

# Giving Matters

May 2014

a publication of **KADLEC** FOUNDATION

## What's Special about Special Events

*Throughout the year, Kadlec Foundation holds special events to raise funds and to grow awareness of its work to enhance care at Kadlec Regional Medical Center. This issue of Giving Matters takes a look at upcoming 2014 events.*

Today, more than ever, our donors are special partners in the healing mission of our hospital, and the special events held throughout the year play a key role.

Kadlec Foundation's annual fundraising activities are indeed special—lively and entertaining gatherings that make philanthropy not only impactful but also fun! They involve a growing community of individuals, corporations, and community organizations who celebrate and support patient care at the medical center.

Pat Lacey is the person who, on behalf of the Foundation board, oversees all these events.

### Why she's involved

Like so many of those who support the work of the Kadlec Foundation, Pat has had personal experience with the hospital.

"I am a nurse," she said, "and at times during my career I worked at Kadlec, including the last 10 years. As I approached retirement, I knew I wanted to help out in the community. I thought Kadlec could be a perfect fit for me. I knew how Kadlec cares for its patients and families, how it takes the time to do extra things for its patients, and how the administration has the attitude of 'do what's right.' I knew I needed to support and stay connected to its work."

She asked the Foundation how she could help. The Foundation, in turn, asked her to join the Kadlec Board of Trustees. She eventually became the chairwoman of Special Events.

"I had already helped with Kidz Dig Rigz, and knew it was a great event," she said. "I was happy to help with it



**Pat Lacey and her husband, Jim, volunteer at Kidz Dig Rigz.**

and the other events the Foundation puts together to support its work."

### The importance of special events

Each year, Kadlec Foundation's special events raise important funds that support pediatric care, scholarships for area health care students, programs that directly impact patient care, and so much more.

"I've really come to appreciate that this community wants to have the best care possible and is willing to help reach that goal by supporting special events and other Foundation activities," she said.

For Pat, special events are also about raising community awareness of how the Foundation supports the work of the medical center.

"One of my goals is to let people know about the important work of the Foundation," she said. "The Don and Lori Watts Pediatric Center was made possible because of the community's concern for the care of the region's children. Now, the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit is being expanded because people care about getting our babies off to the best start possible. The program at Kadlec to educate new parents about the issue of Shaken Baby Syndrome was supported by Foundation funds. The new Kadlec program to help reduce the anxiety of children before surgery was just an idea before the Foundation was able to make it happen through a grant."

*continued on next page*

With donor support, we make a difference by enhancing Kadlec's ability to meet emerging health care needs.

(509) 942-2661  
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Brian Cummins, Brian Cummins Photography

### 'What's Special about Special Events' continued

Special events are "a way for us to get the word out about the Foundation and to create a connection with the community," she said. "When a family comes to Kidz Dig Rigz and has a fun time, we want them to also learn about the Foundation in some small way."

Since her retirement, serving on the Foundation board and, in particular, as chairwoman of special events, has kept Pat busy.

"It's a lot of work. In fact, I think I am working harder now than before; I just don't get paid for it," she said with a smile.

"I've had such good feelings toward Kadlec, both as an employee and now as a Foundation board member," said Pat. "Anyone who would like to give back to their community can find a way to do it. For me, being on the Foundation board has been a wonderful way to do just that." **K**

## A Community Partnership

A special area at the Kidz Dig Rigz event is the Hero Zone. It features vehicles and personnel from area police and fire departments as well as the military.

Helping pull together the Hero Zone every year has been Mike Weatherbee, a Kennewick Police detective and president of the area Fraternal Order of Police Law Enforcement (FOP).

"Every year, even before Kidz Dig Rigz, the FOP has put on an event during National Police Week, which includes a memorial to fallen officers and a static display that includes police cars and other vehicles," said Mike. "When Kidz Dig Rigz was getting started, we were invited to be a part of the Hero Zone; it certainly made sense to combine efforts."

Both Kidz Dig Rigz and the FOP have benefitted.

"We get more people than we would on our own and the kids love getting to hear the sirens, climb into a car or the SWAT vehicle, or see the bomb robot in action," he said.

At noon, Kidz Dig Rigz makes certain all the vehicles at the event are silent, as the FOP presents the American flag and makes its annual presentations.

According to Mike, "Most of the officers volunteer their time and it is such a wonderful event, they are glad to do it. It's wonderful to be able to partner with the Foundation on this great event." **K**

## Kidz Dig Rigz

May 17, 10:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. | Columbia Park (Lampson Pit area)



- **Quiet Hour (for special needs children) and Sponsor Hour: 9 – 10:30 a.m.**
- **Admission \$5 per person (children 2 and under enter for free)**
- **Thanks to Seattle Children's, 1,000 children will enter for free**
- **Monster truck rides for \$5**

Kadlec Foundation and Numerica Credit Union are once again teaming up for Kidz Dig Rigz 2014!

This family-friendly event allows kids of all ages to get up close and personal with big rigs of all shapes and sizes such as tractors, fire trucks, tanks and more! Child-friendly entertainment includes monster truck rides, bouncy houses, face-painting, child ID kits, clown entertainment, and much more. Various food concession vendors will be present and visits can be expected from many local favorite mascots and superheroes.

Not only is it a fun event, all proceeds benefit pediatric patients, their families, services and programs at Kadlec Regional Medical Center. Some examples of what proceeds funded in 2013 include:

- Electronics, toys and other teaching items for education, comfort and distraction for pediatric patients having procedures or surgery
- Pediatric glidescope, which is a medical device specifically designed for pediatrics to safely prepare patients for surgery
- A high-tech pediatric patient simulator for clinical training and education
- Bereavement support and coping items for children throughout the hospital dealing with emotional situations
- Countless hotel rooms, gas vouchers, phone cards, and basic necessities for indigent families of pediatric patients

The event is made possible with major sponsor support from local companies, corporations, local fire and police departments, many community leaders and countless volunteers. **K**



Brian Cummins, Brian Cummins Photography



# Kadlec Foundation Golf Classic

August 11 | Meadow Springs Country Club

For more than 15 years, golfers from the community have gathered together to support the work of Kadlec Foundation. Last year alone, over \$42,000 was raised during this fun event that not only features golf, but games, raffles and other activities.

The Foundation earmarks funds raised during the Golf Classic for scholarships for local students pursuing health care degrees.

Since Kadlec Foundation has been providing these scholarships, over \$450,000 has been awarded. Many of the students receiving these scholarships have remained in the community as health care professionals.

The 2014 event has room for 36 teams and 144 players. HAPO is again returning as the Premier Sponsor of the event. To participate as a golfer or as an event sponsor, contact the Foundation. **K**

Robert Palmer, On Location Photography



# Kadlec 4 Kids-a-thon

October 23–24 | Kadlec Regional Medical Center

Imagine staying awake, and on live radio, for 36 hours. That's exactly what employees of Radio Tri-Cities ("The Wolf" 94.9 FM KIOK) have been doing for the past six years, all because they believe in supporting care for children in our region.

Through the event, more than \$438,000 has been raised for care for children. During the first years of the radio-a-thon, the event targeted support for the construction of the Don and Lori Watts Pediatric Center. Since 2010, contributions were designated for expansion of the region's only Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.

During the radio-a-thon, the radio personalities talk about the importance of meeting the health care needs of kids in our region, they hear stories of families who have been on the receiving end of that care, and, sometimes, even from the kids themselves. Donations have been received in all sizes, from large donations to piggy banks.

Radio Tri-Cities has pledged to come back this year again—with funds continuing to go toward support for health care for children hospitalized at Kadlec. Ranch & Home is also returning as Premier Sponsor for this event. **K**



# Celebration of Philanthropy Dinner

November 7 | Meadow Springs Country Club

The annual Celebration of Philanthropy Dinner is an opportunity for Kadlec Foundation to show appreciation to donors and share a meal in honor of philanthropy.

During the event, the Foundation updates donors on current projects and happenings. Among the highlights is the presentation of several annual Philanthropy Awards: Physician Philanthropist, Employee Philanthropist, Volunteer of the Year, Sustaining Philanthropist and Philanthropist of the Year.

The Celebration of Philanthropy Dinner is made possible thanks to the generous and on-going support of sponsors via local companies and corporations. **K**

Kim Ferrow, Kim Ferrow Photography



## Make a Difference

Would you like to become involved in these Kadlec Foundation activities? Would you like to become one of our sponsors? Give us a call at (509) 942-2661 or visit the Foundation website at [www.kadlec.org/foundation](http://www.kadlec.org/foundation).

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If you would like to learn more about Kadlec Foundation, or make a gift online, we invite you to visit our webpage at [kadlec.org/foundation](http://kadlec.org/foundation) or call us at (509) 942-2661.

**KADLEC** FOUNDATION

888 Swift Blvd.  
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## Donor Spotlight: Thank You

Kadlec Foundation is very fortunate and grateful to be able to provide support to both Kadlec Regional Medical Center and to our Mid-Columbia community. Much of our work is made possible with the help of dedicated and on-going sponsor support. It is through these partnerships that Kadlec Foundation is able to make a real difference.

### THANK YOU TO OUR 2014 SPONSORS!

#### PREMIER LEVEL SPONSORS

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*To learn more about our sponsor opportunities and how you can join the Kadlec Foundation Philanthropic Family of Sponsors, please contact Anali Chavez at [anali.chavez@kadlec.org](mailto:anali.chavez@kadlec.org) or by calling (509) 942-2661.*

### Special Event Salute

Support for Kadlec Foundation comes in many ways. One of those is through individuals who come to us with their own fundraising activity. Buzz Vickery is one of those.

In January, Buzz hopped on a stationary bike in his garage and completed the grueling Sufferlandrian Knighthood challenge, which took 11 1/2 hours. Buzz is one of a handful of riders from around the world to finish this endurance event.

While it was a goal of his to complete the challenge, Buzz decided to turn the event into a way to raise funds for the Kadlec Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) expansion. And the reason is personal. In 2011, his son, Jack, was born 13 weeks premature. The baby spent 54 days in the NICU at Kadlec.

"His heart stopped beating," said Buzz. "He stopped breathing more times than I could count. But thanks to the great medical team, he made amazing strides and is a healthy 2 year old today. This is my way to repay that debt."

Initially, Buzz set a goal to raise \$1,000.

But when the fundraising was complete, which also included an online auction, he had raised well over \$3,500—all for the support of Kadlec's tiniest patients.

"I was really glad when the ride was over," said Buzz, "but it was a great way to pay back for the care that was given to Jack, and to us, when he needed it. Today, he's doing great."

*Thank you, Buzz. Your donation helps provide important care for babies at Kadlec. ☒*



*Buzz Vickery and his son, Jack*