



Jacksonville Area Center for Independent Living

August 2017

# CONNECTIONS



## JACIL celebrates 20 years with Open House

by Roger Deem

The Jacksonville Area Center for Independent Living celebrated its 20th anniversary on July 27 with a Chamber After Hours and Open House event at its Permac Road headquarters.

From its simple beginnings in 1997 with the first employee (Executive Director Becky McGinnis), JACIL has grown steadily and been able to affect the lives of hundreds of central Illinois citizens with disabilities. It has also educated thousands of people about the challenges we all face in regards to accessibility, particularly through our annual awareness programs in the local schools.

The Open House provided an opportunity to share with our supporters and the public information about our programs and our history. Displays were set up all over the building and tours of our facility were provided.

Refreshments were served and the members of the JACIL staff and board were on hand to greet and converse with those who attended.

JACIL offers its sincere thanks to everyone who has supported our agency over the past two decades as we work together to improve the lives of people with disabilities



*A Chamber of Commerce Ribbon Cutting ceremony began the festivities. From Left: Paul Pyers, Becky McGinnis, Martha Hauck, Guy Crumley, Larry Whewell, Mayor Andy Ezard, Kathy Price, Mark Peters, Chamber Executive Director Lisa Musch, Mark Metz.*



*A great crowd of supporters kept us busy over the entire two-hour event.*







*State Senator Sam McCann greets a young visitor.*



*Andrew Holtschlag enjoys watching JACIL's history in pictures.*



*Jeannie Jones visits DeDe Summers in her office.*

## Illinois Association for the Deaf honors JACIL's Deloris Summers

The Illinois Association for the Deaf recently honored JACIL's own Deloris Summers with its prestigious Spirit of the IAD Award. Following is a transcript of the presentation:

Deloris is a witty individual being quick with funny comments or remarks. She values knowledge and competence, and usually has little patience with inefficiency or disorganization.

Deloris has continued to push for improvements in outcomes for the deaf and hard of hearing community, never being satisfied with the status quo. Deloris was instrumental in getting Text-to-911 implemented in the Jacksonville area insuring improved communication access for individuals in the area.

We salute Deloris on her extraordinary accomplishments. She is one of our strongest advocates and she has our appreciation for the contributions she has made in Illinois.

Congratulations, Deloris Summers!



*Lucy & Jim Harper play Who Wants to Be a Millionaire with questions about JACIL's history.*



*Barb Nicholson checks out the many displays erected for the anniversary open house.*



# CAFÉ

## Illinois Assistive Technology Program

by Larry Whewell

JACIL's monthly KIP Café is scheduled for August 31 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The guest speakers will be Lynette Strode and Robin Richard from the Illinois Assistive Technology Program (IATP). This agency is located in Springfield and serves the entire state of Illinois.

IATP has many different services; one of their main programs is loaning assistive devices.

Anyone can borrow an assistive device and try it out for a few weeks to make sure it will work for them. This "try before you buy" opportunity helps people avoid purchasing an item that does not do what they thought it was going to do.

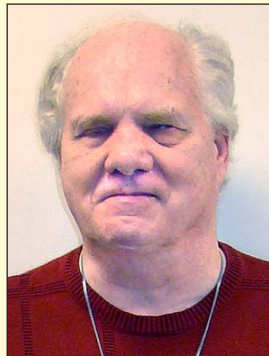
Another program IATP offers is a financial loan to purchase adaptive devices and equipment at a low-interest rate. The speakers will tell about all their programs and will bring several devices to look at and try out that day.

A light lunch will be available and an American Sign Language interpreter will be present.

Call (217) 245-8371 by August 30 to make reservations.

### Making Computers Fun

JACIL is sponsoring a computer class for people who are blind or have low vision. These classes begin September 7 and will take place every Thursday afternoon from 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. for 12 weeks.



Dan Thompson

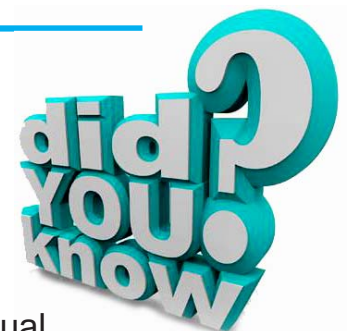
Dan Thompson will be teaching the classes. If you cannot attend one class, you can make it up the next week. The Making Computers Fun program has two levels. First is a series of 29 lessons divided into five clusters. The second level covers computer access games designed for individuals who are blind or have low vision. There will be about 75 different games that can be installed on your computer.

For more information call (217) 245-8371 and ask for Larry Whewell .

### QUICK FACTS:

- Thursday, August 31
- Time: 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
- Illinois Assistive Technology Program
- Call (217) 245-8371
- RSVP by August 30
- Light lunch: free
- ASL interpreter: Yes!

Did you know that, according to the 2010 Census, on average, one out of every five adult, USA, citizens has a disability? The ratio is actual closer to one in four in JACIL's service area due to the presence of the schools for the deaf and the visually impaired.





# People First is Aktion Club Holding a Fundraiser

by: Cyndy Benton

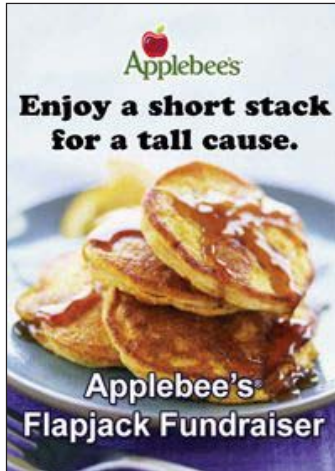
On August 12 from 8:00 until 10:00 a.m., the People First Aktion Club will hold a Flapjack Fundraiser at Applebee's Restaurant, located at 1721 W. Morton Ave.

Flapjack breakfast tickets are \$5.00 each, with the Club receiving the majority of the money.

The Flapjack breakfast comes with bacon and drinks.

While enjoying a great meal, you also be will helping the club meet its goals in community service and education, advocacy and peer mentoring.

The People First Aktion Club has a long history of helping its community through its nu-



merous service projects, volunteerism and advocacy actions. Club members have demonstrated through their actions that people with disabilities can be contributing members of their communities.

The People First Aktion Club is co-sponsored by JACIL and the Kiwanis Club of Jacksonville.

The \$5.00 tickets are available from club members and at the JACIL office.

## QUICK FACTS:

- Good deal! \$5 for pancakes, bacon, & drink
- When: Aug 12, 8-10 am
- Where: Applebee's
- Fundraiser for: Action Club
- Provides Community Service projects
- Support people with disabilities!
- Buy tickets from Club members or at JACIL
- Questions? Call JACIL



## APP-HAPPY Smart Phone Services

by Roger Deem

### IDEAL Currency Identifier

Available from the Google Play Store at no cost, the IDEAL Currency Identifier app is a great aid for people who have with vision disabilities.

It can be used to identify U.S. currency notes. You simply open the app and scan the front or the back of any U.S. note and it will speak the denomination.



by Kathy Price

Each issue Kathy will answer your questions about anything--from household hints to the price of tea in China.

Please e-mail your question to her at [kathy@jacil.org](mailto:kathy@jacil.org).

This Month's Question: My family loves smoothies but my blender doesn't. The blades keep getting blocked up. Can you help?

Kathy says: When whipping up smoothies, pour the liquid ingredients into the blender first before adding the chunky bits. Then the blades won't clog up.



## AUGUST CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Tue 1 Knollwood 20/20 Support Group - 9:30
- Wed 2 Friends Helping Friends Action Club - 3:45 to 4:45 p.m.
- Thu 10 VisAbility Support Group - 10:30 a.m. to Noon
- Tue 15 Cass County Vision Support Group - 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.
- Wed 16 Visions Support Group in Havana - 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.
- Wed 16 People First Aktion Club - 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.
- Wed 23 Webinar at JACIL: *Right to Accessible Healthcare:  
Focus on Deaf & Hard of hearing*  
Time: 1:00. to 3:00 p.m.  
Webinar Presenter: Andrés Gallegos, Attorney
- Thu 31 KIP Café - 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
Topic: *Illinois Assistive Technology Program*  
Speakers: Lynette Strode & Robin Richard

"JACIL Connections" is published by the Jacksonville Area Center for Independent Living. JACIL is organized to serve people with disabilities in Morgan, Scott, Cass and Mason Counties. JACIL is committed to serving persons with disabilities to gain control and direction of their lives in the home, workplace and community. JACIL's goal is to stimulate and promote a growing sense of personal dignity through individualized services designed to provide the tools necessary for maximum independence and community participation. We invite your comments and suggestions.

JACKSONVILLE AREA CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING  
15 Permac Road, Jacksonville, IL 62650

Office Hours:  
MONDAY-FRIDAY 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

217-245-8371 Voice/TTY • 217-245-1872 Fax  
888-317-3287 Toll Free  
In Mason County call (309) 543-6680  
866-790-5311 Deaf Advocate's Toll Free Videophone Line  
E-mail: [info@jacil.org](mailto:info@jacil.org)  
Website: [www.jacil.org](http://www.jacil.org)



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15 Permac Road  
Jacksonville, Illinois 62650

