



heart of illinois

Down Syndrome Association

Newsletter

March 2016

Contact Us:

c/o Bethel Lutheran Church
325 E. Queenwood Rd.
Morton, IL 61550
309-712-4852
info@hoidsa.org

The Heart of Illinois Down Syndrome Association, Inc. is committed to improving the quality of life of persons with Down syndrome by providing support, advocacy, and educational opportunities to those individuals, their families and community advocates.

Calendar of Events

2016 Board of Directors

Shelli Willoughby, *President*
309-251-7102
shellwilloughby@gmail.com

Meri Tucker, *Vice President*
309-694-2984
endroad@comcast.net

Milly Howeler, *Treasurer*
309-692-3688
millyhoweler@gmail.com

Anita Hohimer
Anne Hollis
Laurie Mattheessen

Christy Sanchez
Kim Sarff

Editor: Carol Nepolello
309-243-8414
c.nepolello@comcast.net

The Heart of Illinois Down Syndrome Association, Inc. is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization.

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Mon. April 4th | Board Meeting—6:00pm |
| Sat. April 9th | Illinois Family Leaders Annual Conference
9:00am-3:00pm Spalding Pastoral Center, Peoria |
| Sun. April 10th | Young Athletes Practice - 3:00pm
St. Philomena School, 3216 N Emery, Peoria |
| Tues. April 19th | Examining the Evidence for Inclusion
FREE Workshop at Advocates for Access
See page 3 for more details. |
| Tues. April 19th | Young Adult Cooking Class - 7:00pm
Bethel Lutheran Church
325 E. Queenwood Rd., Morton |
| Sun. April 24th | Chillin' Social Group Get Together
Soldwedel Program Center, Pekin—1:00pm-3:00pm
See page 6 for more details. |
| April 29th-30th | Mother's Day Craft Show (2-Day Event)
Avanti's Dome, 3401 Griffin Ave, Pekin
See page 7 for more details. |
| May 5th-6th | Illinois Includes Conference (2-Day Event)
8:00am-4:00pm Double Tree Hotel, Oak Brook IL |
| Tues. May 10th | Grandparent's Group Meeting - 6:00pm
Jack's Cafe, 130 Lake Street, Tremont |

Board meetings are held the first Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m. at Bethel Lutheran Church in Morton unless otherwise noted.

This newsletter publishes items of interest relating to Down syndrome and other disability issues. The Heart of Illinois Down Syndrome Association, Inc. (HOIDSA) does not promote or recommend any therapy, treatment, institution, professional system, etc. Individuals or organizations referred to are not necessarily endorsed by this publication or its editor. We hope to bring together those interested in Down syndrome and attempt to create an optimistic future and attitude. The editor reserves the right to make corrections as are appropriate and in accord with established editorial practice in material submitted for publication.

Inside this Issue

Content	Page
Calendar of Events	1
Thanks to Pekin Fire Dept Loc. 524	2
Thanks to March Quarter Auction	3
Examining the Evidence for Inclusion Wkshp	3
Spaghetti Dinner Highlights	4-5
Young Athletes	6
Chillin' Social Group Outing	6
Spotlight on Zakary Durdle	7
Mother's Day Craft Show	7
New Parent Breakfast	Back Cover
Editor's Remarks	Back Cover



Special Thanks to Pekin Fire Department Local 524

The Pekin Fire Department Local 524 had these t-Shirts made for Down syndrome awareness. The fire fighters purchased the shirts and donated \$380 to the HOIDSA spaghetti dinner. The fire fighters wore the shirts to 50 emergencies and over 500 calls. The shirts were also featured in every grocery store in the city of Pekin.

A big thank you goes out to John Burns Jr. for recommending that the Heart of Illinois Down Syndrome Association be recognized in this manner.



Birthdays Next Month



April

Benaiah Schoenbein
4/2

Kenedi Boucher
4/6

Garrett Geier
4/12

Derek DeBolt
4/15

Bailey Fifer
4/15

Aries Rush
4/16

Natalie Ballor
4/18

Mackenzie Brunson
4/20

Holly Randall
4/21

Bridget Buscemi
4/23

Kaelie Morgan
4/24

Jazmine German
4/25

Chris Kezele
4/26

Charlie Grahek
4/27

Jeremiah Larson
4/28

Adam Masso
4/28

Jason Phillips
4/30

Jordan Phillips
4/30

Ryan Miller

Young Adult Cooking Class

For any member **16 years old & older**
3rd Tuesday of the Month

Next class: April 19th 7:00-8:30pm
Bethel Lutheran Church
Contact Meri at 309-264-4900

Chefs will be making baked goods to
sell at a booth at the Mother's Day
Craft Sale in Pekin on April 29th.
(See page 7)

**Thank you for a donation from
the March Quarter Auction at
Goodfella's hosted by Sheryl
Collins, Michelle Hedrick and
Marcy Ray.**

They made a donation in the
amount of \$414.75 to HOIDSA.
(They have a monthly auction and
each month a different non-profit
benefits from the proceeds).

Thanks for your support!

****REMINDER** Illinois Includes Annual Conference**

May 5-6, 2016

**DoubleTree by Hilton Chicago—Oak
Brook, 1909 Spring Rd, Oak Brook**

Register online at

<http://www.illinoisincludes.org>

**Join Family Matters PTIC, HOIDSA
and Advocates for Access**



Examining the Evidence for Inclusion

**At this FREE workshop you will learn about
social aspects of inclusion, academic and
literacy skills achievement through
inclusion, accommodations and
modifications in general education settings
and Universal Design for Learning.**

Tuesday, April 19, 2016

6:00pm to 8:00pm

**Heritage Square: Advocates for Access
Conference Room (Ste C-8)
4450 W Prospect Rd
Peoria Heights, IL, 61616**

-A Light meal will be provided.

Registration is required.

**Must register by 04-02-2016 by either
registering online**

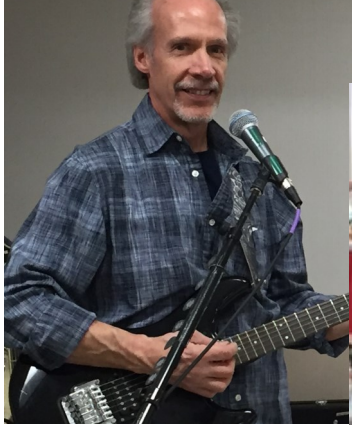
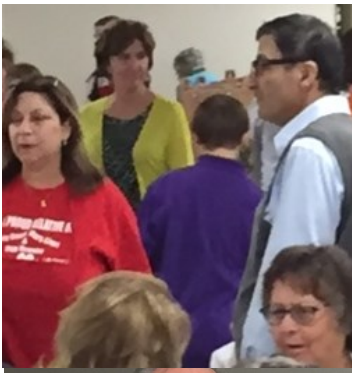
or call: 866-436-7842, x3516

**If accommodations are needed, please call
two weeks prior to training date.**



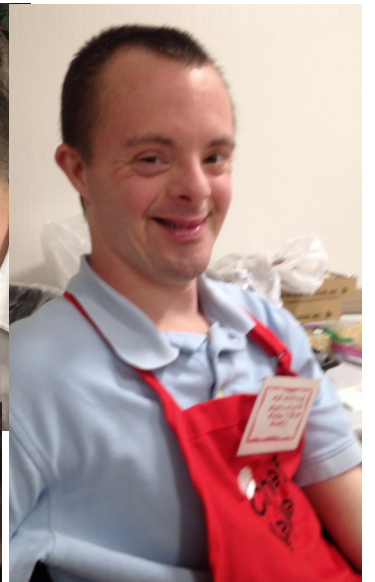
Family Matters PTIC is 95% funded by the U.S. Department of
Education with additional support from ARC Community Support
Systems.





**Thank you to everyone who helped make
our Spaghetti Dinner a huge success!!**

*1,145 Spaghetti
Dinners Served*





Thank you to all of the bakers (and non-bakers) who donated the amazing amount of goodies for this year's Bake Sale. This was by far our best year ever! We made over \$2700 in profits! A special thanks goes to Natalie Phillips' grandma, Laura Fardel, who made dozens of adorable chocolate suckers and decorated cookies. I also want to recognize some of our pie-makers, Kay Palmer, Martha Reel, and friends of Nathan Parks. The pies and tarts were a huge hit this year! Also, the Moreland's gave a generous donation of bagged candy and cakes. Marge Zdanowski made over a dozen delicious swedish tea rings, and Marilyn Grogan baked 15 loaves of bread. Thank you to everyone who contributed goodies, and to my faithful helpers on the day of the event. You're the reason the HOIDSA Bake Sale is one of the best around!

~Teri Ehrenhardt, Committee Chair



*Winner of \$500
Visa Gift Card:
Marge Zdanowski*





Special Olympics
Young Athletes™

The Young Athletes program is an innovative sports play program for children ages 2-9 with and without intellectual disabilities, designed to introduce them into the world of sports.

All sessions held at
St. Philomena School gymnasium
3216 N Emery, Peoria
3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Sunday, April 10, 2016

Closing Ceremony: Sunday, May 1, 2016

If interested in participating or volunteering,
e-mail:

youngathletespeoria@yahoo.com

John & Christy Getz
Curt & Amanda Nauman

The next
**GRANDPARENT'S
GROUP** *meeting*

Tuesday, May 10th
Jack's Cafe
130 Lake Street
Tremont IL

an informal evening with casual conversation

Contact Anita with any questions
309-241-8195
hohimer_home@comcast.net

Attention Everyone 16 and Older!



The **Chillin' Social Group**
will begin getting together
once every other month.
We hope you will join us!

Please contact Marcy or Jamie at
the contact information listed below if
you are not currently receiving Chillin'
invitations. The Chillin' social group is
for ages 16 and older.

Our next event is a Spring Fever social.

Join us for a fun afternoon outdoors
with friends! We will be flying kites
and playing outdoor games.

Sunday, April 24th

1:00pm—3:00pm

Soldwedel Program Center

McNaughton Park

207 McNaughton Park Road, Pekin

Meet in the field by the parking lot.



We hope to see you there!

Marcy—(309)415-0540
marcyray@comcast.net

Jamie—(309)303-8475
jamieczesak@gmail.com



Spotlight on... Zakary Durdle

Greetings from , Zakary Allen Durdle
March , 2016

Hello everyone, my name is Zakary Durdle and I have Down Syndrome. I was having Diabetic since I was 6 years old . I am 20 years old, and I am almost 21 years old in March 21st. I am a self Advocate of the Heart of Illinois Down Syndrome Association. And I missed Spaghetti dinner today. I know I like to work and I forgot it. I attend the family dance party of 2016 and it was good. And thanks for the pizza and everything. And for my life and they cut me out of Manual highs school , and I am sure they do not want me and or such of things. And I was a homeschooled with my grandma and she is a good help and all kinds of things she did for me. (I like music such as) the Beatles , big time rush , gorege harrsion , country songs on 97.3 river country , and I was a member of WCIC and I am joying all of hide songs as well. And I know I did so good on doing music video and all things.



Thanks for having me on the spotlight .

Mother's Day Craft Show

Enjoy this craft show while spending some quality time shopping with your mother or by finding something special for her, all while supporting a good cause.

This event will help raise money for the Heart of Illinois Down Syndrome Association, Inc. (HOIDSA). HOIDSA provides support and resources to individuals with Down syndrome, their families, caregivers, and educators in the Tri-Country Area (Peoria, Tazewell, and Woodford counties).



Located Inside the Avanti's Dome
3401 Griffin Ave. Pekin, IL
Friday, April 29th 4:00pm-8:00pm
Saturday, April 30th 10:00am-3:00pm



Contact/More Information: Marcy Ray (309) 415-0540
Sheri Verardo (309) 346-3663

Facebook: Avanti's Dome
Website: www.avantisdome.com





c/o Bethel Lutheran Church
325 E Queenwood Rd Morton IL 61550

NONPROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PEORIA, IL
PERMIT NO. 455



EDITOR'S REMARKS

Hello Everyone!

Thank you to everyone who helped make our 27th annual spaghetti dinner fundraiser another successful event. I hope you enjoy the pictures on pages 4 & 5. We could not have done this without our generous donors, volunteers, friends, and family members. Thank you so much to all who bought dinners, after-dinner treats, raffle tickets, and auction items; donated gifts and baked goods; and volunteered their time. Thank you to the various entertainment acts for their engaging performances. We also extend a special thank you to Tony and Mary Beth Couri of La Gondola in Decatur, who have been providing the spaghetti for 27 years.

If you have school age children, please consider attending the Examining the Evidence for Inclusion Workshop on April 19th. This workshop is free for everyone!!

Come on out to the Mother's Day Craft Show at the Avanti's Dome in Pekin on April 29th & 30th. The proceeds will benefit HOIDSA!!!

Carol Nepolello c.nepolello@comcast.net

NEW PARENT OPEN HOUSE

*The monthly
"New Parent
Open House"
will not take
place in
April
2016*