

ISSUE #2 ■ 2014

NEWSLETTER OF RAUCH, INC.

Behind *the* Seen

Finding Hope at Hawthorn Glen

We all want to live near those we love most. Unfortunately, concern for an individual's well-being sometimes outweighs this need. Like many other parents in their situation, Fred and Jill Jackson were forced to make the difficult decision to place their adult child in specialized out-of-state care. For ten years, they have been separated from their beloved daughter Carlie by hours-long travel - a situation difficult for any parent, but even more so when your loved one has special needs.

Thankfully, Fred and Jill now have hope that Carlie will be able to once again live near their Southern Indiana home.

Carlie is a 33-year-old woman with a rare condition called Prader-Willi Syndrome (PWS), which affects approximately one in 15,000 births. Developmentally, Carlie is 5-7 years old. She is a happy, kind person who demonstrates unconditional love daily. Carlie sees the best in everyone and is quick to forgive and forget, capturing the hearts of everyone she meets.

To try to understand PWS, imagine you feel as though you are starving every minute of the day and night. You would literally eat yourself to death if you were permitted. All aspects of food and eating cause you high anxiety.

Due to her PWS diagnosis, Carlie's weight steadily increased through her teenage years due to well intentioned, but uneducated, loved ones and caregivers. Upon high school graduation, she moved to a group home for individuals with developmental disabilities. Unfortunately, the provider's ignorance of and disregard for Carlie's condition allowed her weight to increase to a morbidly obese level. In just four months, her emotional stability was destroyed, and she had become medically fragile due to a weight of over 200 pounds (Carlie is 4'6" tall).

Ten years ago, Fred and Jill made the bittersweet discovery of a residential setting in Wisconsin specifically designed for individuals with Prader-Willi Syndrome. During her time there, Carlie lost nearly 100 pounds and regained her emotional stability. The foundation of Carlie's success in the program was the strict structure, trained and caring staff, and specialized housing design. Although she was doing well in Wisconsin, she was over 400 miles from her home and loved ones in Southern Indiana.

Read more about Carlie and learn how you can help in the article "Hope at Hawthorn Glen" inside.



Hope
at Hawthorn Glen



IT'S A FACT:

Prader-Willi Syndrome is found in people of both sexes and all races the most common conditions seen in genetics clinics and is the most (Source: PWS Association)

2014 Imagine Awards: Celebrating a Community Where Everyone Belongs

The 14th annual Imagine Awards hosted a **record 410 attendees**. They nibbled on appetizers, bid on 92 silent auction packages, and enjoyed the incredible talents of **Sujeet Desai**, as he played the violin and clarinet. Sujeet's repertoire includes knowledge of eight instruments. He is also a second degree black belt in Tao Kwon Do, and was born with Down syndrome.

The evening culminated with the presentation of the Imagine Awards to three deserving honorees: **Traci Reister Hardy, Jana Kixmiller Rankin, and the Council on Developmental Disabilities**. A video of Sujeet's performance as well as the awards presentation is available on Rauch's YouTube page (www.youtube.com/rauchinc).

The 2014 event was the most profitable ever with net proceeds of **\$43,500** after expenses. Rauch sincerely thanks the sponsors, silent auction donors, and everyone who was involved in the success of this incredibly successful event. For photos, please visit Rauch's Facebook page (facebook.com/rauchinc). We are already thinking about the 2015 Imagine Awards—**be sure to mark your calendars for March 7th!**



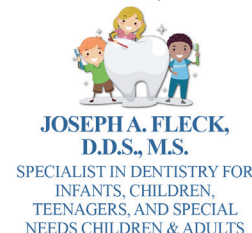
Top photo: Master of Ceremonies Tony Cruise with Sujeet Desai. **Bottom photo:** Imagine Awards Recipients Greg Rankin, accepting on behalf of Jana Kixmiller Rankin; Donovan Fornwalt of the Council on Developmental Disabilities; and Traci Reister Hardy.

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worldwide. Although considered a "rare" disorder, PWS is one of common genetic cause of obesity that has been identified.

Summer Fun!

Rauch offers a summer program for kids with special needs. Dedicated, experienced teachers provide 6 weeks of discovery for kids with developmental disabilities ages 9-17, including field trips, fun activities and in-house events. During camp, attendees experience sensory-motor activities, communication and social skills enhancement, and *have lots of fun!* Camp is offered in three 2-week sessions from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Contact Amelia Williams at 812-945-4063 for rates & additional information. Camp brochure and application are available on our website at rauchinc.org/children. Hurry - available slots are filling quickly!



Summer camp is generously funded in part by the Indiana Department of Child Services.



Learn a New Language This Summer

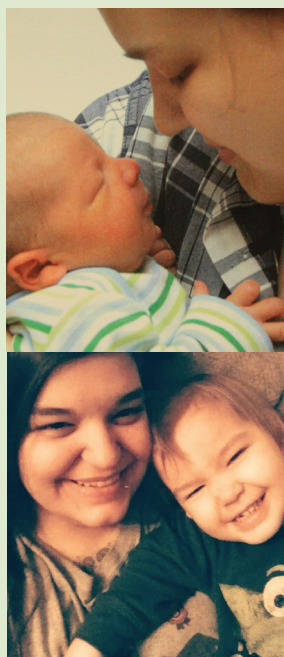
Rauch Interpreting Services is offering a Beginning Sign Language course taught by Dave Calvert & Debbie McQuiggan. This 8-week class meets on Thursdays from June 5 - July 31, 2014, excluding Thursday June 12, from 6-8 p.m. Cost is \$50. All materials provided; all ages welcome. To register, contact Karen Newlin at 812-542-3080 or knewlin@rauchinc.org.



Heather and Christopher

Heather enrolled in Rauch's Healthy Families Floyd County program in April 2011, just two months after her son Christopher was born. Healthy Families is a no-cost, voluntary parent support program designed to help families, who are expecting or have just had a baby, adjust to parenthood. We do this by providing support, encouragement and information to the families who choose to participate in services.

Heather was connected with Paige, a Family Support Specialist, and Paige made sure that mother and son were adjusting well. When Christopher turned three in February, they graduated from the program. Paige says, "I have seen Heather grow into a very hard working mom, very determined to make things happen in her life." Heather is a very loving mom to Christopher. She has worked hard to provide for her son and give him a good life. Heather has her GED and recently enrolled in Ivy Tech Community College to continue her education. Congratulations, Heather and Christopher!



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Hope

at Hawthorn Glen

An Answer for the Jacksons

(continued from cover story)

Fred, Jill, and Carlie Jackson were thrilled to discover Rauch's Supported Living community at Hawthorn Glen. For the past four years, Rauch has been working to create a community where everyone belongs in Clark County, Indiana. The agency's high-quality, fully-accessible Supported Living housing for adults with disabilities has set a new standard for the care of some of our community's most vulnerable citizens.

Rauch's Supported Living program serves individuals with developmental disabilities in need of care and support to facilitate living as independently as possible. The primary site for Supported Living Services is at Rauch's community in Hawthorn Glen subdivision in Charlestown, Indiana.

Rauch's housing at Hawthorn Glen began as a result of a major anonymous individual contribution of \$900,000. These funds provided for the purchase of the land as well as a significant portion of the funding needed to complete the development's fully-accessible clubhouse, pool, and park. Currently, twelve Rauch homes at the development serve a total of thirty-six individuals.

All of Rauch's Hawthorn Glen houses feature three bedrooms each. Residents have their own bedroom and bath to ensure privacy and dignity, shared living space, and completely accessible kitchen and laundry areas. Rauch is able to operate and staff these houses while maintaining a small fund to provide for future maintenance and repair needs. The demand for this type of housing has continued to grow as parents and relatives of adult children with disabilities face decisions regarding the long-term care of their loved ones, and the waiting list currently stands at 36 individuals.

Rauch staff visited Carlie's Wisconsin program to evaluate the potential of serving individuals with Prader-Willi Syndrome as part of the Supported Living program. It was determined that this was a niche that Rauch could fill locally, and other parties with the condition have now indicated their interest in living in a specialized Rauch PWS house. There are multiple individuals in the state of Indiana diagnosed with PWS. As such, this is an area in which Rauch anticipates additional growth and demand.

Rauch has secured \$1,026,000 of the \$1,101,000 needed to construct the next phase of four homes at Hawthorn Glen, which will include one specialized Prader-Willi Syndrome house. These funds include a \$500,000 award from the Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis and a \$450,000 award from the Ogle Foundation. Now, we need your help.

The additional \$75,000 to complete this project must be secured by June 15, 2014, in order to provide the required matching funds for the \$500,000 Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis grant. Pledges of up to two years in support of this project can be used to meet this match. **Just think – for every \$1 you donate to this project, Rauch receives \$6.50 from the Federal Home Loan Bank.**

We are excited about the prospect of things yet to come for Rauch, Inc., and the people we serve. With your financial support; your advocacy for persons with disabilities; and your willingness to share this opportunity with your friends, family and colleagues, we are sure to reach this important goal for people like Carlie.

Donate online at www.rauchinc.org/hope

For more info, contact Teresa Jackson at tjackson@rauchinc.org or 812.981.4410



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Grow-n-Learn Preschool Graduation

Rauch is excited to present the graduating Grow-n-Learn Preschool class for this quarter. Grow-n-Learn Preschool provides a positive learning experience in a relaxed, friendly atmosphere. The preschool is led by Developmental and Occupational Therapists and is specially designed for children ages 18 months to 3 years old with developmental delays. The therapists work with the children in small groups to improve communication, social, cognitive, self-help, and fine, gross, and motor skills.



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Rauch's Mission

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

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Mark Your Calendar!

On **June 7th** the Greenville "Low 12 Riders" Chapter of the Masonic Riders Association will be hosting a Charity Ride for Rauch! **All are welcome** on the 125-mile scenic Southern Indiana Route, which will start at Rauch Industries and end at the American Legion Post #42 in Floyds Knobs with food, door prizes, and more fun. For more information, visit rauchinc.org or call (812) 981-4411. **Proceeds will benefit Rauch's Hope at Hawthorn Glen campaign.**