



# THE PURPLE PIG GAZETTE

## California-Hawaii Elks Major Project Inc.

### November/December, 2013



#### From the Piggy Bank Newsletter

**Editor:** CHEA Piggy Bank Chairman, Bob Farrens



Articles can be provided by PGERs; District Leaders; PDDGERs; DDGER; PSVP; SVP; District Chairmen; Exalted Rulers; Leading Knights; and anyone who has something of Piggy Bank interest. Deadline for the January/February newsletter is **December 22, 2013** and articles can be sent by email to [robertfarrens@msn.com](mailto:robertfarrens@msn.com). The newsletters come out every other month.

#### Southeast District Elks Bowling Club



Las Vegas Tournament  
February 7, 8, 9, 2014

South Point Hotel  
And Casino  
Las Vegas Nevada  
(866)-791-7626

Receive Special Room Pricing  
if you let them know you are with the  
Southeast District Elks Bowling Club  
Reservations must be made before  
January 15, 2014

All funds raised go to the California-Hawaii  
Elks Major Project

More information and applications may be  
found at [www.elksbowlingclub.org](http://www.elksbowlingclub.org)

Contact us at [elksbowlingclub@yahoo.com](mailto:elksbowlingclub@yahoo.com)  
Tournament Chairman, Jack Shamburg at  
909-570-9621 before 7pm.  
Facebook.com/SEDEBC



There is a 7 minute video of Andrew our Theme Child and his parents on the CHEA Web Site. The direct link is: [www.chea-elks.org/2013-theme-child-andrew/](http://www.chea-elks.org/2013-theme-child-andrew/)



#### DATES TO REMEMBER

Nov. 1-2, 2013	Mid-Term
Feb.. 7, 8, 9, 2014	SE Bowling Tournament
Feb. 27-Mar.1, 2014	CHEA Pres. Homecoming
May 14-17, 2014	CHEA Convention in Palm Springs

The following article "Changing Lives," beginning on page two, was published in the Record Searchlight, in Redding, California, on Monday, August 19, 2013. I would like to thank the Editors of the Record Searchlight, and Laura Christman, the author, for giving us permission to reprint the article in its entirety.



Denise Wilson, a physical therapist with the California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, works with 20-month-old Thalia Ryan at her Redding home. Thalia has a mild form of cerebral palsy and receives in-home treatment through a program funded with spare change collected in Purple Piggy Banks by Elks members.

## Changing Lives

### Elks project benefits kids with disabilities

By Laura Christman

“Dowwwnnn and up. Dowwwnnn and up,” physical therapist Denise Wilson says to toddler Thalia Ryan, as she helps the little girl bend and straighten her legs.

Thalia beams. The 20-month-old has an easygoing personality, but not everything comes easy – even things that might seem simple, like sitting up or crawling. Thalia was born three months early, weighing just over 2 pounds. She has a preliminary diagnosis of cerebral palsy.

To help Thalia get stronger and improve her balance, Wilson comes to her Redding home each week for physical therapy sessions that include bending, stretching and balancing, as well as songs and smiles.

“It helps her a lot,” said Kindra Payne, Thalia’s mother.

The free sessions are provided through the California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, a program established in 1950 to help children with disabilities. It includes physical, occupation, and speech therapy, as well as vision screenings. In Shasta and Tehama counties, the focus is physical therapy and Wilson is the physical therapist. She’s been traveling to homes to help North State children through the Elks program for 28 years.

“I love it. It’s an awesome program to work for,” she said.

Payne said it’s great that Wilson does the sessions with Thalia at home. “It’s really convenient to have her come to the house.”

“I think it’s a phenomenal program,” said Erin Bowring of Red Bluff, whose 2-year-old son Andrew started physical therapy sessions with Wilson when he was 9 months old.

Andrew, who has cerebral palsy, was named the 2013 Theme Child for the California-Hawaii Elks Major Project. His photo and story are being used to increase awareness of the program. With physical therapy, practice with a walker and a strong will, Andrew was able to take steps on his own at 19 months.

Bowring said she’s impressed by Wilson’s patience. The exercises can be uncomfortable and Andrew isn’t always agreeable, but Wilson finds ways to help him through it. Andrew has developed a close bond with Wilson. He calls her “My Denise,” although it sounds like “My Neese,” Bowring said.

Wilson typically has a caseload of 25 children. The program is for infants to 18-year-olds, but most of her clients are 1 to 3 years old. It’s important for children to start physical therapy early, she said. “The progress is much better.”

Clients are referred by agencies, doctors and word-of-mouth. The program is available to children who aren’t receiving services through another program or whose needs can best be met through home visits. Once Wilson receives a physician’s evaluation, she can begin.

“There’s no red tape. I pretty much get a prescription and can go right in,” she said.

She works with children who have a diagnosis and children who haven’t been diagnosed, but have delays in development.

“With some, their head is tilted to one side or they can’t turn the head to one side,” Wilson said. Quite a few can’t sit up or get into a sitting position by themselves. I facilitate their movements to try to get them to sit up.”

The number of times she visits varies. “It really depends on the need. Some I see for only a few visits: others for a few years.”

Wilson works with families, suggesting exercises they can do to help their children. The aim of the physical therapy is to improve quality of life, she said.

She is one of 32 therapists and screeners working for the California-Hawaii Elks Major Project. The project doesn’t use state or federal funding. It’s powered by small purple, plastic piggy banks.

Elks members put their spare change in the piggy banks and turn in the money yearly to help children, said Jessica Delaney, Redding Elks Lodge Leading Knight, who oversees the Purple Pig effort for the lodge.

Delaney said new members are given piggy banks when they join. The suggestion is

to put aside about a dollar in change each week for a \$52 donation at the end of the year. Last year Redding Elks members raised about \$12,000 with the banks.

"It's a very painless way to give back to your community," Delany said.

"Every year in December, we have a Big Pig Roundup," said Jeff Carr, Exalted Ruler of Redding Elks Lodge.

Members donate the cash in their banks at that time, but some fill their piggy banks more than once and bring in the change at other times, too.

For more information on the physical therapy program or the Redding Elks Lodge, call 243-5900.



### A LOVE AFFAIR

A Love Affair that might seem odd, and yet I'm  
sure it's been

Blessed by God.

It's with my Piggy Bank you see, and all the  
things it does for me.

The coins placed in those Purple Banks might  
be a way of saying Thanks

For allowing me to be here today

With healthy children we've had on our way.

Or maybe the feeling within your heart that  
you know you helped

And did your part in helping one less fortunate  
than we

To walk, talk, play or even see.

Have you heard a Mother's fervent prayer  
saying,

Thank you Lord for those who care,  
To send a Therapist, to teach me to help my  
child in his misery.

We can't stop now, that's plain to see.

For those who care just can't be free of  
nagging thoughts

That somewhere is a child who needs to have  
our care.

So come and along and join with me  
In a Love Affair with a Purple Piggy.

Will you really do it?

Would you dare?

To show the world—Elks really care.

Ernest Tudor, PER  
Southeast District  
Piggy Bank Chairman  
06/27/1983

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### Gilroy Elks' Annual Purple Pig Roast

The Gilroy Elks Lodge held its annual Purple Pig Roast on September 8, 2013. There were 117 in attendance including CHEA Executive Director Tim Martin and Lazel, Past Grand Trustee Anthony Mauro and Carol, and CHEA Vice Chairman Purple Pig Gerry Gouveia and Mary.



Pam Flagg, Jenna, Sadie, Skyler, and Patrick Flatt

Special guest of honor for the evening was Skyler Flatt, and his family (Mom Jenna, Dad Patrick and his sister Sadie) and along with the Occupational Therapist Pam Flagg who has been working with Skyler over the years. You would not believe the difference in Skyler since treatment began. Skyler's Father Patrick showed a video of Skyler's progress and to see him running around playing with Elroy the Elk was amazing, you would not know it was the same child. This is truly your dollars making a difference.



Gerry and Mary Gouveia and Elroy



Elroy and friend



Elroy and more friends



Elroy T Elk  
Drug Awareness Program's Mascot  
reminds young kids that hugs  
are better than drugs.



The 45 Annual California Elks Rally was held at Golden Village in Hemet on October 10, 11, 12, & 13, 2013.

169 Camper Rigs and 40 Hotel Campers had a great time doing some fun and fund raising. The event raised almost \$40,000.00 for the Major Project.

We did have a few that had so much fun they ended up in the jail.



Bobby Trask and Jack Lintz



Reading of the Rules of the Great Pig Race

**More photos from the RV Rally in Hemet**



The Pigs are Off and Running



The Garden Grove Lodge had the winning pig, but the real winners were the kids.



If you went hungry it was your fault. There were Tacos, Tri-Tip, Brats, Hamburgers, Breakfasts and Dinners



The Guide Dogs of the Desert gave a very interesting demonstration.



A local high school orchestra entertained the campers

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**CALIFORNIA-HAWAII ELKS  
MAJOR PROJECT, INC.  
Mission Statement**



The California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc., a committee of the California-Hawaii Elks Association, pledges its commitment to addressing the unmet needs of children with disabilities throughout the states of California and Hawaii by developing a program of supporting services to aid these children at no cost to their families and without discrimination.

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**News from the  
California-Hawaii Elks Association.  
They are proud to announce a new page on  
their website**

**Bulletin Resources**

Your lodge bulletin is a vital piece of communication in staying connected with your membership. They've provided resource pictures on [www.chea-elks.org/bulletin-resources](http://www.chea-elks.org/bulletin-resources) that you can instantly download from and place into your lodge bulletin or on your website.

Check the CHEA Website often at:  
[www.chea-elks.org](http://www.chea-elks.org)

The web site is a resource that has many articles about the children served by our Major Project. These articles are for your Lodge to use. Suggestions for use would be to:

- Give to your Lodge Piggy Bank Chairman
- Print in your Lodge newsletter/bulletin
- Use the stories during Piggy Bank fundraising events
- Give to the Auxiliary Club President, such as Bowling, Emblem, RV, etc.
- Display on your Lodge bulletin board

Thank you for your efforts to spread the "news!"

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*A Coin a Day so they can  
Walk, Talk, See and Play!*

**Purple Pig Recurring Donations**

Would you like to see the children walk, talk, see, and play?

You can contribute to the Major Project more often without writing a check, buying a stamp and addressing an envelope each time! It's simple by signing up to be a recurring donor! We'll automatically charge a credit card on a recurring basis for a set donation

amount. There are no checks to write or envelopes to mail. It's safe, reliable, and allows Fresno to spend less time on administration and more time on our charitable mission. Recurring donors are very important and are special donors who will be recognized in each CALIFORNIA-HAWAII ELK MAGAZINE. Keep it simple – become a recurring donor for the Major Project! You can still fill the Pigs and turn them in!

CHEA Office in Fresno  
Phone: 559-255-4531  
Fax: 559-456-2659  
E-mail: [chea@chea-elks.org](mailto:chea@chea-elks.org)  
Web: [www.chea-elks.org](http://www.chea-elks.org) and we will provide you with the necessary information.

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**California - Hawaii Elks Association**

**BEQUESTS  
&  
LIVING TRUSTS**

Learn how you can give a testamentary gift of love to the CHEA Major Project to help children by adding a codicil to your will, an amendment to your living trust, or by an income-producing Commitment Trust.

We can show you how to  
**REDUCE TAXES,  
GENERATE INCOME,  
AVOID PROBATE,  
AND STILL PROVIDE FOR  
YOUR HEIRS!**

PLEASE CALL OR WRITE:  
The BLT Committee  
c/o The Major Project  
5450 E. Lamona Ave.  
Fresno, CA 93727  
or  
Call: 1-800-742-1907  
Visit: [www.chea-elks.org](http://www.chea-elks.org)

*Andrew Bowring  
2013 CHEMPI Theme Child*

# CHEMPI -

California Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc.

## OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS

Patient Caseload: 150  
Completed Visits: 4,445  
Miles Travelled: 87,685

## PHYSICAL THERAPISTS

Patient Caseload: 98  
Completed Visits: 3,227  
Miles Travelled: 71,569

## SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS

Patient Caseload: 90  
Completed Visits: 3,982  
Miles Travelled: 71,734

## PRESCHOOL VISION SCREENING

Screenings: 1,737  
Children Screened: 43,830  
Nbr Children Referred to Doctor: 2,266  
Miles Travelled: 111,729

is affectionately known as  
**The Purple Pig**



← **WOW!**