

BEST FRIENDS MENTORING PROGRAM

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135 W. Villard St.
P.O. Box 542
Dickinson, N.D. 58602-

(701) 483-8615
1-877-877-8685

friends@ndsupernet.com



*Best Friends
Mentoring Program*

The Best News

www.westernwellness.org

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June 2008

Turtles, car show new at Family Fun Day

Ever wanted to race a turtle, or watch a herd of turtles break for the finish line? You have that chance at this year's Family Fun Day, set for noon to 4 p.m. on July 5 at Jaycee Park, south of the Dairy Barn, in Dickinson.

Anyone can rent a turtle for the races that will continue through the afternoon. Prizes will be awarded to winners and to the most enthusiastic contestant.

Family Fun Day is an afternoon of family fun that includes kids' carnival games and prizes, petting zoo, horse rides, bouncer, giant double slide, joust, barrel train rides and food concessions.

Car enthusiasts will enjoy the First Annual Custom Classic Car Show from 1

p.m. to 3 p.m. at the event that traditionally follows the Rough-rider Days Parade. Register in advance by calling 483-8615 or from noon to 1 p.m. the day of the show. Best of Show prizes will be awarded in each category.

This year the dunk tank will feature local celebrities taking turns sitting above the water. You can dunk your favorite for just \$1 for three balls. The line up includes KDIX's Randy Christensen, Airport Manager Matt Remyne, Music Mart's Ken Kubishta, Dan Porter Motors' Rob Wilkinson and KLTC's Paul Quinn, Chad Schoch, Matt Hunt and Shaun Walsh.

Kids of all ages will enjoy the fun and games of Bodiddly the clown, appearing throughout the afternoon.



Balloon animals and hats created by Kristen Meduna, right, were popular at the 2007 Family Fun Day.

Family Fun Day features a variety of games such as a free throw, hoop shoot, duck pond, bean bag toss, wheel of fortune, golf putt and plinko; game prizes; balloon animals; tattoos and face painting; dancers; music by the Blue Heron Band; and kids train rides. The concession stand will serve hot dogs, brats, chips and beverages.

Proceeds support the Best Friends Mentoring Program, Dickinson Gymnastics, Young Professionals Network, Boy Scouts Venture Crew and Dickinson, Trinity and Hebron High Schools' Close Up programs joining in this joint fundraiser.

The Best Friends Program, provides positive, caring adult role models to more than 150 at-risk youth each year in southwest North Dakota.



Bodiddly the Clown will debut with fun, games & tricks at Family Fun Day.

Newsletter sponsored by MDU Resources Foundation



Junior Friend Profile:

Needing a self-esteem boost and a reliable friend, Dillon recently moved to Dickinson with his mother and an older brother.

Dillon's teacher said he struggles with reading and math and seems withdrawn or shy.

This fifth grader enjoys bike riding, many outdoor activities, board and card games,

chess, collecting toy cards and electronics. He also loves indoor sports like bowling, basketball, football, soccer and wrestling.

Dillon says he would love to go fishing or hunting with his mentor, who would be a good role model with at least an hour each week to spend one-on-one with him.

If you have an hour a

week to spare to help a child in need, please call the Best Friends Mentoring program to get involved!

Thank You: In our last newsletter we told you about Shane, a 13 year old looking for someone who enjoys his love of extreme sports. Shane was recently matched with a local man who's a skateboarder and paintballer!

Scholarship winner: Valuing volunteering

'Every kid needs a mentor.

Everybody

needs a mentor.'

~Donovan Bailey

Chelsey Scherr volunteered for the Best Friends Mentoring Program because she wanted to make a difference in the community.

"I love kids and I knew that being a mentor would be a wonderful experience," Chelsey said. "I wanted to add more meaning in my life and I knew this would be the best way."

Chelsey has been matched since October of 2006 with

a girl in elementary school. They bake cookies, go mini golfing and other activities during their weekly meetings.

"I have so much fun when we get to spend time together," Chelsey said of her Junior Friend. "She can always make me smile and we continue to learn from one another."

Chelsey said that volunteering has been a life-

changing experience for her and "one of the best decisions I have ever made."

After she graduates from Dickinson State University, she plans to become an elementary teacher.



Chelsey Scherr

After she graduates from Dickinson State University, she plans to become an elementary teacher.

Contributors' Corner

Spring Carnival

- Dairy Barn & Center Court
- Baker Boy
- Coca Cola Bottling Company
- House of Manna
- Pepsi Cola
- Prairie Hills Mall
- Praxair
- Wells Fargo Bank
- White Drug

Grants

- Chamber of Commerce
- Jeans Day
- MDU Resources Foundation
- ND Community Foundation
- Ronald McDonald House Charities
- US Education Department

Thank You!
Thank You!

Please save & recycle:

- Cell phones (all types)
- Used printer cartridges
- Aluminum cans

Have you considered a bequest to the Best Friends Program?

Check out games & balls

Get outside & get active with sports equipment

Summer's here and it's time to get outside and enjoy the wonderful weather!

The Best Friends Mentoring Program encourages Senior Friends to call the office to check out sporting equipment to use in activities with your Junior Friend!

Just think of the fun you will have! We have kites, a rotating tee for baseball practice, footballs, basket-

balls and fishing rods, reels and tackle. You can also check out game sets for bocce ball, croquet and badminton.

Just call the office at 483-8615 to reserve the equipment you need — when you need it!

Senior Friends, remember to call the office for movie, bowling and restaurant coupons for activities with your Junior Friends.

Thanks to our community's generous businesses, we also have ad-

mission passes for the West River Community Center and Lion's Park at Lake Patterson.

Check it out!



'I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.'

~Maya Angelou

Outstanding Mentors:

Senior Friends enjoy making a difference for kids

When **Mindy Roy** heard about the opportunity to be mentor, she signed up and



was quickly **Mindy Roy** matched with her current Junior Friend. A psychology major at Dickinson State University, Mindy enjoys listening to people and has been a junior high youth group leader. She is

married to a local firefighter and works at Community Options. Since December, she and her Junior Friend have enjoyed reading, movies, shopping, swimming.

As a DHS senior, **Seth Rummel** volunteered to be a school-based mentor to make a difference in a person's life. He was matched in January with a boy who shares his interests in computers and video games.

They met at the boy's school for lunch once a week during the school year to work on homework and enjoy computer activities. They also went bowling. Seth tutored his peers at DHS and was recruited to be a mentor by another DHS student.



Seth Rummel



Match Spotlight: Friendship Match Milestones

Three Year Anniversary:

Kim & Nicole **Larry & Brandon**
 Matched: 6/25/2005 Matched 5/3/2005

Match Barometer

June 2008: 112

June 2007: 111

June 2006: 116



The Best Friends Program recognizes the anniversary milestones of long time mentors and youth in the program and thanks them for making a difference, one child at a time!

'Making a positive difference in children and families, one at a time.'

**BEST FRIENDS
MENTORING PROGRAM**

P.O. Box 542
135 W. Villard St.
Dickinson, ND 58602-0542

Phone: 701-483-8615
Fax: 701-225-6225
Email: friends@ndsupernet.com


**Inside:
Match Milestones
&
Senior Friend Scholarship**

*Address service
requested*



We're on the Web!
www.westernwellness.org

Sign up to receive this newsletter electronically: Call 483-8615 or email friends@ndsupernet.com.



Upcoming Activities & Events:
July 5, noon—4 p.m. Family Fun Day at Jaycee Park, south of the Dairy Barn, in Dickinson. Enjoy all the activities:

- ⇒ Kids carnival games for just 50 cents/ticket & prizes.
- ⇒ Food concessions: brats, hot dogs, chips, beverages.
- ⇒ **Bodiddly the Clown!**
- ⇒ Balloon animals.
- ⇒ Barrel train rides.
- ⇒ Entertainment by The Blue Heron Bank & Burn the Floor Dancers.
- ⇒ Horse rides.
- ⇒ Petting Zoo.
- ⇒ Giant double slide, Bouncer & Joust.
- ⇒ Dunk tank featuring local celebrities Randy Christensen, Ken Kubischta, Rob Wilkinson, Matt Remyse, Josh Hardin, Paul Quinn, Matt Hunt, and Chad Schock.
- ⇒ **New: Rent a turtle and watch them go! Turtle races** all afternoon with prizes to winners and surprise to the most enthusiastic contestant! *(Game by Young Professionals Network)*
- ⇒ Custom Classic Car Show, 1-3 p.m. in the Jaycee Park parking lot. Register in advance by calling 483-8615 or from noon-1 p.m. the day of the show. Prizes to Best of Show in both Custom and Classic categories! See the 1967 MGB GT hardtop!
- ⇒ Meet and greet our local heroes!
- ⇒ Volunteer to help or for more information: 483-8615!

*Look for the redecorated Best Friends Barrel Train
In the Roughrider Days Parade at 10 am July 5!*

