

EMPOWER



Turnstone

SUMMER 2015

A newsletter for family & friends



It can happen to anyone

Erica and Pete Lomont shared their mission moment during the 15th annual Board of Directors' Gala. They presented a perfect example of how any of us, at any time, can need the comprehensive services Turnstone provides.

In March 2013, everything was coming up roses for Erica and Pete Lomont. They both had good jobs as engineers. In fact, they'd met during a calculus class at IPFW. They had two sons, Chase and Drake, and the family enjoyed bicycling, rollerblading, and nature walks together. Erica, who'd been a competitive cyclist when she was younger, was raring to get back on her bike after her father refurbished it as a Christmas present.

But before Erica could get back to a full regimen of activities, there was something more important in the immediate future. She and Pete were about to be doubly blessed with twins. Nora and Lola were born on March 22, just two days before Erica's own birthday.

Everything seemed just fine when the family brought the girls home. However, just a few days later, Erica began complaining of severe

headaches. Pete took her to the emergency room, where the diagnosis was that she was suffering from lingering effects of the epidural anesthesia given during labor.

The next day, Pete took the twins to a doctor's appointment. When Pete returned home, he found Erica in absolute agony. "She was yelling that her head was going to explode," Pete recalls. "As she was staring at me, one of her eyes drifted off."

Erica was rushed to the hospital where she underwent six hours of surgery. It was determined that she had a rare condition in her brain, a malformation in which an artery and a vein were connected. The area had ruptured, and a fist-sized blood clot had formed.

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The surgery saved Erica's life, but she couldn't walk or talk, and she'd lost the use of her arms. All she could do was wiggle one toe. "The neurosurgeon really didn't have a prognosis for her recovery," Pete says.

After Erica spent some time in a local inpatient rehabilitation facility, the Lomonts were told Erica should be moved to a nursing home, where she could receive the care she needed. But Pete wasn't ready for such an extreme measure. "I don't think their decision to put Erica in a nursing home was based on reality," Pete says.

So Erica began a three-month stint of inpatient rehab in Indianapolis. Although she responded to the therapy there, the Lomonts still needed to find a place in the Fort Wayne area where she could undergo therapy and take part in adult day services while Pete worked. As it turned out, Erica had once worked for a company that did some technical work for Turnstone. "After talking to the staff at Turnstone, I felt that Erica would fit there," Pete says. "I know now that we made the right decision."

In August 2013, Erica began coming to Turnstone every weekday for a variety of therapy—occupational, physical, and speech.

Despite three subsequent operations, Erica has made a remarkable recovery in less than two years. She now drives herself to Turnstone just twice a week to use the therapy pool and fitness center.

The time spent in Turnstone's fitness center demonstrably paid off last summer when Erica walked four miles as part of Team Turnstone during Fort4Fitness. What's more, she pushed Nora and Lola in a double stroller the entire distance.

"I don't think I'd be where I am today without Turnstone," says Erica, who now volunteers at the Lomonts' church, Saint Joseph Hessen Cassel, as a way to prepare for a return to work some day.

"When we were looking for a place in Fort Wayne where Erica would receive effective therapy and take part in meaningful social activities, Turnstone had exactly what we were looking for," Pete says. "The people at Turnstone have been great—professional, friendly, and very supportive in everything, including understanding our financial constraints." 🌟



The Lomont family participates in the 2014 Fort4Fitness with Team Turnstone. Erica was able to complete the four mile walk while pushing twins Nora and Lola in a double stroller.



Mike Mushett

Hello, Turnstone Family and Friends,

The fifth of July marks my six-month anniversary as the “point person” for Turnstone. It’s been an exciting ride! In accepting the CEO position, I knew I was coming into one of the top organizations of its type in the United States. However, what I’ve quickly learned is that when you consider Turnstone’s comprehensive continuum of services—therapy, adult day services, sports and recreation, health and wellness, inclusive child care, case management, and equipment loan—there’s no other agency in the nation that offers as much depth and breadth of programming as Turnstone.

The “frosting on the cake” will be launched this September, when the Turnstone board, staff, supporters, clients, and volunteers will welcome Fort Wayne, the region, and the world to our new 125,000-square-foot expansion. Turnstone’s “big dream” will become reality. Programming for Turnstone clients and families will be expanded to a new level and will include an indoor track, four basketball courts, an 18 meter warm water therapy pool, conference rooms, and a new, larger fitness center.

Additionally, Turnstone will become one of the premier destinations in the country for athletes with disabilities, from youth and novice, to elite and the Paralympic level. This was highlighted in the recent announcement by the United States Association for Blind Athletes (USABA) that its men’s national goalball team, which has already qualified for the 2016 Paralympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, will relocate its program from Colorado Springs, Colorado, to Turnstone. This will make Fort Wayne the national center of excellence for the sport.

I’m proud to be part of Turnstone, and all of us look forward to building upon our reputation—where disabilities are turned into possibilities!

Best regards,

Getting to know volunteer **Katherine Diem**

What brought you to Turnstone?

I came to Turnstone for preschool in the late 70s, when it was located on Fairfield Avenue. I came back to Turnstone after high school and have been here ever since.

Why do you volunteer at Turnstone?

I enjoy volunteering, and it gives me something to do to get out of the house.

What’s your best memory of volunteering?

I love seeing the kids grow through the years.

What do you love most about Turnstone?

Everyone is very nice!

What’s one thing other people don’t know about you?

I’m a Girl Scout leader.

What’s your favorite treat?

Barbecue potato chips.

What’s your favorite ice cream?

Mint chocolate chip.

What do you like on your pizza?

A supreme pizza is my favorite.

Three things you’d want with you if you were stranded on an island?

My iPad, makeup—and wine!



Katherine Diem



HATS OFF AND THANKS TO ...

The **IPFW Student Athlete Leadership Team, Disabled Sports USA, and Northfield Jr./Sr. High School** for their support of Turnstone's adaptive sports and recreation program.

...

Pizza Hut of Fort Wayne for hosting another successful Turnstone Buffet Night. This year, more than \$2,400 was raised to support the agency and its programs.

...

The **University of Saint Francis School of Creative Arts** for once again partnering with Turnstone to create a photography exhibition of children and adults with disabilities for permanent display at the agency.

...

The **Psi Iota Xi Sorority, Theta Theta Chapter**, for their support of Turnstone's pediatric speech therapy program.

...

Psi Iota Xi Sorority, Pi Chapter, for the funds to purchase therapeutic weighted blankets for our children.

...

Grace Presbyterian Church for its gifts in support of Turnstone's residential-ramp-building program.

...

Plymouth Congregational Church for the gift to purchase a medical-grade lift chair for our Adult Day Services program.

...

The **Shank Family Foundation** for supporting Turnstone's Dr. Robert Kimbrough Early Learning Center.

...

The **Len-Ari Foundation, the Parrish Foundation, the Charlie Tippmann Foundation, the Journal Gazette Foundation, the Central Indiana Porsche Club, the Curt Fuhs Trust, Don R. Fruchey Inc., Preferred Anesthesia Consultants,** and the **employees of JAT of Fort Wayne** for their support of Turnstone's core programs and services.

The **AWS Foundation** for the gift to support pediatric-therapy services, as well as the Mighty Money donation to support Turnstone's Summer Speech Camp.

...

The **Ian and Mimi Rolland Foundation and Carol Rolland** for their continued support of Turnstone's Adult Day Services program.

...

The **Foellinger Foundation** for the limited capital-improvement gift to renovate program space to improve functionality and provide room for an expansion of the Adult Day Services program.

...

Organized Labor and their families, the United Way of Allen County, Holsum of Fort Wayne, Ferrellgas, Juggler's Anonymous, High Hopes clowns, The Philharmonic Players Union, IUE-CWA Local 999, Ellison Bakeries, Fort Wayne Firefighters 124, and the many volunteers who made this year's annual client picnic possible.

...

Saint Charles' fourth-grade class for once again organizing a successful Read-A-Thon. This year the students raised nearly \$4,000 to support our adaptive sports and recreation program.

...

Dr. Rudy Kachmann for his donation of prize money for the annual Wheelchair Tennis tournament.



NEWS NOTES

40th Annual Casino Night

Turnstone's 40th Annual Casino Night was a huge success, with nearly 600 guests enjoying a groovy night! We had such a far out time that the Village People even showed up! The psychedelic festivities raised over \$45,000 in support of Turnstone's pediatric therapy, wellness, education, and recreation programs. A very big thank you to our event sponsors, donors, guests, and volunteers for all of their hard work in making this event a record success. A complete list of sponsors will be published in the 2014–2015 Annual Report.



At left: Joe Guise and Denise Wood entertained the crowd at Turnstone's 40th Annual Casino Night.

Below: The Village People had a groovy time at Casino Night.



15th Annual Board of Directors Gala

Turnstone's Board of Directors held their Annual Gala on June 18th with 220 Turnstone supporters and friends in attendance. The highlight of the evening was a special Mission Moment by Pete and Erica Lomont, who spoke of Erica's remarkable journey with Turnstone.

Through the generosity of our guests, sponsors and foundations, over \$329,000 was raised. The proceeds from the Gala will benefit Turnstone's therapeutic programs for children and adults with disabilities.

6th Annual JERK Invitational Outing benefiting Turnstone

On Saturday, August 15, tee off as we celebrate the partnership joining Turnstone and the JERK League for our Annual Golf Outing. No, they aren't jerks, just a fun league dedicated to giving back to Turnstone while enjoying one of America's favorite pastimes. Sign up your team for a great day on the links at Colonial Oaks with a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. for only \$260 per foursome. For more information or to register, contact Erin Arnold at (260) 483-2100 or erin@turnstone.org.

Support Turnstone while you shop!

Sign up for the Kroger Community Rewards Program to contribute to Turnstone. Just call (866) 221-4141 or follow these simple steps:

1. Visit www.kroger.com.
2. Log in to your account or create a new digital account.
3. Add your Plus card number to your account.
4. Select "My Account" or your name in the top right corner and scroll down to "Community Rewards." Select "Enroll Now" or "Edit."
5. Enter your personal information.
6. Enter 11240 as the NPO number or type in "Turnstone Center for Disabled Children and Adults."
7. Select "Turnstone Center for Disabled Children and Adults" and click "Save."

Done! Any future transactions using the card number associated with your account will be applied to the program. Last quarter we received over \$700. Turnstone raises funds with every eligible purchase you make! Thank you for your support.

"LIKE" US — ON FACEBOOK

You can now become a fan of Turnstone on Facebook. Like us at www.facebook.com/TurnstoneCenter



MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

Thanks to all who gave honoraria and memorials to Turnstone between January 8, 2015, to April 30, 2015.

IN MEMORY OF...

- Mike Baron**
Mrs. Rita Baron
- Herbert Barrand**
Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Barrand
Ms. Glenna Bunn
Mr. & Mrs. Ken Gaff
Ms. Victoria Grable
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Mrs. Karen Rodenbeck
Mrs. Kim Sciffes
- In honor of Team Turnstone**
Mr. & Mrs. Kelly Clevenger
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Witte
- Geoffrey Avery**
Ms. Ruth Booker
- Sarah Sims' Ball State Graduation**
Mrs. Beth Nygaard
- Nancy Clark**
Mrs. Nancy Louraine
- Alex Leckron**
Mr. Terry Shockey
- Mary Lynn Loeffler's Birthday**
Mr. Arthur Loeffler

TURNSTONE OF TOMORROW OPEN HOUSE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 *from* 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Join us in celebrating the opening of the **Plassman Athletic Center** at Turnstone. See all of the new space that Turnstone has to offer and also learn more about all of Turnstone's programs and services.

UPCOMING SPORTS EVENTS



POWER SOCCER (CHAMPIONS CUP) NATIONALS

Friday–Sunday, July 17–19 at IPFW

KAYAKING CLINIC

Saturday, August 1 at Hurshtown Reservoir

3rd ANNUAL SLED HOCKEY GOALIE CAMP

Friday–Sunday, September 18–20 at SportONE/Parkview Icehouse

TRACK & FIELD CLINIC

Saturday, October 3 at Plassman Athletic Center at Turnstone

WELCOME NEW STAFF MEMBERS

Ruth Stone,
Chief Development Officer

Rose Elder,
ADS Program Assistant

Nancy Vonderau,
Adult Social Worker



Classic American Muscle

Be the envy of your neighborhood when you drive around in your "new" 1963 Corvette Sting Ray. But you better have the winning ticket! This car was built for speed and features the rare split rear window, a 340-horsepower, 327-cubic-inch V8 engine with a four-speed manual transmission, side pipes, and Cragar wheels. Tickets are available at Turnstone or by calling (866) 483-1278 and paying with your debit card. Tickets are \$10 each, three for \$25, seven for \$50, 15 for \$100, or 40 for \$250. The winning ticket will be drawn on October 8 at 6 p.m. Indiana raffle license No. 136481. You can check out the '63 'Vette Sting Ray that's up for grabs by stopping by one of several locations this summer and fall.

See the Corvette in person at these locations:

- July 11: Barr Street Market in Fort Wayne, Indiana
- July 25: Rolling into Roanoke Car Show, Roanoke, Indiana
- August 14: Fort Wayne TinCaps game at Parkview Field
- September 2-6: Auburn Labor Day Car Show in Auburn, Indiana
- September 26: James Dean Car Festival in Fairmount, Indiana



Turnstone Center for
Children and Adults with Disabilities
3320 North Clinton Street
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46805
(260) 483-2100



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For more information about Turnstone go online to Turnstone.org.