

CONNECTIONS

IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF OUR REGIONAL COMMUNITY



March 2010

Eight year-old knows about “making a difference”

Ethan Brown is walking proof of the impact specialized services like those which will be housed in the new Donna L. Vanier Children's Center have on kids in our community.

The Children's Center will be the new home for the Salina Child Care Association, Child Advocacy and Parenting Services (CAPS) and Salina Regional's Infant-Child Development program.

Ethan was born with cerebral palsy caused by stroke in utero. By nine months old it was apparent that he was missing benchmarks for development and his parents, Dr. Chris and Chrissy Brown turned to Infant-Child Development for help.

“Early on we didn't know if he'd ever even walk,” Chrissy Brown recalls. “As soon as we had a diagnosis we started right away with Infant-Child Development getting physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy and early childhood education.”

With a lot of dedication, assistance from the therapists and five surgeries to date to improve flexibility and vision, Ethan is a very high functioning second grader at Meadowlark Ridge El-

... Continued on Page 2



Ethan Brown asked his friends to donate money to the Donna L. Vanier Children's Center instead of giving him presents for his eighth birthday.

Mabee Foundation offers \$800,000 challenge

The Salina Regional Health Foundation received word in January that it has received an \$800,000 challenge grant from the J.E. and L.E. Mabee Foundation in Tulsa, Okla., for the Donna L. Vanier Children's Center.

In order to receive the grant the Every Child Matters campaign for the Children's Center must raise

\$5.2 million by January 13, 2011. To date \$4,716,340 has been raised as a result of the campaign, leaving less than \$500,000 needed to meet the \$6 million cost of the project.

Contact the Health Foundation to find out how you can help make the Every Child Matters campaign a success by calling (785) 452-6088.

Eight year-old knows about “making a difference”

Continued from Page 1

ementary School. Ethan loves the rodeo, especially bull riding, and walks well with his main outward deficit being left-sided stiffness in his arms and legs. He’s planning to compete in the Mid-America Games in April for those with disabilities.

On the way home from his most recent surgery he and his parents planned his eighth birthday party at a bowling alley with friends. They talked about his school motto, “making a difference,” and mutually decided that instead of receiving birthday presents from his friends, it would be nice if they donated money to the Children’s Center instead. (See *Ethan’s birthday invitation message on Page 4*)

When delivering the \$175 raised by his friends to the Foundation, director Tom Martin told Ethan, “This is really awesome,” as they counted the money at Ethan’s insistence. “It’s very nice to give up your birthday presents to help other children.”

“Yeah,” Ethan said. “It’s a good cause.”



Chrissy, Ethan, Lily and Chris Brown are the Honorary Campaign Family for the Every Child Matters capital campaign.

Healthcare and nursing scholarships available

Healthcare is one of the most rapidly growing industries in the United States and as Baby Boomers retire from the industry and require more care it’s easy

to see the importance placed on attracting new talent to meet our future needs.

Each year the Salina Regional Service Auxiliary and Foundation make scholarships available to those pursuing an education in healthcare. Priority is given to nursing students and other specialties in high demand. Award recipients will be expected to attain employment at Salina Regional Health Center or another Sunflower Health Network hospital for two years upon completion of their education programs.

“This year we have \$29,500 to award in scholarships,” said Anne Scuitte, chair of the Scholarship Committee. “We know that this assistance is very beneficial to those who are trying to earn a degree or improve their level of training. Many recipients in the past have stated how these scholarships were the only way they could go to school, because they couldn’t otherwise afford it.”

Complete details about the scholarship program will be available after April 1 on Salina Regional’s website at www.srhc.com. Follow the Auxiliary’s link under the “Volunteers” section of the website to find an Education Award Form and all the details. Deadline for return is on or before June 25.

You may also contact Gayle Rose, director of Volunteer Services, at (785) 452-7541 for information.



Healthcare scholarship applications will be available online beginning in April. Deadline for return is June 25.

Foundation supports new KU Medical School site in Salina

The Salina Regional Health Foundation has awarded a \$225,000 grant over four years to help establish the new University of Kansas School of Medicine site in Salina. The school hopes to earn accreditation this summer and accept its first students in 2011.

The four-year program plans to accept eight students per year with a total of 32 students once each class is filled. With more than 100 students enrolled per class at the KU-Kansas City campus, the Salina school will offer a unique opportunity to students.

"The smaller class size will begin to teach how important teamwork is at an earlier stage than we're able to provide in Kansas City," says Heidi Chumley, senior associate dean for medical education at KU. "It will also be much easier to monitor each student's progress in their education and there will be more opportunities to learn live anatomy. For example, after a lecture on blood flow to the heart, students might be able to go over to the cath lab at the hospital and see it live. We're not currently able to do that with our larger class sizes in Kansas City."

One area of emphasis for the Salina site will be recruiting students who have an interest in someday practicing medicine in rural Kansas. Programs already in place in Salina like the Smoky Hill Family Practice Residency and Kansas rural track program for third and fourth year medical students have proven successful in placing doctors in rural Kansas.

"You look at the track record of Smoky Hill and how many of those graduates have gone on to practice in and around Salina and other rural areas of the state and I think you see how important it can be to train students in rural settings," says Bill Cathcart-Rake, M.D., who has been named the medical director for the Salina site. "Many times students go train in urban communities and when they're finished with school they begin practicing in an urban setting."



Longtime Salina physician Bill Cathcart-Rake, M.D., has been named the medical director for the University of Kansas School of Medicine site in Salina.

Foundation to host 20th annual Charity Golf Tournament

The Salina Regional Health Foundation's 20th annual Charity Golf Tournament is planned for June 25 at the Salina Country Club. Proceeds for the event will be designated to the Every Child Matters capital campaign for the Donna L. Vanier Children's Center.

The tournament is open to the Salina Regional "family" including employees, spouses, board members, medical staff, volunteers and vendors doing business with the hospital. The format of the tournament is a four-person team best ball scramble over nine holes.

Registration is \$50 per person, plus \$5 for a mulligan. Participation is limited to the first 60 entrants. Call the Foundation at (785) 452-6088 for details.



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Ethan's birthday invitation

Dear Friend,

This year for my birthday please bring money for my charity. My charity is the Donna Vanier Children's Center. Help me give a gift to Salina kids instead of toys for me.

Ethan Brown

CONNECTIONS is published every other month by the Salina Regional Health Foundation. If you no longer wish to receive fund-raising contacts or materials, please notify: Privacy Office, Salina Regional Health Center, Health Information Management, P.O. Box 5080, Salina, KS 67402-5080/Phone: (785) 452-7313/Fax (785) 452-7312/E-mail:Privacy@srhc.com.

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Salina Regional
Health Foundation



Salina Regional Health Center
400 S. Santa Fe & 139 N. Penn • P.O. Box 5080
Salina, KS 67402-5080 • (785) 452-7000

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