

*In Touch With*



*St. Clair Associated Vocational Enterprises, Inc.*

*Winter 2005*

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In Touch with SAVE  
welcomes submissions  
for publication.

Contact the Editor:  
Sales & Marketing at  
(618) 234-1992 Ext 23

## Turner Electric ⚡

S.A.V.E. extends the warmest of welcomes to our newest client, Turner Electric L.L.C. They are located in Fairview Heights, Illinois and in Millstadt, Illinois.

Turner Electric opened its doors for business in 1953. They now employ 90 people with two shifts operating at their facilities. Turner manufactures high voltage switchgear that is shipped worldwide.

S.A.V.E. thanks Turner Electric for using our labor services, and for giving us the opportunity to work with them.

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## **NISH NCWC CONFERENCE**

Nonprofit agency leaders and Federal customers gathered with the NISH staff in Chicago, IL for the annual NISH North Central National Council of Work Centers (NCWC) Conference. Attendees shared ideas, discussed new initiatives and learned more about the Javits - Wagner - O'Day (JWOD) Program through information sessions, town hall meetings and roundtables, and networking events. The conference took place August 11-12 in Chicago, IL and boasted more than 150 attendees making it the largest North Central NCWC Conference to date.

Shown in the picture are Jorge Santiago of the NISH North Central Region team and Jim Schnipper of S.A.V.E. discussing product ideas between sessions.



## A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Hello everyone, it is hard to believe that the holiday season has passed by us so soon.

The consumers had a really nice Thanksgiving Dinner hosted by Empire Comfort Systems. It was greatly appreciated by all of the staff and consumers to be treated to such a nice meal.

Throughout December the consumers remained busy with their work, Christmas shopping and Christmas parties.

Hopefully, 2005 will be a great year for all of us. We look forward with anticipation to the new opportunities that the New Year has in store for us.

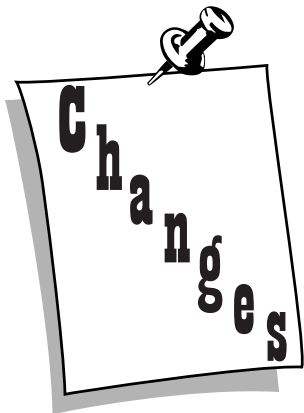
May health, happiness, and prosperity fill the lives of all.

*Sincerely*  
Sindy Smith  
**Editor**



### Quote for the Quarter

*“Courage is the power to let go of the familiar.”*



The only thing that does not change in the Human Service field is that everything changes. Day programs, residential services, vocational programs, each have their own rules and regulations that are overseen by different agencies of the State or Federal Government.

Illinois, like most states, is looking to navigate its way through an on-going financial crisis. One of the ways, Illinois, is hoping to do this is to get more services paid for through the Federal Medicaid Program. Services that historically have been paid for by the State of Illinois through the Dept. of Human Services will be paid for through Medicaid.

Currently the S.A.V.E. Developmental Training Program is going through this transition. This is a difficult, painstaking process that oftentimes is very frustrating. In the future, Residential Services, Vocational Training and JOTrack may also have to go through this process.

We ask your help and understanding in getting through these transitions. We know that at times it will be frustrating and confusing. We will do our very best to answer any questions that you have. We ask that you remember that it is the State and not S.A.V.E. that is mandating these changes. We know that if we continue to work together with your help and cooperation we can continue providing the level and quality of services that are needed.

In Touch With

**SAVE**

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In Touch With SAVE is the quarterly newsletter of St. Clair Associated Vocational Enterprises, Inc. a not-for-profit, tax-exempt, 501 (c) 3 corporation providing services for adults with developmental disabilities.

Headquarters are located at 3001 SAVE Road, Belleville IL 62221  
Phone: (618) 234-1992 Fax: (618) 234-1990

In Touch With SAVE welcomes your questions and contributions of news of interest to our friends and supporters



## *In Memoriam* ~ Edward B. Bench, October 28, 1921 - December 7, 2004

Edward B. Bench was born October 28, 1921 in Johnstown, PA. He served in the Army Air Corp during World War II where he got his start in radio. He was assigned to Scott Field for training as a radio operator. He served in India and Thailand as a communications officer. After leaving the Air Corp in 1945 he eventually returned to Scott Field as an instructor at the Aircraft Radio Operator School and in 1948 earned an associate's degree in radio and television engineering.

Mr. Bench spent 45 years as a Broadcast Engineer in the St. Louis radio industry. Not only was Mr. Bench an engineer, he was an innovator. He designed and built the first antenna in the United States that could broadcast signals for more than one radio station. In 1961 Mr. Bench brought stereo sound to the FM radios in St. Louis when he got FCC approval for a broadcast system he designed, built and tested.

In 2004 Mr. Bench was inducted into the St. Louis Radio Hall of Fame. He is the first engineer to be so honored. In 2004 Mr. Bench who is a life member of the Society of Broadcast Engineers, was also selected to be a Fellow in the Society of Broadcast Engineers, their highest honor.

Along with his professional accomplishments and being known as a genius in his field, Edward Bench was a kind and generous man. In 1973 when the Radio Information Service (RIS) for the Blind and Handicapped was starting up, they went to Ed Bench. RIS needed someone to figure out the technical end of the closed circuit broadcasts to the handicapped and homebound. He became a charter member of the RIS board in 1973 and retired in 2003 as their technical director. He designed and built better receivers and gave countless hours. RIS now has in use more than 3000 receivers in the Bi-State area.

Mr. Bench was a long time member of the Belleville Noontime Lions Club. Mr. Bench was also involved with the Catholic Band Association in the East St. Louis Deanery. This group created band programs for the Catholic elementary schools. They also had a award winning high school band.

In 1972 Ed Bench and a group of parents like him formed a community based training program. Spurred by a desire to give his son and others like him a worthwhile sense of purpose in society S.A.V.E. was born. As one of the founding members Ed served in numerous capacities on the Board of Directors including president. During his years as President he often commented that "When I took office, I hit the ground running and I feel like I haven't stopped since".

As Randy Law, Executive Director put it. "Ed was one of S.A.V.E.'s best and most energetic champions. Ed was always there to lend a hand or to advocate for S.A.V.E. in any way that was needed".

Thank you to Mary, Ed's wife, and his children, Edward, Carolyn and Claire, for sharing Ed with us.

Ed, we will miss you!







# STATE SPECIAL OLYMPICS BOWLING MEET

Eleven athletes and three volunteers headed to Peoria on Friday, December 3rd for the State Special Olympic Bowling Tournament. We stayed at the Red Roof Inn in Peoria that evening and had a wonderful supper at the Hometown Buffet in Peoria.



Bright and early the morning of December 4th we went to the Landmark Lanes in Peoria. Our athletes bowled against tough competition but we are proud of their accomplishments. Special Olympics of Illinois provided a wonderful lunch. The afternoon competition was just as tough as in the morning, but once again our athletes stepped up to the challenge.

After the event we started home. Do you know that coming home you go East instead of West? Yes, I was driving. We stopped in Lincoln, IL to fuel both the vehicle and the people.

I want to thank Estelle Vinyard and Grace Adams for assisting me on our wonderful Bowling weekend and thanks to all that participated. Great Job.

Sue Zaring

## Sue Zaring – Coordinator– Opportunities Unlimited for Recreation Program Phone 234-1992 Ext 31

The O.U.R. Program was on the move in November and December and look out for events in 2005.

On November 13, 2004, thanks to 8 volunteers, 50 participants enjoyed walking one mile around O'Fallon Park in the Annual Turkey Trott. This event is given each year by the O'Fallon Knights of Columbus who do an outstanding job with Foz Ryan coordinating and conducting this fundraiser for Special Olympics. Foz Ryan is a long time friend of S.A.V.E. and an outstanding fundraiser for Special Olympics with the O'Fallon Knights of Columbus.

On November 18, 2004, thanks to 11 volunteers, 38 participants had a blast at the Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey Circus at the SAVVIS Center in St Louis. We used Metro Link and everyone had a grand time.

On November 28, 2004, thanks to 12 volunteers, 60 participants brought in the Holiday Season by joining the Faith Family Church in their new Church at 706 N. Green Mount Road by attending their annual Christmas program.

On December 6, 2004, thanks to many, many volunteers and over 250 participants S.A.V.E.'s Annual Christmas Dance was held at Panorama Lanes in Belleville. Panorama's use of their wonderful facility, Barbara Pitt and her volunteers from the Edwardsville DAV Auxiliary, plus a visit from our jolly Santa put a large smile on everyone's face and was greatly appreciated. DJ Pat with Class Act provided the best performance of all. **Next years Christmas dance will be on December 5, 2005.**

Suggestions are always welcomed. Volunteers are always welcomed. Please call me should you have any questions.

All Proceeds Benefit Adults With Disabilities

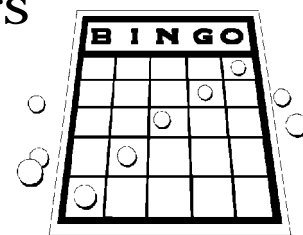
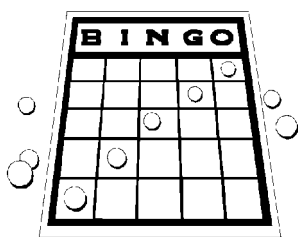
# S.A.V.E. BINGO

Every Wednesday Night ¥ Belle-Clair Fairgrounds

## Doors Open at 5:00 P.M.

Dinner Available for Bingo Players

Early Bird - 7:00 P.M.

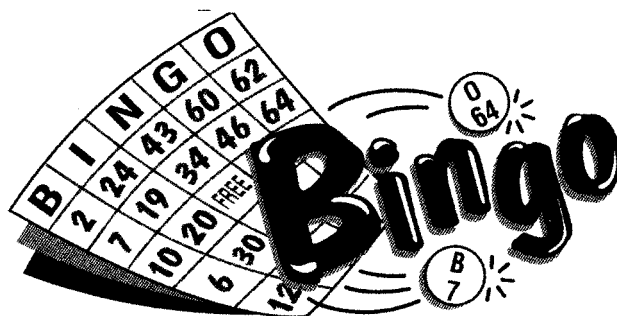


Pick-A-Color Raffle in 20 Numbers or Less with a

Powerball - BINGO-MATES Available for Early Bird,

## Bonus and Regular Bingo

6 cards for \$5.00 - Additional Cards .50¢





St. Clair Associated Vocational Enterprises, Inc.  
3001 SAVE Road  
Belleville, IL 62221

NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. Postage  
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Belleville, IL  
Permit No. 15



Below is the advertisement as seen in the Community Service Spotlight December Greater Belleville Chamber of Commerce newsletter.

## ***AFTER 30 YEARS...***



### EXTENDS A THANK YOU to BELLEVILLE and the SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

What can S.A.V.E. & JOBtrack offer; Employees **that want to work**.

S.A.V.E.'s Developmental Training and Vocational Development programs provided the consumers with **90,000** hours of employment.

**JOBtrack** offers customized employment services for **50 adults** through **25 area employers**. **JOBtrack** consistently **exceeds** program objectives by more than **5% annually** through **follow along** and **job retention services**.

**RESIDENTIAL SERVICES** offer **70 individuals** through **21 small group** homes the opportunity for supervised independent living.

**MISSION STATEMENT:** *To offer a wide array of community centered services and supports, which enable individuals with developmental and other types of disabilities, of who are otherwise disadvantaged, the opportunity to live, work, and fully participate in the community.*

For information on outsourcing and fulfillment contracts call Sindy Smith Sales Manager at 234-1992 ext 23.  
For employment service opportunities call Lisa Hempen at 277-7294

**3001 Save Road • Belleville, IL 62221 • [www.saveorg.org](http://www.saveorg.org)**