

# We Build Self-Esteem in Kids

Issue 51 March 2012

# **HOME SWEET HOME**

# **TASK Opens Doors to New Facility**

"Home Sweet Home" This classic comforting phrase is proudly displayed on the marquee of TASK's new property at 980 Horan in Fenton, MO. On Sunday, February 26th, over 250 members of the TASK community read this warm greeting as they made their way up the drive for the anxiously anticipated open house. TASK has longed for a chance to expand its organization beyond rented gymnasiums and overgrown teeball fields. That afternoon, parents and staff joyfully celebrated a dream 15 years in the making.

Executive Director/Founder Deb Fruend, Assistant Executive Director Jen Pranger, and a team of volunteer guides welcomed each athlete and family member to the new location and led short tours around the property. Renderings of future building renovations to convert this property and building to meet TASK's needs were on display. Prior to TASK's acquisition, this property served as the United Auto Worker's Union Hall, resting on 11.5 acres in the Fenton Industrial Area. As the sketches expressed, the current facilities will soon be transformed into an unbelievable facility for children and adults with special needs.

Right:
Proposed
Gym to
include 2
courts and
dance
area.



The timeline for the building renovation is divided into phases. Phase 1 must be complete before programs are moved to the new location. Projects planned include creating two outdoor softball fields and a soccer field, converting the hall into a gymnasium with two basketball courts and a dance area, expanding the current kitchen with enough space and appliances to hold classes and creating a sensory room. Other projects in subsequent phases include putting a deck around the pond, building a fishing dock, installing a putting green and building an addition to house the fitness center, art studio and a game/rec room where kids can hang out, play Wii, air hockey or fuse ball.

We hope by the fall of 2012 to host our first program on site at the new facility. In order to make the facility complete, we are continuing to raise funds thorough our Capital Campaign and on-going fundraisers. Please read the rest of the newsletter to find out how you can help.

Thank you to all of you who gave time and energy to get the new building ready and who helped us on moving day! Because of you, we were able to keep moving and preparation costs down to be able to save money for the rehab of the facility!

#### STAFF

Deb Fruend Founder & Executive Director

Jennifer Pranger Assistant Executive Director

> Greg Davenport Program Coordinator

> > Kam Schroeder Office Manager

Nancy Barbeau Administrative Assistant

#### TASK BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Tim Zimpfer Vice-President

Marilyn Harris Treasurer

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#### HONORARY BOARD MEMBER

Tom Ackerman

Email: board.task@sbcglobal.net

#### **Team Activities for Special Kids**

980 Horan Drive Fenton, MO 63026 636.343.8275 www.tasksports.org info@tasksports.org

#### FROM THE DIRECTOR...

Home Sweet Home! It is so great to have a place to call home. The TASK offices are moved into our new home at 980 Horan in Fenton. Thanks to all of the hard work of the staff, it is being organized quickly and efficiently and we are now working out of our new home. It was great to see many of you at the open house on the 26<sup>th</sup> and if you did not make it out, please feel free to come by and see our new place.

We are gearing up for the spring season of golf and bowling along with TASK Act and martial arts in April. Summer will bring the 16<sup>th</sup> season of tee-ball, along with coach- pitch, softball, kickball and summer camp to our lineup. Hopefully, we will see you there.

TASK is working very hard to rehab the property into fields and the building into gym space so that we can move all of our activities to our new home as soon as possible. It is a very exciting time for us and we are moving into the second phase of our capital campaign. It is the time to raise the funds that we need to make the property as fun and usable for our athletes as possible.

You can see from the other information in this newsletter, we have a lot of plans for our new home. We need your help to continue to make the dream a reality so that your children can come and enjoy their time with us and you all can enjoy a greatly deserved break. Please consider making a pledge to TASK to help us make the best place we can for your kids. I would greatly appreciate it and please feel free to call me and come out and see our new home anytime. Happy Spring and stay safe!

Deb

# Notes from the Board of Directors



Chris Keller

Chris Keller

In February, TASK proudly welcomed Mr. Chris Keller to our Board of Directors. Chris and his wife Kerry, are the proud parents of 4 boys, one of whom participates in the TASK Program. Chris is a life-long St. Louisan, who attended Chaminade College Prep for high school, Saint Louis University for his undergraduate in MIS/Marketing and Webster University for his MBA. He is currently a Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer at Benjamin F. Edwards & Company. In the past, Chris was part of the board of directors of Autism Speaks-St. Louis and along with his family founded the Aiming for the Answer organization whose mission is to raise awareness of autism and raise money to support organizations that support those individuals with autism.



What: Visit with the Easter Bunny and Egg Hunt

When: Saturday, March 31 Where: TASK; 980 Horan, 63026

Time: 11:00 am-12:30pm Egg hunt will begin at 11:15

**Details:** 

Includes photo opts with Easter Bunny, egg hunt, juice,

cookies and goodies.

**RSVP:** By March 28 to 636-343-8275



# **MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:**

#### How to register for a program:

- 1. Have a 2012 Application Form on file (complete once a year)
- 2. Pick a Membership level
- 3. Register for the activity of interest (all membership levels must turn in a registration)
- 4. Send registration in with applicable fees
- 5. Show up and play!

#### **REMINDERS:**

- If there is inclement weather, (including heat, rain, snow, etc) please check the TASK website at www.tasksports.org or call the information line at 636-343-TASK (8275) and press 2 to check the status of an activity.
- If you register after week one of any sport, we cannot guarantee that your child will receive a trophy and/or tee shirt.
- Please fill out all forms completely.

	GOLD MEMBER	SILVER MEMBER	BRONZE MEMBER
Yearly Fee:	\$480	\$250	None
Program Fee:	None	\$40 per sport	\$75 per sport
TASK Camp Fee:	\$125 & guaranteed spot	\$150 & guaranteed spot	\$175 (if available)
Social Club Fee:	None	\$5 per event	\$10 per event
Premium Sports Fee:	None	\$40 per sport	Not eligible
Second Child Discount:	\$360 yearly fee	None	None

	Ages	Day	Time	Location	Fees			
Sports					Gold	Silver	Bronze	Dates
Bowling	All Ages	Mon	4:30-5:15	Crestwood Bowl	None	\$40	\$75	4/9, 4/16, 4/23, 4/30, 5/7, 5/14
Golf	All Ages	Tues	4:30-5:15	Family Golf Plex	None	\$40	\$75	4/10, 4/17, 4/24, 5/1, 5/8, 5/15
Tee ball	10 & under	Wed	6:00-7:00	Uthoff Valley Elem	None	\$40	\$75	5/23, 5/30, 6/6, 6/13, 6/20, 6/27
Coach Pitch	10 & under	Wed	6:00-7:00	Uthoff Valley Elem	None	\$40	\$75	5/23, 5/30, 6/6, 6/13, 6/20, 6/27
Coach Pitch	11 & over	Wed	7:00-8:00	Uthoff Valley Elem	None	\$40	\$75	5/23, 5/30, 6/6, 6/13, 6/20, 6/27
Modified Softball	Adv. Player	Wed	7:00-8:00	Uthoff Valley Elem	None	\$40	\$75	5/23, 5/30, 6/6, 6/13, 6/20, 6/27
Kickball	10 & under	Tue	6:00-7:00	Uthoff Valley Elem	None	\$40	NA	5/22, 5/29, 6/5, 6/12, 6/19, 6/26
Kickball	11 & over	Tue	7:00-8:00	Uthoff Valley Elem	None	\$40	NA	5/22, 5/29, 6/5, 6/12, 6/19, 6/26
TASK ACT	10 & under	Thurs	6:00-7:00	St. Elizabeth	None	\$40	\$75	Thursdays until April 26
TASK Martial Arts	11 & over	Thurs	7:00-8:00	St. Elizabeth	None	\$40	\$75	4/5, 4/12, 4/19, 4/26
CBC/TASK Camp	All Ages	M-F	9:00a-2:00p	CBC High School	\$25	\$25	\$25	7/16, 7/17, 7/18, 7/19, 7/20
TASK Camp	All Ages	M-F	8:30a-2:00p	TBD	\$125	\$150	\$175	7/23, 7/24, 7/25, 7/26, 7/27
Social Club	13 & Over	Fri	7:00-9:00	St. Elizabeth	None	\$5	\$10	3/11
Social Club	13 & Over	Fri	7:00-9:00	St. Elizabeth	None	\$5	\$10	4/8

St. Elizabeth of Hungary -1420 South Sappington Road, 63126 Uthoff Valley Elementary- 1600 Uthoff Dr, 63026 Crestwood Bowl - 9822 Watson Road, 63126 Family Golf Plex - 3717 Tree Court Industrial Blvd, 63122

# **UPCOMING PROGRAMS & CAMPS**

### Golf

The golf program focuses on the golf skills of grip, swing patterns, driving and putting. The program consists of 45-minute sessions. Throughout the six weeks, athletes alternate between using the driving range, practice putting greens and a miniature golf course. A station approach is used to focus on the skills listed above. The sixth week is spent at a golf course where the athletes have the opportunity to transfer the skills learned to actual course play. Golf clubs and other equipment are provided for athlete use; however, athletes can bring their own. You will receive a shirt that your child should wear each week. At the completion of the season, athletes will receive a trophy recognizing their effort in the season. See previous page for sessions, ages, times, location and dates.

### **Bowling**

For the TASK bowling season, athletes are divided into teams according to age and ability levels and each receives a team shirt. Modifications for athletes are made on an individual basis for each athlete to succeed and learn about the game. Bowling ramps and gutter guards are available for those who need them. All are invited to participate no matter what their experience or ability level. At the end of the bowling season, each athlete is presented a trophy recognizing his or her effort, hard work and success. See previous page for sessions, ages, times, location and dates.

## **Softball Programs**

TASK Tee Ball is for the beginning ballplayer. Athletes work on the basic skills of throwing, catching, fielding, hitting and base running. All ball players participate in game situations and hit a ball off of a tee. TASK Coach Pitch is designed for the intermediate ballplayer. Athletes continue to work on the basic skills, but instead of hitting a ball off of a tee, they hit a ball pitched by a coach. TASK Modified Softball is designed for the more advanced ballplayer. Again, athletes continue to work on the skills of the sport. We introduce pitching skills at this level and the athletes do the pitching in our games. We follow standard softball rules, playing three outs. However, batters are allowed five strikes instead of three. At the completion of the season, athletes will receive a trophy recognizing their effort in the season. See previous page for sessions, ages, times, location and dates.

## **Kickball**

TASK Kickball runs like many other TASK team sports. Athletes are divided into teams based on age and ability. This program focuses on understanding of the basic rules, kicking a moving ball, throwing, catching, game play and teamwork. Kickball runs for six weeks and is played **outdoors**. See previous page for sessions, ages, times, location and dates.

# TASK Act

This program is for 10 and under and will consist of stations specifically geared towards younger participants. During the 45 minute session, athletes will hop, scoot, run, stretch and row their way through the planned stations. These activities will work on coordination, strength and endurance all while building self confidence, self esteem and social skills. See previous page for sessions, ages, times, location and dates.

#### **TASK Martial Arts**

Instructors from Kelly's Championship Martial Arts will be leading our 4 week introductory class. This program is designed to focus on the basic PHYSICAL SKILLS of martial arts, as well as LIFE SKILLS such as Discipline, Goal Setting, Confidence, Leadership and Respect. Instructors accomplish these goals through various drills, games and student interaction. See previous page for sessions, ages, times, location and dates.

#### **Social Club**

All TASK participants who are 13 years of age and older are invited to gather one Friday a month to meet new people and hang out with old friends. Each month a different activity is planned from BINGO, to trivia to dancing. If you have a question or want to be on the Social Club emailing list, call Mary or Dave Hughes at 314-968-4315 or email TASK.social@att.net Fees: Gold Member—no fee; Silver Member- \$5 Bronze Member- \$10. Deadline: None

# **UPCOMING PROGRAMS & CAMPS continued...**

# **TASK Summer Camp**

The Team Activities for Special Kids summer camp program is a one-week day camp offered to kids with special physical and mental concerns. The focus of the camp is on functional and recreational skills. Throughout the week campers participate in a variety of activities including craft projects, cooking, swimming, drama, sports, water fun and more. In order to attend TASK Camp, camper must have participated in a previous TASK activity. Familiarity with your child will help us to meet his or her specific needs at camp.

With the transition between St. Elizabeth's and the new TASK Facility, the location has not yet been determined. We are in the process of working out the details. It will either be at St. Elizabeth, as in years past, or at the new TASK Facility. When the decision is made we will let you know. All fees are non-refundable.

### **CBC/TASK Camp**

Each year CBC High School and TASK pair together to provide a week of recreation, athletics, dance, science/technology and arts and crafts opportunities to our athletes. CBC High School students are paired with TASK athletes for this week of fun. If you are interested in attending CBC/TASK camp this year, please fill out the application and return to the TASK office. We will be using a lottery system to choose athletes who will attend. We will let you know the status of your application. Gold members will have first priority, silver second and bronze members third. There will be a \$25 fee this year for camp to help defer expenses. Please send in your payment with application.

# **UPCOMING FUNDRAISERS & EVENTS**

Fundraising continues to be an important component of the TASK organization, especially now that we have renovation to do on the new facility. If you are interested in attending any of the fundraisers below, please visit <a href="https://www.tasksports.org">www.tasksports.org</a> for registration information. Please spread the word and help us raise funds for TASK!

Apr

Sept

2

What: Jr Board Texas Hold 'Em Where: Andres Banquet Center Time: Doors 6:00; Play 6:30

Cost: \$40.00

**Includes:** Tournament entry, hors d'oeuvres,

and open bar

Aug 11 What: Jr Board Trivia Night Where: TASK 980 Horan, 63026 Time: Doors 6:30; Trivia 7:00

Cost: TBA Includes: TBA

What: Cornhole Tournament Where: TASK 980 Horan, 63026

Time: TBA Cost: TBA Includes: TBA Sept 8

What: Annual Golf Tournament Where: Paradise Valley Time: Lunch 11:00; Play 12:30

Cost: \$360 a foursome

Includes: Tournament entry, lunch, dinner and

drinks

# CROSSING THE FINISH LINE- TASK CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

#### THE NEED

Over the last fifteen years, TASK has used sports to build selfesteem in our athletes. Now that we have entered 2012, we see everyday that our athletes also need support in life skills like cooking, cleaning, washing, computer safety, money skills, and filling out job applications. Social skills of making friends, playing with a partner/small group, and communicating appropriately with peers/adults are also areas that need support. TASK would like to branch out into these areas by adding classes, social and play group activities to our yearly schedule.

Since 1996, TASK has proudly touched the lives of over 1,000 families providing opportunities for their children with special needs. We want to continue to reach out and to the many individuals who will benefit from our programs.

#### THE GOAL

Below is a list of amenities we plan to provide at the TASK Facility. By offering a variety of programming, we hope to reach many youth with special needs.

- » Gymnasium
- » Soccer Field
- » Two baseball fields
- » Sensory Room
- » Kitchen facilities for cooking classes
- » Fitness Center
- » Art Studio
- » Classrooms
- » Computer Room
- » Dance/Drama Room
- » Educational Gardens
- » Fishing Dock
- » Life Skills Lab
- » Playground
- » Putting Green
- » Rec/Game Room
- » Walking track



Proposed New Building Addition: Fitness Center

#### **HOW YOU CAN HELP**

In order to continue on with Phase 2 of the plan, we need your help. We are trying to raise the remaining balance of the campaign and hoping that you would like to participate as a campaign contributor. No donation is too small.

TASK has developed levels of giving and various naming opportunities. Payments can be pledged over a period of 5 years. Please join us in this endeavor to help youth with special needs grow, thrive and participate actively in sports.

#### **AVAILABLE NAMNG OPPROTUNITIES**

ITEM	COST EACH			
Campus	\$1,000,000			
Main Stage	\$100,000			
Soccer Field	\$100,000			
Playground	\$100,000			
Education Garden	\$100,000			
Baseball Field (Turf)	\$125,000			
Baseball Field	\$75,000			
Fitness Center	\$50,000			
Pond	\$50,000			
Kitchen	\$50,000			
Pavilion	\$50,000			
Fishing Dock	\$25,000			
Computer Lab	\$25,000			
Sensory Room	\$25,000			
Flower Garden	\$15,000			