



CHOICES

A Quarterly Newsletter about Self-Determination in Dane County
Vol. 12 No. 1 Spring 2011

The next issue of CHOICES will be out in June, 2011. Contact the editor, Stefanie Primm, with ideas for articles before April 8.

**SPRING
INFOSHARE
On Page 2!**

**Fashion Show
On Page 3!**

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**Learn all about
CHOICEY
AWARDS
On Page 2**

DD Network Celebration Dueling Reporters Tell Us

Jeffrey Johnson:

The DD Network celebration was on Tuesday, December 14, and was at the Goodman Community Center from 4:00pm -7:00pm. They had Marcie Brost announce the awards. Four people received awards at the event. Pat Patterson won the Joanne Davis Award. Dan Rossiter won the Long Haul Award. Peggy Olson and Fran Bicknell received the Kitchen Table Advocacy Award. They wanted to recognize the people who helped start the DD Network and make it a success.

It was a great party and a lot of interesting people were there. They had hors d'oeuvres, wine, pop, cheese, meatballs and crackers. Everyone sat down and talked with each other for a little while. Local musician Peter Leidy was there selling his new CD, "Noncompliant." Ricardo Vasquez played the marimba, key board and bells from 4:30 to 5:30 pm. The party ended about 7:00pm.

Cindy Wegner:

DD Network had hors d'oeuvres and drinks. They gave Pat Patterson the Joanne Davis award and Dan Rossiter got the Long Haul award. Fran Bicknell and Peggy Olson were given the Kitchen Table advocacy award. Fran and Peggy also were given beautiful flowers. Peter Leidy debuted his newest CD, called Non-compliant. Ricardo Velasquez played marimba.



Dan Rossiter accepts his award. Photo by Stefanie Primm



Peter Leidy performs at the DD Network celebration. Photo by: Stefanie Primm

Arc Winter Ball

By Cindy Wegner

Arc-Dane County had a winter ball. They had chicken wings, meat balls and egg rolls. There was also cake, soda and chips. They always have great food. They gave out corsages with flowers. There was a DJ who played music and people danced on the dance floor.



Dessert at the Arc Winter Ball
Photo by: Cindy Wegner

Bear in Mind . . .



Monica Bear is Dane County's Community Services Manager for Developmental Disabilities

I write this after a week of rallies at the state capitol protesting Governor Walker's budget repair bill. State budget details and the impact they will have on Dane County will become clearer in coming weeks and months. Regardless of where you sit on the political spectrum it appears that changes in state Medicaid policy are likely to ensure a continuation of recent years' austerity. As public dollars shrink, people with disabilities and their families will continue to do more with less and provider agencies' hard working staff will stretch themselves thinner. Our need to partner with the

community in new ways has never been more urgent.

As a parent I often hear it takes a village to raise a child. This past week's protests and related school closings provided ample opportunity to activate my personal village. Phone calls between neighborhood parents checking to see who is available to stay home from work and how many kids they can watch became an evening ritual. High school students volunteered to babysit younger children and out of state grandparents offered to make a seasonably undesirable drive north. The strength of my community connections and personal relationships transformed a week of schedule-juggling irritations into one where I felt great bounty. I am proud to live in a community where people feel that their presence and voices make a difference.

Whether political or social, the year ahead will provide many opportunities to activate our village. On January 12 a dozen organizations received Linda Kapral memorial Choices mini-grants. Throughout the year winners plan a host of community-strengthening

activities from summer fishing outings to pizza gardens, contra-dances and a collaboration with the UW slow foods movement. The Arc-Dane continues to provide ample opportunity for people to keep their dancing shoes polished. One of my favorite annual events, the Fashion Show for All Abilities will take place May 25.

A steady stream of bad budget news provides plenty to worry about. Yet we remain a community committed to strengthening self-determination. If you'd like an opportunity to celebrate the glass half full, consider sharing a success story or nominating someone for a Choicey award and the March 22 Infoshare.

Calling All Artists!

The Source (a guide to disability services for Dane County) is being updated, and we are looking for artwork for the cover. Please send in your original designs by June 1, 2011. Submit to Spring Larson, Dane County Human Services. Larson.spring@co.dane.wi.us. Questions? Call Spring at 608-242-6470.

InfoShare: Success Stories and the Choicey Awards!



Truly Remarkable Loon
Photo from www.trloon.com

**Tuesday, March 22, 2011
9:00 AM—2:30 PM**

Alliant Energy Center Exhibition Hall, Madison WI

Tickets: \$10 Per Person
Free Parking!!

You don't want to miss this day filled with music, entertainment, motivating speakers, awards, and celebrating your own and the successes of others!

Morning Activities include:
Video short from Encore Studio for the Performing Arts, Peter Leidy, Keynote by Mark Sweet,

Disability Rights Wisconsin, Consumer Panel: Success Stories, Workshop: Marketing Yourself with Hollie Hollister, The music of Ricardo Vasquez.

Afternoon Activities include:
Lunch and Awards Ceremony and the one and only **Truly Remarkable Loon!**

Vendors and Exhibitors will be on hand all day, so bring some spending money!

Register Online:
www.surveymk.com/s/COWRegistration

Dora's Pet Corner: The News Hounds Show

By Dora Norland

There's a show on channel 3 [cable channel 9] called 'Live at Five', which is on every day at 5PM. On this show are the 'News Hounds'. They are on at the end of 'Live at Five' every Friday. The 'News Hounds' have been on TV for two years. The 'News Hounds' stars are Estie, who is six years old and Lola, who just turned five years old on January 24th. Estie and Lola report on animals and pet news and have their own reporter's station with a computer. Here are some examples of their stories.

Vladmir Puten received a puppy from Bulgaria. He named the puppy Buffy after a five-year-old boy emailed the Prime Minister with the name of Buffy. The lucky boy got to meet the dog and the Russian Prime Minister.

The next story was about Ollie, the seal pup, who was found orphaned and stranded in Long Beach California. The

people at the aquarium fed the pup and she is growing stronger. Ollie will be placed with the other sea otters next summer in the aquarium.

Another animal story was about 18 years old Bonnie, the orangutan at the Miami Zoo. Bonnie attempted to avoid the freezing temperatures in Florida by wrapping up in a large blanket, covering her head and body.

One story was a Christmas surprise. The Buenos Aires zookeepers were getting the animals in the Christmas spirit by decorating their surroundings with Christmas trees and presents hidden in packages. Sandra, the orangutan, hid underneath the wrapping paper to eat her surprise!

This last story was a very interesting Christmas story having to do with a reindeer. In Santa Maria, California a nine-year-old female reindeer got loose



Mark Koehn and the Newshounds, Estie and Lola

Photo courtesy of WISC-TV Channel 3

from a tree lot where she was supposed to add atmosphere for people who visited. But she had other ideas and took off. A local cowboy heard the story and came in to help. When he approached the reindeer, she bolted across a field and into a neighborhood where residents were busy getting into the Christmas spirit. They were able to get a rope around her and safely move her into a trailer. She spent that afternoon drinking water and eating. What a happy ending to this Christmas story.

I really liked watching the 'News Hounds' on TV. Take a look for yourself on Fridays. And stay tuned for the next article of Dora's Pet Corner.

Coming Soon!!!

Fashion Show for All Abilities

Wednesday, May 25, 2011

Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center

Tickets: \$5 per person

Register Online:

www.surveymk.com/s/COWRegistration

Hosted by: Jonathan Suttin, Triple M Radio and Rachel Friedman

The Fashion Show for All Abilities is a community awareness event, promoting accessibility and calling for respect and courtesy to all persons in a retail setting. We hope that this event will change attitudes, grow self-esteem and create a dialogue about inclusion in the community. The Fashion Show also encourages activities that promote the growth of self-esteem in the models themselves.



Infoshare: Nutrition

By Cindy Wegner

Infoshare at Alliant Energy Center in Exhibition Hall was all about food. I introduced two speakers. We learned that nutritious can be delicious.

Book Reports and Poetry Page

Book Report By Jeffrey Johnson



Waddie Welcome and the Beloved Community

By Tom Kohler and Susan Earl

Waddie Welcome moved to Savannah, Georgia in the 1920's. He lived with his family for 70 years. Waddie was placed in a Nursing home in Savannah. Waddie was then moved to an institution in Abbeville, 3 hours away.

Mr. Tom Kohler is coordinator of Chatham – Savannah Citizen Advocacy Organization. Mr. Kohler helped Waddie Welcome move out of the institution and move back to Savannah.

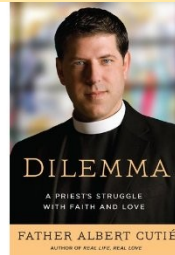
Mr. Welcome had a lot of help getting out of the nursing home and moved in with Jeff. Many friends made sure he understood what was happening.

They asked questions with yes or no answers so they were sure they understood what Mr. Welcome wanted in terms of advance directives. Mr. Welcome's friend Lester also had an abusive staff member reassigned at the nursing home. He continued to listen to Mr. Welcome very carefully by checking and double checking his understanding of Mr. Welcome's answers which are a mixture of sound and motion. Then Mr. Welcome connected with a small group of people who called themselves the Storytellers.

Book Report by Catherine Clodius

Dilemma

By the Rev. Alberto Cutie

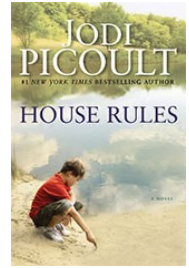


This is a true story of a man who was a Catholic priest and he falls in love with a beautiful young lady and question if he should follow his heart and the rules of the church. Catholic priests are now allowed to be married however, if a man who is already married with a family decided to become a Catholic priest than he is allowed too. One day in early 2009 Fr. Cutie was caught on the beach in Miami with this beautiful young lady and a couple of months later their picture was put into the newspaper and it caused quite a scandal.

In May 2009 he left the Catholic Church to announce that he was becoming a Episcopalian and to become a priest of the Episcopal Church in 2010. In June he was married to a beautiful young lady who had a son by a previous marriage. And in November of 2010 Fr. Cutie and his wife welcomed into their hearts a beautiful baby daughter.

Have you seen the TV Miniseries the Thorn Birds with Richard Chamberlain who played a Catholic priest? The similarities are that he fell in love with a beautiful young lady while struggling with his desire to be a Catholic priest. He ends up fathering a son by the name of Dane who when he grows up to become a Catholic priest. By the end of the movie Richard Chamberlain becomes a cardinal in the church. I really enjoyed the book because there are some moral values they apply not only to Catholic priest but to anyone. I think that everyone should read this book. I really loved the story of how a man who is Catholic falls in love and marries the love of his life and then leaves the church to marry the women of his dreams.

Book Report By Christa Decker



House Rules

By Jodi Picoult

This book centers on Jacob Hunt, who has Aspersers Syndrome, a form of autism that gives him problems with his self expression and social situations. But he is very good at analysis of crime. When a murder is committed, Jacob is suspected and his whole family is cast into an uproar. Distrust and prejudice against Jacob emerges as his symptoms of Aspergers are used against him in a stereotypical manner. This was an unusual book in that it featured a boy with a disability as the main character and the hero. It is also an important book because it helps people to understand people with disabilities and to realize they are very capable people.

I hope other people will read this book. It is a very good book.

LIFE

DALE BUTTKE

On that one fateful day,
GOD will come to say,
Your time is now,
And do not growl,
It was a nice day,
And people could not stay
Life took me by surprise,
And I was not all the wise,
It had me look at life,
Both grandparents did not thrive,
GOD also took my Brother and dad,
Thinking of this made me sad,
I often wonder when on that day,
GOD will come down to say,
Your time has come today,
And not knowing when,
On that day of life will end,
People will be going on,
To say, life goes on.



Spring Ball



Spring Ball – sponsored by The Arc-Dane County, Knights of Columbus #4527, Linda Kapral CHOICES mini-grant and The Madison Concourse Hotel – will be held on **Sunday, March 20, 2011 from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.** at **The Madison Concourse Hotel, 1 West Dayton St., Madison, WI.** Tickets must be **pre-purchased** from The Arc-Dane County for each person. (Sorry, no free tickets for staff, attendants, or family members). The ticket includes the Spring Ball, light snacks and some hot snacks (2:15 p.m. 'til they are gone)

COST: \$3.00 The Arc-Dane County member
\$5.00 Non-member

In order to make preparations and plan for this event, ticket requests must be received by Monday, March 7, 2011. Upon receipt of the ticket request and payment, the tickets will be mailed prior to the event. Each person, family or agency is responsible for distributing the tickets purchased. If you have ordered too many tickets or need more tickets, please network with others so that the tickets may be used. Tickets will be distributed on a first come-first served basis.

NOTE: All clients must carry emergency contact information at The Spring Ball.
All clients must provide own transportation to and from The Spring Ball.

TICKET REQUEST FORM for Spring Ball 2011

Note: The name & address below is where the tickets will be sent!
Thanks for getting your ticket requests & payment in by March 7!

Name: _____ Agency: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____ Cell #: _____ Emergency Contact #: _____

_____ TICKETS @ \$3.00 (The Arc-Dane County member). \$ _____

_____ TICKETS @ \$5.00 (Non-member). \$ _____

TOTAL DUE: \$ _____

SEND FORM & PAYMENT payable to The Arc-Dane County:

The Arc-Dane County
Paul A. Yochum, Exec. Dir.
6602 Grand Teton Plaza
Madison, WI 53719

Note: Ticket requests
must be received by
Monday, March 7, 2011!

FAX #: 833-1307
TELEPHONE: 833-1199

E-MAIL:
Web site:

arcdane@chorus.net
www.arcdanecounty.org

CHOICES Newsletter



The University of Wisconsin-Madison
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Madison WI 53705

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Op-Ed Senate Forum By Dan Remick

I was at a Senate Forum in Wisconsin Dells in November. The Senators commented on their thoughts about supporting people with disabilities in Wisconsin. I met Senator Russ Feingold. He told us that if he was reelected, he would continue to work with people with disabilities in Wisconsin.

I am very mad that Senator Feingold did not get reelected as our Senator. I am very worried about what Republicans want to do with our tax money in both our state and the federal government. I am a Democrat and a Catholic. I have a job. I work for Choices newsletter and I talk to people about my disability. I love living in Dane County Wisconsin.

...And the “Oh, Yeah’s...”

To Place a Connections Ad:

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Please send your stories, comments and suggestions

Contributions, comments and
suggestions are encouraged
and may be directed to
Stefanie Primm, Editor (see
contact information in the box
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CHOICES is available on-line:

<http://cow.waismanwisc.edu>
Web versions do not include
Connections ads or
Transitions information.

The Next Issue of CHOICES

will be out in June, 2011.
Contact the editor with
ideas for articles before
April 8. Articles due by

May 6 or until the issue is
full.

Choices is on the COW Website?!

Did you know that Choices
newsletter has a fun color
version that you can view
online??
[http://cow.waisman.wisc.edu/
publications.html](http://cow.waisman.wisc.edu/publications.html)



CHOICES Newsletter

is published quarterly to
provide information to
consumers, families,
guardians, and service
providers about Self-
Determination Services in
Dane County. Contributions,
comments and suggestions
regarding CHOICES are
encouraged and may be
directed to:

Stefanie Primm, Editor
The Waisman Center
122 E Olin Avenue Suite 100
Madison WI 53713
Telephone: (608) 263-5557
Fax: 263-4681
primm@waisman.wisc.edu

Contributors to this issue:

Catherine Clodius, Dale
Buttke, Rachel Weingarten,
Monica Bear, Jeffrey Johnson,
Cindy Wegner, Christa
Decker, Dora Norland, Paul A.
Yochum