

## *Our Purpose:*

*Every day, we renew our commitment to providing choices and opportunities for persons with disabilities and their families through a culture of innovation and caring, to enrich their lives and maximize their independence.*

## *Our Passion:*

*Our Board of Directors, staff, volunteers, and funding partners are passionate about helping those we serve create meaningful days, productive years, and, ultimately, more fulfilling lives.*

## *Our People:*

*New Star serves over 650 children and adults each day whose lives are impacted by mild to profound disabilities. Our service area reaches those living in and around the Chicagoland area and Northwest Indiana.*

*CARF Accredited  
Illinois DHS Licensed  
Indiana FSSA Licensed*

## **A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT/CEO**



*President/CEO  
Dan Strick*

The end of 2017 is bringing exciting changes to New Star, which is sure to make 2018 a special year. This edition of *Abilities* highlights some of these changes. First, we have two new executive staff to help us carry on our mission. Pat Trebe is our new Director of Development and Communications. She started with New Star on August 28. She has a wealth of experience with development and communications work in the south suburbs. Our other new executive staff is Erica Woodley, Vice President of Community Living. Erica began November 6 and has over 15 years of experience working in 24-hour programs for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. It is always a great opportunity to have new and fresh perspectives as we move forward.

New Star is also undertaking an organization-wide initiative to create more opportunities for our consumers to be part of our communities. Years of research has demonstrated that people with disabilities, who actively participate in their community, are healthier and happier. Our day program seems to have a never-ending array of activities planned outside of our buildings. Our group homes are providing more support to assist residents that want to work. Our special recreation services are engaging people with disabilities so they can be active in recreation facilities and programs that include a mix of people from all walks of life. Our new initiative, SCOOT, will break down transportation barriers that prevent some of our consumers from being more involved.

Finally, the end of the year brings many celebratory events. We have our holiday party for all of our consumers. We have another holiday party specifically for the residents of our homes. There will be a staff holiday luncheon, during which we recognize staff accomplishments from throughout the year. We also have our Annual Appeal underway so community members can help support New Star and the people we serve.

In 2017 we accomplished many great things and it went by so quickly. I fully expect 2018 will be even better and all are welcome to be part of the fun.

## SHOOTING STAR SPOTLIGHT: MEET KEVIN

For Kevin, a New Star consumer, working at Olive Garden in Merrillville is “a dream come true.” It was five months ago when Kevin was hired by Olive Garden, and since that time, “Kevin has become one of our family,” said Gene Ritter, Restaurant Manager.

Kevin couldn't wait to tell us about his job. “I love being a host!” He added, “I open doors, take people to their seats, get them silverware, and tell them to enjoy their food.” Of course, there are job perks, too. Kevin gets to taste the restaurant's food! “My favorite is the Cheese Ravioli!” he said.

Kevin works five days a week at the Merrillville restaurant. He gets to and from his job with the help of his care giver and his parents. We asked Kevin to

tell us how his new job has made him a happier person. He shared how much he really enjoys keeping busy, and of course, earning a paycheck. “I like money! I like to save money, and spend a little,” he said. In fact, Kevin is saving up for tickets to the upcoming Comic-Con in St. Charles.

According to Ritter, “Kevin's disability is not a factor at all. His mission is to do the best job that he can.” He added, “Employees like Kevin make working at Olive Garden fun, and once you have that family tie, employees stay longer. Even our customers often request that they be seated by Kevin. His personality is very enduring.” New Star salutes Kevin for a job well done!



*Kevin, front and center, poses with his Olive Garden family in Merrillville.*

## PAT TREBE LEADS NEW STAR'S DEVELOPMENT TEAM

New Star welcomes Pat Trebe as our new Director of Development and Communications. Pat joined the agency this past August. Prior to joining New Star, Pat was the Assistant Director of Annual Giving and Alumni Relations at Moraine Valley Community College Foundation in Palos Hills. Pat managed the annual fund campaign and the alumni relations program for the foundation, the non-profit arm of the college.

Previously, Pat was the Director of Annual Programs for more than six years at Marian Catholic High School where she provided leadership and direction for all fundraising events and programs that produced income for the school. She also served as a fundraising consultant for the Union League Boys and Girls Club of Chicago.



*Director of Development and Communications  
Pat Trebe*

“Pat brings a real understanding of a mission-based fundraising program and has deep roots and relationships in the south suburbs,” said Dan Strick, President/CEO of New Star.

Her communication skills were honed when she was the publicity/promotion manager for Drum Corps International. While she raised her three children, Pat was a freelance writer and wrote extensively for the Chicago Tribune and the Chicago Tribune Media Group. She earned her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Communications from Purdue University Calumet.

## ICDD FUNDS NEW STAR'S "SCOOT" PROJECT

New Star, in cooperation with a grant from the Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities (ICDD), is developing an innovative mobile software application that will provide families and riders with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) a link to real-time transportation options. The project, named SCOOT (Stronger Communities through Open and Organized Transportation), will provide trained and qualified drivers representing community services agencies like New Star.

For individuals with I/DD, transportation is paramount in order to work, learn, live and thrive within their communities. Despite public transportation opportunities, significant barriers to safe, reliable, 24-hour, door-to-door, accessible transportation still exist. Dial-a-ride services have limited hours of operation, and often do not travel outside their jurisdictions. This restricts riders from pursuing employment and community integration beyond their service area or hours. Taxi services (including Uber and Lyft) provide little driver consistency. This leaves families with no assurance that their loved one's limits are clearly understood by the driver, or that he/she is being properly cared for.

SCOOT, once developed, will be free to download in both iOS and Android platforms. The grant and partnership with ICDD is for a period of two years, and we hope to be testing the application by the end of our first year. During the second year, we hope to market and replicate our program across the State of Illinois, for use by other agencies like New Star, and other riders and families across the State.

New Star will be looking for riders and drivers to help run a pilot program to work out any potential "bugs." If you're interested in participating, please contact Kara Pierce at (219) 440-7430 for more information.

## NEW STAR RECEIVES AWARD FROM UNITED WAY



*Jamal takes a break from his janitorial job at Chuck E. Cheese.*

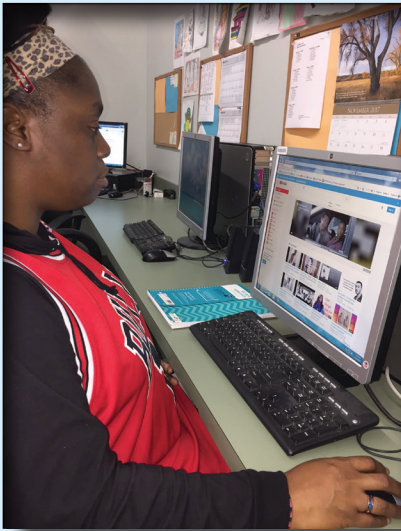
New Star was the recipient of United Way of Metropolitan Chicago's Income Impact Award, at their annual Awards luncheon on June 29, 2017, at the Sheraton Grand Chicago Hotel. New Star received the award for its impact in the area of employment training and opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

"Ensuring that families and individuals have the financial tools that they need to be successful is one of United Way's critical goals," said Maya Hardy, Chief Professional Officer for United Way's South-Southwest Suburban Regional Office. "One of our most unique partners in this work is New Star, a community organization dedicated to challenging the limits and changing the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities through the Chicago region."

Dan Strick, President/CEO of New Star, said, "At New Star, consumers are defined by the limitless potential of their abilities, rather than the perceived limits of their disabilities. That being said, we recognize that success in the workplace often requires a variety of supports, especially in the beginning. That's where our program is making a difference."



## CONSUMERS HAVE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES



*New Star consumer Christina uses the Open Lab time to expand her interests.*

Beginning at 10 a.m. each day, a steady stream of New Star consumers hurry to the Tech Coaching Center at the Chicago Heights campus for specialty classes in a variety of life-skills modules.

“Our consumers love it,” said Clay Berkowitch, New Star staff member who manages the lab and the classes. “They know they have to sign up for the classes because they fill up quickly.”

The center, open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. every day, is designed to help individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities achieve greater independence through the use of technology. The consumers use interactive programs by Attainment Company, a software designer that specializes in instructional software serving people with disabilities.

Modules range from spelling, reading comprehension and math to how to tell time and managing money.

In addition to the individualized classes, consumers have the opportunity to sign up for six different half-hour Open Lab sessions. During Open Lab, consumers are allowed to use the computer for whatever they like with the assistance from Clay.

The lab also has concentrations on job searching, job readiness and skills development. In addition to the bank of eight personal computers in the lab, New Star consumers are trained on iPads for virtual job coaching once they have a job in the community.

The Tech Coaching Center is part of a three-year national partnership between Comcast NBCUniversal and The Arc. The partnership enables Comcast NBCUniversal and The Arc to achieve their shared goals of expanding technology resources for people with I/DD to ensure everyone has the tools to reach his or her highest potential.

---

Janitorial team lead Anthony Sanders teaches New Star consumer Tom how to use a new piece of equipment at the Crete Campus.

Tom is an employee of the New Star Janitorial Program which provides interested consumers the opportunity to receive expert training and work experience as a member of on-site and off-site janitorial teams, said Ryan Tasovac, Janitorial Administrator at New Star.

Currently, 56 individuals work in the program which serve as a training ground for lasting community employment. Many of janitorial employees use their knowledge and hands-on work experience as a springboard to successfully transition into the private sector.



## NEW STAR WELCOMES NEW VP OF COMMUNITY LIVING

Erica Woodley has joined the New Star staff as Vice President of Community Living. She began her new responsibilities on Nov. 6 and brings 18-plus years of experience in a career dedicated to improving the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities. Although Woodley started in the field when she graduated from college in 1999, her inspiration began far sooner.

“My oldest brother was born with a developmental disability,” she said. “He was always my driving force. He died as a result of having a seizure in his sleep at the age of 31 in 2001. I feel that I am continuing to help him by working to advance the lives of people who live with disabilities.”

Her previous experience includes working for the Indiana State Department of Health which, she said, has given her a unique perspective. She is committed to being a strong advocate for both the consumers and their families. “I plan to be a strong advocate for their loved ones. The individuals we serve are our first priority and to help each of them reach their full potential,” she added.

Prior to joining New Star, Woodley was Area Director at Indiana Mentor. In that position, she covered two zones, Merrillville and South Bend. Woodley was also the Area Director for Bethesda Lutheran Communities and Director of Supported Living for ResCare of Northern Indiana, and Director of Operations at The Best Care Service, in Merrillville, Indiana.

“Erica’s extensive experience in Indiana will benefit us well as Illinois moves towards a system supporting people with I/DD that adopts many of the same strategies as those already used in Indiana,” said Dan Strick, President/CEO.

Woodley earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology in 1999 from Purdue University Calumet and received her Master of Business Administration from Indiana Wesleyan University in 2010.



*Vice President of  
Community Living  
Erica Woodley*

## FLOSSMOOR APARTMENTS NEAR COMPLETION



Construction for our new Independent Living Flossmoor Apartments should be complete sometime in December. We anticipate full occupancy by early 2018.

For more information regarding these apartments and other community living opportunities, please contact our Intake Coordinator, Graig Gillis at [ggillis@newstarservices.org](mailto:ggillis@newstarservices.org) or (708) 841-1071 ext. 222.

## NEW STAR FOCUSES ON COMMUNITY INTEGRATION

When New Star consumers visit a museum, a movie theater or even take a day trip to a pumpkin patch, they are participating in much more than an ordinary field trip. By exposing consumers to life outside the four walls of either their home or the New Star buildings, they are given the opportunity to learn new skills to enhance their personal, social and vocational ability, and ultimately be more successful in the community. The model is called community integration and is now an integral part of New Star's focus on consumers.

"Our objective is to expose consumers to new environments on a regular basis," said Erica Gibson, Day Services Administrator. "The goal is for them to develop new skills, explore their personal interests and share them with their friends. We want them to learn



*Some of our consumers and volunteers participated in Dunkin' Donuts' Annual "Cop on a Rooftop" fundraiser, benefiting Illinois Special Olympics!*

both social skills and new job skills, and we achieve this by exposing them to different life experiences." Even small excursions can lead to a more significant experience and opportunity. Recently a group of consumers went to Chicago Dough for lunch. In addition to sitting down in the restaurant with other patrons, the group received a tour of the restaurant and a hands-on pizza making demonstration. On a trip to a movie theater, another group of consumers talked to staff members learning what it was like to work at a movie theater and received a tour of the building and its operation.

"Those experiences were so much more than 'we got to go to lunch' or 'we saw a movie.' They had a broader experience. Plus they were able to see that they may have more job opportunities than they were previously aware of," Gibson said.

Inclusion and community integration is equally important to consumers as it is to the general public, said Meg Cooch, Executive Director of The Arc of Illinois. "It is important not only for the person with disabilities but the entire community," Cooch said. "We all benefit from being able to be a part of a different community. It's a benefit to the community that this person, with all their gifts, can contribute to society."

"Inclusion means someone can go to the movie theater or go to work in a supermarket where they interact with and get to know other people who are older and younger with disabilities and without," she added. That interaction creates awareness to the capabilities of the person with developmental disabilities educating the broader community.

The list of inclusion opportunities can include a variety of activities including trips to places of worship, cultural events, volunteering, educational and job training and much more. In turn, these opportunities benefit the individual by increasing their independence, gaining a higher quality of life, skill development, and slowing the aging process among others.

Michael McNicholas, Director of New Star Recreational Services often sees the benefit of community integration as consumers share fitness facilities with community members. Activities such as Special Olympics and special recreation allows patrons to see people with disabilities show up week after week participating and enjoying the same recreational pursuits that they do, McNicholas said.



## NEW STAR RECREATION SERVICES

New Star Recreation Services (NSRS) continues to open doors for individuals who may otherwise be overlooked. NSRS has expanded its services to welcome military veterans with disabilities through our “Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds” initiative, which is a cooperative with Allen Force. This program pairs qualified veterans and their companions, with fitness opportunities supported by a fitness trainer in their home community.



NSRS is preparing for the upcoming holidays with several holiday-themed program offerings. Some events include a trip to the zoo, an adventure downtown, or if you just need to take a break from the hustle and bustle of it all, NSRS has a program for that too! Starting again in January, NSRS will continue to offer adventures around and outside our local community, along with our staple programs and special events!

Families looking to help expand their child's abilities and skills can do this with the help of NSRS's Lekotek programs. Families learn from our play therapists on how to play and interact with their children with disabilities. This is a wonderful way to have the family interact; having fun while also teaching new skills. The toy lending library is available for those who choose to enroll in this family-engaging program.

## CONSUMER PICNIC FUN

Smiles were abundant at this year's Consumer Picnic, held at New Star's Crete Campus in September! Everyone enjoyed games and activities, prizes, refreshing snow cones, a barbeque lunch, music, and dancing. Staff from all departments and locations worked hard to make this day run smoothly. We also want to send a big thank you to the Crete Fire Department who came out for the day.



A very special thanks goes to everyone who donated food, pop, water, and prizes for our event!

## SUCCESSFUL GOLF OUTING

It was a sizzling day for golf as this year's "Fore the Future" outing was held on Monday, September 25, at Idlewild Country Club. Being held each year in late September, our guests typically enjoy a cool, fall day before they retire their clubs for the winter. Temperatures were in the upper 80's, and golfers were applying sun screen all day! But, this didn't stop 92 golfers from having a great time!

Guests enjoyed a complimentary lunch, 18-holes of golf, games, prizes, cocktails, and dinner. Proceeds were raised through the sale of golf and sponsorship packages, raffles, donations, and a silent auction. Larger sponsorships included complimentary golf and dinner, while others offered a variety of different marketing opportunities.

We are pleased to report that this year's event was hugely successful, having succeed all our target goals. We raised more than \$24,000 for our life-changing programs and services that directly support our more than 650 individuals whom we serve. New Star would like to thank all those who attended, our sponsors, donors and volunteers for helping make the event hugely successful.

### Event Sponsors

Don and Marchelle Goens  
Old Plank Trail Community Bank,  
A Wintrust Bank

### Dinner Sponsors

FSH Communications  
The Horton Group  
Thornton Township,  
Supervisor Frank M. Zuccarelli

### Eagle Sponsors

Action Sertoma  
Mutual of America  
Sutton Auto Group

### Lunch Sponsors

Diana Goens  
Hiland Enterprises  
Southland Smiles

### Games Sponsors

Calumet City Plumbing  
Providence Bank

### Hole Sponsors

Chicago Heights Rotary, Randal and Carole Dawson,  
Don Spender Lawn Care, Freeh's Again, New Star  
Board of Directors, Meany Electric, NIR Roof Care,  
Paige Business Ventures, Pioneer Concepts, Quality  
Control Systems, Rees Automotive, Al Reid, Safer  
Foundation, Skyline Movers, The Signal Guys,  
Southland Smiles, The Semprevivo Family, Jim and  
Theresa Unnerstall, and Van Drunen Heating & Air  
Conditioning

### Donors

The Burnetsky Family, Bradley Byrd, Kelly Christie,  
Mike Conway, Carl DiGangi, Dixon Golf, Charles and  
Ruth Dowdle, Shirley Drewenski, Elmwood Chapel,  
Glenwoodie Golf Club, Homewood Aurelio's, Idlewild  
Country Club, Ingalls Occupational Health, JJ Kelley's,  
Lincoln Oaks Golf Course, Lincolnshire Country  
Club, Odyssey Country Club, Mary Mayer, Audrey  
McFarlin State Farm, Paulie's Pub, Al Reid, Mr. and  
Mrs. Nick Shizas, and Wintrust





## POSSABILITY PARTNERS STORM SPRINGFIELD!

New Star's "PossABILITY Partners" visited Springfield in early November to participate in the "Speak Up and Speak Out" summit, sponsored by The Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities. Congratulations to all our consumers for their self-advocacy efforts. You are making a difference!!!



Back Left to Right: Cindy, April, Sue, Lynn, Willard, Shentie, Bob, Brian  
Front Left to Right: Eddie, Brenda



Tavarus speaks about why it's important for people with disabilities to vote.



Eddie, a member of New Star's "PossABILITY Partners" and the LGBTQ group "Proud and Included," presents a role plan during his presentation at "Speak Up and Speak Out."

## SAVE THESE DATES

**Annual Gala:** Saturday, March 24, 6:00 p.m., Villa Cesare, Schererville, Indiana. Join us for our largest fundraising event of the year. Enjoy dinner, dancing, silent & live auctions, entertainment and dancing, while helping to raise funds in support of our programs and services.

**Annual Wine Tasting:** Date TBD, Old Plank Trail Community Bank, Crete, Illinois. A variety of premiere wines will be offered from top vineyards around the world. Guests will receive tastings from each of these wines, a complimentary wine glass, and a limited selection of hors d'oeuvres.

## NEW STAR WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBERS

### **Ryan Dunigan**

Ryan Dunigan, a litigation associate at Winston Strawn in the firm's Chicago office, is an active participant in the firm's pro bono program, and has represented clients in federal and state courts. Ryan is currently a commissioner for the City of Chicago's Commission on Human Relations, a body charged with enforcing the Chicago Human Rights Ordinance and the Chicago Fair Housing Ordinance. A member of the Chicago Bar Association, Ryan serves on its Judicial Evaluation Committee.



Formerly, Ryan served as the Deputy Director for the Illinois Department of Human Rights, which is tasked with investigating claims of discrimination brought pursuant to the Illinois Human Rights Act. He oversaw day-to-day operations of the Department which had a staff of approximately 130 people and a \$15 million budget.

A graduate of DePaul University, Ryan received a bachelor of arts in Public Policy, magna cum laude, in 2008. He earned his law degree and Masters in Public Policy in 2012 from the University of Chicago Law School and the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy.



### **Marchelle Goens**

Marchelle Goens, a Certified Public Accountant, is a retired IRS Revenue Agent who specialized in auditing non-profit organizations. Formerly, she was a manager at Ameritech/Illinois Bell and a staff accountant at Dow Chemical and NICOR Gas.

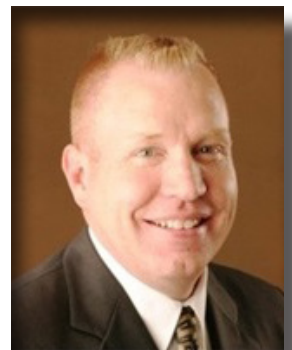
A committed volunteer in her community, Marchelle is a member of The Links Incorporated, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, and associate member of Flossmoor Service League, and Jack and Jill of America. Marchelle also served as a member of the boards of education for School District 161 and SPEED School District 802.

Marchelle and her husband, Don, are members of the New Faith Baptist Church in Matteson, IL and have three children, Dr. Dawna Goens Leggett, Diana Morgan Goens, a New Star consumer, and Dr. Donald Goens.

Marchelle earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Accountancy from Indiana University, Bloomington and her Masters in Management in Finance/Marketing from Kellogg Graduate School of Management, Northwestern University.

### **Rick Thiernau**

Rick Thiernau is President of Thiernau Financial Services, Inc., in Dyer, Indiana. He has over 34 years of experience in the financial planning profession. Rick has a demonstrated track record of financial leadership and sound business practices.



When he is not conceptualizing solutions that will help clients reach their financial goals, Rick has a personal philosophy of "service above self," that was instilled by his parents, and his faith. Boy Scouts and Eagle Scouts molded his ethical beliefs, while constant involvement in Rotary International in his community, international mission work, and a focus on clean drinking water for the world, continues to remind him to put the needs of others first.

Rick earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Bradley University and a Master of Science degree in Financial Services, from the American College, Bryn Mawr. His licenses and accreditations include Chartered Life Underwriter, Chartered Financial Consultant, Certified Fund Specialist, Accredited Estate Planner, Professional Plan Consultant TM Life, Health Insurance Licenses and Series 6, 7, 24, and 63 securities registrations.



## IN MEMORIAM

Thank you to the following donors for making gifts in Memoriam since our last publication of *Abilities*.

### Susan DiGangi:

Mr. Thomas Munizzi

### Bobby Johnson:

Ms. Margaret Blume  
Dr. and Mrs. Bernard Heilicser

### Ed Marszewski:

Ms. Mary Kuzma

### Lindy Michelon:

Mrs. Geraldine Mokry

### Michael Reagan:

Mrs. Beverly Allen  
Ms. GiGi Anderson  
Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Baker  
Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Becker  
Mr. and Mrs. Clark Borchard  
Ms. Beth Bulow  
Mr. and Mrs. Allan Campbell  
Mary L. Campbell  
Mrs. Frances Capriotti  
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Cholke  
Mr. Gene Cialkowski  
Ms. Susan De Vries  
Mr. Jim Dee  
Ms. Betty Faso  
Ms. Sharon Ferrin

### Michael Reagan (cont.):

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Gale  
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Hebda  
Mr. Ken Hosty  
Independence Tube Corporation  
Mr. Joseph Klyczek  
Ms. Nancy Meyer  
Ms. Suzanne Mitts  
Ms. Sonja Moliter  
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Mysz  
Mr. and Mrs. Erasmo Ochoa  
Mr. Eddie Ochoa  
M. Bernadette Patton  
Mr. and Mrs. James Patton  
Mr. Joe Pisterzi  
Ms. Ruth Plumley  
Mrs. Mary Jo Regan  
Mr. and Mrs. David Rice  
Ms. Rhonda Smith  
Ms. Renee Smith  
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Smith  
Mr. N. Richard Stelter  
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Teixeira  
Ms. Jacqueline Thompson  
Mr. and Mrs. Joe Tokarczyk  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Trezise  
Ms. Sharon L. Trezise  
Ms. Catherine Veen

### Oscar Santosefano:

Mr. and Mrs. Gary Cox

### Michael Scukanec:

Ms. Carilyn Anderson  
Ms. Erica Barber  
James Christopher  
Enviro Resources II, Inc.  
Mr. Gregory Erjavac  
Mr. Jeff Harrington  
Ms. Jennifer Hennen  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Laurila  
Ms. Marianne Mayer  
Ms. Jennifer McMullen  
Ms. Virginia Neugebauer  
Ms. Carol Petek  
Ms. Kimberley Rose  
Mrs. Michael Scukanec  
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Siranovic  
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Smith  
Mr. Doug Woolman

## IN HONORARIUM

Thank you to the following donors for making gifts in Honorarium since our last publication of *Abilities*.

### Diana Goens:

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Baskerville  
Mr. and Mrs. Sterling Burke  
Ms. Joyce Carter  
Ms. Melady Cartwright  
Mr. and Mrs. Randal Dawson  
Mr. and Mrs. Andre Hughes  
Ms. Anita Jackson  
Ms. Joni Jackson  
Ms. Gwendolyn Lee  
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Lewis  
Ms. Rochelle Mathews  
Ms. Lisa Robertson  
Ms. Mallory Sutton

### Mr. and Mrs. Richard Semprevivo:

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Clark  
Ms. Mildred Disabato  
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Heeney  
Mr. Michael Heeney  
Heeney Funeral Home  
Mr. and Mrs. Carl Sanders  
Mr. Oswald Sartori  
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Semprevivo  
Ms. Diane Semprevivo  
Mrs. Kristy Semprevivo-Smith  
Ms. Verda Tures  
Ms. Marge Wagner

### Mr. John Spellmen

Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Spellman



NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
South Holland, IL 60473  
Permit No. 673

1624 East 154th Street  
Dolton, Illinois 60419

Address Service Requested

WORK

LEARN

LIVE

THRIVE

[www.newstarservices.org](http://www.newstarservices.org)



/WeAreNewStar



/NewStarTweets

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**Day Programs and Administrative Offices are Closed:**

November 23:	Thanksgiving Day
November 24:	Thanksgiving Observance
December 15:	Staff Appreciation
December 23-29:	Holiday Observance
January 1:	New Year Day
January 15:	Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday
February 19:	President's Day
March 30:	Good Friday
April 27 & 30:	All Staff In-Service Training
May 28:	Memorial Day

**Upcoming Events:**

December 7:	Consumer Holiday Party
December 13:	Community Living Holiday Star Party
Date TBD:	Wine Tasting Old Plank Trail Community Bank Crete, Illinois 6:30 p.m.
March 24:	Annual Gala Villa Cesare Schererville, Indiana 6:00 p.m.

*Abilities* is a news publication of New Star, a not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) organization that resulted from the 2016 merger of New Hope Center and SouthSTAR Services. New Star's mission is to provide choices and opportunities for persons with disabilities and their families through a culture of innovation and caring, to enrich their lives and maximize their independence. Collectively, we offer our consumers and their families over 110 years of history and experience in providing job training and employment, daily life skills enrichment, senior care, residential services, and special recreation to over 650 children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, residing in the Chicagoland area and Northwest Indiana.