

*We are a rope — individual fibers braided together to make a stronger whole.*

# Giving Matters

Greater  
Salina  
Community  
Foundation

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## Students make wishes come true

Call it the power of the penny, or the generosity of youth. Second graders at Meadowlark Ridge Elementary School spearheaded a campaign to collect loose change to help others over the holidays. The students then used the Foundation's Make A Wish Catalog to select gifts for local non-profit organizations.

"We used yellow bags and collected money, then we found out how much we had," said student philanthropist Tyler Henry, son of Regina & Ronald Henry. In all, the students raised \$825.24 for the project.

"We bought an X-Box for Hospice, a refrigerator for Martin Luther King Center, a washer for the Animal Shelter and a Microwave for the Morrison House," shared another student, Jackson Shetlar.

"We also gave \$100 to the Angel Tree" piped in another student.

This is the third year that the second grade class has performed a kid-to-kid project, initiated by teacher Susan Jordan. The students used yellow kid-to-kid bags to collect change from their fellow students at Meadowlark. Under the direction of Mrs. Jordan and the other two second grade teachers, Ruby



Second-grade students at Meadowlark school pose in the parking lot with a truck load of appliances they purchased by collecting coins. The appliances went to nonprofit organizations whose needs were listed in the Foundations Make A Wish Come True Catalog.

Pilgrim & Lynelle Frazier, the students advertised the project on the morning announcements, and sent a flyer home in book bags.

For four days in a row, they went in pairs or groups of three to the other classrooms in the school collecting all

the change. "One time my bag broke because of all the coins from the Kindergarten class," said Sam Beck, son of Larry & Judy Beck.

Parents volunteered to come in and help count the large quantity of coins.

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## Giving is a year-round event

Donors come in all shapes and sizes. At the Foundation, some of our donors are retired; others are still in grade school (see related story- cover). Because donors come from all walks of life, the Foundation strives to find giving opportunities that meet a variety of donor and community needs. The Make A Wish Come True catalog was produced late last year as a way to share local needs with potential donors.

Several organizations reported back to the Foundation that they received gifts from donors who saw the catalog and responded. Staff at Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Salina and the Domestic Violence Association of Central Kansas both reported donations of supplies and other needs from catalog readers. Martin Luther King Jr. Child Development Center, the Rebecca A. Morrison House and the Salina Animal Shelter all received new appliances, and Hospice of Salina received a game system for their new facility.

Copies of the Make A Wish Come True Catalog are still available in the Foundation office. Many of the needs listed in the catalog remain needs today- not just at holiday time. If you are interested in receiving a copy of the catalog, give us a call at 785-823-1800.

## Plan now to attend a Workshop on Nonprofit Governance

Here's a number for you to contemplate: 68,436. According to the Statistical Abstract of the United States, that is how many nonprofit organizations (tax exempt firms) were providing services in the United States in 2002. The number today would be even greater. Billions of dollars pass through these organizations to other organizations and individuals to provide for the service, environmental, spiritual and artistic needs of many.

Most of these dollars are the responsibility of organizations operated by dedicated staff and volunteer boards of directors. The responsibility is significant. So thought Salina attorney John W. Mize, a partner in the law firm Clark, Mize & Linville, Chtd. Mize is the Foundation's speaker for an upcoming education program for nonprofit organizations. *The 8 Principles of Effective Governance* will be offered on April 7, 2006 from 8:00 to noon.

"This will be a great workshop for nonprofit executives and board members," said Betsy Wearing, Foundation President. "Many times nonprofit board members are passionate about the mission of an organization, but feel a little lost in terms of their true

### About the speaker...

John Mize has long had an interest and passion for nonprofit leadership and governance. A practicing attorney, he also holds a degree in nonprofit management. He is listed in The Best Lawyers in America. He has also served as a director and in leadership positions for many charitable organizations including the Kansas University Endowment Association, the Salina YMCA Endowment Association, Salina Regional Health Foundation, Kansas University Alumni Association and the Salina Area United Way.

responsibilities. This workshop will be a great overview for those who are new, and a good refresher for those who have been serving."

Each participant will receive a copy of *The 8 Principles of Effective Governance: Handbook for Directors of Nonprofit Organizations*. The workshop will cover issues such as constituency, mission, vision, legal duties, tax exempt status, monitoring performance, hiring and evaluating staff, governing and managing, and servant leadership.

For more information, call the Foundation office at 785-823-1800. ■

## On the lookout for *Outstanding Citizens*

They make a difference every day. Ordinary folks doing extraordinary work, quietly and without looking for recognition. We know they are out there, and we want you to help us find them. The Foundation is seeking nominations for the annual Salina Award for Outstanding Citizenship. This is the fourth year the Foundation has sponsored the award.

Nominations are being accepted until April 7. Information and nomination forms are available on the Foundation's web site at [www.gscf.org](http://www.gscf.org), or by calling the Foundation office at 785-823-1800. The recipient of the award receives \$1,000.

A selection committee made up of representatives from the community will determine the recipient. The award will be presented at a luncheon open to the community on May 17, 2006 at the Salina Country Club. ■

### An Invitation for you!

The Greater Salina Community Foundation  
Annual Celebration Luncheon

11:30 — 1:00

Wednesday, May 17, 2006

Salina Country Club

Featuring: Announcement of 2006 Outstanding Citizen Award, 2006 scholarship recipients, and the Foundation year in review: grants, programs, & gifts.

# Youth GrantMakers Council announces grants

A busy room in the back of the Salina Catholic Charities office needs a facelift. Members of Hispanics in Progress, a group of Hispanic youth are making it happen with help from the Youth GrantMakers Council. YGMC granted HIP \$2,000 to help with paint, floor covering and other aesthetics to remodel the meeting room. The space is used not only for the youth gatherings, but also for family dinners, speakers, tutoring services and educational programs. More than 150 families are involved with programs that utilize the facility. Members of HIP will do most of the work themselves, including special art projects.

The HIP grant was one of two awarded by YGMC as a part of their winter 2005 grant cycle. The other recipient was eight-year-old Christian Arceo. Christian wrote a grant to purchase adaptive toys for infants and toddlers with special needs who stay at Salina Child Care. On his application, Christian writes "The day care can use toys that are specially made for babies with disabilities. They are called adaptive toys. They are for educational and developmental uses. These toys will help stimulate all the babies at Salina Child Care Infant/Toddler Center." The Council awarded \$500 toward the purchase of the adaptive toys.

YGMC received 6 grant applications. All applications were written and submitted by area youth age 18 and under. YGMC awards grants to youth-directed projects that address community issues and challenges. YGMC members create the grant application, work to let community members know about grant opportunities, make funding decisions, and follow-up on grants awarded.

Members of YGMC include 17 students from Salina Central High School, Sacred Heart High School, Salina South High School, Southeast of Saline High School, and St. Johns



YGMC member Molly Martin (left) presents a grant check to Christian Arceo to purchase adaptive toys for infants and toddlers with disabilities at Salina Child Care. Christian is holding his brother, Amaro, while parents Udana and Thomas look on.

Military School.

The Council is currently accepting applications for their spring grant cycle. Grants are due April 1. For more information on YGMC or the spring grants, visit them on the Web at [ygmc.org](http://ygmc.org), or call Kelli Schwarz, Youth Coordinator at 785-823-1800.

Funding for the Youth GrantMakers Council comes from donations, memorials, and from Foundation investment income. Gifts of any size are welcome additions to this important community grant fund. ■

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Between \$500 and \$600 of the total amount raised was in coin.

Mrs. Jordan's class used the Foundation's Make A Wish Come True Catalog to select items they would purchase. Then all the second graders voted to approve the selections. "We voted and thought about the littler kids and the animals that probably needed it (the gifts)," said Cortland Enriquez, son of Paige Enriquez.

John & Deb Shetlar, Jackson's parents, volunteered to do the shopping after the students chose their items. "They did a lot of the legwork, without them this would not have gone as well," Mrs. Jordan said. The appliances were all purchased from Suburban Service Center in Salina. Manager Lynn Reed generously offered to discount the items so the students could stretch their dollars to help more agencies. "We felt it was

good community service, if the kids were going to do this, we wanted to step up and help them out."

On the Monday before Christmas the students invited the directors of all the agencies receiving gifts to come to the school for a presentation. "It was really fun. The kids making a presentation read their scripts and presented the gifts. In the case of the large appliances, they presented an oversized gift tag," said Kim Fair, Director of Hospice of Salina. "I was really impressed with how motivated, organized and capable the classes were!"

Mrs. Jordan said the presentation was a perfect culmination of the project. "When the charities came to the classroom--that made it real. The directors talked about their charity and what they did, and that is what really drove it home for the kids." ■

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# The PET Project 2006

In 2005 the Foundation introduced a new grant making opportunity for younger donors. The PET Project was a great success. More than 30 couples

participated in the project, and together granted more than \$8,000 to support a new summer camp for low-income youth in our community.

Now it's back. The 2006 PET Project begins Saturday April 8, from 7:00-9:00 with our opening cocktail party. This social event will feature food, drink and good company. That night, participants will choose the area of focus for this year's PET

Project grant. Will it be arts, children and youth, human service, seniors? Participants will make the choice.

Once the area of interest is determined, the Foundation will put out a call for applications. PET Project steering committee members Mike Carlin, Mindi Davidson, Ilene Gaekwad, Amanda Gutierrez, Frank Hampton, Russ Prophet

and John Redding will meet to review the applications and select 3-5 that will be presented to Project participants.

On May 16, the Foundation will host project participants for lunch to hear presentations from the selected group of grant applicants. After hearing the presentations, each participant will vote to determine this year's grant recipient.

The goal for this year's PET Project is to make a larger grant than last year (can we make it \$10,000?), and to involve more people in the Project. As an added component, a generous anonymous donor established the PET Project endowment last year with a gift of \$5,000. For every \$250 contribution received from participating couples, \$50 will be added to the endowment. When the endowment grows to \$10,000, it will begin to generate additional income to be used for the annual PET Project grant. The Foundation covers 100% of the administrative costs of this program.

If you are a young donor (loosely defined as those ages 20's to 40's) and want to be included in PET Project 2006, or know someone that might want to participate, give us a call and we'll add you to the invitation list. To learn more about PET Project, visit our website at [www.gscf.org](http://www.gscf.org). ■

**Saturday  
April 8  
7 to 9 pm**