

# PET REPORT - FLORIDA

## Penney Farms

The GIFT OF MOBILITY > THE GIFT OF HOPE

"The Wheelchair that goes where wheelchairs can't go"

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We now have a new web site that we invite you to review.

Within the web site is the opportunity to make a donation to PET via the PayPal route. Please note there is an administrative charge for this service. Example: if you send \$10.00 we will receive \$9.48.

### Board of Directors

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**Larry Hills, Director**

### Statistics

#### Fiscal Year - July '09 - June '10

779 PETs were produced and packed ready to be shipped!

890 PETs were sent to Cuba, India, Honduras, Haiti, Ecuador, Tajikistan and to our Distribution Partners: MedShare, World Medical Mission, and Hope Haven

*{We had PETs from last fiscal year to cover the difference between # produced and # sent!}*

### **WITHOUT A VISION THE PEOPLE PERISH**

*Larry and Laura Hills had a **vision** to provide mobility to those unable to walk, born of their experiences in Africa. In 1994, the first model PET (Personal Energy Transportation) was born. Today, there are thousands of PETs and individuals, families and communities in more than 85 countries, including Ecuador, Haiti, Nepal, Zambia, Swaziland who are reaping the benefits of their vision.*

### **PETS AROUND THE WORLD**

Swaziland is a poor country plagued by reoccurring years of drought coupled with a high risk of major infectious diseases. There are just .16% doctors for every 1,000 people (2004) compared to 2.3 per 1,000 (2002) in the US! Limited resources mean many with physical disabilities must 'make do' as best they can.



The Luke Commission - Compassionate Medicine sees this need while driving their mobile medical clinic throughout this tiny country no larger than New Jersey. They provide free medical care, Bibles, and the hope of the Gospel. In 2009, PET began partnering with the Luke Commission to supply PETs to those in need.

Recently, two Luke workers came upon a woman 'walking' on hands and knees along a dirt road. The woman's hands were covered with thick rubber gloves to protect against Swaziland's rocks and sharp thorns. Her knees were covered with calluses. She was on her way to pray in a hilltop church.

The Luke team persuaded her to go with them, believing that this courageous woman would soon have an answer to her prayers. Her own personal PET was waiting for her. On the way, the team learned that for 54 years, her hands and knees were this lady's only means of transportation. Meningitis had left her unable to walk since she was five.



Soon, she was being lifted into her very own chair. Overcome by emotion, she brushed away her flowing tears of joy with her gloved hand. Then she peeled off the gloves realizing with a huge smile they were no longer needed. Waving them overhead she beamed her smile into the crowd and filled the air with Hallelujahs.

This heart-warming account will be multiplied by 181 when PETS, shipped in July, are distributed throughout Swaziland. Thank you for giving the Gift of Mobility where it is so desperately needed.

## **PETS AROUND THE WORLD - Niger**

**In Partnership with MedShare  
"Bridging the gap between surplus and need."**

**Partnerships are key in delivering PETs to those in need. MedShare, a provider of medical supplies based in Decatur, GA., began partnering with PET, Inc. in 2010. Recently they delivered a shipment of PETs from PET FL to Niger.**

Working in one of the poorest countries of the world, Dr. Mindi Guptill, a specialist in emergency medicine, sees many medically related needs that simply go unmet. When two PETs were delivered by MedShare to the hospital where she works, Dr. Guptill knew immediately where one of these chairs would go.

She eagerly watched while the PETs complete with the needed tools were assembled. Then it was time to introduce a disabled man of the village to his new PET. >>>



<<< Such a strange looking vehicle! The village man was not too sure about getting involved with it.



Finally, he allowed himself to be lifted into the PET. >>>



His wide smile soon signaled his acceptance as he pedaled around the yard. Now he sells chickens to the villagers, using his cart to carry them. His is very pleased with his gift of mobility. >>>







## A HOT PRODUCTIVE SUMMER AT THE PET SHOP - THANKS TO SPECIAL VOLUNTEERS!

We can confirm that it is possible to work productively in steaming hot hot hot hot weather! With the guidance of shop supervisors: Ken Schneider, Jim Kaelin and Sid Rooy, plus a few regular adult volunteers, students from near and far took over the PET Shop!

As a part of the International Baccalaureate Program of Ridgeview High School in Orange Park, FL the students are required to do a minimum of 10 hours of 'international' community service. From May through mid August there were **96** students who contributed more **than 445** hours at PET! Working full days the end of May early August and half days in June and July - **99** PETs were packed. PLUS - the bins were filled with prepared wooden parts, painted boxes were piled high ready to be packed, packaging materials were sorted and prepared!

Jim Kaelin of the Orange Park Rotary Club is pictured here with Ridgeview students! Jim just received **the District Governor's Citation "...in Honor of and Recognition of Devoted & Unselfish "Service Above Self"**.

As a most faithful volunteer supervisor at PET and currently President of the PET FL - Penney Farms, Board of Directors we applaud this citation and extend our word of Thanks and Appreciation!



### SWAZILAND

Before a PET gets on its way it takes a crew of those who are committed to the mission of providing *PETs "to the least of these"*. On

one of the hottest days in July such a crew of volunteers gathered late in the hot day. Scheduled for 9 a.m. the container finally arrived at 1:15 p.m.! The 181 PETs were in line ready to be loaded! One by one, with dollies and lifts and strong hands the boxes were loaded so that no space was left empty! This shipment was a collaborative effort of Push PETS from PET MO - Columbia; Pull PETS from PET MI - East Michigan, Children's PETS from PET FL -



Jacksonville and PET MI - Holland and adult PETS from Penney Farms! Tired, hot, not too dehydrated, the crew felt a sense of satisfaction as they contemplated the number of

individuals and their families who would now have **...NEW OPPORTUNITIES for a NEW LIFE!**

### STUDENT VOLUNTEERS

When the PET Shop reopened in August, 12 eager young folks from the Arlington Hills United Methodist Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota came on a mission, to learn about PET and help in the shop. For four days 8 worked in the shop while 4 worked with the maintenance department of the nearby retirement community. The enthusiasm and energy permeated the Shop and while the water consumption increased significantly they faithfully worked until after working four days **36** PETs had been completed and packed!



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