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The Cerebral Palsy Center is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the belief that every person is a unique human being, whose life has value and is worthy of respect.

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# The CP Life and Times

## Inclusion: It's a birthright, not a privilege.

~Bea Russell

May 2009

### For the Love of Humans

Today I got to go to one of my favorite places and see some of my favorite humans!

I went to the Cerebral Palsy Center and visited with the recipients there. My name is Rhino and I am a therapy dog. Let me tell you about some of my amazing friends.

Beth has been coming to the center for over 20 years! She loves animals and her favorite thing to do is scratch me behind my ears! I love her! She also loves ice cream and sometimes she lets me lick the bowl!

I think KiKi would rename me Elvis if she could! She is an intense Elvis fan and knows all of

Beth and Rhino



Danny is more of the quiet sort. He rubs my head and looks at me as if to say, "You are so soft. What a cool dog." But I think Danny is pretty cool. He has a job at Papa John's, he likes to laugh and I can tell he is a gentle soul.

David and I get along great because David is a dog man! He has 2 of his own at home. David and I laugh and love playing ball together. Actually David laughs with just about everyone; he has lots of friends at the center!

his music, his movies and his birthday! Kiki is content to hold my leash and let me sit beside her wheelchair. Sometimes she talks to me and tells me about her day and I just listen. That's what she needs from me.

Everyone always says thank you for coming and that I help brighten their day, but they brighten my day more. They are some of the best humans I know!

### Color My World

Sunshine, green grass and blue skies! The colors of nature are no longer just on the outside, but have come inside to the center!

Thanks to Denark Construction who graciously donated the labor for us to be able to update with some fresh paint, we have a new look!

An occupational therapist from the Division of Mental Retardation Services



trained in how colors and clutter affect people with developmental disabilities, came to the center and educated us on how to arrange the different areas to make them more efficient and the kinds of colors that will help stabilize moods and have a calming effect.

If you haven't been to the center in awhile, stop by and see what you think!

**Upcoming Events**

The 14th Annual TEE IT UP! Golf Tournament benefiting the center will be held on Monday, May 18th at the beautiful and challenging **Willow Creek Golf Course**.

Fee is \$175 per person/\$700 per team and includes, lunch, green fees, golf cart and goody bag.

For more information, sponsorship opportunities or to find out how you can help, contact Tracey at the center.

**Employment Opportunities**

\* Please check our website at [www.cpcenter.org](http://www.cpcenter.org)

**WISH LIST**

Cleaning Supplies, (dishwasher and laundry detergent, Comet 409, etc. )

Paper products, (paper towels, plates, napkins, etc.)

AA batteries

Canned meats, veggies, and other non-perishables

Used 4 Door Cars and Vans  
 Gas Cards

**Remember the Cerebral Palsy Center in your will.**

*All Creatures Great and Small*



Blind and frail, with her tiny body ravaged by brittle bone disease, one couldn't help but be moved when the nearly 3000 lb. animal lowered his massive head and gently nuzzled Jodi's cheek.

Jodi is a service recipient with the Cerebral Palsy Center. Support staff from the center accompanied Jodi out to the farm in New Market where the famous Budweiser Clydesdales were laying over for the night, so she could "see" the horses.

Jodi felt of their velvety muzzles as their warm breath brushed her face and their lips tenderly mussed her hair. She smiled and talked to them the whole time she was there and evidently talked about it all the way home and into the next day!

The Budweiser Clydesdales are magnificent animals in and of themselves and truly are the quintessential "gentle giants". Watching this powerful creature interact with Jodi's sweet, accepting spirit puts a lump in your throat, I don't care who you are!

What a treat for Jodi and for those of us who got to share in the moment! I wish others could have also enjoyed the experience but because of the extra cost for staffing and transportation, it wasn't possible. If you would like to help ensure that others are able to take part in these kind of special activities, please contact the center.

**Welcome & Thank You**

To Permobil for coming on board as our new co-sponsor for the upcoming golf tournament!

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**Raise the Roof Spaghetti Dinner!**

Help us get a much needed new roof by doing something you would do any way...eat! Come by Monday, May 11 for a delicious home cooked spaghetti dinner. Take out orders available starting at 3:00 or "dine in" at the center from 5:00—8:00. Your donation includes spaghetti, bread, ice tea, and dessert.

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**DID YOU KNOW**

About 1/3 of children with CP have hemiplegia, (one side of the body paralyzed, as typically seen in adult stroke)