

ISSUE #1 ■ 2015

NEWSLETTER OF RAUCH, INC.

Behind *the* Seen

Announcing the 2015 Imagine Awards Honorees



Bryan Varner



Jill Valocik Smith



**Dr. Jason Lipoff,
Kid's Dentistree**

Individual with a Disability: Bryan Varner

Born with cerebral palsy, Bryan Varner has had many hurdles to overcome, but he refuses to let disability stand in his way. He is an intelligent, hardworking problem solver, approaching challenges with a positive, can-do attitude. Facing kidney failure and then undergoing a kidney transplant, he persevered for seven years to graduate with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication from Bellarmine University in 2012. Bryan has the same goals as any young man – a good job, marriage, and family – and he works hard to achieve those goals. He is an exceptional communicator, and an upbeat and fun person to spend time with. Bryan currently works part-time as the Promotions Assistant at Summit Media Corporation, and is diligent in ensuring that all of his tasks are accomplished. He also serves as an advocate, using his experience of barriers that exist in our everyday world to suggest potential improvements.

Community Leader: Jill Valocik Smith

Jill Smith has been a tremendous advocate for individuals with disabilities for over 25 years. Her varied career path has included positions as a behavior specialist, case manager, Family Advocate, and Executive Director of a Down Syndrome chapter. Jill is currently the manager of the "My Life, My Choice" project for The Arc of Indiana. Through this project, she has personally touched
(continued on next page)



DON'T DELAY!

Imagine Awards *tickets and sponsorships*
Teressa Jackson (tjackson@rauchinc.org or

(continued from cover) the lives of hundreds of individuals with disabilities, giving them the dignity and respect of asking about their lives and listening to their stories. Jill never shies away from speaking out for people with disabilities and ensuring their voices are heard. Jill lives on the positive side of this world—acknowledging that there are many problems, but also that there is always a way forward if we are creative and committed. Jill does this with a personal drive and sincerity that people immediately grasp. Jill's first experiences with disabilities began as a child when she learned that a cousin, who she did not see as having a disability, was viewed as “different” – so began her lifetime of advocacy. Her involvement with disability issues is not a career choice, it's a way of life.

Business: Dr. Jason Lipoff, Kid's Dentistree

Affectionately called “Dr. J” by his patients, Jason Lipoff is a Board Certified Pediatric Dentist, Health and Wellness Coach and a professional smile giver. Upon graduating dental school, he served 4 years as an Active Duty Dental Officer in the U.S. Army, after which he joined a general dental practice. But his heart wasn't in it – he knew his true calling was providing a positive social impact for future generations. So, he returned to education and completed a 2 year pediatric dental residency with a focus on craniofacial abnormalities and low income populations. During his studies, Dr. Lipoff placed strong emphasis on working with children with disabilities, particularly autism. Autism hits close to home for him as his young nephew has the diagnosis. In 2011, Dr. Lipoff joined Mortenson Family Dental Group, opening an office in Jeffersonville. The practice has grown into a wonderful community asset. Dr. J has been referred to as “magic” because children and adults who will not cooperate anywhere else will relax in the chair and let him work to restore their oral health. Sometimes patients cannot be seen during business hours due to sensory issues, behaviors, or disabilities. Dr. J will come in early, stay late, or open the office on a weekend to accommodate their needs. His focus on diet, nutrition, and wellness helps create a comprehensive focus on child, parent, and the dental home. Dr. Lipoff formed LifeSmile Solutions, LLC in 2011; their mission is to educate parents to be good examples for their children to follow. LifeSmile Solutions is also creating an innovative exercise routine for children and adults with special needs and working to get the program implemented in schools and assisted care facilities. Dr. J is passionate in his belief that all children deserve to feel love and compassion from family, community, and beyond.



Event Entertainment: Michael Cleveland + Flamekeeper

In addition to honoring these inspiring individuals, the event will include a performance from international award winning bluegrass band Michael Cleveland & Flamekeeper. Michael, who was born blind, is a 9-time International Bluegrass Association Hall of Fame Fiddler of the Year--and he just happens to live in Charlestown, IN. Their set is sure to be a toe-tapping great time!

Thank you to our 2015 Imagine Awards Judges

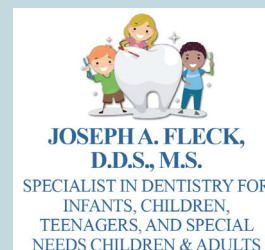
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are still available! For more info, contact 812-981-4410) or visit imagineawards.org.

Help Make the 2015 Imagine Awards Auctions Successful!

The silent and live auction at the 2014 Imagine Awards alone raised over \$16,000. Help us generate more vital funding to support Rauch's programs and services by **donating an item or gift certificate**. It is a great way to promote your business while benefiting others. Contact Lindsey for info at 812-981-4411 or ldavis@rauchinc.org. A donation packet is also available at rauchinc.org/imagine. Popular items include: wine/liquor, jewelry, memorabilia, pet supplies, unique experiences (dinners, plane rides, etc), & more.



Lights, Camera, ACTION!

Transform Multimedia Jeffersonville is donating the production of several videos to Rauch, and it's such an incredible gift to work with them. So far, we have been able to debut a new Rauch Industries video (see it at rauchindustries.net), a special Christmas greeting, and Imagine Awards promo. We look forward to even more great features of our programs and clients in action. Keep up with us at youtube.com/rauchinc.

Rauch's Board President, Steve Naville, Gold Leaf Recipient

We are proud to recognize Steve Naville's long history of service to Rauch with a Gold Leaf award. The Gold Leaf event, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Jeffersonville, gives local non-profits the opportunity to celebrate the contributions of the many people in our community who put "Service Above Self". Steve Naville's dedication to Rauch has deep roots. In 2003, he embraced the Naville family legacy at the organization, following in the footsteps of his grandfather Herb and father Tim. The current Board President, Steve has served on the Finance, Facilities, Executive, and Human Rights Committees; volunteered at Rauch's Golf Scramble; and presented on-stage at the Imagine Awards. Steve has an obvious heart for the people Rauch serves that drives him through all these responsibilities.



Thank you, Steve - and congratulations!

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Hawthorn Glen Update

Because of the generosity of the community, Rauch is building not four, but SIX new fully accessible homes in Hawthorn Glen for adults with disabilities. Construction is moving along on the last six lots Rauch owns in the subdivision. The brick is on four of the homes and walls and drywall are going up. We are expecting construction to be complete and ready for the new residents to move in at

the end of April. We'll be planning a ribbon cutting and open house, so keep your eye out for the invite!

Supported Living Waiting List

Are you or a loved one interested in residing in Rauch's Supported Living housing at Hawthorn Glen subdivision in Clark County, Indiana? We are accepting applications for the program's waiting list on an ongoing basis. Interested parties should contact Brooke Pierson, Director of Supported Living, at bpiereson@rauchinc.org or 812-945-4063.

Individuals on the waiting list are selected for the program based on a number of factors, including:

- Availability of openings
- Length of time on the waiting list
- Individual needs and circumstances
- Compatibility with others who are and/or will be residing in the home
- Ability to pay for services (Medicaid Waiver funding)



CONTRIBUTIONS: September 1, 2014 - December 31, 2014

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Jimmy & Janeen Niehaus, Jr.
Robert Nord
Arlene Renn*

In Honor of Jim Voll
Anonymous

In Honor of Derek Woods
Mary Lynn Storrie

**denotes in-kind gift*

A Season of Giving

Thanks to the generosity of our community, we were blown away by the support for our holiday campaigns. Our newsletter readers and Facebook fans donated enough items for each Rauch client to receive a small present at the Christmas party. We also exceeded our holiday fundraising goal by nearly \$5,000! The end of the calendar year can be a difficult time for us to make ends meet, making this support even more important and appreciated. Because of you, these smiling faces have a place where they can thrive.



Rauch Paired with Leadership Louisville IGNITE Team

We're thrilled to announce that Rauch was selected to work with a Leadership Louisville Center Yum! Brands IGNITES Louisville Challenge team. This team of leaders will be working with us over the course of 6 months on a special project related to Rauch Industries. We look forward to working with everyone!

Left to right: Matthew Paynter, Humana Inc.; Ted Gatlin, YouthBuild Louisville; Carson Stewart, Yum! Brands, Inc.; Kasey Mathes, Yum! Brands, Inc.; Liz Hack, Griffin Fundraising & Marketing; Katie Butts, Delta Dental of Kentucky; Kacey Roby, Kindred Healthcare.



Thank You New Albanian Brewing Company!

Thanks to the City of New Albany Government, the New Albanian Brewing Company transformed beverage sales from the summer concerts at Bicentennial Park and the Boomtown Ball & Festival into generous support for Rauch, Inc. & Open Door Youth Services. In December, both organizations received a cash-stuffed envelope from NABC's special event proceeds. Thank you to everyone at NABC for your long-time support of Rauch and those we serve!



Sarrah's Success



Finding the right job is never easy. After completing Floyd Central High School in 2011, Sarrah was excited to enter the workforce. Unfortunately, shortly after getting her first job, this enthusiasm soon turned into anxiety as the lack of support and training she received made it difficult for her to succeed. After leaving that position, Sarrah discovered Rauch.

Working at Rauch Industries, Sarrah began to address her worries about work and build confidence. Rauch became what she calls her “comfort zone”, and she flourished with the support of the staff and in the company of her friends.

Sarrah was matched with Valerie from Rauch Employment Services to continue to progress in her career. Together, they explored job opportunities in retail because of Sarrah's interest in fashion. She was nervous about starting a volunteer position at Goodwill, but as she found success there it gave her experience, confidence, and eventually an offer of permanent, regular employment. She became a Goodwill employee on

November 10, and takes great pride in her work hanging clothing, assisting customers, and pricing items, and is progressing toward becoming a cashier.

Sarrah's advice for others searching for that perfect job is to “put yourself out there – go in the interview and tell them what you can do and what you want to do.” She's done a great job learning how to communicate her needs, which will help ensure her continued success in the workplace and life.

After a year and a half of enjoying Sarrah's shy, sweet smile and affectionate nature, the staff and clients at Rauch will be sad to see her leave at the end of January. However, we're also extremely proud of her new-found independence, confidence, and the promise of her future.

If you would like additional information about Rauch Employment Services and how they can assist you or a loved one in finding a job, contact Johnny Fussell at jfussell@rauchinc.org or 812-542-3077 or visit www.rauchinc.org/supportedemployment.



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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Leave a Legacy - Consider a Bequest to Rauch

A bequest is a transfer of cash, securities, or other property made through your estate plans. A bequest to Rauch can be made by including language in your will or living trust leaving a portion of your estate to Rauch, Inc. or the Rauch Foundation. You can also designate Rauch, Inc. or the Rauch Foundation as a beneficiary of your retirement account or life insurance policy.

Remembering Rauch with a bequest from your estate helps sustain and strengthen the organization for years to come. Some of the advantages of creating a bequest include:

- A bequest costs nothing now, yet gives you the satisfaction of knowing you have provided for Rauch and the people we serve in the future
- You retain control of and use of your assets during your lifetime
- You may modify your bequest if circumstances change
- Gifts to Rauch from your estate are exempt from federal estate taxes
- If you let Rauch know of your plans, we will be able to thank you now and recognize your generosity to inspire others

For more information about making a bequest from your estate to Rauch, please contact Teresa Jackson, Director of Development, at tjackson@rauchinc.org or 812-981-4410, or visit rauchinc.org/giftplanning.



Rauch Receives 3-Year CARF Accreditation!

The Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) is an international, independent, nonprofit accreditor of health and human services.

Rauch underwent a survey by CARF International in November, and is pleased to announce that we've been awarded a full 3-year accreditation! Big kudos to our staff for all the fine work they do on behalf of those we serve - it was certainly recognized by our surveyors.



Visit www.rauchinc.org for upcoming events or to sign up to receive E-MAGINE, our monthly e-newsletter.