

Possibilities

COMMUNITY LINK

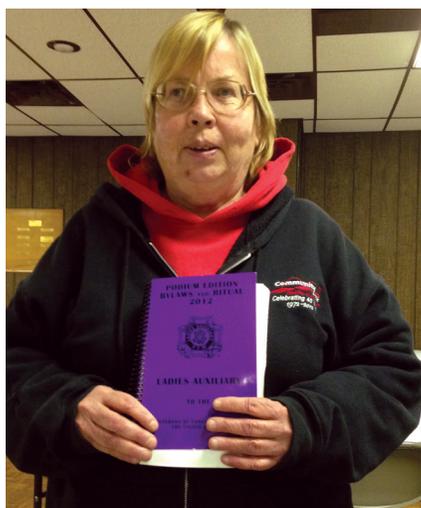
Spring 2014 • Volume 20 / Number 2

Sandra Porter... A Success Story



Sandra at a meeting recognizing VFW Women's Auxiliary years of service.

For the past 15 years, Sandra has flourished as a participant of Community Link, becoming more independent and involved in her community. Sandra lives in her own apartment, earns a paycheck working at Community Link, and has an active social life, taking advantage

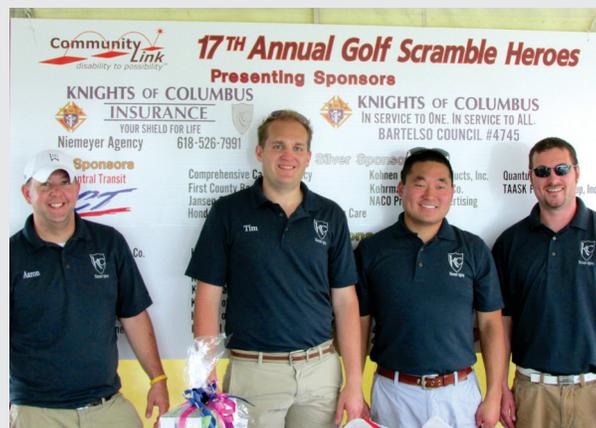


Sandra displaying the VFW Women's Auxiliary member manual.

of opportunities available to her through Community Link and volunteering in the community. One of her most recent accomplishments has been holding the position of Conductress with the VFW Women's Auxiliary in Carlyle. She has been involved with the organization since October of 2012, and was just re-elected to this position for the 2014-2015 year. Sandra attends meetings every month, and as part of her responsibilities as Conductress she confirms members present when roll call

is announced and distributes invoices for the trustees' approval. She is also responsible for announcing the deceased members of the Auxiliary, recognizing their service, and placing a drape over the Charter for these deceased members. Sandra also volunteers her time to help at the bingo events, selling cards, calling back winning numbers, and helping to clean up afterwards. Sandra truly enjoys being a part of this group who gives so much back to the community. ❖

Community Link's 18th Annual Golf Scramble June 21st



Last year's Presenting Sponsor Knights of Columbus Insurance – Niemeyer Agency.

Sponsorships and golfing slots are available for Community Link's 18th Annual Golf Scramble, to be held Saturday, June 21st at Bent Oak Golf Course in Breese (rain date: June 28th). The shotgun start times for the 4-person 9-hole scramble are 8:00 and 11:00 am, and we are adding a ladies' only start at 2:00 pm.

The cost to play is \$65 per golfer, which includes the greens fee, a shared golf cart, a goody bag, grab-and-go breakfast, two beverages, fried chicken lunch and a chance for attendance prizes which are drawn after each round.

Prizes will be awarded to flight winners and winners of the course competitions.

To become a sponsor, enter a team, or join a team, please see page 3 for the registration form. The proceeds from this event benefit Community Link, a proud United Way member agency. ❖

Possibilities is the newsletter of Community Link, a not-for-profit community agency providing opportunities to adults and children in the Southern Illinois portion of the St. Louis metropolitan area. Headquarters are located at:

Community Link – East
P.O. Box 157 / 1665 N. 4th St.
Breese, Illinois 62230
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Fax: (618) 526-2021
News Editor: Monica Mensing

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Margie Abert, Amy Becker, Jeanette Evans, Jamie Fields, Donna Fitzgerald, Chris Gebke, Deb Guest, Laurie Hemker, Carla Hilmes, John Huelskamp, Kristi Johnson, Kim Lohman, Tammy McCord, Rachel Poettker, Robin Thole, Chris Toennies

We welcome any questions or comments you may have about our newsletter.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

John Huelskamp

BOARD OF DIRECTORS FY 2013-2014

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MISSION STATEMENT

To challenge, teach, and inspire both participants and community, linking them in ways that enhance their lives.

Give me an "e" ... E! Give me a "mail" ... MAIL! What's it spell? GREEN!



More than ever, we are all engaged in environmentally sound practices. Community Link is committed to responsible stewardship of not only the environment, but your donor dollars as well. In an effort to reduce the continually increasing costs of the direct mail process, and shift toward reducing printed materials, we are taking steps to send some editions of the *Possibilities* by email.

We urge you to take a moment, right now, to join this effort and share your email address with Community Link, via MonicaM@commlink.org, or (618) 526-3929.

You can trust our firm commitment to your privacy and the protection of the address you provide. And we promise to not wear out our welcome.

If you would like to be current on everything going on at Community Link, please like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, and subscribe to us on YouTube. ❖

Buddy Walk Success...

Community Link held their 8th annual Buddy Walk on Saturday, May 3rd at Carlyle Lake. With over 750 registered walkers, this was the biggest and most successful Buddy Walk yet! This event, which helps raise awareness for people with Down syndrome and other developmental disabilities, brought in over \$28,000 in gross proceeds. The money raised at this event goes to Community Link to fund local programs and supports for individuals in our community with developmental disabilities and other difficulties, and a portion goes to the National



Steve Timmerman (l) and Kenny Jansen (r), program participants of Community Link, held the banner to start the walk.

Down Syndrome Society to fund national advocacy initiatives that benefit all individuals with Down syndrome. The top fundraising team this year was Team B.E.S.T., who raised over \$4,600! ❖

18th Annual CL Golf Scramble

June 21, 2014

Rain date June 28, 2014

Bent Oak Golf Course, Breese, IL

Community Link cordially invites you to support the 2014 Golf Scramble.

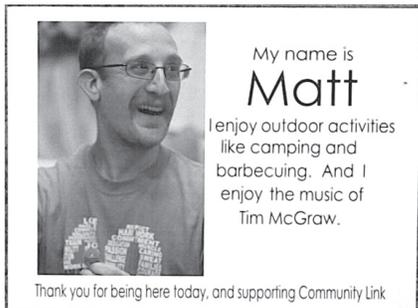
Shotgun Starts at 8 AM & 11 AM Ladies Only at 2 PM 4-Person Scramble

\$65 per solo golfer / \$260 per team

Includes: 9 holes, cart, 2 drinks,
grab-n-go breakfast, fried chicken lunch

Prizes awarded to flight winners
50/50 raffle
Attendance prizes

Raffle & attendance prizes after lunch for each round



Join us as a Sponsor?

Presenting Sponsor (\$1,000) includes:

- Prominent logo on individual Presenting Sponsor sign at golf course, logo on full page in program, name in all newspaper & advertising media.

Gold Sponsor (\$500) includes:

- Large logo on Sponsor sign at golf course, logo on half page in program, name in all newspaper & advertising media.

Silver Sponsor (\$250) includes:

- Name listed on Sponsor sign at golf course, logo in program, logo in newspaper ad.

Hole Sponsor (\$100) includes:

- Sign at one of the holes.

Cash Donations (\$Any) includes:

- Program recognition for helping defray the costs of sports and recreation for adults with developmental disabilities.



Yes, I / we want to join the scramble! Enclosed is (select one or more):

- \$65 per solo golfer—Please add me/us to a team.
- \$260 for our team (separate checks acceptable)
- Our sponsorship includes golfing (at Presenting Sponsor level)
- Donation toward client recreation:

Please use the enclosed donation in the amount of \$_____ to facilitate sports/recreation for adults with developmental disabilities.

Select preferred start: 8 AM 11 AM Either 2 PM (Ladies Only)

Sponsor/Team Name/Contact Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Please list golfers by name. (If some or all players are to be determined later, list them TBD.)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Yes, I/We would like to be a Golf Sponsor!

I am interested in being a Golf Sponsor. I would like someone to contact me.

\$1,000 Presenting Sponsor

\$500 Gold Sponsor

\$250 Silver Sponsor

\$100 Hole Sponsor

\$_____ Donation

Send form and fee to:

Golf Scramble
Community Link
1665 N. Fourth Street
Breese, IL 62230

First Step Early Learning & Family Support Program Vitality...



Wyatt concentrates on the shapes and getting them in the correct spot.



One of Wyatt's favorite activities is the container of macaroni and rice.



Another favorite of Wyatt's is putting Charlie Brown on the stairs as it climbs.

Wyatt Gilbert is a 2 year-old boy with Down syndrome who is currently receiving support services from Community Link's First Step Early Intervention program.

Down syndrome is a genetic disorder caused by the presence of all or part of a third copy of chromosome 21. It is typically associated with physical growth delays, characteristic facial features, and mild to moderate intellectual disability. Wyatt receives therapy three to four times per week, including occupational therapy, speech therapy, developmental therapy, and physical therapy, all provided through Early Intervention. Wyatt's therapy providers engage with him to articulate words to help him communicate and provide activities to enhance his motor skills, self-help skills, and skills in socialization and behavior. Wyatt may have to work a little harder than other kids his age, but he hits all of his milestones in his own time.

Wyatt loves to play, especially with his three siblings, and enjoys being the center of attention. He and his family are active supporters of Community Link's Buddy Walk, and are committed to raising awareness and advocating for individuals with Down syndrome. With the supports available for Wyatt, his future is an open book, and we are grateful for the opportunity to be a part of his progress. ❖



Wyatt focusing on the truck and how it travels.



Wyatt's priceless smile!

First Step Dental Clinic Held In February



This little girl's mother helps the dentist from Smile Illinois Traveling Dental Group while a dental exam is being performed.

First Step held a Dental Clinic in February at Carlyle Christian Church in Carlyle. Smile Illinois Traveling Dental Group preformed the dental exams and cleanings on children age 1-18. Eight enrolled Early Head Start children, along with two older

siblings, and one child receiving Early Intervention services received an exam. Along with that, one child of a Community Link staff member and one community member also received an exam. The Parent Educators facilitated a playgroup focused on dental hygiene. The Smile Illinois Dentist and Hygienist preformed a short training for parents about dental care. First Step plans to have another Dental Clinic in August 2014. ❖

Payless Gives Shoes 4 Kids Program

First Step had been chosen by Payless ShoeSource to receive 100 merchandise certificates through their Payless Gives™ Shoes 4 Kids program. Each merchandise certificate is redeemable for, or toward, a pair of children's shoes at any Payless ShoeSource store. Community Link accompanied some families enrolled in our Early Head Start program to the Payless ShoeSource store in Centralia and Shiloh to purchase shoes for children in need. ❖



Early Head Start program participant picks out a pair of shoes thanks to the 100 merchandise certificates received from the Payless Gives Shoes 4 Kids program.

**The
Happiest Baby**
on the Block™

**The
Happiest Toddler**
on the Block

The First Step Early Learning & Family Support program offers The Happiest Baby and Happiest Toddler on the Block classes on a regular basis. Each class is offered every other month, and will give step-by-step instructions on stress, crying babies, tantrums, and terrible two's. These classes are offered at St. Joseph Hospital Healthplex in Breese, IL and the Washington County Hospital in Nashville, IL. To inquire about dates contact either St. Joseph Hospital at (618) 526-5464 or Washington County Hospital at (618) 327-2223. ❖



The dentist from the Smile Illinois Traveling Dental Group performs a dental exam after this young boy received a cleaning

The many facets of the Adult Day Program...

Diane Von Bokel has a very full and busy life. She enjoys spending time with her family and friends; she maintains a healthy lifestyle by walking and going to St. Joseph's HealthPlex three days a week; she is involved with the South Central Illinois Medical Reserve Corp, which is a volunteer based organization trained to be prepared and deployed to assist residents from Clinton and Washington counties in the event of a disaster; and she enjoys her job in production at Community Link, where she has worked for over 24 years. Diane is able to live in her own apartment in Carlyle with the assistance of Community Link's Family support program. She receives any help she needs with maintaining her apartment, finances, medical needs, and any other area she may need support. She also budgets her money so she is able to take part in vacation opportunities with Community Link each year.

Diane is an active participant at Community Link, and has served on the Consumer Advisory Council and the Human Rights Committee within the organization. She challenges herself and others to bring issues and opportunities to light to make Community Link a better place to work. Diane continues to play an active role in advocating for herself and others, and we are grateful for her contributions to our organization over the years. ❖



Diane asking questions during a presentation from Breese Police Department Officers regarding drugs and alcohol.



Diane (l), a member of the Human Rights Committee, presenting a thank you gift to Kerry Foppe of Foppe Ace Hardware, who is also a member of the Human Rights Committee.



Diane (r) speaking in front of a crowd at the Clinton County Parrot Head Club's Spring Phling.



Diane works in the Production area at the Breese East site and assembles parts.

Sharing Talents within the Adult Day Program...



Nicole loves to read...

Nicole Feigl, a 30 year old program participant with Down syndrome, started with Community Link in February 2013 and works in production at the Fairview Heights Metro site. Nicole loves to read, and chooses to share this love of reading by visiting the classrooms at Metro and reading to the other participants. Nicole says she enjoys coming to Community Link and really enjoys the opportunity to read to others. ❖

Nicole Feigl, a 30 year old program participant with Down syndrome.

Courtney shares her love for music...



About a year ago we were fortunate to have Courtney Kuhl join our Community Link team. Since her arrival she has brought her love of music to our participants. Twice a month, Courtney has a music class that teaches our participants about music notes, tones, and volume control,

with themed sing-alongs and the opportunity for participants to join in a duet, which they really love. In addition, we received a donation of a gently used piano by a generous donor who wishes to remain anonymous. Thank you to this donor and to Courtney for sharing her passion with our participants! ❖

Technology demonstration...

Chris Enboden enjoys watching YouTube videos and playing online games, his favorite of which is Pac Man. Samantha Haar enjoys surfing the web and using software to help her learn to type. To support Chris and Samantha in their desire to learn, Mike Turner, IT Coordinator, demonstrates with a tablet options for both of them. Just one way to challenge, teach, and inspire the people we support! ❖



Mike Turner (r), IT Coordinator demonstrates technology to Chris Enboden and Samantha Haar.

Community Integration...

One of the goals Community Link is working towards with our focus on person-centered planning is to provide our participants with more choices and greater independence. Lorie Frein, a Habilitation Specialist at the Breese Day Training West site, takes a group of adults on daily trips in the surrounding communities to provide more opportunities for independence, inclusion, and acceptance. ❖



Lowell volunteering at the Clinton County Humane Society office, along with others who washed windows, dusted, cleaned out cages, and other work needed by the Humane Society.



In honor of Brad Ratermann, Community Link received a very generous donation of a cardboard baler from Dave & Connie Tebbe. The baler will be used to process cardboard and plastic in our recycling department. Pictured l to r: Curtis Leonard (l) employee in the recycling department, and Brad Ratermann, program participant.



All Saints Academy held a spirit week at the end of March to raise funds for Community Link's Annual Buddy Walk. During spirit week, each day a student may wear crazy socks, have crazy hair, or participate in jersey day for a donation to the Student Council. The student council donated \$500 from their spirit week collection towards the Buddy Walk and sponsored a team of 25 students.



Breese Day Training West site received a donation, which enabled them to purchase tablets for use by participants. Four tablets were purchased; each tablet has internet capability as well as educational games. The use of these tablets allows participants to become more independent with computer skills and technology. Pictured is Bev Brandkamp (l), whose mother Paula made it possible to purchase these tablets, and Faith Wilkinson, a Direct Service Provider at the West site.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TREASURE, TIME, AND TALENT...

January 20, 2014 – April 20, 2014

This Donor Roll honors the funders, businesses, organizations and individuals who have made it possible for the Agency to serve nearly 550 individuals and their families on an ongoing basis (and hundreds more with occasional services.) To those who have asked to be listed as anonymous, please know that your giving is much appreciated. To those we may have inadvertently omitted, we offer our sincerest apologies, ask your understanding, and invite you to let us know about the omission, so we may adjust our records and recognize your contribution.

BUSINESS / ORGANIZATIONS

AKA Concrete, Inc.
Beckmann Construction Co.
Catholic Holy Family Society
Council #82
Clinton County Electric Co-Op
Dairy King
Edward Jones, Jim Kueper
Employees of Donnewald
Distributing
EZN Travel
First Bank - Breese
First County Bank
Foppe Insurance Agency
H & R Block
Henken Storage & Henken Pecan
Cracking
Huelsmann Construction Co.
Imming Insurance Agency
Jim's Formal Wear
Koetting Insurance & Resource
Krehbiel & Associates, LLC
NACO Printing & Advertising
Peerless-Premier Appliance Co.
Rivera Medical, LLC
Southern OB/GYN Associates
St. Monica's CCW - St. Augustine
Church-Breese
Strano & Associates, Angie Zahn
Transitions in Leadership
WSI Vending - Matt Mannhard

EMPLOYER'S MATCHING GIFTS

Macy's Foundation

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Anthony & Donna Budde
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Highland Recycling & Shredding
Jansen Chevrolet
Jim's Formal Wear
Kenneth & Susan Meyer
Strano & Associates, Angie Zahn

GRANTS

Special Needs Foundation for
Community Link

INDIVIDUALS

Anonymous
Dennis & Sandy Albers
Donald & Claudia Albers
Jerry & Marian Albers
Jean Andre
Fred & Carol Bartelsmeyer
Brad & Krescene Beck
Jerome & Joyce Brefeld
Anthony & Donna Budde
James & Mary Burns
Antoinette Certa
Carl & Stephanie Cook
David & Jane Deiters
Stan & Mary Essenpreis
Jeanette Evans
Dave & Diane Grapperhaus
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 John & Carol Lengerman
 Wayne & Sandy Lohman
 Maniscalli Family
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 Joseph & Deb Murphy
 Harry & Darleen Nelson
 Kelly & Dennis Pollmann
 Dan & Susan Potthast
 James Ranz
 Rodney & Barbara Reinier
 Betty Richter
 Kristin Schmidt
 Sr. Angela Schrage
 Mary Jo Schwarz
 Mark & Karen Senger
 Virginia Sexton
 Joan Theising
 Maurice & Kathryn Timmermann
 William Timmermann
 Marvin & Tina Wiegman
 Hugo Wilke
 Dorothy Zinn

RECYCLING

Anonymous
 Alison Dierkes
 Chad & Kris Taylor

IN-KIND GIFTS OF GOODS

from

Business/Organizations/Religious

54th Street Bar & Grill
 All Saints Academy
 Aviston Countryside Manor
 Barnyard Cycles
 Belleville News-Democrat
 Bent Oak Golf Course
 Beyond the Garden Gate
 Boulder Yacht Club
 Brandmeyer Law Office

Breese Dental Care
 Breese Journal & Publishing
 Breese Motor Sales, Inc.
 Caesars Entertainment
 Carlyle High School
 Cambridge Dental Care
 Camp Bow Wow
 Casino Queen
 Dairy King
 Deien Chevrolet, Inc.
 Eye On Design Drapery, Shutters &
 Blinds, Inc.
 First National Bank in Carlyle &
 Aviston
 Foppe Amoco
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 Hillary Frost Photography
 Hilton Garden Inn O'Fallon
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 Kalmer Landscape Supply
 Light Brite Distributing, Inc.
 Lillians
 Lynfred Winery
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 Poettker Construction Co.
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 Course
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 Schuette's Market
 Siever Bros., Inc.
 Silver Dollar City
 Sips n Splatters
 Six Flags Friends
 St. Felicitas Church Altar Sodality
 St. Joseph Hospital
 St. Louis Cardinals
 St. Louis Rams Community
 Outreach



Teach a person how to fish and you feed him for a lifetime... this is what Bob Ricker, father of John Ricker, a program participant, did for some individuals who wanted to learn to fish. Bob came with fishing poles, bobbers, hooks, bait, and a big heart to show us the true art of fishing in the pond at the Breese East site.



Ava, a certified service dog specially trained to offer pet therapy, has been with Community Link since the spring of 2011 and continues to offer pet therapy and other enhancements to our Adult Day Program. Ava generally works out of the Fairview Heights Metro location, but is able to travel to our other sites. Flo Thompson, a program participant at Fairview Heights Metro site, visits with Ava daily.



Rachel Poettker, First Step Parent Educator and Health Services Assistant, coordinates with Crystal Ulmer of the U of I Extension Center on a quarterly basis to host nutritional training. March was national nutritional month, so what better way to celebrate than to provide staff and participants information on the importance of fruits and vegetables.



Jamie Fields (l), Community Link Development Director, attended a meeting for the Cub Scouts Pack #225. Jamie talked about Community Link being an important community resource for families and caregivers of developmentally disabled individuals.



The Annual Easter “Treat” Hunt held in collaboration with the Clinton County Humane Society at the East building of Community Link was a success! Participants used their day off on Good Friday to bake treats, and after all this hard work they enjoyed a pizza party along with other residents. The Hunt was held on Saturday, April 19th, our participants l to r Brenda Shelton, Jennifer Eide, and James Bauer welcomed dog owners, hid treats for the dogs to hunt, and Jennifer started the hunt.



Karrie Brown was a special guest at Community Link’s Buddy Walk on Saturday, May 3rd. Karrie has Down syndrome, but that has not stopped her from following her dream of becoming a model. Thanks to her mother, the power of social media and her unwavering sense of self-confidence, she has recently flown out to California for a professional photo shoot for Wet Seal. Karrie is such an inspirational young woman, who doesn’t let her disability define her.

- St. Paul Church - Deanne Harlan & Connie Knebel
- St. Paul United Church of Christ
- Starlight Dance
- Stone Hill Winery
- Strano & Associates, Pat Voss
- Subway – Breese
- Sunshine Drapery & Interior Design
- Supplement Superstores
- Taylor Made Signs
- TechKnow Solutions, Inc.
- The Design Studio
- The Great Cover Up
- The LuBar & Bistro
- The Magic House
- Ticketmaster
- Jodi Toennies - First United Methodist Church, Trenton
- Tom’s Cleaners, Lynn Ripperda
- Tribout’s Carnival, Bingo, Party
- Unforgettable Photography by Anna
- United Methodist Church Women’s Mission Projects
- Walmart – Highland
- Wilke Window & Door, Inc.
- Marla Hilmes
- Maya Hobbs
- Marvin & Jane Hollenkamp
- Jean Holtgrave
- Mark & Karen Huelskamp
- Leigh Janes
- Kristi Johnson
- Brent Kalmer
- Carol Karasek
- Heather Keene
- Jeanne Kueper-Krueger
- Mark & Laurie Kuhn & Family
- Jamie Litteken
- Steve & Margaret Loomis
- The Marti Family
- Senator Kyle McCarter
- Rick & Barb Nelson
- Duane & Denise Nordike
- Lisa Rehkemper
- Deborah Rigdon
- Eric Robke
- Steve & Deb Schomaker
- Kristine Siegler
- Kathy Steinmann
- Fran Taylor
- Anisah Thole
- Patrick & Linda Timmermann
- Chris Toennies
- Mike Turner
- Catherine Wilson
- Bernard & Rita Winkeler
- Brad & Angela Zurliene

from Individuals

- Anonymous
- Kathy Austin
- Steve & Carol Deien
- Geri Detmer
- Jamie Detmer
- Rena Donohoo
- Carolyn Enboden
- Adam & Jamie Fields
- Joan Gaffner
- Dave Gall
- Carolyn Gardner
- Missy Gaskill
- Rick & Barb Gerstner
- Deb Gray
- Rick & Donna Gruenenfelder
- Richard & Marcie Hacker
- Stacy Hart
- Joe & Nancy Heimann
- Johanna Heimann
- Nicole Hemker

IN-KIND GIFTS OF VOLUNTEER SERVICES

- from Organizations/Religious/School*
- Althoff Catholic High School
 - Michael Barnes
- Mater Dei Catholic High School
 - Rachelle Haake
 - Rachel Harper
 - Kylee Rongey
 - Hannah Schulte

from Individuals

- Larry Acord
- Jaclyn Albers
- Mike Bango

Community Link's Executive Director, John Huelskamp, distributed service awards at the quarterly all consumer meeting on Thursday, February 13th for 10 and 20 years of service. Congratulations to all recipients for their years of devoted service!



Ten years of service awards went to (l to r): Sarah Totone, and Erin Powers. Not pictured is Chris Tucker.



Ten years of service awards went to (l to r): Chris Enboden, Mike Varel, Shannon Campbell, and Jennifer Eide. Not pictured are Sharon Fisher, and Erik Schwalenberg.



Twenty years of service award went to: Guy Hellmann (l). Not pictured is Mallory Wessling.

Eileen Boeckmann
 Kerrie Chappell
 Stephanie Cook
 Lynne Cote
 Kelsey Deien
 John & Thomas Feldman
 Adam & Jamie Fields
 Chris Gebke
 Jessica Hart
 Stacy Hart
 Kevin Heckenkemper
 Laurie Hemker
 Tara Hilmes
 Marla Hilmes
 Nick Hollenkamp
 Nick Hollenkamp
 Mark & Karen Huelskamp
 Amy Kampwerth
 Jennifer Kozan
 Glen & Geralyn Kruep
 Kues Bros. Auction, Jerry & Jim
 Kues
 Ken Laux
 Jamie Litteken
 Michael & Monica Mensing
 Marilou Rakers
 Lisa Rehkemper
 Bob Ricker
 Kathy Steinmann
 Kelsey Stewart
 Jim & Fran Taylor
 Connie Wiegmann
 Geri Wobbe
 Sara Wright
 Helen Wuebbles
 Angela Zurliene

IN HONOR OF...

Thomas Burke from
 Mary Sereno

IN MEMORY OF...

Linda Johnson from
 James Patterson
 Kelli Gilbert & The Family of Linda
 Johnson

IN MEMORY OF...

Joanie "Pete" Harper from
 Janice Deiters

Jerome & Corinne Eversgerd
 Linda & James Heuer
 Florence Jeffreys
 Kathryn Peters
 Steve & Deb Schomaker
 The Family of Joann "Pete" Harper

IN MEMORY OF...

Joe Rinella, Jr. from
 David & Jeannine Mueller
 Mike & Donna Nettemeier
 The Family of Joe Rinella, Jr.

EMPLOYEE GIVING CAMPAIGN

AT&T United Way Employee

Giving from

Anonymous
 Ronald & Leigh Ann Arentsen
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 Rob Haag
 Mark & Becky Hitpas
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 James & Colleen Kuhl
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Bank of America Employee Giving

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Anonymous
 Peter F. Longshaw

Macy's Employee Giving Campaign from

Anonymous
 Ruth Koblenz

SECA Employee Giving Campaign

from

Raymond & Melodie Ainslie

Wells Fargo Community Support Campaign from

Theresa Jansen
 Gary Kloeckner
 Ken Powless
 Brad & Jill Voss

World Acceptance Corporation

from

Deborah Kleiboeker

All Staff Training Day Held March 14th

On Friday, March 14th, Community Link held an All Staff Training Day to provide information on the new strategic plan and the mission of Community Link as we move forward with person-centered planning. The morning opened with John Huelskamp, Community Link Executive Director, talking about person-centered planning and Community Link's growth. John introduced Jane Doyle, Co-Founder and Director of Special Projects of the Center for Independent Futures, which helps adults with disabilities and their families plan, support, and sustain new ways of living in their community. Jane introduced Mike Mayer, the keynote speaker, and Senior Partner of CRA (Community Resource Alliance), a training and management consultation firm that focuses on training agency's like

Community Link that leads to service excellence and full citizenship for people who have disabilities.

To close this busy day filled with great messages and discussion, John Huelskamp sang an inspirational song about our strategic mission. Please check on the song written and performed by John on our YouTube and Facebook pages. ❖



John Huelskamp, Community Link Executive Director ended the day with a song written and performed by him stating "Yes We Can".



Jane Doyle, Co-Founder and Director of Special Projects of the Center for Independent Futures



Mike Mayer, the keynote speaker, and Senior Partner of CRA (Community Resource Alliance)



Breakout class with First Step staff



Breakout class with Administrative staff



Breakout class with CILA staff



Breakout class with Breese Day Training West staff



Breakout class with Fairview Heights Metro staff



Breakout class with Production staff



**FEDERAL
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State and University Employees
Combined Appeal Card

Community Link's 2nd Annual Golf Scramble for Fairview Heights Metro July 26

Sponsorships and teams are needed for Community Link's 2nd Annual Golf Scramble, to be held Saturday, July 26th at Clinton Hill Golf Course in Swansea. The shotgun start time for the 18-hole scramble is 1pm.

The cost to play is \$85 per golfer, which includes the greens fee, a shared golf cart, a goody bag, two drink tickets, unlimited use of the driving range, dinner and a chance for attendance prizes.

To become a sponsor, enter a team, or join a team, see page 14 for sign-up sheet.

Community Link
disability to possibility

2013 Metro Golf Scramble Sponsors

Gold Sponsors

- aces\$**
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES
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- Engelmann CONSTRUCTION INC.**
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- YAEKEL & ASSOCIATES INSURANCE SERVICES, INC.**
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- Action Plumbing
- Brent Bergheger Chrysler Dodge
- Chesley Fence
- Dairy King
- Dutch Hollow
- FCB Banks
- Greensfelder, Hemker, & Gale, P.C.
- Highland Recycling
- Holland Construction Services
- Johanna Heimann
- Medex Pharmacy
- Miken Technologies
- Poettker Construction
- Professional Equity
- Erdmann Law Office
- Wilke Truck Service
- Wilke Window & Door

Thanks for your Generosity!

2nd Annual CL Metro Golf Scramble

July 26, 2014

Clinton Hill Golf Course, Swansea, IL

Community Link cordially invites you to support the 2014 Golf Scramble.

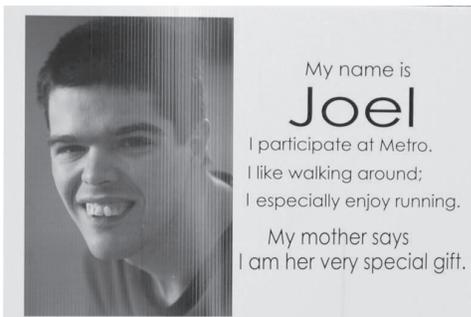
1 PM Shotgun Start

4-Person Scramble

\$85 per solo golfer / \$340 per team

Includes: 18 holes, cart, 2 drinks, player gift, dinner,
unlimited use of driving range

Prizes awarded to flight winners
50/50 raffle
Attendance prizes



Join us as a Sponsor?

Presenting Sponsor (\$1,000) includes:

- Prominent logo on individual Presenting Sponsor sign at golf course, logo on full page in program, name in all newspaper & advertising media.

Gold Sponsor (\$500) includes:

- Large logo on Sponsor sign at golf course, logo on half page in program, name in all newspaper & advertising media.

Silver Sponsor (\$250) includes:

- Name listed on Sponsor sign at golf course, logo in program, logo in newspaper ad.

Hole Sponsor (\$100) includes:

- Sign at one of the holes.

Cash Donations (\$Any) includes:

- Program recognition for helping defray the costs of sports and recreation for adults with developmental disabilities.



Yes, I / we want to join the scramble! Enclosed is (select one or more):

- \$85 per solo golfer—Please add me/us to a team.**
 \$340 for our team (separate checks acceptable)
 Our sponsorship includes golfing (at Presenting Sponsor level)
 Donation toward client recreation:

Please use the enclosed donation in the amount of \$_____ to facilitate sports/recreation for adults with developmental disabilities.

Sponsor/Team Name/Contact Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Please list golfers by name. (If some or all players are to be determined later, list them TBD.)

1. _____ 2. _____
3. _____ 4. _____

Yes, I/We would like to be a Golf Sponsor!
 I am interested in being a Golf Sponsor. I would like someone to contact me.

- \$1,000 Presenting Sponsor**
 \$500 Gold Sponsor
 \$250 Silver Sponsor
 \$100 Hole Sponsor
 \$_____ Donation

Send form and fee to:

Metro Golf Scramble
Community Link
1665 N. Fourth Street
Breese, IL 62230

It's all in the Journey, Not the Destination

Dear Friends:

Shortly after Community Link's Jill Husted took the microphone and just prior to singing a beautiful rendition of the Star-Spangled Banner to the hundreds of people waiting to partake in the 2014 Buddy Walk, Jill addressed the crowd: "I am doing this for my three brothers. I want them to know I am happy doing this and I hope they are proud of me." What followed was a profile in courage and the payoff to weeks of practice and hard work by Jill that inspired the crowd and set the stage for a very successful event. This precious moment is a perfect example of Community Link's new direction and adherence to its mission statement of challenging, teaching and inspiring, both participants and community, linking them in ways that enhance their lives.

In fact, the entire Buddy Walk platform this year was themed around this premise. In attendance at this year's Buddy Walk was special guest Karrie Brown, an eighteen year old girl who became the first person ever with Down syndrome to model for Wet Seal clothing. Karrie's inspirational story of living out her dream started when she expressed her desire to model for Wet Seal. Karrie's mother put up a Facebook page on behalf of her daughter, whose goal is to change the face of modeling, with the intention of catching the eye of Wet Seal. The company saw the page and challenged Karrie and her mother to accrue 10,000 likes in a week's time. Karrie's page produced 11,000 likes in less than 48 hours. With that, Wet Seal opted to fly Karrie and her mother out to California for an exclusive photo shoot and thus achieving her goal of modeling for Wet Seal.

These stories exemplify the fact that the times they are a changing! Persons with developmental disabilities and other difficulties are no longer content with simply sitting on the sidelines. More and more persons with developmental disabilities are becoming more adept at identifying what is important to them and finding ways to share that with those who will listen. It is not surprising to find what many of them want is the same kind of things most everyone wants: having the same fighting chance as everyone else when pursuing their individual hopes and dreams. It is remarkable how high the level of expectation is for people with developmental disabilities and their families in these exciting times!

Community Link is listening to its participants and responding! The Community Integrated Living Arrangement program is actively researching ways to support those participants who desire to live in smaller homes or apartments where they can have their own private bedroom. Individual service plans have been modified to make the plans more person-centered and offer more choices. There is a more concerted effort to find employment and volunteer opportunities in the community. Community Link's Breese West day training site recently started a new program where a group of five partici-

pants go out into the community every day to places such as Earth Day at Carlyle Lake, Mascoutah Heritage Museum, the Woodcrest Dairy and many others. The participants learn about the places they visit, interact with other community members and volunteer their time when needed. These types of experiences have enhanced our person-centered approach to providing support.

Even in this changing environment, it must be understood that not all participants will achieve their hopes and dreams. Even in America, no one is guaranteed happiness, only the pursuit thereof. Nor will all of the outcomes be as effervescent as Jill's or Karrie's. Some participant's achievement of their hopes and dreams will be accomplished in a proud albeit intimate manner. It must be remembered that it is the journey that's most important, not necessarily the destination. Community Link's new direction that centers on striking a delicate balance between what is important to our participants and what is important for them is a huge step towards the pursuit of happiness.

Ultimately for all of this to work, it will take the strength and unity of the community to make it happen. As evidenced by the strong turnout for this year's Buddy Walk, the momentum is there. With higher expectations from and for persons with developmental disabilities, the time is now to make a difference. There are many ways one can make a difference. For example, one could become an active member of a team for next year's Buddy Walk by raising awareness and funds for Community Link throughout the whole year. Family, friends and community members could join participants on trips to Springfield to advocate to state legislators on behalf of persons with developmental disabilities. Community members could explore employment, volunteer and interaction opportunities for persons with developmental disabilities in the community. Finally, community members could take the time to form friendships and be a part of a personal network of a person with a developmental disability.

Jill Husted's hope after singing the national anthem at the Buddy Walk was that her brothers would be proud of her. That was important to her. What she may not have realized, however, was that by challenging herself, she ended up inspiring an entire community. It is amazing what happens when all members of a community are given the opportunity to share their gifts with each other. Jill's story is just one such example. Stick around, there will be many more to follow!



John Husted

Community Link Possibilities

P.O. Box 157
1665 North 4th
Breese, IL 62230

Celebrating
40
YEARS
1972-2012



Proud member of



Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Breese, IL
Permit No. 9

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Selections From Our Wish List

First Step

- Gift cards: Walmart, gas, local establishments
- Digital cameras (2)
- Infant/Toddler Car seats to replace expired
- Portable folding, child picnic tables
- Outdoor gazebo canopy/tent (3)
- Mulch for playground
- Art Supplies (paint, construction paper, contact paper, etc)

ADP West

- iPads/Tablets for participant use
- Recliners
- Paint restrooms
- Electric stove
- New dishwasher

Aviston CILA

- Ceiling fan with light
- Treadmill
- Hardwood flooring

Breese 245 CILA

- Exercise equipment

Breese 373 CILA

- New living room chair

Breese 555 CILA

- Garage
- Ceiling fans w/light fixtures for living room & bedrooms
- New couch
- New shed

Carlyle CILA

- Kitchen cabinets/resurface

Germantown CILA

- Bedroom flooring
- New dining room chairs

Production Workshop

- iPads or other tablets
- Paint Production area
- Remodel restrooms
- Bridge over pond
- iPod

Fairview Heights Metro

- Wrought iron patio furniture
- Outdoor bench
- Outdoor lawn swing
- Cricut craft cutter

Recreational Items

- Use of condo or cabin
- Hotel certificates
- Cardinals tickets
- BBQ grills
- Lawn chairs & coolers
- Garden tools
- Pool tables
- Theater tickets
- Clinton County Showcase tickets
- Karaoke machine
- Card tables & chairs
- Gas gift cards

Other needs agency-wide

- Asphalt for parking lots
- Tents for events

To see our entire wish list, request a copy from Monica at (618) 526-3929.