

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

**A New Partner - The
Cedar Rapids Marriott**

**Volunteerism - Alive
and Well at Discovery
Living**

Page FORE!

Silver Linings

**Discovery Living
Honored by Stuff, Etc.**

Endowment 2013

Member News!

Have you checked out our new Dispatch format?!

We have rolled out a brand new Dispatch experience for 2013. We hope you find many of the enhancements we've made both interesting and useful. Most notably, for those of you who receive the newsletter online or via email, we encourage you to try out some of the more interactive elements: Touch or click on a picture to link to a partner's website or learn more about an article's subject. Touching or clicking blue words can put you in contact with a resource staff or an event's coordinator, or link you to more detailed information on a given topic. Touching an address links you to a map to help you find important places - just keep clicking on whatever interests you most. We hope you enjoy the new Dispatch!

*Whenever you see this
icon, touch or click for
additional pictures!*



*Whenever you see the
"Play" arrow, touch or
click for video!*



The Dispatch is a quarterly publication of Discovery Living, Inc., © 2013. If you are interested in receiving a copy of our newsletter by email or traditional post, please contact **Leon Bohn** at leon.bohn@discoveryliving.org.

THE Dispatch

A PUBLICATION OF DISCOVERY LIVING, INC. 

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Bob Mowry

VICE PRESIDENT

Denis Duppong

TREASURER

Ralph Savoy

SECRETARY

Leigh Murdoch

Tom Auterman

Kelly Baier

Craig Clark

Anne Cunningham

Bart Gibney

Jeff Gibney

Mark Gronemeyer

Elmer Haverly

Tom King

William Knapp

Dr. John McGrane

Terry Moran

John Negro

Scott Olson

Loren Schmitz

Larry Sharp

Mike Stallman

Lynne Strabala

Frank Varvaris

Karen Volz

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

Cedar Rapids Marriott - 1200 Collins Road

Early this year, Discovery Living was faced with the challenging prospect of finding a new venue to host our 18th season of [Travel and Adventure fundraiser movies](#). Space that holds 200 people, is fully accessible, and reasonably priced is very limited in the area. After several weeks of looking, we were fortunate to connect with the Cedar Rapids Marriott at [1200 Collins Road NE in Cedar Rapids](#).

We worked with Shaun Clasen, Marriott's Director of Catering, and the wonderful people at Marriott agreed to donate a portion of the room rental and set-up fees to make the space affordable for our non-profit organization. The Marriott team also allowed us room set-up flexibility to ensure that our patrons were well taken care. Thanks to the efforts of Shaun, Kerry Brewer, and the team at the Cedar Rapids Marriott, we will again look forward to seeing you at the movies!



2013 Travel and Adventure Series Film Schedule

Sept. 22 - **Discovering the Dutch**

- Sandy Mortimer

Oct. 6 - **America's Amazing Places**

- Bob De Loss

Nov. 3 - **Sailing Down to RIO on the Q2**

- Doug Jones

Dec. 1 - **Madagascar: Land of Unique Wildlife, People and Pirates**

- Marlin Darrah

All shows begin at 2:00 pm & refreshments will be available at intermission.

Single Season - \$24 • Family Season - \$48

• Single, day of show - \$7

WE NEED YOUR HELP...

Corporate and individual sponsors are the reason we are able to present our annual [Travel and Adventure Series](#). Our sponsors help Discovery Living cover some of the costs associated with the films. Corporate and individual sponsorship levels are \$300, \$500, \$750, & \$1,000 and are tax deductible. Sponsors receive free show tickets, are recognized on our travel and adventure brochures, acknowledged in our newsletter, and publically thanked during at least one live show.

If you are interested in learning more about sponsorships for the 2013 season - please contact [Lynette Vozenilek](#), [Susan Hollrah](#), or [Bob Hebl](#) at (319) 378-7470. You can also access detailed information at: www.discoveryliving.org

Options AWARD NIGHT

There were many familiar faces at the **Options of Linn County** Awards Banquet, held on April 26th. Numerous people served by Discovery Living were recognized for work performance and longevity of service. Congrats to all. We are proud of you!



IT TAKES A GREAT DEAL OF COURAGE TO STAND UP TO YOUR ENEMIES, BUT EVEN MORE TO STAND UP TO YOUR FRIENDS.

~ J. K. ROWLING

pink'd

The ladies at Jacolyn Drive awoke on a Saturday morning to find their yard "pinked!" The front corner was overrun with pink plastic flamingos. Jane Ramm's sister had forewarned the staff and explained that this was for a church fund-raiser - and that they would only stay for a couple of days until the church removed them. She thought the ladies at Jacolyn would enjoy the surprise, and indeed they did!



...worth 1,000 words



In 1979, Michael Jackson released the album "Off the Wall." Today, one of his biggest fans, our very own Aaron Schantz, has successfully put him back **on** the wall -- his own bedroom wall, to be exact. We are certain the late King of Pop would have been honored by Aaron's tribute.

Taylor's Volunteer Award

Discovery Living's own Taylor Wehling was recognized for "Volunteering Excellence" at St Luke's Volunteer Banquet on April 23, 2013. Taylor started volunteering at [St Luke's Hospital](#) in 2011 after losing his job in the community. He can be found regularly at the West Desk on Wednesday mornings and filling in as needed. He enjoys showing visitors to various locations in the hospital and answering questions. Way to go Taylor!!!!



ARC March

On April 6, 2013, Heidi Altorfer and Northbrook 1 staff Jamie Wheat put on their walking shoes to raise money for the [ARC of East Central Iowa](#). Both ladies participated in the ARC March at Lindale Mall.

Heidi enjoyed the breakfast that was served and then made her way around the mall. She walked (and clapped) a couple laps in her effort to bring in over \$150 for people with disabilities. Thank you, Heidi and Jamie. You make us proud.

Volunteerism... Alive and Well at Discovery Living

As Good for the Heart As It Is For the Soul...

The research is in: Doing nice for others does a body good. Maybe you were thinking that one of the best things about volunteering is getting a free pass to leave the office a few days a year, or just the pleasant feeling of accomplishment you get from helping others. As nice as those outcomes are, [a recent study from Carnegie Mellon](#) also found a direct link between volunteer work and decreased risk of high blood pressure, a major risk factor for heart attack and stroke. The study, published in the journal [Psychology and Aging](#), included almost 1,200 people between the ages of 51 and 91, but the health benefits of volunteering among younger people have also been reported. Earlier this year, a study with high school kids indicated volunteerism could lead to lower inflammation, cholesterol and body mass index.

...worth 1,000 words



Proud owner of...
a flower pot!
Tom Stock loves flowers, loves to garden, and loves growing beautiful things in the fresh air and warm sun.

See You at Elmcrest!

Enter now for your chance to win four tickets to the **3rd Annual Zach Johnson Classic** golf tournament at **Elmcrest Country Club** in Cedar Rapids. The annual tournament is scheduled for Monday, July 29th - and this event raises thousands of dollars for a number of local charities. The kind folks at the **Zach Johnson Foundation** generously donated 4 tickets to Discovery Living. We will be accepting sealed bids for the 4 tickets until the end of the day on July 21. The winning bidder will also receive a golf ball autographed by **Zach Johnson!** The winner will be notified the week of July 21. Bids received after July 21 will not be considered. All of the proceeds from the sale of these tickets will go to support Discovery Living. Please place a bid to take in some great golf, while supporting our work at Discovery Living! Send bids, which include your bid amount, phone number, e-mail and mailing address to:

Discovery Living, Inc.
1015 Old Marion Road NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402
ATTN: Bob Hebl



Discovery Living would like to send a big thank you to the wonderful folks at the **John Deere Classic**,

Discovery Living board member Terry Moran, and each one of you who pledged your support to Discovery Living during the 2013 **Birdies for Charity Campaign**. For the last several years Terry Moran has worked with our friends at the John Deere Birdies for Charity Campaign to help them support our organization. As a result of their efforts, Discovery Living has received over \$5,000 in donations from this event, each of the last several years! The annual John Deere Classic is scheduled for July 8-14 at **TPC Deere Run Course** in Moline, Illinois. We are thrilled that John Deere is again partnering with local non-profits, including Discovery Living, Inc. Thanks to everyone involved for helping make this event one of our most successful fundraisers.

Special Olympics



On the last weekend in May, a number of athletes who receive services from Discovery Living qualified for the **State Special Olympics**. Many ribbons and medals were awarded, and a great time was had by all.



The Silver Lining



Friday, April 26th was a frightening time for anyone associated with Discovery Living. On that fateful night, our home, where we support five people, at 1132 White Ivy Lane, caught fire. No one was injured, and we are all extremely grateful for that. The fire caused substantial damage, and we are in the process of repairing this home to make it better than ever.

The staff on duty, Jaysen Madsen, did a wonderful job of evacuating everyone and making the necessary emergency contacts. The Associate Coordinator, Erick Heiserman, worked with numerous people, including Carol Saddoris, our Director of Residential Services, to ensure that everyone had a safe place to go and that the follow up work started immediately. Bob Mowry, President of our Board of Directors, offered his home in Marion as a temporary housing option, and several family and staff members stepped up to help out in whatever ways they could. Another board member, Loren Schmitz, has spent many hours helping coordinate home restoration activities. Thanks to all of these wonderful people, and the many other staff, family, and community members who pitched in to help us through this tough time.



The fire at White Ivy serves as a reminder that you often see the best in people during the worst of times.



“There are two ways to live: you can live as if nothing is a miracle; you can live as if everything is a miracle.”

- Albert Einstein

Day of Caring

All of us at Discovery Living were blessed to have wonderful volunteers from local organizations volunteer their time and energy as part of the 2013 [United Way Day of Caring](#) event. Volunteers cleared brush, trimmed trees, removed landscaping debris, installed decorative gravel, and completed several other tasks that really improved the appearance of several Discovery Living homes.

A big Discovery Living “Thank you!” goes out to the wonderful volunteers from [Evergreen Packaging](#), [Transamerica](#), and [Cedar Rapids Bank and Trust](#). We appreciate your hard work and willingness to make a difference.





If you have ever been interested in buying or selling pre-owned furnishings, clothing or household items, this July is the perfect time to do so. **Stuff Etc has named Discovery Living as their charity of the month for July 2013.** Shoppers who stop by the **Cedar Rapids Stuff Etc**

store at **252 Blairs Ferry Road NE** will not only find many bargains, they will also be supporting the work we do here at Discovery Living. During the month of July, a portion of the proceeds from certain items will be donated to Discovery Living, and shoppers will also be provided the opportunity to make direct donations as well. We are very grateful for our friends at Stuff Etc and hope that you will stop by and check them out this July.



The Discovery Living Endowment Challenge is Underway

As many of you know, Discovery Living recently received a grant award from the **Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation (GCRCF)**. This award allows us to receive matching funds from the GCRCF for qualifying gifts made to **our endowment fund**. Examples of qualifying gifts include cash, stock options, insurance annuities, retirement account dividends, and property. For every \$3.00 donated, the GCRCF will match \$1.00 up to an overall agency total of \$25,000 in matching funds. Not only do donors benefit from tax deductions, they also benefit from Endow Iowa tax credits. At your right is an example of possible benefits of a gift to our endowment fund.

You can learn more about the **Endow Iowa Program** by going to the GCRCF or Discovery Living website: www.discoveryliving.org. Additionally,

donors who gift \$4,000 or more become charter members of the **Discovery Living Legacy Society**. This group of key supporters will be invited to special company events and be publically recognized to the extent they are comfortable with.

We will be reaching out to many of you to ask for your support in ensuring the long-term stability of Discovery Living. If you want to learn more about this wonderful opportunity to help Discovery Living and benefit from tax incentives, please feel free to call the Discovery Living office at (319) 378-7470, and ask to speak with Bob Hebl. To learn more about the lives being touched by Discovery Living, go to our website at www.discoveryliving.org and click on the **About Us** tab at the top of the screen and then the **Our Stories** tab on the right side of the screen.



- Donor makes a \$4,000 gift
- 25% Endow Iowa Tax Credit: \$1,000
- 35% Federal Deduction: \$1,400
- Total Tax Saving: \$2,400
- Cost of Gift to Donor: \$1,600
- Matching Funds from the GCRCF: \$1,000
- Total Gift to Discovery Living: \$5,000



Legislative Update

By Bob Hebl, Executive Director



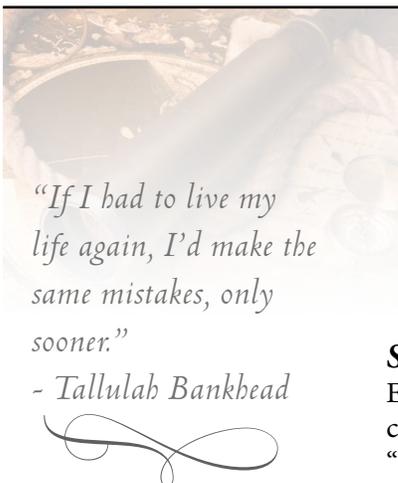
It went into overtime, but the 2013 Iowa legislative session is now in the books. We have been keeping you updated regarding a number of critical issues that impact the people we serve, and here is how things turned out:

- **Medicaid Expansion** – The Governor/GOP and Democratic lawmakers agreed on a compromise that will offer insurance coverage for an additional 150,000 low income Iowans under the Medicaid program, with the federal government picking up all or most of the cost for the next several years. Participants will be required to participate in various preventative practices in order to access these federal dollars. We will be hearing much more about this process in the months ahead.
- **Home and Community Based Services** - Reimbursement Rates will increase by as much as 3% on July 1st.
- **Transition Funds** - These dollars were allocated to help counties cover essential services during the transition to a state run system). Several counties, including Linn County, benefited from the 11.6 million statewide allocation.
- **Equalization Funds** - These funds were allocated to ensure that counties who were required to raise their property tax rate are held harmless as the state implements a uniform, statewide, property tax levy rate of \$47.28. Several counties, including Linn, received equalization funds.

Senator Jack Hatch

On June 11, 2013, [Senator Jack Hatch](#) and [Representative Art Staed](#) met with stakeholders to solicit input regarding [Medicaid expansion](#) and Mental Health/Disability System Redesign.

L to R: Barb Gay, [Foundation 2 Crisis Center](#); Senator Jack Hatch; Representative Art Staed; Bob Hebl, [Discovery Living](#); and Delaine Peterson with the [ARC of East Central Iowa](#).



See What's On!

Earlier this summer, our theater class put on a production based on "The Wizard of Oz". Click above to see a clip. Want more? Visit [our YouTube page](#).

...worth 1,000 words



On May 16th, Tyler Francois graduated from the [Linn-Mar Success Center](#). He is now working at Options. Way to go, Tyler! We are proud of your accomplishments!