



2016 PUMPKINS FOR PARKINSON'S RECAP

The 2016 Pumpkins for Parkinson's fund raiser was an amazing success. Together we raised over \$19,000.00 that directly supports our YMCA Parkinson Wellness Recovery program participants. Funds have been applied toward exercise equipment and props such as a Theracycle therapy bike (which is motorized and designed to provide pedaling assistance to the rider) and SilverSneakers chairs; Dial-a-Ride passes to our participants who are no longer able to drive themselves to the Y or find a ride; the training and affiliate costs and implementation of the Rock Steady boxing program which is designed to improve the strength, stamina and well-being of people living with Parkinson Disease; equipment essential to the Rock Steady Boxing program such as heavy bags, speed bags, gloves, wraps, etc., and program scholarship financial assistance for Parkinson Wellness and Rock Steady participants.

The pumpkins were grown throughout the summer/fall, leading up to the final celebration on October 5 at the Y where the pumpkins were showcased and awards were presented. Morgan Stanley Wealth Management sponsored brats and chips for everyone. Teams and growers enjoyed the friendly competition that resulted in Jordan Swanson's 641 pound pumpkin, grown for Team Morgan Stanley, taking top honors. Top dollar earner was Team All Season's. Growers are already volunteering their services for next year!

We would like to extend a big THANK YOU to the following individuals and businesses for their support:

C.T. Marhula, project chair and developer.

Teams/Captains:

The White Hat Gang (Coach Brad Berry, Coach Gino Gasparini, Lisa Marvin, Al Pearson); Team Thompson (Mayor Hippen, David Loiland); United Valley Bank (Tim Horpedahl, Anne Compton); Shea's Nursery (Dan Mohr, Dean Mohr); Morgan Stanley (Rick Mercil, Bob Kulack); Team East Side (Hardware Hank, EGF Firefighters, Barb Anvinson); Peppermint Patti (Patti McEnroe, Brown Corporations, Carrol Duerr); All Season's (Jan Heitman, Jolene Dunphy); Team Big Heart (Dr. Chillah, Karen Paulson).

Pumpkin Growers:

Wade Stadstad; Dan Riedemann; Jordan Swanson; Diana Tveit; All Season's; Dave Hunt

Corporate Sponsors:

iHeart Media; Dakota Sales; Brown Corporations; CHS Ag Services; Morgan Stanley Wealth Management; Altru Health System; Red River Farm Network.

Tom McEnroe

Tom enlisted several of his ag friends to grow some of the pumpkins, picked up and weighed most of the pumpkins (thanks to **CHS Ag Services** for use of the scale, truck and flatbed trailer), delivered them to the Y, and made sure they found a good home post-celebration. They can now be viewed at the home of Alex Reichert as part of his Halloween display and in front of All Season's Garden Center!



(L) Rick Mercil (Morgan Stanley) and Bob Kulack accept their first place traveling trophy for the largest pumpkin at 641 pounds, grown by Jordan Swanson.

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