

The View



FALL 2010

There She Is ...

The Eighth Annual Chosen Vision Silent Auction and Dinner

This year's Annual Banquet and Silent Auction could indeed be called a gala event. Held at the Lansing Country Club in their Ballroom, the whole scene just glittered! Adding to the suspense of the evening was our beautiful & talented guest speaker/performer, Kirsten Haglund, Miss America 2008, and 3 very special trips to be raffled off later in the evening.

Located around the perimeter of the room were treasures our own Robert and Sandy Tallian and their friends gathered and displayed for the Silent Auction. There was a great deal of interest in the auction, and many people alternately circled the room and hovered over their favorite things.

An early highlight in the evening was when Miss Haglund gave individual introductions as each of the six ladies of Chosen Vision entered the ballroom beauty-queen style. And if that wasn't enough to boost the energy in the room, each one also received a lovely tiara and "beauty-queen" sash.

After a beautifully prepared and presented dinner and dessert were served, our featured speaker addressed the Banquet. Miss Haglund spoke about the cause near to her heart of helping people with eating disorders and how that relates to others with special needs. She visited the Chosen Vision home and was impressed with what she found there, a real family home environment with caring staff, a place where residents have daily devotions and staff endeavors to customize activities for them, rather than play the TV all day long.

Miss Haglund sang several songs, one of which was a duet with her father, and actually captivated her audience. Our raffle prizes, three wonderful trips to Mackinac Island, Fairfield, Tennessee, and Williamsburg, VA were drawn and announced, bringing the evening to an exciting conclusion.

Each of you who attended were noticed and you blessed our hearts greatly. We hope you had as much fun as we did. We're looking forward to even more wonderful people joining our "Chosen Vision family" in 2011! Please keep us in mind as you make your end-of-the year charitable gifts. Forty-two percent of our operations are funded solely by donations. **We so appreciate all you do!**



by Melanie Dart

Dear Jim and the Board of Chosen Vision,

I hope this finds you all doing well! I just wanted to write and let you know what an incredible experience being part of this year's gala was for me. Thank you so very much for having me as a part of the event; it was a joy and a blessing to speak and sing, meet your amazing women, and share in the work God has called you all to do. I was so touched by your dedication to and deep love for the women at Chosen Vision and cannot wait to see how God continues to bless CV and all the people whose lives you touch.

Thank you for sharing your time, talents, and your hearts and for inviting me to be a small part of the journey.



Wishing you many blessings...

Love
Kirsten Haglund

Chosen Vision Silent Auction and Dinner



A Call To Action

In the 2007-2011 Michigan Developmental Disabilities State Plan, it is estimated that 1.8 percent of Michigan's citizens have development disabilities. That's 182,175 individuals! Yet, there are a limited number of residences available for these adults. As longevity increases in our society, the housing needs for this growing population of developmentally disabled adults far exceed the resources available – and those accessible facilities tend to be secular in nature.

Chosen Vision offers a Christian alternative – a lifestyle grounded on biblically based Christian values

and standards. The success of our first home in Grand Ledge has encouraged us to replicate this arrangement with a second home in the greater Lansing area, 'Chosen Vision-DeWitt.' Through a generous donation of a beautiful walkout building site and over \$100,000 of in-kind construction donations, we have a good financial foundation in place. But, our goal is to complete the construction of the home debt free! The \$550,000 budget for this home includes not just the lot (which has already been donated), but covers the cost of construction,

furnishing, window treatments, and decorating, so that the home is "turnkey" for six (6) more very special residents in waiting.

God has been nudging our Board of Directors at Chosen Vision to build for the last five (5) years. Through the gift of a beautiful lot in DeWitt, the generosity of our builder, Tom Motz, the pouring in of in-kind donations through his subcontractors, and a \$50,000



pledge that will match any gift donated until December 31st, we feel God calling us to action to complete His plan!

Amy Russell, one of our six residents at Chosen Vision–Grand Ledge, will eventually be moving into our new home in DeWitt once completed. She wrote the following and shared it with us at a fundraising breakfast held on November 9th:

“When I came to Chosen Vision I was the only resident here. God sent me here to do my job to make this home more like Him. He sent more residents and more staff to help out in this ministry. God is in the making of opening up another home for Chosen Vision. It is the DeWitt home for girls. I am nervous about leaving our first home but God said that my work is not done yet.”

We need help!

We would like to raise a minimum of \$100,000 by the end of this year (we will begin construction once we have \$150,000 in cash and pledges donated). If you feel God’s nudge, please prayerfully consider partnering with us by making a donation towards ‘Chosen Vision – DeWitt.’

Feel free to use the enclosed envelope and designate your gift to “Chosen Vision – DeWitt” or call us at 517.622.0574.

LONG LAKE BAR AND GRILL

4th Annual Charity Golf Event

Long Lake Bar and Grill (LLB) held their 4th Annual Golf Scramble benefit for the Developmentally Disabled on August 22nd and Chosen Vision was selected as the Non Profit recipient.

Fifteen four man teams signed up and played in a four person scramble. There were prizes for first place, drives closest to the “squiggly” line and closest to the pin contests for both men and women. Everyone participated in the opportunity to purchase “mulligans” with many wishing they had taken advantage and bought more. At the end of the day everyone enjoyed a meal at the LLB.

Chosen Vision is extremely appreciative to Long Lake Bar owners Carole Wilson and Tim Prichard for their sponsorship and Cathy Baker, owner of Wicker Hills Golf Course, for hosting the event. The weather was perfect, everyone had a great time and \$1,000 was raised.



Sandy helping out with registration



Wicker Hills owner Cathy (center) with staff Thom and Beth



Lonnie, Tim and Vanessa taking a mulligan



13279 Audrey Lane
Grand Ledge, MI 48837
Ph: 517-622-0574
E-mail: chosenvision@comcast.net
www.chosenvision.org

Chairman's Corner

For most Christians, the several weeks prior to Christmas are known as Advent, from a Latin word meaning "coming". The observance of the season began in the late fifth century in Italy and Gaul, possibly earlier in Spain. During Advent, Christians are to be vigilant in waiting for the coming of the Lord.

On December 12, which is the third Sunday of Advent, Christians who use any of the common lectionaries (a list of Bible passages for reading, study or preaching in services of worship), will probably hear a reading on vigilance taken from Matthew 25: 1-13. This is the story of the ten maidens awaiting the arrival of the Bridegroom who was delayed. Five of the maidens were wise and brought enough oil so their lamps would burn through the night. Five were foolish and unprepared. When their lamps ran out of oil, the foolish maidens went to buy more. They were gone when the Bridegroom arrived and missed the

wedding celebration. The message in this story is that we should be vigilant and always prepared for the coming of God.

The Trustees of Chosen Vision have tried to be vigilant like the wise maidens as we plan to serve Christ. Our goal has been to serve the six special ladies at our existing home in a manner that will ensure that they are secure for the long term. At the same time, we have recognized the need for a second home to meet the greater needs of the community. The mortgage for the Chosen Vision home in Grand Ledge was paid off and has helped tremendously in reducing our operating expenses. There are always needs and we rely on the generosity of our donors to remain in the black and meet those needs. However, we now believe our vigilance has prepared the Chosen Vision Family to initiate plans for a second home to be located in Dewitt. The total cost for construction and furnishings will be \$550,000. We

have a commitment of \$150,000 (including property for the home valued at \$60,000 and donated construction costs of \$90,000). The Board is now seeking an additional \$100,000 before the end of the year (\$50,000 in donations plus a \$50,000 match). Once this goal is met, we will be approaching some of the larger foundations for grants.

Your generosity toward construction of a second home as well as the ongoing operations of Chosen Vision will be much appreciated. Our prayer, taken from Psalm 32:8, is that God will instruct us and teach us in the way we should go. And that He will provide council and watch over us as we seek to protect our current Chosen Vision family and to serve and make secure an additional six children of God who, with us, are also awaiting the coming of Christ, our Bridegroom.

Kalmin D. Smith, Ph.D.
Chairman