

ccanetwork



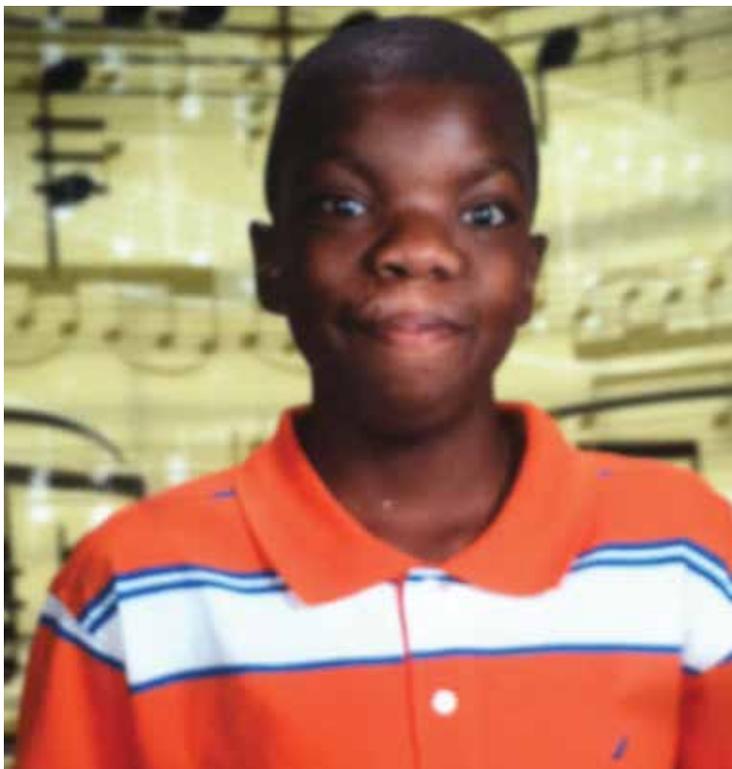
newsletter of the children's craniofacial association

Cher—national spokesperson

2013: Issue 2

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lewis' story

By Tyeisha Jefferies

Lewis Plez IV was born on January 17, 1998, at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia, PA. Lewis' great-grandma Dee just knew he would be here on the 16th (Lewis' grandfather's birthday), but she told everyone in the room that day, King Lewis wanted a birthday celebration all to himself.

Lewis IV was born with a right cleft lip and a bi-lateral split in his palate; he was also born with the Opitz syndrome. He weighed 7 pounds and 4 ounces and was 20 inches long. He was placed in the ICU and stayed in the hospital until January 25th. Until he was four months old, Lewis was seen by at least three doctors a week, including the pediatrician, neurologist, cardiologist, plastic surgeon, oral-maxillofacial surgeon, dentist, urologist and the otolaryngologist.



retreat recap from the program director

maybe it was because the 23rd Annual Cher's Family Retreat was the largest to date, with **101 families in attendance**, at the Omni ChampionsGate Resort in Orlando, Florida. Or perhaps it was the sheer energy of the eager families. But on Saturday, June 29, at the famous dinner/dance the enthusiastic crowd of families managed to dance the floor into disrepair! In fact, we actually had to take a break while crews re-attached the floor panels!

One mom exclaimed she was overwhelmed by the love and support she was experiencing at the CCA

see **lewis**, page 14

see **program director**, page 10



ccakid

meet bridget hospodka

Bridget Hospodka will be going into the fourth grade, and had a fun-filled summer. The 10-year-old Nebraskan travelled and visited with family.

She and her family planned to see her uncle in Vail, Colorado, attend a family reunion in northeast Nebraska, and visit nearby Verdigre, a well-known Czech community. Bridget was there just in time for the town's annual summer

summer, including one to Mount Rushmore.

A whiz in math and science, Bridget also has a head for business. A couple of years ago, through saving birthday and Christmas money as well as negotiating payment for chores and other jobs, she bought her own Nintendo 3DS. She was careful to make her purchase after extensive research to be sure to get the best value for her money. The

next item on her agenda—an iPad.

Bridget has three siblings whom she loves dearly: two brothers—older brother **Daniel** and younger brother **Conor**—and a baby sister, five-month-old **Adeline**. She also loves and cares for her calico cat, **Bunny**.

In her spare time, Bridget has fun with a variety of craft projects, including those for her American Girl doll, Courtney. She also has an impressive collection of



carnival celebrating the kolache (a scrumptious, fruit-filled pastry). Her family also had day trips planned throughout the



stuffed animals—20 and counting.

She and her family have been to at least three CCA retreats so far and “really, really liked” each one. Each time she had a blast, making new friends and sharing in all the fun. She keeps up with one friend in particular, **Leigha**. The two of them went to a Beach Boys concert recently and had a great time.

Bridget has Pfeiffer syndrome and has had

quite a few procedures and surgeries so far, with more to come. Although she admits to being a little scared at times, she says she “looks forward to afterward,” meaning she stays focused on the end result. (Her mom also adds she relishes the chance to go and get junk food after.)

ccaadult

meet john moulton

hello, Let me introduce myself. I am **John Moulton** from Kittery, Maine. I was born on February 26, 1945. My parents, **Elizabeth** and **Wells Moulton**, were very surprised when I was born because of my looks (cute as a button). I have an older sister and an older brother. When the doctors asked, "Do you want to take him home, or send him to an institution?" Their response was, "Of course not. The very idea! He is our son." End of discussion!

First stop—Children's Hospital in Boston. There Mom and Daddy met with **Dr. David MacCullum**.

The answer was "Probably German Measles."* The x-rays showed only a solid skull. Opening the skull was the only solution and with that no guarantees. That was the only cranial surgery I ever had.

The X-rays of my hands did not show much except a pinkie. By the time I was 5 years old I had two little fingers and that was the last of the "fixes." I had a stainless steel, leather-covered splint with leather straps to protect my fingers (which made a great weapon, when I got mad!) At that point, Dr. Mac felt that if he tried to do more with my hands, he would do more harm than good. He was a treasure and I saw him each year all through my growing up.

I grew up on a dairy farm with lots of trees. I would walk under them, watching the shadows on my arm as I held it out in front of me. Took the adults ages to figure out what I was doing. When I was about three years old, my dad put me on the seat of his tractor and I "drove" it as Daddy walked beside. I don't remember it, but have pictures. When I was around five, I got angry

and decided to run away from home. My mother helped me pack, but I didn't get very far, just down over the hill. Mother knew I'd be home when I got hungry.

The only problem I had in school was the teasing from kids who didn't know me. That hurt, but in spite of that, or maybe because of it, I think I was more tolerant of anyone else who was different. I had plenty of friends, joined the Boy Scouts and went to Scout camp. I learned to swim but couldn't water ski. I could slide with the kids in the road, but couldn't skate. So what, they couldn't play the piano! I joined The Order of DeMolay in high school and as an adult joined the Masons. I served as organist at my church for forty years and am Grand Organist of the Grand Lodge of Maine. I also belong to the Order of the Eastern Star.

In 1975, I married the love of my life. Unfortunately, **Carol** passed away in 1997.

My life didn't stop and I have lived it to the fullest. It was seeing the **Sapp** family



on television that brought me to CCA, and it has been a blessing to me and I wouldn't miss a retreat. It was such a wonderful experience for me to finally find out that I was not "alone." Thank you, CCA and families, for being an inspiration to all who come in contact with you, especially me. I love you all.

In conclusion, at the restaurant that I go to in the morning, Joyce, one of the patrons, insists on opening my sugar and cream and jelly. Drives me nuts. Finally, I asked someone else to do it one day and they said, loud enough for Joyce to hear, "Open it yourself, you're not helpless." Joyce still does it. Oh well, she is trying to help.

I leave you with a final quote: "I cried because I had no shoes and then I met a man who had no feet."

Thank you for listening.

* At that time it was believed that many birth defects occurred when a pregnant women was exposed to German Measles.



ccasupersib



meet mary zimmerman

my journey as an adult SuperSib began February 26, 1945 when my brother **John** was born. I was four and a half years old. Of course, I didn't have a clue. Big deal, I already had a brother and didn't need another one.

Did my life change? Not really. Mother and Dad were told that Mom had probably been exposed to German measles, causing John's condition. I still spent my time outside, where I was the happiest. We lived on a dairy farm, and I loved the cows. I think our hired man might have called me a pest, occasionally.

The favorite person in my life was my grandmother. As she lived across the road, I spent a lot of time with her, and she taught me to be the best that I could be. We skied, went sledding in the middle of the road, and skated on a farm pond that we had to sweep ourselves if we

wanted to use it when it snowed.

Dad drove a school bus, so getting to school was no problem. We lived too far to walk until we got into high school. (It was a four-mile walk if you missed your ride.) If we wanted to go somewhere, we rode our bikes, no matter the distance. No one drove us. If it was raining, so what, we wouldn't melt. I sometimes think we had it better, safer, then.

Another thing that was part of our growing up was a paper route. My brother **Howard** had it in the winter, and I had it in the summer, when he helped in the hay field. Then, after we outgrew it, John took over.

Trips to Boston Children's Hospital started right after John was born, where with God's help and "Dr. Mac," he thrived with one cranial surgery and one for each little finger. The splint he had to wear on his hands was made of stainless steel with leather straps, made by an engineer friend of the doctor doing the surgery—no special laboratory. (You didn't want to make him mad. That thing hurt when he hit you with it!)

I stayed with Grammie when he had to go to the hospital. What a treat. Of course, in the mid-forties, parents were discouraged from staying with their child or to visit. It was felt the child became too upset when the parents left, so Mom and Daddy never stayed overnight and only went back when John was to be discharged.

By the time John was three-and-a-half or four years old, he had all the surgery the doctor felt he needed and that he felt qualified to perform, and John only had to have an annual checkup in Boston. Those days were treat days for me, because I got dropped off at the Science Museum while he had to sit in the doctor's office. (It was safer then, not so much now.)

Middle school years were full of exciting things: singing in the school glee club; learning to sew, which I still enjoy; and wandering around out in the woods, looking for blueberries or raspberries.

There were also music lessons for all of us. I started with the piano, but that took practice, so I really wasn't interested. I finally settled for the cello

and can still play it today when I have the time. In high school, I played my cello in the school orchestra and advanced to the state level for festivals. Howard liked his guitar and still does.

John, that was another story. He didn't even have to practice, but he did and you all know he excelled at the piano. With his condition, people ask how he does it. I guess you'd better ask God.

There wasn't much that John wouldn't try. There are only three things I can remember he couldn't do: snow skiing, skating and water skiing. Other than that, he did everything the rest of us did. I remember my grandmother telling me to "Look after Johnny" or some such admonition. Not because of his condition,

see **supersib**, page 8



morgan meck's match play 2013

On April 17 and 18, **Bill Mecklenburg** and **Christine Condino-Mecklenburg** hosted the second annual Morgan Meck's Match Play Invitational benefitting CCA. The tournament took place at **Coto de Caza Golf and Racquet Club** in beautiful Coto de Caza, CA. After 36 holes of golf, the championship was ultimately decided with a three-hole match play contest by the top two teams. **Michael Sprague** and **Jim Trueman** claimed victory over the first runners-up **Brad Walsh** and **Mike Del Giorgio**.

All out-of-town participants stayed at the **Laguna Cliffs Marriott Resort & Spa** in Dana Point, and private dinners were held at **St. Roy's at the Vine** restaurant in San Clemente as well as in a beachfront setting at nearby **Capistrano Shores**.

The vast majority of the teams were filled with insurance and reinsurance professionals from throughout the country. **Tony Driver** "hopped the pond" from London to be the first-ever international participant in the event. The event also included three CCA dads, including **Darin Dankelson, Tate**

Gorman and **Russel Newman**, who flew in from Michigan, Dallas and New York respectively.

The tournament and the Charity Buzz auction collectively grossed more than **\$85,000** for CCA, **\$10,000** of which has been directed to provide **Wonder** for fourth-, fifth- and sixth-grade classrooms nationwide, thanks to grants from **The Redwoods Group Foundation, TMPAA Charities** and **Wells Fargo**.

The event's Premier Sponsor was **Lexington Insurance**. The **Redwoods Group Foundation, SES Insurance Brokerage Services, Inc., TMPAA Charities** and **EverGuard Insurance** provided Platinum Level sponsorships.

Gold Level Sponsors included **Guy Carpenter & Company, Partner Reinsurance Company, Thompson Coe Cousins & Irons LLP, TaylorMade Golf, Maria Amelio, Robinson, Calcagnie & Robinson, Wells Fargo,** and **Blair & Shelley Schrum**. And Silver Level Sponsors included **Tom & Donna Leonhardt, Greg Bonnell, Shelly Soenen** and **Michael Sprague,**



Bob & Bobbi Hill, Neilson Marketing, Access Destination Services and **York Programs**.

In addition to the funds raised through tournament participants and sponsors, **Christine Condino-Mecklenburg** through **Coast to Coast Destinations** also raised more than **\$10,000** through a **Charity Buzz Auction** that featured packages from the **Laguna Cliffs Marriott Resort & Spa, The Surf & Sand Resort, Four Seasons Resort Scottsdale, Coto de Caza Golf & Racquet Club, Steven & Susan King, Hanna's Prime Steak House, Mike Dandini, Auberge Resorts, The Los Angeles Angels, Disneyland Resorts, PGA professionals Pat Burke** and **Lawrence Gilbert, MLB Network** and the artist, **Krie**.

CCA and the Mecklenburg family would like to thank all of the

volunteers, participants and contributors who in addition to those mentioned include: **Dale Haase, Robert Reader, Chris Campbell, Cathy Kitai, Erin Joyce-Walsh, Heath & Michelle Fisher, James & Jen Oh, Nikki Trueman, Jim Dufficy, Ian & Sally Leisegang, Jamie McMillan, Jeff Patty, John Capizzi, Paul Linke, Edward Edwards, Bobby Grich, Tom & Gina Culpepper, Dan Robinson, Wes Polischuck, Kyle Olson, Dan & Cathy Field, Robert & Denise Kacer, Michael Beasley, Alan Driscoll, Greg & Theresa DeVille, John Carr, Jeoff & Betsy Robinson, Dale & Kathleen Philippi, Jerome & Katy Penna, Jeff & Varina Neilson, Debra Griffith, Ray Scotto, Tatiane Cunha** and **Debbie "Grammy" Mecklenburg**.



lentil fest 2013

by Lindsay Condefer

Lentil Fest was created as a four-day event, May 2-5, in Philadelphia, celebrating a pup who is able to look beyond his medical needs (thanks to all of the generous donors) and move forward to helping other special needs dogs and children!

There are so many animals in need of medical treatment. Lentil is currently being fostered through **French Bulldog Rescue Network**, and his foster mom founded **Street Tails Animal Rescue** back in 2001. STAR focuses on special needs animals in the Philadelphia area.

During our journey, I was introduced to CCA and was so inspired by what they do for the families and children who reach out to them for assistance. I'm honored to have them as a part of our fundraising efforts! In fact, all donations collected from Lentil Fest will be distributed between frenchbulldogrescue.org, streettails.org and ccakids.org.

The event raised **more than \$14,000** for each organization, and Lentil is being groomed for a role as **"Ambassadog"** to **Children's Hospital of Philadelphia** patients with craniofacial disorders, where CCA representative, **Diana Sweeney** serves as parent liaison to families. Special thanks to my mom **Karen Condefer** and CCA kid, **Daniel Pfeiffer** who contributed to the effort.

For more information on our adventure, please visit our blog www.mynamesilentil.blogspot.com.

Chance Raffle / Quilt Raffle

always a crowd pleaser at our CCA Annual Family Retreat, the raffle of baskets and items from everyone's hometowns and states, was again a huge success this year. Ticket sales totaled **\$2,220**, thanks to all the families who brought items and bought chances.

We were also very fortunate to have another quilt to auction off! After hearing the story about

DID get that quilt into her luggage! Congratulations to Cheryl and thank you again to Janie, who says she'll consider making another one for CCA's 2014 Retreat raffle!

We had second and third prizes donated by our guests of honor, Craniofacial Ambassador, **Lentil** and mom, **Lindsay Condefer**—a painting by Lentil's paws won by CCA Kid, **Jessica Barbalaci** and



what a big hit last year's quilt was with the families at the retreat, **Mrs. Janie Thurmond** of Plano, Texas, kindly consented to constructing a big beautiful creation out of 25 past-retreat and fundraiser T-shirts. This raffle by itself raised almost **\$1,000** for CCA Kids! Last year's winner, **Teresa Joy Dyson** drew the winning ticket. The quilt was won by CCA Mom, **Cheryl Smith** of Mustang, OK. We're not sure how much clothing she left behind but Cheryl

a set of Lentil notecards with Lentil's Ice Cream Social collar wrapped around them, won by CCA Kid, **Samantha Klinger**. Thank you, Lentil and Lindsay, and congratulations, girls!

A big thank you to everyone who participated in the fun! And, our deepest gratitude to **Greg Patterson, C.J. Barbalaci**, and all our CCA Kids and Grads who helped out during the raffle!



all the way for cca

By Lisa Bock

The **Texas Moms** held their second event benefiting CCA with their **All the Way for CCA Golf Tournament**, April 26, 2013 at Battleground Golf Course in Deerpark, Texas (Houston area).

We had a great day of golf, and although there was a light drizzle, thankfully the rain held off. Our event included a four-person scramble, silent auction, raffles and lunch followed by an awards ceremony. **Dixon Golf** was on hand to enhance the fun with several games and prizes! We also held a raffle for a Benelli Super Black Eagle shotgun, generously donated by **Alisa Shelton**.

Speaking of Alisa, the event would not have

turned out the success it was without the constant support from our new best friends, and surrogate "Texas Moms," Alisa Shelton and **Lynna McGuyer**. You ladies are the epitome of giving. Thank you for all the hours upon hours of time, service and money that you so generously gave for our children. **And special thanks go to Sarah Collins who lent her photography skills all day at the event!**

We had 73 generous golfers who all said they had a great time! We want to give special thanks to our sponsors: **USA Environment, LP, Hufco, Shelton Services, Inc., Gulf Coast Filters**

& Supply, ISB Capitol, Inflight Outfitters, TROY Pipeline & Facilities Contractors, Dr. Cook, Dr. Payne (both of whom also participated in the tournament), and

Mrs. Brittany Severin with **The Craniofacial & Plastic Surgery Center of Houston, Jim Chapman, Interior Creations by Lynna, TCG Digital Concepts, Deer Park High School Boosters** and **F.I.R.S.T.** Each sponsored at the gold level or above—thank you for supporting our kids!

you might say), shaking hands, handing out drinks on the golf course, handing out awards and posing for photos.

A warm thanks to all of our volunteers and everyone who helped us—**we netted more than \$20,000 for CCA!**



Golfers received goodie bags filled with a CCA Newsletter, CCA golf cap, golf balls, tees, a Shelton Services, Inc. golf towel, a CCA "Choose Kind" luggage identifier and various other items.

The most popular part of the event seemed to be CCA Kid representative, **Jakob Happ**. Jake joined golfers (working the crowd





thank you for choosing kind!

August (Auggie) Pullman was born with a facial difference that prevented him from going to a mainstream school—until now. He’s about to enter 5th grade at Beecher Prep, and if you’ve ever been the new kid, then you know how hard that can be. The thing is Auggie’s just an ordinary kid, with an extraordinary face. But can he convince his new classmates that he’s just like them, despite appearances?

CCA is on a mission to spread the word about acceptance of facial differences and the book, *Wonder*, by R.J. Palacio has given us a perfect platform. The book promotes the message to “Choose Kind” and takes a stand against bullying.

CCA would like to see the “Choose Kind” campaign endorsed by schools across the country, and we are promoting a grass roots effort to make that happen. If you have children between the ages of 9 to 13 we need your help. First, please read the book, then share the book and supporting materials with your children’s school(s).

Educators are excited about *Wonder*, because not only does it have an anti-bullying message, but it also meets National Common Core Standards for K-12 Literature. In particular, the book meets the Character Component benchmark for 5th grade literature.

For more information on how you can help, contact AReeves@ccakids.com.

In addition to the book *Wonder*, “Choose Kind” Bookmarks, Buttons and Wristbands are available for purchase for personal use or to use as fundraisers. Order from CCA’s Webstore or contact JPatterson@ccakids.com.



Wonder is available at ccakids.org/wonder.html for \$12

supersib, from page 4 but because I was older than he was. No pampering there. Older kids “looked after” the younger ones.

Sunday school and church were an important part of all our lives. For me, that meant choir, youth groups and social times. Mostly we enjoyed it and in the summer it included church camp. As a teenager I belonged to the International Order of Rainbow for Girls and when I was old enough, I joined the Order of Eastern Star. That is still a very big part of my life.

High School was pretty much routine with clubs and activities. My classes were chosen with my eye on nursing school. And I loved softball.

Howard and I grew up, got married, had kids, moved away and came back to settle in our home town. I guess we never really left.

I thank God that John’s condition was such, that 68 years ago, he only required one cranial-surgery and that the doctors today have the knowledge they need to help all the kids not as fortunate as he was. My family was very isolated from others with any syndrome, because John was the only kid in town with any such condition.

It was not until Howard’s wife, **Barbara**, saw **Cher** and **Chris** and **Tony Sapp**

and their family on the *Maury Povich Show* that we heard of CCA. We have been supporters ever since. I started attending retreats with John when Mom was no longer able to. My first retreat was Nashville, and that was quite an eye-opening experience for me, when I found out all the things these families go through today. I guess it is true that ignorance is bliss.

I had no idea how difficult this article would be, or how many times I would edit it. Thank you for listening. My family and I are extremely proud of John and the man he grew up to be. Not too shabby for a baby, born on February 26, 1945, and not expected to survive.

I was once asked, "What was it like growing up with a brother like John?" My reply was "Do you have a brother?" Her answer, "Yes, but he is n—" There was a big hesitation, and I asked her if she was going to say "normal." When she admitted that, yes, she was, I told her "John is his own normal."

To all the friends I have made through CCA, you have been an inspiration to me. Your faith and love have given me a clearer understanding of just how much my family was given and how lucky we were when John was born. God bless you all.

birthday fundraisers



Thank you also **Torres-Davila Family, Lucy, Luis, Jaylin**. In CCA Mom, Lucy's words:

"This year for Jaylin's 7th birthday, we wanted to do something different. Instead of gifts, we asked for donations so that we may send CCA a small gift in honor of Jaylin. We have been blessed in so many ways since the birth of our precious daughter that it was time to give back and be a blessing to others. It was a day filled with joy just to see another year celebrated with family & friends. What a journey it's been but the love and support from all who come into contact with Jaylin has given us much strength and encouragement. I greatly appreciate what CCA does for families. I thank you all for showing your love and kindness toward Jaylin. CCA will forever hold a place in our hearts. We look forward to seeing you all soon. God Bless!"

Jill Emerson and her fellow "**Cher's Lovelies**" as Cher refers to her twitter followers, set up a facebook page called "**Lovelies Birthday Surprise for Cher**" with just a month out from Cher's May 20th birthday and raised **\$2,650** in honor of Cher to benefit CCA Kids! It was a big hit with all Cher fans who helped contribute as well as sign a huge online birthday card. Our national spokesperson and honorary chair was definitely surprised and touched by the outpouring of love toward her and her "kidlets" at CCA!



Arleen Heirly

Many folks ask for donations to Children's Craniofacial Association in lieu of gifts on their birthday and we're so grateful for these impromptu fundraisers as they are sprinkled throughout the year and fill in where we're short on formally planned events. Recently, **Sheila Romano** held a 75th birthday party for her mom, **Arleen Heirly** and to celebrate her own 50th birthday as well and the funds are still rolling in. Thank you ladies!





program director, from page 1

retreat. Families from 35 states, Australia and Canada gathered for a weekend of sharing experiences, resources, support and love. Of the 101 families in attendance, 30 families were first-time attendees and the other 71 families were happily reunited and ready to welcome the new members of our retreat “family.”

On Thursday, June 27, the Annual Craniofacial Symposium kicked off on the four-day retreat. **Dr. Mutaz Habal** and members of his team as well as a few of his patients provided interesting and educational sessions on topics such as communication, teasing and personal stories. Other symposium presenters included CCA Board Member **Janis Macut**, who informed the group about the Able Act; **Kristine Dale**, who shared her experience and expertise on holding fundraisers for

CCA; a panel discussion for teens featuring **Lizzy Hubbard, Kara Jackman, Sabrina Robineau** and **Casey Deakins** (who stepped in for the stranded **Tiffany Kerchner**); and a panel discussion for parents including **Lisa Moore, Rose Seitz** and **Joe Zaengle**. And for the third consecutive year, CCA’s friend **Krista Embry** inspired us with her session “Unleashing Your Inner Genius” and helped the ladies learn how to create their own natural beauty with a hands-on makeup demonstration.

Thursday evening everyone gathered for the Ice Cream Party which included an “Amazing Race,” where groups of families pitted against each other combed the hotel to discover answers to clues. Even though the battle cry “The Mecklenburgs Never Give Up” echoed through the hotel corridors, the team



of the **Adams, Berrys** and **MacLennans** crossed the finish line well ahead of the others. One participant asked that we warn them if we were going to do this activity again, so he could go on a strict fitness regimen prior to the retreat.

Friday afternoon’s thunderstorm briefly interrupted our Family

Day activities, but it sure didn’t hamper the fun. We packed up, moved the DJ and his equipment into the meeting hall and continued with the party that nearly extended into the evening’s Family Night activities.

Once again families filled more than 60 baskets with local goodies from their towns/cities/states



to be raffled off during Friday Family Night. The centerpiece of the raffle was a quilt made of 25 t-shirts from past CCA fundraisers and retreats. The winner was **Cheryl Smith** of Mustang, Oklahoma. While the dinner and raffles were going on, teens enjoyed an adult-free evening at their annual (and chaperoned) Teen Night at the swimming pool.

After spending most of Saturday in the beautiful Omni Resort's swimming pool, the evening dinner/dance stood up to its reputation. The children hit the dance floor as soon as they devoured dinner and were shortly joined by the rest of the group. We danced the night away to "We Are Family," "YCCA" (YMCA) and other favorites until, as mentioned, we literally broke the dance floor. The DJ said in all his years he'd never seen that happen!

We were delighted to have couple of special guests this year. **Chef Rick** and **Laurie Chiavari**, known for holding the Chocolate Festival in Aventura, Florida, joined their nephew **Seth Swihart's** family for the four-day event. Freelance writer **Kelly Liszt**, who has served as volunteer editor for CCA's printed publications for the past

decade, joined us for the dinner/dance along with her daughter, **Jessica**, and husband, **Craig**.

And last, but certainly not least, there was **Lentil** and his mom, **Lindsay Condefer**. If you don't know Lentil, he is a French bulldog who was born with a cleft muzzle and palate. He is one adorable puppy with whom all retreat attendees fell in love and vice versa. In fact, Lindsay and Lentil loved the families and the retreat so much they are raising funds to help send families to the retreat in St. Louis next summer. On that note, we thought it would be appropriate to hear from someone who just recently became aware of CCA and the works we do and to find out her impressions of the Annual Family Retreat. So please read a note from Lindsay and Lentil.

Annie Reeves

CCA Program Director



I was really honored when I was asked to write about my experiences/thoughts about this year's Retreat for CCA, but I have to admit—I'm not sure that there are any words that can properly describe the love that was felt throughout the whole weekend. There was so much beauty and strength surrounding all of us—that it's hard to ball it up and put it on paper.

When I brought Lentil into my care on Feb 4, my life changed. Saving special needs animals is what I do—it's what I've always done—and I never would've imagined that one of them would be helping to not only raise awareness for all of your incredible children, but also be a help for all of them through their own specific journeys in their lives. For the first time in my life, I feel as though I'm complete. When we boarded our plane for Florida, my

friend **Anna** and I had no idea what to expect. We knew practically no one that was attending, and we were walking into this "private club" of families—who once a year—get relief from the outside world that can so often be cruel and judgmental. We arrived at the hotel really late, yet were immediately greeted by a huge hug from Jill—who until then, I had only met over the phone. I think it was at that moment, that I felt at home. (Jill was the one who originally took my "off the wall phone call to CCA" where I started off with "so, I know this sounds crazy... but I have this dog... and I really want to work with/help you guys...") To this day, I'm so grateful that she trusted me.

We were a bit nervous the next evening as we got ourselves together for the ice cream social. So many thoughts were running

see **lindsay**, page 12

lindsay, from page 11

through my mind. Were we going to show up and all of these families would be looking at us thinking “what are you guys doing here?” Would Lentil actually behave himself?! I think it was probably within the first 30 seconds of arriving, that I knew everything was fine. We were all there together—we were family.

Lentil and I made it about a foot through the door and he was immediately welcomed by a group of children who just wanted to give him a hug. He loved every minute of it... and I think they did too!

I’m not sure that I can say that I’ve ever been more proud of a puppy. Sitting back, and watching the interaction between the children and him was quite possibly the most comforting and incredible experience of my life. Just watching the way that they would look at each other—lock eyes—and smile is enough to send even the strongest person into tears. Animals are so special in that respect—we can tell them all of our secrets—and they’ll never tell a soul.

As the weekend moved on, and more and more

events/adventures were planned—it just seemed to get better and better. As an “outsider” it was almost overwhelming at times to be surrounded by so much love and strength all at once! I think I cried at least once a day while there—just out of the genuine beauty that was surrounding me. And I’ve definitely cried each day since we left because I miss everyone so much. I just want so badly for the world to work each day as it does at Retreat—everyone just being themselves.

While at Retreat, I felt compelled to start a donation link to help send more families next year! I knew, that in a way, I had to! I was so blessed to be able to be a part of such an incredible weekend—and it breaks my heart to think there are children out there that may not be able to experience it—and they are the ones who need it more than me! Incredibly—and I still have no explanation as to “how”—but the world is beginning to care! Dollar by dollar—the general public that follows Lentil online—is coming together to give a gift to families because

they, too, are seeing the importance in love, strength and awareness! I still don’t understand it—but I can assure you that I’m running full force ahead with it! It’s completely restored my faith in humanity! (Finally!)

I left that weekend as a completely different person... a better person... and I am already counting down the days until next year! You guys have all touched my heart in such an amazing way. I am proud to have you as my family—and together—we will continue to grow and make each day the best day ever! Little by little, we will break down social barriers and teach the world to judge a person by their heart and actions rather than their appearance... all of us are different—that’s the beauty of it!

Lindsay K Condefer

The Chic Petique
Street Tails Animal Rescue



testimonial

“Almost a year ago, I gave birth to a beautiful little girl name **Lola**, who has Apert syndrome. As a single mom, this journey can get tough. I would like to thank God for the wonderful team at CCA for helping us. CCA is one of the best organizations around. And for that, Lola and I would love to thank y’all for everything!”

LaTonya Williams

sponsors needed for cher’s family retreat!

In surveys CCA families have expressed to us that our retreat is the most important program we offer. Did you know it costs Children’s Craniofacial Association approximately **\$100,000** to hold our Annual Family Retreat each June?!

Cher usually sponsors our pool party for the weekend event. From time to time we’ve had T-shirt sponsors. But, we are in need of more sponsors. If you know of anyone who might be interested in supporting this worthwhile program, please have them contact our office. Email contact@ccakids.com or call 800.535.3643.





CCA Volunteer-at-Large, **Jaci Samhammer**, teamed up once again with her American Legion friends on May 18th, at the **Yardley, PA Legion**, they held a 50/50 Raffle during their Poppy Dance festivities.

Half of the funds raised went to CCA and half to the lucky winners. The winners, **Ronald and Diane Lyons** graciously donated back their half! **\$345.50** was the total for CCA Kids! Thanks so much to Jaci, the Lyons' and all who participated.



Lake Highlands Elementary's 5th and 6th graders with **Ms. Shannon Temple's** book club "Cluster" group were so inspired by the book *Wonder*, they decided to sell their own creation, "Wonder-grams," to raise funds of **\$100** for CCA Kids. CCA mom, **April Gorman** visited the last cluster, spoke to the group and answered questions. Ms. Temple reports, reading the book together made a lasting impact on these students. That's more pledging to "Choose Kind"! Thanks so much for your Wonder-gram idea and proceeds!



Primrose School of **Northeast Flower Mound** (TX) held their Spring Fling and chose to benefit Children's Craniofacial Association with funds of **over \$1,500**. Thank you to **Krista Jones, Vilma Freefield, Harriet Matuson** and **Mr. Scott Maness**, owner of the daycare.



Not only did **Thatcher Bartlett** send us **\$35** he collected for his 6th birthday, he did it in honor of his buddy, CCA kid, **John Gorman**. That was just the portion of funds for our cause... he also collected for another 3 local worthy causes. Thatch, we see philanthropy in your future!

lila's lemonade



After reading the book, *Wonder*, **Lila Plummer**, 9, knew she wanted to get involved with CCA. She has been matched up with CCA kid, **Samantha**, who she trades emails with and has started "Lila's Lemonade," a series of lemonade stands she will hold in Austin throughout the summer. Lila has held two lemonade stands so far and with the help of her little brother **Ethan**, has already raised **\$538**. You're a "wonder" yourself, Lila!

DFCU Jean Day

In May, a "Jean Day" fundraiser was organized at the **Dannemora Federal Credit Union** in Dannemora, NY by the family and friends of CCA kid, **Foster Rancour** of Plattsburgh, NY and proceeds of **\$290** were sent in his name. Foster's mom, **Heather**, submitted CCA as a potential beneficiary for DFCU's monthly funder, which allows employees to wear blue jeans to work in exchange for a donation to charity. Thanks to organizer, **Jenifer Provost, Heather Rancour**, and everyone at Dannemora and their participating branches!

Lewis, from page 1

That April, Lewis had his first of many surgeries and another one two months later. He began speech therapy at seven months old and had yet another surgery in December. That's right—three surgeries during his first year of life!

Along with consistent love, support and sacrifice from his family—great-grandparents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, godparents and friends—Lewis was geared for greatness from the start.

All of his initial surgeries were performed at Jefferson Hospital with the assistance of **Dr. John H. Moore Jr.**, a world renowned plastic surgeon who loved to call Lewis, "Luigi." Dr. Moore was walking past Lewis' hospital room with another doctor and decided to come in because he heard a mother's cry. Dr. Moore told Lewis' mother that he would repair his cleft lip and palate for free, and he was a man of his word.

In October 2004, Lewis had bone graph surgery. According to him "It was fun and I didn't feel a thing. I just played video games and had people wait on me all day!"

In 2007, after years of searching, Lewis and his family were introduced to CCA through Children's



Hospital of Philadelphia during a yearly appointment with the cleft palate team. Lewis' mother was asked if they would like to go to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, (all expenses paid) for the 18th Annual Cher's Family Retreat. Lewis and his mother attended the retreat in June 2008. Lewis' mother said:

"It was by far the best weekend my son and I have ever had together. Lewis and I realized how blessed we were and how fortunate we were to meet other children like him. No one understands better than someone who has been there.

"My son and I talked the first night we got there and he said 'Mom, I am not alone!' We talked about how he had been bullied in school a few years prior and how it made him feel.

"Then he said 'Mom, I'm going to write all of the kids like me a song.' And he did. We performed that song

together during the retreat for the Family Talent Night. The song is called "I Believe in Miracles." I don't think I've ever been so proud of him!"

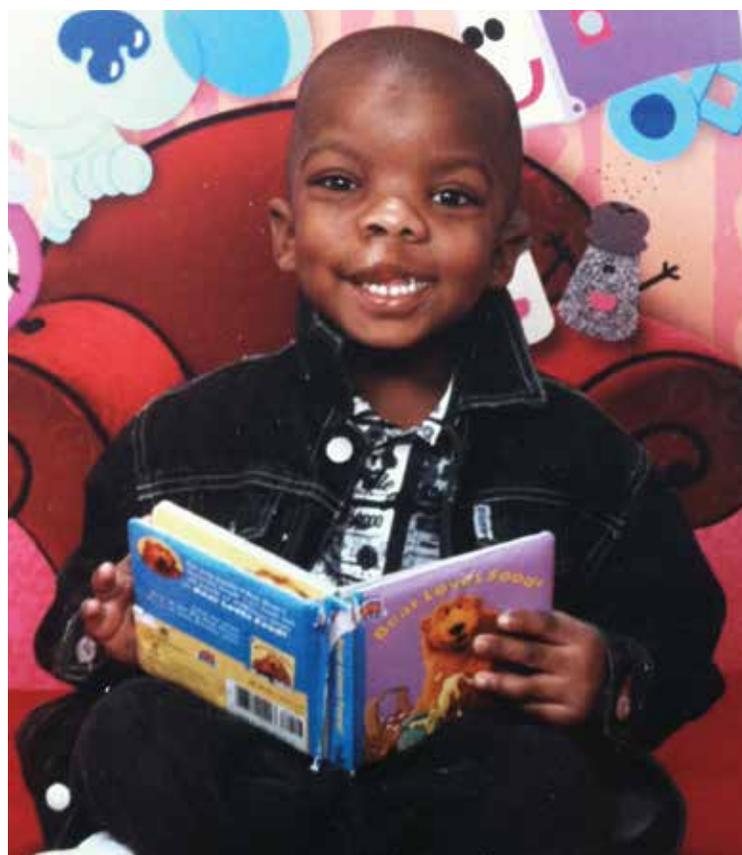
Lewis' mother later discovered their trip was not sponsored by the hospital but by donations given to **Diana Sweeney, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia's Parent Liaison.**

It is imperative for Lewis and children like him to receive monetary donations to help offset their medical bills. In just over a year, Lewis' medical bills, after insurance deductions, were about \$7,000—and it keeps climbing. His quality of life depends on the doctors being able to perform the various procedures in a



timely manner. Lewis has had many struggles but he tries to keep a positive attitude. His mother is writing to the governor because the state refuses to cover or even assist with Lewis' medical care.

On Sunday October 25, 1998, Lewis was blessed at Christ-Like Assembly Church by Pastor Thomas and Co-Pastor Christine Taylor. For two years, Lewis was a member of the Pointe



Flex Dance Company in Philadelphia, where he loved to perform tap and modern jazz dances. He is currently a part of the Greater Promise Praise Dancers in Glassboro, New Jersey.



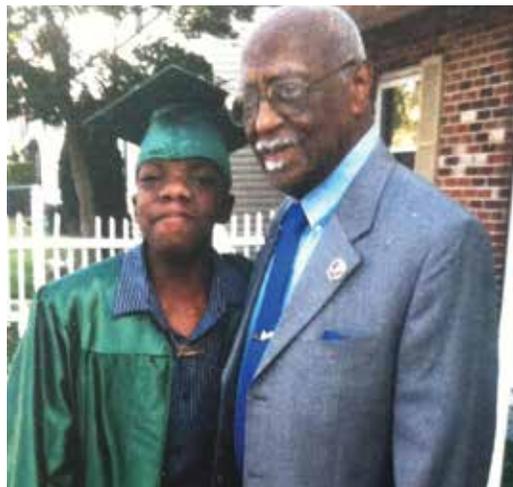
Lewis is a saved, Christian young man who loves the Lord and loves the performing arts. Lewis is a prayer warrior, and he stands on faith. He is a member of the Greater Promise Church where the pastor is Overseer Dr. George Darby, Sr. Lewis is a member of the band, and he plays the drums for the church. Lewis is also a member of the Youth Choir, Y.A.P.P. (Youth Against Peer Pressure) and the Sunday School.

Lewis IV has been playing the drums since he was two years old. It was very common to watch his food fly across the table as he played different beats on

his high chair. During the summer of 2008, while visiting family at the Umoja Festival in Fayetteville, North Carolina, Lewis received mention in a newspaper article for playing the bongo and the drums. The writer couldn't believe her ears. He currently plays both the piano and the drums and takes formal lessons. Lewis writes poetry and composes music as well as performs his own songs. He loves the theatre and one day aspires to write gospel plays.

On his 13th birthday, Lewis' mother, along with all of his family and friends, celebrated his life, his struggles and accomplishments. Lewis had a live band so he danced, played the drums, ate and socialized all night. A year later an elated Lewis, along with his pastor, met with famous gospel singer Tye Tribett!

Last year was Lewis' first year in high school, and it was a rollercoaster year for



him. His new school had a hard time adjusting to his needs, but he and his family are hopeful that everything has been worked through as he looks forward to his sophomore year.

He joined the marching band for the first time, and he played in the pit. They won second place in the Tournament of Bands for their division. He also auditioned and won the position of being the school mascot. Lewis enjoys making people laugh and having a good time.

Overall, Lewis receives A's and B's in school, and while he loves money, he doesn't like math. His favorite subject is reading, and he'd rather read a book than do anything else (with the exception of eating and watching cartoons). Lewis has some major surgeries coming up—both jaws and a nasal surgery. Even with this he doesn't complain.

When he grows up Lewis wants to travel the world

and become a famous food critic. He will be able to accomplish any goal he sets his mind to achieve as long as he puts God first, stays positive and works hard.

OP4G

(Opinions for Good)

help Children's
Craniofacial

Association by becoming a member of Op4G (Opinions for Good) and taking online surveys in your spare time. Op4G is a different type of market research firm. They're based on a private membership community of nonprofit supporters who anonymously participate in market research activities. They pay in cash, and a minimum of 25% (with the ability to be up to 100%) of your earnings goes to the nonprofit of your choice. Op4G has 340 nonprofit partners, and in 2012 gave over \$210,000 to their panel members, like you, for their insights. In return, their members have donated over \$79,000 of those funds to their Non-Profit Partners, like CCA. Give your opinions and help out Children's Craniofacial Association! Go to www.op4g.com to sign up and get started today!



There's good news to spread about teens like **Meredith Clements**. Read what she has to say...

Hello, my name is Meredith Clements, and

I am working on my Girl Scout Silver Award. For my service project I am making care bags for kids undergoing cleft palate and cleft lip treatment at Medical City Children's Hospital. These bags are intended to help the kids pass the time while they are in the hospital. This project is close to my heart because I was born with cleft palate and know what it is like to undergo so many surgeries.

Thank you, Meredith Clements

Thank YOU Meredith! CCA is proud to be associated with Meredith and we thank her for reaching out to help so other children will have an easier time enduring what she went through at their age.

a living legacy



We wish we could thank those who thought ahead, arranging planned giving according to their wishes—many times without even telling us—all those who made the decision to champion CCA by leaving our charity in their will.

For this reason, we initiated the CCA Legacy Society, for those who wish to name Children's Craniofacial Association as a beneficiary. Through this effort, we will chronicle information about those who care for our future and the future wellbeing of our CCA kids.

If you wish to fill out a declaration form and become a legacy member, please contact us. If you have already set up a bequest in CCA's name, please allow us to include your intentions in our records, describing your gift of security for the future of Children's Craniofacial Association.

GO PAPERLESS and view the newsletter online in FULL COLOR! Email ARees@ccakids.com and let her know you want to **save the environment and save money for CCA.**

**BUY A CRANIOFACIAL ACCEPTANCE MONTH T-SHIRT!
GO TO WWW.PROMOTES.ME/CCA**

Youth S, M, L – \$15 • Women's S, M, L, XL – \$20
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SHIPPING ON T-SHIRTS IS FREE

Colors Available:



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White



Yellow

(Men and Youth sizes only)



Buy and/or sell "Beyond the Face is a Heart" wristbands for Craniofacial Acceptance Month



BENEFITTING
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for the 6th Annual Links of Love Golf.
Tournament Don't miss the fun!**

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september is craniofacial acceptance month

This year marks the ninth year CCA will observe September as Craniofacial Acceptance Month across the nation. Each year CCA families, friends, volunteers and related support groups band together to widen the circle of acceptance for individuals with facial differences. The goal is to create awareness of craniofacial differences and to get people to see that "beyond the face is a heart."

As part of the 9th Annual Craniofacial Acceptance Month, CCA will hold its **5th Annual National Picnic Day** on **September 7th** (or other date in September of your choice). CCA families across the nation will hold picnics giving them a chance to get together with other families in their areas, while promoting awareness in their communities.

If you would like to hold a picnic contact CCA Program Director Annie Reeves. CCA will invite all of the families in your area and help you organize your picnic.

In addition to raising awareness and acceptance, CCA is raising funds to support programs and services available to all individuals with facial differences and their families. Contact CCA Development Director, Jill Patterson for materials about this year's fundraising efforts.

We hope you will join this important effort! Please call 800.535.3643.

financial assistance

do you travel to receive quality medical care? If you do, and need financial help, CCA has a financial assistance program that will help with food, travel and/or lodging. Call CCA for an application at **800.535.3643**. All we ask is that you **apply at least four to six weeks prior** to your next appointment.



sadie's night at the ball park

For the second consecutive year, the **Lake Highlands High School Wildcat baseball team** had a night to raise funds for Children's Craniofacial Association and promote craniofacial awareness, honoring, local CCA Kid, **Sadie Bono** for

"Sadie's Night at the Ball Park."
 This year Sadie asked fellow Lake Highlands resident and CCA Kid, **John Gorman** to join her on the mound, as the Wildcats went up against Richardson High School on Friday, April 12th, and they

each threw out a first pitch at the game.

Coach Cory Tucker and his wife, **Ginny** are the folks behind the event, and the entire community, including the opposing team, joined in, donating through concession purchases, passing the bucket, and buying Ginny's handmade necklaces and baseball bracelets made from baseballs used in the batting cages of the Frisco Rough Riders and the Texas Rangers. While teaching his team and the entire community about acceptance and generosity, Coach Tucker and his group's efforts inspired a



donation totaling almost **\$2,500!** (Icing on the cake, the Wildcats won the game!)

Thank you LHHS Wildcats, Coach Tucker and Ginny, the **Bono and Gorman families** and the entire Lake Highlands community as well as opposing Richardson team friends!



matching gifts

Children's Craniofacial Association (CCA) provides support for patients and their families affected by facial differences resulting at birth, later in development, or from accident or disease. Support is provided through our programs and services at no charge so we rely heavily on your gifts to do this. We encourage you to consider maximizing the impact of your donations through your company's Matching Gifts program. Please contact your Human Resources department to see if your company will match your donations to double your contributions for CCA!



FULL SAIL
UNIVERSITY

CCA would like to thank **Full Sail University** for promoting our educational symposium. Because of this, two students came out to our symposium and filmed several of our sessions. Thank you, **Marissa Sauer** and **Justin Montgomery** for all of your hard work! We truly appreciate both of you and can't thank you enough!

state assistance:

Did you know that many states offer funding/ small grants to individuals with disabilities and their family members to attend advocacy, learning events and conferences? The **CCA Retreat qualifies** because of our educational symposium. If you would like more information regarding your state assistance program, please visit ccakids.org/state-funding.html

calendar of events

date	event	contact
2013		
Aug 10	3rd Annual Trevor's Trip to Triumph Motorcycle Ride for CCA Morganville, NJ	kimtriz@msn.com
September	9th Annual Craniofacial Acceptance Month Nationwide	ARees@ccakids.com 214.570.9099 800.535.3643
September Date TBD	Lily's Dinner Returns! Awareness Benefit Dinner Lindon, UT	Nursetosha@gmail.com
Sep 1	TJ's Spa Day, a raffle to Benefit CCA Kids California (Various Spa Locations)	deenstrick@aol.com
Sep 7 11A-1P	6th Annual National Picnic Day Sandy Lake Amusement Park Carrollton, TX	ARees@ccakids.com 214.570.9099 800.535.3643
Sep 7	Raegan's Rally/Walk for CCA Deerasic Park Cambridge, OH	Ashley Daugherty adaugherty@mvesc.k12.oh.us
Sep 14	Seth's Stride Canton, OH	Stacy Horne stacykhorne@gmail.com
Sep 21	I support LOLA'S Voice Benefit Walk Columbus State University Columbus, GA	Latonyaw86@gmail.com
Sep 22	9th Annual Friends of Jeremy Golf Tournament Corning Golf Club Corning, NY	gdale@stny.rr.com www.friendsofjeremy.com
Sep 27	6th Annual Links of Love Golf Tournament Bear Creek Golf Club at DFW Airport Dallas, TX	JPatterson@ccakids.com 214.570.9099 800.535.3643
Oct 6	6th Annual Chocolate Festival for CCA Aventura Mall Aventura, FL	ChefRick2@aol.com
Oct 11 8 PM	Pete's Oktoberfest to benefit CCA Highland, MI	dededankelson@gmail.com
Dec 7 10A-Noon	CCA Holiday Party--Dallas Southfork Ranch Parker, TX	ARees@ccakids.com 214.570.9099 800.535.3643
Dec 4 11:30A-2:30P	CCA Holiday Party--Midwest Brat Stop/Parkway Chateau Kenosha, WI	JPatterson@ccakids.com 214.570.9099 800.535.3643
2014		
Jun 26-29	24th Annual Cher's Family Retreat St. Louis, MO	ARees@ccakids.com 214.570.9099 800.535.3643

3 cheers

for volunteers!

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church's Prayer Quilt Ministry group



Children's Craniofacial Association has been blessed to be the recipient of the handiwork of many charitable women in the faith community at **St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church** in Plano, Texas.

The parish ladies' **Prayer Quilt Ministry** has donated up to 50 prayer quilts over time for CCA to give to patients and they await our call when we are in need of more.

Their **Knights of Columbus Ladies' Auxilliary #7850** produced **110 fleece blankets**....one for each family attending our Annual Cher's Family Retreat in June, as their outreach project to embrace our CCA Kids.

Many of these women are members of both groups and we're extremely grateful to all of them! Thank you so much from all of our families and from all of our CCA Kids.



Matthew Abernathy has always shown dedication and great character when it comes to commitment to his family, friends, and community. Matthew has a great gift of being a motivator and a mentor. He demonstrates integrity when he gets involved by volunteering in the community and is always willing to go the extra distance to see a project to completion—

even if it means stretching his boundaries.

Matthew recently tackled a project of sharing the book **Wonder** with his student body and the school district, while also making **blankets** to comfort the moms and dads who often have to stay in a hospital room 24/7 while waiting for their child to have surgery.

Thank you for being such a wonderful CCA Volunteer!



St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church's Knights of Columbus Ladies' Auxilliary #7850

Nursing School?!

By Rebecca White, CCA Mom

any of us will tell you that having a child with special needs is challenging, to say the very least. But add going to school in the mix, and we might begin to question our sanity! We deal with doctor appointments, therapies (and becoming therapists ourselves), surgeries, late developmental milestones, learning new medical lingo and how to navigate the red tape, and finding the right providers. But eventually we get to the other side where we become the “mentors,” lighting the path for those new parents who are coming this way.

Fortunately and unfortunately, that is where I am. My children are **Destiny** (15), **Antasia** (11) and **Little Wade** (6). Wade was born with Pfeiffer syndrome, yet before his birth he had a stroke when I was pregnant with him. He needs one-on-one attention 24 hours a day and is immobile, unable to feed himself, hold himself up, and cannot talk. He also has a trach, g-button and shunt for hydrocephalus. The enormity of it can at times take my breath away.

I was unsure if making a commitment to go to class two to four days per

week would be best for my family. We weren't sure how this would work for us as I was his sole life-manager at the time. I had a child with severe special needs, and there were times that nursing would be unavailable, and he would have doctor appointments and therapies to get to as well as emergency surgeries.

These what-ifs seemed so big, but with the guidance of great friends I took it one day, or one semester, at a time. Those things did come up. He was life-flighted many times during one particular semester. I've spent many nights in the hospital emergency room and in the PICU studying and waiting for the doctors to make their rounds.

I just knew that no matter what, this is what I needed to do. There were many times that I would get discouraged—nurses would no-show and my husband couldn't miss work. I would just have to explain to my instructor what was going on. After a couple semesters, I learned to go right up to them before class on day one and explain my situation.

My community college has a rule that you can't miss more than two classes, but it was up to the instructor's discretion.

I can tell you right now, there have been semesters that I missed way more than two days. There also have been semesters that I have missed none. You just don't know until you try it. I'll bring a laptop and study materials to doctor appointments. You know that even though the appointment is at 10 AM, you won't be seen until 11, so I made sure to take advantage of any opportunity I had to study.

Opportunities are endless if I am determined to do what I've set out to do—even when my mind is scared—the door will always open. I learned how to schedule my classes around my available nursing coverage and doctor appointments. Heck, I've even brought a nurse and Little Wade with me to a study session at the school!

I am going to do whatever I need to do to make things happen. I put my education on a pedestal, the same way I did his life. Just like I knew I was going to do any and everything to make sure he had the best doctors, I was going to make sure my life was arranged so I could go to school.

This was not a single-person effort. My experience has included many people that have helped along the way, including my nurses, my

husband, my daughters, my aunts and uncles, cousins, Big Wade's family and my friends. But, I have a friend that was a single parent, works full time, and is in class full time. I just got a text that she is transferring to a university and is halfway to her bachelors in business administration. It can be done!

Refuse to give up.

I have learned over the years to take each day as it comes and with whatever it gives me. I look at my son and see his perseverance. I see how much he's gone through, living with increased intracranial pressure for years, migraines and throwing up literally for years, the agony of not being able to move, for even the slightest change in pressure would cause him to hurl.

I use Wade, and others, as my example. If he can keep on living, if he can keep on trusting me with his life and waiting for a better day, then I can get through something as simple as college. His strength, and knowing that he still believes in me, gets me through. He taught me how to speak, how to advocate, how to be important. He inspired me with the tools that are important in life, and how to use them. It's up to me to use them.

donors, january 1 – june 30, 2013 *

Gifts from Individuals

CCA Friends (\$100 +)

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Raymond Scotto
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Bill Mecklenburg & Christine Condino-Mecklenburg

CCA Legacy Society

Dede & Darin Dankelson
Joy & Rod Strickland

Memorials / In-Honor Gifts

Anonymous, in honor of Sheila Romano
Anonymous, in honor of Max Labrador Weinraub
Chris Abel, in honor of Max Abel
Leslie Bagwell, in honor of Brian, Edward, & Leslie
Thatcher Bartlett, in honor of John Gorman
Susanne & John Benjamin, in honor of Jeremy Dale
Veronique Boyd, in honor of the kids
John Clark, in honor of Christine Clark
Joann Cundiff, in honor of Irvin Brewin III & in memory of Ruby Bigelbach
Jeremy Dale's Teacher's retirement collection donated in his name
Dede Dankelson, in honor of CCA Kids
Dede Dankelson, in memory of Paige Leflar
Dede Dankelson, in memory of Gavin Mohny
Linda Dietz, in memory of Brian E. Leslie
M. Brian Evans, in honor of Erica Mossholder
Deborah Fogg, in honor of Sheila Romano
Robert Gannon, in honor of Emerald Rain Demor
Raynold & Karen Griff, in memory of Brian E. Leslie
Mat Gruen, in honor of Angela Harper
Denyse Halperin, in honor of John Gorman
Jackie Halpin-Osteeen, in honor of John Gorman
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Up to \$1,000

American Legion 50/50 Raffle / Jaci Samhammer
Thatcher Bartlett's Birthday / Bartlett Family
CCA Wristband Sales / Lucas Family Kids
Dannemora Credit Union Jean Day / Heather Rancour
Indoor Flea Market / Anjolene Whaley

registration is now open for 2014 annual cher's family retreat

June 26-June 29 in St. Louis, MO

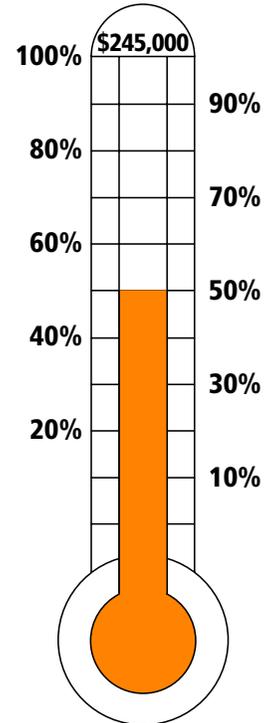
Please join us for an educational symposium, pool party, ice cream social, dinner/dance and much more! For more information, please contact Annie Reeves,

ARees@ccakids.com

We hope to see you there!

Registration ends May 23, 2014.

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Lake Highlands Book Club Cluster
Wonder-gram Sale
Pampered Chef Funder / Jennifer Lucas, Hostess
Scentsy Funder / Bev Grim

\$1,000-\$5,000

Arleen Heirly's 75th Birthday / Sheila Romano
Chance Raffle / Retreat Attendee Families
Lovelies Birthday Surprise for Cher / Jill Emerson
"Miles For CCA Kids" Poker Run / Lewis Boykin, Frank Leach
Primrose School of NE Flower Mound Spring Fling proceeds
Quilt Raffle / CCA Families & Friends
Rick's Raffle / CCA by Burgin/Dornier Families
Sadie's Night at the Ballpark / Bono Family, Gorman Family

\$10,000 or more

Lentil Fest / Lindsay Condefer & Lentil

\$20,000 or more

All The Way For CCA / Becky & Wade White, Lisa Bock, Jennifer Kilmer

\$50,000 or more

2nd Annual Morgan Meck's Match Play Golf Invitational / Mecklenburg Family

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rick's raffle 2013

Rick's Raffle 2013, which is the annual raffle held in memory of **Rick Dornier**, was a great success.

Debby Wiese had the winning ticket, which was drawn on Rick's birthday, April 25.

Debby, who lives in California, is mom of CCA kid, **Daniel Lloyd**. She also runs a daycare, so Debby was happy to tell us that another six or so little boys will be enjoying the Thomas train play table as well.

Congratulations, Debby, and thank you to everyone who helped top last year fundraising efforts! This year, we raised **\$1,590**, given in Rick's name to CCA's Patient Financial Assistance Fund.