

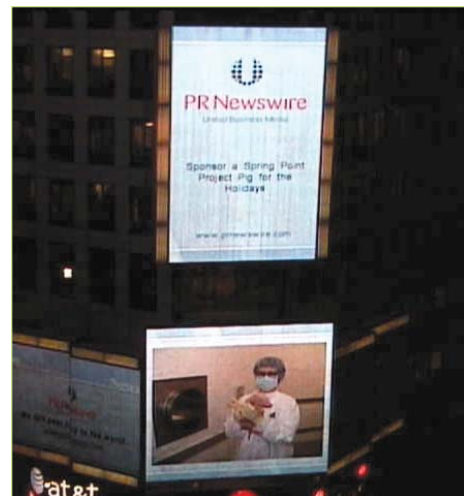
Sponsor a Pig Fundraising Campaign Hits the Big Apple

raises over \$205,000 to date

To say we kicked off our *Sponsor a Pig* fundraising campaign with a big bang would be an understatement. This past year, right before the holidays, media releases were sent to hundreds of news outlets announcing our efforts to raise funds through a unique program called *Sponsor a Pig*. As part of our effort to get the word out, PR Newswire, an international public relations organization, placed our announcement on its huge electronic display board in Times Square. An estimated 1.6 million people saw it (along with a picture of one of our animal caretakers fostering a piglet) and were introduced to Spring Point and our *Sponsor a Pig* campaign. Talk about exposure!

We are excited to announce that our great media exposure has helped us raise over \$205,000 so far.

We'd like to send a heartfelt thank you to everyone who has sponsored a pig. You are helping us as we continue to develop a cure for diabetes.



PR Newswire Billboard in Times Square

How to Sponsor a Pig

and help cure diabetes

Sponsor a Pig was created to defray the cost of raising “medical-grade” pigs at the Diabetes Research and Wellness Foundation Islet Resource Facility. Pigs at our facility are maintained in a special sanitary environment in order to make their islet cells suitable for transplantation in people with diabetes. Our pigs are cared for by highly trained caretakers, they eat special food, drink purified water, and breathe filtered air. It costs \$50 per day to maintain a pig in this type of environment.

Pigs may be sponsored for a day, week, month, quarter, or year. We encourage you to sponsor a pig for yourself or a loved one as a way to celebrate a memorable happening such as a birthday, marriage or promotion. You may also want to sponsor a pig as a way to honor a special person in your life.

Sponsor a Pig pledge forms can be found on our Web site at www.springpointproject.org. Click on “How to Give.”



Meet Dr. Mike Martin

Dr. Mike Martin, Spring Point Project's director of animal facilities, heads Spring Point's breeding program. We all know him for his straightforward approach to problem solving and his always on hand Mountain Dew.

Besides caring for animals, Mike loves Civil War history and John Wayne films. Mike has even written a book about the Fourth Wisconsin Infantry during the Civil War. He also gives talks about the Civil War, complete with uniform and weapons, to children at our local elementary schools and is involved in reenactments of battles from the Civil War.



Dr. Mike Martin, director of Animal Facilities, a rough and ready guy holding flowers at KARE 11's Eleven Who Care event.

Mike's favorite things:

- Football player:** Robert Brooks
- Book:** *The Leathering Stocking Tails* series of books
- Closet secret:** E-bay junkie
- Foods:** Jambalaya and bratwurst
- Musical artist:** Alison Krauss
- Movie:** *The Wind and the Lion*
- Color:** Navy blue

We're glad we work with such a great guy.

Elaine Sue

why a cure is so desperately needed

An adorable toddler with curly hair and big blue eyes, Elaine Sue was only two when her mom noticed problems. She had an insatiable thirst and was soaking her diapers faster than her mom could change them. She also slept much of the time and seemed lethargic when awake.

A visit to the family's pediatrician confirmed that Elaine had type I diabetes. Elaine had joined the ranks of more than 2 million other Americans who suffer from this debilitating form of diabetes. She would now be dependent on insulin injections, and her mom would be responsible for giving Elaine the painful injections, monitoring her blood glucose levels and working to balance her food intake.

In addition to her pediatrician, Elaine would see an endocrinologist for specialized diabetes care, an ophthalmologist for eye examinations, and a podiatrist for foot care. Her mom would see a dietitian and diabetes educator to learn the skills needed for daily diabetes management.

Funds Needed for E.I. Imaging Ultrasound Gear

Mike would like everyone to know that we are currently raising funds to purchase \$7,000 worth of E.I. Imaging Ultrasound Gear.

"We would love to be able to check on the pregnancies of our sows in order to ensure the health of their piglets," said Mike. "However, we can't pack them up and take them to the local vet, because they need to stay in their sanitary environment."

We will gladly accept any and all generous donations made toward the purchase of this much-needed equipment.

"However, if someone would like to donate the entire \$7,000, we have something really cool for them," said Mike.



Ultrasound equipment

Elaine's parents were conscientious and concerned. They spared no expense to see that their daughter received the best care available. They were assured the disease was manageable and that a cure would be found soon. But Elaine's diabetes was not easily controlled and she died at nine years of age in a diabetic coma after having a bout with the flu.

Spring Point Project is working in partnership with the Diabetes Institute for Immunology and Transplantation at the University of Minnesota to find a cure for diabetes and make tragic stories like Elaine Sue's a thing of the past. Because many people with diabetes lack sufficient insulin-producing islet cells, the cure we have in development involves producing safe, reliable islets that can be transplanted to reverse the effects of diabetes. It is our hope that we will soon have a cure for insulin-dependent diabetics that will be widely available and affordable.

Reflections on a Year Past

As we move into 2008, we feel it is important for us to take this time to reflect on all that has happened in our Spring Point Project family to date.



Tom Cartier, Spring Point Project president



Henk-Jan Schuurman, Spring Point Project CEO

our facility

The Diabetes Research and Wellness Foundation Islet Resource Facility, home of Spring Point Project, became a reality in January 2007 when our staffing was completed. In February, the name—Diabetes Research and Wellness Foundation Islet Resource Facility—became official and we proceeded to hold a very successful grand opening. We were impressed by the large number of supporters who showed up in below zero weather to help us celebrate this important event—including the large delegation from the Diabetes Research and Wellness Foundation (DRWF).

A number of us made visits to Washington to build awareness for Spring Point Project among senators and representatives on the Hill and in August, Congressman Ron Kind from east Wisconsin visited our facility.

We also welcomed delegates from the DRWF United Kingdom and DRWF France to the DRWF Islet Resource Facility in September. The DRWF provided the grant that covered the construction of the Islet Resource Facility and continues to be a major supporter of Spring Point Project.

Pig Postings

from the Diabetes Research and Wellness Foundation Islet Resource Facility, home of Spring Point Project

We have accomplished a lot this past year.

- We opened in February.
- Learned to operate the innovative systems in our building to maximum capacity.
- Brought our pig population up to 60 animals.
- Thanks to our excellent staff, we reached a milestone—all the animals in our facility are disease-free.
- Our older animals have entered the in-house breeding program.
- We expect our first piglets in the next generation, the Source Animal Generation, to be born in April 2008.



the pigs

Just one week after our grand opening, the first sows arrived to deliver their piglets. By the end of 2007, we had completed the population with almost 60 animals at the DRWF. The first boars and gilts have now started the breeding process, and we expect the first animals in the next generation to arrive in three to four months. **Thus, we are on track to meeting our breeding milestones!**

our newest member

In June, Mack Traynor joined our family to oversee our finances. He has given a major boost to our fundraising campaign. Great work, Mack.

scientific recognition

In September, the Joint Transplantation Congress was held in Minneapolis. Under the championship of Dr. Bernhard Hering, Spring Point was able to hold a reception at the event. A number of scientific experts in the field made short announcements endorsing our work and many of our supporters were able to talk directly with experts in islet and xeno-transplantation. This important event allowed Spring Point Project to receive the full attention of the scientific community for the first time.

an award

Tom Cartier, SPP president, was awarded one of KARE 11's Eleven Who Care Awards in September. Each year, KARE 11 honors 11 individuals who inspire change in their community. Over 1,000 people attended the event and thousands more watched the ceremony's live telecast



Minnesota Timberwolves president Chris Wright (left) and Crunch (right) recognize Joyce Lacey and Tom Cartier as 2007 Eleven Who Care "Heroes in the Making."

on KARE 11. During the telecast, KARE 11 gave honorees the opportunity to share their amazing stories. Tom shared the Spring Point story and by the end of the evening had everyone inspired to help find a cure. This award also received special attention from the Timberwolves organization. (See photo at the bottom of this page.)

a family member passes away

Jeffrey Dobbs, a generous and active Spring Point Project board member, passed away in October. He was a very inspiring and supportive person. We still feel his loss daily and our prayers and thoughts go out to his family.

2008 starts great

We now have a Master Research Collaborative Agreement with our major partner, the Diabetes Institute for Immunology and Transplantation (DIIT) at the University of Minnesota. This agreement describes all the details of the partnership between the University and Spring Point Project.

In addition, the immunosuppression studies being conducted by Dr. Bernhard Hering and his colleagues have made major progress, with a productive and positive review from the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation last month.

Finally, together with our colleagues at DIIT, we reinforced islet cell isolation studies focusing on the target age of 6-9 month-old donors.

We thank everyone for supporting our work in 2007. We ask for your continued support and look forward to celebrating many victories with you in 2008.

Sincerely,

Henk-Jan Schuurman and Tom Cartier

Mark Your Calendars

Wednesday, April 19

Spring Point/New Lifeabetes

5K Fun Run/Walk for Diabetes.

Registration begins: 8 a.m. Anytime Fitness, Albertville, MN (come rain or shine). For more information, contact Tim Sass at (763) 486-9156.

Monday, June 16

Save the date for this year's **Golf Classic "fore" Diabetes** in Minneapolis.

Lions and Pigs Together ... Oh my!

Founded in 1917, the Lions Club is an international network of 1.3 million men and women in 202 countries. Each year, local Lions Clubs work on a wide variety of short-term and long-range projects designed to improve the lives of people in their own communities, as well as those around the world.

One long-range project the Lions are particularly well-known for is their effort to end preventable blindness. Because diabetes is a leading cause of blindness in the United States, the Lions of Minnesota 5M-10 district in Duluth took notice of Spring Point Project and started working with us right from our inception.

On January 26 and 27, Henk-Jan Schuurman, CEO, updated the 5M-10 district Lions in Thunder Bay, Ontario on Spring Point's partnership with the Diabetes Institute for Immunology and Transplantation (DIIT) at the University of Minnesota. After the presentation, Larry Winner, diabetes co-chair for district 5M-10 and consummate Spring Point supporter, presented Henk with a stack of checks from the 5M-10 district totaling \$14,000 in donations for Spring Point.



Lion Larry Winner presents Henk-Jan Schuurman with donation checks.

Tom Spizzo, director of operations at Spring Point Project, and Mike Martin, Spring Point's director of animal facilities, were also out January 26 and 27 speaking to Lions Clubs about our partnership with DIIT. Tom spoke to the Lions 5M-4 district in Alexandria and Mike spoke with the Wisconsin Lions at their 5th Annual Midwinter Convention in Stevens Point.



From left to right: Lion Russell Saver, international director; Henk-Jan Schuurman, SPP CEO; Lion Larry Winner, 5M-10 district diabetes co-chair; Lion Dick Briese, 5M-10 district governor.

Spring Point and the Lions plan to continue working together throughout 2008. In addition, we have been able to work with them to begin establishing a Diabetes Research Endowment Fund to benefit the partnership between Spring Point and the DIIT. We anticipate the endowment will become a reality at the Lions Club Multiple District Convention, May 5. We hope that many Lions Clubs will participate in our *Sponsor a Pig* program. We will also continue to explore several Lions Club International Foundation grant program funding opportunities.

We thank all the Lions we have worked in partnership with for their time, financial donations and their efforts as we work to cure diabetes.



From left to right: Lion Marty Athmann, 5M-4 district diabetes co-chair; Tom Spizzo, SPP director of operations; Lion Alwood Dokken, 5M-4 district diabetes co-chair.

"If something good can come from this tragedy, we know Spring Point can make it happen. Jeff would have wanted it that way." Kay Dobbs

Jeff Dobbs Memorial Fund

Board member Jeffrey Dobbs passed away this past October. His support for Spring Point was inspiring to us all. In memory of Jeff, and his quest for a cure for diabetes, a memorial fund has been set up in his name.

To date (February 7, 2008), over \$42,000 has been donated to the Jeff Dobbs Memorial Fund at Spring Point Project.

Kay Dobbs has graciously allowed us to print the names of those who have contributed to the Fund. Thank you donors. We will do our best to live up to Jeff's expectations as we continue to work toward a cure for diabetes.



Jeffrey Dobbs

Affinity Capital Management	Deb Grimme	Jeff & Sonni Johnson	Mandy Wagner	Robert & Barbara Hydeen
Alan Geiwitz	Dennis & Carol Lee	Jeff Sauer	Marilyn Conlon	Robert & Sharon Anderson
Alexandria Extrusion	Dennis & Marsha Scherz	Jeff, Kelsey & Kinsey Wessels	Mark & Carrie Zeman	Robert Cron Jr
Alexandria Phoenix	Dennis Denomme	Jeffery Buelt	Mark & Sandy DeGonda	Robert Wentzel
Allison & Mark Gould	Derek Dobbs	Jerald & Genevieve Grande	Mark & Wendy Abbott	Ron & Elaine Maloney
Amos Rosenbloom	Donald & Vivian Brody	Jerome & Kathy Rosenow	Marshall & Marjorie Lifson	Roy Zillmer
Andrew Perrin	Doris DeCaster	Jerry & Penny Novotny	Mary Jo & John Krohn	Russ & Betty Broden
Ann & Darren Ruschy	Doug & Julie Knapp	Jim & Jean Mulvahill	Mary Jo Cody	Ruth Rolfs
Anna Rieck	Doug & Laura Dobbs	Jim Burnham	Mary Kent Yochum	Samuel Assam
Annamarie Daley	Doug & Sandy Hodgkin	Jim Talmage	Matthew & Judy Deis	Sandra White
Arnold & Charlotte Des Jardins	Dr. Bernhard J Hering	Joan Russell	Maureen & David Murphy	Scott Bullock
Arthur & Imogene Hoff	Dr. Douglas J McNaught	JoAnn Simon	McQuay International	Shari Law
Audrey & James Stensgaard	Dr. Garwood Shields	Joanne Dobbs	Melissa Ruppert	Sharon F. Lindau
Audrey Sanislo	Dr. Rodney Melgard	Jodie Wojack	Melody Devine	Sharon Galloway
Barbara & Scott Regan	Edgar Timberlake	Joe & Teresa Lahti	Merlin & Kathleen Jewell	Sheldon & Terry Fleck
Barbara Ashkar	Edson Spencer	Johanna Mohwinkel	Michael & Renae Renstrom	Sieff Family Foundation
Bernard & Sandra Wagner	Edward Brandeen	John & Geraldine Gammell	Michael & Terese Jensen	Sime Foundation
Betty & Stan Stensrud	Elizabeth Illgen	John & Joan Miller	Michael Frey	Stan & Mary Ann Rahm
Bob & Judy Alexander	Elli & Anoush Ansari	John Senftner	Michael Morris	Stephanie Meyer
Bob & Rae Wetzel	F.A. & Mary Jo Blonigan	Joseph & Lisa Ramerth	Michael Peinado	Stephen & Kristin Williams
Boston Scientific	Garry & Shannon Banks	Julie Achterkirch	Michelle Rosinger	Stephen & Roxanne Lerum
Brenda Poirier	Gary & Arlene Holman	June & Neil Lapidus	Mike & Adrienne Sirany	Stratford Consulting
Brian & Candice Winterringier	Gary & Cynthia Detjen	Kala Keeffe	Mike & Dina Salmen	Sue Prok
Bruce & Arlyce Abrahamson	George & Dorothy Hnath	Karen & Kevin McKenna	MN Harvest Horse Show	Susan Rylance
Callie Henschel	George Bates	Karen Baker	MN Hunter and Jumper Assn	Susan Vento
Carol Lahaye	Gerald & Frances Davis	Karen Durant	Nancy & Gary Sabath	Sutton Bay Golf, LLC
Carol Pearson	Gladys Irving	Kari Zenner	Neil & Kris Brown	Suzanne Kinnear
Carolyn & Brian Taylor	Glenn & Jane McConnach	Kathleen Olsen	Nelda Casbon	Tammy Chambers
Celia Ellingson	Gordon & Anna Mae Ramerth	Kathryn & George Moothedan	Nina Raveling	Teri & Emanuel Calderon
Charles Maguire	Greg & Karla Jensen	Kathryn & Roger Dobbs	Norma Friedrichs	Terry & Jack Appleman
Cheryl Michel	Greg Haffely	Kelly Munger	Orange Tree	Therese Coons
Chick & Lois Schenfeld	Hannah Bialick	Ken & Mary Mattsen	Pamela Hoekstra	Thomas Huot
Chris Knauff	Harry & Edna Nash	Ken Heitmeier	Parrel Caplan	Thomas Laffey
Chris Vetter (Green)	Harry Johnson	Kendal Cousin	Pat and Ann Ryan	Thomas Wiskow
Christin Morey	Hassan Mkaouri	Kevin & Linda Lochner	Pat Stephenson	Tim & Ann Fleming
Christine Goehle	Irene Gleason	Kevin Roberg	Pat, Ruthie & Daly Wolfe	Tim & Gayle Devries
Christine Malovrh	Irene Tremblay	Kevin Summers	Patricia Ziaja	Timothy & Pamela Allen
Christine Plutowski	IWCO Direct	Kevin Tatro	Paul & April Dobbs	Timothy Doherty
Christopher & Denise Waller	J. Kirk Ogren	Kristine Fallon	Paul & Cynthia Jensen	Todd Hazelton
Clayton Kaufman	Jack & Donna Dobbs	Larkin Hoffman	Paul & Patricia Vincent	Tom & Beth Anne Sauer
Craig & Ingrid Barnes	Jacque Rooney	Laroy & Lila Luther	Paul Obinger	Tom & Kammy Kramer
Dale & Karen Nelson	Jacqueline & Jay Dobbs	Leona Goehle	Perry Wedum	Tom & Leslie Merritt
Dale Anderson	James & Ann Kalgren	Lisa & Dean Stinchfield	Peter & Leah Bailey	Tom & Nancy Lindahl
Darrell & Linda Tamosuinas	James & Elaine Carrick	Lisa & Stuart Sides	Quintin & Nadine Adamski	Tom Carlson
David & Janet Commers	James & Jean Westrum	Lois Miller	R.D. & Judith Pihlstrom	Tom Rocheford
David & June Kroog	James & Michelle Miller	Lois Peterzen	Rich and Mary Ostlund	Tricia Prigge
David & Kathy Wanous	James & Nancy Vieburg	Lois Tollefson	Richard & Loraine Tieva	Vern & Phyllis Ahrndt
David & Merry Wachal	James & Yvonne Schwalen	Loren Fridgen	Richard & Madeleine Linck	Wells Fargo Bank
David Crary	James Bethmann	Lorraine Sarff	Richard & Maureen Rendahl	Wendy Boosalis
David G. Svendsen	Janet North	Luke Komarek	Richard Brubacher	William & Bette Bracken
David Lindahl	Jay Dobbs	Lyle & Marilyn Miller	Rick & Rene Zona	William & Karen Kelly
Dean Miller	Jean Lanz	Mack & Carol Traynor	Rick & Sharon Seitz	Windsong Farms