

Friends and Neighbors

The Bosler Family



Bruce and Kim have six children. Rebecca (29) lives in Utah with her husband and four children with another on the way. Brooke (27) has a Master's Degree in Vocal Performance. She has numerous recognitions including the Encouragement Award in the Metropolitan Opera National Council District Finals for two years, the Norma Poulton Bullock award, the Callus Spillsbury award and she won the NATS competition Southern Utah chapter. She also has had the opportunity to study opera with some of the best teachers in the United States. Jason (25) served a two-year mission in Georgia for his church, and is graduating from UVU with a business degree this year, while working full time. Kaitlin (22) is a new mother of a baby boy and is currently attending Nursing School at BYU. Karli (16) is part of the Honeybee Trio and is also a part of her high school choir. Tyler (10) loves to play baseball, enjoys playing piano and is also a part of the swim team.

by: Amber Kienbaum

Bruce and Kim Bosler have been residents in Vacaville for the past 25 years. Parents of six children and continuous involvement in the community has filled their lives with many great friends. Bruce is a local dentist in town who also has been able to find the time to compete in Ironman Triathlon competitions. Kim volunteers her time as the Cooper Elementary School chorister, is a den mother for the cub scouts, along with performing as a Messiah soloist for the last 20 years. She also is a Provident Living Leader, helping families learn to budget, cook meals from scratch, grow, store and can their food. Their kitchen is usually full of fresh sprouts, fruits and veggies from their garden. They all enjoy making healthy meals, and everyone knows that when they come to the Bosler home, they have to try one of *Mom's famous Green Smoothies*.

The Bosler family finds it very important to give and contribute to the community just as much as they do to their own family. For the past three years, the Bosler family has helped the Honeybee Trio with several benefit concerts. Latest was for USO and Fisher House, along with the "Out- run MS" both held at the Buck Mansion. Brooke flew in from Florida to give a beautiful opera concert at this event. Other fundraising events include the Ronald McDonald House, Cancer Relay, Gala to support the Opportunity House, Victory Over Cancer at North- Bay, Shriners, Solano County Children's Services, Silver Slipper Rotary Fundraiser, and a benefit concert for the Boys & Girls Club. Their next fundraiser is set for Friday, November 18 where they are helping to raise funds for Operation Tanzania. The proceeds from the

event will be going towards building a Rafiki Foundation Cottage in Tanzania.

"Our life certainly gets crazy at times, but the busier and more hectic modern life gets, we feel the more important it is to have a regular night set aside each week just for the family," shares Kim. "Kids want to feel like they belong to a strong and loving family and to have a purpose. Family night can be as simple as doing a fun activity together—which is what ours consists of most of the time. The home is a place where kids should feel supported, unconditionally loved and that they always have a safe place to express their feelings." Of course, admitting that life and family isn't always as grand and glorious as it sounds, Kim jokingly shares, "When we had all of our kids at home, sometimes it was more like 'family fight' instead of 'family night.'"

To make it very easy for any family, a favorite website of theirs is www.family-nightless.com, which give non-denominational one-page lessons on a universal value that kids can download and give themselves.



One night Bruce took an idea from an article and the family sat down to come up with a mission statement for their family. After about an hour of brainstorming, some funny, some serious, and some not so serious ideas, the family eventually came up with one perfect sentence as the mission statement for their family: Make A Difference. "Each family is unique. But now when we make decisions as a family, we ask that question, 'How can we make a difference?' Or sometimes if we are super busy, 'Will this make a difference?' It takes off a lot of stress to put things into perspective," says Bruce.

Why should every family consider making their own mission statement? Because it asks the question...why are we doing this? Goals are different than a mission statement. Goals are things you want to accomplish/do. Mission statements are the whys behind what you do.

Just last month, the Bosler family started by brainstorming some goals they would like to accomplish as a family. "I asked the kids if they could remember what they got for Christmas last year." Kim recalls. "It took them a while and... after all of the shopping we did, the money we spent, the Christmas socks we stuffed and the presents we wrapped, they finally came up with 'a pogo stick.' We then told them about a nursery in Nicaragua, which had just two toys: a leg from a broken doll, and a wheel from a broken toy truck. Our kids felt so much compassion for these children."

Since Kim's sister's family is founding a non-profit organization in Nicaragua called "Benches & Blackboards," they talked about diverting their normal Christmas budget next year towards a goal of going on a family mission trip and perhaps making a difference there. Of course, there are many ways people can donate to poverty-stricken countries without the travel, but the family got so excited about actually visiting and working on projects there. So now they are working on that goal, and the kids are engaged in setting aside money too, knowing why they are going.

Bruce can sometimes be seen wearing a starfish pin on his lapel, when asked what it represents, this was his reply: "It's called a character pin. Several years ago we heard a story about a young girl that was playing at the beach and suddenly noticed the many starfish that had been washed up from the shore. Unable to get back into the ocean, they were drying up and dying on the rocks. So she stopped what she was doing, and one by one, she would toss them back into the water. As she was doing so, her grandfather noticed her, walked up with a smile and asked her what she was doing. The young girl replied, 'The sun is up and the tide is going out. If I don't throw them in, they'll die.' Her grandfather chuckled, pointed along the shoreline, and said, 'My dear, do you not realize that there are miles and miles of beach and

there are starfish all along every mile? You can't possibly make a difference!' The young girl listened politely. Then she bent down, picked up another starfish, threw it into the ocean, past the breaking waves and said, 'It made a difference for that one.'"

The Boslers enjoy and have learned so much from having a big family. "Just about every lesson in life is learned within the walls of your own home," says Kim. "Patience, love, compassion, trust, hope and you've heard the statement: 'When mamma ain't happy, ain't nobody happy,' it's true. There are times when I am completely overwhelmed, tired, tearful and exhausted, but unless there's a motivating reason behind doing our day-to-day chores, the cooking, the carpools, the homework, we'll lose heart and we won't care about our results. For us, the love we have for each other always pulls us through the tough times. And as Jacqueline Kennedy once said, 'If you bungle raising your children, I don't think whatever else you do well matters very much.'"

In our *Friends and Neighbors* articles we like to feature people who have done amazing things for the community along with people who have made Vacaville what it is today. As a thank you to these amazing people Motoring Specialists, located at 742 E. Main Street, supplies the featured citizen with a minor service on their vehicle. Thank you!



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