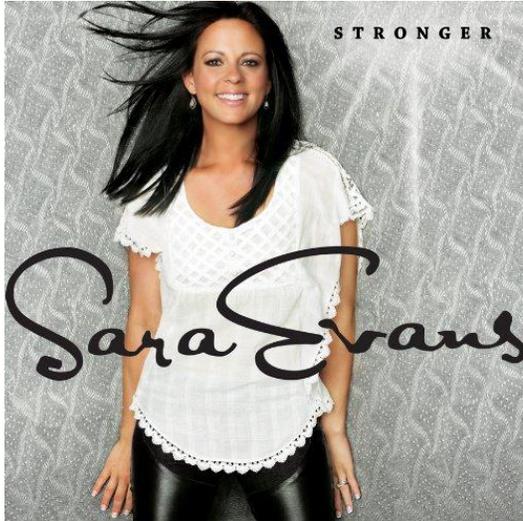


302 Hanson St
Hart MI 49420
231-873-1707

905 E Ludington Ave
Ludington MI 49431
231-845-0506



“A little Bit Stronger” first single off Sara Evans’ new record *Stronger* reached #1 on the U.S. *Billboard* Hot Country Song’s list May, 2011. The video is nominated for Best Female Video of the year, so make sure to watch the CMT awards on June 8, 2011.

Evans has been singing country music for RCA records since her first CD *Three Chords and the Truth* in 1997, and she’s still making hits! Since 1997 she has been nominated for 27 awards, taking home 8 of them. Her new CD *Stronger* was released on March 8, 2011 has already reached #1 on the country charts, and #6 on *Billboard* 200. Evans is having a very busy year, and she’s taking the time to come perform in Mears at Val Du Lakes to show her support for the André Bosse Center and our efforts towards preventing and ending Child Abuse and Neglect. Sara, We Thank You!

First Annual André Bosse Center Concert: Sara Evans!

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We’re so excited for our upcoming benefit concert featuring Sara Evans and Danny Gokey. To finally see the culmination of months of work and dozens of partnerships is incredible.

The concert will take place on Saturday, May 28 2011 at Val Du Lakes in Mears, Michigan. The show starts at 5:45pm so make sure you arrive with plenty of time to park the car and check out all there is to see at Val Du Lakes before it begins.

Tickets are on sale at both Hart and Ludington centers and online at: www.valdulakes.showclix.com.

Ticket prices are \$34.50 for General Admission and \$47.50 for the Pit (front/center area). VIP tickets are already sold out, so make sure you get your tickets soon! For \$5.00 you can also enter a raffle to win a chance to meet and talk to Sara Evans.

A Special Thanks to our Business Sponsors without whom this would have been impossible!

Val Du Lakes
Gales Agency
Gales IGA
Coldwell Banker
94.9 WCZM
Muskegon Quality Car Wash
GHSP
Schooners Bar and Grill
Fast Trax
Clear Blast Inc.
Clearview Tree Service
Hallack Contracting
Video Plus
Dads Automotive

Know the facts: Child Sexual Abuse

- It is estimated that **1 in 4 girls** and **1 in 6 boys** are sexually abused before their 18th birthdays.
- **1 in 5** children are sexually solicited while on the Internet.
- Almost **70%** of all reported sexual assaults (including assaults on adults) occur to children ages 17 and under.
- Approximately **20%** of the victims of sexual abuse are **under age eight**.
- Those who sexually abuse children are drawn to settings where they can gain easy access to children, such as sports leagues, faith centers, clubs, and schools.
- **Most child victims never report the abuse.**
- People who abuse children look and act just like everyone else. In fact, they often go out of their way to appear trustworthy to gain access to children.
- Sexually abused children who keep it a secret or who "tell" and are not believed are at greater risk than the general population for psychological, emotional, social, and physical problems, often lasting into adulthood.
- It is also likely that you know an abuser. The greatest risk to children doesn't come from strangers but from friends and family.



This information was found through the organization *Darkness to Light: Preventing Child Sexual Abuse*. More information can be found on their website <http://www.d2l.org>

Volunteer Spotlight: Paula Gruber

By: Andrea Morrell, Child Advocate

Paula Gruber has been a volunteer for the André Bosse Center since August of 2010 and has most recently been volunteering as a parent time monitor in the Ludington office. About her experiences here she said "The center does a good job working with its volunteers, making them feel appreciated." Paula worked for 32 years as Probation Officer, most of that time in the Grand Rapids area. Her experience and training make her a perfect fit here at the center as a monitor of supervised visitations where she notes appropriate and inappropriate parent-child interactions including: discipline techniques, discussion topics and parenting skills along with many other observations.

In her free time Paula enjoys a variety of activities, both outdoors and indoors. Canoeing, kayaking and boating are a few of her preferred outside endeavors and at home she is fond of cooking and entertaining guests. She also said that she and her husband travel all over the country in their fifth wheel, and like seeing new places. A couple of those places they have visited are California and Chicago, where their two daughters live.

Paula explained that she really gets a kick out of monitoring but that she also has interest in helping with events and fundraising if she can. She thinks that the André Bosse Center is an important and worthwhile organization. When asked about her contribution she said she was trying to help where she could and that, "Everyone should give back to the community."



Above: Volunteer Paula Gruber

Friday Family Fun Day

By: Theresa Palmer, Prevention Assistant

OJ DeJonge Middle School has a group of dedicated eighth graders who meet in the library once a week to plan their upcoming fair titled *Friday Family Fun Day*. Why? They're part of the Michigan Middle School Leadership Initiative (MMLI) and were challenged to create and implement a civic action project within their community. The group includes: Ryan Bowen, Eric Janowiak, Jacob Janowiak, Jacquelyn Lynch, Tony Pianto, Jessica Schoof, Chelsea Sobanski, Spencer Tenney, and their advisor Amy Marsh.

This group came together last summer at Camp Miniwanca where they learned a variety of leadership skills. About camp they said, "It was new and different... exciting to work both together and alone." Then at the end of camp they were given their task: to start from scratch and create a vision, a mission, then take action in their community to support their mission. First they worked on creating their vision, "We, the leaders of OJ DeJonge Middle School seek to create deep friendships, live a lifestyle of honor, leadership, and strength. We encourage those around us to flourish and commit to make a positive change in our greater community." The next step was to create their mission; to find something they all felt strongly about doing which wasn't difficult for them. "Everything we came up with was oriented towards families and kids."

The MMLI leaders of OJ DeJonge decided on creating, organizing and running a family fair. They chose to use the proceeds as a donation to a local agency that helps both families and kids, and chose the André Bosse Center as that agency. Amy Marsh said, "The point is really to sponsor an activity for families to come and enjoy, but they're excited about raising money for the André Bosse Center too."

Friday Family Fun Day will take place on **Friday May 20 from 4:00-6:00pm**, and kids of all ages (with their parents) are welcome. There will be activities for all ages throughout **OJ DeJonge Middle school** and outside as well. Those include: fire safety presentation by the Ludington Fire Department, face painting, field games and a cake walk among many others that are still being developed. The MMLI group is keeping the price low so that everyone can enjoy the fair, the cost will be **\$2.00 per person or \$5.00 per family** to get in and gain full access to the fair.

Please come out to have a good time and show your support to the André Bosse Center, to the MMLI group, to OJ DeJonge Middle School and to your community!



Pictured above: OJ DeJonge Middle School's MMLI Leadership group smiling at one of their lunch meetings.



One Down, One to Go!

Our amazing volunteers raised the money to have this beautiful picture created and framed for our Hart office. We're so thankful to have such a fabulous portrait of André for everyone to enjoy today and into the future.

Now we're working towards raising the funds for another portrait to display in our Ludington office. How exciting to be fully operational in two counties, to be able to serve a wider population full-time. Any donation would be greatly appreciated to help us reach our goal and keep the memory of André alive!

Please contact Ludington for more information or to make a donation: (231)845-0506

CLASSIFIEDS

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Parking will take place on nearly every weekend this summer at Val Du Lakes and will be on both Friday and Saturday nights. If you are interested in volunteering to assist with parking, you will be required to be present one hour prior to gates opening and stay until the lot supervisor feels that parking has ceased for the event.

Individuals: At that time, you will receive a pass which will give you access to the concert grounds as well as Val Du Lakes Bar and Grill.

Groups: . For evening events, André Bosse Center will donate \$500 to your organization for your participation. For all-day events, André Bosse Center will donate \$250 to your organization for each 4 hour time slot covered by your group.

1. For individuals: Passes must be signed in and out each evening.
2. Appropriate attire must be worn while parking the cars. A t-shirt will be provided identifying you as a volunteer. Closed toed shoes are necessary while volunteering.
3. A Waiver of Liability must be signed and on record with André Bosse Center.
4. You must attend one training session with André Bosse Center staff.

Additional inquiries may be directed at the André Bosse Center staff at:
231-873-1707

JOBS AVAILABLE

The André Bosse Center has many ongoing jobs/projects that anyone interested can help with at any time.

- Detail cleaning on a regular basis
- Tech Support: working with network and computer related issues.
- Toy sanitation
- Light maintenance including indoor and outdoor improvement and repair.

Although these are not the most sought after duties, they're necessary to maintain national accreditation and any help would be greatly appreciated.

If you're interested please contact:
Ludington: Melissa (231)845-0506



WISH LISTS

Ludington:

- Kitchen Sink
- Hot water/ someone to look at our hot water heater.
- Board Games
- Toys indoor & outdoor
- Outdoor play structures
- Clocks for visitation rooms (2)
- Small Desk
- 18 Gal Rubbermaid totes
- Toy boxes (2)
- Snacks and Juice boxes
- Trash Bags--13 Gallon, and 30 Gallon sizes

Hart:

- Outdoor toys
- Canopy Cover for Playground
- Large Plastic Climbing Structure
- Large Rubbermaid Tub for outdoor storage
- Clocks for visitation rooms (4)
- Toilet Paper
- Juice boxes
- Individually Packaged Snacks
- Cleaning Supplies
- Trash Bags--4 Gallon, 13 Gallon, and 30 Gallon sizes



Did you know?

Nearly half of all volunteers (47%) say volunteering has improved their physical health and fitness.

Cheyenne Hall...One of André's Angels

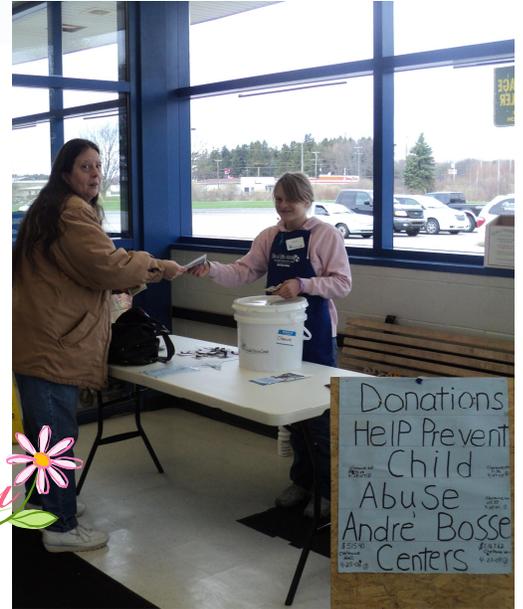
By: Kerri Klepser, Fund Development Director

On Saturday, April 30th, 11 year old Cheyanne Hall set up a table in the vestibule of Shop-N-Save in Ludington Michigan and asked passersby's for donations to the André Bosse Center. Cheyanne has raised money for the center since 2005, totaling over \$2,000.00 over the years.

This year, in four short hours Cheyanne raised over \$280 and handed out dozens of flyers and blue ribbons to support Child Abuse Prevention Month. When asked what motivates her to be so dedicated to raising money for the André Bosse Center, She explained that it's important to her to do everything she can to help kids.

Cheyenne has additional fundraising ideas to continue helping today and into the future. She plans on having an activity at Friday Night Live in downtown Ludington throughout the summer. She's also interested in forming a kids fundraising committee to get other youth in the community motivated to helping the cause. **We want to tell Cheyanne that we appreciate her support, perseverance, passion and action in raising money to help prevent child abuse!**

Thank You



Above: Cheyanne Hall at the Ludington Shop-N-Save on April 30, 2011, collecting donations for the André Bosse Center.

What every Parent Should Know

By: Melissa Ackerberg, Office Manager

With summer sneaking around the corner, more than likely your family will be spending some time at the beach or local waterpark. Wherever your road may lead you during this beautiful season please remember to stay informed. As parents/caregivers we may find that keeping our children safe is a constant challenge. When it comes to Law enforcement working to find a missing child, an up-to-date photo and proper identification is key. Here are some tools to assure that you always have up-to-date information on hand.

Every six months take a photo of your child

Included with that photo should be...

- Hair color
- Eye color
- Weight
- Height
- Date of Birth
- Unique physical attributes such as eyeglasses, braces, or piercings



Cool Coins for Kids: It all Adds Up

By: Mary Dehaan-Hiddema, Program Director

The Cool Coins for Kids Campaign took place from April 4 through the 29th. Participating in this year's campaign were both Thomas Read Elementary School and New Era Elementary School. The top classes in each school will be treated to either fruit smoothies or ice cream sundaes! The aim of Cool Coins For Kids was to have Students compete by class in an effort to bring in the most coins to fill their class bucket. Each classroom was given the opportunity to make their own goal and rewards, and as a surprise the top class at each school will be given the party by the André Bosse Center. This year's funds will be used to purchase new school curriculum for the Prevention Program.

And the results are in! Great Job Everyone!

Top 3 Classes:

1. Mr. Mikkelson (New Era)--\$73.02—5th Grade
2. Mrs. Brozek (Thomas Read)--\$69.15—1st Grade
3. Mrs. Rohrer (New Era)--\$52.95—5th Grade

School Totals:

Thomas Read Elementary School--\$312.36

New Era Elementary School--\$272.98



The Champions4Children Walk began in 2007 and is being held in a number of States throughout the Midwest Region. The Michigan Chapter of the National Children's Alliance is coordinating the walks in Michigan to raise awareness about child abuse and to provide funding to continue to support children's advocacy centers across Michigan. The design of the Walk has evolved over the years, and we are excited about the format for this year. Each CAC now has the opportunity to host the Walk in its own community, increasing the number of individuals who can participate and empowering each center to share the important work they do.

Ludington Walk Saturday, May 21 2011. Registration 8:00am, Walk 9:00am. The walk will start and end in Stearns Park in Ludington, Michigan. To register to walk and/or pledge your support go to <http://mivoice4kids.org> and click on the sneakers.

AmeriCorps VISTA's Year of Service comes to an End

By: Theresa Palmer, Prevention Assistant

Leah Anton has become a familiar face around both the Hart and Ludington André Bosse Centers since last June, when she came onboard as the Volunteer Coordinator. She spent her year discovering new volunteers, coordinating activities that involved volunteers, developing an orientation and new volunteer training program among many other activities and tasks. Leah said that during her year she most enjoyed, "Learning both about how different agencies and people interconnect and function. It has been a privilege to know every person I've met, to learn each thing I have ascertained, and to absorb each experience I have had here."

From here, Leah is continuing her work in the public service sector. She has begun working as a family investigator through Child Protective Services (CPS) in Kent County. We're fully confident that with her education background in Criminal Justice and her year of experience here at the Andre Bosse Center, Leah will be an important asset/addition to CPS. Thanks Leah for all that you've done. Good luck and excellent adventures to you. You will be missed!

For any questions about volunteering at the André Bosse Center you should now contact: Krista Pierson in Hart (231)873-1707 or Melissa Ackerberg in Ludington (231)845-0506.



Leah Anton, ABC's Volunteer Coordinator since June 2010.

New Business Alliance Partner: Mason County District Library

By: Kerri Klepser, Fund Development Director



Above: Pinwheel garden at the Ludington Public Library to raise community awareness about Child Abuse Prevention efforts.

Our newest member to join André's Alliance is the *Mason County District Library*. Check out their upcoming event!

Genealogy Classes Available at Mason County District Library

Mason County District Library will hold an Advanced Genealogy class Monday, May 9, 6:00 pm and a Beginning Genealogy class Tuesday May 10, 6:00 pm at the Ludington Library. Beginning family researchers will learn how to get started, what resources are available at the library and on the web. They will learn how to locate and use other local resources for their research. Space is limited. **REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.** Please call 231-843-8465 to register. All Mason County District Library programs are free.

Val Du Lakes "RISE OF THE PHOENIX"
TICKETS ON SALE NOW!
 ValDuLakes.com/SaraEvans
 (888) 718 - 4253

André Bosse Center
 child abuse prevention and victim services

First Annual André' Bosse Center Fund-Raiser Concert

Special Guest

DANNY GOKEY

Sara Evans

"I Could Not Ask For More"
"Suds In The Bucket"
"A Little Bit Stronger"
"No Place That Far"
"Born To Fly"

June 4th
 38 Special
 Molly Hatchet

June 10th-11th
 Summer Soundfest
 2011

June 18th
 Collective Soul
 Better Than Ezra

June 25th
 "An Eve with a
 Gin & Tonic"

MAY 28TH

View complete concert listings by visiting ValDuLakes.com



302 Hanson St • Hart, MI 49420
 (231) 873-1707 • (231) 873-8687 fax

905 E Ludington Ave • Ludington, MI 49431
 (231) 845-0506 • (231) 845-9496 fax