

PET REPORT FLORIDA - PENNEY FARMS

(P.E.T. = Personal Energy Transportation)

Vol. 16> The Gift of Mobility, the Gift of Hope < Spring 2007

The wheelchair that goes where wheelchairs can't go.

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DREAMS CAN COME TRUE!

Great strides have been made since last Newsletter! From the Groundbreaking Ceremony March 14th, to slab completion in April, to construction of the framework the first weeks in May! It's been a joy to visit the dusty busy work site!



YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

Friends of PET have told the story of HOPE and NEW LIFE and generous gifts have been received. But the time has come to ask others to consider a one time gift for the new building.

To date: **\$194,823.26** has been donated!

GOAL: \$250,000!

Any size gift to help increase production would be most appreciated.

What must it be like to have a life long dream come true? Seeing the need of those in Congo, Africa, Larry and Laura Hills dreamed of the day that those with no legs, or no use of their legs would have mobility. They dreamed that the **Gift of Life and Hope** could be given in the form of a vehicle that would go on the dusty and muddy rutted trails. With the support of Mel West in Columbia, Missouri and Earl Minor an engineer, the

prototype **P**ersonal **E**nergy **T**ransportation vehicle was developed, tried, refined, and finally began to be built in Africa and Missouri in 1995.

When the Hills retired to Penney Retirement Community they started a shop in their small garage. Eventually a corner service station repair shop became available where production started in 2001!

Six years later the time has come to expand production! Increasing the space from 2,400 to 4,200 square feet will enable us to double and eventually triple the 35/40 PETs currently produced per month.



GIFT OF TIME, TALENT and LOVE - for GIFT OF MOBILITY!

PET volunteers are busy busy people who find meaning and inspiration in their time at PET. **Loyd Puckett**, from Penney Retirement Community (PRC), can usually be found assembling a PET prior to packing, or purchasing materials to build PETs, or checking engineering designs to assure accuracy - but lately, in addition to these tasks he has been the Site Supervisor for the New Building!

He has overseen the permitting, zoning, contracting and coordinating of the project. When the contractor turns over the keys to the completed slab and building, Loyd is ready to turn over the keys to the next in line ->**Jim Bailey!**



VOLUNTEERS TO BUILD INTERIOR OF NEW BUILDING!

Jim Bailey (PRC) is organizing a 'blitz build'! With many skilled and unskilled men and women the, offices, interior walls, overhead storage, and bathroom equipment will be the construction tasks of current PET volunteers.

Others in the community willing and able to give of their time and talents will join the blitz. Jim has indicated that anyone with a desire to help can find a job - experts will be available to teach those willing but with limited construction skills!!

The plan is also to continue the on-going production of PETs so double duty will be the schedule for many of the PET volunteers.



Special Need Work Areas

For the health and safety of volunteers there are special areas such as **spray painting** and **welding** that must have separate "booths." These are part of the building design and needing some special funding.

10,000 PETs!!!!



CELEBRATION in Columbia, MO

In March 2007, at the site where the first PETs were made, a grand celebration was held when the number 10,000 rolled off the production line! This is the total of ALL PET sites, not just Columbia! It was a milestone for PET Texas-Luling as in 2006 they had completed their 500th; and in PET Tennessee - Murfreesboro their 100th, and here at Penney Farms, this month we produced our 2,199th!

Ten thousand individuals now have a new lease on life; 10,000 men, women and children have mobility where before they were left on the ground or had to be carried by family and friends; 10,000 lives now have HOPE of contributing to their family and community as productive active members!

THIS IS THE MISSION WE ARE ALL A PART OF! AREN'T WE PRIVILEGED!
THANK YOU FOR HELPING GIVE **THE GIFT OF MOBILITY** THE GIFT OF HOPE!**

