



LET'S REFUEL AMERICA!



BUY OR LEASE A NEW '08 OR '09 CHRYSLER, DODGE OR JEEP DURING THE MONTH OF JULY...

NAVYSEYER STOUTSTON 1-866-418-2076



madison.com news sports opinion forums entertainment marketplace

SEARCH: all current news



ARCHIVES >>>

[Back] [Email to a Friend] [Printer Friendly Version]

Hearts, Wallets Opening For Boy

Donations To Portage Victim

The Capital Times :: METRO :: C2

Wednesday, June 27, 2007

Donations of money, a new bed and a weekend resort stay are just part of the community effort to help an 11-year-old boy found this month hiding in a closet at the rented home where authorities say he was brutally abused.

His mother was found buried in the yard, and four people are now charged with being party to her murder and to the abuse inflicted on the boy, which included burns over his body from boiling water and injuries from serial beatings. His extensive injuries are documented in the criminal complaint filed last week in Columbia County Circuit Court.

News reports of the case have brought an outpouring of concern for the boy, both locally and across the nation.

"I actually had nightmares, and all I could do was picture my son's face on this little boy, experiencing what he did," said Lisa Mcleod of Brockton, Mass. "I don't even know this boy, but 'broken heart' doesn't cover it."

Duluth Trading Co. Tent Sale

Great Deals on Overstocks, Returns, Seconds, and Discontinued items

July 24 - 26
Belleville, WI

DULUTH TRADING CO.
Designed & Tested by Tradesmen

As of Tuesday, the donations to Portage Cares, a fundraising effort spearheaded by the Portage Daily Register, totaled more than \$10,500.

The fund also is to benefit the three younger children who lived at the home and are now in foster care. The 11-year-old boy remains under hospital care.

A committee of local leaders, including Daily Register publisher George Althoff, will determine how to dole out the contributions.

Adele Briggs of Janesville is among those hoping to help the 11-year-old.

"Each of my three children made cards for him, and my 14-year-old daughter said she would like to be pen pals with him," Briggs said. "I got him a dream catcher made by Navajo Indians and a pin that stands for courage."

Briggs works at Simmons Mattress Co. in Janesville, which plans to donate a bed to the boy.

"When it comes to children, everybody here is a softie," Briggs said.

Robert Procter, a new father and lawyer at Axley Brynson in Madison, said the law firm was offering the boy a weekend stay at the Chula Vista Resort in Wisconsin Dells once he's able to go.

"Rather than give money, we wanted him to have fun," Procter said. "It was difficult to believe that a child was treated so badly that he will have to overcome the abuse for the rest of his life."

The Portage High School girls basketball scheduled a car wash and bratwurst sale Friday at Portage National Bank to benefit the children. Other groups also planned fundraisers.

"As a team, so many people have supported us and it's time to pay back the community," said Taylor Cullen, team captain.

The money raised "will not change (the boy's) life, but it can help him along the way. He went through all this and he will become a better person," she said.

While welcoming the donations to the fund, Portage police advised a Florida aunt of the 11-year-old boy to stop her efforts to raise money for her nephew's medical costs.

Local police notified authorities in Florida's Collier County that statements made by Becky Garlin of Immokalee, Fla., about her fundraising might be misleading.

Police Lt. Mark Hahn said Garlin had solicited money to pay for the boy's medical bills, but because the boy is under state care, the family is not responsible for those costs.

Garlin told the Daily Register she was not raising money for the medical bills but to help the boy once he is released from the hospital.

"We stopped raising money today because Mark Hahn told us if we didn't, he was going to put us in jail," she said.

In another development, Hahn said Candace Clark, 23, one of the four people facing charges, spoke to police on at least three occasions before her arrest, but she never indicated there was anything wrong at the home.

Clark had told reporters Friday that she tried to get authorities to investigate the house by calling police to report alleged incidents in her neighborhood. She said she couldn't give police specific details out of fear of her boyfriend Michael Sisk, 25, also charged in the case.

Community Pages sponsored by:

mg&e

your community energy company

place an ad <<<

madison.com

AUTOS

Search over 5,000 new and used vehicles for sale in the Madison area.

IT'S THE FRESHLY TUNED-UP AUTOS.MADISON.COM.

CLICK HERE

TOP JOBS

- GED Instructors
- Restaurant Manager
- Administrative Assistant
- Production / Quality Manager of Auditing
- Water Operator
- Motion Graphics and Software Development
- Educational Program
- Truck Drivers and Farm

VIEW ALL VIDEOS

SERVICES <<<

- Subscribe
- Renew
- Sign up for EZ pay

Hahn said even after Clark knew everyone from the house had been taken into custody, she kept lying to police and trying to hide her identity.

"She provided false information every time we had contact with her," Hahn said.

- [Temporary stop](#)
- [Account inquiry](#)
- [Delivery concerns](#)
- [Commend carrier](#)
- [Place a classified ad](#)
- [Media kit](#)
- [Digital file requirements](#)
- [Photo reprints](#)

