

PRAIRIE FLOWERS

Kite Fest filled with families smiling at the sky

To the Editor:

Our sincere thanks to everyone who made the 2011 DeKalb Kite Festival soar with kites and smiles. The winds were perfect and the sun shined brightly on all the smiling faces. The festival of kites filled the sky with beautiful colors and shapes that kept spirits soaring high through the day.

DeKalb County residents and visitors were able to enjoy such a wonderful day of fun festivities thanks to the generosity of sponsors: A-Tec Ambulance, Best Western Inn & Suites of DeKalb, Bill White's C.A.R. Hospital, Comfort Inn, Baymont Inn & Suites, Holmes Student Center, DeKalb Park District, DeKalb Chamber of Commerce, DeKalb County Convention & Visitors Bureau, Holiday Inn Express, ProSound Productions by D.J. Shawn Lowe, Kishwaukee Community Hospital, Mike's Auto & Repair, Nestle, Northern Illinois University Athletics, NIU Student Leadership & Involvement, The National Bank & Trust Co., DeKalb Sign Shop, Foster and Buick Law Firm, Walmart and WLBK 1360AM.

We would like to express our gratitude to the DeKalb Fire Department, Chief Bruce Harrison, and O'Donnell Crane for their contribution toward remembering Sept. 11, 2001. DeKalb County will never forget.

Thank you to the participants from Art Attack, DeKalb County American Red Cross, DeKalb Park District and Kishwaukee Community Hospital who offered a variety of fun activities which added to the enjoyment of the event.

Thanks to the committee members for their dedication, time and genuine enthusiasm for planning the event. They are Becky Harlow, Chris Overmann, Jennifer Mescher and Debbie Armstrong.

We are happy to see that so many of the attendees contribute to Kite Fest by helping to fill the skies with kites along with the professionals from surrounding states and clubs, 180 Go!, Illinois Kite Enthusiasts, Kite Harbor, Sparling Kites, Wisconsin Kites, the Overmann family and Peter McMasters.

Events like Kite Fest rely on volunteers who give generously of their time to set up the field, put up tents, build kites with kids, facilitate parking, run water to volunteers, and clean up to ensure everything runs smoothly and is enjoyable for all. A very special thanks to many community members and to NIU Leadership & Involvement, athletics, Alpha Sigma Alpha, Black Male Initiative, Delta Zeta, Lambda Sigma, Phi Kappa Psi, students who are a part of the Huskie Paws for a Cause, honors students, and nonprofits for their dedication and support for Kite Fest. We couldn't do it without you.

If you have photos, video or stories you'd like to share or if you'd like to help with next year's festival to be held Sept. 9, contact us at DNelson@NABATCO.com or DArmstrong@dekalbcountycvb.com. We also invite you to like Kite Fest on Facebook.

Doug Nelson

2011 Kite Festival chairman

Thanks for supporting Grannie's Eatery

To the Editor:

Thank you to everyone who supported Grannie's Eatery sponsored by Fox Valley Older Adult Services at the Sandwich Fair. We had another successful year, so this note of appreciation goes to all those that worked hard to prepare and serve our food. That group includes all of our adult volunteers and other family members, Mrs. Lawyer and the IVVC Culinary Arts students, and other high school students that helped out.

We want to include a big thank-you to all those businesses and individuals that supported us with generous donations of food and money to defray our expenses.

We are also grateful to all of our customers who stopped by our food booth. Your purchases enable FVOAS to continue their programs that support seniors in our community. We could not do this without you.

Diane Shroyer

Beth Schmitt

DeAnne Zaeske