

# The CIDSO News

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 2

MAY 15, 2010

## *"A Brighter Tomorrow"*

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## 29th Annual CIDSO Open Golf Tournament

It's almost that time again. Time to clean your clubs, polish your shoes, and head on out for a weekend of fun. The 29th annual CIDSO golf tournament is almost here. The annual CIDSO Open is typically held each year on the first Saturday in June. The Weibring Golf Club at Illinois State University is the home for the event. This is the primary fund raiser for CIDSO and is critical to the organization's ability to provide funds for improving the lives of those touched by Down syndrome. Please join us this year on...



### **Gala: Friday, June 4, 2010 - Bone Student Center Ballroom**

Doors open at the Illinois State University Bone Student Center Ballroom at 6:00 PM for a social hour (cash bar), with dinner served at 7:30. A silent auction will run from 6:00 to 9:00 PM. Friday night gala tickets are \$25.00 per person.

### **Golf: Saturday, June 5, 2010 - Weibring Golf Club at Illinois State University**

Entry fees are \$160.00 (one golfer, one Gala ticket, awards luncheon and gift pack); \$170.00 (one golfer two Gala tickets, awards luncheon and gift pack); and \$800.00 (golf fivesome, ten Gala tickets, awards luncheon and gift packs). Pick up a registration form at the Weibring Golf Club at Illinois State University, contact CIDSO, or [register online](#) today!. Check-in at the golf course opens Saturday, June 5, at 6:30 AM, with a continental breakfast served until 8:15. Shotgun start at 8:30 and an awards luncheon following play at 2:00 PM.

# The Illinois Budget Crisis, Special Needs Trusts and You

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## *"Securing the Future for Your Loved One"*

Sometimes reality can hit us all smack in the face. That is what you should be feeling if you are following closely what is happening in Illinois to people with disabilities as the governor and the legislature wrangle with the budget.

Illinois is already ranked 47th in community services in the United States. It certainly does not appear that it is going to get any better. The budget crisis is going to cause pain across the board to us in the disabilities community. Whether you are looking for government assistance with medical bills, housing, social services, or recreational opportunities, chances are very good that benefits will be less in your child's future.

What does this mean to you? It means that you must orient your thinking to rely less on the government and more on your personal resources to provide for your child's future. This is where the Special Needs Trust comes into play. A Special Needs Trust is set up to allow for the care of your child usually after you have passed on. It is designed to provide money for your child to supplement those services the government is providing. As noted above, the services the government will be providing in your child's future will likely be less rather than more.

This means your Special Needs Trust must be set up and funded to play an even larger role in your child's future. Properly funding your trust is important to your child. Any amount you can set aside is better than nothing at all. You will be trusting somebody to be the caregiver for your child after you are gone and that person cannot perform his or her duties on behalf of your child without any money available.

Use this budget crisis as a wakeup call to get your financial and legal affairs in order for your child. We don't need tea leaves to see this future and determine what each of needs to do to be ready.

# The Illinois Association of Microboards and Cooperative presents

## 3rd Annual The Gathering.

The 3rd Annual The Gathering is to be held this year in Bloomington on June 27th and June 28th. There is a great line-up of speakers and presentations—a little something for everyone. Please read on below for a small sample of the two days...for more details, the program and registration forms can be found at [www.iambc.org](http://www.iambc.org). For more information or questions, you can call Susan Barnhart, RN, MS, MAEd at 309-224-4093.



Sunday will be all about Creating a Quality of Life. The conference will start with a “not-to-miss” presentation by the renowned speaker and entertainer Peter Liedy who will facilitate and interactive workshop on community building called—Beyond Outings: Community Building and Supporting a Sense of Belonging. Peter speaks and conducts workshops throughout the country. Peter also writes and sings humorous and thought-provoking songs about life in the human service system and is an award-winning singing commentator.

Monday will be all about Laying the Foundations of Your Dreams. This will include breakout sessions on housing options, employment opportunities, person-centered planning, and supporting communication. The keynotes of the day will be Tony Paulauski, Executive Director of the ARC presenting Strange Times in Illinois; the Importance of Advocacy. Tony is considered, both state-wide and nationally, a strong advocate for people with developmental disabilities and their families. He is a registered lobbyist with the State of Illinois and produces a daily news blog on disability issues which is widely read by advocates. His writings are also available on the ARC website, [www.thearcofil.org](http://www.thearcofil.org).

The luncheon speaker for Monday is Joe Steffy of Poppin Joe’s Kettle Korn. The Steffys’ first explored the concept of Poppin Joe’s Kettle Korn in October 2000. P.J.K.K. was officially launched in April 2005 with Joe Steffy as the sole proprietor, and it was established to provide Joe, a young adult with DS-ASD, the opportunity to operate and manage his own business. By doing so, Joe has developed an excellent work ethic and realizes the value of good hard work. Supported by a loving family, Joe’s business continues to grow each year. Poppin Joe’s Kettle Korn can now be found poppin at Wal-Mart, fairs, craft shows, car shows and events throughout the area. In addition, Poppin Joe’s is involved in raising funds for charitable organizations and is enjoyed at office and snack locations throughout the Greater Kansas City Area. Poppin Joes proudly supports our troops in Iraq by shipping numerous bags of kettle korn overseas for their enjoyment.

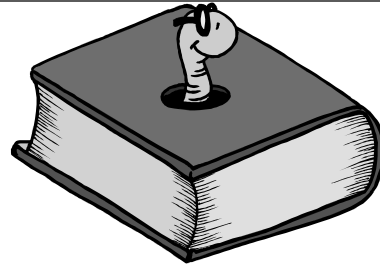
## Buddy Walk Bulletin Board

The Buddy Walk committee has started meeting! Yes that 's right, we 'v e started to get together to plan for this popular event. The Buddy Walk is scheduled for October 2nd at Prairieland Elementary School. As information is available, it will be updated on this Buddy Walk Bulletin Board. Keep your eyes peeled over the summer for tips, updates and all sorts of goodies relating to the Buddy Walk.

Our first bit of information pertains to our beloved four legged friends. Please note that although pets are welcome to the Buddy Walk, and have been increasing in attendance numbers, they will not be allowed into Prairieland Elementary. Let 's keep Fido outside! More to come soon!

## Book Review...A Spy at Home

As a parent of a child with Down syndrome, Joseph M. Rinaldo has written a novel with a realistic Down character. Garrison, Noah 's father, may be telling about his life as a CIA operative supporting rebellion against anti-American governments, but Noah steals the story. Noah is not the stereotypical overly loving child with Down, and the other characters treat him with the respect we all want shown to our children.



A Spy at Home presents parenting a child with Down syndrome in a touching light. It can be found as an ebook at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).

## Gifts and Memorials



CIDSO would like to thank the following organizations and individuals for their generous contributions.

\* Grand Trunk Western Railroad Company for Dominick Bullinger \*Clara Fry \* Illinois Agricultural Auditing Association \*State Farm \*Erna Harms

\*John Hinrichs \*The Center for Orthopedic Medicine

## Mark the Date

**June 4th and 5th:**  
*CIDSO Open & Gala*

**June 28th & 29th :**  
*Microboard seminar.*

**July 26th:** *Board Meeting*

**August 28:** *CIDSO Picnic at Fairview*

**October 2nd:** *Buddy Walk*

### **Disclaimer Policy**

The editor of this newsletter writes as a non-professional. CIDSO does not promote any therapy, treatment, institution or professional system, etc. Please discuss specific concerns with your health care professional.