

The Pathway

*A KSDS Assistance Dogs, Inc. Publication
Fall 2023 - Volume 24, Issue 2*

In this issue...

 Spring 2023 Graduates

 Linda, Leo & Lions Club

 Banner Park Upgrade

Thank You Sponsors



KSDS Staff

Eliza Benteman
*Canine Housing
Unit Coord.
Breeding Tech.
Apprentice*

Kyanna Volkman
*Puppy Raiser Coord.
Breeding Tech.
Apprentice*

Anita Martin
Housekeeping

Gene Martin
Maintenance

Annette Kohlmeyer
*Service Dog Trainer
Breeding Tech.*

Debbie Tegethoff
Guide Dog Trainer

Tulene Farwell
Apprentice Trainer

Brooke Pfizenmaier
Apprentice Trainer

Duane Toews
CEO

Bryce Dolan
*Marketing &
Fundraising Director*

Sandy Nutsch
*Office Manager
Client Services Coord.*



Be sure to look for this new ride when visiting our campus. We have some very eager student drivers!

Thank you to Board President Bill Slater for donating the side-by-side!

Board of Directors

Bill Slater
President

Bob Bartkoski
Vice President

Sandy Bartkoski
Secretary

Lesley Fiser
Treasurer

Glenda Keller
Member

Brandon Vering
Member

Dr. Pete Sherlock
Member

Bill Stenfors
Member

www.ksds.org

(785) 325-2256

ksds@ksds.org



Assistance Dogs
INTERNATIONAL
ACCREDITED MEMBER

Spring 2023 Graduates



Jesi Courser Downs & Martha
Manhattan, KS
Facility Team #625
Puppy Raiser Abby Almond



Liz Peters & Dove
Prairie Village, KS
Facility Team #626
Puppy Raisers Lisa
Hamilton & Karen Norman



Kristen Steele & Nash
Underwood, IA
Guide Team #627
Puppy Raiser Jeanne Meyer



Nan Vail & Dial
Leawood, KS
Service Team #628
Puppy Raisers Judy Norton
& Tawnie Larsen



Linda Eaton & Leo
Kansas City, MO
Service Team #629
Puppy Raiser Emily D'Amore



Abbie Darnell & Ruth
Rolla, MO
Service Team #630
Puppy Raiser Payton Jansen



*Free to attend
Casual attire*

You Are Invited!
Fall Graduation 2023
October 7th - 11 a.m.



Linda, Leo & Lions Club

Meet Linda and Leo, Service Team #629. These two graduated from the KSDS Service Program in the spring. Linda suffers from Multiple Sclerosis (MS) or more specifically secondary progressive MS.

Upon arriving on campus, Linda was excited yet anxious for the opportunity to meet her new fur-ever partner. "I was pretty nervous getting ready for the trip, but it was incredible," she explained.

"Leo has responded so well to me...I am a little slower when I walk due to my MS, but I've noticed he mimics my slower movements, and it is just amazing. It was just incredible to see how well we bonded over just a few weeks."

Many commonly think of how the name "Leo" stems from the Latin word lion and dates back centuries. In German, however,

"Leo" serves as a short version of Leon or Leopold, which means "brave people" or "lion-hearted."

After a few short months of returning home together as a team, both Linda and Leo are learning to be lion-hearted. Besides navigating the world as a new team together, they are enduring the sudden passing of Linda's husband David Eaton.

"It has been difficult...for both of us. Dave tried hard not to bond with Leo, but they did. We both needed a little space at first," she said.

Leo was named by the Washington Lions Club who held fundraisers to sponsor a puppy name. The donation received from this club is just one example of the tremendous support KSDS receives from Lions Clubs across the state of Kansas and surrounding states.

The Lions organization's founding mission is to serve the blind. Although Leo is not assisting a blind or visually impaired individual, he is still serving someone in need. And his job has only become increasingly important.

"My loved ones keep telling me it was like Dave knew I was going to be okay now that I had Leo."

Linda & Leo graduated in April of 2023 and returned home as Service Team #629.



KSDS

BY THE NUMBERS

Dogs placed in

36

states



1st

Facility in U.S.
to train both
service & guide dogs

Number of dogs placed

630+



94%

of donations directly support dog training

\$25,000+



Value of a
KSDS dog



Cost of receiving
a KSDS dog

Free



1,000+
hours of
training

100+

Active Teams





CEO Duane Toews (left) and Board President Bill Slater (in skid steer) finish removing landscaping stones in Banner Park.

Chuck Walter (below) prepares to pour the new concrete retaining wall.



***Glorybee All Flags Flyin’
“Banner” - Born 10-24-86***

Banner was one of the first dogs donated to KSDS for the breeding program. He helped establish one of the finest breeding programs in the United States. “Banner Park” on the West side of the Administration Building was dedicated in his honor in June 1997.

In the Whelping Wing of the Canine Housing Unit, a picture of a single Golden Retriever hangs framed on the wall. In the top corner of the picture is a plaque with the above inscribed.

What was once the finest breeding program in the U.S. has now become part of an international breeding cooperative. To date, KSDS has shared breeding stock with similar organizations in four countries on three continents: Canada, Ireland, Australia & Croatia.

In an effort to further honor Banner’s legacy, KSDS has been working to upgrade Banner Park. Initially, the park was built to be utilized as training grounds and double as a play area for dogs in training and visiting teams or puppy raisers.

The proposed renovation project aims to improve the training park's infrastructure, accessibility, overall functionality and appearance.

A new cement retaining wall, curved and sharp angled sidewalks, and concrete steps have already been installed. KSDS would like to thank Chuck Walter and SunDance Concrete for their work on the new retaining wall and cement floor.

New fencing is to be installed to secure the perimeter of the park, along with shade structures to provide relief from the summer sun. We anticipate using lumber, PVC pipe, and acrylic panels to construct obstacles, overhangs, removable ground panels and a raised platform with a staircase on each side. Banner Park will also be covered in artificial turf opposed to the current pea gravel covering the ground.

Like the play yard in the Canine Housing Unit, the pea gravel became an issue. Some dogs would eat the small rocks. The bigger issue is accessibility. With the installation of artificial turf, those in wheelchairs will have easier access to the entire park area.

Additionally, electronic signage will be installed a few feet away from the new park and along highway 36. Along with the bright green turf, the signage will draw significant attention to the KSDS campus and improve the entire community's curb appeal. Since we are in a rural community but sit along a major state highway, KSDS relies on our curbside image to draw in visitors to our campus.

Besides the cosmetic benefits, the electronic sign will also be an asset in training guide, service and facility canines. With its tall structure and lights, trainers will utilize the sign as a distraction when walking dogs in their guide harness or service cape.

We will also be able to utilize the sign for informational purposes when hosting campus events like graduation or Pups Days.

We have set a goal for summer of 2024 as the completion date. The estimated cost of the Banner Park upgrades is \$100,000. KSDS has requested consideration for a grant to be used towards the renovations.

The new Banner Park Training Course will improve the quality of assistance dogs being placed with KSDS clients, enhance the overall curbside appeal of the campus and provide an opportunity for visitors to witness firsthand KSDS staff working with assistance dogs in training.





Meet Philly! This female black lab was named after the Philadelphia Eagles & comes from WCC as part of the breeding cooperative.

KSDS & SSD in Pennsylvania held a fundraiser competition in honor of the Eagles & Chiefs.

SSD was the winner, but together we raised nearly \$6,000 for assistance dogs!



In June, KSDS Bo Raven & GDA Kenobi welcomed a litter of four pups (left). These two boys & two girls were named after energy drinks: **Reign, Celsius, Rebl, & Amp.**



PAW-sitive Tales

We wrapped up our new event series “Pawsitive Tales” after the first week in September and it was a success! Breweries, coffee shops and more in Missouri, Nebraska and Kansas became Paw-sitive Hosts over the course of the summer. These events were an opportunity for KSDS graduates, puppy raisers and staff to share their testimonies and experiences with KSDS and/or their dogs. This was also a chance to answer any questions people had about assistance dogs and advocate for the disabled community.



Thank you for helping change lives one dog at a time!

Individual Donors

Rosemary & Ronald Abbott
Wanda C Abbott
Gayle Adams
Cindy & James Alldredge
Deborah & Dean Allen
Sally & Gary Anderson
Patricia & John Anderson
Sarah Anson
Barbara Arnold
Ramey Auen
Brenda Asman
Susan Baier
Stephen Baldwin
Jana Bandy
Harry C Banks
Karen Barker
Jenne Barley
Sandy & Bob Bartkoski
Charlotte & Charles Bates
Twyla Bayless
Stephanie & Kyle Becker
Beverly Benjes
Eileen Benning
Amilea & Eugene Bergsten
Kelly Berkson
Donna & Timothy Bertram
Susan Bird
Diana Blankenship
Michele Blumek
Michael Bohrer
Debbie & Scott Bokelman
Bob Bolen
Kyle Bottorff
Kent Bottorff
Cindy Bowman
Kristi S Boyer
Linda & Bob Broom
Judy & Roger Broers
Joyce M Brown
Paula Brown
Chris & Dennis Brungardt
Kent & Millie Buessing
Carolyn & Neil Buono
Alyson & Korey Burkhardt
Mollie Burton
Natalie & Bob Bymes
Patty Carlson
Tom Carlson
Iola & Louis Carter
John M. Carter
Susan G. Castle
Wanda & Donald Catron
Suzanne & Brett Chambers
Erica & Rick Christie
Jason Clark
Patricia A Clark
Ruth & Royce Closterman
Deborah Cochran
Celeste & Michael
Collman
Doug M. Conlan
Wendy & Patrick Cook
Terri Cooper
Erin & Bruce Corbin
Tanna Cornell
Bill Dain
Amelia Dalton
Timothy Dalton
Monica Daniel
Marilyn & Joseph Daniels
Abigail Darnell
Jean Darnell
Anne Davis
Shane & Jenny De Buchel
Patricia & Brian Dery
Karen Dery
Linda & Keith Detwiler
Dorene Disbrow
Karen Dodd

Bryce Dolan
Carnie M. Dolan
Angela M. Duffy
Libby Eaton
Linda J. Eaton
Janett Eudman
Karen Elliott
Sarah Ericson
Amy & Scott Esquibel
Jane Ferguson
Michelle Ferrer
Janice Feyen
Lesley Fiser
Cambria Fleming
Vlad Freeman
Emanuel Friedman
Tammy & Raymond Gano
Shirley Gans
Kim & Duke Gasiorowski
Kenneth Geier
Janet & Harpal Gill
Nancy Grossi
John Broholm
Amy & Jeff Glines
Charlotte & Gary Goebel
Judi & Larry Gwertzen
Brenda Gooden
Susan & Ronnie Graham
Frances Grant
Linda & Bill Graves
Shelly K Gray
Barb & Keith Grigsby
Erin & Jason Gubbins
Juanita Hahluetzel
John L. Hahluetzel
Lisa & Clint Hamilton
Tiffany Hanna
Kristi Harlan
Lee Himmien
Lucinda Harman, PhD
Katie Hartlep
Grez Suder
Ardene C Hartshorn
Chet Baumgartner
May C Hays
Nancy & Larry Hayse
Cheryl & Jim Heftin
Scott Heidner
Irene & Vernon Henrieks
Jole & Werner Henze
Miguel A Hernandez
Sanchez
Cara Herrs
Brian P Hesse
Diane Hessler
Carla Hibbs
Doug Hillman
Rita & Ray Hoffmans
Dana & Cork Holle
Janice & Lemus Holle
Steven Holzmueter
Dana Houser
Nicole Howard
Karen Hubbard
Jason Hughes
Mary L. Humley
Kathie Husted
Olivia Faith Iamski
Claudia & Norman Jackson
Charlotte Jans
Pat & Darrell Janssen
Gwen & Daniel Johnson
Tammy & Michael Johnson
Tracy A. Johnson
Mary Ann & Robert
Johnston
Janet Jones
Lynn & Brent Kalemkarian
Jean Kalin
Connie & Paul Kamps
Sue Kamthok

Nancy Kassebaum Baker
William Kassebaum
Donna Kastl
Jill Keesecker
Glenda & Paul Keller
Lou & Bill Kern
Jody & Chad Ketter
Adam Kiess
Andrea Kiess
Sharon & Misoo Kim
Michael King
Janet & Jim Knowles
Annette & Robb
Kohlmeier
Mike Kokoruda
Jessica T. Kramer
Bret Kroeker
Diana Kroeker
Ronald & Inge Krug
Daniel Kurtz
Neal Kurtz
Bill Laht
Janice K. Lam
Alexis & Rachelle
Laneister
Julie Lane
Virginia Lasala
Jill & David Lewis
Josh Lewis
Vickie Lewis
Kay & William Lewis
Marta & Cletus
Linenberger
Regina M. Linenberger
Roby & Dan Little
Mike Loper
Georgia & Bob Lucas
Barb & Wilburn Ludlum
Pamela & Chris Lueders
Patty & John Mahan
Beth Mahoun
Tony & Ann Mann
Ann Marston
Amita & Gene Martin
Barbara Mashak
Jan & Tim Matlack
Nancy & Ed Maynard
Carole Mazza
Rebecca McBride
Rhonda Jones McBride
Mary Jean McCawley
Kathy McClanahan
Carla J. McGuire
Derry E. McGuire
Renee McQuinn
Paula S. McVey
Cynthia Memmecke
Melissa Mellingee
Lynda & Dan Metsker
Kenneth L. Metz
Jeanne Meyer
Keith W Chrostowski
Sheryl Meyer
Kelly Miller
Jamel Morris
Wanda Morris
Barbara Mosier
Glenda & O. Michael
Mullen
Lori & Mark Murphy
Priscilla & Alvin Musser
Dolores Nash
Mary & K. David Newell
Sue Nible
Kimberly & Brad Norden
Sandy Nutsch
Crystal & Patrick O'Brien
Christine ODay
Doris L. Oller
Sally & Robert Orth
Mary Beth Pace

Beth Pannbacker
Elizabeth Q. Peters
Greg Peters
Audrey J Peterson
Donise & Dennis Peterson
James Peterson
Moya Peterson
Nancy Phillips
Rebecca Poage
Rachel Poage
Darleen Porting
Annada Powell
Tony Primmer
Jennifer & Jeff Pringle
Karen Probst
Ruth A. Pruitt
Lorinda Pyne
Diane Quamne
Lisa Racunas
Kerstin & Paul Ramus
Mary & Roger Rawlings
Jennifer & Jim Reintjes
Laura Relf
Jennifer Rice
Shane Strelsky
Cristy Ridey
Thomas E. Ridey
Linda & James Rodrigues
Barbara & Haven Rolander
Luerda Rolland
Steve Rose
Penney Rosendale
Lambre & Joshua Ross
Debbie & Gene Roth
Angie & Rusty Russell
M. Joan Russell
John Christopher D. Russo
Josh Ryan
Beth & Eric Sakumura
Renee & Luke Schmid
Theresa Schmeweis
Helen B. Scott
Angel & Eric Shaver
Mary Kay & Pete Sherlock
Lori Sherman
Shelly Shelley
Linda Shindler
Glen Shoenmaker
Janet Slater
Becky Smith
Cynthia & Gene Smith
Diane Smith
Jerrilyn & Richard Smith
Catherine & Mark Sousa
Susan M. Sparr
Gilbert & Jeanette Specht
Dana Spoor
James & Sally C. Stansbury
Kristen Steele
Debra A. Steiner
Kath & Bill Steinfeld
Bob & Cindy Stephenson
Amy & Alan Stone
Kim Stone
Norma & Kenneth Stinger
Tern Lynn Strom
Jesse Dunn
Kim & Robert Swam
Julia & Matthew Swedlund
Carrie & John Taber
Reta Sue & David Taylor
Sherie Taylor
Debbie & Don Tegethoff
Susan & Randy Teske
Amy Thacker
Derise & Lawrence
Thomas
Linda Thomas
Nancy & John Thurmond
Rita Tiemeyer
Angie & Duane Toews

Donors (cont'd)

Rebecca C Trapp-Marquez
Rosemary & Mark
Traibach
Nancy Vail
Hayley Van Amburg
Lea & Matt Vandervelde
Clinton Vawter
Ellen & Richard Verell
Brandon & Tracy Vering
Shanna Viele
Ryan Vleck
Joseph Vogel
Barb Volle
Nancy E Wachs
Stefani Wagner
Shirley & Charles Walter
Debra J Warren
Stephanie R. Warren
Erica N. Wasson
Mary & Charles Weickert
Alex White
David Whitney
Edward Wierman
Wanda J Wierman
Chuck Williams
Sharon & Earl Williams
Kim K Winchell
Vanessa J Wise
Jeanne & William Wolf
Meghan Zeigler
Jonathan Zimmerling
Sandra Zimmerman

Donor Organizations

Atwood Lions Club
Belleville Lions Club
Blue Valley West High
School
Brendenthal-Snyder Fdn.
Inc.
Bright Funds
Butt Oak Community
Library
Chapman Lions Club
Christian Church Ladies
Coterie
Couser Lapo Clinical &
Family Services
Dodge City Lions Club
Don & Florence McCune
Fdn
Downs Lions Club
Dwane L & Velma Hunt
Wallace Charitable Fdn
Eillingham Lions Club
Epsilon Sigma Alpha
Farm Bureau Financial
Services
First Christian Church
FNB Washington
Gardner Lions Club
Gem Lions Club
Glory Days Pizza Lake
Shawnee
Greater Kansas City
Community Fdn
Gulfstream
Hanover Public Library
Hill City Lions Club
Hoffman Family Fdn
Holyrood Lions Club
Hutchinson Breakfast Lions
Club
Imperial Lions Club
Kansas City Mavericks
Kents Lions Club
Keesecker Agri Business
Kendra Scott LLC

Kroger
Lindsborg Lions Club
Linwood Lions Club
Loursburg Lions Club
Lucas Lions Club
Lyndon Lions Club
Manhattan KS Kennel Club
Manhattan Lions Club
Mifflord Lions Club
Modern Pioneers Study
Club
NARFE Chapter No. 1947
National Christian Fdn
O'Neill Travel Now
Ottawa Lions Club
River Valley Extension #4
Rochester Area Community
Fdn
Sam Price Family Fdn
Scranton Lions Club
Solomon Lions Club
St Francis Lions Club
Sts. Peter & Paul School
TB Baker Fdn of Kansas
Tessott Lions Club
Textron Charitable Trust
The Dragastin Insurance
Agency
TransCanada USA Services
Inc.
Troy Lions Club
Udason Family Fdn
Unified School District No.
365
Walsburg Women of ELCA
Walton Lions Club
Washington County Travel
& Tourism
Washington Rotary
Westphalia Lions Club
Wheatland Country School
Winfield Lions Club
WRM Family Fdn

In Memory of:

Bilger
Libby Eaton
Ashley Bartkoski
Sandy Bartkoski
Marge & Tony Bartkoski
Sandy Bartkoski
Bartstow
Sandy Bartkoski
Debra (Ryser) Cletcher
Shirley Walter
Karen Collier
Derry McGuire
Diane Eibert
Jennie Barley
Darr Metsker
Murry Beth Puce
Moya Peterson
Fife
Connie Kamps
Nellie Fraizer
Wanda & Donald
Cotton
Rose Mary Gergick
Marlyn Daniels
Verna Gibson
Sherie Taylor
Jerry Grant
Julie Lane
Ron Galick, Jr.
Wanda Abbott
Susan Baier
Patricia Clark
Jim Heflin

Theresa Schneewers
Amy Thacker
Lawrence Herrs
Kelly Berkson
Cara Herrs
Lain Keesecker
Ronald & Inge Krug
Tony & Ann Mann
Gene Martin
Glenda & O. Michael
Mullen
Gilbert & Jeanette Specht
Indigo
Mike Kokoruda
Husband Jim & Daughter
Janyce
Patty Carlson
Sydney Johnson
Jeanne Meyer
Russell Johnston
Nancy Maynard
Jorge ("J")
Mike Kokoruda
Donna Kelley
Janice Holle
Lorene Kenaston
Dianne Smith
Robert "Bob" L. Leuyer
Dianne Smith
Cheryl Lewis
Ellen Verell
Regina Linenberger
Sue Nible
Cathy & Lars Nagel
Sandy Bartkoski
Loved Ones
Lala Allers
Janet & Jim Knowles
Darleen Porting
LeRoy Prelwitz
Dennis Brungard
Raven
Mike Kokoruda
Bill & Evelyn Roberts
Sandy Bartkoski
Sailor
Christine O'Jay
Shelby
Mike Kokoruda
Si
Jeanne Meyer
Bob & Cindy
Stephenson
Sally A Stansbury
James & Sally
Stansbury
Tango
Sue Nible
Scott D.C. Taylor
David Taylor
Stanford
Earl Williams
Mark Volle
Barb Volle
Willie
Michael Bolmer
Loretta Winchell
Kim Winchell

In Honor of:

Sandy & Bob Bartkoski
Lori Sherman
Josh Lewis & Bing
Wanda Morris
Abbie Darnell
Kathie Husted
Kelly & Emerald
Nancy Maynard

Tulene Farwell
Ann Marion
Lia Friedman
Vlad Freeman
Debra Warren
Vanessa Wise
Sandra Zimmerman
Gary McCutcheon
Winfield Lions Club
Gladiola Order of Eastern
Star
Twyla Bayless
Kansas Order of Eastern
Star
Shauna Viele
K Ramus, Tank, & TJ
Diane Hessler
TCF Dog Trainers
Glory Days Pizza
Nan Vail
Kyle Bottorf

Happy Anniversary:

Dick & Mary Hinkle's
50th
Glenda & Paul Keller

Happy Birthday:

Mia Cardenas
Dianne Smith
Octavian Cardenas
Dianne Smith
Staci Cardenas
Dianne Smith
Bryce Dolan
Shane & Jenny De
Buchel
Comfort K9 Jasmine
Carolyn Buono
Morgan
Derry McGuire

Donations received
from February 1,
2023, to July 1,
2023, are included
in this publication.

If you notice a
mistake, contact
ksds@ksds.org or
(785) 325-2256.



KSDS Assistance Dogs, Inc.
120 W. 7th St.
Washington, KS 66968-2222

Address Service Requested

Upcoming Events

Sept. 8th-17th	Kansas State Fair
Sept. 12th-14th	Husker Harvest Days
Oct. 7th	Fall Graduation
Oct. 13th-14th	Pups Retreat
Oct. 21st	Pumpkins & Pups Gala

PUMPKINS & PUPS GALA
SATURDAY OCTOBER 21 @ 7PM
MARRIOTT KANSAS CITY OVERLAND PARK
10800 METCALF AVE - OVERLAND PARK, KS

JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF FALL FUN!

ALL PROCEEDS FROM THE NIGHT'S GALA WILL DIRECTLY SUPPORT THE MISSION OF KSDS ASSISTANCE DOGS, INC. OF CHANGING LIVES ONE DOG AT A TIME. PLANS FOR THE NIGHT INCLUDE A COCKTAIL HOUR, SERVED DINNER, SILENT AUCTION, KEYNOTE SPEAKER, A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO, AND MORE.

PURCHASE TICKETS BY SCANNING THE QR CODE TO USE VENMO. YOU CAN ALSO CALL (785) 325-2256 OR EMAIL KSDS@KSDS.ORG TO GET YOUR TICKETS.

TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE!

BLOCK OF ROOMS
MENTION YOU WOULD LIKE A ROOM IN THE KSDS BLOCK TO RECEIVE THE GROUP RATE. A LINK TO BOOK A ROOM FOR THE GALA CAN ALSO BE FOUND ON OUR SOCIAL PAGES.

TICKETS

INDIVIDUAL	\$65
COUPLE	\$120
TABLE OF EIGHT	\$600
TABLE OF TEN	\$800

Did You Know?

Research shows **volunteer puppy raisers** benefit physically & mentally from their experience, with improved companionship, exercise, wellbeing & social life.

Assistance Dogs International warns a surge in demand for all types of assistance dogs, combined with a fall-off in volunteers is disrupting the training of life-changing assistance dogs!

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer puppy raiser, give us a call or visit our website. Learn how **YOU** can help change lives one dog at a time.