



CHOICES

Making Self-Determination Real in Dane County

Vol. 17 No. 4 | Summer 2016

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Advocacy Day 2016



Pictures and Article: Polly Naughton

On Tuesday March 15th I attended Advocacy Day at the Monona Terrace in the morning and the State Capitol in the afternoon where we met with our legislators. At the Monona Terrace we talked about what we would be doing for the day and also had a boxed lunch. There were presentations and group discussions. We were getting prepared for what to say to our State Legislators at the Capitol. I felt it was good preparation.

After lunch we walked together to the Capitol. We discussed issues with our legislators. The issue I talked about was employment for persons with disabilities. It is important for people to have jobs, be paid well, and to be able to ask for help if/when they need it. I find that very important, and I approve of this message! Other people brought up issues too. One person brought up a concern with how Metro buses run. Her concern was why buses come late, and how she is late to work.

It feels good to be heard and to be taken seriously. I felt the legislators were listening to everybody in the meeting and were understanding. I felt everyone was paying close attention. I hope the issues have been resolved. I think that other people should be able to have a turn to go to Advocacy Day, too—not just me. I think it would be nice for them to go and have a chance to participate.



Call for Writers!

Are you interested in contributing an article or comic to CHOICES? See the back page for topics. For more information, please contact Rachel Weingarten, Editor: weingarten@waisman.wisc.edu

Bear in Mind...



Monica Bear is Dane County's Community Services Manager for Developmental Disabilities

June is always a joyful month as we celebrate young adults joining the paid work force. This year, 64 individuals finished school with an average of 15 hours of integrated employment, earning minimum wage or more. If you have an opportunity, please give a shout out to the 90 employers who have made the sound business decision to hire adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Businesses are listed below.

Young adults are not the only ones on the verge of a major transition. The last several CHOICES issues have reported on Wisconsin's proposed changes to long-term care frequently referred to as Family Care/IRIS 2.0. May 3, over sixty self-advocates and family members participated in a series of facilitated conversations with John O'Brien and Lynn Breedlove on how to best prepare for services that are managed and coordinated by large, for-profit, insurance companies, operating in 3 "zones" across the state. To read a summary of the conversations see the attached link:

http://cow.waisman.wisc.edu/Documents/Publications/Family_Discussions.pdf

On June 9 Wisconsin's Secretary of Human Services formally withdrew the department's Family Care/IRIS 2.0 concept plan approval request. It appears nearly a year of persistent, state-wide advocacy noting the lack of cost savings and the potential disruption to 60,000 current long-term care participants' lives has resulted in a temporary

pause. The Community Integration Program (CIP) waiver that Dane County's current DD services operate under expires on December 31, 2018; we do not know what comes next. Before year end, Wisconsin citizens will likely have more information regarding the state's future plans. Until then the following quote from the May 3rd family conversation remains relevant, "What will make a difference is being as active as possible in alliance with as many people as possible to use as many channels as possible to influence what happens and respond to make the best of whatever the changes are."

While the state ponders what's next for long-term care, we say good-bye to Angie Klemm, Dane County's self-directed services coordinator for the past three years. She has been the friendly face who has assisted people to interview and hire brokers. Among her many other duties she has coordinated learning opportunities that promote self-determination and edited the CHOICES newsletter. As Angie packs her bags and heads to Springfield, MO for her next life adventure, we will be making some changes in future CHOICES newsletters. Future newsletters will have a broad theme. CHOICES will solicit articles related to the identified theme. Contributors whose articles are selected for publication will receive a \$50 stipend. Each issue will have up to four paid articles. People with disabilities, brokers, family members, support staff or citizens at large may submit articles. *Please see back page for topics and schedule.*

While transition is in the air, self-direction remains a constant. Live your summer to the fullest, whether settling in to your new job, registering to vote, trying a new hobby, taking a Betty Lou Cruise or vacationing on an Able Trek tour.

Employers of 2016 Grads:

Belleville: Charlie's Bark Park, Citgo; **DeForest:** Charter Communications, St. Olaf's Church; **Fitchburg:** Avalon Assisted Living, Bricks and Mini-Figs, Interscholastic Printing Company, Realty Executives Cooper Spransy, Walgreens - Fitchburg PD, Wyndham Hotel; **Madison:** American Family Insurance, Baker Tilly, Bandung Restaurant, Berkley Running Co., Bonfyre Grill, Boys & Girls Club, Cento, Chuck E. Cheese, City of Madison-Motor Vehicles, Collectivo Coffee, Concourse Hotel, Crowne Plaza, Culver's, Dane County 911 Office, Dane County DA's Office, Dane County Human Services - Northport, East YMCA, Encore, EVP Coffee, Exact Sciences, Festival Foods, Forever 21, Goodman Community Center, Grampa's Pizza, Greenway Crossing Montessori, Halal and Hijab Market, Hill Electric, House of Brews, Indie Coffee, James Reeb Unitarian Church, Jason's Deli, Liliana's Restaurant, MARC-South, Marcus Point Cinema, Metro Market, Middleton Family Dental, Old Navy, Panera, Pedro's, Shop Bop, Sodhexo (at American Family Campus), Teaching Books, Texas Roadhouse, The Great Dane, Thermastor, TJ Maxx, UPS Store, UW Natatorium, UW Waisman Center, WI Dept. of Revenue; **McFarland:** Nelson's Bus Company; **Middleton:** Burman Coffee Trader, CPU Solutions, Inc., Domino's Pizza, Middleton-Cross Plains Indoor Pool; **Monona:** Aldo Leopold Nature Center, Falbo's Pizza; **Mt. Horeb:** E & S Electric, Gonstead Clinic; **Oregon:** Dorn True Value, Headquarters Bar & Grill, Kwik Trip, Oregon Community Sports Center, Oregon High School (OASIS); **Stoughton:** Dairy Land, Universal AET; **Sun Prairie:** Kwik Trip, Palmer Johnson Power Systems; **Verona:** Achieving Collaborative Treatment, Attainment Company, Culver's, Latitude Corporation, McDonalds, Miller & Sons Supermarket, MOFA Global, Pure Sweet Honey Farm, Sugar River Pizza; **Waunakee:** Rocky Rococo's, Subway, Tormach

COLUMNISTS

Supports Critical to My Success

Jeff Hopwood

Hello, my name is Jeff. There are three major supports that are critical to my continued success in the future.

The first part of my success is my Adult Family Home (AFH). My AFH and my team are very cohesive, which provides me with consistency which is critical to my success in my AFH. My AFH is the best place for me. I have two of the best foster parents ever. They include me in their family and I have a wonderful extended foster family. My foster family is very supportive of me and they care

about me. This AFH is the best place for me. I could not imagine living anywhere else but where I live now.

The second part of my success is work and job coaching. The MARC centers and my job coaches allow me to be in the community and earn money. Since being out in the community and working is really important to me, I am glad that I have MARC and job coaches to help enable me to work in the community and earn money.

The last part of my success is mentoring. Without a mentor, I could not have as much of a rich life as I have now. I need to have a mentor because mentoring increases my opportunities to be in the commu-

nity. If I did not have a mentor, I would be unable to go out in to the community as much as I do now. The challenges I face each day prohibit me from being able to go anywhere by myself. This means I need support everywhere I do. A mentor is critical to my success because I can go out in the community and do the things I enjoy while still having my needs met. That is why mentoring is important to me. Besides the mentors, my foster parents take me out in the community as well.

If any part of the support system I have now went away all my success I have created over the past seven years will disappear. That is why it is important for my support system to stay the way it is.

The Arc Dane County Winter Ball

Jeffrey Johnson

ARC held their annual Winter Ball at the Concourse Hotel and Governor's Club in Madison. There were 362 people with disabilities that attended the Winter Ball. That was the biggest Winter Ball the ARC ever had. I attended the ARC Dane County Winter Ball with my girlfriend Kari Foseid on January 24th. The ticket for the dance included one free pop and some chips. They played all kinds of music. They also had the great food served by the great staff of The Concourse Hotel. They had delicious cake and cookies. They had meatballs there that some of the board members were helping with. This event would not be a success the volun-

teers including photographer, Debbie Broth, immediate past intern, Kathryn, and the UW Students for Disability.

There were many people dancing, having fun, visiting with friends and meeting new people. Kari and I had great time together and both did a little dancing together. Anybody could get their picture taken at the dance. I got my picture taken as a board member of the ARC Dane County. Later, she took a picture of Kari and I. I think we really enjoyed ourselves Sunday night together. We both did the chicken dance together. She is a very good dancer. I also saw many of my high school friends there.

The ARC Dane County has different events throughout the year including a Halloween Party at

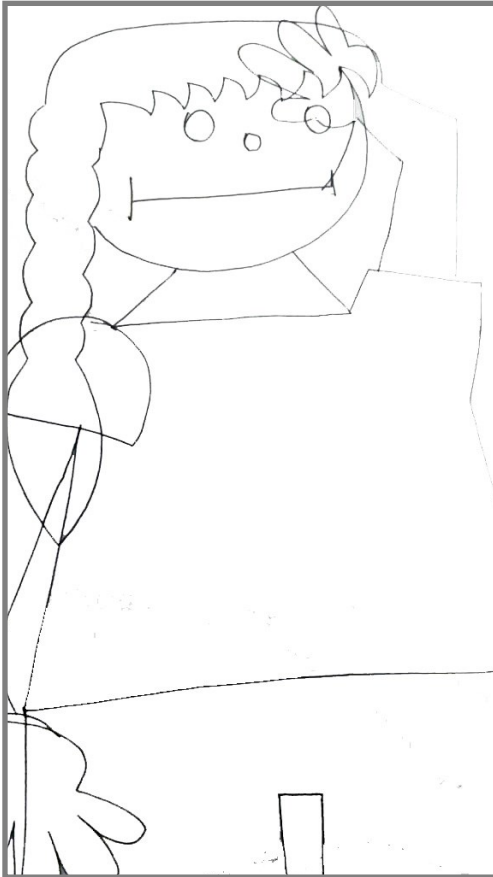
Pooley's Sports Bar in Madison. The ARC also has two fundraisers- the fruit sale and the ARC Golf Tourney at the Meadows of Six Mile Creek Golf Course in Wau- nakee.



COMICS

June 25

By Bill Worthy



SPORTS

PGA Championship

TJ Schloss

Mama watched the PGA championship with me. My grandma lived a couple miles from there. It was at Whistling Straits. My Grandpa worked for the company that sponsored the PGA championship (Kohlet). I cheered on Steve Stricker. Steve is from Edgerton. Mama and I stayed focused. Steve Stricker played good. This championship was exciting. Jordan Spieth really made it fun. Mama leaned in and told me “I like him too T.J.” Jason Day never gave up. He won his first Major. Golf is special because the golfers respect each other. Jordan Speith is now ranked #1 on the PGA tour. Jason Day had his son Dash with him. Dash said, “Can we go home now?” Jason lost his dad when he was 12. Jason lost his Grandma in a typhoon. Jason Day is a golfer who played really hard throughout his career. He showed me that he knows what being a champion is about. Mama really enjoyed watching the championship with me. Hassan and I didn’t go to Valeries Party. He knew about the PGA championship. With his advice I watched the PGA championship with my dear Mama!



INFORMATION CORNER

Improving Voting Accessibility for Individuals with Disabilities

Jeffrey Johnson

The Help America Vote Act (HAVA) was signed into law October 29th, 2002. It is a program to help improve participation in the election process for people with disabilities. HAVA wants to be sure polling places are easy to use for people with disabilities. They want to hand out information on where the accessible polls are located and be sure they will have easy access to get in and out of the polling places. HAVA also wants to make polling places more a valuable for people with disabilities and their caregivers. They found to make a different at polling places, a volunteer or employee has to be willing to help someone with a disability. People with disabilities would like to teach volunteers or employees that work at different polling places around the state.

Polling places around the state must have at least one voting machine made for people with disabilities. There are many ways the person with a disability can vote; for example, the person with a disability can vote absentee, using a braille voting ballot, or using audio recording. It is important for people with disabilities to know where all of the accessible polling places are all around the state and where to vote.

Do you know if you are registered to vote? You can find out by going to the MyVote website <https://myvote.wi.gov/> Here you can also find out who is on the ballot in your local races. Remember, you will need to present a photo ID. If you need an ID for voting or a ride to the polls, please contact The Wisconsin Association of Mobility Managers. For more information: http://www.thewheelerreport.com/wheeler_docs/files/0211wamm.pdf

What Beauty is to Me

Gregory Cain

The thing that people don't realize is beauty starts on the inside. If you have inner beauty, you also have outer beauty. In my opinion it's just as easy to open your heart to inner beauty as it is to outer beauty. If you think about it beauty comes from a person's heart. What I had to come to terms with was the fact that I used to think just because a woman was beautiful on outside that made her beautiful on the inside. But, I am glad I woke up from that thinking because it doesn't!!

There are people out there that think the same way I used to before I opened my eyes and started to think with my mind and heart. And, I realized that everyone has a certain kind of beauty, and there's more than one kind of beauty. I would rather be with someone with a good heart than without, you have to remember the heart is what controls all your feelings, your emotions. Without it you are dead on the inside, it was something you have to realize yourself like I did.

I always thought the outside made the person, boy did I have a lot to learn, and I did with a lot of soul searching. That it isn't just that you have a heart, but what you do with it; not only to yourself, but other people. I will give you an example of how my thought process was: When I was younger I used to call my sisters ugly, but my two sisters are beautiful inside—and out. I really started thinking about it when my oldest sister passed away; it made me think about how beautiful my little sister is inside and out. I always say to myself, "Oh I will grow out of it," but it stays with you until you change your thought process.

It's something I should have written a long time ago, because I changed my thinking a long time ago. I love my sister, and all women, and respect them all. I guess I had to learn to love myself before I could love anyone else. That goes to show you how far I've come, and how my thinking was so much off center. Not just me, I am saying all people out there need to open their

eyes, and ask yourself how you would feel if it was you. I bet you would feel hurt, so think about it the next time you want to put someone down, take a look at yourself in the mirror and see if you like what's looking back at you.

What made me write this is the fact that when I was younger I thought beauty was just on the outside, but as I got older that's when I realized that there has to be more to beauty. I was sitting back one day, and I was thinking about all the people who are so beautiful inside and out. Because they

have big hearts, and I wanted the same thing, so I knew to have that I had to learn to look at a person's heart. If you continue and don't change, you may miss so much beauty around you.

Since I discovered that I had a talent to write, it made me look inside myself and I knew at that time writing was what I was meant to do not just for myself, but all I have to offer other people. I told myself when I started writing I wasn't going to write fiction. I am going to write the truth no matter who didn't like it. I tell the truth about myself- I have nothing to be ashamed of because I changed my life around, and that's what I want people to know- open your eyes it's never too late to learn. Now I see the inner beauty in other people. I had to discover for myself. It's something I can admit now, it is something writing helped me figure out. So, if I can learn at fifty eight, it's never too old to open your mind and heart to things you are not used to. The reason I am writing for a remembrance of how I use to be, and I had to change my thinking my process. My life has much more meaning now. If I can change one person's mind from thinking like I used to, I will feel I did my job. But, I feel the most important person to change was me. Now I see beauty all around me, and I am happy. I want to thank god for giving me the skill to take a look into myself. **WRITING HAS OPENED MY MIND SO MUCH, I LOVE WRITING, IT ALLOWS ME TO GET SO MANY THOUGHTS OUT.**



Stine in Time Delivery Service

Jeffrey Johnson

Chris Stine started his own business called Stine in Time. He delivers salt for people’s water softener system. His business started January 2016. He has about fifteen customers and his network is growing. New customers can help Chris out by filling out the brochure. Liz then helps him organize his deliveries. He will deliver to most locations in Madison. He will also deliver anywhere in Dane County.

He really like delivering salt for people’s water softener. He likes helping people lift the heavy 40 pound bags of salt. The salt can be pellets or crystals. He will deliver salt to a person’s house. He buys the salt at Woodman’s East. So far, Chris has delivered anywhere from 4 to 7 bags of salt but he can deliver any amount that is needed. He does his deliveries one or two times a week. Chris will sometimes just drop the salt off outside their garage or put the salt into the water softener system. With Chris’s delivery service, the person doesn’t have to go to the store and buy the salt themselves. Another thing that Chris and his team are thinking about delivering is mulch. To place an order, contact Liz: 608-249-1585 lfraser@optionsmadison.com.



BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

The WIN Nurse Passion

Jeffrey Johnson

Carmella Smith worked at St. Mary’s hospital before she started this job at the Waisman Outreach Center. She started working in health care in 1990. Carmella worked at St. Mary’s hospital for 13 years in the same unit. She worked with a specialized group of people. She wanted to work in the community. Her son has autism and that is what drew her to her current job. Also, when her son was first diagnosed with autism he got services through Waisman Center. Carmella likes the unique position and the variety and being able to go out of her office. She also gets to do teaching, which she really enjoys. She likes helping people learn to take care of themselves and enrich their own lives. Since the early 90’s she also worked with someone in their home and has also worked at a nursing home. Even if she is struggling, the people she works with are always happy and brighten her day and make her smile. She loves meeting all different kinds of people. She is learning how the system works. She went to MATC for her Associates Degree and has a Bachelor’s Degree from Marian University. She does a lot with her 12 year old son and likes to go running, find recipes and try them out, read, hanging out with her other 2 sons, and going to the park and movies.



NEW FACES

New at Community TIES

Josh Lapin

TIES is very excited to announce that Mary Christison has been hired as a new Community TIES behavioral consultant. Mary has a great deal of experience and most recently has been a special education teacher in the Oregon School District. Mary has officially started and will be building up her caseload slowly so she can reach out and connect with different individuals and teams. We are very excited to have Mary join our Waisman Center / TIES family!





Picture: Polly Naughton

Able Trek Tours

Jeffrey Johnson

The Able Trek Tours Company is located in Reedsburg, Wisconsin. The Able Trek tours got started in 1992. Able Trek provides trips for people with and without developmental disabilities. Half the fun is travelling. There are vacations to places like the Caribbean, the Grand Canyon, Dallas, and San Antonio. Some of the Able Trek trips that are in Wisconsin area: Christmas with Dancing horses in Lake Geneva, Milwaukee Brewers baseball games at Miller Park, Patsy Cline at the Palace Theater in Wisconsin Dells, Peter Pan at the Fireside, Title Town Packer Pride in Green Bay. There are even some trips outside of the United States. If a caregiver signs up and agrees to be a chaperone of 3 to 4 travelers, staff can go for free. If the traveler doesn't know what trip they want take, they can make payments and then choose a vacation trip later. There are many different pick up and drop off locations.

Able Trek trips fill up fast. If someone is interested in trips, let Able Trek Know a head of time. There are different vacations packages from one day vacations trips to multiple day trips. The Able Trek Tours have reasonable cost of these trips for people with disabilities and their support staff or travelers needing a wheelchair. Able Trek Tours is offering Early 2017 vacations now. I and my home staff are thinking about taking a trip to Milwaukee to go see the see Brewers play the Braves at Miller Park.

Betty Lou Cruises

Jeffrey Johnson

The Betty Lou Cruises have different cruises for people with and without disabilities. They offer private charter cruises, public cruises, and Special Public Cruises. Cruises run Monday through Sunday and start in late April through mid-October. They have a fall special where each person can save \$5.00 on one of their public cruises.

My mom, dad and I went on a late night cruise. We boarded our cruise from Mariners Inn on Lake Mendota in Madison. The cruises also start on Lake Monona at Machinery Row in Madison. I had sliced top sirloin and pop. We were out there for about three hours. It was a lot of fun. I saw some views of the State Capital, the Monona Terrace and the Governor's Mansion. The Betty Lou Cruises are very relaxing and a lot of fun. I am a person with a disability that has been on one of the Betty Lou Cruises. I really recommend you should try one of the Betty Lou Cruises in the future. The link to the Betty Lou Cruises is www.bettyloucruises.com.

Time for Outdoor Concerts

Summertime means plenty of free outdoor concerts throughout the Madison area:

Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra's Concerts on the Square: Wednesdays 7:00pm

Concerts at McKee:

Every 3rd Monday of June, July and August 6:00pm

Live on King Street: Fridays at 6:00

Tunes at Monona Terrace: Wednesdays 5:30-7:00pm

Concerts on the Rooftop: Thursdays 7:00pm

Dane Dances: Fridays in August 5:30-9:30pm

Terrace After Dark: Live Music at Memorial Union

Wednesdays: Open Mic Night

Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays: Wisconsin Jams

Headliners

Thursday Happy Hour: Bluegrass & Americana Series

Friday Happy Hour: Behind the Beat Jazz Series

Summer Concerts at Warner Park: Mondays 6:00-7:30pm

Capitol City Band: Thursdays 7:00pm at Rennebohm Park

Concerts in the Gardens: Tuesdays 7:00pm at Olbrich Gardens

Jazz at Five: Wednesdays starting August 6 4:15-8:00pm, 100 block of State Street

EVENTS REPORT

Fashion Show for All Abilities – Second Time Around

Gregory Cain

It was just what I thought it would be- as exciting as last year. I had as much fun. Seeing everyone's smiling faces gave me as much energy as last year. I felt like I had to let all the people see how relaxed I was, because it was the first time for so many. I think it was good for all the first timers to see how comfortable I was; I hope that it made them feel better seeing how I carried myself.

As for me- I love dressing up in a nice suit. I guess you could say I am a little show off, but I always learned if you have it, use it to the fullest. I always liked dressing up when I was in Drum & Bugle, so what I am saying is it comes natural to me. I just have a lot of self es-



teem and I don't see anything wrong with that. What I like most is seeing the crowd come alive with all that energy, and having such a good time, and all those compliments on how sharp I looked.

I think the crowd gets as much excitement as the models do, which also gets the blood pumping, so all in all, the crowd helps you get more excited to get out there. Let them all cheer for all the participants, and we can't forget all the volunteers that are very important to everyone.

See, with all my experience putting on shows, I know the show doesn't go on without everyone working together. Chantel Brown deserves all the credit in the world, because without her dream there would not be a show. All my prayers go out to her, so I say Thank You! Overall it was a great show!

Infoshare 2016: Escaping the Winter Blues *Sustaining Health and Happiness after another Wisconsin Winter*

It was an invigorating and activity-filled day on March 9 at the Alliant Energy Center. This InfoShare focused on ways to sustain and grow physical, mental, and emotional health and happiness. The keynote speaker was Dr. Donald Carufel-Wert and there were various break out sessions that focused on the different aspects of well being.

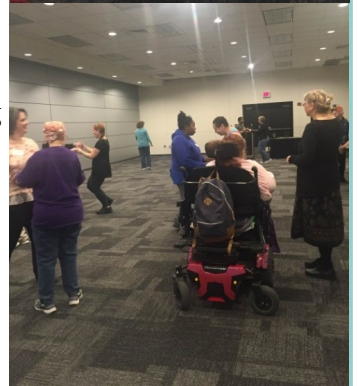
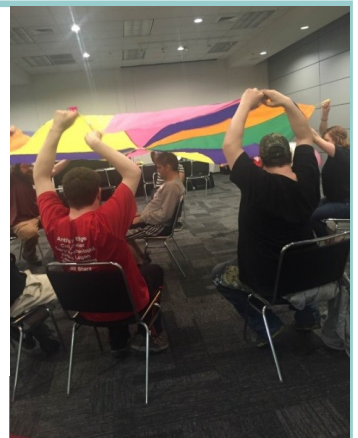
Participants in the MSCR Adapted Fitness Programs breakout session adapted exercises that you could use at a residence or agency sites to promote basic fitness for people with disabilities.

Individuals joined Peggy Fleming for Intro to Hip Hop Dance, a super fun and energetic session using

music to dance and move.

InfoShare is a gathering for people with developmental disabilities, their friends and families and those who work for and with them. It is a place of learning, sharing, telling stories, listening to one another, of renewing old friendships and making new ones.

There are also awards and door prizes given out during the day and individuals and micro-enterprises have exhibitor tables to show off their creations, sell products, or share information!



EVENTS REPORT

THE ARC DANE COUNTY 66TH ANNUAL COMMUNITY AWARDS BANQUET

Jeffrey Johnson

The ARC Dane County held their 66th Annual Community Award Banquet at the Madison Concourse Hotel and Governors Club Thursday April, 28, 2016. The award plaque sponsor was CUNA Mutual. There were several silent action sponsors at the ARC Dane County Award Banquet this year. They had 125 people in attendance and 17 people received awards. I attended the ARC Banquet. Ricardo Vasquez the marimba man at this year's award banquet.

I nominated Charles Hubele for the direct caregiver award the other direct caregiver award went to Tamika Evans. Mark Lederer received the president award. Ron Braem received special recognition award. The people that received the community support award were Monica Bear, Taryn Lawler, and Amanda Miller. The corporate support award went to ARAMARK and the Gordon Flesch Company. The volunteer award went to Todd Grundahl. The employer award went to Walmart #1138. The elected official award went to Supervisor Jenni Dye. The two Adult Family

Home Sponsor award went to Infinite Ability Inc. and Annie Ziegler. The media award went to David Wahlberg. The two people with disabilities that received the self-advocate awards were Alex Rice and Sarah Sitkiewitz. The final award was the lifetime achievement award and went to George Couch, a long-time member of The Arc-Dane County.

Ricardo Vasquez played the marimbas. Silent auction donors and cash donors, Ken and Jean Hobbs, Ron Johnson, John and Peggy Leemkuil, and Robert and Nancy Ross, helped subsidize the cost of the banquet as well as in-kind donations from Bill Arthur Camera Kisses, Debbie Borth. Leah Linscheid, WISC TV anchor and news reporter, was this year's MC.

I think the ARC Banquet was a big success again this year. The ARC Dane County Award Banquet is a big event for people with and without disabilities; it is also important for companies and organizations. The event is to have fun, receive awards, and visit with friends. It is a great honor to be a part of the award banquet. I think it was fun for everyone. I saw some old friends of mine at the banquet. The ARC Dane County has been advocating for children and adults with developmental disabilities for over 66 years. The ARC is about advocacy, support, and respect for all people that live in our community.

CHOICES Newsletter



The University of Wisconsin-Madison
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...And the “Oh, Yeah’s...”

CHOICES is published quarterly to provide information about Self--Determination in Dane County.

The Next Issue

will be out December 2016. Contact the editor with ideas for articles before October 15. Articles due by October 15 or until the issue is full.

To Place a Connections Ad:

Submit Connections Ads to: Rachel Weingarten, Editor, 122 E. Olin Ave., Ste. 100 or weingarten@waisman.wisc.edu
We will run your ad for at least 3 issues unless you tell us otherwise.

Announce a Transition:

Tell us about a new job, an Engagement, a marriage, a new place to live, or say goodbye to someone who has passed away.

Choices is on the COW Website

<http://cow.waisman.wisc.edu/publications.html>

CHOICES by e-mail

Prefer to reduce paper coming in the mail? If you would prefer to receive a link via e-mail, please e-mail Rachel Weingarten:

weingarten@waisman.wisc.edu

Web versions do not include Connections ads or Transitions information.

Contributors to this issue:

Jeffrey Johnson, Bill Worthy, Gregory Cain, Polly Naughton, TJ Schloss, Jeff Hopwood, Josh Lapin, Monica Bear, and Rachel Weingarten.

Please send your stories, comments, and suggestions

Contributions, comments and suggestions are encouraged and may be directed to :

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Future CHOICES publications:

We are asking for articles related to the following topics:

December 2016:

MONEY MATTERS: FINANCIAL PLANNING

Articles due by October 15, 2016

March 2017:

MOVING ON

Articles due by January 15, 2017

June 2017:

CAREERS AND COLLEGE

Articles due by April 15, 2017

September 2017:

MAKING DECISIONS ON MY OWN: SUPPORTED DECISION MAKING

Articles due by July 15, 2017

People with disabilities, brokers, family members, support staff or citizens at large may submit articles.