



Autumn News from the Sweet Pea Foundation!

Every year our family celebrates Grace's birthday on November 1st. As we gathered this year, I looked over at my family and noticed an empty chair next to my son. Of course my mind began to wander – what if? As I snapped back to reality the question still lingered, but in a different context. What would our lives be like without the Sweet Pea Foundation? The answer was quick and definitive – much less fulfilled. Many of us have been touched by an experience that has led us to do something beyond ourselves. We recognize that we have a responsibility to do good for others. A friend of ours has been able to condense this idea into a simple phrase: “do good”. After eleven years, the opportunity to “do good” by providing a little happiness to a sick child or a small glimmer of hope to a family is incredibly humbling. Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, our little foundation has been able to touch many lives and do some good things for sick children.

With guidance from child life specialists, the Sweet Pea Foundation is underwriting a series of weekly programs that will take place within the walls of Memorial Children's Hospital in South Bend. Children that are receiving medical care at the hospital will be able to participate in activities such as origami, magic shows, painting, and music performances. Many of the vendors that will be assisting child life have expressed genuine excitement about the opportunity to provide these activities to the children. We are extremely grateful that the Sweet Pea Foundation is able to facilitate events that will provide a little fun within the walls of the hospital.

Thank you for allowing us to “do good” for sick children and the families who care for them.

With gratitude,

Suzanne and Pete Letherman



12th Annual Kickoff Classic Sponsors

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A complete list of sponsors can be found on the Sweet Pea Foundation's web site at sweetpeafoundation.org.

The funds received from the Autumn 2015 Campaign will be broken down as follows:

- 40% for “Hugs from Grace”
- 25% for toys
- 25% for books
- 10% for Ronald McDonald House reserve fund



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Autumn Newsletter 2015



*Grace Elizabeth Letherman,
our inspiration!*





Here is a brief overview of the latest developments of the Sweet Pea Foundation:

Doing Good at Memorial Children's Hospital in South Bend Indiana

It has been a long-term goal of the Sweet Pea Foundation to underwrite activities within the walls of a hospital that provide some fun and distraction for pediatric patients. Over the past year, we have met with child life specialists and the Memorial Health Foundation to develop a plan and budget for the Sweet Pea Foundation to underwrite these activities. We are thrilled to announce that an endowment has been created, to fund one program every week throughout the year at Memorial Children's Hospital in South Bend, Indiana. The programs will take place in the pediatric playroom at the hospital as well as broadcasted to televisions in the patients' rooms, making it available to everyone including those who are not able to leave their beds. Activities will include a magician, painting on canvases, origami, a storyteller, a face painter, musical performances, as well as many others. We will keep you posted about how this Seed of Grace is "doing good" by aiding the patients with the healing process.



Suzanne, Pete and Patrick present a check to Ryann DeMoss, Senior Major Gifts Officer, and Tracy Byler, Child Life Program Coordinator, in front of the future Memorial Children's Hospital.

Meet Sweet Pea's Newest Board Member

The Sweet Pea Foundation would like to announce the addition of Edward Hardig, Jr. to its board of directors. Ed is vice president, operations manager and counsel for Fidelity National Title in North Central Indiana. He is married to Julianne and they have two daughters. We are excited that our friend Ed has agreed to join the board and its current members—Sam Watson, Anthony Laboe, Suzanne Letherman, and Pete Letherman.



Ed Hardig, Jr. is the newest member of the Sweet Pea Foundation's Board of Directors.

Pars Caeli Does Good!

MJ Kocovski (mom, entrepreneur, graphic and product designer, and one really talented friend!) is the creator of Pars Caeli (pronounced pars ki lee), an online blog that focuses on a variety of topics that include family projects, parenting, style



and celebration. MJ recently opened an online store that is associated with her blog. The Pars Caeli Shop sells letterpress cards and T-shirts. She has designed a line of "do good" products that are available at parscali.com. And, with each "do good" T-shirt or print that is purchased, a portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Sweet Pea Foundation. What a wonderful Christmas or birthday gift!

Sweet Pea Supports A Rosie Place's H.A.V.E.N Gathering

The Sweet Pea Foundation teamed up with Chick-fil-A Mishawaka Main Street to provide food for the H.A.V.E.N. (Here And Visible — Educational Networking) gathering at A Rosie Place this past June. H.A.V.E.N. is a quarterly event created and hosted by A Rosie Place exclusively for families caring for medically fragile children. This gathering is a relaxed time for families to connect and share experiences.



Patrick and his mom pose for a picture at the June Rosie Place H.A.V.E.N event.



The Letherman Family is pictured with Tiala Bishop, CEO and Executive Director of A Rosie Place, in front of the new mural the Foundation donated to the house.

During the event, the second mural that the Sweet Pea Foundation donated to the house was also celebrated.

Birthday Toy Donations!

We would like to thank the Lawrence and Hemmerling families for their donation of toys and books to the Sweet Pea Foundation. These kids opted to have their birthday party guests bring toys that are donated to the Sweet Pea Foundation instead of receiving presents for themselves! Thank you Andy, Kate and Will Lawrence & Alex, Will and Lucy Hemmerling for your incredible thoughtfulness and wonderful contribution to the Foundation!



Andy, Kate and Will Lawrence pictured with toys their party guests donated to the Foundation.



Alex, Will and Lucy Hemmerling collected books for the Foundation during their triple birthday party.

2015 Kickoff Classic is a Success

The Sweet Pea Foundation's 12th annual Kickoff Classic golf outing was a great success raising over \$8,500.00 with more than 65 participants. Congratulations to this year's winning foursome: Tom Borger, Scott Bucher, Ed Hardig and Kirtus Murray; and to our special hole contest winners: Tom Borger (longest drive) and B.J. Kloska (closest to the pin). We want to give a special thanks to our sponsors that are listed on the back of this mailer and on our web site. Save the date! Next year's outing will be held on Friday, September 16—the eve of the Notre Dame vs. Michigan State game.

Shop AmazonSmile this Holiday Season

Don't forget to shop online through AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com) for your Christmas purchases this holiday season. Select the Sweet Pea Foundation as your charity to support. The Foundation has already received several contributions through this online opportunity.

