

CHILDREN'S HOMES, INC.

Fall 2020

SPECTRUM



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For more information, contact Gary Cupp at 870.239.4031, ext. 140 or email gary.cupp@childrenshomes.org.



Remembering James Balcom

From the Executive Director 4
He Led, We Followed

Family Finances 14
Building on a Legacy

Safe Ministry Minute 15
How To Plan A Fall Event in 2020

Label Collecting Notes 27
We Need Your Help!

On the cover: Former Children's Homes, Inc. Executive Director James Balcom, who passed away on July 12, 2020.

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SPECTRUM

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CONTINUED ON PAGE [5]

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He Led and We Followed

Note: *If you had the opportunity to attend our Homecoming on Sept. 26th or if you've had the chance to watch it online, you know that we didn't have near enough time to share all our thoughts and memories about James Balcom, who passed away July 12th. We have chosen to dedicate this newsletter to James and to say a few final words of appreciation.*

In August of 1987 following graduation from Freed-Hardeman University, I returned to Paragould to begin my first real job search of adulthood. Like most college graduates, I just knew the first person I went to see was going to embrace me and say "you are just what I was looking for – you're hired!"

While I didn't know exactly what I wanted to do with my degree, I did know that I preferred to work in a faith-based environment. My job search took me to Children's Homes, Inc. and to a man named James Balcom. I knew of James because I had gone to school with his children, but I didn't really know him. But, it didn't really matter because I knew he was going to fall in love with me from the first handshake.



I walked confidently into his office and touted my talents only to hear the words all new college graduates hate to hear... "you need to go get some experience." Deflated, I left his office and continued my job search. I eventually did find my first job followed by many more through the years. However, I never could get working at Children's

Homes, Inc. out of the back of my mind.

Nearly 13 years later after getting all that experience James said I needed, I was finally granted the opportunity to join the family at Children's Homes, Inc. in March of 2000.

From my first day of employment at Children's Homes, Inc. I was amazed at what James could accomplish. I have said many times that James was a visionary. James was also a leader. He didn't envision something then wait for everyone to bring it to fruition. He saw a path, then he led the way down that path, and we were happy to follow.

Now, to be very honest, James' ideas and paths didn't always turn out as he had hoped. I can remember a few times when he was bound and determined to do something that ended up not so great in the end. But, visionary leaders are willing to step out and try things even when they know they might fail. They are not fearful of failure. They are fearful of not trying.

The list of successful improvements at Children's Homes, Inc. under James' leadership is long. The list of things tried during his tenure is much longer. James never saw failure as the end. He viewed failure as a learning experience that led to a better success.

Through our years together, James and I developed a relationship that I can only liken to a relationship between a father and a son. I have been blessed with a biological father who is second to none. I was also blessed with a work father in James. He pushed me to grow in ways I didn't know were possible.

My relationship with James changed most significantly when he made the decision to retire from being the executive director. James knew things were changing in the non-profit world, and he just didn't want to go through those changes. While he didn't want to leave CHI, he no longer wanted the responsibility of the day-to-day operational duties. He often said, "We need to find someone with more attention to details."

When I went to James to express my interest in becoming the executive director, he leaned back in his desk chair and said, "I've just been waiting for you to come tell me." It was at that moment that I realized James had more faith in me than I did in myself. He saw potential in people and worked to draw out that potential. He recommended me as his replacement and the rest, as they say, is history.

For the next year, James and I spent a whole lot of time together. He was passing down to me what he thought were the most important things I needed to know as I transitioned into the role of executive director. One would think we filled that year with lots of paperwork and lessons about financial statements and licensing standards, but we didn't. James had built a team of people who were very talented in all these areas. He was more concerned with passing down his relationships to me.

He took me to see the people who had been his support system for so many years. He wanted them to know he had faith in me. He wanted them to support me like they did him. We weren't out raising funds. We were raising friends. If you were James-approved, you were approved.

Of course, we also made a point to stop at every Dairy Queen we could in our travels. James loved ice cream. It intrigued me how he knew the location of every Dairy Queen. We would be traveling down an interstate and he would say, "There's a Dairy Queen on the left in two exits."

James mentored me into becoming his replacement. That mentoring didn't stop in September of 2004 when I officially became executive director. James didn't walk away from CHI. He became a full-time friend raiser and a personal advisor.

He was always available when something arose for which I needed help or advice. I turned to James a lot in the early years until I got my feet under me. I didn't always need an answer. Many times I just needed a listening ear from someone who had walked the path I was going down before me. James was to me what Vance Greenway was to him.

As the years passed and James' health began to decline, he wasn't able to come to the office too often. But, he continued to send me messages of encouragement through emails and messages from Charlene. While I didn't see him, I always knew he was in my corner and praying for me.

James was loved and followed by thousands of people who shared his vision for Christian childcare. He rallied people to support this ministry because he helped people see how children were not being cared for as God would want. He worked to make life better for children. He loved to see them finally smile when life was good. He was not a perfect man, but he was a great man.

His desire to help children spread way beyond Children's Homes, Inc. James felt all children everywhere should have better lives, so he set out to strengthen standards for caring for hurting children. He often bragged (in a good way) about being appointed to the Arkansas Child Welfare Agency Review Board by five governors. He was recognized

See MICAH on page 27

BALCOM, JAMES WARREN

Mr & Mrs Tommy Arnold, Mr & Mrs Bill Arnold, Rob & Cindy Barnett, Tommy, Christy & Alyssa Blakeney, Mr & Mrs Roger Blue, Mr & Mrs Roy L Bowers, Carolyn Bowman, Mr & Mrs Larry A Brinkley, Micah & Kelli Brinkley, Bill, Kathy & David Brunkhardt, Dr & Mrs Jerry Butler, Patty Camp, Glendora Casteel, Mr & Mrs Jim Chester, Mr & Mrs Gary Clayton, Horace Coleman, Mr & Mrs Cletis Collins, Mr & Mrs Charles L Conley, Jr, Darlene Cooper, Randy Green, Loretta Cox, Mr & Mrs Norman Cozort, Bonita Crabtree, Mr & Mrs Wayne Crossno, Jeanette Dickinson, John R Dockery, Mr & Mrs Billy Wayne Edwards, Mr & Mrs Don Ewing, Mr & Mrs George Fain & Family, Betty Finley, Mr & Mrs Royce Flowers, Janie Flynn, Mr & Mrs Danny Ford, Mr & Mrs Billy Gammel, Mr & Mrs Marvin Garner, Mr & Mrs Bob George, Southern Christian Homes, Morrilton, AR, Barry Greenway, Mr & Mrs Dennis Gregory, Mr & Mrs Randy Griffin, Shirley Henson, Pat Hicks, Arvil & Sally Hill, Nancy Frances Hite, Priscilla Hobby, Mr & Mrs Michael Holland, Sue Hollis, Mr & Mrs James Howell, Mr & Mrs Ronald A Hudoba, Mr & Mrs William H Hunter, Mr & Mrs Jerry Jetton, Mr & Mrs Joe V Johnson, Mr & Mrs Richard Johnson, James E Joice, Mr & Mrs Michael Keck, Mr & Mrs Richard Kemp, Mr & Mrs Robert Ketchum, Billy King, Mr & Mrs Theotis King, John W Knight, Ed Land, Mr & Mrs Jim Laney, Mr & Mrs Raymond Lasley, Mr & Mrs Chris Lehman, Mr & Mrs James Lindstrom, Green Forest Church of Christ, Green Forest, AR, Sharon Long, Gary & Linda Looney, Mr & Mrs Carl Lovelady, Dr & Mrs Mike Lucas, James E Luna, Glenn Madden, Tina Matheny, Mr & Mrs Mac Mathis, Tommie Mayse, Susie McConnell, Mr & Mrs Dennis McDowell, Viva Drive Church of Christ, Trumann, AR, Mr & Mrs Jeffrey McKinnon, Mr & Mrs Jim McMillon, Mr & Mrs Johnny McMin, Lauri McNew, Barbara Mearing, Mr & Mrs Joe Messick, Mr & Mrs David Moore, Don Moseley, Owen B & Wanda Jo Moseley, Mr & Mrs Weldon Parkinson, Mr & Mrs Larry Petty, Arbyrd Church of Christ, Arbyrd, MO, Mr & Mrs Joe Pillow, United Free Will Baptist Church, Walnut Ridge, AR, Mr & Mrs Walt Powell, Mr & Mrs Don Pranger, Martha Rainey, Mr & Mrs Trey Reely, Louise Rhynes, Naomi Rieben, Byron Rippy, Mr & Mrs Harry B Risinger Jr, Bonnie Robb, Mr & Mrs Paul Schandavel, Doug Shepherd, Mr & Mrs Lloyd David Smith, Mr & Mrs Glenn Smith, Mr & Mrs Michael Smith, Mr & Mrs Emmett Smith, III, Mr & Mrs Alton C Smith, Mr & Mrs Byron Sparkman, Lena Spillman, Mr & Mrs Frank Stepp, Ruth Steward, Dr & Mrs Jeff Stidman, Jones & Company LTD, Jonesboro, AR, Irene Summitt, Mr & Mrs Adam Sweeney, Mr & Mrs Tom Taylor, Mr & Mrs Harry Vredingburgh, Mr & Mrs Jim E Wagster, Mr & Mrs Thomas L Wesche & Family, Watersprings Ranch, Inc, Texarkana, AR, Linda S Wheeler, Mr & Mrs Bobby White, Mr & Mrs Keith White, Mr & Mrs Jesse W Whitmire, David & Cindy Wood, Mr & Mrs Steve Worrell, Mr & Mrs Ted York

CONTINUED ON PAGE [16]

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James Balcom poses with two jars full of change during the early days of the Change for Children campaign.

CHI VISIONARY JAMES BALCOM PASSES AWAY

On an otherwise calm Sunday evening in July, Children's Homes, Inc.'s executive director Micah Brinkley sent out a message to CHI employees that we were all dreading.

There's a sad inevitability to the combination of illness and age. Everyone who received that message knew it had been looming for a couple of years. That knowledge didn't make the words sting any less.

James Balcom had passed away.

The tributes and kind words started flowing freely mere minutes after the news hit.

One employee called James "A true hero for thousands of kids and fearless defender of pure

religion." Another shared, "What an example he has set for the rest of us!"

The quickest way to refer to James is to call him CHI's former director. But he wore many hats. He started with CHI as a houseparent. Then he was instrumental in Children's Homes beginning to facilitate adoptions and foster care. He hatched the plan to start the Change for Children campaign that has raised more than \$6.5 million in donations. CHI accumulated a list of most of the achievements met during his tenure, and it's an impressive list (His obituary featured on page 7 covers several of them.) What we're focusing on in this edition of *Spectrum* is memories of the man, not necessarily his accomplishments (though they are many).

In addition to bringing about so many accomplishments for CHI, James was a recruiter, a cheerleader, a mentor, a father figure, a jokester, a friend and a fine Christian example. Which one of those roles was most prominent would depend on who you're asking. And that's what we're interested in with this issue of *Spectrum* — hearing from the individuals he impacted. And they are many.

What almost everyone mentions when recalling James is his sense of humor. That's why we think he'd approve of the headline to the left for its multiple meanings. Yes, he's holding jars of coins or change. There's the joke, the part that might have gotten a giggle out of James — if we were lucky. The serious part lies in how he will be remembered — as a man who was committed to bringing about a change for the better for countless children in need and as a man that saw good in others (often when they didn't see it themselves) and knew just how to spark them to change

and live up to their potential.

We've gathered recollections from many who have worked with him over the years. You'll see those stories and memories over the next several pages, with photos sprinkled in here and there. We also have a final message of sorts from James himself in the form of his mission and vision statement he wrote in the 1990s.

In conjunction with our annual Homecoming, 7th and Mueller Church of Christ hosted a celebration of James' life on Sept. 26. Video of the event is available on Children's Homes, Inc.'s Facebook page and website (childrenshomes.org) for those who were unable to attend or view the live stream. It's our wish that this edition be an extension of that heartwarming event.

So grab a tissue or two, take a moment and join us as we remember our former leader, our friend, our Agent of Change — James Balcom.

JAMES BALCOM • 1938-2020

James Warren Balcom, 81, passed from this life at his home in Paragould, Ark., on July 12, 2020, with his beloved wife, Charlene, by his side. He was born Sept. 26, 1938, in Trumann, Ark., to Tom Lester Balcom and Eltha Pearl Lee Balcom.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Lester Balcom and Charles Balcom.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Charlene Lee Balcom of the home, his children, Veda and Randy Smith of Glendale, Ariz., Walter Balcom of Walnut Ridge, Ark., Blair and Stacy Balcom of Fairdealing, Mo., Martha Balcom of Paragould, Ark., and Warren Balcom of Little Rock, Ark.; 23 grandchildren, 36 great grandchildren, a sister, Lou Balcom Fain (George) of Ocean Springs, Miss., a brother, Tommy Balcom (Brenda) of Trumann, Ark., and several nieces and nephews.

James worked at Children's



Homes, Inc. over a span of 50+ years as a houseparent, foster parent, social worker, Executive Director and Executive Director Emeritus. Many of the current programs of Children's Homes, Inc. were implemented under James' oversight. He was a visionary.

He was also a private business owner at one point and a teacher, having taught English and Spanish at Crowley's Ridge Academy early

on in his career. He also served for a short period of time in the United States Navy.

Even after his 'retirement' from paid work, he remained on the job encouraging people to support the ministry at Children's Homes, Inc. until his health no longer permitted him to do so.

He served on numerous state and national committees and boards that worked to protect children by strengthening the policies that provide care for those children. One such board was Arkansas' Child Welfare Agency Review Board, of which we was a founding member and served by appointment under five governors. He put his heart and soul into helping children.

In his spare time, he loved to garden. He was well-known for canning fresh salsa and pickles. He also loved to tell a good story, and his laugh was infectious.

James Balcom was one of my dad's favorite people. Before I met James, Dad said, "I have a friend I want you to meet. He is one of the kindest men I have known." James lived up to his reputation. I knew I would love him ... Dad said I would!

James Balcom became one of my favorite people. I wonder how many times we will read that as multitudes of people are processing their mixture of grief and joy for our dear friend.

We were sitting at a Wendy's in Paragould when James and Leo Rainey asked me to work with Families First Foundation. I was just overwhelmed with their persuasion ... "Bill, we need someone to work with FFF, and you're someone!"

In regard to the founding of FFF, the names of James and Leo must be spoken together. Both of them had tremendous passion for their personal ministries (Children's Homes and Spanish Ministry). We were blessed with the overflow of their enthusiasm, dedication, and leadership. James chose the name for FFF.

James must have invented the smile! He was rarely without one. His laughter was infectious ... especially following one of his jokes! My favorite was that he had something in common with the apostle Paul — James said he "buffeted" (as in eating) his body daily! Seriously, he had more in common with Paul than that, but James would have denied it.

Thanks, Dad, for introducing me to your friend. He became my friend!

Thank you, Charlene, for freely sharing James with us! Our love to you, the children, and all the family. Thank you, Lord, for our dear friend, James. You knew him before birth, and we are sure that you are pleased to have your child home.

— **Bill Wheeler, Families First Foundation**

My first memory of James Balcom is when we moved to Children's Homes as house parents. He greeted us as though we were best friends and we hadn't seen each other in years. He asked about relations and found out that he has known our family for many years. He was excited and happy to see us every time we talked after that and wanted to know that we were doing well.

— **Andy Warren, Houseparent, BLC teacher**



James in a work pose at his desk.

James and I were faculty members at CRA when he and Charlene first came to the children's home. During those years I taught several of the Balcom children. After I retired from CRA, I had the privilege of being associated with him as he allowed me to teach at the BLC for the last twenty-two years. Nothing but positive memories come from our long association. He is missed.

— **Betty Gatlin, BLC teacher**

You won't find a better person than James Balcom. He was genuinely concerned about others. After talking to him, you came away feeling encouraged and better. You probably would have heard a good joke or story, too. He was instrumental in making life better for countless kids and adults. Personally, at a time in my life when everything was turned upside down, he gave me a chance to put life back on a meaningful course and made a tremendous difference for me. Many others could say the same thing.

— **Richard Yeazel, Farm Maintenance**



James addresses the crowd at a CHI event.

My association with James Balcom goes way back to when I was preaching at West Plains in the 1990's. I would jokingly tell James, "You have to come in May and kick off this Change for Children Campaign or this church is not going to participate". He would tell his staff to "save him a Wednesday night for Arvil."

James and Charlene would drive to West Plains, he would preach, then we would distribute the cans. Afterwards a group would go to the Dairy Queen and the blind man Bill Burris would buy us all ice cream. He and James would joke with each other until Charlene would say, "James, we need to go."

I started with CHI as the gardener. James was a super gardener so this put our bonds even closer.

Our first area-wide fellowship fish fry was at Salem, Arkansas. James was already very sick, but he had to go. He was to ride home with Sally and me. She started to get in the back seat, but James said he wanted to ride in the back and sleep. However that man talked all the way home. He was so excited-- 135 people from 12 congregations came to support the children in our care. What memories!

Bad health began to close James down. About once a week I would drive him to Jonesboro for his cancer treatment. We got to visit.

James Balcom—a great man, a great friend, a great example, a great Christian, a great leader, a great lover of children!

— Arvil Hill, Development Representative

Eighteen years ago, God crossed my path with a man that little did I know would become a friend that mentored me in my life as a husband, father and Christian. Seeing James at the office, I saw his pure devotion to those served in this ministry and a personal respect was born.

As time went by and my sons became teenagers, James began to ask for assistance with tasks around his home. Our relationship started simple —me taking my boys to help someone in need. What started out as mowing a lawn, fixing a leaky faucet or helping in a garden led to shared talks, laughs and a friendship.

My youngest also called Mr. James her friend. Abby was three when we came to work with CHI, and she was constantly going on jobs with me growing up. Many times throughout the day, we would have to stop at the Community Involvement Center. I always knew without a doubt, when it was time to leave, that I would find Abby safe in James' office. They'd be talking, sharing stories or fussing over who would put who in time out. She loved visiting James because he invested in her time and love on such a simple level.

As my boys grew up and moved to college, our connection with James and Charlene only deepened. I came to know I was loved by this couple, and my children were blessed to be treated as family. Somewhere along the way the Balcoms became our family, too. And going over to check on James or help around their home became an honor and reason to stay a while and spend time with a man I had come to admire in so many ways. I always made sure to allow extra time when I went because I came to love listening to his stories. His wisdom, joy and laughter were not matched by another!

James had a genuine care for others. He was always looking to be a blessing to others. Like every time I visited, he would not let me leave until I agreed to take some pickles. I never had the heart to tell him I did not like pickles, but I guess he knows now! James, I want you to know that I always found someone to enjoy them, so they were not wasted. Thank you for being my friend and, above all, a man of God. I love you and will miss you. Till we see each other again.

— Perry Baker, CHI Maintenance Supervisor

In an example of what seemed like really bad timing, I started working at Children's Homes, Inc. two days after James' final day of official employment. For a couple of months, all I knew of James was the vacant office with the giant desk that was a couple of doors away from mine and a handful of plaques, photos and certificates that graced the hall leading up to it. I met Charlene on my first day, but I suppose the scene was being set for James to make a dramatic entrance.

It took a couple of months, but we finally did meet. As more evidence of bad timing, James was ill from the moment I met him. The first lengthy interaction I had with him came in the form of his going away party, which was delayed a couple of times due to bad weather. When CHI was finally able to wish him a fond farewell, he had already been gone nearly three months.

More bad timing. Or maybe not. If it had happened when it was supposed to, I would have missed out on the event entirely. As it was, some of my first impressions of the man were affected by his fellow employees sharing epic, heartwarming and usually hilarious stories about him. It was then that I started to grasp what James meant to Children's Homes, Inc. Sure, he implemented so many of the programs that are in place, but a person could do all that and not necessarily be loved or even liked. James was adored. It wouldn't take long before I figured out why.

James may well have been the king of the encouragers. After a couple of newsletters, which I put together, James got word to me how nice he thought it looked. He'd email me on occasion to remind me, and then when his health declined where he didn't feel like emailing any more, he'd send word through Charlene every so often. A compliment from anyone is a nice little boost. A compliment from James could probably carry a person right through life, because you knew he wouldn't say it if he didn't mean it deeply. I wonder just how many people he pushed to great things who might otherwise not have accomplished much without his well-timed encouragement. With that in mind, I can't complain that the timing of my start at CHI might have been a little off. Late or not, I was able to meet him and know him a little, and that is a huge blessing.

— Adam Sweeney, Director of Media Relations



James and Alyssa at the Strengths and Service celebration in 2019.

My very first memory of James was when I was a little girl at Nettleton Church of Christ. He came to speak about Children's Homes, Inc., and I remember always looking forward to him coming. He was always so friendly and paid attention to me even though I was a little kid.

My next distinct memory of him was when Micah Brinkley took over as the Executive Director in 2004. The change occurred at Homecoming that year. I was 9 years old, and my little 9 year old brain thought that Micah was James' son. Now thinking back on it, I know why. James treated Micah (and everyone) with the love a father had for his children. James had so much confidence in Micah that day, and he made it evident even to me as a little girl.

My next memory was when I started working at CHI three years ago. Growing up, generations of family members had supported CHI with donations and volunteer time and now I was working here. He was so proud of me and told me so. He had confidence in me that I was going to do my very best here even when I doubted my abilities. It made me feel special.

I was talking to a co-worker about our memories of James. It wasn't until talking to her that I realized how much James always shifted the attention away from him. He always paid attention to others and made them feel special. That's why I feel this year's Homecoming and this issue of *Spectrum* are so important, because we can honor a man who loved others and God more than himself. I hope we can all learn from his example.

— Alyssa Blakeney, Therapeutic Caseworker

James Balcom taught me how to advocate for youth described in James 1:27 at state and federal levels of government, how to influence legislation to protect children and the significance of my vote at the ballot box. James and I also fought to protect the church's mandate to practice pure religion in a society increasingly becoming secular.

I Corinthians 4:7 defines humility as "realizing that God and others are responsible for the achievements in my life." James mentored me like a father would his son. He demanded I take risks and supported me when the outcomes were negative. James showed me how to make tough decisions and handle failure, learn from it, and move forward. He taught me to accept change, adapt and rely on the unchanging God of heaven. He implored me to duplicate myself. Pass onto others what you've learned from me.

In sum, James taught me how to be a mature Christian man. James trained me to advocate for children from hard places in Arkansas, around the



Paul Schandavel embraces James at his 2014 "Roast" and going away party.

nation, and in locations around the world. He taught me to look up instead of down, forward instead of backwards, and to take risks because change is inevitable but God is always there to make happen what we thought could never happen: Isaiah 40:31.

— Paul Schandavel, Director of Child and Family Services

It's very difficult to take a life of someone like James and distill it down into a few short words. Suffice it to say that he was driven and determined to make a difference, particularly for those less fortunate. In that regard, James is one of the most successful people I've ever known.

James was a friend. We shared many good times working and traveling together with lots of jokes, laughs and stories. He loved double chocolate milk shakes! I will miss arriving home after a trip with James and pretending with Charlene that we had both been good and had not stopped at Dairy Queen on the way home.

James was a mentor. He saw great value in sharing the past through many examples of sacrifice and hard work by others who laid the foundation for the work done at CHI. He instilled in me an appreciation for the past and a desire to move forward and explore ways to improve our ministry. James also introduced me to many new friends. He loved people and taught me it's best to be a "friend raiser" rather than a "fundraiser". Because of this approach I now have many friends that are some of the best people on the planet and I very much enjoy staying connected with them as partners in the work at CHI.

James was a visionary and a leader. He was never

satisfied with the status quo and was driven to try new things with a mindset that "we can always do better." For many of his employees, this approach was, at times, frustrating and sometimes downright scary. He would push his employees to get out of our comfort zones and try to do things we'd never done before. However, he allowed mistakes and was very supportive when they occurred. Due to his leadership and vision, Children's Homes blazed a trail that many others would follow and the ripple effect will be felt for generations to come.

He loved staying connected and hearing from former residents who'd become successful adults and were actually putting into practice the skills and attributes that so many on the CHI team worked to instill. He was proud of them and I'm certain his pride encouraged them to continue to stay on the right path.

I've wondered if, as a child, James Balcom may have felt a sense of destiny when he heard the words of another James....., James 1:27.

His legacy will live for many generations and we should all take note of the lessons we can learn from the good attributes James embodied. I look forward to seeing him again, someday.

— Gary Cupp, Director of Development

Richard and I first met James when we came the CHI in 2001. Paul brought us up to his office to meet him for him to give his final approval for us to be hired as houseparents. I knew right away that he would become one of my favorite people. Such a personality! I loved his sense of humor. He could tell a story better than just about anyone. To sum up all of what I loved about him is nearly impossible. The thing that sticks most with me today is the love he had for his family, his CHI Family, and all the children. A life dedicated to serving them and making a difference for the lives of those who could not do it for themselves. He will sure be missed. But, his influence is still within all of us who knew him and we will all be together with him again some great day.

— **Carla Lemmons, Office Manager**



James and Charlene at James' 80th birthday celebration.

James Balcom was a man of integrity, who loved his God, his wife, his family. He had a great love and compassion toward those less fortunate. He felt grateful for what the Lord had provided him, and wanted to share his blessing with others.

James had a great love for children, as they did for him. He wanted them to know happiness and success. He had time for them and listened intently to what they said. And they loved him. He was always trying to think of ways and programs to help make lives better for our children and to secure the future of Children's Homes so children he would never know might profit from his hard work and vision. Many nights when I left work, he was still at the office, talking to others about CHI, trying to think of ways to improve the lives of the children he served. Many vacations were working vacations because he could not go anywhere without trying to tell others about Children's Homes. He has blessed more lives that we will ever know.

James loved to sing and would sometimes go down the hallway singing 'God has smiled on me, He has set me free. God has smiled on me, He's been good to me.' He loved to garden and cook.

I and others have been the recipients of jars of pickles and salsa. But oh, the messes he left in the kitchen for Charlene to clean up! (She always forgave him.)

Change for Children was his baby and he labeled those of us who worked at counting the change his 'Change Gang,' pulling from an old song. He even encouraged healthy competition between some of the churches to be the top giver for Change for Children a particular year. It was not unusual for him to call a church and say that "so and so' church had given the most money, but if you gave 'X amount,' you would be the top church instead of them." Then laugh. Sometimes it worked!

James seemed to always have a smile on his face and a twinkle in his eye. He had an infectious, mischievous laugh and he loved to tell stories. James loved people and he drew people to him. He made people feel comfortable and they wanted to be around him. James could see the best in people, their potential, and influenced people for good. He was an encourager to me, I loved him, and I will always be thankful he brought me to Children's Homes.

— **Cindy Barnett, Administrative Assistant**

NOTE:

James' coworkers and friends had even more to say about him. To see their remembrances in their entirety visit childrenshomes.org.

When God made James Balcom, he broke the mold! Yes, James Balcom was one of a kind! And one can't think of James without thinking of Charlene! They worked tirelessly side by side (like few couples can) to influence the lives of numerous children. This couple was surely a blessing to anyone they came into contact with.

When I think of James I think of that BIG infectious smile followed by a joke and then the laughter. It seemed like he had an endless supply of jokes. I often thought, "How can anyone remember all of these jokes? He must have a Rolodex organized in categories in his head ready to be accessed in a moment's

notice." I recall at times when being a few cents off on the financial statement he would offer me a dime out of his pocket with of course a smile and a chuckle.

James and Charlene have certainly had an impact on mine and many others' lives. Cindy and I have been blessed to have known and worked with such a man (and woman) with a passion for children and families! We will never be the same for sharing in this journey alongside James. You're in our hearts, and you will be deeply missed.

I thank my God every time I remember you.

Philippians 1:3

— **David & Cindy Wood, Director of Finance,
BLC Supervisor**

James' Mission and Vision

James Balcom's Mission Statement: My mission is to provide, improve, and increase services to fatherless children, and to encourage others to be more involved in helping them find happiness and hope in Christ.

My Vision Statement: I am spending my time on earth making a home for my own family and for as many homeless children as I can. I spend each day improving in some area that enhances my vision. I organize, direct, and encourage others, find resources for children, locate capable, service-minded staff and volunteers that help me fulfill my vision and my mission. Because of my drive and determination, more children will be cared for more adequately and be lead to a saving relationship with Jesus.

I am finding others who want to be a part of our organization, either through direct services, through helping financially or volunteering their services. I feel good that what I am doing is making a difference in the world. I dream of days when no child has to be homeless, and no child is abused – knowing full well that that will be in heaven, where all of God's children will be home with a loving Father and Brother who will provide for all of our needs and there will be no more tears from the children.

I am blessed with a loving mate who works alongside of me as a true helpmeet, and who shares in my vision. She has helped soften some of my impulses and helped me to slow down enough to allow others the opportunity to grow and develop. She has been

a mother to some 18 children at different times and provided a warm home and atmosphere for me, our five children and many orphans.

God has blessed me with reasonably good health that has permitted me to work all hours of the day and night and get enough rest to permit me to keep on toward my goal. God has blessed me immeasurably and I believe that this is His mission for me, and for which He has endowed me with talents.

I work with a spiritually minded board of directors who encourage and support our mutual mission. They act as a sounding board and offer mature wisdom in solving problems and planning for the future. They welcome input from staff, my advisory council members, volunteers, strategic planning committee members, and me.

I assembled a like-minded spiritual staff of servants who manage Children's Homes and who help me stay on course. I am responsible to God, the board of directors, staff, our supporting churches, individuals, businesses, community, referring agencies and regulatory organizations for a quality program remembering that,

"For this is your lot in life and in your toilsome labor under the sun. Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might." Eccl. 9:9-10.

I am blessed.

**James Balcom, Executive Director
Father's Day, 1995**

Building on a Legacy

The dictionary would define legacy as a gift or a bequest that is handed down, endowed or conveyed from one person to another. It is something descendible one receives that has been transmitted or inherited.

What does it mean to leave a legacy? In simple terms, a legacy is passed from one generation to the next and often refers to gifts of money or property. However, a legacy can go far beyond just money or property. A personal legacy is often undervalued and underappreciated but may be the most important and longest lasting gift you are able to pass on to the younger generation.

On July 12, 2020, James Balcom rested from his work on this earth and began singing with the saints. James spent over 50 years working for and with Children's Homes. He filled many positions, including Executive Director for 19 years and Director Emeritus for 8 years.

At the recent memorial service honoring James, many good things were said about him and his years of service. While James and Charlene have given many dollars to CHI over the years, the comments that stood out to me were the ones that talked about James' ability to make everyone feel important, special. And how James' passion for Children's Homes inspired everyone around him to be better. James was a dreamer and an innovator. He was determined to see that Children's Homes would continue to serve needy children long after he was gone.

James Balcom has left a legacy worth far more than dollars. His passion for a mission not only has changed the lives of the children who have passed through CHI but it has also changed the people who worked with him.

Hearing all of the comments about James made me rethink about how you build a family legacy. Legacies are built by keeping and building family traditions. It's telling the stories of past generations. It is emphasizing the most important values in your life, the things you are passionate about. My father was adamant about teaching me 3 key family values:

1. Love the Lord
2. Respect the other person
3. Hard work will not kill you

He lived his life by these three tenets, and I witnessed that life every day. The old saying "I would rather see a sermon practiced than hear one any day" is so true. Not only did I know what my father valued, I know what James Balcom valued by the life

they lived.

So I ask myself, "Do my children or my friends know what I am passionate about? If so, how do they know?" Matthew 6:21 says, "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (NKJV)." If we think about the meaning of this, it is saying you will come to love (a.k.a. be passionate about) the things in which you invest. If you were to pass from this earth today, what is the legacy you would leave behind?

Talk to your family and friends. Let them know the things that mean the most to you. Write them a letter and put it with your will. Describe in that letter why you are passionate about certain things. It will be the last thing you say to them, and trust me, they will read and keep it.

There are many ways to show your passion for missions and organizations; volunteering and donating funds are two of the most common. Many people have found that in these uncertain times, it is not as easy to donate immediate dollars but thanks to some 2020 tax law changes, there are new ways to pass dollars to charities that may have been going to taxes.

Children's Homes, Inc. is pleased to offer our friends and supporters a values-based estate planning service from an expert estate planning advisor. Frank Stepp of Thompson & Associates meets with and assists families or individuals as they navigate through various planning-related issues. There is no obligation on your part and everything you say is held in confidence. For more information, please contact Gary Cupp, Director of Development at Children's Homes, Inc. by phone at 870-239-4031, ext. 140, or via email at gary.cupp@childrenshomes.org.

**FRANK
STEPP**

Senior VP
THOMPSON & ASSOCIATES



SAFE MINISTRY MINUTE

HOW TO PLAN A FALL FESTIVAL IN 2020

Ensure a Sweet Time by Minding Tips on Social Distancing

Wondering if you can still host a fall festival, trunk-or-treat, or similar event this year? It depends on where you live, as well as how much risk you're willing to assume. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that you assess the current COVID-19 levels in your community before making that call. If local health officials allow gatherings amid COVID-19, offering low-risk activities that follow CDC recommendations may give your community a small taste of "normal." With some creativity, your church or school may be able to modify one or more of its autumn traditions.

Lower the Risk Posed by Traditional Activities

Many Fall traditions, such as hayrides, trick-or-treating, and trunk-or-treat events, are being discouraged this year by the CDC. It says people should avoid these higher risk activities to help prevent the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19. It also offers alternatives that reduce the risk. The lowest risk activities involve staying at home.

If your ministry decides to host an event this fall, despite the risk, it's important to take precautions designed to limit the possible spread of disease. For starters, limit the number of people who can attend your event, based on recommendations set by your local health department. One way might be to require advance registration and give people assigned arrival times. Next, require everyone to wear protective face coverings. A costume mask should not replace a protective mask.

Finally, take additional measures to lower the risk of infection by hosting an outdoor event with appropriate social distancing and sanitation. See the CDC's recommendations on hosting gatherings.

Parking Precautions

Much like the drive-in worship services some churches offered this year, it's important to provide adequate space between cars. This can be done by staggering occupied spaces in a parking lot or by making sure vehicles are at least six feet apart.

You'll want to clearly designate and secure separate areas for the following:

- Decorated cars participating in the trunk-or-treat
- Parking for families who are bringing their kids
- An area for games/food, etc.

To prevent accidents that can happen when children mix with cars:

Have a designated time for people to get their decorated cars in place before the event starts and a designated time to pull their cars out after the event ends. This minimizes car movement during the event. Remind participants to keep their cars turned off for the entire event. Ensure all children are a safe distance away before allowing cars to move. Watch for children darting into unsecured areas.

Considerations for Volunteers

Many volunteers will be necessary for the event to proceed smoothly. Consider how many you will need to do the following:

- Guide decorated vehicles to their spaces for the trunk-or-treat
- Direct traffic in and out of your parking lot
- Limit event attendance, per your local health department
- Control the flow of participants

Remind guests to stay home if they have been exposed to COVID-19 in the past 14 days or are showing COVID-19 symptoms.



"There is a little more chill in the air and the leaves will begin to change colors as our church and ministry activities turn to outdoor and festive events. Fall is here! In light of COVID-19, I believe our path forward is not to eliminate these opportunities for ministry and outreach but rather that we take the proper precautions to ensure the safety of those we serve. The information provided above from Brotherhood Mutual will help insure that your fall ministry activities are safe. May God bless you as you continue to reach those with the Good News of the gospel this fall.."

*~Kurt Hetherington
President, James Greene & Associates*



*James Greene & Associates is an independent agency representing
Brotherhood Mutual Insurance Company.*



An agency representing

[memorial & honor gifts]



These Memorial Gifts and Gifts of Honor were received between **June 1 and August 31, 2020**. All gifts received between **September 1 and November 30** will be included in the Winter 2021 edition of our newsletter.

If you have questions about a Memorial or Honor Gift, please contact **Cindy Barnett** at **870-239-4031, ext. 127**, or reach her via email at **cindy.barnett@childrenshomes.org**.

You can make Memorial & Honor Gifts online at www.childrenshomes.org

Continued from Page 5 [full listings began on Page 3]...

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Violet Bahr

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Mr & Mrs Charles V Broadway,
Martha Rainey

BAKER, HENRY & GLENDA

Mr & Mrs James R Baker

BAKER, PATRICIA

Lenna L Williams

BALL, ARNOLD C. 'BUDDY'

Mr & Mrs Gary Cobb

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BARNETT, LEROY, JR. & WANDA

Rob & Cindy Barnett

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Daughters: Doris, Mary & Ramonda

BARRINGER, WANDA

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BAYNUM, REBECCA

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Renell Beach

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BELL, LEE ROY

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BINYON, HAROLD D.

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Ken L Bittle

BITTLE, MIVA

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BLEDSON, BILL

Mr & Mrs Tim Isaacs

BOATWRIGHT, RONALD

Linda Ray, Sue Shumate

BOEHMS, DAVID

Fayoma Boehms

BOEHMS, KENNETH

Fayoma Boehms

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BOUNDS, PAULINE FAYE

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Betty J Smith

BOUTZ, EVERETT

Beverly Bond, Bonnie Boutz, Betty
J Smith

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House Springs Church of Christ,
House Springs, MO

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Evalou Bowles

BOYD, GLEN

Betty Boyd

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Rachel, Garth, Corey & Carson Walt
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& Terri Butler, Clint Butler Family,
Threlkeld Family, Virginia Butler,
Megan Moody, Blake Butler, Mr &
Mrs John M Clark, Ordis & Patti
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Family, Billie Finley, Members of
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Christ, North Little Rock, AR, Fran
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Oss, Mr & Mrs Bryan Pistorius, Sue
Pyland, Walt Selakovich, Raymond
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Freddie Talbert, Mr & Mrs David
Tipton, Dr & Mrs Kent Westbrook,
Sherry Wilmans, Mr & Mrs Tom
Winberry, Kaye Wood

BUTLER, JOANN CHILCUTT

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& Family

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Mr & Mrs Charles V Broadway

CALDWELL, PATRICIA

Dale Caldwell

CAMPBELL, BILL

Mr & Mrs David Campbell

CAMPBELL, HERBERT

Melissa Collins

CAMPBELL, JAMES

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CASTEEL, ERVIL

Glendora Casteel

CASTEEL, JOYCE

Glendora Casteel

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London, Sharon Long, Mr & Mrs

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CONTI, FRANCES Mr & Mrs Bryan R White Jr	CURTIS, FRANCIS 'BURL' Carolyn Bowman, Mr & Mrs Wayne Milner	DILLS, RHEA DEAN EVERETT Mammoth Spring Class of 1961, Mammoth Spring, AR	FARRELL, FAIRY Mr & Mrs Tim Isaacs
CONWAY, D.L. Mr & Mrs David Campbell, Mr & Mrs James Howell	DALLAS, JERRY DAVID Ronnie & Lance Huey	DINGLER, DIANE The Rebsamen Family: Al, Pat, Carole, Susan & Rick	FAULK, CLEDA LEA Glenda Sue Watson & Family
COOK, RAY WILLIAM Mr & Mrs Larry Pendergrass	DAME, DAVID Mr & Mrs Jim Barnett, Mr & Mrs David Branstetter, Mr & Mrs Bob Burns, Mr & Mrs Tom Carlile, Mr & Mrs David Diemer, Mr & Mrs Leroy Johnson, Marie Phillips, Mr & Mrs Elbert Shirley, Fran Troy, Kathy Varnell	DIRDEN, MURIEL Dexter Church of Christ, Dexter, MO	FAUST, FRED Mr & Mrs John Fielek, Jr
		DODSON, NORMA Tommy, Christy & Alyssa Blakeney	FERGUSON, CARMELITA ROSE Carolyn Bowman
		DONALDSON, KELLY Coleen Wilson	FERRELL, JIMMY James E Luna
		DONATO, MARGARET James E Luna	FIELD, DONALD R. Shirley Field
		DOOLEY, ANGIE Mr & Mrs Bob Adamson	FINLEY, BRENDA Fred Burris
		DOSSETT, DAVID Mr & Mrs Perry Gilroy	

FINLEY, RON Billie Finley	GEHRING, ROY ZANE Tommy, Christy & Alyssa Blakeney, Mr & Mrs Cletis Collins, Owen B & Wanda Jo Moseley	GOSS, ARLENE NOBLE Loretta Metzger	Madison, Bryley & Caleb
FISHER, NANCY J. Jerry W Fisher	GENTRY, HANNAH Mr & Mrs Bryan R White Jr	GOWER, HAZEL LAVERN Jo Beth Anderson, William L Gower, Mr & Mrs Jeffrey Kornegay, Mr & Mrs David Olbricht	HALE, NORMAN FISHER, SR. Hamilton, Cherry, Spradlin & Mandrell LTD, Searcy, AR, Gum Springs Fire Dept., Searcy, AR, Carolyn Bowman, Bill, Jeannie, Megan & Sierra Bright, Mr & Mrs Jim Brown, Magneto ER Aircraft Ignition Service, Bald Knob, AR, Mr & Mrs Dennis Clem, Dr & Mrs Richard Duke, Mary Hale, Mr & Mrs Dale Knox, Nancy O'Brien, Edwina Pace, Gwen J Wells
FLETCHER, FLOY DALE Mr & Mrs George E Hulett Jr	GEORGE, BILLY RAY Canal Barge Company, Inc., New Orleans, LA, Martha Jean Durham, Mary Anne Hayes, Mr & Mrs Michael Holland, Robbye McManus, Patrice Riviere	GRABLE, RALPH Claudette Grable Smith	HALEY, WILMA Slicer St Church of Christ, Kennett, MO
FORD, MANUEL Max Rothe	GEURIN, KENNETH Tommy, Christy & Alyssa Blakeney	GRADY, RONNIE TROY Mr & Mrs Rex George, The Children of F.M. & Virgia Simpson: Nolen, Alma, Melvin, Gary, Larry & Sherry & Their Families, Don Grimes, Danna J Haywood, Mr & Mrs Trent Holcomb, Sandra Hollis, Mr & Mrs Larry Moody, Bob & Lisa Mullins, Jim Rogers, JoNell Sale, TeJuana Turner, Mr & Mrs Jeff Watson, Glenda Sue Watson & Family, Cathy Smart Williams, Steven Wright, Mr & Mrs Borden Wright, Rickey Wylie, Mike Wylie, Stephen Tate	NIECE OF THELMA HAM Billie B Pryce
FORD, SALLY Central Church of Christ, West Plains, MO	GIBSON, LINDA LOU Mr & Mrs Robert Simpson	GRADY, HUNTER HOUSTON Mr & Mrs J B Parker Jr	HAMILTON, JIM Mr & Mrs Wayne Vickery
FORT, FLOYD Deniese Evans	GILBERT, LEON Mr & Mrs Jim Barnett	GRADY, JAMES 'JIM' FORREST Eileen N Grant, Mr & Mrs George Rowlett, Mr & Mrs Gerald Shearer, Possum Grape Church of Christ, Bradford, AR, Cindy Wolfe	HAMMERSHOI, EBBE Mr & Mrs Glen Braswell
FOSHEE, JAY Carolyn Holloway	GILBRETH, BILL Doyle Crawford	GRAHAM, MARY SUE Marlene Bryant, Mr & Mrs Steve Lambert	HAMRICK, ANN Mr & Mrs James Dunn
FOSTER, SUSIE Jean Taylor	GILLIHAN, GEORGE Mr & Mrs Buddy Jones	GRANT, CHARLOTTE TINSLEY Harold Tinsley	HANCOCK, BETTY LOU Barbara Slaughter
FOSTER, THOMAS 'TOM' Elizabeth Elledge, Mr & Mrs Darrell Fears	GILLMORE, LARRY DEAN Mr & Mrs Charles V Broadway	GRAUL, KATIE LOU BACK Sue Hawkins, Debbie Smith, Les Weatherford	HARLAN, VINA BELLE Mr & Mrs Rodger Harlan
FOUTS, HOLLY Mr & Mrs Samuel L Ware Sr	GIRTMAN, IRMA DEAN GRADY Mr & Mrs Warren C Cook, Sean & Lora Graddy, Ronnie & Belinda Graddy, The Children of F.M. & Virgia Simpson: Nolen, Alma, Melvin, Gary, Larry & Sherry & Their Families, Carolyn Griffith, Mr & Mrs Don Grimes, Greenway Church of Christ, Greenway, AR, Mr & Mrs Richard Horner, Beverly Irby, Donna McDowell, Steve & Misty Rhine, JoNell Sale, TeJuana Turner, Rickey Wylie, Mike Wylie, Stephen Wylie	GRAUL, WILLIAM JOSEPH 'BILL' Les Weatherford	HARRIS, DARYLL Warren Smith & Family
FRANCIS, JANIS Mr & Mrs Jim Ladd	GLENN, JOHN VERNON Mr & Mrs Glen Braswell	GREEN, HELEN MARIE Darlene Cooper, Randy Green, Mr & Mrs Ralph King	HARRIS, RHONDA ALEXANDER Tommy, Christy & Alyssa Blakeney
FRANKLIN, NELDA Lorene Reed	GLIDEWELL, DENNIS Mr & Mrs Larry Ziegler	GREEN, ULUSS J. Darlene Cooper, Randy Green	HARVEY, CAROLYN Mr & Mrs Charles V Broadway, Mr & Mrs Preston Floyd, Marvin Ross
FRANKS, WINIFRED Mr & Mrs Wayne Vickery	GLOVER, TOMMY Charlene Balcom, Mr & Mrs Wayne Camp, Mr & Mrs Donald Coggin, Mr & Mrs Robert Covington, Mr & Mrs Dennis Downs, Mr & Mrs Earl Gunn, C & I Electrical Supply, Jonesboro, AR, Bobbie Harrison, Donna G Loggins, Mr & Mrs Shane Peeler, Mr & Mrs Jerry Pickering, Mr & Mrs Joe E Smith & Family, Mr & Mrs Freddie A. Thomas, Jackie Winningham	GREENWAY, IVA BERNELLE Dr & Mrs Mike Lucas	HARVEY, PATSY SUE WALKER Mr & Mrs Chris Dudley
FRAZIER, MELVIN SR. Mr & Mrs Samuel L Ware Sr	GOFF, CHARLES DEAN Mr & Mrs Boris Dover, David L Goff, Kay Goff, Trent, Bethany, Will & Ben Hanna, Mary Ann Goff Jackson, Walter Julian, Mr & Mrs David Magouyrk, First Community Bank, Batesville, AR	GREENWAY, VANCE E., SR. Mr & Mrs Jim Laney, Dr & Mrs Mike Lucas	HATFIELD, GAYLIN Mr & Mrs Jerrel Lillard
FREELAND, JUANITA Mr & Mrs Victor Eskew	GOODE, JOHN C. Bobby Kasserman, First National Bank, Paragould, AR, Jason Tritch	GRIFFIN, SYBIL Dr & Mrs Jeff Stidman	HATTENHAUER, FRED Mr & Mrs Glen Swindle
FRIZZELL, BEVERLY BUCY Mr & Mrs Robert Baggett, Tommy, Christy & Alyssa Blakeney, Mr & Mrs Rex Brazell, Mr & Mrs Jim Brown, Billie Finley, Mr & Mrs Danny French, Mr & Mrs Mickey Griffin, Dana Hayes, Mr & Mrs Joe V Johnson, Mr & Mrs John T Mack, Mr & Mrs Paul Morgan, Don Moseley, Owen B & Wanda Jo Moseley, Mr & Mrs Arlus Trice	GOODMAN, ERNESTINE Mary Bacon, Mr & Mrs David Branstetter, Mr & Mrs Bob Burns, Mr & Mrs Ralph Cross, Mr & Mrs David Diemer, Sharon Qualls, Mr & Mrs Jesse W Whitmire, Rhonda Woods	GRISHAM, ROBERT Newark Class of 1957, Newark, AR	HAWKINS, STANLEY Rob & Cindy Barnett
FROUD, HOWARD WINSTON William, Diane & Shaw Brewer, Mr & Mrs David Burt, NAI Capstone Commercial, Rogers, AR, Lucille Daggett, Mr & Mrs Jim Fuller, Rachel Gibbs, Mr & Mrs Joe Goldman, Jo McMinn, Mr & Mrs Carl Miller, Mr & Mrs Edward Mosby, Mr & Mrs Elvis Vaughn, Mr & Mrs Wayne Vickery	GROGAN, MARY RUTH DAY Margaret Stroud Adams, Mr & Mrs Wayne Vickery	GRIFFIN, SYBIL Dr & Mrs Jeff Stidman	HAYES, JANICE Billie B Pryce
FULKERSON, PAT COLLINS Estella Smith	GROVE, JAMIE Mary Burris	GRIGSBY, RUTH HELLEN Mr & Mrs Orbert Snedeker	HAYS, EVIE CLAIRE Mr & Mrs John Sinclair
FULLER, ARLENE Barbara Davenport	GURLEY, VIRGINIA A. Mr & Mrs Donald Coggin	GRISHAM, ROBERT Newark Class of 1957, Newark, AR	HAYS, JENSEN ALAN Mr & Mrs John Sinclair
FUREIGH, JOE Mr & Mrs Chris Fureigh	HADDICK, MINNIE HERLONG Mr & Mrs Bryan R White Jr	GROGAN, MARY RUTH DAY Margaret Stroud Adams, Mr & Mrs Wayne Vickery	HAYS, JOY ELIZABETH Mr & Mrs John Sinclair
FUTRELL, JOHN PHILLIP Mr & Mrs Joe Goldman	HAGER, EARL Mr & Mrs Mike Dunn	GROVE, JAMIE Mary Burris	HEARD, TONY Sheridan Church of Christ, Sheridan, AR
GARNER, ELIZABETH ANNE 'LIZ' Mr & Mrs Charles V Broadway, Mr & Mrs Ernest N Sturdivant	HAGUE, LOIS Shirley Lawrence	GURLEY, VIRGINIA A. Mr & Mrs Donald Coggin	HELEN, SISTER OF LINDA RAKES Joann Pierce
GATLIN, HARVEY DEAN Rob & Cindy Barnett	HALE, CHASE KENNEDY Noral, Janell & Brad Stamps, Stacey,	GRIGSBY, RUTH HELLEN Mr & Mrs Orbert Snedeker	HELLUMS, JEFFIE LEE Mr & Mrs Buddy Jones
GATLIN, JERRY JACK Mr & Mrs Wayne Crossno		GRISHAM, ROBERT Newark Class of 1957, Newark, AR	HELSTEN, MARY BELLE Carolyn Bowman
GEER, THOMAS CARTER, JR. Mr & Mrs Dennis Herren		GROGAN, MARY RUTH DAY Margaret Stroud Adams, Mr & Mrs Wayne Vickery	HENRY, GERALD DAVID Mr & Mrs Jason Chandler

HEWES, EULETA WHITWORTH

Hazel Rice

HEWETT, FRANCES NEELY

Evelyn Bolin, The Heath Family Reunion, Mr & Mrs Cletis Collins, Cynthia Cooper, Mr & Mrs Bill Fagala, Mr & Mrs Jack Gammon, The Halsey Family: Jerry, Cheri, Taylor, Olivia & Barbara, Ida Hewett, Mr & Mrs Paul Higginbottom, Sherry Kimberling & Family, Mr & Mrs David Landis, Valerie Malone & Family, Mr & Mrs Garnet McDaniel, Ward St Church of Christ, Hardy, AR, Mr & Mrs Gevan Murphy, Dale, Amy & Nora Neely, Mr & Mrs Keith Neely, Cathy Simmons, Tracy, Gayla & Dakota Smith, Hardy Church of Christ, Hardy, AR, Mr & Mrs Darrell Whittingham, Southwest Church of Christ, Jonesboro, AR, Waddell, Cole & Jones PLLC, Jonesboro, AR

HEWETT, ROBERT LEWIS 'BOB'

Ida Hewett

HICKS, IVA ADA TURNEY

Mary Lou Murphree

HICKS, VIOLET

Mr & Mrs Samuel L Ware Sr

HIGGINS, DARLA

Emma Rowell

HILBURN, CHARLES DANNY

Jean Hilburn

HILBURN, CHARLES OWEN

Jean Hilburn

HILL, GENEVIEVE COX

JoNell Sale, TeJuana Turner

HILL, JUANITA LOUISE

Mr & Mrs Danny Ford

HINES, JUDY

Ufanell Jones

HINKLE, WILLIAM JR.

Mr & Mrs David Churchman, Mr & Mrs John M Clark, Mr & Mrs Raymond Davis, Mr & Mrs Herbert Heffington, Mr & Mrs Bob McCollum

HODGE, RUBY

Ginger Kelsey, Ginna Glisson

HOLDER, GAIL

Tommy, Christy & Alyssa Blakeney, Mr & Mrs Isaac B Daugherty, Mr & Mrs Bill Fagala, Mr & Mrs Dennis Gregory, Owen B & Wanda Jo Moseley

HOLLIMON, JOHN

Remona Bishop, Mr & Mrs Billy Wayne Edwards

HOLLIS, CHARLES ALBERT

Jennie Campbell, Mr & Mrs Sherman D Cullum

HONEYCUTT, LONNIE L.

Dellhalf Church of Christ, Myrtle, MO

HONEYCUTT, WILLENE

Mr & Mrs Jerry Bailey, Mr & Mrs Ervin L Curtis

HOOFMAN, RICHARD

Possum Grape Church of Christ, Bradford, AR

HOPPER, MORGAN

Noral & Janell Stamps, Brad, Stacey

& Madison, Mr & Mrs Kelly G Woods

HOUFF, LURTY & MARY LOU

Carolyn Bowman

HOWARD, AARON

Eileen Hoefer

HOWE, WILMA LEE

Employees of Paragould Light Water & Cable, Paragould, AR, Judy Routon

HUBBARD, HAZEL O.

Mr & Mrs Ryan Moody

HUDDLESTON, LOIS ANN

Camp Church of Christ, Camp, AR

HUDKINS, ARTHUR

Mr & Mrs Jim Stewart

HUDSON, DELMER

Mr & Mrs Garnet McDaniel

HUDSON, FAYE

Mr & Mrs Terry Duncan

HUGHES, JESSIE

Mr & Mrs Leroy Johnson

HUGHES, KENNY

Peggy Stone, Lyman Slatton

HUNDLEY, CARROLL

Nettleton Church of Christ, Jonesboro, AR, Pam White/Norma Dutton Sunday School Class, Walnut St Baptist Church, Jonesboro, AR, Jerrilyn Beeson, Mr & Mrs Don Berry, Evelyn Cashion, Markette Childers, Gary Childers, Jett Jones, The Medicine Shoppe, Jonesboro, AR, Linda Clark, Alfreda Davis, Janie Gilbert, Mr & Mrs Howard Grisham, Mr & Mrs Earl Gunn, Bobbie Harrison, Dan & Charolette Hesse, Mr & Mrs Barry Hesse, Mr & Mrs Jim Ladd, Jane Lamberson, Nelldene McFarland, Sandra Nall, Eddie, Onita & Kristi Thomas, Billie Turman, Dianna Way, Mr & Mrs Bruce West, 'Walking Buddies', Jonesboro, AR

HUNDLEY, RUBY LEE

Earl Flood

HUNT, JOHN ELIJAH

Jane Marie Woodruff

HUNTER, BONNIE RAE BALCH

Ronnie & Lance Huey

HURD, EULA

Mr & Mrs Lane Mills

HURLEY, SHELBY

Martha Flynn

HUTCHERSON, HAROLD

Mr & Mrs Arthur Leon Poor

HUTSON, LINZEL R.

Mr & Mrs John M Clark

INGLE, JOHN

Leslie Putman

INNESS, NEIL EUGENE

Ravenden Springs Church of Christ, Ravenden Springs, AR, Bethany Church of Christ, Ravenden, AR, Barbara Brown & Family, Lucille Doran, Mr & Mrs Phillip Huett, Mr & Mrs James L Inness, , Mr & Mrs James E Mooney, Mr & Mrs Carl Wells, John & Kay Welch

ISAACS, T.A. & HELEN

Mr & Mrs Tim Isaacs

JACKSON, ALBERT & VELMA

Elizabeth A Jones

JACKSON, BETTY LOU SCOTT

Doug Jordan, Jim Rogers

JACKSON, ELVIN & BERTHA

Elizabeth A Jones

JACKSON, LISA

Hardy Church of Christ, Hardy, AR

JACKSON, RAY ALLEN

Shirley Redwine, Mr & Mrs Emmett Smith, III, Leslie Throesch

JACKSON, TROY & ESTELEE

Elizabeth A Jones

JAMES, CHRISTINE

Nancy Banta

JAMISON, DALE

Mr & Mrs Jack Jamison

JAMISON, GALEN

Mr & Mrs Jack Jamison

JAMISON, JERRY

Mr & Mrs Jack Jamison

JOHNS, IMA

Mr & Mrs Wayne Vickery, Mr & Mrs Tom Winberry

JOHNSON, DONNIE

Eileen Hoefer, Mary Lynn

JOHNSON, JOE & WANDA

Don Moseley

JOHNSON, MARY ANN

James E Luna

JOHNSON, MEGAN & ANNA GRACE

Patsy D Jewell

JOHNSON, RAY

Central Church of Christ, West Plains, MO

JOHNSON, STANLEY

Mr & Mrs Kevin Eubanks

JOHNSON, TODD

Mr & Mrs Bryan R White Jr

JOHNSTON, PATRICIA LOUISE

Mr & Mrs Carlton Bryson

JONES, BELLE

Foothills Church of Christ, Searcy, AR

JONES, CLEO MEREDITH

Robert L Jones

JONES, DALE

James E Luna

JONES, EDWARD 'EDDIE'

Mr & Mrs Michael Holland, Mr & Mrs Gevan Murphy, Mr & Mrs Gerald Powell

JONES, ILLA JEAN EVANS

Dale Mobley

JONES, RAYMOND NEAL

Mr & Mrs Lyn Craig

JONES, REBECCA MURRIE

Godfrey Church of Christ, Godfrey, IL

JONES, SHERRILL 'BILL'

Mr & Mrs Mike Jones

JOPLIN, MARVINE GUILLIAMS

Mr & Mrs Jerry J Williams, Eileen Hoefer, Mr & Mrs Lyndal Joplin, Mr & Mrs Ken Kane, Mary Lynn, Mr & Mrs Charles Parker

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Deniese Evans

JUSTUS, MARY HELEN

Mr & Mrs Bryan R White Jr

KARNES, RUBY

Mr & Mrs Stan Dauck

KEENE, JAN

Louella Jacques Akers, Bobby Baker, Toni Brown, Kathleen Brown, Mr & Mrs Warren C Cook, Barbara Depew, Mr & Mrs Claude A Dill, Jonell Everett, Tommy & Tony Jacques, Mr & Mrs R L Henderson, Greenway Church of Christ, Greenway, AR, Sandra Hollis, Phyllis Huggins, Campbell Church of Christ, Campbell, MO, Mr & Mrs Michael Keene, Carleen Like, Mr & Mrs Scott Lovelady, Mr & Mrs Carl Lovelady, Mr & Mrs Tony Mann, Frances Minton, Vera Mae Mowery, Tony Neeley, Kathy Pitts, Marty Powers, JoNell Sale, Geraldine Sturges, Mr & Mrs Joe Swafford, Mr & Mrs Terry Tate, Mr & Mrs Larry Thompson, TeJuana Turner, Linda Hodge, Dale & Gale Wood

KELLUMS, LUCAS KASEY

Rob & Cindy Barnett, Bonnie Robb, Mr & Mrs Ted York

KELLY, MICHAEL S.

Dr & Mrs Robert J Kelly

KEMP, JACK

Mr & Mrs Ralph Cross

KENDRICK, DON

Evelyn Bolin & Family

KERSEY, BILL & BETTY

Larry Kersey

KERSEY, JOY FAYE TUCKER

Carolyn Bowman, Mr & Mrs Sam Casey

KEY, BILLY

Arbyrd Church of Christ, Arbyrd, MO

KIGHT, PAMELA K.

Mr & Mrs Johnny Nelms

KING, EVELYNN RENEE

Mr & Mrs Barry Sloan

KING, WILLIAM

Mr & Mrs James Dunn

KIRK, HELEN

Mr & Mrs Gene Reeves

KIRTLEY, KENNETH LEE

Mignon Sorrells

LAMBERSON, HAZEL

Mr & Mrs Cecil J Lamberson

LAMPLEY, LOIS

West End Church of Christ, St Charles, MO, Billie B Pryce

LANCASTER, PEGGY

Juanita Loftin

LANDIS, J.O.

Mr & Mrs David Landis

LANDS, KASSIDI MICHELE

Linda McNew

LANE, CHARLES 'NATE' & DOROTHY BARNETT

Ann Hamlett

LANGSTON, JOHN RUSSELL

Mr & Mrs Gordon Barnett, Mr & Mrs Larry Plumlee

LASHLEY, BOBBY

Charlene Balcom, Rob & Cindy Barnett, Mr & Mrs Charles L Conley, Jr, Loretta Cox, Mr & Mrs Michael Keck, Class 304, 7th & Mueller Church of Christ, Paragould, AR

LASTER, JOAN
 Mr & Mrs Danny Cordle
LAWRENCE, TOMMY D.
 Brant Perkins
LAWSON, CLETA
 Blythe C Graham
LAWSON, DELOY J.
 Rob & Cindy Barnett
LAWSON, ROSEMARY BARNETT
 Ann Hamlett
LEAMONS, BURL & CHARLENE
 Mr & Mrs Kim Clark
LEAMONS, DUANE
 Prescott Church of Christ, Prescott,
 AR
LEATH, BOYD & LORENE
 Jane Musick
LEAVINS, PAULINE
 Ronald Morris
LEISURE, LAURA SUE
 Ufanell Jones
LEONARD, PATSY
 Mr & Mrs Wayne Vickery
LESSLIE, LINDA JEAN
 JoNell Sale, TeJuana Turner
LESTER, LEANN KLINE
 David & Cindy Wood
LEWIS, MICHAEL
 Highway 77 Church of Christ,
 Marion, AR
LIKE, CARLENE
 Mr & Mrs Joe Swafford
LINCOLN, OPALINE
 Mr & Mrs Jerry Bunn, Eunice
 Francis, Beverly Johns,
 Westside Church of Christ,
 Jackson, MO, Phyllis Phillips,
 Mr & Mrs Joe Schlosser,
 Mr & Mrs Gus Wischmann,
 Tuesday Morning Golf Ladies
 of Kimbela Country Club,
 Jackson, MO
LINKER, VALERIE
 Elaine Lovelady, Mr & Mrs Gene
 Speights
LINTON, DOY & BLANCHE
 Mr & Mrs David Aldridge
LITTLETON, JOHN & THYRA LEE
 Bethlehem Church of Christ,
 Hazel, KY
LIVESAY, LEWIS R.
 Anetia Livesay
LIVESAY, LINDA GAIL
 Anetia Livesay
LIVINGSTON, BILLY RAY
 James E Luna
LONG, CHERYL LEE MEARING
 Jo Baker, Mr & Mrs Elbert
 Barnhart, Mr & Mrs Marvin
 Hodges, Jana Jones, Mr & Mrs
 Richard Kemp, Betty Wherry
LONG, MARY ANN
 Annis Burrow
LONG, RUBY
 Mr & Mrs Steve Boone
LOUVIERE, GARY
 Janie Scaife
LOWE, BARBARA
 Mr & Mrs Doug Lester

Around Campus



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Members of the girls' Pathfinders group practice using a compass in preparation for a hike; Guy works with a horse during equine therapy; In remembrance of Sept. 11, 2001, our Entrepreneurship class signed cards to deliver to area first responders. Brandon signs one of the cards; Some of the girls from the class delivered one of the cards. For more photos like these, visit and like Children's Homes, Inc. on Facebook.

LUTTMAN, JOHNNIE & LUCILLE

Ronnie Luttmann

LYLES, RICKEY L.

Mr & Mrs Danny Ford

LYLES, RUTH & ROBERT

Mr & Mrs Jim Ladd

MAHAN, CINDY

Mr & Mrs George E Hulett Jr

MALONE, ALFORD & EVELYN

Bobby Malone

MALONE, JANET

Mr & Mrs Johnny McMinn

MANIE, LINDA SMITH

Mr & Mrs Howard Henry, Mr & Mrs John Hensley, Mr & Mrs Steve Worrell

MARTHALER, MARY N.

Tracy, Gayla & Dakota Smith

MARTIN, BOB & BAY

Mr & Mrs Terry Duncan

MARTIN, CHARLIE

Mr & Mrs Charles V Broadway

MARTIN, MARY

Mr & Mrs Charles V Broadway

MARTIN, SARA VINCENT

Carroll & Shirley Hundley, Family of Leonard Scott, Billie Turman

MASON, CLIFFORD JAMES

Scott & Narda Kirkpatrick

MASON, KAY

Hershel Mason

MASSON, GRACE

James E Luna

MAXFIELD, JAMES O.

Mr & Mrs Randy Donelson

MAY, GLADYS

Mr & Mrs Frank Britt

MAYSE, JOAN

Pat & Shirley Casey

MAYSE, RALPH SR.

Tommie Mayse

MCABEE, ARVOL & GENEVA

Judy Feldman

MCADAMS, BETTY ANN

Mr & Mrs David Campbell, Sue Green, Mr & Mrs John McAdams

MCAFFEE, BOB

Mr & Mrs Tim Isaacs

MCBROOM, DONNA

Mr & Mrs Danny McCorkle

MCCALLUM, JOHNNY

Janie Scaife

MCCLAIN, THOMAS 'TOM' LYNN

Bert Turner, Johnnie Archer, Mr & Mrs Brian Burris, Mr & Mrs Mike Dunn, Mr & Mrs Darrell Fears, Mr & Mrs Bill Gay, Stephen Graves, Kay Graves, Alex & Kristen Griffith, Dudley & Martha Carter, Grant & Jessica Dasher, Casey & Ali Hill, Mr & Mrs Stephen Hatch, Karen Hughes, Nancy Knotts, Mr & Mrs David Luter, Phyllis McClain, Mr & Mrs Steve Moody, Carrie Morris, Mr & Mrs Paul Morris, Mr & Mrs Dwain Morris, James Seawel

MCCONNELL, HUGH EDWARD 'ED' II

Mr & Mrs Hugh E McConnell

MCCORMICK, BILLY J.

Fenter Northern

MCCORMICK, JOHNNIE N.

Fenter Northern

MCCOY, LOTTIE

Annis Burrow

MCCOY, THETUS BRYANT

Leanne Bland, Mr & Mrs Ron Matthews

MCCROSKEY, DANIEL RAY

Dr & Mrs Gary Buxton

MCCULLEY, JOHN

Arvil & Sally Hill

MCDOLE, CHARLES & FRANKIE

Mr & Mrs Ron Bramlett

MCDONALD, SETH

Mildred Cannon, Ethel Crum, Mr & Mrs Rick Gore, Slicer St Church of Christ, Kennett, MO, Mr & Mrs Ron Horton, Billy W Parker, Ron, Marla & Brandt Roberts

MCDONIEL, TROY

Mr & Mrs Bob Burns

MCDOWELL, JAMES

June Kerley

MCDOWELL, NANCY SALYER

Jayne Riley

MCGOWAN, SHIRLEY

Mr & Mrs Stan Dauck

MCKINNON, KEITH

Mr & Mrs Tim Isaacs

MCMILLIN, CHARLES EUGENE

Slicer St Church of Christ, Kennett, MO

MCMINN, VICKI

Carolyn Brannon, Mr & Mrs John M Clark, Sharon Long

MCNEW, CHARLES E.

Joan Niemeyer

MCNEW, RONDALL PAUL

Melissa Collins

MEADORS, JACK D.

Mr & Mrs Dwight Canfield

MEEKER, MELISSA WOOD

Anonymous Giver

MECKS, GAYNELL

Winston Meeks

MERIDITH, WILMA

Carolyn Meridith & Family

METHENY, PEYTON MATTHEW

Mr & Mrs Francis P Jones, Mr & Mrs Kim Metheny, Mr & Mrs Wayne Vickery

MICULKA, FAY

Mr & Mrs Richard Kemp, Mr & Mrs David Pitchford, Coleen Wilson

MIDDLETON, MURL

Mr & Mrs Jim Barnett

MILES, BOB

James E Luna

MILLER, ALVIN

Carletta Farley Brooks

MILLER, BILL

Mr & Mrs Terry Duncan

MILLER, MARY ANN ISAACS

Mr & Mrs Jim Ladd

MILLER, PATRICK

Deloris Shaw

MILLER, SUZANNE

Mr & Mrs Tim Isaacs

MILLS, BOB & OLEAN

Belinda Gresham

MILLS, PAM

Mr & Mrs Ken Coston

MINICK, JUSTON EUGENE

Mr & Mrs Kyle Butler

MINOR, WAYMON

Mr & Mrs David Campbell, Mr & Mrs James Howell

MIZE, HELEN

Mr & Mrs Tom King

MOLTHAN, MIKE

James E Luna

MONTGOMERY, GENEVRA LEAH HILL

Mr & Mrs Ensley Pettey

MOODY, DALE

Mr & Mrs Donald Coggin, Mr & Mrs Elbert Shirley

MOODY, JOHNNY BLAKE

Tonny Dement Featherston

MOODY, MICHAEL NEILL

Mr & Mrs Brian Burris

MOODY, RAYETTA

Tracy, Gayla & Dakota Smith

MOORE, BENNY DALE

Beverly Cosby, Charles H Couch, Johnson Church of Christ, Springdale, AR, Caroline De Briyn, Mr & Mrs Alan Fortenberry, Peggy Goff, Joan Swindle & Family, Ruth A Turner, Mr & Mrs Terry Wilson

MOORE, RAY

Mr & Mrs Jim Barnett

MOORE, RAYMOND

Lorene Reed

MORGAN, GILBERT

Mr & Mrs Danny Walker

MORGAN, LILLIAN LEE

Alfreda Davis

MORISAK, DOROTHY

Mr & Mrs Don Mosley

MORRIS, ALFRED & MOZELLE

Mr & Mrs Jerry Don Schimming

MORRIS, MARGARET

Mr & Mrs David Aldridge

MORRIS, MILES RAYMOND 'BUDDY'

Mr & Mrs Larry McDaniel

MOSELEY, L.B. 'BUCKETT' & LUCIE V.

'EVE'

Don Moseley

MOTT, HUEY

James E Luna

MULLEN, JOSEPH HARRISON JR.

Mr & Mrs James E Mullen

MULLENS, RED & ELLON

Mr & Mrs Sam Alexander

MURDOCK, BETTY FAY

Mr & Mrs Larry Green, Sarah Stallsworth

MURPHREE, GIVA

Mary Lou Murphree

MURPHREE, ODARE

Mary Lou Murphree

MURPHREE, OTTO

Mary Lou Murphree

MURPHY, RALPH & ELEANOR

Mr & Mrs Gevan Murphy

NEAL, PATRICIA KAY

Melissa Collins, Mr & Mrs Rick Gore, Mr & Mrs Robert Paine, Mr & Mrs Jim Stewart

NEWMAN, JIMMYE D.

Mr & Mrs Kyle Butler

NIELSEN, REBECCA WHITSON

Mr & Mrs Ty Parker

NIEMEYER, JOSEPH R.

Joan Niemeyer

NOLLEY, CHRISTINE

Remona Bishop

NORMA

Mr & Mrs Calvin Osborne

NORTH, STAFFORD

Mr & Mrs Charles Carter, Mr & Mrs William Oliver

NORTHCUTT, LOIS

Mr & Mrs Chris Dudley

NUNN, JERRY

Central Church of Christ, West Plains, MO

OLDHAM, GLYNN

James E Luna

OSMAN, TY HOWARD SR.

Don Moseley

OVERALL, MAVIS

Mr & Mrs Terry Abbott

PACE, ALICE ROSETTA TYLER

Mr & Mrs Michael Crouch

PACE, TERRY 'BO'

Mr & Mrs Tovia Auala, Mr & Mrs David Malone

PACE, GLEN

Karla Sue Campbell

PACE, PERRY JOE & VIRGINIA

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PACE, WILLIAM RECTOR

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PALMER, JERRY

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DuQuoin Church of Christ, DuQuoin, IL

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THOMAS, RICHIE
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Mrs Marvin Hodges, Mr & Mrs
Richard Kemp

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Knobel, AR

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Heffington, Mr & Mrs Rickey
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Mrs Denny Haddock

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WHEELER, ISAAC

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Greenway, AR

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Ralph Cross, Don Moseley

WILLIAMS, DAVID 'LONNIE'

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WILLIAMS, ELMER

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Sheridan, AR

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Jo Krallman

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ERIC & MIKI ALEXANDER 'FOR
YOUR YEARS OF DEDICATION TO
CHILDREN'S HOMES'

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Wilson

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Kathy Caruthers

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Kathy Caruthers

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Kathy Caruthers

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Wilson

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Mr & Mrs Richard Kemp

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Mr & Mrs Rex Watson

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DAY, DAD!'

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Karla Sue Campbell

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Coleen Wilson

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Mr & Mrs Jim Griffin

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Coleen Wilson

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YEARS OF DEDICATION TO CHILDREN'S
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LOWELL COX 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'
Coleen Wilson

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Glenna Gray

LYNELL DAVIS 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'
Coleen Wilson

JERRY DAWSON 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'
Coleen Wilson

SUE DAWSON 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'
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CHRIS DEMPSEY
Anne Scalzo

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Mr & Mrs Richard Kemp

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Mr & Mrs Jason Page

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Leslie Putman

ELIZABETH DUNN 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'
Mr & Mrs Ron Roberts

JIM ESTES 'THINKING OF YOU!'
Mr & Mrs Richard Kemp

JIM & PAM EVANS
Deniese Evans

SETH & AMALIE FIELDS 'FOR YOUR YEARS OF DEDICATION TO CHILDREN'S HOMES'
James & Charlene Balcom

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CARSON FRANKS 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'
Mr & Mrs Richard Kemp

FREE ST. CHURCH OF CHRIST, WALNUT RIDGE, AR
Martha Baker

We Need Your Help!

This has been a slow year for collecting Best Choice UPCs. On Sept. 30, I mailed a box of 22,000 UPCs plus a \$30 bonus certificate; the value was \$690. I'm hoping that the last three months of 2020 will see a huge increase. So far, I have received Best Choice UPCs from individuals and congregations from the states of Arkansas (28), Missouri (13) and Tennessee (4).

Because of a decline in attendance, the Arbyrd Church of Christ discontinued services at the end of the July 26, 2020 service. I am now attending the Senath, Missouri Church of Christ. I will continue to collect UPCs from all Best Choice products except fluid milk. Members from the Senath Church of Christ and the former Arbyrd Church of Christ will continue to help with this project.

Items bought from the 2019 collection, which amounted to \$1,750, included the following: Five Artisan 5-quart tilt-head stand mixers for Family Homes 3,4,7,8 and 9; One Power XL indoor electric grill pro with griddle for Family Home 1; One Cosori air fryer for Family Home 2 and one Oster juice extractor with feed chute for Family Home 5.

Thanks to everyone who helps with this project!

— Barbara Petty

If you are collecting Best Choice UPC labels,
you may deliver them to Children's Homes, Inc.

or mail them to:

Children's Homes, Inc.
5515 Walcott Road
Paragould, AR 72450
Phone: (870) 239-4031

OR

Barbara Petty
8798 State Highway 164
Arbyrd, MO 63821
Phone: (870) 476-1050

TAMMY FREEZE
Mr & Mrs Charles L Conley, Jr

GREG & ALMA GATES
Claudette Grable Smith

BETTY GATLIN 'FOR YOUR 22 YEARS OF DEDICATION TO CHILDREN'S HOMES'
James & Charlene Balcom

VICKIE GOINGS 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'
Coleen Wilson

LELAND GREEN 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'
Mr & Mrs Ellis Jones

SAVANNAH GRIFFIN 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'
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KEN HASTINGS
Mr & Mrs Tim Wood

JIM & DIANE HAUGHT 'FOR YOUR

DEDICATION TO CHILDREN'S HOMES'
James & Charlene Balcom

JACK & JUDY HAWKINS
Dortha Johnson

BILL & BARBARA HAYS
Deniese Evans

ANNE HEENAN 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'
Mr & Mrs Jim Griffin, Mr & Mrs Ellis Jones

ANGELA HEID 'CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR RETIREMENT!'
The Clay Madar Family

BESSIE HENDERSON 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'
Mr & Mrs Richard Kemp

LAURA HEROLD 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'
Coleen Wilson

ARVIL & SALLY HILL 'FOR YEARS OF

DEDICATION TO CHILDREN'S HOMES!'
James & Charlene Balcom

ARVIL HILL 'GET WELL WISHES'
Mr & Mrs Truman Combs

JOHN & SUSIE HITE
Mr & Mrs Tim Wood

TERRI HOLSONBAKE 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'
Coleen Wilson

PAUL & KATHY HOLT
Mr & Mrs Tim Wood

SMITH & KELSEY HOPKINS
Mr & Mrs Tim Wood

CHARLOTTE HORTON 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'
Mr & Mrs Jim Griffin

BILL & PEGGY HOUSE
Claudette Grable Smith

HOUSEPARENTS AT CHILDREN'S HOMES, PAST & PRESENT 'FOR THEIR DEDICATION TO CHILDREN'S HOMES'

James & Charlene Balcom

JIM & LOIS HOWARD

Mr & Mrs Roger Eason

JACK & BECKY HOWELL 'GET WELL WISHES!'

Mr & Mrs Truman Combs

JIMMIE SUE HOWELL

Mr & Mrs Rick Brown Sr

SILAS HOWELL 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Linda Arnold

VIOLET HOWELL 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Linda Arnold

CHUCK & MARGARET HUBBELL

Dortha Johnson

NELDA JO HUDDLESTON 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Coleen Wilson

JESUS CHRIST, OUR LORD

Mr & Mrs Victor Willis

ELLIS JONES 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Mr & Mrs Joe Messick

JO JORSENSEN

Leslie Putman

DONALD KEENE 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Mr & Mrs Carl Lovelady

RICHARD KEMP 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Mr & Mrs Ellis Jones, Coleen Wilson

JAMES & GAY KERLEY 'LOVE & PRAYERS'

Mr & Mrs Randy Griffin

TONY & MARCIA KERLEY 'THANKS FOR ALL THAT YOU DO!'

Mr & Mrs Randy Griffin

TINA KILLIAN 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Coleen Wilson

DAVID LAMB 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Tina Matheny

DAVID LANDIS 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Jon-David, Ashley, Grayson, Hannah & Amelia

PAULA LAY 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Mr & Mrs Richard Kemp

BILL & JENNY LEE 'IN HONOR OF YOUR MARRIAGE'

Mr & Mrs Bernie Crum

LANDON LILLY 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Margaret Janes

BECKY LOVE

Joseph Simpson & Kathy Gardner

DAVID LOVE, JR. 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Mr & Mrs Richard Kemp

MIKE & KARA MAGILL 'FOR YOUR DEDICATION TO CHILDREN'S HOMES'

James & Charlene Balcom

BILL MARTIN 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Mr & Mrs Jim Griffin

CONNITA MARTIN 'GET WELL WISHES!'

Mr & Mrs Richard Kemp

JOHN MCADAMS

Mr & Mrs Rodney McAdams

RODNEY MCADAMS 'HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!'

Mr & Mrs Garret Myhan

RODNEY & DIANA MCADAMS 'FOR THE MANY WAYS YOU'VE HELPED US & OTHERS'

Mr & Mrs Nick Miller

MCALESTER HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2020, MCALESTER, OK

Leslie Putman

SUSIE MCCONNELL

Hugh & Erin McConnell & Boys

VAN & BETSY MCGIBNEY 'HAPPY 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY!'

Arvil & Sally Hill

DIMPLE MITCHELL 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Mr & Mrs Richard Kemp, Coleen Wilson

TAMMY MITCHELL 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Coleen Wilson

GARY & KELLI MONEY

Ricarda Snellback

CLARENE MORROW 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Mr & Mrs Richard Kemp, Coleen Wilson

STEVE MORROW 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Mr & Mrs Richard Kemp

JAMES E. MULLEN

Julia Mullen

MIKE NASH 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Coleen Wilson

ART OAKES 'GET WELL WISHES!'

Mr & Mrs Truman Combs

JEAN OAKES 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Mr & Mrs Richard Kemp, Coleen Wilson

JOHN & SHERRY OWEN

Beverly J Campbell

DEBBIE PEELER 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Mr & Mrs Truman Combs

WANDA PERKINS

Claudette Grable Smith

ELAINE PETERSON 'HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY!'

Mr & Mrs Joe C Huber

LARRY & BARBARA PETTY 'IN APPRECIATION OF ALL YOU DO!'

Cindy Pierce

LARRY & LOUISE PITTS 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Coleen Wilson

JIMMY & KAYLYNN POE 'FOR YOUR DEDICATION TO CHILDREN'S HOMES'

James & Charlene Balcom

JOHN PORTER 'GET WELL WISHES!'

Mr & Mrs Richard Kemp

KATHLEEN PRIBORSKY 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Mr & Mrs Jim Griffin

GARY & GAYLE PRUETT 'IN HONOR OF YOUR MARRIAGE'

Mr & Mrs Bernie Crum

CONNIE QUATTLEBAUM

Kathy Caruthers

BRIAN RANKIN 'FOR YOUR 22 YEARS OF DEDICATION TO CHILDRENS HOMES'

James & Charlene Balcom

KEN RICHARDSON 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Coleen Wilson

GLENDIA ROBB

Bonnie Taylor Libhart

YVONNE ROSS 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Mr & Mrs Richard Kemp

LINDA RUCKER 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Coleen Wilson

EMME RYLAN

Leslie Putman

CLAIRIENE SCOTT 'HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY!'

Martha Rainey

DON & LOIS SHORES 'HAPPY 70TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY!'

Mr & Mrs Charles Bender

BETTY SIMPSON 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Mr & Mrs Ellis Jones, Coleen Wilson

CHARLIE SIMPSON

Joseph Simpson & Kathy Gardner

ROB & MARILYN SIMPSON

Joseph Simpson & Kathy Gardner

GUAVANA SIMS 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Mr & Mrs Ellis Jones

ART SMITH

Mr & Mrs Carl Lovelady

KATHIE SMITH 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Mr & Mrs Richard Kemp, Coleen Wilson

KERWIN & KRISTIE SMITH

Claudette Grable Smith

KEVIN SMITH 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Tina Matheny

MICHAEL SMITH 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Estella Smith

JEFF & SARAH STAGG 'BEST WISHES ON YOUR MARRIAGE!'

Mr & Mrs Billy Wayne Edwards

KEVIN STEED 'GET BETTER SOON!'

Mr & Mrs Truman Combs

DENISE STROUD 'FOR 23 YEARS OF DEDICATION TO CHILDRENS HOMES'

James & Charlene Balcom

DAVID & KARAN SUMMITT

Frances Lamb

LARRY & TENA TAYLOR 'FOR YOUR DEDICATION TO CHILDRENS HOMES'

James & Charlene Balcom

THE TICKLES

Robert & Sandra Pruitt

ETHAN TILLY 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Margaret Janes

DENNIS TINDALL 'FOR YOUR SERVICE AS AN ELDER'

Mr & Mrs Joe Messick

MIKE TODD

Sophie Holland

CATHY TRAW 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Coleen Wilson

LORI VANDAGRIFF 'IN HONOR OF 40 YEARS OF SERVICE TO CHI & CHILDREN'

Mr & Mrs Bill Arnold, Mr & Mrs Theotis King

JEANETTE BARK VICE

Mr & Mrs Marcus Whitley

J.T. & SARAH VOSS 'HAPPY 60TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY!'

The Clay Madar Family

JIM & DEANIE WAGSTER

Claudette Grable Smith

PAULA WALDON 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Coleen Wilson

KELLY WALKER

Mr & Mrs John Flowers, Jr

PATSY WALKER 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Mr & Mrs Richard Kemp, Coleen Wilson

ANDY & MARY WARREN 'FOR YEARS OF DEDICATION TO CHILDRENS HOMES'

James & Charlene Balcom

JOY WATSON

Mary Janssen

JOYCE WATSON 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Mr & Mrs Bill R Bingham

REX WATSON 'HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!'

Mr & Mrs Bill R Bingham

THE CRAIG WEISS FAMILY

Mr & Mrs Larry Phillips

SETH & JENNY WELLSTED 'FOR YEARS OF DEDICATION TO CHILDRENS HOMES'

James & Charlene Balcom

JACOB WESSON 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Tina Matheny

HOLLY WHITE 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Tina Matheny

DENNIS & SUE WILLARD

Ruby Freeman

CLAY WILLIAMS 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Tina Matheny

DORIS LEE & GLORIA WILLIAMS 'HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!'

Mr & Mrs Bill Gay

ED WILLIAMS 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY!'

Tina Matheny

COLEEN WILSON 'FOR THINKING OF OTHERS'

Mr & Mrs Dennis Goings

CINDY WOOD 'FOR 22 YEARS OF DEDICATION TO CHILDRENS HOMES'

James & Charlene Balcom

ELSIE WOOD

Anonymous Giver

SILAS FLETCHER WOODS

Mr & Mrs Kelly G Woods

LARRY & LINDA WOODWARD '50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY'

Mr & Mrs Johnny McMinn

LEOTA WREN 'HOPE YOU FEEL BETTER SOON!'

Mr & Mrs Isaac B Daugherty

MR & MRS SCOTT YALE

Deniese Evans

RICHARD YEAZEL 'FOR 19 YEARS OF DEDICATION TO CHILDRENS HOMES'

James & Charlene Balcom

VERNA YOUNG 'HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY!'

Mr & Mrs Jerrel Lillard

Memorial & Honor Giving

You can also make Memorial/Honor Gifts online on Children's Homes' website: childrenshomes.org

Honor the life and/or memory of a loved one by giving to Children's Homes in the form of a Memorial gift or Honor gift. Gifts will be used in specific areas of service at Children's Homes (i.e. school supplies, farm, etc.) upon request. **PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION!**

☐ In Memory Of: ☐ In Honor Of: _____

Send Acknowledgment To:

Name

Address

City/State/ZIP

Your Information:

Name

Address

City/State/ZIP

Daytime Phone (in case we have questions about the gift)

Congregation (if applicable)

E-Mail Address

N420

Return in attached envelope or mail to: Children's Homes, Inc. • 5515 Walcott Road • Paragould, AR 72450

MICAH Continued from page 5

as a man of knowledge and action. Former Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee shared the following comment with me about James. "James Balcom spent his life helping children to know love and safety. His heart was filled with God's love for those who didn't have power, money or influence – the children. But, because they mattered so much to God, they mattered to James. His work will live beyond him and his character lives within thousands of children whose lives were impacted by him."

Representatives from the review board on which James served for so many years also shared their remembrances of James.

Charles Flynn, Director of Operations for Arkansas Baptist Children's Homes and Family Ministries remembers meeting James for the first time at a conference in 1992. "Even then James was doing a skit about the World's Oldest Living Childcare Worker," he said. "What I

remember about him then was the same thing I saw on James' 80th birthday party ... that genuine smile, not just on his mouth, but a smile in his eyes, and the comfort and joy that he brought to a room."

Sanford Tollette, Executive Director of the Joseph Pfeifer Kiwanis Camp in Little Rock, Ark., added, "James was a lion to help humanity. He had a gentle paw and spirit that made him gently persuasive to get you to walk in a direction for a great good. James lifted me in a way I'll never forget."

Like these and others, I learned from James that Children's Homes, Inc. was there to do something for children that they couldn't do for themselves. Whatever their need, we had to fill it. Whatever their goal, we had to help them reach it. Whatever their struggle, we had to help them win the battle.

It is my daily prayer that I am able to lead Children's Homes, Inc. with as much vision and passion as James Balcom. People tell me often that

James made a good choice when he recommended me to succeed him. I think about it often, and when I do, I am reminded of a passage found in the book of Luke. Luke 6:40 says, "A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone who is fully trained will be like his teacher." I could have no greater compliment for my work at Children's Homes, Inc. than to hear someone say "You are just like James."

I do want to close with a thank you from the Balcom Family for all the love and kindness shown to them during James' extended illness and passing. They have felt your love from near and far, and they have been so appreciative of all the people who have made memorial gifts to Children's Homes, Inc. in memory of James. Please continue to keep Charlene and the family in your prayers.

Micah Brinkley is Children's Homes' Executive Director.

Items of need

Clothing Needs

We always welcome donations of age-appropriate used clothing; however, for underwear and sock items appearing on this list, we request **only NEW, store-bought items in their packaging**. For other items, such as pants, we will happily accept used items.

NEW ONLY

- Bras - Sizes Small to Extra Large.
- Crew socks - Men's and Older Boys' Sizes.
- Ankle Socks - 1 to 2" cuff, Men's and Women's (See Illustration to right)
- White towels and wash clothes



NEW OR USED

- Tank or Sleeveless Undershirts - White.
Sizes: Boys' - S to XL
Men's- S to XL (See Illustration to right)
- Men's and Boys T-Shirts - S to XL
- Men's and Boys' Pants - Size 8 kids to adult sizes.
Colors - Khaki, tan, blue or black.
- Girls' Pants - Size 8 and up.



Grocery Needs

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| • Juice | • Salad Dressing |
| • Flavored Drink | • Mayonnaise |
| Mix (Kool-Aid) | • Barbecue Sauce |
| • Snacks | • Ketchup |
| • Crackers | • Flour |
| • Graham Crackers | • Almond Bark |
| • Black Olives | • Oil |
| • Chicken Broth | • Tea |
| • Beef Broth | • Laundry |
| • Chicken Noodle Soup | Detergent |
| • Mushrooms | • Antibacterial Wipes |
| • Cereal | • Wax Paper |
| • Cornbread Mix | • Large Zip Lock Bags |
| • Chili Beans | • Paper Towels |
| • Chocolate Chips | • Toilet Paper |
| • Salsa | |

Occasionally, we list items by brand name so our donors will know exactly what items we're needing, but store brands and generic items are always received here with gratitude!