

It's Barbecue Time! Boardwalk BBQ!

A crowd of 160 people attended the 2023 Friends of Tri-Valley Foundation annual spring fund-raiser on Tuesday, April 18th. For 2023, the Foundation decided to revamp our annual fund-raiser. The evening's theme was a BBQ, a Boardwalk BBQ. The event was held at Central Park Pavilion in Chanute and began at 6 pm. Approximately \$14,000 was raised during the evening from stretch, silent and live auctions.

Attendees were treated to a delicious BBQ meal of pulled pork, pulled chicken, potato salad, baked beans, green beans, and Hawaiian roll furnished by Horizons at Prairie Ridge in Erie, KS. Dessert was delicious cupcakes provided by Jennifer Brown Sanchez. Neosho County Community College students helped serve the meal. Door prizes were courtesy of Tri-Valley's Fort Scott Greenhouse and Jennifer Dietsch.

As in year's past, the live auction was the highlight of the evening. For 2023, we had two new items courtesy of Monarch Cement Company; a 7-night stay at Kissimmee, FL and a 3-night stay at a B & B in Arkansas. Monarch was also kind enough to once again donate Wichita Thunder Hockey Tickets and use of Monarch's 12-person suite at INTRUST Bank Arena.

Other items auctioned off include: a Breckenridge CO vacation package courtesy of Home Savings Bank; a Branson MO vacation

package courtesy of Community National Bank; a full-size recliner courtesy of Ruddick's Furniture in Fort Scott; Dinner for 10 courtesy of Brenda Harrison; a Men's Fur Coat, and a wooden bench.

All money raised from the evening will go towards the Friends of Tri-Valley Foundation projects. Since 2001, the Foundation has built six homes and acquired nine additional homes and a duplex. The houses are located in our communities of Chanute, Fort Scott, Humboldt, Iola, Moline, and Neodesha. These houses are home to sixty-six of our neighbors with intellectual and developmental disabilities served by Tri-Valley Developmental Services. The Foundation is excited to announce that they have purchased two new properties in 2023.

"We were excited to try something new for 2023 and are pleased with the turnout. The evening was fantastic", said Bill Fiscus, CEO. "Everything was phenomenal. Thank you to everyone who attended. We hope you had an enjoyable evening and look forward to seeing you all in 2024."

(Story and pictures continued on page 4)

23rd Annual Raffle Drawing Comes to a Close With Our First Kansas Winner!

On June 23rd, the Friends of Tri-Valley Foundation 23rd Annual Truck Raffle Drawing came to a close at 1:30 pm. At that time, TVDS Financial Specialist Christie Fritch drew the winning ticket from the 1,659 entries. The event was live streamed on Tri-Valley's Facebook page. Without further ado,

The winner of the 23rd Raffle Drawing is.....

Gwen Martin of Kansas

Gwen was so excited when she received the phone call that she had won a brand new 2023 Ford F150 Platinum Edition Truck, she was shaking. Gwen actually lives within our service area and was able to come collect her prize on June 26th..

The Foundation board thanks everyone who participated in this,

our 23rd Raffle Drawing. This year's drawing made a profit of \$10,000. Without your assistance, this annual event would not be the success it has been for the past 23 years.

Thank you!



To the left, Gwen and Pete Martin stand in front of their brand new truck. Above, Bill Fiscus announced Gwen the winner of our 23rd raffle drawing and first Kansas winner!

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Tri-Valley
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Summertime has Arrived

Wow, time is really flying. It just seems like yesterday we were planning our annual spring fund raiser and now we are ready for whole new fiscal year! Where does the time go?

In April, we held our annual spring fund-raiser. For 2023, we switched things up a bit; went away from Cruise Night and held a barbecue. Check out the story and pictures on page 1 and 4.

It was our original plan to hold two fund-raisers during the month of June. Our annual Erie Golf Tournament was all set for June 10th. Then, it rained! Due to weather and course conditions, the decision was made to postpone the tournament. The new date is July 29th. Please check out our Facebook pages for any updates.

As you saw on the front page, the 23rd Annual Raffle Drawing came to an end on June 23rd and we have our first Kansas winner. This year's winner was Gwen Martin. Gwen lives within our 8 counties and is familiar with our services. She was very excited to learn she had won. The full story and pictures are on page 1.

As always, summertime continues our fundraising season. Upcoming are the golf tournaments at Fredonia, Chanute, and Fort Scott. All tournaments are 18-hole, 4 person scrambles.

Up first is our West Tournament on July 15th at the Fredonia Golf Course. Then, our third golf tournament will take place on Saturday, August 12th at Stone Creek Golf Course in Chanute. Our fourth tournament will be September 16th at Woodland Hills Golf Course in Fort Scott.

If you are interested in sponsorships or playing in any of these tournaments, please reach out to Tricia at either 620-431-7655 or tcampbell@tvds.org.

2023 InterHab Advocacy Day

On March 15th, 48 clients and staff from Tri-Valley attended the 2023 InterHab Advocacy event at the statehouse in Topeka.

This event is an annual spring event. Individuals from across the state gather at Topeka to show their support for I/DD services in Kansas.

The rally was held inside the Kansas Capitol and it was a packed house in the rotunda. After hearing from several speakers, the group was pleased to hear from a surprise speaker, Governor Laura Kelly. Governor Kelly announced the proclamation that March is Kansas Developmental Disability Awareness Month.

(Story and pictures continued on page 3)

And, last but certainly not least, our annual 2023 Membership drive is underway. If you have already renewed your membership, THANK YOU! If you are interested in renewing your membership or know of someone who might be interested in joining, please contact me at either 620-431-7655 or tcampbell@tvds.org. As always, we have set amounts, but appreciate any donation. A donation form is located on the last page of this newsletter. Or just visit our website (www.tvds.org)

The reason we hold these fund-raisers and membership drives is to support the Foundation's mission. That mission is to support Tri-Valley Developmental Services as it serves individuals with intellectual/ developmental disabilities in our home counties of Allen, Bourbon, Chautauqua, Elk, Greenwood, Neosho, Wilson, and Woodson.

With that being said, the Foundation recently purchased two properties. The first was a lot and trailer house in Buffalo. One of our neighbors with I/DD needed a home and this fit the bill perfectly. Our second purchase was a 4-bedroom home in Chanute. Tri-Valley had been renting the home, but the landlord offered us first choice to purchase it when he decided to sell. The Foundation jumped and we now have two additional homes.

Thanks to the kind generosity of our Friends, the Foundation is the proud owner of 15 houses and a duplex of which 66 of our neighbors with intellectual/developmental disabilities are able to call these houses "home."

Thank you!



Tri-Valley attends Day at the Capitol Rally

Do you shop on Amazon.com? If so, have you heard of the Amazon Smile program.

How the program works is simple. When you shop at Smile. Amazon.com, Amazon will donate to your favorite charitable organization. The Friends of Tri-Valley is listed as one of the charitable organizations you can select from.

So, the next time, you need to buy something from Amazon, visit [Smile.Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) and find out more about the program.

2023 InterHab Advocacy Day

(Story continued from page 2)

Following the rally, the group ate a delicious lunch from Jason's Deli. Then, the group took small plants grown in Fort Scott's greenhouse to the offices of our local legislators as well as the Lieutenant Governor and Governor. We were able to sit down and discuss the issues with a few legislators.

It was a great day! Everyone enjoyed the trip and meeting new friends from across the State.



InterHab Advocacy Day Group Photo with Governor Kelly



Chanute's group takes a photo outside the Kansas State Capitol



Iola's group shows off their advocacy signs. Each group made signs.



Moline and Neodesha takes a photo prior to the rally at which the Governor of Kansas spoke proclaiming March as Developmental Disability Month



Left: Fort Scott takes a group photo in the Kansas State Capitol building.

Right: Chanute's group shows off their signs prior to the rally.



Right: These plants were delivered to our legislators. They were grown in the Fort Scott Greenhouse



Left: Brandy Foster, Work Services Coordinator, delivers a plant to the Lt. Gov.'s office.

Boardwalk BBQ

(Continued from page 1)

A big thank you goes to the evening's sponsors.

Promenade Level: Steve Faulkner Ford, Monarch Cement Company, and David & Beth Toland

Colonnade Level: Community National Bank, Hofer & Hofer & Associates, Home Savings Bank, IMA, and Pete's of Erie.

Esplanade Level: Ash Grove, A. Lusker Masonry, LLC, Community National Bank – Eureka, Gates Corporation, Jarred, Gilmore & Phillips, CPA, and Neosho County Community College.

Arcade Level: Hi-Lo Industries; and Cheney Witt Chapel.

Special thanks go to Dave Petersen who served as Emcee; Larry Holman for photography; and John Graham for sound and lighting.

We look forward to seeing everyone in 2024.



Lisa Clawson, Tammy Fiscus and Christie Fritch at the registration table.



Silent Auction were made up of 64 donated items including a scavenger hunt and trips to local destinations.



Our Welcome sign was located near the registration table. The artwork was drawn by Stella Cannon-Smith. Thanks Stella!



Dave Petersen served as Emcee and entertained everyone during the live auction. Nine items were auctioned off including trips to Branson and Breckenridge, Hockey Tickets, and a 7-Day Trip to Kissimmee, FL.



Our servers for the evening were from students from Neosho County Community College.



Our stretch auction included 16 baskets: including lottery baskets and gift certificates. Most were from local businesses.



Brenda Harrison, Director of Programming, was in charge of the buffet table. Our delicious meal came from Horizons @ Prairie Ridge in Erie. Our dessert came courtesy of Jennifer Brown.



Tri-Valley Holds Award Ceremonies

For 2023, Tri-Valley, once again, held three awards ceremonies. The ceremonies were held on April 28th in Neodesha; May 5th in Fort Scott; and May 12th in Chanute. We had a good crowd for all three ceremonies.

The following awards were awarded to very deserving individuals. These awards are chosen from nominations sent in by Tri-Valley staff.

Achievement Award:

- Central - Sonja Portenier
- East - Samantha Durossette
- West - Paul Bartram

Business of the Year

- Central - Cleaver's Farm & Home
- East - Heidrick's True Value
- West - Cobalt Boats

Employer of the Year

- Central - Pete's of Erie Corp.
- East - McDonald's of Fort Scott
- West - Pizza Hut of Eureka

The next set of awards celebrated staff and individuals in our local communities that have stood out and have gone the extra mile.

Lifetime Achievement Award
Valerie Frederick

Winfred Jent Award
Karen Vallier

Ed Bideau Advocacy Award
LaDonna Thompson

Jennie Masterson Award
Carson Felt

Friends of Tri-Valley Visionary Award
Ruth Spangler

Employee of the Year
Grace Kramer

CEO Award
Brenda Harrison

For 2024, we plan to hold one ceremony to celebrate our entire eight counties. We hope to see you then.

Neodesha Ceremony



Left: Delacy Mitchell and Andy Booth celebrate Pizza Hut of Eureka winning Employer of the Year.



Above: Joe O'Rourke presents the Business of the Year award to Dexter Reyes and Dana Jennings from cobalt Boats.



Left: Gail Beach and Paul Bartram show off Paul's Achievement Award.

Fort Scott Ceremony



Left: Nancy Hofer and Austin Bolinger celebrate Heidrick's True Value winning Business of the Year.



Below: Austin presents Carson Felt the Jennie Masterson Award.



Left: Grace Kramer shows off her Employee of the Year Award. Grace was surprised by the award and pleased that her family was able to attend.



Left: Brenda Harrison and Bill Fiscus following CEO Award Presentation in Neodesha.

Chanute Ceremony



Left: Valerie Frederick is presented the Lifetime Achievement Award from CEO Bill Fiscus.



Left: Ruth Spangler is presented the Friends of Tri-Valley Foundation Visionary



Left: Katelyn Manahan and Brandon Moon show off Cleaver's Business of the Year Award.



Left: Gratz Peters, Bobby Jordan, and Kevin Cole show off Pete's of Erie, Inc. Employer of the Year Award

Friends of Tri Valley

24th Annual Raffle Drawing



2024 Crew Cab Truck

Tickets are \$50 each or 8 tickets for \$350

Drawing will be held on June 21, 2024 at 1:30 pm (CST) at 521 W. 35 Ch Pkwy, Chanute, KS.

For information or to enter:

Call 620-431-7655, enter online at www.tvds.org or
mail this completed form with payment to Friends of Tri-Valley, PO Box 518, Chanute, KS 66720.

All major credit cards accepted.

FTV is a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization offering persons with disabilities
opportunities to achieve the quality of life they seek.

Kansas Raffle License Number: RAF000005.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____

NUMBER OF TICKETS _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Void where prohibited by law. Submission indicates acceptance of the official rules available on-line at www.tvds.org or by request- send SASE. Must be 18 to enter. All transactions take place in the FTV administration office located in Chanute, KS.

Friends of Tri Valley

521 W. 35 CH Pkwy, P.O. Box 518, Chanute, KS 66720

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____

EMAIL _____

Please make checks payable to Friends of Tri-Valley Foundation.

Friends of Tri-Valley foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the needs of developmentally disabled persons served by TVDS. Your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent provided by law.

I have enclosed my company's matching gift form.

Please send me information about how I can make a gift to the Friends of Tri-Valley Foundation through my estate.

Give online at www.tvds.org

Yes, I wish to support the Friends of Tri-Valley with a gift:

Membership

Levels: \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500

\$1,000 Other: _____

In Memory/Honor of: _____

Other _____

My gift of \$ _____ is enclosed.

Please charge my gift of \$ _____

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If you wish, we would be happy to send a notice of your gift to someone and include your name when acknowledging donor.

Send notice of this gift to _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

I/We wish to remain anonymous.

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