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Keeping *children* safe, strengthening *families*, and building healthy *communities* since 1899.

# The BUZZ@ Bethany

for Children & Families

Serving the bi-state community since 1899 AUGUST 2011

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## Family Awards Night

CALLING ALL NOMINATIONS!  
Thursday, November 3, 2011

6:00 p.m.

River Center  
136 E. Third Street  
Davenport, Iowa



Save the date of Thursday, November 3, 2011, to celebrate the individuals, families, and businesses in the Quad Cities who have made a positive difference in the lives of others. Bethany for Children & Families invites you to submit nominations in one or several of the following categories:

- Ruth Evelyn Katz Adoptive Family of the Year
- Foster Family of the Year
- Leadership Family of the Year
- Corporation of the Year
- Youth Philanthropist of the Year
- Community Service Group of the Year



Nominations must be submitted no later than **Friday, September 16**. Nominees must be located within a 60 mile radius of the Quad Cities Area and may be asked to provide additional information. A selection committee is comprised of Honorary Directors of Bethany for Children & Families' Board. Residents from the Quad Cities area and other nonprofit organizations and corporations are encouraged to submit nominations. Winners will receive their honors at the Family Awards Night.



# Upcoming Events

## Blood Drive

Tuesday, September 20, 2011

11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Bethany for Children & Families Gymnasium

1830 6th Avenue, Moline, Illinois

Stop by on your lunch hour or whenever it is convenient and donate blood! Your donation could provide lifesaving blood products for up to three patients in need. To sign up for an appointment time, please call Pat McKillip at 309-736-6635.



## Did you know?

- Approximately 32,000 pints of blood are used each day in the United States.
- One out of every five people entering hospitals needs blood.
- Blood centers often run short of type "O" and type "B" blood.
- The actual blood donation usually takes less than 10 minutes. The entire process from when you sign in to the time you leave, takes about 45 minutes to one hour.
- 40% of the population is eligible to donate—only 5% do on a yearly basis.

## Participating sponsors:



## "BLUE THONG NIGHT"

Grab your friends, watch the Quad Cities River Bandits, and support Bethany! Tuesday, August 23, is *Blue Thong Night* at Modern Woodmen Park. Purchase tickets by calling Diane Laake at 563-340-0735 or emailing [dlaake@circa21.com](mailto:dlaake@circa21.com) and a portion of the ticket sales benefit the programs and services of Bethany for Children & Families. Stay after the game for activities for the kids on the field! The QC Chapter of the Blue Thong Society is a network of women dedicated to having fun and giving back to the community. Hurry, there are only 100 tickets available!



# Awards and Excellence

- MOTIVATION
- EXCELLENCE
- RESPONSIBILITY
- INTEGRITY
- TEAM WORK



The monthly MERIT award recognizes an employee for distinguished service to the agency. MERIT awardees are nominated by their peers or members of the community and are recognized for their outstanding commitment to children and families served by Bethany.

## May 2011 Award Winner



**Nancy Shaffer**  
Adoption Specialist

The nomination for Nancy stated, *"Nancy has repeatedly gone above and beyond her job responsibilities over the past several months. She has completed multiple adoptive placements and home studies while managing to complete her other daily duties without interruption. While Nancy's workload has been extraordinary in nature over the course of the past few months, her attitude has remained very positive, and her motivation to build families through adoption has risen significantly."*

## June 2011



**Johanna Dusenberry**  
Receptionist

The nomination for Johanna stated, *"Johanna serves as the bridge between Bethany's Moline and Davenport offices. She goes out of her way to assist her Davenport coworkers with resources and other vital items of operations between the two offices. Johanna is very tech-savvy and offers to assist others with computer problems, the copy machine, fax machine, etc. Johanna provides ideas, suggestions, and useful information to help make everyone's job easier, and maintains a positive attitude."*

# The Generosity of the Quad Cities

## Carpet Cleaning

Thank you to students and staff from the **Pathways Program** at **McGladrey** for shampooing carpets in Bethany's Moline office on Wednesday, June 29. The volunteers also spent the afternoon washing toys, basketballs, and transported donated mattresses.



The McGladrey group poses for a photo in front of the Bethany sign.

## Mattresses

Thank you to **Comfort Inn & Suites** of LeClaire, Iowa, for donating over 11 queen size mattresses and box springs to Bethany's Family Furniture Assistance program! The beds were given to families in the Quad Cities.



Four students from the Pathways Program at McGladrey hauled the mattresses and box springs to Bethany's Moline office.



## Backpacks & School Supplies

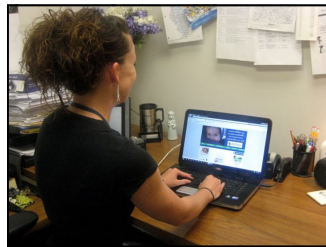
Thank you to the **Blue Thong Society** for donating backpacks, lunch bags, notebooks, and other school supplies for children at Bethany. Don't forget, August 23 is Blue Thong Night at the River Bandits. A portion of ticket sales from the Blue Thong Society event benefits the programs and services of Bethany!



Natalia was excited when she chose this colorful backpack to go back to school.

## Laptop computers

Thank you to **First Congregational Church** of Moline for granting Bethany three laptop computers. This new equipment allows workers to increase their productivity and efficiency which in turn helps them serve their clients more effectively.



Staff members are able to work more efficiently with their new laptops.

# In Memory

Bethany for Children & Families is deeply saddened by the passing of **Esta Helpenstell**, Vice President of the Amy Helpenstell Foundation, former Chair of the Bethany Board of Directors from 1979-1983, and Honorary Director of the Bethany Board.



Photo courtesy of CFGRB

**Esta Helpenstell**  
1932-2011

Esta died on August 5, 2011, at the age of 78. She was very involved throughout the community and touched many lives. Esta and her husband Franz (Bud) established the Amy Helpenstell Foundation in honor of their daughter, Amy, who passed away in 2003 from complications of an eating disorder. The foundation has given generously to Bethany over the years to help fund programs in which the Helpenstells strongly believe.

## Why we give to Bethany

"The Binky Patrol is devoted to helping children and families in need – no strings attached. The blankets and quilts that we make are given to Bethany and many other well deserving local organizations. It's our mission and we are so happy to do this."

- **Nancy Hyman**  
Group Leader, Binky Patrol



## Bethany's Clothing Pantry



Have your children grown out of their summer clothes already? Is it time to clean out your closet to prepare for cooler weather? Don't forget about Bethany's clothing pantry located in the lower level of the Davenport office at 1202 W. Third Street. Donations of clean and gently used clothing are welcome between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.



One of the many shelves of men's, women's, and children's clothing in the pantry.

# Program Spotlight

## Therapeutic Recreation Program

Bethany for Children & Families' Therapeutic Recreation Program (TRP) has been busy this summer! Check out some of the exciting places they have visited and people who have visited them.

### Chasson Randle

Rock Island's Chasson Randle, who was chosen as Gatorade Illinois Boys Player of the Year, visited the TRP this summer. He spoke about his work ethic and determination, which played a huge role in getting him to where he is today. "Randle is a true gentleman and a great inspiration for the youth. Not only is he a fantastic basketball player, but he also was the class Valedictorian at Rock Island High School, and he is going to Stanford University," said Clay Huffstutler, TRP Supervisor.



Chasson Randle signs autographs and takes pictures with the TRP kids.

### Springfield, Illinois



Clay Huffstutler stands with two students outside the museum.

On Tuesday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, Bethany's TRP and Juvenile Justice Diversion Program visited the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, Illinois. They were able to watch two educational presentations on the history of Lincoln. The one titled, "Ghosts of the Library," explains the presidential library and helps viewers to see how history comes alive in a museum.

### River Bandits

Next, the TRP was visited by Ryan Copeland and Aiden Lucas of the Quad Cities River Bandits, who spoke to the youth about the importance of having goals and working hard to achieve those goals. Both players knew since they were children that they wanted to play in the major leagues and have worked hard to see those dreams come true. They stressed that for the youth to reach their goals they have to start somewhere and have to work hard.



Ryan and Aiden pose with TRP student, Isaac, for a picture.

# TRP Out and About

### Circa '21

Additionally, the group went to Circa '21 Dinner Playhouse and saw the play "If You Give a Mouse a Cookie." The kids really enjoyed the show, something they may not have been able to experience outside of this program. Thank you to Circa '21 for the discounted tickets!



Staff and students stand outside Circa '21 Dinner Playhouse.

### Around the QC

The TRP also went to a River Bandit's game, visited the John Deere Pavilion, and saw the Field of Dreams. "The youth work hard and have a lot of expectations placed on them throughout the school year," said Huffstutler. He went on to explain that not only are they expected to attend school all day, but then the kids also come to the TRP in the afternoon. Given where they come from, they are all a few steps behind academically and/or socially and they have to work twice as hard. "For the summer months, my staff and I try to structure the day so the group can have as much fun as possible while still focusing on the educational component of the program and also allowing the kids to experience activities they would otherwise not have," explained Huffstutler.

### About TRP

The TRP is an after-school program for children within the Blackhawk Area Special Education District and Illinois Quad Cities, designed for troubled youth between the ages of eight and 17. The program uses leisure and recreational activities in a constructive way. It also provides anger management training with an emphasis on developing positive social relationships.

The TRP provides a safe and nurturing recreational and learning environment in which staff members challenge troubled youth to replace problematic behaviors with appropriate social skills. Increased emotional and social competency allows them to succeed not only in their educational settings, but also at home and in the community.

