

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

**Alton Foundation, Chad's Hot Shots, Edwardsville Knights of Columbus Council #1143, James Schrimpf, Jim Mihalich, Diane Walton, Telsar, Bob and Peggy Searles, Lucia Norris, Tom Tunnicliff (BP Amoco), Jerrad and Stephanie Shaw, Knights of Columbus Council 2944, Conoco Phillips, Jack Helmkamp, Jeff and Dorothy Ebbeler, Marie Odom Green, and WellPoint Associate Giving.**

We want to express our sympathy to the families of **Chrisanty BeDell, Virginia Duckworth, Louis Wiedman, Barry Settles, Louise Young, Taneisha Johnson, and Anna Beach.** Thank you to the families of these individuals for recognizing the ARC as a memorial for their loved ones.

We are very appreciative of the generosity of these individuals. Their gifts help 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.*

Thank you for remembering the ARC.

On 4/11/08, the ARC lost a dear friend and supportive **Board member** with the death of Cris BeDell. Cris was the wife of former Executive Director, William M. BeDell, for whom our agency is named.

Cris spent the last 33 years being involved with the ARC, and she was very supportive of all of our programs, especially our student prom that she attended each year.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, our staff, and myself, we extend our sincere condolences to her son, Andrew, and his family, and Cris' sister Mary Tchoukaleff.

Gary Osborne, Executive Director

**arc**

The William M. BeDell Achievement and Resource Center  
400 South Main, Wood River, IL 62095, 618-251-2175, FAX 618-251-6294  
**NEWSLETTER August 2008**

### MADISON COUNTY FAIR

The Highland Knights of Columbus graciously sponsored their annual Disability Awareness Day at the Madison County Fair on July 23. Students from the school and consumers from the Residential Program, Developmental Training Program, and the

Family Support Unit all enjoyed a delicious free lunch, unlimited rides, live music, and a complimentary tee-shirt. The weather was perfect – sunny, but not too hot. We would like to give a big thank you to the Highland Knights and the volunteers who made the day possible. Everyone is already looking forward to next year's event!

**GOODBYE.....**ARC said goodbye to a friend and mentor in April when Deb Showers resigned and moved to the East coast. For twenty-eight years, her smiling face graced our halls, and those who worked with her in any capacity recognized and appreciated her compassion, intellect, and overwhelming concern for others. Deb was the Program Director for the Family Support Unit for many years, and most recently served as the Respite Coordinator. She touched the lives of many people in the community and was a shining example to those around her. We thank her for her years of dedicated service and wish her the best in all her life adventures.

On May 6, 2008, 28 athletes and 30 volunteers participated in the **Special Olympics** in Highland, Illinois. Gold medal winners moved on to the State Track and Field competition in June at Illinois State University in Normal, IL. Those winners were:

**Kenneth F – Tennis Ball Throw**

**Anthony L – Standing Long Jump**

**Erika S. – 50 M Run and Tennis Ball Throw**

**Raymond W - Standing Long Jump and Softball Throw**

Congratulations to all the athletes for their achievements at the Special Olympics.

*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.*

[www.BeDellarc.org](http://www.BeDellarc.org)

# BEDELL ARC'S 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SCHOOL PROM - APRIL 19, 2008

What a wonderful night it was for the students, families, volunteers and staff that were able to attend this year's Annual Prom, "Take Me Out To The Ball Game." The night began with 16 students and 4 alumni being escorted into the ballroom wearing their baseball tee-shirt or formal attire. Each student was introduced, as well as the staff escorting them. A typical baseball dinner consisting of hot dogs, bratwurst, hamburgers, popcorn, nachos and cheese, and soda were served to all in attendance. After dinner, carnival games and music/dancing were provided for those that cared to partake. There was also an opportunity to have your picture taken with Mark McGwire and Albert Pujols. The evening ended with the crowing of this year's king, Robert D (C-7) and Queen, Jennifer G (C-6). All students were given baseball trinkets (baseball cards with their picture, Cardinal baseball cards, baseball keychains, baseball picture frames, etc.) to remind them of the wonderful time that was had at this year's prom.

We are already planning and fundraising for next year's Annual Prom to be held on April 25, 2009.

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## 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.

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 to:

ARC  
ATTN: Jeanne  
400 S Main  
Wood River IL 62095

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

(Street Address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City)

(State)

(Zip)

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Checks should be payable to the ARC

Thank you for your support of the ARC.

<p>THE WILLIAM M BEDELL ARC 400 S MAIN WOOD RIVER IL 62095</p>
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