



KREIDER SERVICES

focus

NEWSLETTER



June 2019

Kreider's Spring Gala Supports Meaningful Day

Just over 300 people attended the Kreider Spring Gala on March 22 at the Brandywine Banquet Center located between Dixon and Sterling. This event was to raise money for the people we serve so they are able to have more "Meaningful Days."

A special shout of thanks goes out to both KSB Partner in Health and Ken Nelson Auto Group who were the Presenting Sponsors of this year's Gala.

The top Live Auction item was the WI Lake Home going for \$2500, with the Arizona Condo and Cubs tickets going for just under that. Several of the other items that were popular with the crowd was a freezer full of pork and 4 Cubs tickets to the new Catalina Club at Wrigley Field donated by KSB. Board members Don Vock and Jim Marshall put together a wonderful trip to Arizona. Brooke Rowe won the Apple Watch IV, which was raffled off by selling \$20 tickets. Thanks to Crest Foods for donating the Apple watch.

One thing done a little differently this year than in the past four previous events was to reduce the number of auction items and to try to recruit a younger audience. Jeff Stauter said, "We wanted to let people know what Kreider Services is all about in an attempt to recruit younger volunteers and supporters of our mission. It was about having a good time and telling the Kreider story."

The band Burn n' Bush played following the live and silent auctions. They have a huge following and put on a wonderful show for the audience who danced until the end of the evening.



We want to thank all the businesses, volunteers and attendees that made this event a success. It takes a lot of people to put on an event of this size.

Pictured above are: (R) Candice Bass and Russell Helfrich, (C) Megan and Betsy Adams (top L) John and Carol Stauter and below is Dave Bushman and Rod Burnette Burn n' Bush.



Kreider Bulldogs won First Place at the Special Olympics State Basketball Games on Sunday, March 17 in Bloomington, IL. The final score was 54 Kreider - 35 Sea-Spar Spartans. The semi-final game was a nail biter coming down to the last seconds. Kreider won that game 34-32 against Springfield Green Knights. Team members are Tyler Bieser, David Goken, Mike Guyse, Randy Conner, Tim Hart, Fred Stovall and Brian Mezo. Coaches are Katie and Vicki Cover.

Congratulations on a great weekend!

From the Director's Desk:

Anger, hurt and the hope of self-driving cars

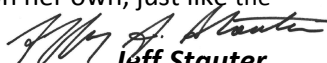


This is not the kind of thing I usually share, especially with an audience that works hard supporting people with disabilities. If you will allow, I am going to put on my parent hat for this story.

This is a big year for one of my four kids. She turns sixteen in a few weeks. She is excited, this is one of those big deal birthdays in American culture. But for me it hurts quite a bit. I am certain it is the same for my wife. The reason is obvious, there will not be a big trip to the Secretary of State's Office to take a driving test. It makes me sad, and angry, and those are my emotions to work through. I know some people with Down Syndrome, and other disabilities, who drive. They are the exception. The reality is that moving from place to place for people with disabilities can be a frustrating pain and almost always requires a reliance on others. The freedom of the open road is not something most will experience.

But, as with most things, I personally cling to the idea that the world will get better. Just look at how far we have come with supports for people with disabilities. My current ray of light is in self-driving cars. For all the derision, and sneers, the idea gets from some folks, for people with disabilities, it will be life changing. I imagine a future where my own daughter can go out to the car, tell it where she wants to go, and be on her way. She, and others, would have the freedom that the rest of us have had since we were sixteen.

The next time someone scoffs about self-driving cars, think about the people with disabilities you know and love. Think of their joy at this new kind of freedom. Think of the opportunities they could have to be more independent, being able to get to a job. Just think about it. My daughter might not get to drive this year, but I can find hope in the idea that someday she will, on her own, just like the rest of us.


Jeff Stauter
Executive Director

Kreider & Florissa Happenings

Comcast Tech Center

The KSI Maintenance staff has been working hard this winter building the Comcast Tech Center at Kreider's main building. This new area will contain six computer stations, access to iPads and other technology. Clients that are interested in learning computer skills will soon be able to sign up and receive hands-on instruction and coaching. The Tech Center was made possible a year ago when the Comcast Foundation donated \$10,000 to us to build the Training Center. It is projected the Comcast Tech Center will be completed this summer.



Polar Plunge

Fourteen people from Kreider jumped into the frigid waters on March 2 in Rockford to raise money for Special Olympics. Each member of the team is expected to raise \$100 which gets them each an event sweatshirt. The Polar Plungers raised in excess of \$1200 for the event. Jacob Hoak, a multi-year gold medal athlete in downhill skiing, was asked by the Northern Illinois Special Olympics to be the Plunge Ambassador for our region. He gave a speech at the beginning to kick off this year's Plunge.



Flag Day Celebration - June 14th

Kreider Services celebrated Flag Day this year in the park gazebo behind KSI. Paul Lewis, a DSP staff member, organized a program with patriotic songs with the KSI staff band, the Honor Guard presentation from the Lee Co. Sheriff's Department, songs and ceremony. Several guardians and community members helped us celebrate the U.S. Flag.

Autism Training on "Executive Functioning" - April 4 & 5

Florissa welcomed Joyce Cooper-Kahn, a renown speaker and author, to SVCC to facilitate a training on Executive Functioning: Why Can't My Child Get Organized? A training is held annually at the beginning of April for professionals, teachers and parents as part of Autism Awareness Month. Nearly 100 people attended this training which offered 6 CEU Credits. A handful of Kreider employees also attended the training to pick up some valuable information when working with children.

Florissa 5K - Saturday, May 4

The 3rd Annual Florissa 5K was held on Saturday, May 4th at Sauk Valley Community College. The walk was again presented by Boss Carpet One and Borg Warner. We had just over 200 walkers and runners with all proceeds to help support the



programs at Florissa for the families that cannot afford services. Last year, Florissa provided \$127,000 worth of services to local families. It is events like this that make it possible for us to do so. The Registration for the 5K was only \$25 and the Fun Run was free. The CGH Fun Run was a big hit again for the kids who all received a T-shirt and medal. In addition to the 5K and Fun Run, KSB Partner in Health sponsored the Resource and Activity Fair where attendees talked with over 20 exhibitors featuring their services. Each vendor had an activity for kids to participate in.

A lot of FEET were moving -
THANK YOU!



Kreider Alliance Kicks Off Membership Drive



Spring is a very busy time of the year for the Kreider Alliance Board. The 2019-20 Membership Drive took on a theme of **Cultivate Inclusion**. Kreider Alliance (KA), as we know it today, is the founding group, nearly 70 years ago, that was made up of a group of parents that did not want to put their children with disabilities into an institution.



The membership of about 250 people is primarily made up of family members, guardians and friends. The fees collected annually help with their mission to provide advocacy, education and

support for people with disabilities and the programs at Kreider Services. A single membership is \$25, Family \$35 and Senior or first-time membership is only \$20.

March 15th was the deadline for KA Scholarship applications. The selection committee will announce the 2019 winners soon. Four \$1000 and four \$500 scholarships were awarded at the Alliance Annual Meeting scheduled for Monday, June 3rd. It is important to support students that want to study in this field.

During March, which is National Disabilities Awareness Month and April which is Autism Awareness, KA distributed information to over 200 churches in the Sauk Valley and Jo Daviess County. Often referred to as Sabbath Sunday, the churches take a few minutes to talk about inclusion. Kreider Alliance also helps support the autism training at SVCC and fundraising events to help deliver this message.

Membership information is available by visiting the Kreider Services website to print off a brochure. With your help, we can continue to advocate for inclusion of people with disabilities to participate, work and live in their communities.

***"I don't want to be a client. I want to be a person.
I don't want a label. I want a name.
I don't want services. I want support and help.
I don't want a residential placement.
I want a home.
I don't want a day program. I want meaningful
and productive things.
I don't want to be "programmed" all my life.
I want to learn things, and go places which I like.
I want the same opportunities as all of you.
I want to be happy."***

Dr. Mike McCarthy, a pioneer in person-centered planning for individuals with disabilities.

Share us socially



Florissa is Creating Great Partnerships

Florissa is the Children's Division of Kreider Services. What started as a program for Autism related services now serves children with Autism, developmental, social, emotional and behavioral challenges up to 18 years old. Last year, direct clinical services were provided to 386 children and, in just the first half of FY 2019, we already served 324 children. This growth is directly related to successful collaborative relationships with community partners.

Partnerships have allowed us to efficiently utilize available resources while avoiding duplication of efforts.

Key partners involved in building the system of care for children and assisting in securing federal funds are KSB Hospital and Sinnissippi Centers. KSB provides the pediatrician for the medical portion of the diagnostics and Florissa shares the same building with KSB pediatrics. Sinnissippi Centers provides leadership for the planning and implementation to improve the system of care for children in our region, has worked hard to increase standardized screenings for children and school based counseling services across the 4 county region. Additionally, clinical staff work together to coordinate services for specific children with complex needs.

Other partners include schools, the Rural Office of Education, Special Education Cooperatives, Lee County Health Department, Child and Family Connections, Easter Seals in Rockford, University of Illinois Extension, Family Matters, Shining Star, StarNet, Crafts for Kids, Oregon Public Library, several passionate parents and the list could go on and on. Our many partners continually support improving care for children and assist with various collaborative trainings and events.

Florissa strives to be sure all children are able to receive the services they need regardless of financial status. Last fiscal year, we provided over \$129,000 worth of services to families not able to pay.

For a complete list of Florissa program offerings, visit [Facebook.com/florissadixon](https://www.facebook.com/florissadixon) or go to www.florissacenter.org



Community Employment Offers New Opportunities

Last August, Kreider Services hired a Community Employment Coordinator, Audrey Smith, to provide customized career opportunities to highly motivated individuals currently enrolled in Kreider's Day Services Program that are interested in long-term community employment. These individuals are screened to get a sense of their level of interest and desire in seeking gainful employment, and then they are given the opportunity to learn job readiness and placement skills needed to find and maintain employment.

The Community Employment Coordinator works diligently with several area employers to match the strengths, needs and interests of applicants to the needs of the employer in order to create a job description that meets both the applicant's and employer's specific needs.



Mike and Audrey Smith discuss Mike's new job at SGS Refrigeration.

Once an individual has found a job, the Community Employment Coordinator stays in contact with both the individual and the employer to support long term success.

Since starting in August of 2018, Audrey has assisted with the successful community placement of two individuals at Walgreens and SGS Refrigeration. Steve P. works for Walgreens in Dixon, utilizing his custodial skills to help Walgreens maintain the cleanliness of their facility. At the time of Steve's employment, Walgreens needed custodial services but was not able to work it into existing staff schedules. Steve was able to offer his skills to Walgreens to fill this gap and reduce the stress on the employer.

Mike S. works for SGS Refrigeration as a Production Assistant. SGS was in need of a part time employee to assist on their production line with the building of refrigeration units to reduce the amount of prep time that was needed to start a job. Mike was able to offer his skills of efficiency and motivation along with an outgoing personality to be the perfect fit for their part-time position.

While the Community Employment Department has only placed 2 individuals, at least 12 other individuals are interested in employment and will be attending the Job Skills Training Courses to prepare them for their potential employment in the near future.

If you or your company would be interested in learning of the benefits of our Community Employment Program and partnership opportunities, please contact Audrey Smith at 815-288-6691, extension 303 for more details.

Save the Date

July 11, 2019

KREIDER SERVICES

Meaningful Day GOLF OPEN

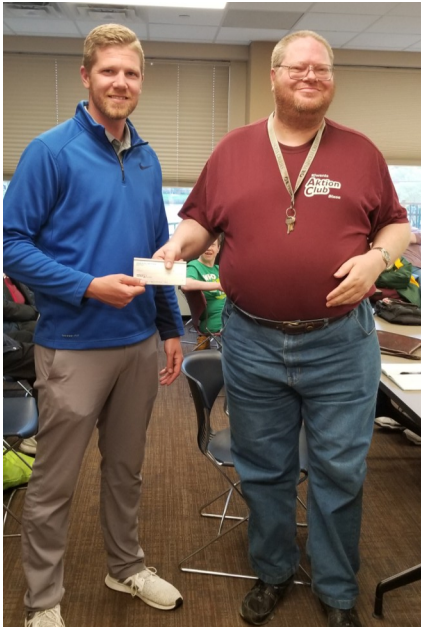
SHADY OAKS GOLF COURSE
AMBOY, ILLINOIS

Foursome of Golfers Only \$380

The 6th Annual Meaningful Day Golf Open will be held July 11, 2019 at Shady Oaks Golf Course in Amboy, Illinois. The day will begin at 10:30 a.m. with registration followed by tee-off at Noon. Activities throughout the course will make the round of golf for your foursome an enjoyable one! **Fee for foursome of golfers is \$380. Corporate Sponsorships are available and several sponsorships will include golf!** If you wish to be a corporate sponsor please contact Sue Ely at (815) 288-6691.

Aktion Club's Donation Makes a Splash

The Kiwanis Aktion Club recently made a \$100 donation to the Dixon Park District for the Splash Pad. Pictured above is Ron Welch and Seth Nicklaus, Recreation Director.



Kreider was the featured business in April at Dixon Culver's. We had a great group of volunteers from the SVCC Nursing Program and people from KSI helping serve and clean tables. A donation of \$600 was made to Kreider at the end of the night.



KSI Flag Football Team Gets Invite to Attend Clinic at the Chicago Bears Training Facility



On Saturday, July 13th, the Kreider Flag Football Team has been chosen as one of 11 teams from IL to attend a special football clinic and exhibition tournament at the Walter Payton Center (Chicago Bears Training Facility) in Lake Forest, IL. This event is co-sponsored by the Northern IL Special Olympics.

Last summer in 2018, flag football was a new sport for Kreider Services. They practiced but did not compete. We were chosen from a blind draw this year to attend the event. The 12 members of the Kreider team will be supplied a shirt from the event and may have the opportunity to get some tips from the Bears players. This will most likely be a very Meaningful Day to those attending.

Dixon Delegates

The Dixon Delegates are a new group of clients that are learning advocacy skills. They are supported by a grant from the IL Self Advocacy Alliance. The group meets once a month (3rd Wed.) during the day at KSI.

They have two fundraisers planned for this summer:

- T-shirt sales for \$15
- Oliver's cookout on July 20 in Dixon.

For more information, contact staff liaisons for the group - Audrey Smith at (815) 288-6691.



JOIN OUR TEAM

KREIDER SERVICES NOW HIRING DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS

500 Anchor Road, Dixon • 815.288.6691
www.kreiderservices.org

\$17.93 *
PER HOUR
\$12.93 *
For Weekend & Overnights
INCLUDES DIFFERENTIAL

* Evening shift is .50 cent per hour differential Monday thru Thursday for work between the hours of 4:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. • Weekend shift \$1.00 per hour differential for all work on Friday from 4:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. and Saturday, Sunday and Holidays from 7:30 a.m. until 10:30 p.m. • Overnights is \$1.00 per hour differential for all work from 10:30 p.m. until 7:30 a.m.



KREIDER SERVICES
People Reaching Their Fullest Potential



Mike D. and Michael S. help the Dixon Kiwanis on Peanut Day. Both are active members of the Kiwanis Aktion Club.

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Florissa: (815) 288-1905
www.kreiderservices.org
www.florissacenter.com



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Kreider Mission:

To provide meaningful supports to persons with disabilities so they can live, work and participate in their Communities.

Our Vision:

People reaching their fullest potential

Our Values:

Accountability, Celebrate, Creativity, Dignity, Ethical, Excellence, Forward-Thinking, Hospitality, Mission-Focused, Safety First, Stewardship, Teamwork

Sign up to Play in the Kreider Golf Open on July 11th.

Board of Directors

Mike Hickey, President
Dr. Richard Piller, Vice President
Don Vock, Secretary/Treasurer
Cheryl Ebens, Director
Stephanie Roe Quinton, Director
Jim Marshall, Director
Nick Escobar, Director
Jeff Stauter, Executive Director



Kreider Services is a proud member agency of the United Way of Lee County.

This newsletter is produced courtesy of Kreider Services.

Look What's Going On

May

- 4 - Florissa 5K, Fun Run \ Resource & Activity Fair
- 11 - Medieval Faire at Stronghold, A Florissa event for families.
- 15 - "House Rules" training for Successful Parenting. St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Dixon 6:30 pm
- 18 - AFSCME Golf Open for Autism
- 21 - Kreider Client Dance at Dixon Elks Lodge "Spring Bling" 6 - 8 pm

June

- 3 - Kreider Alliance Annual Mtg 6:15 pm in KSI Cafeteria
- 14 - Flag Day Celebration in Park

June Continued:

- 20 - KSI Employee Anniversary Awards, 2 pm
- 22 - Sib Workshop at Lowell Park A Florissa event for families
- 22 - United Way Day of Caring

Upcoming Events

July

- 4 - KSI closed for 4th of July
- 11 - Kreider Golf Open
- 13 - KSI Flag Football Team at Chicago Bears Training Facility for Special Olympics
- 20 - KSI Dixon Delegates Cook-out at Oliver's in Dixon 10:30 am - 1:30 pm
- 23 - Blood Drive at Dixon Elks Lodge
- 29 - Aug. 2 Florissa Summer Day Camp