

E-MAGINE

e-Newsletter of  RAUCH inc



Imagine a Community Where Everyone Belongs...



Can You See the Difference?

The week of March 12, **new lighting was installed throughout Rauch Industries.** The funds for this improvement came from the generous donors to our [Building Blocks Campaign](#). The cost was also significantly reduced because of a rebate program currently available for increasing the use of energy-efficient lighting. Thank you to Earthwell Energy Management for a fabulous job on the lights, and for notifying us about and securing the rebate. This photo shows what a difference the new lights are making. **The lights on the left are the ones being replaced, and the ones on the right are the new fixtures.**

March is Disability Awareness Month

Each March, Disability Awareness Month is celebrated throughout Indiana. Disability awareness should be important for all of us; after all, **adults and children with disabilities represent over 19% of Indiana's population.** Led by the Indiana Governor's Council for People with Disabilities, the **goal of Disability Awareness Month is to increase awareness and promote independence, integration and inclusion of all people with disabilities.**

This is the 22nd year for Disability Awareness Month. The theme this year is **"Celebrating Community"** with the slogan "Ignite community spirit: Get involved!"

Rauch clients and staff visited fourth graders at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Slate Run Elementary, Floyds Knobs Elementary, Rock Creek Christian Academy, Maple Elementary, and Jeffersonville Elementary. The students learned about different disabilities and participated in activities that simulate what having a particular disability would be like. They tried to play connect the dots while wearing glasses that had Vaseline smeared on the lenses, they tried to guess what an object was only by feel, and a variety of other activities.

This improvement will not just **help us save on electricity and reduce the heat output from the fixtures**; it is also highly **beneficial to the clients we serve, several of whom have vision impairments**. Thank you to everyone who helped make this improvement possible.



Meet the Face Behind Rauch Landscaping & Lawn Care

Since 2011, **Chris Shireman** has been **Rauch's Landscape Division Manager/Lead Designer**, ensuring that yards and businesses across the area are trimmed, tidy and attractive. A lifelong resident of Southern Indiana, Chris' love of the outdoors developed into a career path when he worked with a Purdue University horticulture graduate and learned more about the field. Later, Chris went on to study Horticultural Production and Marketing at Purdue as well.

Prior to working at Rauch, Chris worked for respected local nurseries, and owned his own landscaping and lawn care business for three years. He is proud to now be able to put his skills to work to benefit a known and respected non-profit in his hometown. Rauch's Landscape division provides vital earned



Each student was also encouraged to participate in the **essay writing contest**. Any area fourth grader can submit an essay and be entered to win a \$30 cash prize and also have \$30 donated to the charity of their choice. This year's **essay topic is "Attitudes."** All of the essays will be read by a panel of judges and voted on to determine the five winners. We look forward to reading everyone's essays!

A Magical Evening

The lights dimmed, and the evening opened with the soothing sounds of jazz from the Jamey Aebersold Quartet. Attendees mingled and nibbled on appetizers while browsing and bidding on 97 unique silent auction packages. The tables were adorned with vases of colorful peacock feathers and crisp white linens. **The 2012 Imagine Awards benefiting the Rauch Foundation had begun!**

Ticket sales were brisk leading up to the big night on March 3, with the greatest number sold in the event's 12-year history. A buzz was in the air - **the audience was excited to celebrate the cause, and eager to hear the amazing talent of pianist Matt Savage and toast the award recipients.**

The promise of the evening did not disappoint. Matt's talent on the piano was undeniable, and the 19-year-old was equally engaging in his interview, where he spoke candidly about his **diagnosis of high-functioning autism at age 3** and the subsequent therapies which brought him

income for Rauch, and also is an important job training opportunity for people with disabilities in your community, who regularly help on the crew.

[Click here](#) to learn more about Rauch Landscaping and Lawn Care, or call Chris for a free estimate today at (502) 819-2633.

Title Sponsor of the 2012 Imagine Awards



Dine & Discover Rauch!

Rauch is launching a new event series where, on a quarterly basis, **the public is invited to visit us for a no-cost lunch to learn about Rauch** with a rotating focus on different Rauch programs.

The first Dine & Discover will be Friday, April 20, at the Fairmont Neighborhood Center; 2525 Charlestown Road, from noon to 1:00pm. **RSVPs are required** and attendance is limited to 12 people.

If you would like more information about Dine & Discover or if you would like to **RSVP**, please contact **Lindsey at 812-945-4063** or

to his current level of incredible success. Without sheet music, the Berklee College of Music senior's hands effortlessly coasted across the keys, filling the Showroom with toe-tapping rhythms which culminated in a standing ovation.

The awards ceremony was unexpectedly intertwined. **Gregory Thomas Court** accepted his award first, thanking all of those who made it possible for him to be a successful businessman in the face of the challenges presented by Muscular Dystrophy. One of those supports was the New Albany-Floyd County School system, the organization at which **Geradine Schultze** has made a career assisting children with disabilities. As Geradine accepted her award, she acknowledged Greg's achievements and passed on words of encouragement from his former instructor. She also mentioned the Boy Scout troop, in which her son is a member, which has assisted at the Children's Academy Early Learning Center. That same troop was represented as **Tunnel Hill Christian Church** accepted their award, as the Scouts provide volunteer support to the bi-monthly dances for individuals with disabilities hosted by the church.

Matt Savage took the stage one last time after the awards ceremony, and was delighted to be able to rouse the crowd with a rendition of "Back Home Again in Indiana" with the accompaniment of the Jamey Aebersold Quartet. As Jamey's jazz Play-a-Longs have been vital to Matt's jazz education, this was as much of a treat for the performer as it was for the crowd. The joy was apparent on Matt's face, and many others, as the crowd trickled out of the hall after a magical evening.



Gregory T. Court

ldavis@rauchinc.org.

Important Medicaid Waiver Waiting List Update

Earlier in March, the Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services (DDRS) sent letters to everyone on the Medicaid Waiver Waiting List. The letter requested the individuals to:

1. **Review and update their contact information** (if necessary) on the Waiver Wait List Status Form
2. **Indicate their desire to remain on the Waiver Wait List** on the Waiver Wait List Status Form
3. **Contact their local BDDS office** if interested in placement into group homes.

The letter is to confirm that all of the contact information of individuals on the waiting list is accurate and that they are still requesting services. It is **very important to respond to the letter**; failure to do so will result in your name being taken off the list. **If you are on the waitlist and did not receive a letter, please contact your local BDDS office or DDRS directly at 1-800-545-7763.** A copy of the letter can be found by clicking [here](#).



Wish List:

Bottled water
Body wash
Deodorant
Detergent
TARC tickets
Resume paper



Geradine Schultze



Tunnel Hill Christian Church

To see more photos from the event, go to our [Facebook page](#) or [click here!](#)

Summer Camp



Rauch's Summer Respite Developmental Kids Camp will provide students with an opportunity to have a fun summer with many field trip opportunities. The camp will enhance **academics, help with social skills and improve social interactions**. The program is designed to provide your child with a solid foundation for later learning.

Office supplies
 Disposable
 dinnerware
 Wii games
 Large flat screen TV
 Admission to local:
 museums, ball
 games, movies,
 attractions
 Staff rewards:
 movie passes
 store/restaurant
 gift cards
 iPads
 Computers/netbooks
 Playground equipment
 Art canvas
 Wooden chairs
 Crayons
 Coloring books
 New toys/stuffed animals
 Diapers and wipes

Volunteers:

We're always happy to accept volunteers to:

- Read to clients
- Present to clients about music, dance, & fitness
- Organize & inventory donations



A team of dedicated and experienced teachers will join forces to offer **three 2-week sessions of discovery for kids with developmental disabilities ages 9-17**, and the **first session will begin June 11**. They will use a variety of means including field trips, entertaining activities, and in-house events. The goal will be to develop the children's skills, broaden their horizons, increase social skills, and provide a time of respite for families.

For more information about the summer camp, [click here to see the brochure](#) or contact **Amelia Williams** at awilliams@rauchinc.org or 812-945-4063.

***Rauch, Inc. is proud to be a
 Metro United Way Participating Agency!***



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