

Donations from caring friends like you are critical to support our mission.
Together, we make a positive difference in our community!

PHONE: (309) 691-3800
E-mail: info@arcpeoria.org
www.arcpeoria.org

PARC-WAY

CHOICES, DIGNITY, QUALITY OF LIFE

Summer 2006

Paving the Way for People with Developmental Disabilities

Mark Your Calendar!

A "Party for Parc" will be held **Saturday, August 26, 2006** at Jimmy's Bar, 2801 W. Farmington Road, West Peoria. The event will run from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. For more information, contact Sibylle LaHood at (309) 689-3608.



Join us for the 2nd Annual **Parc 'N' Play Super Cruise-In** on **Saturday, September 16, 2006** from 3:00 to 10:00 p.m. There will be food and fun for all ages with D.J. Entertainment, Blues Brothers, Bake Sale, Door Prizes, 50/50 Drawing, Raffles and much more! The Cruise-In will take place at the Super Wal-Mart at Allen Road and Townline Road (Exit #5 Illinois Route 6) in Peoria, Illinois. For more information call Shirley Carroll at (309) 689-3708.

The **Women of Parc** will hold a luncheon at Parc, 1913 W. Townline Road, Peoria on **October 3, 2006** from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. New attendees are welcome to join the group as they share their stories, information about Parc, and support with each other. For more information, call Nancy Mikesell at (309) 243-5326.

The annual **Parc Art Festival** will be held on **Thursday, October 12, 2006** at 1913 W. Townline Road. Join Parc artists in a variety of visual and performing arts. Mixed media art participation events will run from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. in the Parc Dining Room. The Peoria Ballet, along with Parc dancers, will perform a creative movement presentation from 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. For more information contact Ruth Just at (309) 689-3674

Get ready for an evening of culinary delights, music and art when Parc, the Peoria Ballet, and the Contemporary Art Center presents the **2006 Arts in the Parc** benefit on **Wednesday, October 18, 2006** from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. This event includes a silent and live auction, scrumptious Hors D'oeuvres, martinis, a very special dessert, and live music by Sally Weisenburg. Auction items include art pieces by local artists and Parc participants; fine merchandise and unique service offerings from area merchants; and exciting travel packages. For reservations call (309) 691-3800.

About our organization

Parc is a not-for-profit human service agency based in Peoria, Illinois serving individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. Parc is dedicated to providing individuals with enhanced quality of life experiences through Early Intervention programs, community activities, rehabilitation services, transitional services, respite care, clinical and family support services, vocational training, employment opportunities, and community-based residential settings. Founded in 1950 by a group of parents who wanted more opportunities for their disabled children, Parc has grown to serve more than 1,000 clients. We offer a positive environment for our participants and their families.

Parc offers choices for a quality of life!

PARC Executive Staff

Roy Ricketts, President/CEO

Kim Cornwell, COO

Stu Schmitt, CFO

Cindy Fletcher, VP Accounting

Mike Predmore, VP Program Services

Amy Schramm, VP Rehabilitation Services

Bret Stone, VP Employment Services

Eric Sutter, Residential Services

Jacqueline Engstrom, VP Human Resources

Sibylle LaHood, Executive Director Parc Foundation



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What's All The Hoopla About...

Parc recognizes those who make outstanding contributions at Annual Awards Banquet.

Parc held its 49th Annual Awards Banquet on May 11, 2006 at the Par-A-Dice Hotel.

Special Olympics gives Keynote Address
Hiram Brownell, Director of Outreach, Families and Athlete Leadership programs for Special Olympics Illinois introduced Special Olympics Illinois Global Messengers Johanna Harms and Sarah Meents to give the keynote address. Johanna and Sarah took a "tag team" approach to the address and combined humor, insight and inspiration together in a presentation that had all of the participants delightfully engaged!



Parc is Proud to Recognize the Following Individuals, Organizations, and Businesses Who Have Made Outstanding Contributions to our Mission on Behalf of Persons with Developmental Disabilities Throughout the Year:

Friend of Parc, **Mary Jane Sterling** Volunteer of the Year, **Jonathon Gartland and Jacqui Lewis** Advocacy Award, **Peoria Pilot Club** Business Partner of the Year, **Caterpillar Logistics Services** Employer of the Year, **AmericInn** Roger Harken Award, **Roger Crowden** Employee of the Year, **Shelly Mansfield and Ruth Just**

Dan Kelch Received President's Award

The President's Award is given in recognition of a citizen's extraordinary advocacy and support on behalf of individuals with developmental disabilities. "Over the years, Dan has helped to

raise a significant amount of money for Parc and equally important, he has greatly enhanced the quality of life for many of our residents," said Roy Ricketts, President/CEO of Parc.

Parc's Own Star Achievers get recognized.
Parc bestows the Star Achiever award on individuals with a disability who exemplify a quality lifestyle enriched through participation in their community, homes and daily activities, and who, by that participation, have enriched the lives of those around them. Further, this award recognizes the individual's significant progress toward independence. This year's recipients were:

Bobbi Jo Cooley, Mary Flatt, Herb Wallat, and Jim York.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."
-Margaret Mead

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

The date is set for Parc's 50th Annual Awards Banquet. Mark your calendar for Thursday, June 7, 2007. Join us at the Par-A-Dice Hotel Ballroom for an evening of sharing, caring and recognition. The keynote speaker is

Greg DePauw. Greg has faced and overcome numerous challenges in his life. Born into a family of artists, Greg's dream of becoming a professional artist was abruptly altered two weeks before graduating from high school, when he injured his spinal cord in a diving accident. In spite of his disability, he has worked as a professional artist for over 25 years. Greg conducts numerous art workshops, including one with Parc participants. In addition to being an educator, Greg has displayed and sold his artwork in professional galleries, including the Museum of Modern Art in New York City. He continually breaks down barriers that say, "No, you can't do that." His motto is "It's what you do with your

disability that defines you." This positive attitude is at the heart of Parc's mission to provide a quality of life for individuals with developmental disabilities. For more information on the 50th Annual Awards Banquet contact Sibylle LaHood at (309) 689-3608.

Parc welcomes new board members!

The Parc Annual Business Meeting was held on May 11, 2006 at the Par-A-Dice Hotel prior to the Annual Banquet.

Parc Welcomes the Following New Board Members:

Keith Boswell, Janet Davidson, Pat Kawczynski, and Kevin Nelson.

Parc Acknowledges the Continued Support of the Following Returning Board Members:

Rick Thomas, Chairman-Jeanne McAllister, Vice Chairman-Suzanne Himes, Secretary-Bill Troy, Treasurer-Ed King, Ron Miller, Dexter R. Gruber, Kathie Raiborn, Chuck Walker, Lynn Scott Pearson, Jeanette Kosier, Sonni C. Williams, Tom Nimmo, and Teri Ehrenhardt, Immediate Past Chairman.

Thank You to Our Board!

Parc is grateful to have so many dedicated volunteers who assist individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. Their willingness to donate time and energy is appreciated by everyone. Parc Board Members are to be congratulated for their desire to help others. Many people only wish they could make this a better community, but these volunteers have taken action. A special thank you to the employers of our Board Members and the support they offer their employees serving Parc and our community.

Parc's mission to provide a quality life to individuals with developmental disabilities and their families depends upon the many volunteer Directors willing to give their time and talents to govern our organization.

Together, we make a positive difference in our community!



A Message from Roy

Roy Rickets, President/CEO PARC

During my school-age years (quite some time ago), I remember the growing anticipation as classes wound down and summer began to creep closer. Besides little league, there weren't many planned summer activities and the periphery of my world was the distance that we could walk or ride our bikes. Since that distance included Lakeview pool and Lou's Drive-in, life was good, and summer was indeed lazy. Things have changed a lot since then, and the thought of a lazy summer is a distant memory.



Summer for those at Parc has been anything but lazy. Many have taken advantage of our Mainstream vacations including trips to Branson, Wisconsin Dells, Milwaukee, Quad Cities, San Antonio and Cubs, Cards and Reds baseball games. Still to come are trips to Springfield and Detroit. Our Special Olympics participants have been busy with regional and State competitions for summer games and again have brought home many medals. Several of those attending day programs have been involved with our flower and vegetable gardens. Respite, as always, has been very busy during the summer months. Local fairs, concerts, and a wide variety of leisure activities have been attended by many. There have been opportunities for everyone.

As hectic as summers have become, I still hate to see them end. The thought of gradually having to add more layers of clothing during the next several months is not appealing to me. Nor is the annual prospect of beginning another fiscal year with dwindling resources. Despite the obstacles, we just finished a good year, and we are bound and determined to have another. I hope we can keep the sun on our backs until summer comes again.

A Message from Sibylle

Sibylle LaHood, Executive Director the Parc Foundation

I am a long-time fan of Asian cuisine, fortune cookies in particular. I have never paid much attention to the fortunes inside, my focus has been on the crunchy, sweet simplicity of the cookie. However, the other day I found myself taking note of the fortune tucked so neatly in the cookie I received while lunching at my desk. The fortune read "A different world cannot be built by indifferent people." I was working on this very newsletter at the time and had just placed the following Margaret Mead quote in another section of the newsletter "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." The two thoughts sort of had a one, two punch effect - each of us through our actions really do make a difference!

Many of you have received my signature thank you response "Together, we make a positive difference in our community!" Well, you all do make a difference. A difference that allows Parc to continue our mission of paving the way for a quality life experience for individuals with

developmental disabilities. You make a difference through your generous donations of time, money, and resources. THANK YOU!

www.ParcWay.org ~ A New Look for PARC's Website!

The new look for the ParcWay newsletter is so well received that we decided to carry the theme through to Parc's website. Parc debuts our new website at www.parcway.org on September 1, 2006. We welcome input on how we can make our site the best it can be, with user-friendly options, intuitive navigation, and relevant information. For more information on Parc's Website Project contact Sibylle LaHood at (309) 689-3608 or E-mail slahood@arcpeoria.org.

The Community Foundation of Central Illinois Grant at Work!

The "Music, Movement & Dance Program," funded in part by a \$1,000 grant from the Community Foundation of Central Illinois is in full swing at Parc with clients and staff participating in a series of art and dance classes. The grant was made possible by the Taylor and Corrine French Fund for Fine Arts Education, The Peoria Sertoma Foundation Fund and the Russell F. and Eleanor Sikes Peters Performing Arts Fund, all of which are funds of the Community Foundation of Central Illinois. Kathy Trowbridge, from VSA Arts of Illinois, has been leading the sessions. PARC is grateful for the continued support of The Community Foundation of Central Illinois and VSA Arts of Illinois. For more information on this program contact Ruth Just at (309) 689-3674.

Parc's Garden Project ~ Enabling Growth

Doctors, therapists, teachers, chemists, engineers and entrepreneurs - what do these all have in common? They all have a green thumb, and as part of the University of Illinois Extension Master Gardeners program, they are helping Parc's Enabling Garden grow! Master Gardeners from Peoria and Tazewell counties, led by the programs architect Angela Zimmerman, have been tilling soil, transplanting flowers, growing herbs and vegetables, teaching insect classes, and much more. A load of top soil donated by the Peoria Ivy Club got things started this year. Parc's Garden Project offers many Parc participants cognitive benefits through classes and informational projects, sensory benefits through the sights and smells of the garden, and physically therapeutic benefits gained from growing and tending the plants. This summer's educational focus has been on insects. Did you know that butterflies taste with their feet? Parc participants studied arachnids in addition to insects. Participants made "spider" cookies with 8 legs. The best part of that project was eating the "spiders!"

The U of I Extension Master Gardeners hard work with the Parc Garden Project has been acknowledged by the State Master Gardeners association. They are recipients of the State Teamwork Award that will be presented on Friday, September 8, 2006 at The Mark in Moline, Illinois.



The Women of Parc exchange information, resources, and support.

Women of Parc Providing Insight and Support

The "Women of Parc" was formed in the early seventies to provide a support system for mothers of children with developmental disabilities. Elaine and Clete Manley were among the founding members who would get together once a month to share stories, information about their children, and Parc services and activities. This informal gathering proved to be a valuable means of exchange of information, resources, and support - a "Mother's Club." Initially, the women met in the Holly Sue Stone Room at Allied Agencies and they continue to meet quarterly.

The next Women of Parc Luncheon will be held October 3rd from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Parc on 1913 W. Townline Road. Parc will provide lunch. To R.S.V.P. for the luncheon or to learn more about the Women of Parc, please contact Nancy Mikesell at (309) 243-5326.

Let's Get Excited! Parc's Art Festival is "Kickin it up a notch!"

The Annual Parc Art Festival will be held Thursday, October 12, 2006 at Parc on 1913 W. Townline Road in Peoria. This exciting event will offer Parc clients and the public a chance to participate in a variety of visual and performing arts. Interactive mixed media art stations will be available from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. in the Parc Dining Room. The Peoria Ballet, along with Parc dancers, will perform a creative movement presentation from 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. The dancers invite the audience to participate. This special event would not be possible without the help and support of Parc staff, community volunteers, and VSA Arts of Illinois. Many thanks to everyone who helps make this event possible! For more information on this event please call Ruth Just at (309) 689-3674.

Ground-breaking Event - 2006 Arts in the Parc Brings Area Organizations Together to Benefit the Community!

Get ready for a fabulous evening of culinary delights, martini and wine tastings, a very special dessert, and live music by Sally Weisenburg and The Famous Sidemen when PARC, The Peoria Ballet, and the Contemporary Art Center present the 2006 Arts in the Parc benefit auction. Auction items include art pieces by well-known artists and Parc participants, fine merchandise and unique service offerings from area merchants, and exciting travel packages.

The 2006 Arts in the Parc benefit will be held on Wednesday, October 18, 2006 from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Par-A-Dice Hotel Ballroom. A plated dessert and live auction are not to be missed at 8:00 p.m. Tickets are \$30. To reserve your tickets, contact Parc at (309) 691-3800.

Please help us. There are still openings for event sponsors and auction item donors, as well as event volunteers. For more information on sponsorship benefits, how to donate an auction item, or becoming a volunteer, contact Sibylle LaHood at (309) 689-3608 or slahood@arcpeoria.org.

Peoria Ballet Dancing in the Parc...

The Peoria Ballet dance therapy class has been making Parc participants feel light on their feet since 2002. That is when Peoria Ballet relocated to Industrial Road and became our neighbors. Parc dancers travel by bus to the dance studio for the dance therapy classes.

Peoria Ballet's dance instructor Pat White leads the dance classes with enthusiasm and excitement that is contagious. "I love to teach students who have such passion for movement and music," said Ms. White. Rebekah von Rathonyi, the Academic Director at The Peoria Ballet, and Erich Yetter, the Artistic Director, feel that the class is an important part of Peoria Ballet's mission. All involved agree that "dance is a feeling in your heart, not the talent in your feet."

For more information on Parc's Dance Program, contact Ruth Just at (309) 689-3674. To learn more about Peoria Ballet phone (309) 690-7990 or visit their website at www.peoriaballet.com.

The Contemporary Arts Center, VSA Arts of Illinois, and Area Artists are a Picture Perfect Fit for Parc

The Contemporary Art Center of Peoria, VSA Arts of Illinois, and area artists have joined together to enrich Parc's Arts Program. Kathy Trowbridge, Ron DeBoer, Amy Schudel, Dennis Schreck, Helen Seitz, Betty Stine, Patricia Whalen-Keck, Michael Pozar, Greg DePauw and others have been working with Parc artists to help them learn about, experience, and create art. For more information on Parc's Art Program contact Sibylle LaHood at (309) 689-3608.



For more information on the Contemporary Art Center (309) 497-3815 or visit their website at www.peoriacac.org.

For more information on VSA Arts of Illinois, call (309) 745-9419 or visit their website at www.vsaartsil.org.

So much catching up to do...

Judy Taylor Retires after 27 Years of Service to Parc

Judy Taylor, an employee in the Accounting Department since January 1979, retired in June. During her 27 years at Parc, she was involved



Parc's Staff give Judy Taylor a retirement send off to thank her for 27 years of service to Parc.

in almost every facet of the accounting department. Judy was instrumental in moving Parc from a manual accounting system to an automated one. Accounting staff and agency management are very grateful to Judy for her many years of service and wish her a wonderful retirement.

Join The Arc!

The Arc is composed of individuals with developmental disabilities, as well as family members, friends, educators, volunteers, and professionals in the field. In Illinois, over 3,000 members participate in more than 50 local chapters. Founded in 1950 by a small group of parents and friends of people with developmental disabilities, the Arc of the United States today has 140,000 members in more than 1,200 local and state chapters across the country.

A small membership fee grants you membership in the national, state, and Peoria Arcs. Among the benefits of membership: the many Arc of Illinois publications and video presentations which are available to members requesting research, employment, prevention, family, and organization information. Members automatically receive *The Arc Today*, published quarterly by the Illinois Arc, as well as invitations to participate in seminars and conventions at a discount. Individual Memberships are \$20 and Family Memberships are \$25. For more information on The Arc and becoming a member, contact Sibylle LaHood at (309) 689-3608.

Donations from caring friends like you are critical to support our mission. Together, we make a positive difference in our community!

To learn more about Parc programs and how to support our mission, contact Sibylle LaHood at (309) 689-3608 or email slahood@arcepeoria.org.

Getting to Know Us... QMRPs - what are they and what do they do?

QMRP is an acronym for "Qualified Mental Retardation Professional." In order to become a QMRP, and individual needs to have a B.S. or B.A. in an approved field of study including anything related to the field of human services such as psychology, special education, sociology, therapeutic recreation and nursing. QMRPs must also have a minimum of one year of experience working with individuals with developmental disabilities. New QMRPs are required to complete forty hours of training within six months of being hired. Every QMRP must complete twelve hours of training annually to maintain their credentials.

QMRPs have many responsibilities. Their primary role is to ensure that individuals have receive needed services and supports. The key to fulfilling this role is the development of an Individualized Service Plan (ISP) for each participant they work with. Based on the individual's preferences, abilities and needs, the ISP is a blueprint to help the participant obtain the quality of life they desire. The QMRP constantly monitors the plan so that if an individual requires additional supports and services such as physical therapy, occupational therapy or mental services the QMRP can link them to those services.

Another critical role of the QMRP is that of advocate. When an individual has a concern or problem, the QMRP will assist the individual in finding a resolution to the issue. Most importantly, QMRPs, like all of Parc's staff, protect the rights and dignity of the individuals we serve. Many of Parc's QMRPs, also volunteer to assist with many of the activities Parc provides, including 4-H, parties and dances, Special Olympics and the Aktion Club. For more information on Parc's Program Services and the crucial role of QMRPs, contact Mike Predmore at (309) 689-3729.

Parc Artists are Winners

We've always know that Parc artists are winners, and the Illinois Rehabilitation Association agrees! Seventeen Parc artists entered their artwork into a juried amateur art contest. The contest was sponsored by the Illinois Rehabilitation Association and held in conjunction with their 50th Annual Rehabilitation Conference in May. Betty Autzen received a First Place for her entry in photography, and Gabe Warmick received a Second Place for her computer graphics entry.

Look for the Parc Garden Project's booth at the Parc Art Festival on October 12, 2006. To learn more about the Parc Garden project, contact Tammy Bart at (309) 689-3705.

Kudos to Parc Staff

Several Parc employees celebrated 15 or more years of service to our agency during the last quarter. We are fortunate to have such a dedicated staff!

30 Years of Service

Scott Barnett

25 Years of Service

Steve Roth

20 Years of Service

Kanak Baman, Lata Barot, Beth DeBoer, Sandi Eberle, Gail Foster, and Rio Wilson

15 Years of Service

Vicki Crum, Mark Middlebrook, Sandy Miller, and Connie Shumaker

A History Lesson in Chicago

Parc participants visited the Chicago Disability History Exhibit. The exhibit celebrated the contributions of disabled people from life in early settlements to the modern day disability rights movement. It presents human differences not as tragedy, but as a product of social interactions between individuals, environments, and beliefs. The exhibit tells stories of disabled people as meaningful participants in communities across Illinois. The exhibit runs through mid-December at the National Vietnam Veterans Art Museum, 1801 South Indiana Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. For more information phone (312) 413-1975 or email ssnyder@uic.edu.

A Day of Cruising

Parc participants attended the 8th Annual Special People Cruise at the Starved Rock Yacht Club on June 3, 2006. The event was open to all disabled individuals, along with their families and caregivers. Participants cruised the beautiful Illinois River, played games, listened to music,

and dined on hot dogs, sno cones and popcorn. Over 25 vessels participated, accommodating all disabilities, including hoisting wheelchairs onto the crafts. All of these activities are generously provided at compliments of the Starved Rock Yacht



Club and its many sponsors. In addition to the captains and crews of The Club, the Ottawa Rescue Squad, Illinois Conservation Police, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers volunteered their boats and time. Thank you to all who made this day a special one for all who participated!

Special Olympics Update

Parc's Special Olympics participants have had a busy summer. They participated in many events including bocce ball, track and field softball and tennis ball throw just to name a few!

Twenty-four Parc athletes participated in the State Special Olympics games in Bloomington, Illinois. These athletes came home with sixteen Gold medals, six Silver medals, one Bronze medal, one Fourth Place ribbon, and six Participation ribbons. We are very proud of all our participants and congratulate them on an amazing job!

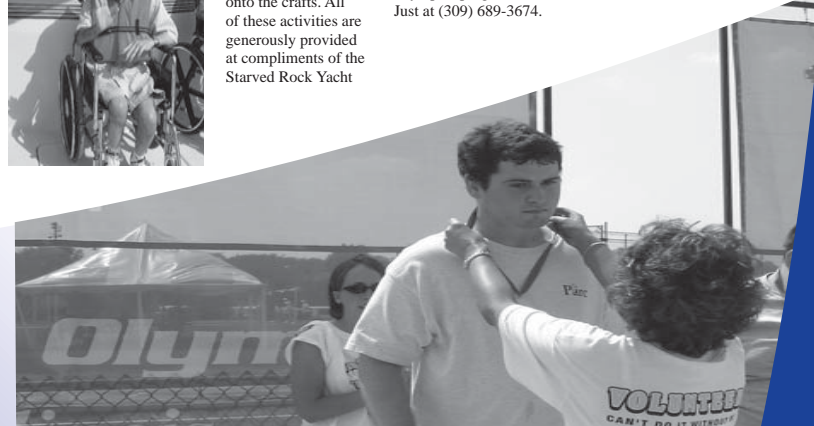
In order to help prepare our athletes for the Special Olympics, Parc offers training programs including MATP (Motor Activities Training Program). This program is designed for persons with severe limitations who do not possess the physical and/or behavioral skills necessary to participate in official Special Olympics sports. MATP emphasizes training and participation rather than competition. Many of the staff at Parc have been trained in these MATP activities and worked with our athletes.

Parc is holding a MATP day on Wednesday, September 13, 2006 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at Parc, 1913 W. Townline Road, Peoria in the Dining Room.



By participating in these events, individuals are empowered to improve their physical fitness and motor skills. They grow mentally, socially, and spiritually through the sports training and competition. Involvement with Special

Olympics is just one way that Parc is dedicated to empowering individuals with developmental disabilities to have a quality life. To learn more about Parc's Special Olympics program or to volunteer, contact Ruth Just at (309) 689-3674.



Parc Pavers

—paving the way a quality life!

We want to acknowledge the many Friends of Parc who make such a difference through donations of time, funding, and resources!

This Gift Contribution list reflects gifts received from April 1, 2006 to June 1, 2006:

Norman Adler, Alpha Tau of Alpha Delta Kappa, Fred W. Aupperle, Jerry Beasley, Cook Auto Sales, Cook Travel & Cruise, Julia K. Cornwell, Keith Erickson, Arletta M. Hein, Suzanne Himes, Deborah Litwiller, Marcia Lumis, Mackinaw Christian Church, Pilot Club of Peoria, Eugene F. Retzer, Ronald Robinson, Sheila Sader, Christine Schauble, Marcia Snyder, Pauline Staker, Nancy Suwalski, Heidi Turcot, Veterans of Foreign Wars in the U.S., and Judith A. Welp.

This Memorial Gift list reflects gifts received from April 1, 2006 to June 1, 2006:

In Memorial to Mr. Leo Gorenz, Jr.: Raymond L. Anderson, Dan Baker, Marjorie Coogan, David Vaughan Investments, Inc. Erickson Chevrolet Buick, Marjorie Fehr, Michael Fehr, Bob Hadank, Jay C. Harms, Shirely J. Hess, Jerry H. Higgins, James G. Hoerr, Max Hoerr, Richard L. Hurst, Melissa J. Joyce, Jeanne A. McCoy, Delores Metzger, Gretchen Nelson, Billy R. Poole, A.L. Ruff, Russell J. Rumbold, Alan Stahl, Sandra Stichling, and Cynthia Steitmatter.

In Memorial to Ms. Marilee D. Nall: Paula B. Cutright, Margaret V. Potts and Trinity Lutheran EMII Sunday School.

In Memorial to Ms. Joan Breckhill Phyllis Gingher

In Memorial to Mr. Wade Fehr: Michael A. Kopec, Louis Landon, and Russel K. Price.

We have made every effort to ensure that this list is accurate and complete. We apologize for any omissions or errors.



WPBA touring professionals graciously took time to meet with our participants who attended the event.

Par-A-Dice Hotel Casino Donates \$5,000 to Parc

On Wednesday, July 26, 2006, the Par-A-Dice Hotel Casino hosted the Women's Professional Billiards Association Pro-Am benefiting PARC. Local businesspeople faced off beside the top women's professional billiards players in the world.

The WPBA was founded in 1976 as the Women's Professional Billiards Alliance, and in 1995 the WPBA gained recognition and was officially featured on ESPN and ESPN2. The popularity of the WPBA continues to grow as well as that of the sport itself.

Parc employees Sibylle LaHood and Tom Worrall participated in the pro-am benefit, partnering with WPBA pro players. The WPBA touring professionals graciously took time to meet with Parc participants who attended the event to cheer Sibylle and Tom on. Parc is grateful to the



Sibylle LaHood, Executive Director of the Parc Foundation, accepts a check from Mary Jo Schlettler, Director of Hotel Operations in the amount of \$5,000 from the Par-A-Dice Hotel Casino WPBA Pro-Am Tournament.

WPBA, the Par-A-Dice Hotel Casino, and the area sponsors for their support of our mission. We are ever thankful for the hospitality and commitment shown by the Par-A-Dice Hotel Casino for community-based organizations like ours. Continued support from the community is Parc's most important means of enhancing and strengthening the many programs and services we offer to children and adults with developmental disabilities. We are truly fortunate to operate in such a giving community - THANK YOU to all who contributed their time, money, and resources!

2006 Par-A-Dice WPBA Pro-Am Benefit Sponsors
Adams Outdoor
US Cellular Coliseum
Peoria Rivermen
WMBD TV
AAA Billiards
WC Media
JMP Radio



Kathy Trowbridge Makes A Difference!

Kathy Trowbridge, Executive Director of VSA Arts of Illinois, has been volunteering at Parc for almost as long as she can remember. Kathy became involved with Parc through her sister

Beth. Beth was born in 1958 at a time when very little support for quality of life programs was offered. Kathy remembers going to the old Roosevelt School on Gold Street in East Peoria to visit and for special events. Her mother was an instructor, and Beth attended



"Our family forged many long lasting relationships through our involvement at Parc. Good memories," Kathy Trowbridge, Friend of Parc

classes there. It was a happy place, bustling with energy of the children and helpful parents and teachers.

Kathy joined Parc in 1986 and worked as Client Services Coordinator in the Older Adults Program until 1988. In 1988, she went to work for the Delphi Special Recreation Association at FonduLac Park District and she continued her affiliation with Parc. In 1993, she was hired as Program Coordinator by Very Special Arts Illinois, now VSA Arts of Illinois. In this capacity, Kathy has maintained her affiliation with Parc and Parc participants through art classes and involvement with Mainstreamer vacations. She loves to return to Parc as a volunteer and work with long time friends and

form new relationships. Beth volunteers for VSA Arts of Illinois and is a contributing artist to the VSAIL Gallery. She also helps Kathy as a volunteer at the PARC Art Festival.

Want to Volunteer at Parc?

Active participation with Parc, and/or as a donor and as a volunteer, is critical to improving the quality of life for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. Donations of time are as valuable to Parc as other resources and we greatly value our volunteers. To learn more about volunteering for Parc, contact Sibylle LaHood at (309) 689-3608 or e-mail slahood@arcpeoria.org.

United Way ~ making a difference for Parc!

The Heart of Illinois United Way has shown continued support to Parc. Parc received \$73,900 from the United Way for two of its programs, Early Intervention Services for strengthening families and Residential Services for building self-reliance.

Parc's Early Intervention Services will utilize the funds to continue our support of families with special needs children. Parc does this by providing families with individualized guidance in the early intervention system and by offering training in areas related to each child's developmental needs. Funding awarded to Parc's Residential Services will be used to provide expanded medical, therapy and activity initiatives for seniors.

Parc is proud to be a United Way Community Partner! THANK YOU UNITED WAY!



You can make a difference!

Your tax-deductible gift will make a tangible difference in the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities in Central Illinois. Please take a moment to fill out the information below and mail it with your donation to Parc, P.O. Box 3418, Peoria, IL 61612 or call Sibylle LaHood at (309) 689-3608.

Check all boxes that apply:

- I want to learn more about planned giving.
- I want to learn more about corporate sponsorship.
- I am interested in volunteering.
- I would like a PARC representative to speak at my business/organization.
- I would like to tour PARC.
- I would like to make a difference with a ONE TIME Gift of:
 - \$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 Other
- I would like to make a difference with a MONTHLY

GIFT OF: \$ _____

Please charge my gift to the following credit card:

Visa Mastercard

Card # _____ Exp Date _____

Signature _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

This gift is in memory of This gift is in honor of

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Please send acknowledgement to:

family of deceased person(s) honored

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____