

# The Speaker



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September/October 2011

## Seguin RCA's Mission Statement

The mission of Seguin RCA is to provide advocacy services to persons with developmental disabilities and their families, promote community awareness and support programs that will enhance a positive quality of life for this population.

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If you require the services of an advocate, please call the Seguin RCA office.

This service is offered free of charge.

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Watch for the January/February issue of *The Speaker* when we will address transitioning individuals with disabilities from the school system into other services.

## A Message from the President by Ralph Salvino III

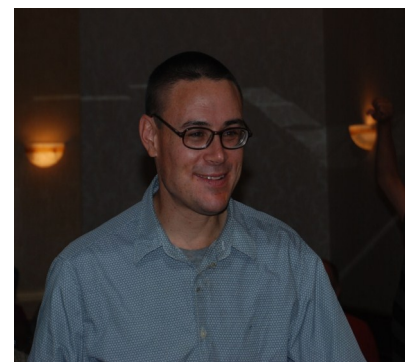
I think we tend to forget the "unsung heroes" in our organization.

We need to thank all the caregivers. So, I would like to thank all the people who support and help our sons, daughters, siblings, nieces, nephews and friends.

I would also like to thank the volunteers who make our programs possible.

On September 9 we had our Annual Bowling Banquet. The banquet celebrated the end of a 14-week bowling season. As you can see, a good time was had by all!

I personally thank all of you for a job well done.



Miles of Smiles

# Family News



## Memorials

In Memory of  
Joann Aldrighetti

Dorothy Kahn

From:

Ann Pauls

In Memory of  
Cathy Magill

From:

Thomas Krickl

In Memory of  
Grace Padilla

From:

Hobert and Mildred Floyd

In Memory of  
Russell Rohmann

From:

Karen Barthel

Hobert and Mildred Floyd

Joan Henzl

Joan and Frank Prerost

In Memory of  
Jean Vance

From:

Audrey Kramer

We are all saddened by the news of our friend and member of Seguin RCA Joann Aldrighetti who passed away last week after a long illness. She was active with almost all of our committees over the years. Her late daughter Donna was a long time resident of 3309 Harvey. Our sincere sympathy to her daughter and her extended family. She will be missed.

Our condolences to Linda Szarfinski and her family on the death of her mother, Antonette Murawski, who passed away recently.

Frank Szarfinski has fully recovered and back at work following his recent surgery. Stay well, Frank.

It's a boy! Joe and Catherine Krickl are the great grandparents of Liam Isaac Rutz, a first for the Krickl family.

Another great season of bowling has ended for our champions. This season ended with a banquet to end all banquets... food, fun and prizes! The Skylite West outdid themselves, and the staff was more than outstanding.

Seguin RCA  
is proud  
to present.....



## "Gifts of the Season"

Seguin RCA's Annual Luncheon Fashion Show will be held on Sunday, November 13, at the Crystal Sky Banquet Hall in McCook. The doors open at 11:00 am with lunch starting at noon followed by fashions from Mary Ann's Shoppe of LaGrange. The donation for adults is \$30.00 and for those under 12, we will offer a children's plate for a donation of \$15.00. There will be ornament and general raffles. Reservations are available at the Seguin RCA office.

# Frankly Speaking

Tony Paulauski, Executive Director, The Arc of Illinois

This issue's guest writer is Tony Paulauski. The Arc of Illinois was selected by Philanthropedia, a subsidiary of GuideStar, as one of eleven high-impact nonprofits in the disability field by a group of seventy-nine experts, including foundation professionals, nonprofit senior staff, academics, and researchers.

For the past 60 years, The Arc has been the world's largest community-based organization of and for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.

I value Seguin RCA's membership in The Arc of Illinois over the years. We sincerely appreciate your support.

These are some of the most challenging times we have ever faced. In Illinois we are feeling the impact of those challenges every day and will continue to deal with the impact as times goes on. The waiting list of over 21,000 children and adults, the state and federal budget deficits and Medicaid reform are just a few of the issues we are working on daily. You know of our LIFE Campaign that resulted in numerous newspaper, radio and television coverage and no less than five major editorials supporting the state's investment in community services and moving away from institutional services. We stopped over \$76 million in cuts to community services with the LIFE Campaign here in Illinois.

I am pleased that we enjoy the reputation, influence and power of The Arc movement as we work to address these issues.

David Braddock, Ph.D., shared with me that we should cherish The Arc for their advocacy across this country. We involve more people with disabilities, families and professionals, than any other organization. We need to harness that energy, organize it, and bring more people into the tent with us if we hope to weather these challenging times and continue the progress we all have so diligently worked toward for so long. That rich history and commitment includes The Arc in Illinois and Seguin RCA.

At the national level, no one has been more involved than The Arc in forestalling federal budget cuts to Medicaid, something we depend upon in Illinois. All of our community services are funded 50% by Medicaid match. With a renewed focus on cuts to entitlements, Congress continues to devise plans to address those shortfalls, potentially at risk of further cuts to community services. The Arc is working with members of Congress and the administration to address these and other pressing issues. Illinois plays a key role in that debate, and we can do so through strong support and involvement in The Arc.

I appreciate Seguin RCA's advocacy for the individuals and families you support. I also appreciate your partnership with The Arc, and with the help of our members, we will overcome the challenges we are faced with in Springfield and Washington D.C.





## Seguin RCA Upcoming Events

|              |   |                    |
|--------------|---|--------------------|
| September 26 | - | Membership Meeting |
| October 1    | - | Day at the Races   |
| October 10   | - | Board Meeting      |
| October 30   | - | Halloween Party    |
| November 13  | - | Fashion Show       |
| November 14  | - | Board Meeting      |
| November 24  | - | Thanksgiving       |

### Art Class

October 4

October 18

November 1

November 15

November 29



### Share A Smile

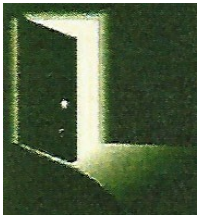
Why don't apples smile when  
you go bobbing?

Because they're crab apples.

A boy went to a Halloween party with a  
sheet on his head.

"Are you a ghost?" asked his friend.

"No, I'm an unmade bed!"



## Seguin RCA

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