KSDS is very pleased to welcome Larry Stigge as our CEO. Larry started in mid January and has enjoyed his new position, working with staff, meeting clients and visiting with volunteers.

Larry grew up in Washington, Kansas, and after graduating from the University of Kansas returned to manage the family business, Stigge’s Department Store. Later, he relocated to California where he managed multiple stores for a national women’s clothing store chain. After earning a Masters Degree from San Jose State University he returned to his business roots as buyer, main store manager, and later manager of operations for a San Francisco Bay-area store chain. After 20 years in California, he returned to his hometown and was most recently store manager for Duckwall Alco Stores.

He barely missed a beat from one job to the next, leaving his previous job on a Friday and starting at KSDS the following Monday. Larry brings a wealth of business background to KSDS. In one of his jobs he supervised staffs of up to 40 employees. In another position he developed many new procedures that assisted in the company’s growth. His formal education includes training in accounting, advertising, marketing, advanced computer systems, and management. “I’m really enjoying the new challenge this position offers. I believe I can bring my business experience and help KSDS grow. The other aspect is how fulfilling it is to be working at KSDS because of the important impact on so many people who need the services we provide. And I must admit, I do like to go down and play with the puppies once in a while.”

Larry has been involved in many community activities. He is a former President of the Washington Chamber of Commerce and the Washington Lion’s Club. Currently, Larry is an active member of the Washington Rotary Club and is on the Board of Trustees of the Washington Public Library. During his off hours he enjoys following college football and basketball. “I have a lot of varied interests, but when the weather is nice, I’m out in the yard or working around the house.”

He enjoyed many things about California, especially the climate, but he likes being back in Kansas and renewing old friendships. “This is a very small community. I already knew most the staff at KSDS, their parents, or their spouses. I went to High School with Karen Price and became acquainted with the KSDS program during trips back home. So it is a real joy to be associated with such a great cause and to help keep KSDS moving forward in its mission.”

Meet our New CEO, Larry Stigge

Stigge is excited to lead KSDS and help continue its mission.
The Winter Litter was born on December 28. The six Labrador Retriever puppies (3 males and 3 females), out of Hilton and Dozer, are Arctic, Avalanche, Blizzard, Brisk, Flurry, and Polar. They were well cared for and given lots of love and attention while they spent their first eight weeks at KSDS in the Canine Housing Unit. They went to their puppy raiser homes on Friday, February 27, an appropriately wintery day complete with snow and a wintery mix!

Their puppy raisers will be responsible for teaching them basic obedience and socializing them until they are 18- to 24-months old, setting the foundation for these pups to grow into excellent assistance dogs.

The six Golden Retrievers making up the Vacation Litter were born on January 30 to Houli and Bullit. Houli was a very attentive mother and tenderly cared for the four male and two female puppies. On the many cold days that were weathered in February and March, the KSDS staff could often be found enjoying some cuddle time with the warm, fluffy furballs. And, as they enjoyed the time with them, they would dream of nice places to vacation and escape the cold, winter plains of Kansas.

Each pup quickly grew and on Friday, April 1 it was time for London, Paris, Rome, Calgary, Maui, and Sydney to go live with their puppy raisers.

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Once a year, Kansas State University hosts a disability awareness week. As part of this week, there is an Assistance Dog Exhibition. It is a half-day event during which the public can meet assistance dog trainers, working teams and puppy raisers to learn all about these wonderful canine assistants and ask questions.

This year, KSDS and Canine Companions for Independence were represented. After a morning of visiting with the public, KSDS graduates and trainers spoke at a forum. Kansas State University student and KSDS graduate James Geary spoke about how his service dog, Schwan, helps him on a daily basis. Schwan even showed off many of her skills all for a very nice back scratch as a reward! Dolores Nash also talked briefly about her experience as a new team with her guide dog May.

KSDS Trainers Debbie Tegethoff and Michelle Woerner followed up by sharing about our training program and ADI accreditation. They also reminded attendees about the importance of Kansas State University and puppy raisers in the process of producing our top-quality assistance dogs.

It was a perfect Kansas spring morning for the 16th annual KSU Dog-n-Jog on Saturday, April 2nd. The K-State Vet School sponsors the 5K, 10K, and 1.5K Fun Run to benefit KSDS.

By the time the KSDS contingent was ready for beginning the 1.5K Family Fun Run/Walk, the skies were clear and it was t-shirt weather. Participating from the Washington staff were Letha Nelson (and husband Larry), Deb Tegethoff, and Larry Stigge. Joining them were Puppy Raisers: Sandy and Bob Bartkoski, Brent and Marcia Boring, Larry Braddy, Gina and Carl German, Julie Jensen (and granddaughter Trinity Zohn), Ed and Nancy Maynard, Carla McGuire, Derry McGuire, Dr. Pat Payne, and Dennis and Donise Petersen. Also attending were KSDS friends Caitlyn James and Dr. Amy Rankin.

The hit of this year’s Dog-n-Jog were Maui, Paris, and Rome from the Vacation Litter, just placed the previous day with their Puppy Raisers. The puppies were surrounded by excited children (and admiring adults) and rode in their own little red wagon around the 1.5K course.

It was a great day for some KSDS fun and to help support KSDS.

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**KSU ASSISTANCE DOG EXHIBITION**

KSDS is represented at Kansas State University Disability Awareness Week

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**KSU DOG-N-JOG**

Veterinary Medicine students at Kansas State University host a fundraiser for KSDS

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**A GIFT**

The following letter was received from Beth Sakumura. With her kind permission we share it with you.

Dear friends,

Today my first KSDS pup, Cleo, will pass over the rainbow bridge. She is now 15 and has lived a long and happy life. As we raise these pups, the subject of how we can let them go frequently comes up, and it is never easy to give an answer to those who haven’t had the experience. Although it is never easy to let one of our pups go, Cleo was my first of six, and of course the most difficult as she taught me to fully open my heart to our journey as puppy raisers.

I’ve always called Cleo my “heart dog.” Not only because we bonded in a way I had never experienced, but also because I learned from her happy soul that love sometimes means opening ourselves to the pain associated with change. I have come to think of my KSDS pups as gifts that I am allowed to nourish and cherish for a short time before I have the privilege of passing this gift on.

I am grateful to KSDS for teaching me to share rather than horde my love, and to Ann, Cleo’s partner, for keeping Cleo in my life so the lesson was softer than it might have been.

Beth

Our thanks to Beth for helping us to better understand the generosity of our Puppy Raisers in passing on the gift of a KSDS puppy.
A unique, dual training opportunity gets national attention

A new program at the Kansas City International Airport (MCI) is getting national attention. As an initial trial run, a small group of KSDS representatives coordinated with the Transportation and Security Administration (TSA) screening staff to establish a first-of-its-kind dual training opportunity. It has been two years of effort to get everything off the ground.

The training features a short presentation about KSDS and assistance dogs and real-life scenarios that help TSA staff practice disability awareness. It allows the staff to ask questions in a friendly environment and take the time to practice what they have learned in books and their training. KSDS also benefits from this program. It is a valuable training tool for puppies in training and for guide and service dogs, because it gives them a chance to experience the handling that is required should they ever need to board an airplane.

The training began by everyone going through the security line exactly as they would if they were going to be flying somewhere. If the dog’s harness or leash set off the metal detector, the dog was patted down appropriately. Sometimes, the head screener set up a scenario for the KSDS volunteers to test his staff. For example, he asked them to pretend to have a pacemaker and be unable to go through the metal detector. A TSA staff member would pat down the KSDS volunteer by hand as the dog lies quietly at his handler’s feet. All the dogs did really well and showed the hard work puppy raisers and trainers put into making KSDS assistance dogs some of the best! Not all dogs like people touching their handler, but it is important for our dogs to accept this and not show any aggression.

As things were wrapping up, a plane had landed so there was a crowd of people at the baggage claim. The puppies in training got to experience all the chaotic sights and sounds of that and it was just one more chance for them to excel!

This dual training opportunity was so well-received by TSA in the Kansas City area, they shared the experience with Washington D.C. and it was reported on in their national newsletter. Training has also occurred at the Columbia Regional Airport near Columbia, MO. The hope is to expand to more airports and train more often with more dogs at MCI.

A UNIQUE WAY TO HELP KSDS

Dr. Jack Jensen, an orthopedic doctor and brother to puppy raiser Mike Jensen, has generously offered a “matching donation” to KSDS. Mike Jensen died last year.

Dr. Jensen has provided us with wooden nickels with his brother’s picture with “Wooden Mike” on one side and “KSDS” and our logo on the other side. Dr. Jensen’s offer is to match any donation to KSDS accompanied by the nickel. He believes in our mission at KSDS and knows that KSDS had a special place in his brother’s heart. For that reason, Dr. Jensen has made this generous offer.

The nickels are available at the gift shop at the KSDS training building. You can help KSDS to raise funds and select matching funding for the general operating fund or the capital campaign.

Be sure to pick up your wooden nickel at the gift shop at KSDS! Thank you.
**A PRICELESS GIFT: CARMINÉ’S TALE**

Betty Jean Pearson, a KSDS graduate, has written a book called, “A Priceless Gift.”

The book is about her service dog, Carmine, and her puppy raiser, Steve Harlan. Assistance dogs begin training at eight weeks old, and this is where Carmine’s story begins. Betty Pearson’s “A Priceless Gift” honors those puppy raisers.

Thousands of people live with disabilities that limit their mobility. “This book will open doors for those wishing to become puppy raisers and teach people living with disabilities about the benefits of service dogs. Dog partners open doors which were once tightly closed to us” says Pearson.

Steve Harlan, Carmine’s puppy raiser, was responsible for her basic obedience skills. The book follows the pair through their trials, accomplishments and heartache. Steven wrote, “I read the book and it is simply wonderful. Brought back so many memories.”

Betty Jean Pearson has a B.A. in elementary education and a M.A. certifying her as an educational diagnostician and a special education teacher having taught for over twenty-three years. Her debilitating physical disability began in 1960. Fortunately, her first service dog, LaDee, came to live and work with her until 2006. Shortly after LaDee passed away, Betty was blessed with the gift of Carmine.

The book is available in the KSDS gift shop, or at: createspace.com/3489148. All proceeds will be donated to KSDS.

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**WAYS TO DONATE TO KSDS**

Donations of items on our wish list.

Donate to the capital campaign.

Purchase a brick for capital campaign for $100.

Employer Matching Programs.

Combined Federal Campaign (Federal employees) workplace giving program: Our CFC #10823

Community Health Charities (State employees) workplace giving: State of Kansas #29; State of Missouri #9380

State of California employees can now donate using their workplace giving program #3096

On-line gifts through our website at ksds.org.

Shop online using iGive.com.

Search the web using GoodSearch.com. Every search is a donation to KSDS.

Monthly gifts: Call (785) 325-2256 or visit ksds.org to set up an automatic electronic funds transfer.

Sponsor a litter of puppies.

Sponsor an assistance dog team.

Honor a life with a Memorial/Tribute gift.

Consider a charitable trust or bequest in your will.

Create a legacy with an estate plan.

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**INTRODUCING LARRY BRADDY**

A familiar face is wearing a new hat at KSDS. In January, puppy raiser Larry Braddy joined the KSDS team as Resource Development and Public Relations Coordinator. Larry will be concentrating his efforts in the Kansas City area, raising awareness and building support for KSDS.

Larry was born in Manhattan, grew up in Pratt and moved to Kansas City after High School. He studied computer programming and data processing. After 3 years in the U.S. Army, including service in Vietnam, Larry attended Rockhurst College and received a degree in accounting. He worked for DST for 27 years before retiring.

Larry’s first puppy was Goblin, now a service dog. His other dogs include Arbys, Cinnamon, Cadillac, and Sonata. Cinnamon, a released dog to Larry, assists him with a READ program in schools and libraries. Cadillac is in the Guide Training Program. Larry is currently raising Sonata. He is also the current President of the Puppy Raiser Advisory Board.

Larry enjoys the opportunity to work with the dogs and the people they are partnered with, the KSDS staff, Board, puppy raisers, and so many more. “I am ‘hooked’ and hope to do this for very long time.”

Thanks to Larry for his work for us and welcome to his new role at KSDS.
BILL DAIN
KIRKCALDY - GUIDE

I met my new partner, Kirkcaldy, in February. Deb and I had been discussing retirement of Bronco, my second guide dog, when he became very ill and had to retire early.

During our time in Washington we worked in snow, ice, mud and slush. Kirkcaldy would guide me so I would walk in the snow and he would navigate the ice. He quickly learned I drop things from my pockets and don’t realize it, so he picks up plastic bags and pens and hands them to me.

I own two cafeterias in Topeka, and I can’t be away from work for very long. KSDS helped me by doing part of my training in Topeka, teaching us our daily routes. Kirkcaldy takes me to the cafeterias, vending machines, the bank and the Docking building. You might see us out shopping for supplies at Wal-Mart or Sam’s Club. I pull a large shopping cart on my right and Caldy guides me on my left. He is already learning what aisles some of the supplies are in; I tell him to take me to the bananas, and he’ll lead me straight there.

Improvements have been made in training methods since I got my first dog, Leggo. Obedience is a key factor in our team’s success; we have at least a five-minute obedience session every morning before work.

Bronco was my buddy and right-hand man, but Caldy has stepped in and taken my heart. KSDS stepped up and helped me get another partner so I didn’t have to use my cane.

Kirkcaldy was raised by LaFonda Sharp and family of Healy, KS.

LUCINDA HARMAN
EL DORADO - SERVICE

Adapted from an open letter to Karen Price, the founder and former CEO of KSDS.

This is my first trip to KSDS without you waiting to welcome me. When I was here in 1998 to get my first dog Quint, Michelle was a new intern and Deb had started two weeks before. You must be so proud of them! They have grown in skill and confidence through the sadness of your illness and death, the leadership of Judy, and with a new CEO, Larry.

I am no longer walking, and I need a dog that is strong and capable of caring for me at night when I am alone. El Dorado is that dog! He is a strong, brave, smart and an alpha dog. I am an alpha female a professional in healthcare and an executive director of an international neurology certification board; I need a dog that can deal with me! I have a varied routine and travel to make presentations at many conferences.

I came to get Happy, my second dog, the day after Quint retired. This time, I had three weeks to be hit in the face with how much I NEED a service dog! El Dorado is my new, true love, much different from the others and exactly what I need now!

Thanks, Karen, for your vision and perseverance in dreaming KSDS into being. The truth in a legacy is if it continues to thrive once the dreamer has passed on. Your legacy lives on. It lives in Temple, Texas, where El Dorado and I will return to work and worship and wherever in the world my work leads.

El Dorado was raised by Jason and Erin Gubbins from Columbia, MO.

NANCY PHILLIPS
SEVILLE - SERVICE

Our experience started in Wichita, KS, at Great Plains Nature Center where I ran into Erlena Benning who was working behind the desk with her first service dog. She told me about KSDS. I had already signed up with two separate schools out of state because I did not know about KSDS. This was in 2001.

I contacted the school, came for the interview, did the video and came for my dog, Hatari, in 2003. From graduation, we went to the casino for the entire night. At that point, I was still walking and Hatari helped me balance. She served me for eight years and retired four days before I started training for my new dog.

Now, I am fully in a wheelchair. Seville, a 2-year-old female black Lab, is from the Cadillac litter. Seville’s puppy raisers are Brenda Herndon and her son Hunter from Overland Park, KS. They made me a lovely puppy book about Seville’s life with them while she was learning social and obedience behavior so she would be ready to help me.

It has been a rather déjà vu experience getting a second dog. Many things are the same while more things are different. Seville has a very tender disposition, and she and I have bonded quite well in just these two weeks. I am looking forward to many wonderful experiences with her when we return to McPherson, KS.

I would like to express heartfelt thanks to all of the KSDS staff, especially Michelle Woerner and Deb Tegelhoff, and their families for their many hours of love, devotion and hard work in preparing these dogs for our service.
JANICE STEWART
FLEETWOOD - SERVICE

Thirteen years ago I had a massive stroke, and I decided I needed a service dog. My therapist at Kansas Rehab suggested that I come to KSDS. I was a little afraid at first, and there seemed to me to be a large class. I felt as though I was failing everything. Miraculously, I survived and my partner, Statler, helped me get through the classes. He was much smarter than I and served me well for eleven wonderful years.

His health finally failed, and we had to put him down. I immediately applied for another dog, which I knew would be wonderful. I know how well trained they are. Much to my delight, I received my new partner, Fleetwood, a yellow labrador retriever from the Cadillac litter. Fleetwood is a Cadillac in his own way. We are not the closest partners yet, but that will come with time and work, if he will only straighten me out. He is wonderful, but I am a little slow. I always thought that black was the only color for a lab, but with Fleetwood, I have fallen in love with yellow.

I am thankful for puppy raiser Jerrilyn Bayless from Terre Haute, IN. She did a wonderful job with Fleetwood. I am also thankful for Michelle Woerner who continued his education and straightened out mine. But then again, she is used to people like me and shares her knowledge and skill with love for me as well as Fleetwood. I have always been a dog lover and I think that Labradors are an exceptional, smarter than average, breed. Now I have golden expectations. Thank you so much for Fleetwood! 🐾

DANIEL CASEMENT
MAGNOLIA - SOCIAL

Daniel and Magnolia (Maggie) work at Family Service & Guidance Center in Topeka, KS. Together, they provide outpatient therapy to children ages 7-18. Maggie helps serve a case-load of more than 80 clients with behavioral and mood disorders, autism spectrum disorders, trauma and abuse, as well as general family conflict. Daily, she helps make new clients feel comfortable in the unfamiliar setting and happily greets returning faces. Maggie is especially good at defusing tense situations with a reassuring kiss or by resting her head on a client’s leg.

Training with Magnolia at KSDS was a wonderful experience, especially seeing the relationship grow between two and four legged partner. We also have memories of the un-ending snow storm that hit mid-week and Daniel getting the flu the night before the final test! The training doesn’t stop after leaving KSDS, and most days Maggie teaches Daniel as much as he teaches her.

Maggie has transitioned into her new home easily, which is more than can be said of the family’s cat, Gabby; it took her a while to adjust. As time has passed, Maggie and Gabby have developed a healthy, fun-loving relationship. Gabby loves to play with Magnolia’s ever swinging tail, and, for the most part, Maggie is happy to oblige.

Maggie’s two favorite pastimes are running with Daniel after work and begging to be allowed up on the couch.

Jim and Rita Jones of Pleasant Hill, MO, were puppy raisers for Magnolia. 🐾

TAMMY GANO
CATALPA - SOCIAL

I am a special education Para and bus driver for Washington County Schools. I work in the high school and elementary resource rooms and follow some students to regular education classrooms. My teammate is Catalpa, a compassionate, high-spirited yellow lab.

Our school has had KSDS use our facilities and students to help train many of the dogs. I have seen them come and go for several years. I have also seen the positive impact they have had on many students. These visits inspired me to apply for the social dog program.

After hours of heeling, sitting, redoing, testing, crying and laughing, I learned Catalpa is not a robot. Although he has been trained, he is still a dog with feelings of his own. He needed to learn to be confident with my decisions. I needed to reassure him I was in control and he doesn’t have anything to worry about.

I work with students who have autism, behavior and learning disabilities. Catalpa is a communication bridge between the teachers and students. Students will participate in class just so they can walk down the hall with him, and some kids who were always late get to class early so they can brush him or give him a hug. He has made school a more pleasant place for so many kids.

I don’t think just “anyone” could be a trainer or puppy raiser. It takes determined, organized, dedicated, and loving people to make this program a success. Thank you.

Catalpa’s puppy raiser was DeAnna Wiggett, Wichita, KS. 🐾
Teresa McVey

**TUPELO - SOCIAL**

Tupelo and I were matched in the March Social Dog training class. She is a yellow labrador retriever from the tree litter and is full of love and is a perfect match.

In the time since I brought her home, she has developed a special bond with my seven year old daughter who absolutely loves her. My daughter now gets up early every day to eagerly help me with getting Tupelo ready for our going to work with me.

My daughter has ADHD, JRA, and chronic tics. Tupelo continues to help KayLynn progress in several ways. I knew Tupelo would help me in my job, but I had no idea that Tupelo would have the impact on my daughter’s daily life like she has.

I got a KSDS social dog to help my special needs and autistic students in their routines at school. I am an Autism Consultant for the Tri-Co. Special Education Coop and a Regional Consultant for Kansas.

I utilize Tupelo in many ways at school. She is used as a reward for the children. Tupelo is also used to help achieve various functional activities such as brushing, walking, and watering. She also has a calming effect on the children. She can be used to redirect their attention and mediate problem behaviors. Tupelo continues to show her love and affection to all the children I work with in Southeast Kansas.

Tupelo’s puppy raiser was Cheryl Kinzy of Tulsa, OK. ♡

Lori Morris

**MIMOSA - SOCIAL**

On the first day back from training we had an assembly to introduce Mimosa and explain her job. Something unexpected happened: 650 people fell in love... with Mimosa. She has met every student at Line Creek Elementary and has had a positive effect on all of them. She has calmed those who need calming, encouraged those who need encouragement, and been a friend and role model to all.

Mimosa teaches the children how to follow rules by following the commands that I give her. The kids are amazed at what she can do and the control she exhibits. I tell them Mimosa is such a good girl because she lets me be in charge and we have a bond of respect and love for each other.

Some of our students do not experience unconditional love at home. Mimosa exhibits this type of love and has become some of the kids’ best friend. Truly a “Mimosa bomb” has been dropped on Line Creek Elementary. Teachers ask for a “Mimosa Moment,” the principal includes her in staff meetings and the staff photo, and parents ask to meet her because she is all the kiddos are talking about. I have just one negative about Mimosa: we didn’t get her sooner.

Thank you KSDS for a well-trained dog and the training to work with her. Most of all, thank you for this beautiful gift who has become my new, cherished friend.

Lori is a Recovery Room Interventionist at her school in Kansas City, Missouri. Mimosa’s puppy raiser is Mandi Holsten, Lawrence, KS. ♡

Chris St. Claire

**ASPEN - SOCIAL**

Chris St. Clair and social dog, Aspen, raised by Lisa Hardiek and the Kansas State Prison Program, now work in Phoenix, AZ, with children and adults with special needs. Aspen has many opportunities with St. Joseph’s Hospital that include the Rehabilitation Unit and Outpatient Rehabilitation Department. Aspen has adjusted well to her new environment and she brings joy to kids and adults on a regular basis. She is a great help with therapy and often provides a positive distraction and tension release during difficult therapy challenges.

“Having Aspen has already impacted many areas of our lives, she is extremely valuable in therapy, bringing smiles and enthusiasm wherever she goes, and she continues to amaze us with her contagious personality” says Chris, an Occupational Therapist.

In the first two weeks Aspen has already made an impact, bringing joy and smiles to faces everywhere we go, she has bonded quickly and adjusted well. Chris is looking forward to introducing Aspen to new areas of the hospital and community. One of those areas is the Rehabilitation Unit where people come to begin their recovery following a brain injury or spinal cord injury. Having a social dog as part of the process often brings a much needed interaction during a challenging time.

The training at KSDS was incredible and Aspen and Chris are still using what they learned on a daily basis. “The skills and passion of the staff really pay off with amazing dogs” says Chris. ♡
PRANCER: A DIFFERENT KIND OF SERVICE
In memory of KSDS career change dog Prancer

KSDS received the following from Tom Meyers and, with his permission, we share it with you.

Almost 13 years ago, Kansas Specialty Dog Service called us to come get our new golden retriever puppy named Prancer, for our part in socializing him to become a service dog. You named him Prancer because his litter of nine was born so close to Christmas that you decided to name them after Santa’s reindeer... we loved it! After we raised him to be wonderful around people and some training on our part, it was time to return him to you for further training. Man, you talk about “giving up a child”. After a few months, you discovered slight hip dysplasia and decided Prancer might not be right to be a service dog for you.

When KSDS called us to see if we wanted him as a pet, our car couldn’t drive fast enough from Omaha, Nebraska, to get to Washington. He was so happy to see us and of course we were even more elated. Prancer grew into a wonderful pet who was loved by everyone who came in contact with him... his mom and dad would be so proud! Everyone of our family and friends wanted to have a dog like Prancer and as they always told us, he was, “Smart as a whip”.

I am sad to say that Prancer passed away about 3 weeks ago. The vet thinks that he might have had a stroke, but wasn’t sure.

Thank you so much for allowing me to be a foster parent and then a real parent for this exemplary dog. He had the most wonderful disposition of any dog I have ever had. He was also the smartest dog I had ever worked with. He will be missed so much, especially by my two grandsons who learned so much about love from this loving dog.

Here are just two short stories about how this wonderful Golden Retriever changed my life.

I was VP of Human Resources for a popular supermarket chain in Omaha, Nebraska. We also supervised the training of all employees. The KSDS trainer taught us how to “reward” and “praise” Prancer when he did something correctly, instead of the “old way” of disciplining when a dog would do something wrong. When I thought about it, the “old way” is just the way we treated employees. We did more disciplining than praising and rewarding. That training method was soon adopted into our training of managers in our company, from the President on down. We developed a phrase that said, “Catch people doing something RIGHT”. It really changed the company and me forever.

The second story was just a, “day in the life of Prancer”. We got Prancer certified to be a volunteer to bring joy to people in need of some happiness, since he would never be a “professional” service dog. One day we took him to a Veteran’s Home to walk through the rooms and wards to visit with vets who all shared a love for dogs. We were accompanied by one of the nurses, who was having as much fun as we were as every vet and staff member greeted Prancer with much petting and pleasure.

When we came upon one Vietnam veteran’s room, the nurse warned us this vet had not spoken or shown any expression for years. When Prancer led his way into the room, the vet was sitting up in bed. Prancer immediately jumped up on the bed with his front paws (as if he knew this man was in need), with me trying to hold him back and he fell into the arms of the veteran. The nurse told me to wait, don’t pull him back. The man still couldn’t speak, but his smile and moans of happiness filled the room. After the nurse and the doctors started shedding a stream of tears, you know I had to join in. They had never seen such a thing at their veteran’s home.

Continue your great work and thanks again,
Tom

KSDS is proud that many of its career change dogs like Prancer go on to volunteer and make positive changes in the lives of others. 🐾

PAVE THE WAY TO ACCESSIBLE HOUSING

KSDS is forging ahead with its project to provide accessible housing for our students. We want to provide six accessible apartments on our campus. You can be part of this exciting project with the purchase of an engraved brick.

 Clubs, organizations, and individuals can sponsor personalized bricks that will be incorporated into an outdoor, landscaped area at this facility. Memorialize a favorite pet or honor a family member, friend or a KSDS canine who is special to you.

Choose a special inscription of up to 16 characters per line on three lines for the 4” X 8” brick for a donation of $100.

For an order form please visit www.ksds.org. Contact Marcia Funke at (785) 325-2256 for more information about ordering a brick or other ways to help KSDS build this vital housing. Future KSDS graduates will thank you.

Housing
PAVE the way
to ACCESSible
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Thanks for your continued possessions you Making it a Possible. Thank you to our Donors.

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Carol Babcock  
Charles & Nancy Baker  
Kathryn Baker  
Tavis, Mary, Logan, & Hunter Kier  
Kathryn Baker  
Kevin, Zoe, Emma, & Lan Carter  
Kathryn Baker  
Dane & Cherrie Baker  
Kathryn Baker  
Hali & Gullis Blutzer  
Kathryn Baker  
Jackson and Dan & Jan Harrington  
Bob & Sandy Bartkoski  
Carol Babcock  
Bette Behrens  
Lisa Rickards  
Mike & Marsha Quintero  
Rhonda Ogle  
Mary P Miller  
Becky & Robert Maddern  
Mike Bischler  
Laura Wesche  

donor list is inclusive of Nov. 1, 2010-Feb. 28, 2011. omission of any name is not intentional and upon notification will be published in the next newsletter.  

TO REMEMBER...

Elton Bloomberg  
Achseberg & Angel  
Doris Blomquist  
Steve, Jo, Shad & Shala Bloomberg  
Jane & Jan Brash  
Marilyn Buswer  
LaVonne Hoglund  
Kris Oberg  
Marlene Hoglund  
Carolyn Johson  
Clayton Johnson Family  
Dennie Johnson  
Jim & Sarah Lindblad  
Bill & Gay Lindholm  
Claire Belle Lindholm  
Woody & Laurel Kasselman  
Ebba Nelson  
Vern & Toni Schlabach  
Norma Swenson  
Diana Water  
Janet Allen  
Carly & Jeremy Anderson  
Bob & Sandy Bartkoski  
Richard & Dorothy Bockelman  
Tina Bowles  
Larry Braddy  
Kara & Justina Broadfoot  
Ebba Nelson  
Vern & Toni Schlabach  
Norma Swenson  
Diana Water  
Janet Allen  
Carly & Jeremy Anderson  
Bob & Sandy Bartkoski  
Richard & Dorothy Bockelman  
Tina Bowles  
Larry Braddy  
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Larry Braddy  
Kara & Justina Broadfoot  
Ebba Nelson  
Vern & Toni Schlabach  
Norma Swenson  
Diana Water

THE ROGERS FAMILY  
Larry Braddy  
Ollie  
Jimmy & Joanie Brown  
Annette List  
Cindy & Brian Burri  
Dr Pat Payne  
Kaela, Nate, William, Emily, Jason and Julia Christensen  
Barbara & Bernithy Sanderson  
Keith Chrostowski  
Eugene & Virginia Chrostowski  
Henry Wasenberg  
Daniel & Amy Cohorst  
Craig & Arrigian Strouten  
Karen Collier  
Bronco  
Carolyn & Johnnie Green  
Dale & Brenda Lindt  
Scott & Dona Lucas  
Kareen  
Nancy Collier  
Kareen  
Emily Compton  
Kevin  
Tim Gary  
James & Marian Geary  
Gene Martin  
Cork & Dana Holle  
Poppy  
Peter & Connie Kamps  
Roger Kamps  
Tara Frips & Mamby  
Paula Kerenzi  
Blitzen & Keely  
Scott & Kimberly Suter  
Derry Mcguire & Carla Mcguire  
John & Mary Lister  
Lilbith Eaton  
George & Mary Ann Lowery  
Dixie Malone & Treter  
Win & Terry Malone  
Lisa Stevens  
Julia Maloukis  
Matt Nieman and Rolie  
Michele & Rachel Nieman  
Jack Frighy  
Nessa O’Shaugnnessy  
Douglas Huntley  
Carolyn & Art O’Toole  
Becky & Robert Maddern  
Mike Bischler  
Laura Wesche  

Whelping Box Blankets – 37”x37” Batteries (AA)  
Solo Plastic Cups  
Cases of Bottled Water  
Quart & Gallon Ziplock Storage Bags  
Glad Air Freshener Refills (bottles)  
Regular Laundry Detergent for CHU HE Laundry Detergent for Duplexes  
Brush Scrubs and Squeegees  
Tek-Trol Disinfectant  
Clorox Bleach and Clorox Wipes  
Rug Shampooer with Attachments  
Furnace Filters (20x20x1)  
(12x20x1)  
Vacuum Bags (Eureka AA)  
First Alert Plug-In Carbon Monoxide Alarm  
3 Pairs of Heavy Duty Battery Junper Cables (1 for each vehicle)  

Reinforced Rubber Hoses – 100 ft.  
12 ½ x 18 ½/4” Padded Envelopes  
6x9 Manila Envelopes (no clasp)  
High-quality Letter Size Copy Paper  
Photo Paper  
Colored Ink Pads  
Ink Cartridges – HP: 21, 22, 56, 57, 92, 93, C9730A; JP: Q2612A; Xerox: 113 R007 19, 113 R007 20, 113 R007 21, 113 R007 22  

Fireproof File Cabinets  
Gift Cards (Target, Walmart, Sam’s Club, Home Depot)  

Canon Powershot HS Digital ELPH Camera w/ Memory Card
KSDS is going green!

By revising our newsletter format, we are able to provide you with a high quality piece using paper which is certified to come from renewable forests by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). We are also pleased that it was printed using soy inks which are kinder on our natural resources than traditional inks.

Did you know the KSDS newsletter is always available on our website, ksds.org? If you would like to help us save on printing costs, postage and trees, let us know that you would prefer to read the newsletter online. If you are getting multiple copies mailed or have moved, inform us of your updated mailing address so we can save on postage costs.

TOURS OF HILL’S AND TCF
Visiting our KSDS Partners in Topeka

Two groups in Topeka provide support to KSDS in raising and training service dogs: Hill’s and the Women’s Topeka Correctional Facility. On Friday, March 25, 22 KSDS staff and board members toured these facilities.

At the Hill’s Pet Nutrition Science/Technology Center, the group enjoyed a presentation on canine food trials and research and visited the extensive campus at Hill’s. They were given an in depth tour of the canine and feline housing areas at the center.

Hill’s has been a longtime partner of KSDS and is our largest corporate sponsor. They supply Hill’s Science Diet® and Prescription Diet® food free to KSDS dogs while they’re with puppy raisers, in formal training and after graduation. Hill’s also provides capes for pups in training. In addition, they have given educational lectures on nutrition to KSDS students, graduates and puppy raisers.

After lunch, KSDS Board President Roger Post presented Dr. Bill Schoenherr and Cheryl Stiers with an engraved plaque from the KSDS Board of Directors in appreciation for Hill’s many years of generous support.

In the afternoon, the group crossed town to tour the Topeka Correctional Facility. TCF assists KSDS with the intermediate training of assistance dogs through their Pooches and Pals Program. KSDS representatives visited our program partners and saw several of the puppies they are training for us. Colleen Fischli provided a tour of the living and work areas in the Minimum Security Area. TCF Pooches and Pals have staged various fundraising activities and have made numerous donations to KSDS.

The trip to visit our partners was a long, but enjoyable and educational, experience for the KSDS team. 🐾