

**arc**  
**THE WILLIAM M. BEDELL**  
**ACHIEVEMENT AND RESOURCE CENTER**  
**NEWSLETTER**

400 S. Main  
Wood River IL 62095  
website: bedellarc.org

January 2012  
618-251-2175  
fax 618-251-6294

*Mission Statement*

*To provide the highest quality of services and programs to children and adults who have a developmental disability that reside in Madison County, Illinois.*



**MANY THANKS TO  
THE FOLLOWING  
PEOPLE WHO  
GENEROUSLY  
DONATED TO THE**

**ARC during the past few months:**

Brian Balke Services, Charlotte Birdsong, Mr. & Mrs. Dominick Bogaski, Mr. & Mrs. Alan Brown, County Appliance and Furniture, Jeff and Barbra Davis, Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Dow, Dr. & Mrs. Marjorie DuVivier, Mr. & Mrs. Steve Ebbeler, Mr. & Mrs. Rocky Eveans and EVCO National Inc., Rick Faccin, Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Fischer, Mary Lou Fitzpatrick, Bill Dettmers (Gateway Pension Services), Senator William Haine, Charles Hanfelder, Mr. & Mrs. Larry Hartley, Mr. & Mrs. Virgil Hook, Jourdain Roofing, Jun Construction, Mr. & Mrs. William Knop, Mr. & Mrs. Gary Kreutzberg, Mr. & Mrs. Dan Magruder, Mr. & Mrs. Nick Moehn, Tim Dickens (Pest Police), Mr. & Mrs. Don Price, Bert Roberts, Roberts Ford, Royal Office Products, Mr. & Mrs. Paul Schlueter, Mr. & Mrs. Jim Schrimpf, Schwartzkopf Printing, Mary Seitzinger, Mr. & Mrs. Norman Showers, Antigone Simpson, Marcella Taylor, Wayne Trampe, Mrs. Shirley Wiedman, C & J Properties, Mr. & Mrs. Louis Fennewald, Home Pharmacy, Piasa Lincoln Mercury, Mildred Tellor, Paul Utterback (Jane Henry Trust), Patricia Vine, Mr. & Mrs. Tom Walters, Rep. Jim Watson, Barbara Ziegler, Telsar (Pete Zimmer), Mr. & Mrs. Kerry Mossman, Conoco Phillips, Mr. & Mrs. Steve Meister, Andrea and Colin Welsh, Marie

Cavasher, Chris & Kathe Hedges, Jeff and Dorothy Ebbeler, Variety, the Children's Charity, Mr. & Mrs. Jack Helmkamp and Stephani Meyer and family.

**Stephani Meyer** recently retired from the ARC. Stephani had worked for the ARC since October 1982. Stephani was a Case Manager in the School Program. We'll miss Stephani, but we know she'll visit often. Her kindness and caring ways enhanced the school program in many ways.

**N**ew officers were recently elected to our Board of Directors. Their term began January 1, 2012. New officers are:

<b>President:</b>	<b>Rocky Eveans</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:</b>	<b>Jim Mihalich</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:</b>	<b>Robert J. Walters</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Julie McVey</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Nick Moehn</b>

Dorothy Ebbeler is our Immediate Past President and we thank her for serving two years as the President of our Board of Directors.

**Medieval Prom**

Our school's 18<sup>th</sup> annual prom will take place on April 21<sup>st</sup> at the Roxarena. The prom is for all of the teenage students and their families. The evening includes dinner and dancing. This year's prom has a medieval theme. The students and their families always have a wonderful time! The prom is put together by staff members who volunteer their time and talent and is funded by a variety of fundraisers. In October, ARC's prom committee hosted their first Quarter Raffle fundraiser. This was a huge success so they are planning to host another before the year is over. In March, the committee will host the second 5K Run and Walk on

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*Donations are tax deductible according to IRS Standards.*

March 24, at 10:00 a.m. The March Hare Madness Run/Walk will take place at Gordon Moore Park. Last year's 5K Run was fun and profitable so the committee hopes to make this an annual event. For more information regarding the 5K Run/Walk and the prom, please call 618-251-2175.

On January 10, 2012, **Senator William Haine and Representative Dan Beiser** met with Gary Osborne, Executive Director, and Rocky Eveans, President of the Board. We received a grant sponsored by each of these men through the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO). The funds from both grants will be used towards the construction of a new school building at the 400 S Main, Wood River location. **Thank you** to both these gentlemen. They are both loyal friends of the ARC.



## **Speak Up and Speak Out Summit.....**

In November, the Family Support Unit took 17 individuals to the annual Speak Up and Speak Out Summit held at the Springfield Hilton. The two-day summit encourages individuals who have disabilities to make their voices heard and provides numerous educational and social opportunities for them. A stipend paid for two nights of lodging and the meals at the hotel. General breakout sessions were held on topics including: How To Be a Leader, Microboards and Cooperatives, Thoughtful Transitions, Making Hopes and Dreams Come True, Sexuality, Opportunities for Living in the Community, Self-Advocacy and Food and Nutrition. Keynote speakers included self-advocates who started their own businesses, attended college, and created other opportunities for themselves. Kevin Casey, the new Director of the Division of Developmental Disabilities, held a question and answer session, as did Tony Records, the Court Monitor overseeing the Ligas lawsuit

outcomes. The highlight for many of those in attendance was the dance held the second evening where they could gather with friends from all over the state of Illinois. Most of the individuals were thrilled to ride the Amtrak train from Alton to the Springfield station and back. Some took a walking tour of Lincoln's home and local shopping establishments during their free time. This is the second year of attendance for the FSU, and those who went are already looking forward to next year's summit.

## **Residential and Family Support Unit Christmas Party**

December 13 was the day the Residential Program and the Family Support Unit collaborated for a Christmas party at the East Alton American Legion Hall. Both groups held a gift exchange and enjoyed delicious food catered by Castelli's at 255 (formerly Moonlight) Restaurant and staff from the group homes and FSU. The Family Support Unit played "rob your neighbor" with their gifts, which brought laughter from many as they tried to steal the most coveted gifts from one another. The attendees danced to the music from the DJs and were excited to get a visit from Santa Claus before the evening ended. Although it was a cold, rainy day outside, everyone was warm with holiday cheer inside!

The **Day Training Program** has had many stimulating and exciting events over the past months. We had a great turn out for the bowling parties at Bowl Haven. Our Winter Talent Show was held on December 21 with numerous talents including original works, poetry readings and singing. All the individuals did a fabulous job! Some to mention are: Patrick B who won first prize, Penny H. held second, and Kenny S. placed third. Great Job guys!

On December 23, DT held their first Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest. We had great participation from staff including some unintentional entries which can be an embarrassing surprise to both judges and participants. While the competition was intense, our own Bill Lawson won the award. An honorable shout out should be given to Angie Becker as well for her rendition of a second grade patchwork pullover type garment.

A very **SPECIAL THANKS** to Jim and Catherine Schrimpf who are loyal friends and supporters of the ARC. They recently donated a very nice Mercury Sable to the ARC. This vehicle will be used in our Family Support Unit to help transport clients.

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