

# Highlands Ranch Herald

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## Indulgence Pays Off for Kids

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You have young kids. They outgrow shoes, shirts, skirts and trousers faster than they could ever wear the items out. They outgrow their strollers, tricycles and bicycles. They outgrow their walkers, wheelchairs and gait trainers. For the first two groups of items, resale shops, yard sales and neighborhood swaps can take up the slack. You trade your 3-year-old's toys with the neighbor for her 5-year-old's castoffs, and her 2-year-old is enriched. But your neighbor probably doesn't have a child in the same sort of chair or walker your child needs or has outgrown. Enter the Kopp family.

Kayla Kopp uses a range of adaptive equipment and her parents, Christy and Peter, discovered how expensive, time-consuming and frustrating getting new gear can be, and how hopeless it is to pass along the outgrown equipment. So they created a nonprofit group that organizes the swaps.

Kids Mobility Network now has a warehouse full of gently used durable medical equipment. The nonprofit has passed along 160 pieces of gear in two years. The Kopps estimate the value to be close to \$.5 million dollars.

For example, Kayla's collapsible wheelchair costs \$8,000 new and insurance only pays \$2,000, leaving the other \$6,000 for the family to pay.

Kids Mobility Network does some of the work with help. Jenny's Markets donated money from every fountain soda and coffee sold in September, for a total of \$16,500. Now, Bubble Goddess Soap Co. in Inverness is offering a way to help the Kids Mobility Network while helpers get pampered. Jennifer Leete, owner of Bubble Goddess, orchestrates a weekend annually where all her proceeds go to a cause. This year, Loosen Up will benefit Kids Mobility Network.

"Christy is following her passions and dreams, and I want to support that," Leete said. "I love that Kids Mobility is local and spreads joy to children. It's hard enough to be a kid."

Loosen Up will take place over two days, Nov. 1-2 at the spa in Inverness.

"Our goal is to raise over \$15,000 dollars for Kids Mobility Network by pampering women and encouraging them to take some time for themselves while helping a great cause," Leete said.

For tickets or more information, visit [www.bubblegoddessbathco.com](http://www.bubblegoddessbathco.com).