

THE Dispatch

A PUBLICATION OF DISCOVERY LIVING, INC. 

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Established in 2013, the Discovery Living Legacy Society has already doubled its original membership.

In September, we gathered to express our gratitude for the extraordinary role these supporters play in insuring the organization's future.

LEGACY
SOCIETY





UNIFIED Highlights of the Season SOFTBALL



Another season of softball comes to a close, as everyone packs away their gloves and equipment for the winter. The teams put in a lot of time and practice preparing for this year's events, and it showed. We are proud of their commitment, effort, and sportsmanship. (Now, if only we could get them to enjoy themselves a bit more, as they clearly don't appear to be having ANY fun...) Special thanks to the exceptional photographer, Jim Messina, for capturing these images and so many more. Click [here](#) to see the rest.



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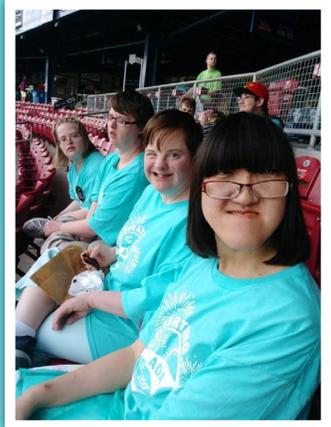


Tanager Place Summerfest was a great time for all. Making breakfast cereal, building a rocket, visiting with firefighters, and checking out classic cars made for a date to remember.



CELEBRATING 28 YEARS OF THE ADA

The ladies of Lewis celebrated the anniversary of the ADA with several hundred of their closest friends at Veterans Memorial Stadium. Go Kernels!!



TANAGER PLACE SUMMER FEST 2018



WHEN IT'S TIME TO GET OUT OF TOWN FOR SOME BONDING WITH FRIENDS...



ADVENTURELAND



On June 9th, the Twin Pine guys and coordinator, Jen Uthoff were up and off to catch a tour bus to the friendly confines of Wrigley Field to see the Chicago Cubs take on the Pittsburgh Pirates. We had lots of fun, and perfect weather - warm, but not too hot - and seats mostly in the shade! We cheered the Cubs on to a 2-0 victory over the Pirates!



Annual Appeal

Discovery Living's history is full of extraordinary stories about how your donations have affected the daily journeys of so many members at different stages of their lives. Look for Chris' story in the Discovery Living 2018 **Annual Appeal**, coming to your mailbox this November. And thank you for your ongoing support of Discovery Living in our constant efforts to earn the honor of being regarded as the members' provider for life.

2018

22 Volunteers

3 Hours

1 Overcast Day

Dozens of Cleaning Supplies & Tools

1 Clean Home

4 Grateful Members

Many Thanks!

(from our Jomar home and Discovery Living, to you, Mount Mercy University!)



CRAFTING

for a Cause

Lorie, Maggie, Amy and Sarah crafted up a storm while attending the Annual MDA Crop at the Linn County Fairgrounds on Sept 8th. In one day, everyone who attended and purchased items from the silent auction helped raise more than \$21,000 to find a cure for Muscular Dystrophy!

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

- Albert Einstein



September 12, 2018, was a special night for Discovery Living. Dozens of our most steadfast supporters gathered at the Longbranch Convention Center to celebrate their membership in a very elite club – The Discovery Living Legacy Society. These individuals come from all walks of life but have one thing in common, they have offered their time, energy and resources in support of our mission. We appreciate each gift we receive, but Legacy Society membership is for those

who have made a significant and on-going contribution in support of our endowment fund held at the Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation. We intend to be here changing lives every day for years to come, and building our endowment is a wonderful way for donors



Leaving a Lasting Legacy

to benefit from federal and state tax incentives, while helping ensure the long-term

stability of Discovery Living.

If you want to learn more about how you can support our endowment or mission, please view this [short video](#): or contact [Monica Ravn](#) or [Bob Hebl](#) at 319-378-7470.

LEGACY SOCIETY

The Discovery Living Legacy Society recognizes contributors who committed to supporting our mission by making a permanent endowment fund gift, and also recognizes those dedicated individuals in whose name an endowment gift has been presented.

<p>Thomas & Joan Auterman Kelly & Rachelle Baier Deb & Eric Berg Melvin & Wanda Campbell Craig & Pam Clark John & Anne Cunningham Dennis & Melissa Fagan Father John Gallagher Elmer Haverly In memory of Doris Haverly Bob & Laurie Hebl William & Diane Knapp Clyde Mathews John Montpas Terry & Joyce Moran Mark & Sheryl Morgan John & Nancy Morris Bob & Elaine Mowry In memory of Betty Mowry</p>	<p>John J. & Donna Negro James Nelson Scott & Penny Olson Delaine & Duane Petersen John & Nicole Raaz Parents of John Jr. Carol & Steve Saddoris Ralph & Yvonne Savoy Scott Seibert Larry & Claire Sharp In memory of Alice L. Haynes Larry & Claire Sharp In memory of Leo J. & Wilma R. Sharp Mike & Dorothy Stallman Dick & Carole Swanson Karen A. Volz Marguerite A. Wagner Estate Dick & Fran Whitters</p>
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DID YOU KNOW?

Most of us are aware of the exceptional support the [Knights of Columbus](#) has shown Discovery Living over the years, but did you know...

- 2017 was a record-setting year for all of the [Knights of Columbus](#) charitable work, with an unprecedented \$185.6 million in donations and 75.6 million hours of service provided worldwide?
- the monetary value of K of C's annual service hours is valued at \$1.9 billion annually?
- monetary donations increased \$8 million from 2016 (+4.5 percent) and service hours grew by 527,550 (+0.7 percent)?

"Once again, the Knights of Columbus showed the enormous difference we can make in the lives of others by putting our faith in action," said Supreme Knight Carl Anderson. "The needs of many of our communities were particularly great in 2017, especially in the wake of historic hurricanes in Houston, South Florida, Puerto Rico and much of the Caribbean. The Knights did not hesitate to provide assistance after these humanitarian crises and in Mexico where two cities were badly damaged by earthquakes."

"If you would not be forgotten as soon as you are dead, either write something worth reading or do something worth writing."
— Benjamin Franklin

MORE OF...

The Gift that keeps on Living...



The gentlemen of 29th also would like to thank [Knights of Columbus](#) member Denis Duppong and [Fairfax Greenhouse and Landscaping](#) for their new raised garden.



We are Pleased to Announce...

Discovery Living will be launching a new initiative to help meet the needs of the people we support. On October 1, 2018, we took possession of space at 750 North Center Point Road in Hiawatha. The Discovery Living Recreation Center will be utilized as a hub where we can coordinate community based activities for the people we support. We will not be providing Day Habilitation, Adult Day Care or any conventional day services at this location. Our focus will be to provide transportation and support with community-based activities for members who currently have limited or no access to conventional day services - or choose not to participate in a conventional day program. Congratulations to Casey Wells, who has been selected to supervise this program.



Support offered will include transportation to community-based employment, volunteer and social activities. The center will also provide members access to television, computers, foosball, and other activities of their choice.

Laura Lerch, Community Living Coordinator for our hourly support program, will have an office at this location, as will Mike Craver, Quality Improvement Associate.

The center will be open Monday - Friday, from 8:00 - 3:00, as well as at least two or three evenings and weekends per month. Evening and weekend hours will be flexible, as they will be based on member choice.

The center will also be available for members and their families to use for meetings, parties and other gatherings. To learn more about the Recreation Center, please contact [Casey Wells at: caseywells@discoveryliving.org](mailto:caseywells@discoveryliving.org) or [Laura Lerch at: lauralerch@discoveryliving.org](mailto:lauralerch@discoveryliving.org). You can also call the Discovery Living office at 319 378 7470 and speak with [Carol Saddoris](#) or [Bob Hebl](#).



750

THE DISCOVERY LIVING RECREATIONAL CENTER



*Better
with Friends*

EMPLOYEE REFERRAL BONUS PROGRAM

We want to thank you for sending qualified applicants our way. To express our gratitude, we are increasing our Employee Referral Bonus. Formerly \$400, you can now earn a \$500 bonus paid out to you once your referral has been employed with Discovery Living for 6 months.*

Your great referrals benefit the organization and the individuals we support. We know this, because many of you were successful referrals yourselves. Don't hesitate to spread the word. If you know someone that would be a great addition to the Discovery Living Team, please encourage them to fill out an application. This can be done on-line at www.discoveryliving.org or applications can be picked up at the office.

*The bonus does not apply to an employee who has been re-hired. At the time the bonus is scheduled to be paid, both employees must be current with their required trainings and have an ongoing satisfactory job performance. The referral bonus is reflected on your paystub as a bonus.



We at Discovery Living continue to benefit from consistently low annualized employee turnover rates as seen below:

FY15 - 28%	FY17 - 29%
FY16 - 24%	FY18 - 22%

By comparison, Iowa has a private employer direct care worker turnover rate of nearly 80 percent (National Clearinghouse on the Direct Care Workforce, Iowa Background).

According to the National Core Indicator's 2016 survey of 17 states, the average turnover rate for direct support professionals is 45 percent.

We recognize that quality care can only be provided by hiring and retaining quality employees. We are blessed to have many such individuals working with our members.

“What are Pharmacy Take-back Programs?”

Consumers and caregivers should remove expired, unwanted or unused medicines from their home as quickly as possible to help reduce the chance that others may accidentally take, or intentionally misuse, the unneeded medicine.

Medicine take-back programs are a good way to safely dispose of most unneeded medicines.



The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) hosts periodic national events where collection sites are set up in communities for safe disposal of prescription medications. Local law enforcement agencies also sponsor medication take-back programs in their communities. Another option

*“Those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything.”
- George Bernard Shaw*



for the disposal of unneeded medications within your community may be authorized collection sites such as retail pharmacies, hospital or clinical pharmacies, and law enforcement locations.

Source: Good Neighbor Pharmacy Health Connection Issue 4 April 2018. U.S. Food and Drug Administration. MyGNP.com

Well done, Americans!

Americans achieved a philanthropic landmark in 2017: for the first time total charitable giving surpassed \$400 billion in a single year. A booming stock market and a generally strong economy combined to increase Americans' financial resources and their confidence in sharing those additional resources through their philanthropy.

Giving from individuals, bequests, foundations and corporations to U.S. charities surged to an estimated \$410.02 billion, an increase of 5.2 percent over the previous year. Americans gave generously, and the growth was virtually across the board.

Spoofed!

Discovery Living recently had the misfortune of being “spoofed,” which in contemporary context, is a situation in which someone with malicious intent pretends to be someone else to illegitimately gain the trust of the other. In our case, someone used our company email addresses to try and fool people with whom we are in regular contact into clicking links or opening attachments that presumably could have exposed the recipient to some form of aggressive solicitation or malware attack. The good news is, to the best of our knowledge, the attack was completely unsuccessful. We have had no reports of viral or malware activity from people who received such emails nor evidence that our own system has been “hacked” in any way. The incident, however, serves as a reminder that we are all constantly under threat of such attacks and should always remember the basic rule of digital security:

- Never open attachments or click on links in emails or texts unless you were expecting a communication from that individual to include the link or attachment. Spoofers will try to disguise their identity by being very brief and vague and using plausible “bait”. Our recent spoofers, for example, sent emails with attachments marked vaguely “Your Invoice” or “Invoice #3727582”. Sharp-eyed recipients noted, however, that though the email said it was from one of us, the phone numbers were not even close, and the biggest red flag: the author didn’t “sound” anything like the person they were pretending to be in the manner in which they composed their message.

If you are unsure, play it safe and contact the sender directly and confirm whether the communication is legitimate. Shenanigans like these aren’t likely to disappear anytime soon and are in fact expected to only get worse as technology gets better at assisting the bad guys in mimicking trustworthy human rhetoric. Stay safe out there, friends.

DONATE

We hope you enjoyed this issue of The Dispatch. We couldn’t be prouder of our members and staff or more thankful for the generosity of the kind folks who find so many ways to support Discovery Living’s mission. If you found yourself engaged, moved, or inspired by these images and stories, perhaps you’d consider becoming a part of the narrative. While Medicaid accounts for much of Discovery Living’s operational funding, we depend on regular donations to assist with the high costs of home and vehicle purchases and modifications – which add up to several hundred thousand dollars annually. Please check out the “Giving” tab at www.discoveryliving.org, or contact our office at (319) 378-7470 for a wide range of gift options. We are confident we can help you find one that can comfortably match your budget and level of commitment. It takes many hands and hearts to support a mission like ours. We’d be honored to consider you a member of our team.





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

www.discoveryliving.org
(319) 378-7470



www.campcourageous.org
(Paid for by Friends of Camp Courageous)

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sponsors for making our mission of
service possible!*



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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](mailto:Monica.Ravn@discoveryliving.org) at (319) 378-7470.