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Member News!

A very special "Thank you!" to our sponsors for making our mission of service possible!



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*Home Appliance Center
Mike Stallman
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The **Knights of Columbus** set a new all-time record last year for charitable donations and service hours with \$175,079,192 in donations, and more than 73.5 million hours of service in 2015. The number of service hours rose by more than a million over the previous year's total. In 2015 the Knights of Columbus donated over \$49,000 to Discovery Living! Please keep our faithful friends and their generous work in your prayers.



Care to join in? Newsletter sponsorships are now available. Sponsor once, be visible for a full year! An excellent way to both support Discovery Living AND promote your business or organization! For further details and information on how your organization can reserve your space now, contact Lynette or Bob at (319) 378-7470.

THE Dispatch

A PUBLICATION OF DISCOVERY LIVING, INC. 

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You are Invited!

What:

Discovery Living 35 Year Anniversary Party

Where:

Longbranch Convention Center

(90 Twixt Town Road NE, Cedar Rapids)

When:

Thursday, August 11

(Social hour at 5:30pm, program at 6:30)

Who:

You!



DISTRICTS



STATE



Our district's
friendship award
winner:
***Congratulations,
Brandon Fouarge!
You make us
proud!!***

TAKE ME TO THE SOFTBALL GAME



"IF YOU CAN CHANGE THE WAY YOU LOOK AT THINGS,
THE THINGS YOU LOOK AT CHANGE" - WAYNE DYER

16th
Street
and
Friends
Cheer on
the
Kernels



Join Us for our 35th Anniversary Celebration!

It will be a night to honor the scores of individuals who have made Discovery Living what it is today; it will be a night to reflect on our rich history of hope, perseverance, and accomplishment; and it will be a night to look forward to a future of promise and prosperity for those to whom we provide services.

We will be hosting the celebratory gathering at the [Longbranch Convention Center](#). Social hour begins at 5:30, followed by a program at 6:30 on Thursday night, August 11th.

Will YOU Be There?



Open House...

Northbrook 1 held a Parent/Guardian appreciation open house on June 4th. We were able to celebrate outside with our new patio swing and furniture. The ladies prepared the area by planting flowers in the planters around the house. We had several family members and staff attend and enjoy the beautiful day with lots of tasty snacks and beverages. This was a great opportunity for the families to mingle and get to know each other better.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

CHARLIE CUMMINS

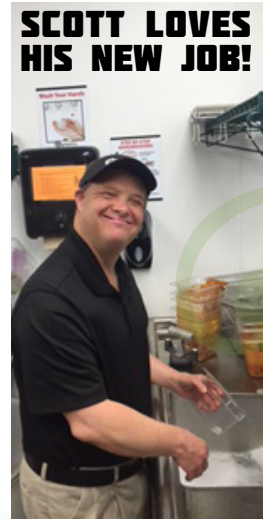


Options Awards Night





Maggie Carr volunteered with Kristine Johnson in the gardens at Wellington Heights on April 16. Maggie loves to help out and volunteer. She says it makes her feel good.



...How Does Your Garden Grow?

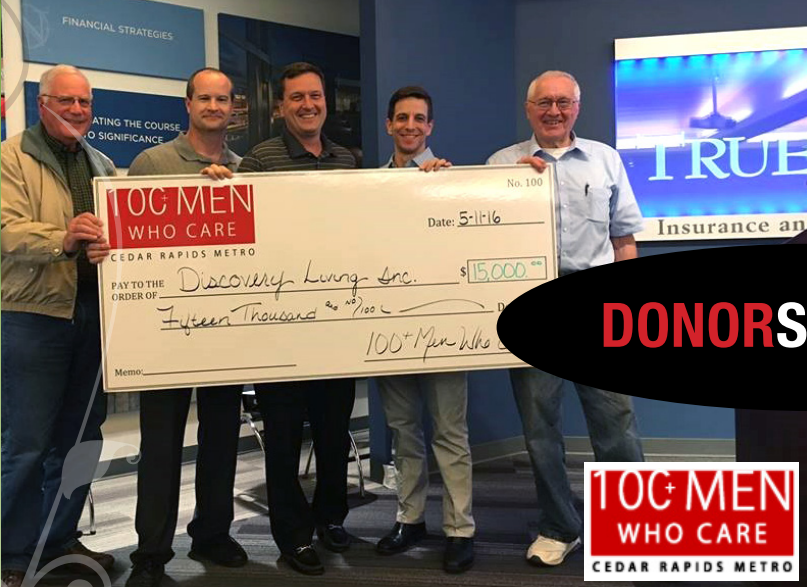
Spring is in the air, and it is time to launch our annual Birdies for Charity Campaign. The annual John Deere Classic is scheduled at TPC Deere Run in Silvis, Illinois from July 8-14. John Deere is again partnering with local non-profits, including Discovery Living, Inc.

All forms are due back to our office no later than **June 29th**. Thank you for supporting the work we do at Discovery Living.

Each dollar generated in pledges will yield a bonus contribution from John Deere. Every dollar pledged, plus the John Deere contribution, goes to Discovery Living. Our organization pays no expenses to participate in this program.



How it works: Simply make a one-time flat donation, or pledge one cent or more per birdie. After the tournament, you'll be mailed a notice of your pledge amount due. For more information - or to receive a pledge form - you can contact the Discovery Living office at (319) 378-7470. Tournament rules and additional information is available at: www.birdiesforcharity.com.
Everyone who pledges can guess the number of birdies that will be shot during the Classic and have a chance to win one of more than 100 prizes.



DONOR SPOTLIGHT



JASON FEIGHT



A big Discovery Living thank you goes to the **100+ Men Who Care Cedar Rapids Metro**. These fine men meet each quarter and each member donates \$100 to a local non-profit organization. On February 18, the group met at Theatre Cedar Rapids and Discovery Living was selected from a group of three other charities to receive a donation of over \$15,000! You can learn more about this wonderful organization by going to: <https://www.facebook.com/100PlusMenCR/> (Like us on facebook) <https://twitter.com/100menwhocarecr> (Follow us on twitter) Special thanks to founding Discovery Living board member Larry Sharp for speaking on behalf of our organization.

Discovery Living also wishes to thank **Jason Feight**. Feight Club Productions hosted its third annual prom-themed Spring Fling on May 21 at the Church on Northland in Cedar Rapids. Jason and his bandmates, who were featured in our last issue of the Dispatch, put on a great show and made donations to several charities following the show, including Discovery Living. Thanks Jason for going above and beyond.

"Never believe that a few caring people cannot change the world. For, indeed, that's all who ever have." Margaret Mead

the world. For, indeed, that's all who ever have." Margaret Mead

Jenny Would Like to Share a Few Words with You...

We are proud of Jenny VanBerkum and her generous spirit! This spring, Jenny gathered an armload of books and hitched a ride with staff to the Crestwood Nursing Home in Marion. She skillfully took the lead and informed the Crestwood employees that she no longer needed these books and wanted to share them. Well done, Jenny!



Success! 2016 was another terrific year for Discovery Living, aided by the many volunteers of the **United Way's Day of Caring**. Of the 1,275 individuals that participated in Cedar Rapids, 40 of them assisted at Discovery Living homes. Our thanks go out to **HR Green, Inc., NextEra Energy Duane Arnold, Hibu, and Transamerica**. The spirit of volunteerism is alive in our community. We are grateful and already look forward to next year.



A Night at the Theatre with Kendra and Melissa

Medicaid Modernization Update

After two delays, Iowa's [Medicaid Modernization](#) Initiative was launched on April 1, 2016. Here is where we are today:

- We have successfully billed both of our managed care partners for services provided in April and May. As you recall, Discovery Living, Inc., is part of the provider network for:
 - [Amerigroup Iowa, Inc.](#)
 - [AmeriHealth Caritas Iowa, Inc.](#)
- We completed/submitted 120 health risk assessments for our members with AmeriHealth Caritas, with each member receiving a \$10 thank you Hy-Vee gift card from AmeriHealth.
- Representatives from your loved one's MCO may be calling, if you are their representative payee. If you receive a call from a managed care company representative, they may request that you verify who you are. Unfortunately, the only way for the managed care representative to verify your identity is for them to request personal information, such as date of birth, social security number, MCO ID number, etc. If you are uncomfortable sharing this information via the phone, that is fine. Not participating in this 'welcome call' will not impact the services your loved one receives. The purpose of this call is to ensure you are welcomed, received the welcome packet, and have the opportunity to ask any questions you may have.
- We have had contact with representatives from both AmeriHealth and Amerigroup. We also conducted a tour of our office and some community-based services for several members of the AmeriHealth team on 4/29/15. We will continue our efforts to ensure that services are uninterrupted during this transition. Please remember that you can call [Monica Ravn](#), [Carol Sadoris](#), or [Bob Hebl](#) at (319) 378-7470 with questions – or access the link below to keep current on this evolving process.

<https://dhs.iowa.gov/iahealthlink/faqs>

By Monica Ravn, Member Advocate



THANK YOU GCRCF

A big Discovery Living thank you goes to our long-term partners at the [Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation \(GCRCF\)](#). Discovery Living was recently awarded a \$25,000 program grant to help us hire and support our member advocate. This new position acts as the main point of contact between the people we serve, their families, and the managed care organizations that assumed responsibility for Medicaid services on April 1, 2016. Monica Ravn, our new Member Advocate, has already immersed herself in assisting our members and their families as they navigate changes brought on by Iowa's transition to managed care funding.



You can learn more about the hundreds of non-profits who receive support from the Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation by going to: www.gcrf.org.

"Without a struggle, there can be no progress." - Frederick Douglass



The Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation manages our agency endowment funds. Building our endowment fund is critical to the long term stability of our organization. A strong endowment is the best way to ensure that Discovery Living is here to help people in need for many years to come, and any and all gifts make a difference. Examples of qualifying gifts

include: cash, stock options, insurance annuities, retirement account dividends, and property. Not only do donors benefit from tax deductions, they also benefit from Endow Iowa tax credits. Here is an example of possible benefits of a gift to our endowment fund:

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

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.



Meet Our Member Advocate, Monica!



Monica Ravn joined Discovery Living in April 2016, as the member advocate. Prior to this, Monica worked at The MENTOR Network/REM Iowa for 17½ years in a variety of roles. She served a number of years as their regional quality assurance manager in three states and, most recently, started the ball rolling on their Host Home program in Iowa. Monica has also worked at the Center for Disabilities and Development, as a nursing assistant, and at Systems Unlimited, as a direct support professional.

Monica received her Bachelor of Arts degree in social work, with a specialization in special education, from the University of Iowa.

As a member advocate, Monica will assist with all MCO-related education, service authorizations, appeals, and quality indicator reporting, including incident reporting.



Discovery Living hosted an informational meeting with AmeriHealth Caritas' Melissa Adams, Provider Network Account Executive, and Kendra Abel, Community Relations Representative, on April 29. We were excited to meet our local representatives with AmeriHealth Caritas, introduce them to a few Discovery Living personnel, as well as provide them a tour of our office. We look forward to building a relationship with Melissa and Kendra.

WHERE SHOULD I GO ?!

PART DEUX



Welcome to the second part of our two-part series. As a quick refresher, we've already emphasized

the importance of mindful proactivity - seeing your physician routinely and aiming for early detection - however, if your primary physician is not open or is unable to fit you into their schedule, you may need to visit an urgent care facility or your local hospital's emergency room. Which one?

Urgent Care

Recommended if the health issue requires immediate attention, but is not a life threatening emergency.



Examples: Cold, cough, flu, throat pain, ear, eye, or skin infections, a minor cut, fever without a rash, minor burns, muscle sprain or strain, a respiratory infection, bone fracture,

painful urination, persistent diarrhea, vomiting, and migraine headache.

Advantages of Urgent Care

No appointment is necessary, similar resources as your primary care facility, less expensive than an ER

Emergency Room

Recommended if the health issue is a serious, life threatening condition.

Examples: Symptoms of a heart attack or stroke, shortness of breath/ wheezing, severe pain in abdomen, coughing/vomiting blood, uncontrolled bleeding/ deep cut, severe allergic reaction, poisoning, seizure without previous diagnosis, fainting or loss of balance, head/eye injuries, broken or dislocated joint, or serious burn.

Advantages of Emergency Room

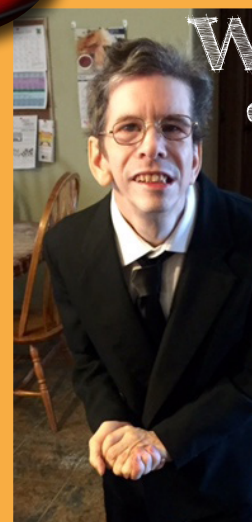
No appointment required, immediate care, open 24/7, and technology to handle serious health care emergencies.



Everyone has their own experience. That's why we are here, to go through our experience, to learn, to go down those paths and eventually you may have gone down so many paths and learned so much that you don't have to come back again.

Prince

Welcome Jesse!



The members at 48th Street are pleased to announce the arrival of their new housemate, Jesse Sterzenbach. Jesse has been the "perfect addition" to the home and is widely loved by all who know him. Best wishes, Jesse!



1 0 1 5 Old Marion Road, NE
Cedar Rapids, I o w a 52402

Place
Stamp
Here

www.discoveryliving.org
(319) 378-7470

*Helping adults with
intellectual disabilities
live successful,
satisfying lives in the
mainstream of the
community.*