

*Life without limits for people with disabilities™*

## Life Without Limits

### OUR MISSION

*To maximize independence and opportunities for full participation in the community for individuals with cerebral palsy or other disabilities, and their families, by raising the standard for quality programs, service and advocacy.*

## UCP Partners with LPGA State Farm Classic

United Cerebral Palsy Land of Lincoln is very fortunate to be one of the charity recipients of the 2007 LPGA State Farm Classic. The Classic is a major funding source for UCP's Lekotek Programs, a toy lending library. Proceeds from the Classic are used to purchase adaptive toys for the Lekotek programs in Springfield and Decatur. Adaptive toys enable a child with disabilities to learn basic skills that all children master at an early age.



UCP volunteers staffed the Volunteer Hospitality tent, marshaled, delivered breakfast and assisted on Pro Am Day. UCP had over 100 volunteers go above and beyond during the week of the tournament. UCP's partnership with the 2007 LPGA State Farm Classic was a success thanks to our many volunteers.

### Arts Stars Exhibit

UCP partnered with RMD Gallery in downtown Springfield in July to present the "Art Stars: Life Without Limits" program. This event featured artwork created by children & adults with disabilities.

The kick off of the Art Stars on July 2nd featured a press conference with Mayor Davlin, followed by a tour of the exhibit. The community was encouraged to vote for their favorite piece of artwork throughout the month of July, with an award ceremony was held on July 21st. The Mayor's Choice award was presented to Rick Walden and the People's Choice Award was given to camper Jenilyn Phillips.

UCP Land of Lincoln and the Art Stars Artists would like to thank RMD Gallery, Mayor Davlin, Shelly Lamantia, and Chris Britt. We would also like to thank our sponsors Staff Carpet, Northwestern Mutual, Sikich, LLP, Aspen Realtors -Phil Chiles & Shelly Berendt, and the Springfield community for your support.



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**UCP Land of Lincoln,  
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**Visit our website  
[www.ucpll.org](http://www.ucpll.org)**

**Message From The President**

October is Disability Employment Month and here at United Cerebral Palsy Land of Lincoln we are celebrating the month and hope that you will too. Although 79% of people with severe disabilities are unemployed nationally, in central Illinois UCP has elicited partners to begin to change this statistic. UCP is working with students and teachers in Springfield and Decatur schools to prepare students to find a job or to continue their education, reducing the dropout rate by approximately 15%. In partnership with District 186, the Division of Rehabilitation Services and the Illinois Department of Transportation, UCP offered a summer employment-training program at the Illinois Department of Transportation that enabled students and young adults to learn job skills and to build their resume. In partnership with Courtyard by Marriott and District 186, UCP has trained students in the STEP Program in service industry jobs, and at the Illinois Department of Transportation in clerical jobs.

UCP operates two small businesses that employ people with severe disabilities: Ready Shredder and White Glove Professionals. Ready Shredder is a document destruction business employing people from the Developmental Training Program. UCP has 30 local customers and 30 employees in the business. White Glove Professionals is a commercial cleaning business that has six customers and employs 20 people with disabilities. UCP trained 30 people in the Vocational Skills Training Program, resulting in 17 people becoming employed. UCP works with 25 local employers who employed 55 people with disabilities through Supported Employment.

UCP is helping people with disabilities to get jobs. If you have a business and need a trained, dedicated employee or are a person with a disability who needs a job, please call us at 217-525-6522. Celebrate and be a part of Disability Employment Month!

Thank you for your continued support,



Brenda L. Yarnell, Ph.D.  
President/CEO

**Life Without Limits TV Show**

UCP has a weekly television program which airs on Insight's Channel 4. *Life Without Limits* is hosted by board member Jill Egizii and airs on Wednesdays at 3:30 am, 11:30 am and 8:30 pm.

**White Glove Cleaning Professionals**

White Glove Professionals, a division of UCP, offers a wide variety of commercial cleaning services to meet the needs of local businesses. Daily, weekly, monthly, seasonal & annual services are available. Contact Bill Dye at 217-525-6522.

## Transition Program



On August 23, 2007, a press conference was held at the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) to highlight the Transition employment-training program called "Student Professionals with Disabilities" Project. The program focuses on preparing students and young adults with disabilities for the workforce and post-secondary education by providing job skills training and real work experience. United Cerebral Palsy Land of Lincoln provides the program's support services through job coaches and case management and has partnered with the Department of Transportation, District 186 and the Division of Rehabilitation Services to create this unique collabora-

tion. The 23 young adults are teamed up with IDOT mentors and are trained in different job tasks including food service, clerical, maintenance and computer work in ten different divisions within the IDOT facility. Of the thirteen individuals who participated in the pilot program two years ago, eleven are competitively employed in the community.

"The success of this program is immeasurable. IDOT has made it a priority to offer these students an opportunity to learn valuable work skills, gain confidence and explore their options for future employment," said IDOT Secretary Milton Sees. "None of this would be possible without the help of many local organizations and devoted individuals." Secretary Sees recognized United Cerebral Palsy as being an integral part of this program and personally donated \$1000 to UCP and its continued support of the "Student Professionals with Disabilities" Project. Following the press conference, attendees had the opportunity to watch a PowerPoint presentation created by the individuals in the program describing their positive job training experience.



## New Additions to the UCP Land of Lincoln Team!

UCP Land of Lincoln is pleased to welcome three new staff members to the children's program and development office in Springfield.

**Bridget Gilliam** is the new Children's Services Manager. She received her MA in 2004 from the University of Oklahoma and was formerly employed as a Behavioral Specialist Consultant and Mobile Therapist in Pennsylvania. Bridget worked with children with Autism, Autism Spectrum Disorders, Down's Syndrome and other diagnoses with behavioral components. Bridget recently relocated to Springfield with her husband Jay, who is a professor at the University of Illinois at Springfield.

**Ashley Thompson** is the new Children's Specialist. Ashley recently graduated from Eastern Illinois University with a BS in Communication Disorders and Sciences. She is excited to be helping families and to be a part of the UCP team.

Bridget and Ashley will be certified as Lekotek leaders in October.

**Megan Boyle** is the new Event Coordinator. She recently received her master's degree from the University of Illinois at Springfield in Public Administration. Megan is excited to be involved with an organization that is dedicated to serving individuals, and looks forward to building new relationships with the community and UCP.

Bridget, Ashley and Megan are available at the UCP main phone number - 217-525-6522.

**Don't Forget!**  
**Please remember to support United Way.**

## **News from Decatur**

### **Open House**

United Cerebral Palsy in Decatur will be hosting a Fall Open House on Thursday, October 11<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Guests will be provided an opportunity to tour the facility and to learn more about the programs and services offered at UCP. In addition, guests will learn about fundraising opportunities coming up at UCP and how they can become involved as a volunteer or as a sponsor for any event. For more information or to RSVP, call Cayla Hittmeier: 217-428-5033; email: cayla.ucp@springnet1.com

### **Trivia Night Winners!**

The summer series of UCP Trivia Thursdays at Block's Brewery were a great success and tons of fun. The series included seven preliminary rounds of trivia ranging in topics from music, television, movies, history, 80's & 90's and so much more. The Finals Night was July 26<sup>th</sup> and the winning team was "Cain & Spain". UCP is planning a fall series of trivia nights. Details will follow soon, so get your teams of four prepared and keep your eyes open for the news of the fall series!

## **Events**

### **UCP Land of Lincoln & Hope Institute Welcome Director Teninty to the State of Illinois**

UCP in partnership with The Hope Institute welcomed Lilia Teninty, the new Director of the Illinois Division of Developmental Disabilities, with a reception at the UCP office in Springfield on August 21<sup>st</sup>. Lilia Teninty was the Chief of Staff for the Indiana Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services before accepting the position with the state of Illinois. Director Teninty has a Masters of Public Affairs from the School of Public & Environmental Affairs at Indiana University and she is excited to be accepting the challenges of her new position. Throughout the reception individuals, families, board members, staff & volunteers had the opportunity to meet with Director Teninty to discuss her vision for the future of services in Illinois.



### **Welcome Dr. Walter Milton Jr.**

Dr. Walter Milton Jr. is the new superintendent for Springfield School District 186. United Cerebral Palsy and Hope Institute partnered in a welcome reception on August 8<sup>th</sup> at the Illini Country Club in Springfield. Dr. Milton came to Illinois from the Flint School District in Flint, Michigan. He is striving to ensure that our children get "a meaningful, well-balanced educational system". We look forward to working with Dr. Milton and continuing our efforts to help the children in District 186.

### **National Disability Employment Awareness Month**

October is designated as National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM). Here at UCP Land of Lincoln we are determined to increase the public's awareness of the contributions and skills of American workers with disabilities, and diminish employment barriers. This month we recognize the hard work and dedication that people with disabilities provide to our work force. Listen to our announcement on the radio or contact UCP Land of Lincoln for more information about employing a person with disabilities or if you are a person with disabilities and need a job! Thank you to Wild Thyme Spice for donating air time on Cool 101.9.

## Events and News

### Thank You!

#### State Fair Parking

Thank you to the wonderful volunteers who came out to help with State Fair Parking despite the stifling heat wave! A special thanks to Vicky Beard for all of her help. UCP is truly grateful for the gift of your time and your willingness to join us on a hot day for a good cause!

### Upcoming Events

- **Thursday, October 11th - Fall Open House** from 5:00 -7:00 p.m. Decatur office
- **Thursday & Friday, November 1st & 2nd – CARF Survey**
- **Thursday, November 15, 2007 - Annual Meeting**
- **Sunday, January 27, 2008 - Telethon**

### Memorials to UCP Land of Lincoln

*In memory of Walter N. Miller*

Linda Baumgartner

*In memory of Mary La Camera*

Angela Ciaccio

*In memory of Betty Ciaccio*

Angela Ciaccio

Mr. & Mrs. Jay Bales

Mrs. Jean Ciaccio

*In memory of Lora Moch*

James & Carol Mettemeyer

Steven Cornwell

*In memory of John J. Coady*

Larry & Jo Laine Smith

*In memory of Pasquale Selvaggio*

Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Crifasi

*In memory of Aaron Alexander*

State Bank of Blue Mound

Sherry Barrowman

*In memory of Theresa Hansbrough*

GWRRRA Chapter T of Illinois

## Fundraising News

**The Cachet Club donated \$4,380.00 to UCP to support summer camps. This money was raised from the geranium sales. UCP uses these funds to hire a registered nurse to be on staff during Recreational Camp held in June at the Lake Springfield Christian Assembly Campground.**

### We Need You!

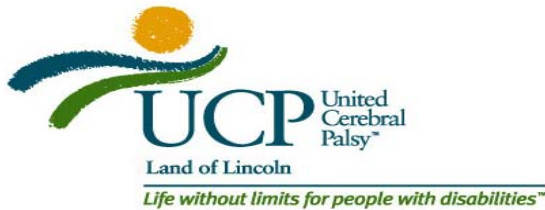
The 2008 Telethon is coming right up. Planning is already underway! Let's kick off 2008 with a bang and make this the best telethon. The Telethon will be broadcasted live on NewsChannel 20, WICS.

In 2007 UCP's dedicated volunteers and supporters raised a record total of **\$274,300!**

Please plan on joining us on January 27, 2008 from 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Springfield. Please call Rene - 217-525-6522 - for more information and to become part of the Telethon 2008 Team.

### Join Us at the Annual Meeting

UCP Land of Lincoln's Annual Meeting will be held on Thursday, November 15, 2007 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Springfield from 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. Please join UCP in honoring organizations and individuals for their significant contributions. If you would like to attend, contact René at 217-525-6522.



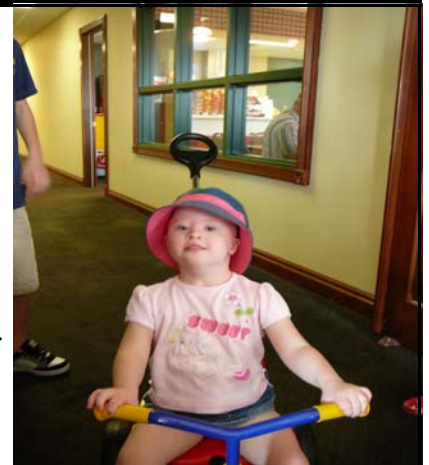
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## Dean Jackson “Strive for Mediocrity” Golf Outing

The Dean Jackson “Strive for Mediocrity” Golf Outing was held on Friday, September 21, 2007 at Piper Glen Golf Course. The proceeds generated from this golf outing will be used by United Cerebral Palsy Land of Lincoln to obtain Amtrykes for children with disabilities and to support UCP’s Programs for children. A huge thanks to the committee who helped make the golf outing a success: Jason Elvidge, Paul Antonacci, Mike Reisinger, Mike Blunk, Aaron Johnston, Dave Kepler, Chad Lanham, Dave Novak, David Antonacci, and JP McClernon.



Thank you to our wonderful sponsors: **Tournament Sponsor - Small Business Growth Corporation; Hole Sponsors -** BJ Grand Salons, Brown, Hay & Stevens, LLP, Cavanagh, Madonia & Leahy, LLP, CEFCU, Ciber, Garrison Group, JP Morgan, Kerber, Eck & Braeckel, LLP, Londrigan, Potter & Randle, PC, Marine Bank, Martin Engineering, McDonald’s Restaurants - Steve and Karen Jeffers, Merrill Lynch, Napa Auto Parts, Nicoud Insurance, Northwestern Mutual - Dave Kepler, Qik N EZ, ReMax Professionals– The Dove Team, R. W. Troxell, Sangamon Insurance, Sikich LLP, Springfield Racquet & Fitness Center, Wells Fargo; **Gift Donors -** Boulder Creek Fun Park, Brookhills Golf Course, Cold Stone Cremery, County Market, Denmar Builders, Dick’s Sporting Goods, Floyd’s Thirst Parlor, Forty Niner, Golf Discount of Springfield, Hilton Hotel Springfield, Jim Herron, LTD, Joe Rodger’s Chilli, Knight’s Action Park, LPGA State Farm Classic, Peerless, Piper Glen, Sparkling Clean Car Wash, Solar Tan, Vala Companies; **Donors -** Bunn-O-Matic, Laketown Animal Hospital, MJ Kellner, Northwestern Mutual, and Todd Anderson.