

BUILDING BLOCKS

A Newsletter of Rauch, Inc.

2012 Imagine Awards Talent & Honorees Announced



Jazz Pianist Matt Savage

This year is shaping up to be one of the most memorable yet in the 12-year history of the Imagine Awards. The event will be held March 3 in Horseshoe Southern Indiana's Showroom and Horizon Wealth Management has returned as the event's generous title sponsor. The festivities will commence at 5:30 p.m. with a fabulous silent auction, mingling and delectable appetizers.

The 2012 event is incredibly fortunate to host 19-year-old jazz pianist Matt Savage as the evening's keynote speaker and performer. Matt was diagnosed with Pervasive Developmental Disorder, a high-functioning type of autism, at age 3. He could not withstand sounds of any kind and could not communicate easily. His parents immersed him in early intervention therapies over the next four years, and at age 6 ½ he completed an auditory integration therapy to make his ears less sensitive to sound.

Matt taught himself to read and play piano music literally overnight. He began to receive instruction and

his musical skills flourished, recording his first album at age 7. By the time he entered Berklee College of Music at 17 years of age, he had already written and recorded over 70 songs.

Matt will be joined on-stage for a portion of the performance by jazz saxophonist Jamey Aebersold, and this pairing promises to be nothing short of captivating. In Matt's own words written in his recent blog entry, "Jamey Aebersold, in case you don't know, is a world famous saxophonist, educator, and Louisville area native. He is best known for his series of Aebersold Play-A-Longs, a series of jazz play-along records that currently stands at 129 volumes. I have played along with Aebersold's records since I was nine years old, so to play with 'the man himself' is a great honor."



Jamey Aebersold

The evening will culminate in the presentation of the 2012 Imagine Awards and celebration of the honorees. We are pleased to announce the recipients in this issue of *Building Blocks*. We will honor the contributions and achievements of Gregory Thomas Court, Geradine Schultze of New Albany-Floyd County Schools and Tunnel Hill Christian Church. More information on the honorees is included on the following page.

For more information about the event, sponsorships or to purchase tickets, please contact Teresa Jackson, Director of Development, at tjackson@rauchinc.org or 812-945-4063 or visit www.imagineawards.org.

Building Blocks Campaign Update

Thanks to the generous support we received from community members like **YOU**, the Building Blocks campaign total is currently at an amazing **\$3,025,575!** Because of this support:

- The fundraising challenge set by the Ogle Foundation was met and we recently **received payment of the \$100,000 matching grant**
- A **new software system** is increasing our efficiency and effectiveness
- Spencer and 11 other adults with disabilities will settle into **4 beautiful new homes** at Hawthorn Glen in February
- David is eagerly looking forward to the **clubhouse and pool** at Hawthorn Glen which will soon be under construction
- Patsy and her 88 coworkers at Rauch Industries are excited about the installation of **air conditioning** in the upper plant this summer



We were, quite simply, overwhelmed by the community's support of Rauch in 2011. To date, over 160 individuals, client family members, businesses, and foundations have made the success of the Building Blocks Campaign a reality. For that, we cannot **THANK YOU** enough!

Additional funding needs beyond the current campaign total still exist, and we continue to work to raise funds to meet all of our goals. **Just over \$19,000 in additional dollars is needed** to accomplish Rauch's goals for the betterment of our current and future clients. For more information on how to help, visit www.rauchinc.org or contact Teresa Jackson, Director of Development at tjackson@rauchinc.org or 812-945-4063.

2012 Imagine Awards Honorees Announced

Individual with a Disability: *Gregory Thomas Court*

28-year-old Greg has Duchenne muscular dystrophy and has been confined to a wheelchair since age 8. His movement is limited to his hands and he is on a ventilator full-time. A gregarious, intelligent and determined individual, Greg completed his Associate of Science degree in Computer Graphics Technology from the Purdue School of Technology. Following graduation, Greg established his own company, Designs-by-GTC, through which he fulfills freelance graphic and web design contracts. Greg also works to support other individuals with disabilities. He participates in the Muscular Dystrophy of America telethon as a support and model to others with MD, and maintains a Facebook page and communicates regularly to support others who share his diagnosis.

Community Leader: *Geradine Schultze*

Geradine began her career as a speech language pathologist specializing in deaf and hard of hearing. Working for Department of Defense Schools in Germany in the 1990s, she focused on preschool special education programs. Later, she pursued certification in early childhood special education and became involved in horseback riding therapy. Geradine advocates for early diagnosis, intervention and education of children with special needs. Now the Early Intervention Coordinator for New Albany-Floyd County Schools and Building Supervisor for the Children's Academy Early Learning Center, she and the early intervention team have built a program providing a wide spectrum of services to all Floyd County preschool children and their families. The Early Learning Center provides evaluations and programs including speech, occupational and physical therapies and services for children with developmental delays, vision, hearing, orthopedic and multiple disabilities. Geradine believes

parent involvement is key to school success and encourages parents to attend the frequent parent activities at the Early Learning Center.

Organization: *Tunnel Hill Christian Church*

Since 2005, Tunnel Hill Christian Church has held bi-monthly dances for adults with disabilities. The events feature a volunteer DJ, fun with karaoke, light snacks and great times with friends. Some of the dances draw 150 or more individuals. Church member families and a Boy Scout troop support the volunteer outreach. The impact of the events has rippled throughout the church community, resulting in involvement of members in Special Olympics, Sunrise Horse therapy, DADS (Dads Appreciating Down Syndrome) and gestures such as knitting hats and scarves as gifts for participants. Also important has been the connection among people with disabilities and between their parents, providing a vital opportunity for them to build a support network and friendships.



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Christmas at Rauch Industries—A great time was had by all!



In Memory of Barbara Ann "Barbie" Nichols

Barbara, a dedicated employee of Rauch Industries for nearly 32 years and an active participant in Rauch's ACCESS program, passed away on Thursday, December 22, 2011. She was 57 years old.

Rauch's staff and clients will miss her unconditionally positive attitude, her infectious smile and her love of parties and dancing.

A Children's Services Success

Andrew is a 2 1/2 year old boy from a wonderful family who entered Rauch's Children's Services with severe language and behavior deficits. He found it almost impossible to focus on any activity for more than 20 seconds, respond to adults talking to him and was frequently aggressive when he didn't intend to be.

Andrew started occupational therapy after an evaluation to determine if Andrew displayed signs of a Sensory Processing Disorder. Upon beginning OT, Andrew struggled to wait to obtain a toy, put one toy away before getting another one, and playing with a toy purposefully. His parents actively participated in all therapy sessions and carried over suggestions the therapist recommended.

After the first session, Andrew's mother put together a "fidget bag" for Andrew to occupy himself in the car, stores, and restaurants. She reported the results of her attempts weekly, and soon Andrew was able to sit in a restaurant and wait for his parents to finish eating without having a meltdown. He also began attending family functions and children's birthday parties without becoming overwhelmed.

Andrew's language skills also increased, allowing him to request things he needed to help regulate his sensory system throughout the day. He would ask his dad to play "en garde" (sword fighting), boxing, soccer, and bowling to receive the movement (vestibular) and joint movement (proprioception) his body needed.

By the time Andrew neared his third birthday, he was able to play with other children without becoming so over-stimulated that he hit them in his excitement. Andrew and his family continue to work on finding new ways to help him fall asleep at night more easily. Andrew's success is the result of his parents and the Rauch therapists working together to maximize Andrew's abilities and empower his family to find solutions to the challenges facing in their daily life.

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We are extremely grateful to announce that Endris Jewelers has generously provided this white gold and diamond necklace (\$1,200 value) to raffle at the Imagine Awards.



Tickets are \$10 each and available for purchase at www.imagineawards.org or by contacting Lindsey Davis at 812-945-4063 or ldavis@rauchinc.org.



Putting the Person First

"The difference between the right word and the almost right word is the difference between lightning and the lightning bug." — Mark Twain

One in 5 Americans has a disability, making people with disabilities the largest minority group and the only one that anyone can join at any time: at birth or through an accident, illness or the aging process. People with disabilities are not their diagnoses or disabilities; they are people, first. Would you want to be known primarily by your arthritis, diabetes, indigestion, or other condition?

Person First Language puts the person before the disability, and describes what a person has, not who a person is. By placing the person first, the disability is no longer the primary, defining characteristic of an individual, but one of several aspects of the whole person. It eliminates generalizations and stereotypes, focusing on the person rather than the disability, and is more respectful and accurate; it's more than just "politically correct"; it's courteous.

Say This	Not This
people with disabilities	the handicapped, the disabled
people without disabilities	normal, healthy, whole or typical people
person who has (or has been diagnosed with)...	person afflicted with, suffers from, a victim of...
person who has Down syndrome	Downs person, mongoloid, mongol
person who has (or has been diagnosed with) autism	the autistic
person with a physical disability	a cripple
person of short stature, little person	a dwarf, a midget
person who is unable to speak, person who uses a communication device	dumb, mute
people who are blind, person who is visually impaired	the blind
person with a learning disability	learning disabled

Rauch Awarded Access to Recovery Contract

Rauch is excited to announce that we have been approved to provide Employment Services in Clark & Floyd Counties through Indiana's Access to Recovery (INATR) program. Through this contract, we will help clients in recovery from substance use problems and disorders locate and maintain community employment. The goal of INATR is to provide a continuum of recovery services, regardless of where the person is in their recovery. INATR pilots a recovery-oriented approach to care and helps clients gain access to a network of clinical, community and faith-based organizations who provide treatment and recovery support services to eligible individuals. We are pleased to have been chosen as part of this network.

Wish list

Bottled water
Body wash
Deodorant
Detergent
TARC tickets
Resume paper
Office supplies
Disposable dinnerware
Wii games
Canvases
Neckties
Wooden chairs
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
Crayons
Coloring books
Board/card games
New toys/stuffed animals
Diapers and wipes

Volunteers:

We are always happy to accept volunteers to:

- Read to clients
- Do presentations for clients in music, dance, & fitness
- Professionally photograph clients
- Sort & catalog donated items



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Our Mission

To support people with disabilities and their families while encouraging a community that acknowledges the value and contribution of all people.



Interpreting Services Now Providing Seminars with CEU Credit!

Rauch's Director of Interpreting Services, Dave Calvert, has developed new training seminars in which attendees can gain Continuing Education Units for their license!

February 4, 2012, 9:00 am—1:00 pm

Black Sheep: Educational Interpreting and the Law

March 3, 2012, 9:00 am—3:00 pm

Interpreting Music

April 14, 2012, 9:00 am—5:00 pm

Voicing Workshop

For more information about each seminar or to register, please contact Karen Newlin at 812-945-4063 or knewlin@rauchinc.org.

We are planning more trainings! Let us know if you have any suggestions.

CARF Survey a Success!

Rauch was pleased to welcome surveyors from our accrediting body, CARF, or Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, from December 14 to 16, 2011. Peer surveyors William Sandonato, Linda Clouse and Jan Dodge-Larson assessed the agency on 1,700 standards, identifying strengths and providing suggestions and advice. They met with clients, staff, parents and community stakeholders and observed Rauch's programs in action.

The surveyors were extremely complimentary of Rauch's preparedness for the survey. Just three recommendations were provided by the survey team, and Rauch is already working to incorporate these suggestions into the agency's protocols. Possibly the most encouraging feedback Rauch received was the Mr. Sandonato's comment that "any one of us would consider it a privilege to be one of your colleagues."

Visit www.rauchinc.org for a list of current job openings and upcoming events or to sign-up to receive E-MAGINE, our monthly e-newsletter.

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