Kinskids and Mentors Celebrate with “Thanks for Giving” Mentor Appreciation Dinner

On Thursday, November 10th Kinship held its 2nd annual mentor appreciation dinner. The event, titled “Thanks for Giving”, was held to honor and thank all of the mentor in our communities who have taken time out of their busy schedules to mentor our local youth. The elegant evening kicked off at the Das Lach Haus with hors’ d’eurs, a delectable buffet dinner and a large selection of desserts. Many of the Kinschildren had created a piece of artwork symbolizing the meaning of the Kinship program and what having a mentor means to them. The mentors then saw the faces of the Kinschildren light up when Power Point presentations of the artwork and last years activities were presented. The evening concluded with group photos of the Kinschildren.

Check It Out!
www.kinshipctl.org

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January is National Mentoring Month

National Mentoring Month (NMM) will mark its fifth year in 2006. By focusing national attention on the need for mentors, as well as how each of us—individuals, businesses, government agencies, schools, faith communities and nonprofits—can work together to increase the number of mentors, we can assure brighter futures for our young people. Nonprofit organizations around the nation will be hosting events to help interested adults learn how to turn their concern for young people into direct action by becoming mentors.

NMM celebrates mentoring and the positive effect it can have on young lives. Its goals are to:

- Raise awareness of mentoring in its various forms;
- Recruit individuals to mentor, especially in programs that have a waiting list of young people; and
- Promote the rapid growth of mentoring by recruiting organizations to engage their constituents in mentoring.

Keep Your Eyes Open!

National Mentoring Month has inspired many mentoring awareness projects across the country. Some you may see in the Cumberland & Turtle Lake areas:

- Kinship Banner over Main Street in Cumberland
- Kinship display in the Cumberland Chamber of Commerce windows
- “Communities for Kinship” at Kitchen & Floor Decor in Rice Lake (details on page 3)
- Public Services Announcements on television featuring Jessica Alba, Don Cheadle, Roger Daltrey, Matt Damon, Jimmy Fallon, Andy Garcia, Ashton Kutcher, Tommy Lasorda, Kiefer Sutherland, and Jeffrey Tambor
- Thank your Mentor Day on January 25th

Mr. Holland’s Opus 10th Anniversary

Celebrate the 10th anniversary of Mr. Holland’s Opus, one of Hollywood’s most memorable films about mentoring, which starred Richard Dreyfuss as a passionate and committed music teacher. The film highlighted the profound influence that a teacher and mentor can have on a young person’s life. When it first opened, those involved in making it were frequently approached by individuals who were driven to talk about a special teacher, music or otherwise, who changed their life. We suggest watching the film and discussing it with your own mentor or mentee.

Hey Baby Boomers!

To mark the fifth anniversary of National Mentoring Month, organizations are calling on our country’s greatest volunteer resource—our Baby Boomers. More than 77 million Americans are Boomers, and with a lifetime of experience, the call has been made:

“Share what you know...be a mentor!”
Thank Your Mentor Day—January 25th
Who mentored you? Thank them…and pass it on!

As a centerpiece of National Mentoring Month 2006, the third annual Thank Your Mentor Day™ will be celebrated on Wednesday, January 25. On that day, many Americans will reach out to thank or honor those individuals who encouraged and guided them, and who had a lasting impact on their lives. The theme for Thank Your Mentor Day is "Who mentored you? Thank them…and pass it on!" The idea behind "Who mentored you?" is to help people connect to the importance of mentoring by encouraging them to think about individuals in their lives during their formative years—family members, teachers, coaches, neighbors, employers, friends—who encouraged them, showed them the ropes, and helped them become who they are today. The campaign's message is that, today, too many young people do not get enough of that kind of support; mentoring programs can help fill the gap but need more volunteers.

Thank Your Mentor Day promotes "Three Ways to Honor your Mentor":

- Contact your mentor directly to express your appreciation;
- "Pass it on" by becoming a mentor to a young person in your community;
- Write a tribute to your mentor for posting on the campaign's web site.

To support Thank Your Mentor Day, the campaign's web site, www.WhoMentoredYou.org, will present video clips and written essays contributed by prominent individuals from various fields sharing recollections about important mentors from their childhood and young adult years. Contributors include Tom Brokaw (NBC News), the late Ray Charles, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, Walter Cronkite, Quincy Jones, Larry King (CNN), Secretary of State Colin Powell, Cal Ripken, Jr., Martin Sheen (The West Wing, NBC), Mike Wallace (CBS News), and Oprah Winfrey.

"Communities for Kinship"... all for a good cause...

Kinship of Cumberland & Turtle Lake will be partnering with Kinship of Rice Lake/Cameron and Kinship of Chetek for an awareness and fundraising event on Monday, January 30, 2006, from 5pm to 8pm at Kitchen and Floor Decor in Rice Lake. This event will serve delectables from area restaurants and specialty shops and have a bar featuring beverages from the White Winter Winery and the Viking Brewery.

A limited number of tickets will be available for $15 each, so please call the Kinship office to reserve your ticket now, 715-822-5553! Tickets are also available at the Island City Branch Bank of Turtle Lake, Cumberland Federal Bank, and US Bank in Cumberland and the Bank of Turtle Lake in Turtle Lake. Come support mentoring in Barron County and join in the fun with the silent auction and door prizes.
Thank you to all of the people who sent in donations in response to our holiday card and a very special thank you to the large number of anonymous donors who wish not to be named.

Donna Stoll
Marilyn Vig
Lorna Dosch
Dennis Zappa
Joyce Kallsen
Helen Hines
Eileen Iverson

Employees of the Cumberland Medical Clinic

Coldwell Banker Johnson & Johnson Land Company

Stan & Sharon Adler
Nilo & Lucille Nelli
Mark & Sandi McHenry
Steve & Mary Jane Jansen
Willard & Jane Lundequam
Greg & Wanda Flesch

Tice Computer Solutions
Dr. Tom & Joan Mears
John Slater & Family
Todd & Lisa Barrows

Ault Construction
John & Sue Hall
The Hair Company

Allen & Jean Imbry
Beulah & Larry Entner
Carl & Mary Ranallo

Robert & Audrey Held
Lester & Doris Erickson
Patrick & Jeanne Healy
St. Croix Casino
Tom & Judy Olson

Keith & Margaret Lindquist
Patrick & Martha Kirby
Robert Whitlock & Margaret Weber
Ken & Gloria Barrows
William & Louise Keppel
In Memory of…
Ruth O’Brien  
Jim & Dora Coil
Mary Lauer  
Jim & Dora Coil
Don Warwick  
Mary Warwick
Ted Schoeshals  
Alice Geiger
Lester Oden  
Lois Odden
Samuel Ferrise  
Ann Ferrise
Frederick Ricci  
Josephine Ricci
James Clark  
Nancy Clark
David Clark & Robert Ankarlo

Memorial & Honorary Donations

In Memory of…
Ruth O’Brien  
Jim & Dora Coil
Mary Lauer  
Jim & Dora Coil
Don Warwick  
Mary Warwick
Ted Schoeshals  
Alice Geiger
Lester Oden  
Lois Odden
Samuel Ferrise  
Ann Ferrise
Frederick Ricci  
Josephine Ricci
James Clark  
Nancy Clark
David Clark & Robert Ankarlo

In Honor of…
The Birthday of Joan Mears  
William & Dorothy Curry
The Birthday of Judy Jacobson  
Stan & Sharon Adler
John & Lana Benjamin
Jeff & Janet Streeter

Thank you to the family of Dewayne Capra for your memorial donation made to our Kinship program. Your generosity will help warm the hearts of our Kinschildren all season long.

In lieu of exchanging gifts, the generous employees of the Cumberland Medical Clinic made a cash donation to our Kinship program. Thank you for thinking of the children!

Old Navy to the Rescue!
A very special thank you to Old Navy Outlet 2897 at the North Branch Outlet Mall. Your sales associates Angie and Emily were great assistance to our friend Casi McClain when she was Christmas shopping for our Kinschildren. Not only did Old Navy help pick out items and organize them, but they gave us an additional 20% off the already low outlet prices. Thank you so much Old Navy for helping make this a wonderful holiday season for the Kinskids!

gracias…merci…supashi-bo…grazie…thank you…takk…asante…mahalo
Nancy Slater, Kinship Friend, Passes

Nancy Slater, 53, of Turtle Lake died Friday, November 11, 2005 in Mexico. She was born August 24, 1952 in Amery, WI to Charles and Julia (Anderson) Helbig. Nancy was raised in the Pipe Lake area and graduated from Turtle Lake High School in 1970. She was married in Balsam Lake, WI on November 28, 1986 to John Slater. Nancy owned and operated The Wind in the Willows in Turtle Lake since 1995. She was a former member of the Turtle Lake School Board and a director of the Cumberland and Turtle Lake Kinship.

She is survived by her husband, John Slater of Turtle Lake; 3 sons, Shad (Jackie) Torgerson of Turtle Lake, Matthew (Kristine) Torgerson of Turtle Lake and Jamie (Sandra) Torgerson of Turtle Lake; 8 grandchildren, Caden, Lucas, Anika, Grace, Noah, Drew, Jaylen and Christian Torgerson; 2 brothers, Scott (Laurie) Helbig of Thornton, CO and John (Ellen) Helbig of Comstock; 1 sister, Jane (Joe) Miller of Chetek.
She was preceded in death by 1 brother, James, her parents and a stepson, David Slater.

Our thoughts on Nancy...

Nancy has been a philanthropic friend to Kinship; she was a devoted volunteer in Kinship’s earliest beginnings and then later became more involved as a Board of Director. Kinship’s expansion into Turtle Lake was actively pursued by Nancy, her friends and the Turtle Lake community. She was active on many committees and most recently serving on the fundraising and children’s activities committee. Her charismatic and giving spirit inspired many around her to assist with reaching out to as many Kinschildren as possible as well as other less fortunate children around the world. Nancy, with the help of her family and friends hosted annual Christmas and fishing parties at her private residence – Timberlake Farm. These fun filled events focused on providing the Kinschildren and their families with good wholesome fun. Some of the many activities included horse drawn sleigh and cart rides, sledding, and many fun lawn games.

Kinship of Cumberland & Turtle Lake has been blessed to be a recipient of Nancy’s many talents; her on-going benevolent personality allowed her to connect with all walks of life. She will be missed by many - but never forgotten.

Left: Thelma Johnson, Nancy, and Lil Hegg relaxing on the porch while the children play at the annual fishing party.
Don’t Quit

When things go wrong as they sometimes will;
when the road you’re trudging seems uphill;
when the funds are low and the debt’s are high;
and you want to smile, but have to sigh;
when care is pressing you down a bit,
rest if you must, but don’t quit.

Success is failure turned inside out;
the silver lining of the clouds of doubt;
and you never can tell how close you are;
it may be near when it seems far.

So, stick to the fight when you’re hardest hit.

It’s when things go wrong that you mustn’t quit.

Memorials for Nancy

Thank you to all of the friends and family of Nancy Slater who made donations in her memory. It is truly a blessing for Kinship to have your support. You are helping to carry on the Kinship mission.

Commworld of Cumberland  Gerd & Connie Bents  Steven Shallbetter
Walter & Paula Richey  Timothy & Joleyn Hansen  Joseph Shallbetter
Paul & Virginia Beecroft  TL Area Chamber of Commerce  George Shallbetter
Becker’s Trucking, INC.  Dr. Barbara & Robert Ankarlo  LaVonne Augustine
Ken & Connie Mandley  Erik & Susanne Collins  Hermann Blaser
Meyers Norris Penny  Ken & Judy Ahlberg  Carol Kellermann
Busy B’s  Jack & Barbara Wiswall  Patrick Wick
Cheryl & Jerry Pich  Steven Eichman  Mary Pletzer
Otto & Barbara Decker  David & Jacquelyn Mclean  Sally Gores
Donna Cordes  G.Robert & Marlene Jackson  Bank of Turtle Lake
Dr. Tom & Joan Mears  Blue Water Aviation Services Ltd.
Law Offices of Morrow, Wilson, Watson, & James
The TFA Volleyball Team of Turtle Lake
It’s a Wonderful Life

The first two weekends in December marked ETC’s annual Christmas production. This year’s play was the classic “It’s a Wonderful Life”. There were many people in the play that are associated with the Kinship program, among them are Charles Peterson (Sara’s husband), Alyssa Tisdell (mentor) and Travis Thorp (youth representative on the Board of Directors). Many Kinschildren and mentors took the chance to do something a little different and attended the play. There were rave reviews from all over Cumberland. We hope our Kinship family enjoyed the show!

A quote from the play, “Remember, no person is a failure who has friends.”

Rockin’ Round the Roller Skating Rink

All of the Kinships in Barron County hosted the annual holiday roller skating party at Postle’s Skate City in Rice Lake on Sunday, December 4th. The Kinschildren and their families were invited to join Kinship for a pizza and pop buffet. After dinner and a lot of skating, Santa even stopped in to give the kids a treat! Thank you Skate City for another great party!
Annual Christmas Party Brings Lots of Cheer!

Kinship’s annual Christmas party was held December 10th at Slater’s Timberlake Farm outside of Turtle Lake. The festivities kicked off with games and sledding while families took turns going for sleigh and carriage rides. One of this year’s most popular activities was to be pulled on a sled behind one of the sleighs. The group feasted on a buffet lunch and settled in for the visit from Santa. Santa and host John Slater passed out gifts to all of the Kinschildren. After, what seemed to the children, a long-winded speech by Director Rob Ankarlo, the children were at last allowed to rip into their much anticipated gifts. Upon checking out what was inside their boxes and showing their prizes to their parents the kids had a chance to go release some energy before the bus ride back to Cumberland. The beautiful day made the party seem like a scene depicted by Norman Rockwell.

* A very special thank you to the Slater and Torgerson families for hosting another wonderful Christmas party. We appreciate you carrying on Nancy’s tradition and reaching out to the children.

* Thanks to Casi McClaine and Darcy Harbek for assisting Santa in the shopping of the needed clothing items and games for the children. You did a wonderful job!

* Special thanks to Santa for taking time out of your busy pre-holiday schedule to bring extra cheer to our party.

* Thank you to the Odden, Mandley, Peterson & Helbig families for organizing the outdoor games, sleigh rides, and carriage rides.

* Judy’s in the Country for providing the tasty food. Most kids went back for seconds, thirds or fourths!

Dashing Through the Snow!

All mentors and Kinskids are invited to join Kinship for the annual sleighing and sledding party on Saturday, February 11th at the home of Dick Dierks. Please look for more details to be announced soon!
Give it a Try!
We are always encouraging our Kinschildren to try new things with their families and their mentors. We’ve selected a few no-cost or low-cost activities from the Prevent Child Abuse Wisconsin Family Fun Calendar. The calendar gives ideas for fun, family oriented activities. To get more great ideas or if you’d like to have a calendar of your own, visit: www.preventchildabusewi.org.

* Look for animal tracks in the snow.
* Make a batch of cookies and deliver it to someone.
* Look at your baby pictures as a family.
* Learn to say “hello” in different languages.
* Observe the winter night.
* Make paper snowflakes.
* Make a fort with pillows.
* Go on any indoor smelling hunt.
* Look for frost on the windows.
* Have a family pizza party.

“I really wanted my Kinschild to know that she has the potential to accomplish whatever she dreams of. That is what my family has always told me, and I wanted to pass that on. I have not only seen growth in my Kinschild, but in myself as well.”

~Quote from a mentor

Winter Calendar

January:
• National Mentoring Month
• 25th—Thank Your Mentor Day!
• 30th—Kinships of Barron County “Communities for Kinship” at Kitchen and Floor Décor in Rice Lake

February:
• 11th—Sleighing and Sledding Party at Dick Dierk’s home near Comstock
• 12th—Wisconsin State Ice Fishing Contest sponsored by the Cumberland GAP
• 25th—33rd annual American Birkebeiner Cross Country Ski Race from Cable to Hayward, WI. Visit www.birkie.com for more info.

All Winter:
• Timberland Hills Cross Country Ski Trails and the Lighted Trail north of Cumberland on County Road H. Visit www.timberlandhills.com for more info and trail conditions.
• Free Open Skate at the Cumberland Hockey Arena on Sunday and Wednesday nights from 6-8 pm
• Bowling at Club Cumberland Bar & Bowling, call 822-8497 for prices and lane availability.
Make your surfing count...

Have you heard of www.GoodSearch.com? It’s a Yahoo search engine that pays money to your favorite nonprofit when you use it. It’s just like using Yahoo except you can help generate revenue for Kinship of Cumberland & Turtle Lake just by using it.

All you have to do is go to www.goodsearch.com, select Kinship of Cumberland from the list of nonprofits, and search! It’s easy, it’s free— why not give it a try? Happy surfing!

New Match!

Kinship is proud to announce that we have made one new match since the last newsletter with several matches in the process of becoming final.

Congratulations to Kinschild Kyle and new mentor Paul! This will be a positive and life changing experience for both of you! We know you will have tons of fun becoming friends and trying new things.

Congratulations! We wish you the best in this new adventure!

Kids Waiting for Special Kinship Friends

Kinship of Cumberland & Turtle Lake is now serving over 40 children in our communities. Of those children, 16 of them are still waiting for a special Kinship friend. If you’re interested in becoming a mentor to one of these children, please call the Kinship office at 715-822-5553.

Rachael is a seventh grade girl who enjoys playing basketball, volleyball and swimming. She is looking for a special friend she can call her own.

CJ is a fifth grade boy who enjoys helping cook large meals and eating together as a family. He dreams of becoming a paleontologist and exploring Egypt someday.

Peace begins with a smile.

~Mother Teresa
Cumberland Federal Bank now has online services!

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for more information.

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