

William M. BeDell
Achievement and Resource Center
Newsletter

400 S. Main
Wood River IL 62095
618-251-2175
fax 618-251-6294
www.BeDellarc.org

July 2009

Serving individuals with a disability since 1957

The ARC is a not for profit organization as stated under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code. Donations are tax deductible according to IRS standards.

Thank you...

to the individuals or organizations listed below who recently made contributions to the ARC:

Stephanie Fennewald
SLBS Limited Partnership
BP Amoco
Target Take Charge of Education
Abitibi
A T & T
Godfrey Knights of Columbus
Community Living Options
On the Spot Car Wash
Global Brass & Copper Inc.
Jeff & Dorothy Ebbeler
Wellpoint Associate Giving
Marie Odom Green
Jenny R. Oates
Energizer Matching Gifts
Bethalto Knights of Columbus
Hoagland Family Foundation
Tom Coles
Ron & Mary Jo Cote (Show Me=s)
Wood River Township Kiwanis
Edwardsville Knights of Columbus
Betty Dukes
Schwartzkopf Printing
Pat & Harvey Harmon
Robert Southerland
County Appliance
Dollar General

We have also received donations in memory of Margaret Logan. Thank you to her family for remembering the ARC.

We are very appreciative of the generosity of these individuals, which helps us fulfill our mission:

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

Mark your calendars now....The Annual ARC Benefit Dance is **November 7, 2009 at the Bethalto Knights of Columbus Hall.** Mondinband will be our band. They did a great job last year, and we look forward to having them again in 2009. Tickets will go on sale in September or October.

Special Olympics was held in May. We had several athletes participate. Three individuals advanced to the State Meet at Illinois State University on June 12 -13:

Kenny F won a gold medal for the tennis ball throw.

Erica S won a gold medal for the tennis ball throw and the 50 meter run

Ray W won a gold medal for the standing long jump and the softball throw.

Summertime in the School program offers more opportunities for field trips with our students and this summer we have certainly taken advantage of them. The Wood River and East Alton Library programs have been especially popular with our students. We certainly appreciate their willingness to make accommodations for and welcome our students. Each classroom has also visited the Great Rivers Museum and gone fishing at Gordon Moore Park Lake. To top it off we have our swim day every Friday. Half of our school plays in wading pools and sprinklers on the playground and the other half goes to Bethalto Swimming Pool. It is a great way to end a week of tasking, working, stretching, standing and field trips.

In April we held our Annual Prom. This year's theme was **Living the Luau** complete with leis, shells, surfboards and a sunset dance on the beach. Rico was crowned Prom King and Carissa was crowned Prom Queen.

Our garden was enlarged with four more raised beds by our talented maintenance staff. The students have been enjoying the fruits of their labors. To date we have harvested and eaten green beans, cucumbers, zucchini, green peppers, beets and tomatoes.

Freedom Quest 2009

ARC participated as a community partner with IMPACT CIL and other local organizations for Freedom Quest 2009. Over 150 individuals with disabilities and those who support them traveled in three separate caravans throughout the state of Illinois for three days in May. The goal of Freedom Quest was to bring attention to the wants and needs of individuals who have disabilities, especially their desire to live and work in community settings of their choosing. The southern leg of the caravan traveled to IMPACT in Alton for a gathering on May 20th. Many individuals served by ARC attended the local event, and nine people traveled with the group to Springfield to rally for individual rights. Hundreds of people throughout the state attended the rally at the Capitol Rotunda on May 21st. They listened to speeches by various advocates and had the opportunity to speak to their local legislators about the need to change funding in the State of Illinois to accommodate more community-based services.

Madison County Fair-Disability Awareness Day

The Highland Knights of Columbus are graciously sponsoring their annual Disability Awareness Day at the Madison County Fair on Wednesday, July 22nd. Individuals from ARC's School Program, CILA homes, Developmental Training Program and the Family Support Unit will be attending. The participants receive free lunches, T-shirts and tickets for the rides. Music is provided, and the individuals enjoy seeing the animals and all that the fair has to offer. The event is an annual favorite, and those attending are looking forward to a full day of fun.

Full Life Future Planning

Professional staff from the various ARC programs attended a two-day Full Life Future Planning training in April. Staff learned how to help individuals create a **ADream Team** of natural and professional supports to help them identify and fulfill their hopes and dreams in many life areas. At the beginning of June, individuals served by the Family Support Unit and CILA program participated in the second step of the program, **ADare to Dream** where they were able to create a visual collage of things they want to include in their lives. They received a laminated copy of their collages as well as typed notes of their explanations to share with their teams. Goals included simple things like planting flowers, as well as dreams that would take a lot more planning, such as taking a trip to Hawaii. A third training is scheduled in August called **ABridging the Gap Between Dreams and Reality** that is designed to help support people identify and overcome barriers to helping individuals achieve their dreams. The entire process has been valuable to all participants and has provided a fresh outlook on person-centered planning.

**THE WILLIAM M. BEDELL ACHIEVEMENT AND RESOURCE CENTER
400 SOUTH MAIN, BOX 349, WOOD RIVER IL 62095
PHONE 618-251-2175, FAX 618-251-6294**

2009-2010 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

It's time to renew your membership in The William M. BeDell ARC. Your membership in the ARC supports the programs of the ARC and assures you will receive your newsletter, which is published four times a year. Our newsletter is also published on our website: www.BeDellARC.org.

If you would like to become a member of the ARC, or if you would like to renew your membership, please fill out the form below and include your check made payable to the ARC for \$15. Return the form and your check to:

**ARC
ATTN: Jeanne
400 S Main
Wood River, IL 62095**

NAME_____

ADDRESS_____

PHONE_____

Checks should be payable to the ARC. Thank you for your support.

THE WILLIAM M BEDELL ARC
400 S MAIN
WOOD RIVER IL 62095