



Around the Ranch

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Summer 2026

Volume 54, Issue 2

Easy Ways to Help Alpha's Kids:

- Save Best Choice UPC Symbols for Alpha to redeem for 3¢ each.
- Link your Dillons Plus Shopper Card to Alpha's Charity number—XU454.
- Save General Mills Box Tops—Scan Receipts with Box Tops App! Each Box Top credits 10¢ to Alpha's school via the App. This helps purchase school curriculum for the kids.

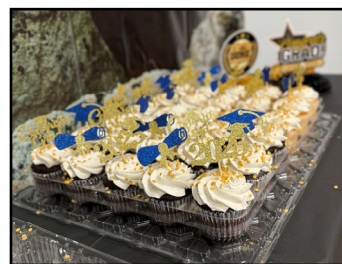
Inside this issue:

- Celebrating Ava's High School Graduation! 1
- Kids' Corner 2
- Merit Store Restock Needs 3
- Now Accepting Admissions Applications 3
- Memorial Gifts and Honor Gifts 3
- Mission Pantry Needs / Special Needs 4

Spring Graduation Party for Ava!



We celebrated Ava's High School Graduation in April with a party! She enjoyed a



wonderful gathering of family and dear friends from church and the community, as well as former teachers, for her graduation ceremony & celebration! There was

an abundance of delicious food and treats to share, and a sentimental slideshow of photos from over the years, along with her official College Prep High School Diploma! She expressed deepest gratitude for each person who helped her reach her goal of a 4.0 GPA while also learning to

navigate some challenges that Autism and ADHD presented along the way.

Ava plans to apply for admission to the Occupational Therapy Assistant program at Washburn University, and in the meantime, plans to get a job to begin saving toward those big tuition bills. Please pray with us for Ava as we trust God to provide and direct her path!



Pictured top left: KS State Representative Ron Ellis, and his wife, Paula Ellis, congratulating Ava!

Ava receiving her diploma during the graduation ceremony, after Mrs. Patricia Sims, her beloved former teacher, gave a meaningful commencement speech.

Family, friends, and educators gathered for a delicious luncheon afterward, and enjoyed celebrating Ava's graduation together!

Miss Hannah, Ava, & Mrs. Sims ♥





The kids have been busy raising and training their baby goats with the goal of having them ready to show and auction off at the county 4-H fair at the end of July!



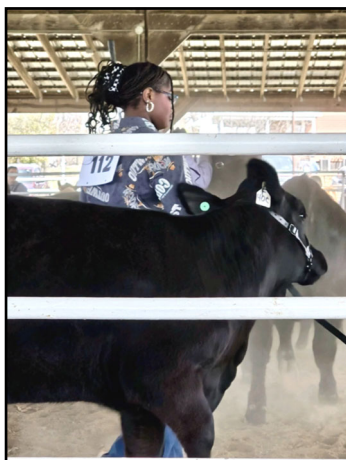
We love taking the kids on educational field trips, whether in our local area, or even some distance



Emmie prepared a hand built ceramics project (a fairy house) in our pottery studio for 4-H fair!



Jay Tharp practiced several songs with the kids during his band class that they would perform together at graduation! They did GREAT!!



In this photo, Mae was showing Dolly at the Spring Beef Show in Valley Falls.



away! There was a Build My Future event in Topeka that welcomed in students to learn about and experience work that they could find in the field of building trades! There was even an Army recruiter there. They had a fantastic day of learning!

Several of the kids are also involved in 4-H Dog Project activities. They learn how to take care of dogs well, and they train in agility and obedience. Pictured below: Nathan was taking Nora through a dog agility course for a demonstration event!



Ava enjoyed having her senior portraits taken by a dear friend.



Children's Learning Center Merit Store Needs Restocking!

The kids always love it when it is time to shop the Learning Center's "Merit Store" tables! They earn merit bucks throughout each trimester as they work hard on their studies, and really enjoy being able to spend those merit bucks when it is store time.

Merits are earned in a number of ways. The students earn them for reciting their monthly scripture memory passage to a teacher before the end of the month (monthly passages are around 20 verses each), getting their daily goals of allotted curriculum pages completed before the end of the day, successfully completing their final academic tests for each book in each subject, for acts of kindness or demonstrations of good character, helping the teachers out when needed, and etc.

When it is time to shop, sometimes the



kids are buying items for themselves, and sometimes for others in their lives, for example, shopping for birthday gifts or Christmas gifts for siblings, family, or friends over the holiday season.

The Merit Store is getting very low in stock these days, and we could use your help in restocking it with great items for the kids to choose from! They love anything from inexpensive dollar store items and snacks, to higher dollar

items like bigger toys, Lego kits, sports balls, and stuffed animals as you can see pictured here when I asked them to show me their favorite items from the Merit Store tables that they shopped at the end of their spring trimester.

Sample ideas of items for Merit Store include: dollar store items, glitter wooden pencils, fancy pens, fancy pencil cases, metal drink cups, Legos, animal erasers, themed notebooks, wired headphones or earbuds, room décor, snacks, candy, dolls & accessories (not Barbie), journals, reading books, jewelry, hair accessories, Squishmallows, stuffed animals, nerf guns, cologne, wallets, mechanical pencils for 0.5 lead, sports balls, and etc.

Would you be willing to spread the word, and possibly hold a collection drive to gather some wonderful items for restocking the children's Merit Store?? It really is a great motivator for them in school, and they LOVE it!

Now Accepting Admissions Applications!



We are now accepting applications for admission to our home and school program for children to join our Alpha House family! Children who are eligible are those who are NOT in need of a treatment or therapeutic setting, but just simply

needing a safe place to go, either on a short-term or long-term basis.

Please pray that those who need a safe place to go will connect with us successfully!

Share this with anyone in need!

Memorial Gifts

Given In Memory Of:

Lou & Louise Holmes

By: Diane Koester
St Louis MO

Wayne & Elinor Hays

By: Marilyn Aikins
Springfield MO

Eva Jacot

By: David & Cynthia White
Wichita KS

Weston Michael Todd (Infant)

By: Alan & Susie Praiswater
Fillmore MO

Given In Honor Of:

Patricia Sims

By: Michelle Kincaid
Ava Kincaid
Perry KS



Where love heals hurting hearts . . .

Alpha Christian Children's Home & School
 15017 27th Street, PO Box 727, Perry, Kansas 66073-0727
 E-mail: office@alphachristianchildrenshome.com
 Website: www.alphachristianchildrenshome.com
 Telephone/Fax: (785) 597-5235

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Summer 2026



Mission Pantry Needs

- Butter, 2% Milk
- Fresh Fruits & Veggies
- Shredded, Block, & Sliced Cheeses, String Cheese Sticks
- Snack Packs, Fruit Cups, Juice Boxes, Ramen
- Sandwich Crackers & Snack Crackers
- Can Fruits
- Mild Green Chilies, Mild Salsa
- Instant Brown Rice
- Gluten Free Pasta, Sauces, Breads, Mixes
- Pancake Mix
- Breakfast Cereals
- Foaming Hand Soaps
- Gallon Size Ziplock Bags
- Kitchen Size Trash Bags & Contractor Size Bags
- Clorox Wipes
- Gain Original Laundry Detergent (good for those at Alpha with allergies to detergents)
- OxiClean Powder
- Garnier Fructis Sleek & Shine Shampoo & Cond.
- Cantu Kids Curl Cream Shampoo & Conditioner



Special Needs

- Tall Chain Link Playground Fencing to Catch Flying Basket Balls—\$1,500
- Build Roof System Over Animal Hay Feeder—\$1,600
- Music Room Flooring System—\$4,200
- 200 Tons of Gravel for Campus Driveways—\$7,000
- **Merit Store Items**

NOTE: If we should have any amount of funding left over from your support for a particular project, we will absolutely use it toward the many other needs of the children.

Give us a call to find out how to connect with Alpha's mission!
 (785) 597-5235



Facebook Page