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Kudos: Praising positives

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BIG-TIME PURSE. It's not often you see men walking around with a pink purse.

For United Way of Central Kentucky, there was plenty of money to be made with the high-end purses auctioned off at the agency's Power of the Purse fundraiser this month at The Garage in downtown Elizabethtown.

With men and women serving as models, including Elizabethtown Mayor Jeff Gregory and former police chief Tracy Schiller, the event raised about \$20,000.

Designer handbags purchased by event sponsors are valued between \$600 and \$1,000, plus they contained items donated by local businesses.

The money raised in the second Power of the Purses event is for United Way and early childhood education.

A sure sign the event is having an impact is the growth in attendance and money raised between year one and two plus the increase in laughs and cheers.

In the end, it's the community that won.

CHICKEN OF THE LIONS. If it's August and hot, you can count on the annual Elizabethtown Lions Club to be ready to serve barbecue chicken to hundreds of people.

This year, 1,200 chicken halves were cooked at American Legion Park for one of four major fundraisers the club holds each year. Money raised primarily goes toward eyesight conservation. Money also is contributed to more than a dozen other local charities, organizer Aaron Rucker said.

It's quite a deal for \$7 as guests get half a chicken, slaw and baked beans.

Those who buy meals certainly are appreciated by the E'town Lions Club, but let's not forget the dedicated members who volunteer in the heat to make a difference in so many lives. They too, are appreciated.

SOUND GARDEN. Children in the area soon will be able to use a sound garden between the Hardin County Public Library and the new Central Kentucky Community Foundation headquarters on Jim Owen Drive in Elizabethtown.

The sound garden will feature colorful equipment in the shape of flowers children can tap to make noise and chimes.

The location is a natural fit near the library and an organization that creates so much hope for so many youngsters.

The equipment also is fully accessible for children with disabilities.

Thanks to a \$50,000 grant from PNC Bank, the sound garden came to life.

This editorial represents a consensus of The News-Enterprise editorial board.