

WEST MIDLAND FAMILY CENTER Family Focus

VOLUME 29, NUMBER 1.1

Thriving, Giving, Growing... Together

Summer 2019

In This Issue

A Ray of Hope.....	1
Preschool Makes a Difference.....	1
Recreation Family Nights	1
2018-2019 Annual Donor List.....	3-6
Super Heroes in Residence	7
Dow COP Sets Stage for Future	7
Wally Mayton Joins Board.....	8

A Ray of Hope When at Your Wit's End

Child abuse and neglect, from a community perspective, is a difficult problem to solve. It has many different root causes so it needs many different types of interventions. As a society, intervention remedies include prison or jail, foster care, family placements, supervised visits, parent education, respite care, therapy, counseling, stressful barrier re-



Greg Dorrien
Executive Director

moval and prayer. All are useful and needed in varying degrees. Each carry traumatic costs for the individual, and monetary costs for society. Prevention is the cheapest form of intervention and yields the best results for individuals and society. A child's behavior is never an excuse for a parent to be abusive, but it certainly is a trigger that leads to children being physically abused. Most abusive parents love their children dearly. Yet most child abuse occurs within the family. Parental depression /mental health issues, indeed a
...continued on page 8

Preschool Attendance Makes A Difference

In 1974 WMFC hosted its first preschool class of 20 students. Since that time, decades worth of studies, including the report titled "*The Current State of Scientific Knowledge on Pre-Kindergarten Effects*", have concluded that early childhood education makes a dramatic difference in the future academic success of a child. As the need for quality preschool programming has increased WMFC, in partnership with the **Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP)**, has continued to provide quality early education programming for preschool children. Today, WMFC is home to nine preschool classrooms in five different locations serving 156 children.

Preschool enrollment for the 2019/2020 school year is already in full swing. The recent uptick in the number of calls to WMFC requesting
...continued on page 2

Recreation Family Nights Provide Community with Affordable Option

Recreation Family Nights, which typically fall on the last Saturday of the month from 4:00pm to 6:00pm are open to family units wanting to enjoy some quality time together.

"Each Recreation Family Night has its own theme", stated **Chelsea Davis, WMFC Recreation Director**.

...continued on page 2



Family members entangle in a friendly game of Twister during a recent Recreation Family Night



P.O. Box 1985
Midland, MI 48641-1985
989.832.3256
www.wmfc.org

Recreation Family Nights Provide Affordable Option...continued from page 1

"The theme for Saturday, June 29th and July 27th will be **Summer Time**. The pool will be open and we'll have all kinds of large outdoor games."

"Recreation Family Nights are really low key, relaxed and casual. Games



Chelsea Davis
Recreation Supervisor

are set up to that families can spend as much, or as little time, as they like at each activity. The activities for each night reflect the theme of that particular night," explained Davis.

"For example, this past January we hosted **Family Games Night**. During the evening we offered board games and life sized games. We also had the bowling center,

climbing wall and the batting cage open," explained Davis. "In March for **Glow Night**, family night was filled with illuminating activities and in May families worked together to complete a Centerwide scavenger hunt during **Explore Night**," smiled Davis.

"Research shows that families that spend time together doing recreational activities, tend to be closer, more cohesive and have stronger relationships," shared Davis. "**West Midland Family Center (WMFC)** has promoted the benefits of quality family based recreation programming for over 40 years."

"Not every family in **Midland County** has money in their budget for family recreation activities.

Taking a family out to a movie could cost \$50 or more," explained Davis. "Recreation Family Nights provide an affordable way for families to spend time together, unburdened by the stress associated with cost. Thanks to those who have supported, and continue to support WMFC, we have a big beautiful facility that houses a wide range of recreational activities. WMFC is an attractive option for families looking for summertime fun that is budget friendly."

Those interested in helping sponsor a Recreation Family Night or who would like more information on recreational opportunities at WMFC should contact Chelsea Davis, at 989-832-3256.

Preschool Attendance Makes a Difference...continued from page 1

information about preschool enrollment, is evidence that classes will most likely fill up quickly as parents search for the best preschool experience in which to enroll their child.

Research shows that preschool attendance can be a determining factor in educational success. According to recent research by **Zaner and Bloser**, "quality preschool programs focus on kindergarten readiness because readiness is the primary predictor of kindergarten success."

Kindergarten teachers report that the most important skill a child needs for a successful transition into Kindergarten is appropriate social-emotional skills. Social-emotional skills include attributes such as, the ability to take turns, work in a group setting, make friends, demonstrate self-control and talk with other children and teachers. Preschool teachers facilitate social-emotional skill development by helping children label their feelings, control their emotions, work together and solve problems. The development of

social-emotional skills is one of the most important reasons why a child should attend a quality preschool program.

West Midland Family Center recently held its annual preschool transition night during which parents learned what to expect as their child transitions from childcare to the 3's program, from the 3's program to the 4's program and from the 4's program to Kindergarten. Preschool teachers were onsite to guide parents, answer questions and encourage parents to enroll their children in the preschool program of their choice using computers that were logged into the www.michiganpreschool.com website. In addition, **MSU Extension** Representatives and WMFC teachers shared with parents what they can do to support their child's next phase of early education.

"Throughout their lives, children transition from one developmental stage to another," shared **Trixie Onstott, WMFC Early Childhood Director**. "As a child transitions from

one school stage to the next, it's important for parents to be involved. Transition night serves as a tool to help guide parents in making the best educational choice for their children."

For more information about WMFC preschool programs, please call **Missy Finney** at 989-832-3256.



A quality preschool experience gives young children the opportunity to develop the socio-emotional skills needed for Kindergarten

2018/19 Financial Donors (through March 5, 2019)

A

Anonymous Donations Received by 47 People (Some in Honor/Memory of):

- In honor of John Anderson
- In memory of Clara Anger
- In memory of Stephan Babinec
- In memory of John Binkley
- In memory of Ellen Burkett
- In honor of Greg and Robyn Dorrien
- In honor of Bob Dostal
- In memory of Ronald Glanz
- In memory of Mary Kin
- In memory of Merritt Meeks
(2 donors)
- In memory of Donna Meyer
- In memory of Henry Olen
- In memory of Catharine Ring
(7 donors)
- In memory of Talha Rehman
- In honor of Paul and Kirk Shauger
- In memory of Tom Smith
- In memory of Graham Taylor

Frank and Gretchen Aerstin

Donna Aiken

Arnold and Terrie Allemang

Doreen Allen & Bill Collins

- In memory of Graham Taylor

Mike and Renee Allen

Mair Alsgaard

- In memory of Andrew Dorrien

Amazon Smile

Ameriprise Financial

Jim Anderson and Lisa Walsh

- In memory of Catharine Ring

Steve and Noreen Anderson

- In memory of Catharine Ring

Jeff and Joell Anthony

Todd & Cindy Armbruster

Alicia Asadorian

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin

Mary Church

Ann Ayre

B

B & L's Farm

- In memory of Myrna Servinski

Jim and Char Bakeman

Phillip and Lynn Baker

Melissa Barnard and Rick White

Barstow Foundation

Jim and Ann Beck

Stuart Bender

Jeffrey and Laura Bennett

Paula Bennett

- In memory of David J. Bennett

Lyle and Bev Bitler

- In memory of Merritt Meeks

Deb Blackhurst

- In memory of Graham Taylor

Chuck and Connie Blanchard

Fred Blanchard

Blessed Sacrament Parish

Dennis and Janet Blevins

- In memory of Charles Infante

Gary and Brenda Boots

- In memory of Clara Anger

Jim and Diane Borin

- In honor of Wally Mayton

Bruce and Sharon Bottomley

William and Sally Bowen

M. Victoria Bowes

Boy Scouts of America

Joe and Jan Bradley

Sylvia Bridge

- In memory of Bill Bridge

Mike and Vicki Briggs

Joanne Brines

- In memory of John Reder

- In memory of Joanne Stange

J. Dee and Elaine Brooks

- In memory of Diane Anderson

- In memory of Suzanne Brooks

Nancy Brown

- In memory of Pauline Retherford

Gregory and Cynthia Buchanan

- In memory of Jim Retherford

Joy Buchanan

Bullock Creek Education Association

- In honor of Bullock Creek Board of Education

Charles and Pamela Bunting

- In memory of Phyllis Breedlove

Linda Burgert

- In memory of Merritt Meeks

Larry and Susan Burks

- In memory of Catharine Ring

Dale and Rose Burleson

Al and Sandy Burmester

Noel and Karen Bush

- In memory of Graham Taylor

Rose Bush

Mike and Pamela Butcher

Colleen Bywater

- In memory of Dale Bywater

- In memory of Pat Bywater

C

Hal and Dottie Canfield

Central Michigan Old Car Club

- In memory of Robert Riggs

Joan Chapman

Children's Trust Fund

City of Midland

Robert and Carole Coffield

Kevin and Cheryl Collins

Carl Coons

John Coppens

Mike and Nina Cronenberger

Dave and Robin Cronkright

Dexter and Mary Crosby

- In honor of Gail Crosby

Gail Crosby

Dick and Scottie Cross

D

D & R Floor Covering

Marge Darger

Theodore and Marilyn Datte

- In honor of Finley Varner

Alan David

Judy Dean

Dean and Christine Derusha

Pat and Nancy Devereaux

- In memory of Roy and Elsie Devereaux

Greg Dickson and Susan Hearn

Thomas Dietsche

The Doan Family Foundation

Ben and Kelly Dollard

William Donberg

- In memory of Graham Taylor

Norm and Maureen Donker

Diego and Sandra Donoso

- In memory of Graham Taylor

Rick and Sandy Doornbos

Linneaus and Phae Dorman

Eric Dorrien

Greg and Robyn Dorrien

- In memory of Charles Infante

- In memory of Catharine Ring

- In memory of Graham Taylor

Hope Dorrien

Jack and Ginny Dorrien

- In memory of Andrew Dorrien

Joe and Stacy Dostal

To the best of our knowledge, this listing is accurate as of publication. However...if you find you have been erroneously added to our list of 47 anonymous donors, please contact us!

2018/19 Financial Donors (through March 5, 2019)

Robert and Mary Ann Dostal
 Peter and Jan Doty
 - In memory of Graham Taylor
 The Alden and Vada Dow Family
 Foundation
 The Dow Chemical Company
 The Herbert H. and Grace A.
 Dow Foundation
 Joseph and Patricia Downey
 Jeffrey Dulude, DDS, PLC
 June Dunlop
 Paul and Kasey Duso
 - In memory of Merritt Meeks

E

Mike and Betty Ann Eash
 Gene and Sandy Engle
 Marilyn Enzie
 Bob and Dotty Everett
 - In memory of Stephen William Smith
 - In honor of Charlotte Maxson
 - In honor of Vicky Bowes

F

John and Elaine Fabinski
 Janet Feltman
 Dick and Chris Ferrando
 Phyllis Ferris
 Dennis Finken
 First United Methodist Church
 Bill and Yvonne Fisher
 - In memory of Graham Taylor
 Jim Fitterling and Alex Lee
 Larry and Dianne Fleming
 Rick and Cassie Foley
 Dorothy Follette
 Bill and Kathy Fothergill
 Gary Francis and Kathy
 Breedlove-Francis
 - In memory of Phyllis Breedlove
 Brian and Lynette Frankovich
 Al Freeman
 William and Nancy Fronk
 - In memory of Catharine Ring

G

Dr. Kay Gable, DDS
 - In honor of Dr. Larry Skoczylas
 Dom and Edie Gagliardi
 Thomas and Barbara Galloway
 Garrett Family Farm, Inc.

Melvin and Elaine Garrett
 Carl Garrison
 - In memory of Beverly Garrison
 Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation
 Linda Gifford
 - In honor of Olive Deitsch
 Cal and Marilyn Goeders
 - In honor of Charles Burton
 Mark and Alison Goethe
 - In memory of Graham Taylor
 Chris and Marj Goraliski
 John and Mary Gorte
 Lee and Billee Goulet
 Gratiot County Community Foundation
 Great Lakes Garden Club
 Jason and Amy Green
 Greendale Township
 Hugh and Barbara Gurnee

H

Naomi Haebler
 - In memory of Clara Anger
 Don and Yvonne Hall
 - In memory of Catharine Ring
 Patricia Hall
 Roger and Joyce Halstead
 - In honor of WMFC staff and
 volunteers
 Don Hammond
 Jim and Shirlee Hampton
 Al and Mary Ann Hanus
 Herb and Kerry Hardy
 Bill Hargreaves
 Gil and Miriam Harter
 Bill Heeschen and Judy Gunderson
 Paul and Cris Heil
 - In memory of Graham Taylor
 Kirk and Jan Hewlett
 James Hohman
 Joan Holderied
 Homer United Methodist Church
 Earl and Alma Hoon
 - In memory of Clara Anger
 - In memory of Coleen Chapin
 - In honor of Verginlene France
 Hopfensperger Hair Design
 Horizon Bank
 Dot Hornsby
 Jon and Marilyn Horton
 - In memory of Merritt Meeks
 Susan Hoshaw

Norm and Ruth Hozak
 Richard and Patricia Humburg
 Jim and Glorian Hummel
 Arnold and Betty Huntress
 Dennis and Barbara Hurley
 Mike and Nancy Hurtubise

I

Karl and Julie Ieuter
 Independent Bank

J

Carol Jackson
 Doug and Lori Jackson
 Greg and Nancy Janoch
 Terry and Barb Johnson
 - In memory of Graham Taylor
 Norma Julian

K

Karl Kamena
 Kevin and Mary Kane
 - In memory of Henry Rogers
 Roger and Liz Kapla
 Bob and Mary Kasprzyk
 David and Tracey Kempself
 Kevin and Jenny Kendrick
 The Patricia and David Kepler Foundation
 Peggy Kernstock
 Jim and Linda Kevra
 Alma Keyser Schaefer
 Charles and Della Keyworth
 - In honor of Delaney and Gretta Toner
 Rod and Ruth Kitzmiller
 Midland Kiwanis Club
 Midland Kiwanis Foundation
 Marje Klashak
 George and Jan Klein
 - In honor of Linda Conklin
 Jeff and Linda Kosch
 Jim and Peggy Kowalski
 - In memory of Len, Doni and
 Harry Kowalski
 Torsten and Andrea Kraef
 Brian and Jean Krause
 - In memory of Catharine Ring

L

Norm and Diane Lake
 Paul and Charlotte Larsen
 - In memory of Merritt Meeks

To the best of our knowledge, this listing is accurate as of publication. However...if you find you have been erroneously added to our list of 47 anonymous donors, please contact us!

2018/19 Financial Donors (through March 5, 2019)

Bill and Linda Lauderbach
Lee Township
Pete and Gloria Lehman
- In memory of Catharine Ring
Jack Lehman
Joseph and Karen Lehman
Lance and Elizabeth Lewis
- In memory of Graham Taylor
Clarence and Joyce Licht
Chris and Jackie Light
Sue Loose
Ed and Jodi Loubert
Dirk and Susan Love
Carl and Sheree Lovell
The Ludington Family Foundation
The Laura Ludington Hollenbeck
Foundation
Elizabeth and Keith Lumbert
Ted and Kay Lunt

M

Karen MacArthur
Bob and Candace Markey
Mahbanoo Marsh
- In memory of Graham Taylor
Dennis Mattson
- In memory of Catharine Ring
Wally and Lindsay Mayton
- In honor of Gail Crosby
- In memory of Charles Infante
- In memory of Merritt Meeks
- In memory of Catharine Ring
Bob and Melissa McAfee
Bill and Kathy McDonald
John and Rosanne McGown
- In memory of Graham Taylor
Marty and Janet McGuire
Don and Jackie Medema
Merritt Meeks
Bernie Meister
Memorial Presbyterian Church
Presbyterian Women
David and Alison Midkiff
Midland Area Community Foundation
Midland Board of Realtors
Midland Co. ESA 3's Preschool
Roger and Barb Mikusek
Cliff Miles
Bruce Miller
Elizabeth Miller
- In honor of Jan Hewlett

Dave and Jane Millhisler
Bobby and Stephanie Moglia
George Momany and Dottie
Wiederhold-Momany
Bob Monica
Bob and Laura Moolenaar
Terry and Carleen Moore
Kenneth and Connie Moorhead
- In memory of Merritt Meeks
James and Alice Morgan
Rob and Sharon Mortensen
Sally Moss

N

Mary Neely
Nancy Nickerson and David Guenther
Larry and Selena Noble
Bob and Cherie Nowak
- In memory of Jim Burlingame
Therese Nowak

O

Bruce and Roberta Oliver
Fred and Alice Oonk
- In memory of Daryl Hansen
- In honor of Heather Oonk
Dan and Sarah Opperman
- In memory of Catharine Ring
Franca Orefice
Max and Jessie Oswald
Alan and Jean Ott
Michael and Chris Owen

P

William and Judith Page
Dave and Anne Pankratz
- In honor of WMFC staff and
volunteers
Paul Pankratz
Greg and Sharlene Parish
Dan and Marge Parker
Dave and Christine Parrillo
Sylvia Patchin
- In memory of Catharine Ring
Barbara Pauli
Ken and Gina Pederson
John and Dorothy Peters
Tom and Margaret Peters
Pfizer Foundation Matching Gifts
Program
Maureen Pillepich

David Pioch
Frank and Jean Popoff
- In memory of Graham Taylor
John and Diane Popp
Tom and Karen Pritchard
Marc and Mary Jane Purtell

R

Helen Rabbage
- In memory of Ronald Rabbage
Ken Randall
Dave and Patty Rapanos
Mike Rapanos
Donna Rapp
Richard and Susan Rausch
Chuck and Debbie Reardon
Bill and Marcia Reder
- In memory of John Reder
Gregg and Mary Reitz
David and Donna Richards
Judy Richardson
David Rick
Frank and Ellen Riggle
Katherine Ring
- In memory of Catharine Ring
Ron and Darla Rippee
Tad and Sally Jean Roberson
The Edward and Elyse Rogers
Family Foundation
Joan Rogers
Fred and Carolee Rolf
Aurelio Roncone
- In memory of Graham Taylor
Devon Roth
- In memory of Roy Frasher
Malana Roth
- In memory of Roy Frasher
Scott and Helen Roth
- In memory of Roy Frasher
Pat Roush
Larry and Paula
- In memory of Graham Taylor
Walter and Joanne Rupprecht

S

John Saam
Charles E. and Sallie Sanislow, M.D.
- In memory of Kathleen Wagner
Karen Schaar
- In memory of Jerry Schaar
Helen Schaper

To the best of our knowledge, this listing is accurate as of publication. However...if you find you have been erroneously added to our list of 47 anonymous donors, please contact us!

2018/19 Financial Donors (through March 5, 2019)

Sue Scheddel

Walter and Margarete Scherzer

Greg and Sally Schmidt

- In honor of Kevin Collins

Julie Schmidt

Bill and Beth Schmidt

Ann Schmitz and James Woehrle

Bill and Cynthia Schuette

Paul and Gloria Schultz

Herbert and Barbara Jo Scogg

Jeremy and Tammy Screws

Pat Seibert

Theodore Selby

Servinski Sod Service, Inc.

Dorian Shank

James Shepich and Anita Tekchandani

Sandra Simmons

Bobby Sinclair

Bernard and Joann Smith

Snow Machines Inc

John and Vivian Somerville

- In memory of Graham Taylor

Earl and Marilyn Soules

Carol Staples & Tai-Sam Choo

- In memory of Catharine Ring

- In memory of Graham Taylor

Nancy Stark-Higgins

State Of Michigan - Food Prgm

William and Linda Stavropoulos

- In memory of Graham Taylor

Gregg Stefanek

Diane Stevens

- In memory of Robert and Velva

Willemin

Ray and Norma Stevens

- In memory of Beverly Anibal

- In memory of Clara Anger

Doak and Amy Stolz

Michael and Cathy Strong

The Charles J. Strosacker Foundation

Thomas and Vicki Strouse

- In honor of Bugs Noykos

Sally Ann Sutton

Pete and Anne Swan

Chuck and Jane Swartz

- In memory of Graham Taylor

Roger and Kristine Szeszulski

- In memory of Merritt Meeks

T

Ed and Jo Ann Tanzini

Louise Tarn

Gary and Deb Teachworth

- In memory of Merritt Meeks

Nelson and Jess TerBurgh

- In memory of Alexandria TerBurgh

The Family Business Consulting

Group, Inc.

Bruce and Rose Thill

Ross and Arlene Thompson

Ronald and Donna Thomson

Three Rivers Construction

Ira and Sue Thumma

Tom and Amy Tolton

TOPS Organization

Bill and Lora Tower

Philip and Sharon Tower

Duane and Terry Townley

Michael and Jennifer Trippeer

U

United Steel Workers 14009

United Way Clare/Gladwin County

United Way of Isabella County

United Way of Midland County

United Way Saginaw County

V

Charli VanOrden

- In memory of John and Ranny Riecker

Dave and Jodi Vercellino

Enza and Isabel Viges

George and Judy Vogel

Cathryn Voss

- In memory of Catharine Ring

W

Joel Wagoner and Jennifer Weinstein

Sten and Anne Wallin

Dan and Gwen Wamhoff

Bob and Mary Warne

Cheryl Weeks-Rosten

Joe and Radha Weiler

Marilyn Wildes

- In memory of Catharine Ring

Steve Wildes

Carol and David Williams

David and Carol Williams

- In memory of Graham Taylor

Katherine Williams

Bob and Mary Ann Wise

Ron and Gaye Woodward

LaVern and June Wyse

- In memory of Andrew Copus

Y

Eugene Yehle

- In honor of Greg Dorrien

Yost Energy, Inc.

Duke Yost

Z

Cynthia Zacharias

Vaughn and Dorinda Zacharias

- In memory of Scott Richardson

John and Pat Zimmerman

Zonta Club of Midland



The following people have included WMFC in their estate plan (will, life insurance or living trust) or have already fulfilled their Legacy Society donation.

Orrin and Eleanor Barrett*

Jim Burlingame*

Helen (Kennedy) Burns*

Carl Coons

Greg & Robyn Dorrien

Virginia Harlow*

Kenneth E. Livernois*

Bernie Meister

V. Bruce Miller

John Reder*

Edward & Elyse Rogers

Diane & Robert Tomczak

Win Zacharias*

Other Anonymous Donors

*Deceased

To the best of our knowledge, this listing is accurate as of publication. However...if you find you have been erroneously added to our list of 47 anonymous donors, please contact us!

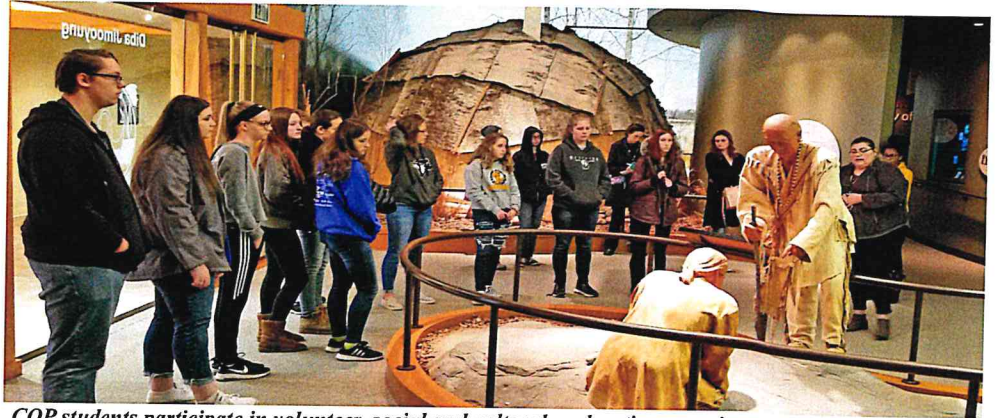
Dow College Opportunity Program Sets Stage for Successful Future

The Dow College Opportunity Program (COP) has been front and center in the battle to break the cycle of poverty in **Midland and Isabella Counties** since 1989. COP students graduate from college at a rate of approximately 83% which dramatically increases their earning power throughout their lifetimes.

The COP Program helps students with personal growth and development, social skill development, cultural exposure, and community volunteerism. As a result of time spent in COP, students are much better prepared to navigate post-secondary education opportunities such as colleges, trade schools, certification courses, and anything else that can help make them more employable through education.

Due to generous funding from the **United Way of Midland County**, COP has been able to expand the program and add more students in recent years. Historically the freshman class ranged from five on the low side to seven on the high side. With the expanded funding from United Way WMFC brought in 13 new freshmen

students. In all four classes we currently have 30 students in the high school portion of the program from **Bullock Creek, Coleman, Meridian and Shepherd**. Congratulations to all the students for taking the first steps toward a brighter future!



COP students participate in volunteer, social and cultural exploration experiences throughout the year. Recently students traveled to the Ziibwing Center in Mount Pleasant, Michigan.

Real Life Super Heroes in Residence at WMFC

Early each morning **West Midland Family Center (WMFC) Office Manager Missy Finney** arrives at the Center to insure that all hands are on deck in order to successfully navigate through another busy day at the Welcome Center. In her twenty-three year tenure at WMFC, Missy has learned that one thing will always be a given.... no two days at the Welcome Center will ever be the same.

"The Welcome Center Staff is on the front line taking calls and putting out

fires. Their job requires a unique skill set in order for them to be successful and positively represent the Center," explained Finney. "They must be caring, understanding and friendly under fire while taking the initiative in solving problems and responding to requests."

"The Welcome Center is a hive of endless activity and high energy. One of our main responsibilities is greeting people as they enter the building and helping them with their need or question," explained **Helen Roth, WMFC Welcome Center Staff**. "To accomplish this, we must always have a minute to minute awareness about everything that is happening at the Center."

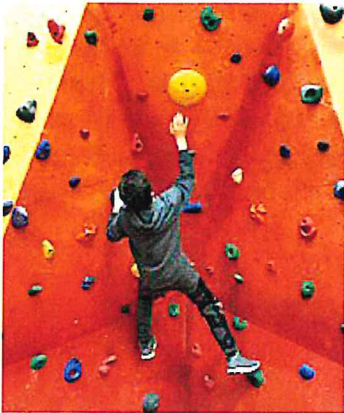
"The types of questions asked of the Welcome Center are determined by the time of year," explained Roth. "During the holidays, the calls are about Sharing Tree, Holiday

Help and Thanksgiving baskets. During the summer questions are generally about the swimming pool, swimming lessons and the summer program. In the winter we receive lots of questions about the bowling center, preschool, childcare and facility rentals. We get calls year round about facility information like building hours and facility rentals as well as questions about basic needs such as clothing and diaper needs, food distribution dates and food orders," explained Roth.

"Callers have told us that they like the fact that they always get to talk to a real person when they call the Center. It's just another example of who we are," shared Finney. "The Welcome Center Staff might not wear the capes of super heroes but to many of those who drop by the Center on a daily basis, the Welcome Center Staff often fills the role of hero in their lives."



*Welcome Center Staff Super Heroes
(Left to Right) Rhonda Little, Stephanie Oster, Kristen Cronkright, Missy Finney (Seated) Helen Roth.*



Children test their climbing skills on "Pride Rock" during Recreation Family Nights.

2019 Board of Directors

Officers:

Ben Dollard, President
Bill Bowen, Vice President
Brooke Alba, Treasurer
Rod Dishaw, Secretary

Directors:

Joy Buchanan
Dan Dub
Wally Mayton
Amy McGinnis
Dave Parrillo
Tammy Screws
Jesse Traschen

Honorary Board Members:

Bob Dostal
Tom Misner
Charles Norisez
Bill & Beth Schmidt

Advisors:

Greg Bergtold
Sally Bowen
Carl Coons
EJ Herst
Bo Miller
Dave Pellegrom
Larry Reeves
Ann Schmitz
Joe VanderKelen
Joe Weiler

Executive Director:

Greg Dorrien
dorrieng@wmfc.org

Family Focus Newsletter

Publisher and Webmaster:

Renee Allen
allenr@wmfc.org

Wally Mayton Joins WMFC Board of Directors

The Associate Pastor of **Memorial Presbyterian Church (MPC)** is WMFC's newest addition to the Board of Directors. The **Rev. Dr.**



Wallace H. Mayton

Wallace H. Mayton III, "Wally," was ordained in 1975, after graduation from **Rhodes College** (B.A.) in **Memphis, Louisville Presbyterian Seminary** (M.Div) and the **University of Notre Dame** (M.A.)

He is married to **Lindsay Abbott Mayton**. Together they enjoy five daughters and all their grandchildren. He has served pastorates in **Memphis, Tennessee; Anderson, South Carolina; and Overland Park, Kansas**. He has served the MPC congregation since 1989. Known to many as the "Community's Pastor", he has been recognized by **Northwood University** with the honorary *Doctor of Laws* degree; by **Midland Area Community Foundation** with its *Giving Tree Award* and its *Philanthropist of the Year* recognition; by **Leadership Midland Alumni Association** with its Leader of the Year award; and by serving on multiple community boards in ministry in outreach and community engagement.

A Ray of Hope

...continued from page 1

parent's own history of childhood abuse, or domestic violence, cause some children to be at much higher risk of child abuse.

A major focus of WMFC all these years has been to reduce the level of parental frustration, stress and feelings of isolation so that parents aren't at high risk of physically or psychologically maltreating their children. Looking forward to 2019, (and specifically because of the most recent help of the **Midland Area Community Foundation**) WMFC will add one more layer of prevention for area children. Any parent at their WIT'S END (in the heat of the moment) can show up with their child/children and simply take a break, at no cost (Monday through Friday). Someone here will watch your beautiful child, talk to you or just give you some moments of solitude. You may make a new connection. You may decide to enroll in Center sponsored activities. You may find less stress and frustration. You may find you can get through it. You may find why so many others have gravitated to WMFC over the years. You may find you can be more loving of yourself and more patient with your child. If you're able to call ahead, please do, but if you can't, just show up. And if you need transportation just ask...we'll figure it out somehow too.