



The official newsletter of the United Disabilities Services Foundation

Summer 2016

YOUR GIFTS CHANGED MICHELLE'S LIFE!

TEACHER WITH DISABILITY PUBLISHES CHILDREN'S BOOKS

After spinal cord injury, teacher returns to classroom and authors book to teach children about disability.

Sixteen years ago, Michelle White was a young teacher. A parachuting accident left her with a spinal cord injury-paralyzed from the chest down.

Assisted by family and UDS employees, she now lives in her own home, teaches full-time, and advocates for people with disabilities.

When she returned to her classroom, her students wanted to understand why she was in a wheelchair and what had happened to her. That is when the idea for her first children's book *New Opportunities* was born. Its main character is a porcupine named Spiney.



In an Illlustration from New Opportunities, Spiney teaches her class.

Spiney also has a spinal cord injury. As she goes through rehabilitation, she has to be brave to tackle the obstacles ahead. But her friends and family stay by her side, so she isn't alone. Lots of people help Spiney do little things that she used to do by herself. Some days she cries, and some days she feels good. Michele and Spiney have a lot to teach all of us!



Michelle was a special guest at our Annual Gala—-see more Gala news inside→

Your giving has helped Michelle return to teaching and author a children's book!

YOUR DONATIONS HELP ARTISTS TO THRIVE



Bill Kepner chats with Doris and Merrell Clark at the Gala.



Thank you for joining us at this year's annual Fundraising Gala on May 13, where several artists with disabilities were celebrated.

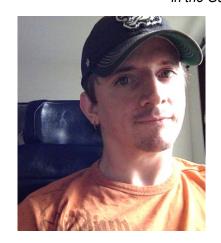
Your giving makes it possible for artists like Susan, Jonathan, and Mike to live life as independently as possible and to exercise their creative talents for all to enjoy!

Your support enables us to realize our mission of enhancing the independence and enriching the lives of people with disabilities. We thank all our UDSF friends for sharing their gifts so that all our lives are enhanced!





Susan, Berkley, and her painting of Berkley featured in the Gala Auction.





Mike and his painting of David Bowie

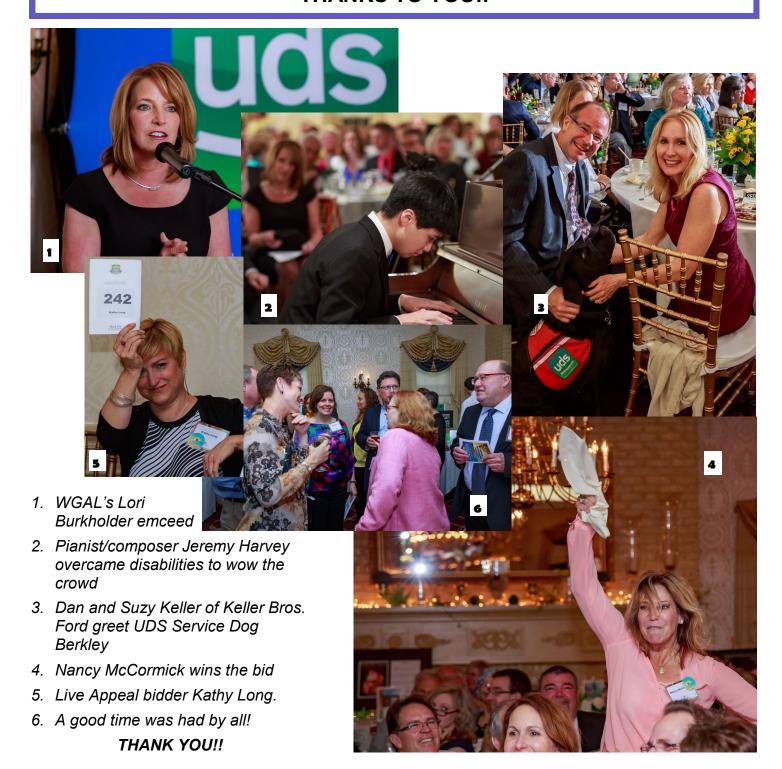




Jonathan and his painting "Life on the Upswing."

Celebrating the Lives You've Enhanced!

UDS Foundation Annual Gala raises \$100k for the first time—
THANKS TO YOU!!







Debra Bodley with Service Dog Deora.

You Helped to Create a "Miracle"!!

Debbie Bodley, mother of Deora Bodley who was killed on Flight 93 on September 11, 2001, spoke to inmates at Pine Grove Correctional Facility about dealing with her grief over the tragedy.



"Partners" John and Deora

These same inmates were part of the first class of inmate/trainers of UDS Service Dogs "Pups in Prison" program. They were inspired by her remarks and asked if they could name one of the puppies in honor her daughter and Debbie said: "Of course!"

This January, John, a military veteran, received his new UDS Service Dog who turned out to be Deora. Feeling inspired to pay homage to the original Deora Bodley, John and his Deora travelled to the Flight 93 Memorial in Shankstown PA this spring. As they approached the memorial spot honoring Deora, John and his Service Dog were amazed find that Debbie Bodley was there to lay flowers on her daughter's monument. Debbie and John's Deora met for the first time. Tears were shed and hugs were given as a true "coincidental miracle" took place.

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Thank you!

**Contributions to UDSF are deductible as the law allows. **

journeys



CHALLENGER FOOTBALL

Players! Volunteers!

JOIN US! SIGN UP!

Players ages 5 to 25—if you want to play action-packed (non-contact) football, lead cheers, and meet new friends.

Volunteers (any age!) Needed:

Football and Cheerleading Coaches, Referees, "Buddies," and Assistants! It's time to sign up for 2016 Challenger Football!

Games are played Saturdays mornings, August 6 through October 3, at Calvary Church.

Register before July 1st! Call Jennifer Book at 717-286-0255 or email jenniferlb@udsfoundation.org

YOU CAN VOLUNTEER TO BE A

CHALLENGER BUDDY

AND HELP CHANGE THE LIVES OF

THESE KIDS!

You Are Invited!

Crooners

AMERICAN MUSIC THEATRE

Saturday, August 27
YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS!

UDSF Donors are invited to CROONERS, the American Music Theatre's all-new original show celebrating unforgettable singers from the 1920s to the present—both classic and contemporary. It's a musical journey you won't forget!

To reserve your tickets,
please call Larry Aubrey, Director of
Development, at 717-715-8763 or
email larrya@udsfoundation.org



DON'T MISS THE FUN! Special Door Prize!