

In Touch With



St. Clair Associated Vocational Enterprises, Inc.

Spring/Summer 2004

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In Touch with SAVE welcomes submissions for publication.

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

Madigan Resists Efforts to Cut State Support for MH/DD Providers

Illinois House Speaker Michael J. Madigan recently reached an agreement with the Governor's office to keep in place the 4% cost of doing business adjustment for MH/DD community-based service providers in the state's Fiscal Year 2004 budget.

"At a time when demand for MH/DD services has never been higher, the state cannot in good conscience cast aside those who depend upon them," said Madigan.

An Office of Management and Budget requirement that all state agencies hold in reserve two percent of their budgets threatened to cut the 4% increase in half.

Speaker Madigan understands that community-based service providers operate with tight budgets and many would have been forced to reduce services, programs and staff if the increase had not been left intact. Madigan continues to monitor the state's budget to guard against cuts that hurt the state's most vulnerable citizens and the people that serve them.

RACE RALLY DAY

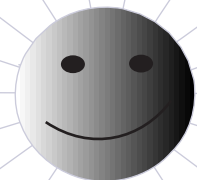
On September 11th, a date that will remain forever etched in most of our minds, S.A.V.E. held their 4th Annual SAVE Race Car Rally and Carnival Day at Turkey Hill. The consumers were able to see a U.S. Army Humvee rolling by, as well as assorted racecars that normally roar around Belle-Clair Fairgrounds on Friday nights. As the racecar drivers started their engines, the consumers responded with cheering and clapping at the starting line. Peeking out from the parking lot, a sporty convertible was on display for viewing.

Bob Goodman, son of SAVE's Carol Schwan was honored with a special table of personal memorabilia. Bob was one of the Rally's original racecar drivers in the past. Goodman is currently serving active duty in Iraq.

At the Turkey Hill site, patriotism was at an all time high, with songs like God Bless America playing in the background, and demonstrations from the VFW Post 1739's Color guard. The event, in its own small way, also helped memorialize the second anniversary of September 11.

The fun continued throughout the day for the consumers with rides like Turbo Tub and The Duck Game, which were all part of the Carnivals events. In addition, Face Painting brought smiles to many faces.

This year SAVE's Carol Schwan and Nikki Shoemaker organized the wonderful celebration. All proceeds went to the United Way.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Written by Cindy Smith

Kathy Denham had her 59th birthday. Many staff members and consumers showed how important Kathy is to S.A.V.E. by giving flowers, cards and gifts to the birthday girl.

Kathy has been with S.A.V.E. for 28 years. Her first day of starting her career with S.A.V.E. was March 8, 1975. However, Kathy said, "funny thing... it was a snow day, and I didn't have to report to work that day." The following day, March 9th officially launched the beginning of her 28 years of service with S.A.V.E.



Ms. Denham started out with S.A.V.E. teaching arts and crafts. That position evolved into Supervisor for Developmental Training. Looking back to her early days at S.A.V.E., Kathy remembers that she was, "not familiar with the consumers way of behaving."

She did not want to offend them by asking them to repeat themselves, because, "they are sometimes hard to understand." On her first day she felt anxious at her new job as most of us do. Besides working at S.A.V.E., Kathy also became a resident of Turkey Hill. Kathy shares her home with her dog, Gretchen, and four consumers who have been with her many years.



Kathy took it upon herself during her spare time to help the consumers with transportation and activities outside of her daily job. She achieved her current position of Residential Program Manager out of necessity. Kathy has been the R. P. M. for the past 20 years. She said, "I love to work with the consumers. They bring me such satisfaction."

When asked about her most memorable moment at S.A.V.E. Kathy said, "the ice storm in the early 80's at S.A.V.E." There was no power at the Turkey Hill Site for 2 weeks. After the first day the staff members took it upon themselves to help by taking the residential consumer to their homes. They probably did not know it would take 2 weeks. However, it showed true concern by the staff.

I asked Kathy what she has learned over the years from working so closely with the consumers. She said, "the small things bring great joy to them, such little things make them happy, acceptance, and that the little things are really the big things to them." Kathy said, "A lot of people say, the consumers are so lucky to have you...well... I feel so lucky to have them."

Kathy grew up in East Saint Louis, and earned her B.A. in Social Work from S.I.U. in Edwardsville.

In Touch With

SAVE

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Randolph B. Law

Editor

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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.

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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





BUILDING 105 IS PAINTED

Building 105 recently had a facelift with a new coat of paint applied to the interior of the building and new lighting installed. Not only does it look so much better, but it also feels better when you walk inside. The new lights are a big help with the contract work and the newly painted interior makes the whole building seem brighter and more enjoyable to be in.

This was not a small project. Everything inside had to be moved either out of the building or away from the walls, and covered for protection. In addition, the walls had to be power washed so that the new paint would properly adhere. The building had to be shut down for a week while the work was done.

Thanks to everyone for the help in getting everything out of the building and for coping while the work was being done.

HALLOWEEN PARTY

Submitted by: Sindy Smith

Thursday October 30, 2003 was a frightfully fun day for the consumers at S.A.V.E. The Junior Service Club has been hosting Halloween parties at S.A.V.E. for the past 5 years, according to Kristin Murphy, one of eleven members that came to host the party at the Turkey Hill Site. Libby Stiegnan said, "that a lot of preparation goes into the party beforehand."

The ladies of the Junior Service Club provided games such as pin the nose on the jack-o-lantern and bingo. There were cupcakes, cider and many other kinds of treats served as refreshments. Prizes were awarded for the best costume.

Kristin said she thought it was a nice break for the staff members, as well as being greatly appreciated by the consumers. The party was held between 11:00-2:30 and at least 30 people from the Junior Service Club helped with the event.





2003 SAVE INC. ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER

The 2003 S.A.V.E., Inc. Annual Awards Dinner held at Panorama Lanes in Belleville on Friday, September 26, 2003 was the night stars shined brightly.

The evening full of the stars began with the wonderful meal provided by the Panorama Lanes staff. Our thanks go out to them for an excellent job as usual.

Father Trevor Murry of St Teresa's Parish gave the invocation and as in many years, Bill Brauer honored us by being our Master of Ceremonies. Not only did Master of Ceremonies Brauer guide us through an evening filled with awards and stories but also led us in S.A.V.E "Through the Years" Trivia.

Everyone who works for social service agencies knows of the dedication and hard work that is a part of a day to day operation. Many deserving people were nominated, and our congratulations go out to them. Like in all award presentations, there was only one winner in each category.

A big Thank You is due Carol Schwan, who put the event together and who has probably already started to work on the 2004 Dinner. Thanks Carol.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS 2004 NEWS....

Hopefully everyone who is interested in participating in Special Olympics this year has turned in their Special Olympics Physicals by now, as we are getting ready for the coming events:



State Basketball Tournament – Saturday, March 13th and Sunday, March 14th in Normal. Both S.A.V.E. teams received gold medals this year and will be participating. We leave on Friday, March 12th.

Go Warriors Go Lasers We are Proud

Swim Meet – March 21st SIUE in Edwardsville

Sue Helferty has been getting the times for those individuals who have been participating in the Friday afternoon Special Olympic swimming practices.

Plans are being made for participating in Softball this year. Practice and tryouts will begin soon should the decision be made to participate this year. Volunteers would be needed.

Track and Field events –Saturday, May 1st – SIUE in Edwardsville

Soon we will be taking time trials and getting the relay teams primed. Measurements on Softball throws will be taken in anticipation of the big day. Volunteers are always needed for this event too.

State Meet at Normal (for those who get Gold) – Friday, June 11th – Sunday, June 13th

Swimmers and Track and Field athletes who receive a gold medal at SIUE will go for the gold again at the State meet.

District Softball Tournament will be held in Springfield - in July date to be announced.

State Softball Meet – September 11th – September 12th in Decatur.

Should we decide to participate and our teams get the gold in Springfield in July we will be attending this event in Decatur.

Bowling practice to get qualifying games will be scheduled in July. Volunteers are needed. More details will be made available.

Bowling tournament will be the 22nd of August for one age group and August 29th for the other at St. Clair Bowl – Fairview Heights. Volunteers always needed getting people shirts and tags on and directing them to the proper lanes. Also sometimes not enough volunteers show up to assist in keeping people in order on the lanes, so if you can volunteer and get a shirt too. *Detailed information will be made available.*

Basketball practice and tryouts will begin in September.

Bowling – Sectional Tournament Those who got the gold at St. Clair Bowl, Fairview Heights in August will bowl on October 24th at St Clair Bowl, Fairview Heights.

State Bowling Meet – Those who got gold at Sectional Tournament will bowl on **December 4th at Landmark Lane in Peoria, Illinois.** We leave the night before. –

And then we start all over again next year.

LEE HOPP FOUNDATION - INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS

It is often said that an organization is only as solid as its board members. If this is true, then the Lee Hopp SAVE Foundation has no choice but to become a solid and integral financial support system for SAVE for many years to come.

The Lee Hopp SAVE Foundation is privileged to have so many dedicated and professional board members helping to accomplish its mission. Throughout the upcoming issues of our newsletter we will be introducing these board members to you. Appropriately, let us first introduce you to our Board Chairmen, Mr. David Bruchhauser, who has served in various positions on the board for the past 8 years.

David has been a Registered Representative/Agent with the New York Life Insurance Company for the past 15 years. With an office in Belleville, he provides clients with planning for wealth accumulation and estate preservation. As President of Brookfield Development, Inc. he is active in real estate development in Highland, IL.

An Eagle Scout as a youth, David remains active with the Okaw Valley Council, BSA and currently serves as Vice President of Finance. He has been awarded the prestigious Silver Beaver and his Wood Badge Beads.

David is also a member of the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors, a member of the Million Dollar Round Table, and a past member of the Belleville Rotary, the Fairview Heights Library Board of Trustees and the Fairview Heights Zoning Board of Appeals.

David is married to Deborah and they have 3 children- Elizabeth, Alexander and Benjamin

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 .50c

MULLIGANS



50/50 DRAWING

**1ST, 2ND, & 3RD PLACE
CASH PRIZES**

ATTENDANCE PRIZES

**"THE ANSWER MAN"
ROGER SCHLUETER
HOSTS
TRIVIA NIGHT**

**Saturday, March 27, 2004
Registration 6:30 pm
Trivia Game begins at 7:00 pm**

**K of C Hall
402 East Highway 50
O'Fallon**

**\$10 per person
Maximum 10 people per table**

**For Reservations call
618/234-1992 ext. 42**

2 DRINK TICKETS INCLUDED- Cash Bar Available



St. Clair Associated Vocational Enterprises, Inc.
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Belleville, IL 62221

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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 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