

THE Dispatch

A PUBLICATION OF DISCOVERY LIVING, INC. 

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FEIGHT CLUB PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

SPRING FLING 2018

PROM THEMED SHOW & FUNDRAISER FOR LOCAL NON PROFITS

FEATURING:

HUNTER DUMPED US HERE
THE UNINCORPORATED
DUCHESS
DECATUR CREEKS

Saturday, April 28
The Church On Northland

5200 Northland Ave NE, Cedar Rapids, Iowa
5pm - 10pm / All Ages / Tickets: \$10

See Facebook.com/FeightClubProductions.com for advance tickets and event info!



Ladies and gents, this is the moment you've waited for: It's time once again for the annual Spring Fling! Each year, Jason Feight, owner of Feight Club Productions (and an employee of Discovery Living) hosts a "prom-themed" dance with live bands, a photo booth, and more - and this year marks the event's 5th anniversary! All community members are welcome, and proceeds benefit Discovery Living and other local non-profit organizations. The event will be held on April 28th, from 5pm-10pm, at The Church on Northland. Additional details can be found on their event page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/193062564575416/>



Bring your friends, bring your family; it's a great time! Jason reminds potential party-goers that this IS an event with live music, so individuals who would choose to do so are encouraged to bring hearing protection.

...See you there!

"The world as we have created it is a process of our thinking. It cannot be changed without changing our thinking." - Albert Einstein

Taking in the Games...

Saddleback doubled down on some **Special Olympics**-related events this season, attending the games themselves and a **Rough Riders**-sponsored Special Olympics match.



EVERYONE DESERVES A NIGHT *to Shine*

*S*pending time with the members at Discovery Living, we get to witness some pretty great moments. Sometimes, we even get a glimpse of something magical. On a cold February night, we were blessed to experience an occasion that was just that – true magic. It turns out, since 2015, the [Tim Tebow Foundation](#) has been hosting a growing number of “prom night” experiences all over the country and internationally for people, age 14 and above, with special needs. In 2018, [St. Mark's Lutheran Church](#) of Marion joined in, for the first time, and brought the experience to our



community. And they went all in. Every attendee was considered a prom king or queen and treated as such. Crowns. Tiaras. Flowers. Catered meals, drinks, and desserts. Karaoke. Professional hair and makeup stylists. Professional photographers. A slammin' DJ. Shoe shiners. A personalized, announced red-carpet entrance into the dance hall, with throngs of cheering fans and photo flashes. Limo rides to the main venue. Spirits were higher than kites, and who could blame them?

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And the planners thought of everything! Didn't come with a date or friend? No problem. There were lines of volunteers, dressed to the nines, who had come for the sole purpose of being each attendee's companion for the entire evening. Each attendee was able to come in and choose whomever they connected or felt most comfortable with. Every volunteer companion gave undivided attention to each attendee – dancing, talking, and laughing the entire evening away. Things getting a little overwhelming? No problem. There were rooms designated for quiet, games, movies, or just some general “destimulation”. Parents or caregivers had to tag along? No problem. There was a room for all the chaperones up on a second floor

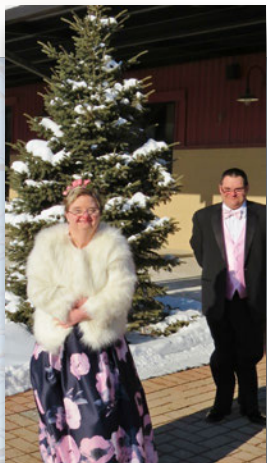


balcony that overlooked the dance floor, with food, drinks, and certainly stories shared and connections made. It was a night that is sure to provide warm memories for years to come. We will never forget the way the event made everyone beam, dance exuberantly, and swell with confidence.



...and *Second* CHANCES

There was just one thing missing from Amy's “Night to Shine” ...her man. Aaron, was originally supposed to return from a trip to Disney World in time to attend the gala with her, but a snowstorm delayed his flight, and he missed the dance - arriving home only minutes after the dance had ended. What's a girl to do? She got her dress out, got Aaron into his tux, and they had their own personal prom night, out on the town.



CHIP IN TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Are you ready for our annual Birdies for Charity campaign? You were clearly ready last year, as you donated over \$8,000 to Discovery Living - our best year ever! Let's break another record this year!

The annual **John Deere Classic** is scheduled at **TPC Deere Run** in Silvis, Illinois, July 9 – 15, 2018. Discovery Living's designated bird number is 1022.

Benefits of donating to this campaign:

- You could win prizes, including a two-year lease on a Lexus NX – courtesy of Lexus of Quad Cities (when you guess the correct number of birdies scored).
- 100% of all monies collected goes to your designated organization, which we hope is Discovery Living. This is made possible by the John Deere Foundation's promise to pay all administrative costs for the Birdies program.
- The tournament adds a second "bonus" check of 5-10% of total donations to each organization. So, for every \$1.00 pledged and collected, Discovery Living receives between \$1.05 - \$1.10. What a great deal!
- Your donation makes a difference in the lives of people that we support!

How to donate:

- You will receive your "Chip in for your Charity" 2018 official pledge card soon.
- Then, either make a one-time flat donation or
- Make a pledge match based on the number of birdies you think will occur at the 2018 John Deere Classic, which is a fun way to test your guessing skills! In 2017, 1918 birdies occurred during the tournament.
- Send your pledge card to Discovery Living (by July 10th) or directly to John Deere (by July 13th).
- For more information and tournament rules visit www.birdiesforcharity.com, or contact [Monica Ravn](#) or [Bob Hebl](#) at (319) 378-7470.

Thank you for your support and good luck guessing!



*A Landmark
Birthday for
Jen J*

.....shhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh



"Incredible change happens in your life when you decide to take control of what you do have power over instead of craving control over what you don't."

Steve Maraboli, *Life, the Truth, and Being Free*

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

Our sincere thanks goes out to our friends at **U.S. Bank**. Discovery Living recently received a grant from the **U.S. Bank Foundation** that enabled us to install hard surface flooring at one of our Cedar Rapids area homes. Now the members of this home, several of whom have ambulatory and fall-related issues, are able to access and enjoy their dining room and kitchen more safely. Thanks to U.S. Bank for their generosity and support.



FOUNDATION

BEFORE / AFTER



OUR FAITHFUL FRIENDS

A big Discovery Living "Thank You" goes out to our faithful friends, the Iowa Knights of Columbus. The 2017 Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (PID) fund drive was a great success! Our heartfelt thanks goes out to the hundreds of Knights of Columbus who donate their time and energy in support of our organization. The 2017 fund drive produced over \$47,000 in donations, once again making the Iowa Knights of Columbus our largest donor! We know that the Knights receive support requests from many worthwhile causes, and we are honored that our faithful friends remain

dedicated to our mission.

Our thanks goes out to the following local KC Councils for their support:

- 909 - Cedar Rapids
- 12136 - N. Linn
- 5677 - Cedar Rapids
- 11942 - Fairfax
- 5390 - Marion
- 15921 - Hiawatha
- 12121 - Center Point Area
- 5544 - Cedar Rapids
- 13426 - Mechanicsville Area



Council 5390, represented by Grand Knight, Pat Gibbs, presents Discovery Living with a check from this year's PID (Tootsie Roll) fund drive.



Legislative Update

Bob Hebl, Executive Director

A very busy 2018 Iowa Legislative session recently ended. [House File 2462](#) and [House Study Bill 680](#) were proposed to address managed care oversight. Here are a few highlights:

- Members who win appeals will have services extended for a time to be determined by the DHS director.
- Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) must pay clean claims within required timelines.
- Any denied claims must include a reason that is consistent with industry best practices.
- Claims denied because of a MCO error are to be fully paid within 90 days.
- DHS is to develop standardized provider enrollment forms and follow a standard credentialing process.

Overview

Tiered reimbursement rates, like those Discovery Living receives for providing daily support services, will continue. The impact of individualized, assessment based, tiered reimbursement rates varies significantly from provider to provider. About 1/3 of the providers in our industry experienced a reimbursement rate decrease, tiered rates were essentially cost neutral for another 1/3 of providers, and 1/3 of the providers in our field received a reimbursement rate increase.

State revenues continue to grow at a modest but steady pace, and the final state budget did not include overall reductions in Medicaid dollars.

More specific information regarding disability-related legislation can be found at: <http://www.infonetiaowa.org/news/bill-tracker/>. You can also contact me at (319) 378-7470 if you have questions or concerns.

"One-fifth of the people are against everything all the time." - Robert Kennedy

Interactive Informational Opportunities

In an effort to keep you updated regarding legislative issues that impact people with disabilities, we will be hosting the following three informational meetings at the Discovery Living administrative office:

- Tuesday, April 10 - 1:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 10 - 4:00 p.m.
- Thursday, April 12 - 12:00 p.m.

We will provide you with an update regarding the 2018 Legislative session, specifically focusing on issues that impact people with disabilities. We will also be available after the meeting to answer any questions you may have.



An Evening of MIRTH and MAGIC



...with The Venture Crew

Members of The Venture Crew were treated to some “serious” belly laughs, a little bit of magic, and all sorts of wild surprises, courtesy of Balloons, Etc.’s Sparkles the Clown (aka Jacob Cowger). Kindly donating his time purely for the enjoyment of the members, Sparkles kept the audience in stitches and actively made a number of them part of the show, delighting all.

Click the “play” button above for video!



Valentine's Dance



AH... LE JOUR D'AMOUR. C'EST BON!
THE CREW (ABOUT 60 MEMBERS AND STAFF) ALSO GOT ON SOME SWEET SWERVE TO THE SICK BEATS OF THE NOTORIOUS DJ TODD PHILPOTT, THIS PAST FEBRUARY. NO GREATER JOY THAN THE LOVE OF FRIENDS TO WARM A COLD NIGHT.



A HEALTHY DOLLOP OF TRUTH from the good folks at dietsaafourletterword.tumblr.com...

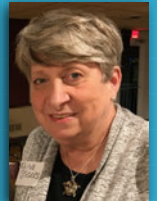
HEALTHWELLNESS & YOU

EAT well
MOVE daily
HYDRATE often
SLEEP lots
LOVE your body
...repeat for **LIFE**



We are so grateful...

The Venture Crew would like to extend a heartfelt “thank you” to **Murdoch Funeral Home’s Legacy Center** for giving us a space to meet and for being such wonderful hosts. Especially our Ms. Oline (Stigers), who is such a warm and welcoming presence at our gatherings (and provides such yummy cookies!) The Murdoch family hospitality is exceptional, and something we look forward to, every time we get together.



The Dispatch is a quarterly publication of Discovery Living, Inc., © 2018. If you are interested in receiving a copy of our newsletter by email or traditional post, please contact **Leon Bohn** at leonbohn@discoveryliving.org.



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Place
Stamp
Here

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

www.discoveryliving.org
(319) 378-7470

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



*The Arc of East Central Iowa - Bob Mickey Collision Center - Bradley & Riley, PC
Five Seasons Tire - Home Appliance Center - House of Carpets - Mike Stallman
Molyneaux Insurance - Options of Linn County - Toyota of Iowa City*

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 Monica Ravn at (319) 378-7470.