground

Christine Martinez

SDS Pancake Feed Raffle Sponsor

Brad & Sarah Shirer

CALENDAR

July 10— SDS Eagle Radio Show; tune in at 8:30 a.m.		
July 11— cooking & serving at the Farmers Bank & Trust hot dog feed		
July 18-21— participating as a sponsor at the Ellinwood After Harvest Festival		
July 26— cooking & serving at the Stafford community hot dog feed & free swim night		
August 10— participating in the Great Bend Party in the Park		
August 14— SDS Eagle Radio Show; tune in at 8:30 a.m.		
August 14— giving back at the Great Bend High School Business Showcase		
September 2— participating in the Hoisington Labor Day parade		
September 11— SDS Eagle Radio Show; tune in at 8:30 a.m.		
September 19— SDS' Great Bend Chamber Coffee at Westside Market, 5523 10th		
September 19— pancake feed from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Prince of Peace Parish Center		
October 2— Krispy Kreme fundraiser; call 620-792-4087 for details		
October 9— SDS Eagle Radio Show; tune in at 8:30 a.m.		
October 10— hosting the Hoisington Chamber Coffee		
October 30— 6th annual Dialing for Dollar\$		

Please call 620-792-1325 for more details on any of these events.



"ALL YOU CAN EAT" Pancake Feed & Raffle
Pancakes, Sausage and Drink

*Come enjoy the evening and be entertained by
Chris Cakes Inc.*

DJ Cain. Com

DJ Cain. com



100.7
Eagle Country



***Thursday, September 19—4:00pm to
7:00pm***

***Prince of Peace Parish Center
4100 Broadway***

\$5.00 per person

Dine In or Carry Out

Pancake and Raffle Tickets available at the event

Raffle tickets \$5.00 each—buy 5 get one free

Raffle sponsored by Brad & Sarah Shirer

Hoisington EMS Community Barbecue

Sunflower representatives showcased our services at the recent Hoisington EMS community barbecue. It was a great opportunity to share our message of independence for the people we serve.

This is just one of many ways Sunflower gives back to the community that has given so much to us over the years. Clients and staff members always enjoy these opportunities to visit with residents of central Kansas.



Hoisington EMS and Sunflower representative gather for the recent community barbecue.

And, of course, it was enlightening to get acquainted with the first responders who serve and protect their community. We appreciate being included in this annual event and hope to be involved next year.

Featured Employee—Diane

It might be easier to list the positions Diane Ramos has not held at Sunflower over the last 35 years.

Diane, our featured employee of the quarter, is now recycling drop-off manager at Sunflower Diversified Recycling where she helps clients with their job responsibilities. Employees take care of business inside the recycling center, while also keeping an eye to the outside where they help customers unload materials.

Diane also has served as saw room/product supervisor; substitute driver; simple assembly supervisor; food service manager; CHS manager; rehabilitation aide; certified nurse's aide; medical services assistant and wheelchair repairwoman; and Westside Market manager.

“Every job I have performed has been personally rewarding,” Diane said. “My colleagues and I make a positive difference in the lives of the

people we serve, as well as in our own lives. I encourage others to apply. They will soon learn the scope of our services and the many ways we change lives.”



Diane Ramos, our featured employee of the quarter, has supported clients for 35 years.

Sarah Krom, chief operating officer, said “Diane has been a key member of our day-services staff for all these years. She supports people with respect and compassion and is a favorite of the clients.

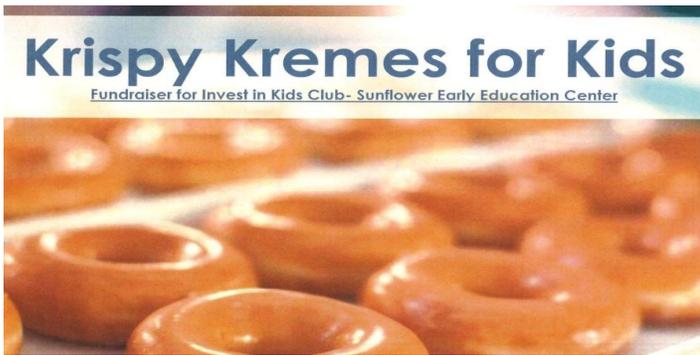
“Because Diane believes in Sunflower’s philosophy of independence and making choices, she advocates for new employment opportunities. She is always here to help clients develop their skills and make a big impact on their employment ventures.”

Ellinwood Garage Sale



Sunflower recently participated in the annual Ellinwood Garage Sale and raised \$1,286. We appreciate the opportunity for this fundraiser.

Krispy Kreme Results



The Krispy Kreme fundraiser came off without a hitch and raised just shy of \$3,000 for our Invest in Kids Club. Proceeds from the sale of 500 dozen of the tasty treats go directly to our Early Education Center and Incredible Years Preschool.

Invest in Kids has been an integral part of providing educational and therapeutic services to young children in our service area for several years now.

Its impact cannot be overstated.

Delays and disabilities are at least alleviated; in many cases, they are overcome. This not only changes the lives of children and their families, it also means that expensive special education may not be necessary.

Car Wash Results

Sunflower clients and staff spiffed up 16 vehicles, raised about \$400 in free-will donations and had a great time at our first Car Wash.

Those who washed the vehicles did a great job and everyone wants to do it again in the future. Thankfully, the logistics worked well. Customers drove up, handed the keys to our



Clients and staff clean a vehicle at Sunflower's first Car Wash.

Connie Oetken, who then parked the vehicles after they were nice and clean.

We were impressed with the community's spirit, as well as its trusting nature in handing over car keys with no questions asked. All us also are grateful to the city of Great Bend for its help and permission to sponsor the event downtown.

Special thanks go to the customers who made this a successful event. We always appreciate it when clients and staff have the opportunity to interact with their neighbors.

Personal Accomplishments—Calvin

When Calvin began receiving Tiny-K services in September last year at Sunflower Early Education Center (EEC), he was using fewer than 20 words. He was very difficult to understand by anyone except his mom.

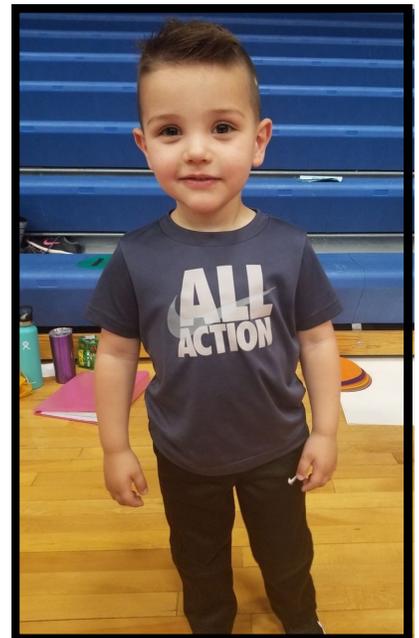
At the time, Calvin's dad was deployed with the U.S. Army and communicated with his family via Skype. Dad had a difficult time talking with his son.

Calvin has made tremendous progress. He is using short sentences to talk about what he wants and to explain what he is doing while he plays.

Most important, Calvin now shares stories and participates in conversations with his family at the dinner table. And his dad and brothers can understand what he is saying.

Gretchen Thureau, Calvin's mom, said her son has made so much progress with his speech since he started interacting with Heather Quillin, an EEC speech/language pathologist.

"Our sessions helped us learn new ways to practice his speech effectively, while having fun in the process," Gretchen commented. "Calvin loves seeing Heather at our door for his sessions and we are very pleased with his progress."



Calvin has made tremendous progress with his speech.



Sunflower Diversified Services "Invest In Kids" Club needs your help. 'Grant the Giraffe' knows the "Invest In Kids" Club ensures the future of infants and children with developmental delays. You may donate annually, quarterly or monthly, whatever works best. All proceeds go to Sunflower Early Education Center and Incredible Years Preschool. The children and their families will be grateful.



Please make a donation today!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

\$ _____ Thank You

Pledge Amounts—SDs can invoice you!

\$1 _____ \$5 _____ \$10 _____ \$20 _____ \$25 _____
 \$50 _____ \$100 _____ \$150 _____ \$200 _____ Other _____