



NEWSLETTER

May/June 2009

Big Brothers & Sisters
of Portage County

A program of
Family & Community Services

114 Children matched with mentors. 86 Children waiting.
Will you help?

Bowl For Kids' Sake a Success



The 27th annual Bowl for Kids' Sake fundraiser to benefit Big Brothers & Sisters of Portage County was held March 21st at AMF Twin Star Lanes in Kent. Special thanks to AMF Twin Star Lanes manager, Keith Lang, and staff for hosting this event. Proceeds from Bowl for Kids' Sake will benefit BB&S's one-to-one youth mentoring program.

Premier sponsor for the event was ComDoc, Inc. Major sponsors included Buckeye Community Health Plan, PARTA, and the Kiwanis Club of Kent. Tee shirt sponsors included: Portage Community Bank, Ravenna Auto Body, American Legion Post #331, Kris Skaggs & Pete Sasson, Amanda's Garden Child-care & Learning Center, Patrick Incorporated, Penney's Auto Body, Inc., Ray & Linda Carlisle, Portage County FOP #70, Chad Murdock, and City Bank Antiques.

Mike Smylie from Black Squirrel Radio did a terrific job emceeding both bowling shifts during the event. Station mascot URL was also on hand to welcome bowlers.

Bowlers enjoyed free bowling, shoe rental, pop, and pizza from Guys Pizza Co. in Kent, door prizes, and a Bowl for Kids' Sake commemorative t-shirt.

The following schools participated in the School Challenge: Aurora High School, Maplewood Career Center, Bohecker College, Rootstown Middle School, and Garfield High School. Collecting donations of nearly \$2,000, Aurora High School students were the proud winner of the School Challenge, and took home the rotating trophy.

Best Choice, a Family & Community Services agency, won a pizza party. The individual bringing in the most money was Julie Fitch, winner of a \$100 savings bond; the team winner was The Warped Corps, coordinated by Christina Getrost, winners of a \$100 restaurant gift card.

Working at the event were staff members Andrea Neidert, Deb Ferrell, and Linda Carlisle; advisory group members, Mike Beder, Terri Silver and Paul Huchok; and volunteer supporters Dave Horner, Rich Reaser, and Ray Carlisle.

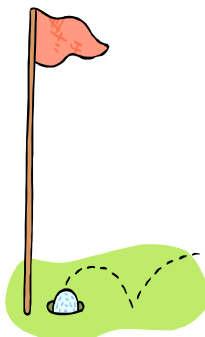
Thanks to everyone who participated and made donations to help support Big Brothers & Sisters.

13th Annual Charity Golf Scramble and Auction

This year's event will be held on Wednesday, July 29, at Raccoon Hill Golf Club. Cost is \$95 per person or \$380 per foursome and includes:

- 18 holes of golf with cart
- Breakfast, juices & coffee
- Cookout style sausage lunch
- Dinner
- Beverages
- Prizes

Dinner only tickets will be available this year.



- Registration & breakfast before a shot gun start
- There are a limited number of openings so sign up now!
- Sponsorships are still available.
- For more information call Linda Carlisle at 330.296.6655.

Happy Birthday to...

May

LS Danielle
LS Cassandra
LS Mi-
kayla
LS Ashley
LS Emma
LS Cloey
LS Maria
LS Meghyn
LS Aaleaya
LB Jesse
LB Trevor
LB Rico
LB Marcus
LB Brandon
BS Abby
BS Amy
BS Janet
BS Norma
BS Lydia
BS Tara
BS Nicole
BS Brittany
BS Jennifer
BS Stephanie
BB Dan
BB Brad



June

LS JoVawn
LS Victoria
LS Chelsey
LS Mariah
LB Jalen
LB Gil
LB C.J.
BS Rachael
BS Rebecca
BS Nina
BS Cheri
BS Lara
BS Danelle
BS Mary
BS Adrian
BS Diana
BS Jane
BS Megan
BS LaKeisha
BS Joy
BB Sean



Match Anniversaries

May

BB Jim Shukys / LB Cody – 6 years
BS Kristin Benner / LS Cassandra – 3 years
BS Michelle Zivoder / LS Emma – 1 year
BS Teddi Ferguson / LS Tammy – 1 year

June

BS Taryn Kanable / LS Maya – 2 years
BS Diana Bocciarelli / LS Josie – 1 year
BS Sara Vickers / LS Brooklynn – 1 year
BB Mike Brown / LB Tony – 1 year

Welcome New Matches!

LS Shelby / BS Jennifer Boling
LS Mariah / BS Tiffani Scalzo
LS Khia / BS LaKeisha Jarmon
LS Courtney / BS Chelsea Ramsey
LS Endiyah / BS Leah Morgan
LS Desirae / BS Joy Loper
LB Aaron / BB Scott Burmeister
LS Summer / BS Danielle Gatka
LB Curtis / BB Tim Burkholder
LB Mason / BB Ben Kovach
LS Marlana / BS Alana Boone
LS Cassie / BS Tara Christensen
LS Madison / BS Stephanie Moran



Look Who's Waiting...



for You?

This Little Brother is 10 years old. He lives with his mom and younger brother. He had a very close relationship with his dad before his dad became very ill. Since then, his school performance has suffered and he has trouble making friends.

The Little Brother likes sports, especially football and soccer. However, he has never had the opportunity to play on an organized team. He also likes to ride his bike and read.

His mom hopes having a Big Brother will help him in dealing with the stress of his dad's illness.

If you are interested in finding out more about this Little Brother, or any of the other children on our waiting list, please call our office at 330.296.6655 or check our website - www.bbspportage.org

Call today! A child is waiting to meet you!



Email Newsletter

Help us save money on postage & paper by signing up to receive your Newsletter through email. Just send an email to info@bbspportage.org. Your Newsletter will arrive sooner and in color!

If you previously signed up the Email Newsletter and received this one from the US mail, please sign up again. We had a computer problem and lost our mailing list. Thanks!

Thank you to...



- Tim Patrick for donating Cleveland Indians tickets to the agency.
- KSU Athletic department for donating tickets to basketball games.
- KSU Rec Center for donating one day passes for our matches.

Wish List

The Wish List is made up of items the agency needs or would like to have. If they are donated, our operating costs will be reduced. If you or someone you know could fulfill these wishes, please call our office at (330) 296-6655.

- Copy paper
- Postage Stamps
- Gift cards to office supply stores
- Monetary donations to pay for match activities
- Free tickets to places and events for our Bigs and Littles to use



Cars for Kids

"Cars for Kids" is a program designed to raise funds for the agency.

Anyone interested in donating a running or non-running car or truck should call the BB&S office at (330) 296-6655. The vehicle will be towed free of charge. Donors need to provide the keys and title.

Donors may also claim a tax deduction for making a charitable contribution.



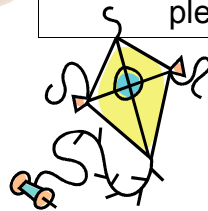
To Do...

- Attend a Memorial Day Parade
- Go fishing
- Fly kites
- Hold a garage sale
- Play tennis
- Plant a garden or help a neighbor plant hers
- Check out our website
- Visit the playground at a park
- Go on a bike ride.



Attention Bigs & Parents

If you would like us to arrange speakers on any topics concerning your match, your Little or your child that participates in our program, please call or email and let us know.



Road Trip ~ Climb aboard the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad

Tickets are only \$10 per person. The train operates on Saturdays and Sundays.

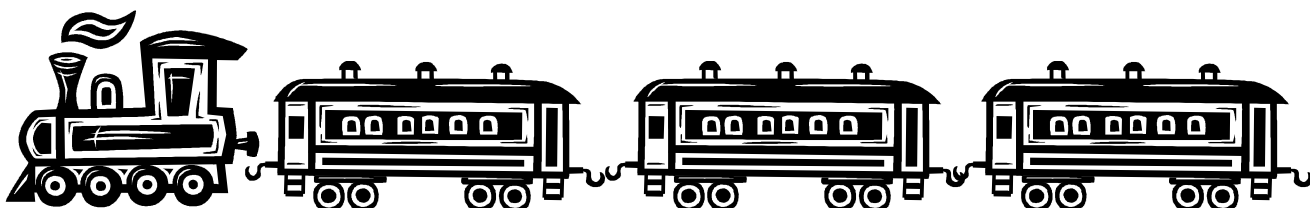
There are three fun excursions to choose from:

National Park Scenic - Explore the beautiful Cuyahoga Valley National Park from a vintage train car. This is a three hour round trip.

Peninsula Explorer - Ride the train to the village of Peninsula. Go hiking, explore the quaint shops and have lunch.

Canal Explorer - ride the train to the Canal Visitors Center. Explore the exhibits and the associated canal lock.

Visit www.cvsr.com for more information and to make reservations.



Shop Fabulous Finds Thrift Superstore... and help support Big Brothers & Sisters of Portage County!

Big Brothers & Sisters receives a percentage of all money spent at Fabulous Finds. So be sure to check them out for all your shopping needs. Following is a partial list of all the treasures you can find at Fabulous Finds:

Designer clothes...athletic equipment...furniture...toys...books...
children's clothing...lamps...dishes...exercise equipment...
Pictures...craft supplies and much, much more!

Fabulous Finds is located at 9058 SR 14 in Streetsboro,
across from K-Mart.

The phone number is 330.422.0039. Call if you have
furniture or other large items to donate.

Hours are Monday - Saturday, 10 am - 8pm; Sunday 11am - 6pm

Program Director

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Donate Your Running or Non-Running Vehicle

"Cars for Kids" is a program designed to raise funds for Big Brothers & Sisters of Portage County. It is simple to donate your running or non-running car or truck:

- Call the Big Brothers & Sisters office at 330.296.6655
- Your vehicle will be towed free of charge
- Donors need to provide the keys and title
- Donors may also claim a tax deduction for making a charitable contribution

