



Serving Kansans with disabilities



Message from the Executive Director
By Chad A. Wilkins

Every four years we elect a new president, and that time has come again. On November 4, 2008, the people of the United States will elect our new leader. Voting is a very important part of advocacy. This is a time when you, a resident of this great nation, have a voice in the issues that affect us all.

Page 2 of this newsletter has an article by Anne-Marie Hughey, a legislative advocate for people with disabilities, about the importance of making your voice heard.

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Enclosed you will find a voter registration card; if you're not registered to vote, please take time to fill out the application, detach the application at the dotted line, and mail it to the Secretary of State's office. **October 20, 2008** is the deadline to register, so please fill out your voter registration application and mail it in today. And then, most importantly, be sure to vote on **November 4, 2008!**

Don't Forget!

Fishing Has No Boundaries
September 27-28, 2008
El Dorado State Lake

Every angler with a disability is invited to the 2008 Fishing Has No Boundaries event in El Dorado! This two day event comes complete with boats, guides, fishing buddies, bait, adaptive fishing equipment, and all meals for only \$20! For more information call 316-322-7853 or toll free 1-800-960-7853.



It's Almost Election Time!

Election 2008

By: Anne-Marie Hughey



“Get involved in politics as if your life depended upon it, because it does!” These words were spoken by Justin Dart, father of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and disability rights leader at every speech he gave. Why were these words so important that Justin repeated time and time again? Justin believed that every individual not only had the right and responsibility to vote, he or she also had the right and responsibility to get to know candidates, educate them on issues important to us, and help those candidates who we believe would fight for our issues on the local, state and/or national level, get elected.

This is a very important election year in Kansas and the Nation. Elections will be held for every seat in the state Senate and House, every U.S. Kansas Congressional seat, US Senator Pat Roberts’ seat and the position that will determine the course of our nation over the next four years, the President of the United States. On November 4, 2008, every Kansan 18 years of age and older will have the **responsibility and opportunity** to vote for **their** candidate.

The disability community has a great deal at stake in this election. We need to have elected officials who know and believe in our issues. Sometimes it only takes one or two votes on the house floor that could win or lose a vote that could affect our rights and freedoms. **Get involved in Politics! Your Life, Liberty, and Pursuit of Independent Living does depend on it!**

General Information for the Kansas 2008 Election

It is important that all Kansans eligible to vote in the 2008 election do so. Following are the dates and websites regarding the 2008 election.

October 20, 2008 is the last day to Register to Vote in the general election. You can get the voter registration application at <http://www.kssos.org/forms/elections/voterr egistration.pdf>

October 31, 2008 is the deadline for voters to apply for advanced voting ballots to be mailed. If you are not able to get to get to the polls on election day, you can vote in advance of the election. You can get an application for advanced voting at <http://www.kssos.org/forms/elections/AV1.p df>

November 4, 2008 General Election Day

If you are new to Kansas or have not voted before and you are not sure which district you live in, or who the candidates are running in your district, you can find it by going to <http://www.ipsr.ku.edu/ksdata/vote> or you can contact your local county election office. All county election office contact information can be found at <http://www.voteks.org/voteks/electionofficer .html>

A full list of Candidates and their contact information is available at http://www.kssos.org/elections/elections_up coming_candidate.asp



HIPAA: What is it and what does it do for me?

“You’ve gone to the doctor and signed the HIPAA form, but what does that mean?”

HIPAA stands for Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996. HIPAA requires that client information be shared on a “need-to-know” basis only with other employees and service providers. If an employee wrongfully releases confidential information, they could face criminal action as well as disciplinary action. What does this mean for you? That, by law, your personal information on file at the doctor’s office or at your health insurance agent’s office is confidential and not to be shared with the public.

You are invited! Please Come!
RCIL Friends
By Adam Burnett

RCIL “Friends” groups, formerly known as Consumer Advocacy Council (CAC) meetings, are held once a month at several RCIL offices. The purpose of these meetings is for RCIL consumers to share ideas, resources, and experiences, to learn about new services and programs, and **to have some fun!**

Want to learn more about Social Security work incentives?
 Do you want to hear a special guest speaker? Have an advocacy project that you’d like some support with?
 Just want to get out of the house and meet some new friends?

Come to your next local “Friends” meeting!

RCIL Friends MEETING SCHEDULE

Ark City - 4th Thursday of every month except for November and December. Please call 620-442-0775 for more information

El Dorado - 4th Wednesday of every month

Emporia - Last Monday of every month

Eureka - 4th Monday of every month starting in October

Ft. Scott - 2nd Tuesday of every month

Iola - 4th Tuesday of every month

Osage City - 2nd Wednesday of every month

Overland Park - 3rd Wednesday of every month

Topeka - 2nd Tuesday of every month

Meeting locations vary.
 Contact your local RCIL office for details.



The Kansas Payment Center (KPC) Introduces the NOW Card

The Kansas Payment Center announces its new Visa brand debit card, the NOW card. Available to all child support recipients, the NOW card provides a safer, easier, faster way to receive child support payments. For more information, contact Michelle Ponce at 785-296-3271 or visit <http://www.kspaycenter.com> to download an application.

Build A Ramp Update!!!

The Build A Ramp Program, or BARP, was announced last year as a tool for people needing assistance with ramp repair or new ramp construction. BARP can be used for one entrance per home that meets the criteria of the Americans with Disabilities Act Standards for Accessible Design. After applications were received, the review panel met and four projects were selected. Adam Burnett, the Director of IL Quality Assurance, has been working with consumers and contractors to ensure that these ramps are built properly and efficiently. So far three ramps have been finished. We will promote the success of the Build A Ramp Program and gather donations to build more ramps. Applications are always accepted, but our review team won't meet again until more funds are raised. For more information or to make a donation, please contact Adam Burnett or Deone Wilson at 785.528.3105 and keep watching for more details!

Pictured on right: A new ramp for an RCIL consumer funded through the Build A Ramp Program



Spinal Cord Injury Research

The University of Kansas Research and Training Center on Independent Living (RTC/IL), would like to give people with spinal cord injuries (SCI) the opportunity to participate in a study. Toshiyuki (Toshi) Chiba is an international visiting scholar from Japan who experienced a spinal cord injury in a traffic accident in 1992.

Toshi is researching independence and employment of persons with SCI. After all of the research is complete, he plans to take his results to Japan and educate people on how to live independently and how to achieve and maintain employment while living with a spinal cord injury.

Anyone who is interested in participating can reach Toshi at:

Toshiyuki Chiba
 KU International Visiting Scholar
 Duskin Foundation Center
 University of Kansas RTC/IL
 1000 Sunnyside Ave, Room 4099
 Lawrence, KS 66045-7555
 Office: 785.864.5633
 Fax: 785.864.5063
 Email: toshi@ku.edu





RCIL Iola Office Staff

From left: Donna Goodner, Andrea Hermreck, Kathy Fuhlhage, Kathy Holloway, Linda Morris and Mark Wiley

The RCIL Iola office in conjunction with the Iola Chamber of Commerce hosted a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Open House on July 30, 2008. Staff provided tours of our offices in the new office building. Community partners, RCIL consumers and staff came together to learn about programs and services and enjoy a light lunch. Visit our Iola office at 726 W. Patterson.



Money Saving Tips for This Fall

Ahh, fall. The leaves are falling, everything is in full autumn bloom, and you're ready to enjoy a fun evening with your family. Just one small problem; the price of gas keeps getting higher and higher. Solution? Plan a living room vacation instead. For kids, a tent in the living room is just as exciting as a tent set up in a national park. If you don't have a tent, make one. Get some chairs, a couple of big blankets and some clothes pins and drape the blanket over the chairs. Add a couple of friends, sleeping bags, flashlights, and popcorn, and your kids will have a ball-without costing you a fortune.

Rather have a grown up night? Instead of meeting your friends at a restaurant or bar, have them over to your home. No, you really don't have to spend hours cleaning and fussing. Their homes aren't perfect either!

Pick a theme: game night, movie night, or try a food theme such as everyone brings a Mexican dish or dessert.

The theme doesn't really matter. You'll probably find that you have just as much, if not MORE fun in the relaxed atmosphere of your home as you do in a crowded, noisy, and expensive restaurant.

Often you can follow "green" principles and save money at the same time. "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle" can be your tune for saving money, just as well as for saving the planet. Don't turn on your dishwasher unless it is full. Switch from paper napkins to cloth. Instead of throwing something away, think about how you can reuse it in a new way.

We can't control the price of gas but we can decrease how much we use. Change your oil regularly, check the oil and air filters. An engine that is working efficiently uses less gas and that saves you money. To find the lowest gas prices in your area, check online at <http://www.gasbuddy.com/> or one of the several sites that lists low gas prices. Just type in your zip code and find the best price in your neighborhood.

Satellite Office Locations:

**Resource Center for
Independent Living**

1137 Laing
Osage City, KS 66523

Phone:

(785) 528-3105

(800) 580-7245

TDD (785) 528-3106

Fax:

(785) 528-3665

Arkansas City
126 E. Washington
620-442-0775

Coffeyville
811 Maple
620-251-4655

Emporia
625 Merchant, Suite 238
620-342-1648

Iola
726 W. Patterson
620-365-8144

Overland Park
10200 W. 75th, Suite 100
913-362-6618

Burlington
410 Cumberland
620-364-2263

El Dorado
615 ½ N. Main
316-322-7853

Fort Scott
710 W. 8th, Suite 201
620-223-5670

Ottawa
1302 S. Main, Suite 8
785-242-1805

Topeka
519 SW 37th Street
785-267-1717

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.rcilinc.org



PO Box 257
Osage City, KS 66523

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66523
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EXTRA! EXTRA! Read all about it!



America's People, America's Talent...America's Strength!

Congress has designated October as **National Disability Employment Awareness Month**. The U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) leads activities and production of materials to increase the public's awareness of skills of individuals with disabilities and achieve a fully inclusive workplace.

Also, October 15, 2008, is the official kickoff date for **Disability Mentoring Day (DMD)**. DMD is a national program that promotes career development for students and job-seekers with disabilities through job shadowing and hands-on career exploration. Call you local RCIL office or visit www.dmd-aapd.org on the web for information on DMD events near you.

Voter Registration Instructions

You can use this application to:

- register to vote in Kansas, change your name or your address on your registration, affiliate with a political party, or change your party affiliation.

To register to vote you must:

- be a U. S. citizen and a resident of the State of Kansas.
- have reached the age of 18 years before the next election.
- have received final discharge from imprisonment, parole, or conditional release if convicted of a felony.
- have abandoned your former residence and/or name.

How to register to vote

- Return your completed application to your county. Addresses are on the back of this application. Your county election officer will mail you a notice when your application has been processed.
- Postmark this application by the 15th day before an election in order to be eligible to vote in that election.
- If you decline to register to vote, that fact will remain confidential and will be used for voter registration purposes only. If you do register to vote, the office where you apply will be kept confidential and will be used for voter registration purposes only.
- If this form is incomplete, it may be rejected.

*** Identification number requirements**

Enter your current Kansas driver's license number or nondriver's identification card number. If you do not have either one, enter the last four digits of your social security number. If you do not have any of these numbers, write "none" in the box. The number will be used for administrative purposes only and will not be disclosed to the public. (K.S.A. 25-2309)

Notice to first-time voters

If you will be voting for the first time in this county, and do not provide an identification number as requested above, you must complete one of the following options.

- a) Send a copy of a current, valid photo ID along with your application, or
- b) Send a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, government check, or other government document that shows your name and address.

If these requirements are not met or, if the information you provide is not verified, you must provide identification the first time you vote in the county.

For further information contact the Office of the Secretary of State, 1-800-262-VOTE (8683) V/TTY. This form is available at www.kssos.org.

Print in blue or black ink, fold on center line, seal and return.

Kansas Voter Registration Application

Qualifications: If you mark "NO" in response to either question 1 or 2, do not complete this form.

1. Are you a citizen of the United States of America? YES NO
2. Will you be 18 years of age on or before Election Day? YES NO

Last Name (Please print)		First Name		Middle	Jr. Sr. II III IV
Residence address (include apt. or space number)			City	County	Zip
Mailing address (if different than residence address)			City	Zip	Date Residence established
					<input type="radio"/> Male <input type="radio"/> Female
Date of Birth	Daytime phone number (if available)		Naturalization number (if applicable)		* Driver's license number (see instructions)
/ / Month Day Year					

Party Affiliation Choose one of the following: Democratic Republican Libertarian Reform Not affiliated with a party

Complete if previously registered Please print

Previous name Previous address City State Zip County

Signature I swear or affirm that I am a citizen of the United States and a Kansas resident, that I will be 18 years old before the next election, that if convicted of a felony, I have had my civil rights restored, that I have abandoned my former residence and/or other name, and that I have told the truth on this application.

Sign here _____ **Date today** _____

Warning: If you submit a false voter registration application, you may be convicted and sentenced to up to 17 months in prison.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: Ward _____ Pct _____ School Dist _____ Member Dist _____
 Sen _____ Rep _____ CoComm _____

ALLEN CO. 1 N Washington Iola 66749	COFFEY CO. 110 S 6th St Rm 202 Burlington 66839	GEARY CO. PO Box 927 Junction City 66441	JOHNSON CO. 2101 E Kansas City Rd Olathe 66061	MIAMI CO. 201 S Pearl Ste 102 Paola 66071	PRATT CO. 300 S Ninescah Box 885 Pratt 67124	SHERMAN CO. 813 Broadway Rm 102 Goodland 67735
ANDERSON CO. 100 E 4th Garnett 66032	COMANCHE CO. 201 S New York Box 776 Coldwater 67029	GOVE CO. PO Box 128 Gove 67736	KEARNY CO. 304 N Main Box 86 Lakin 67860	MITCHELL CO. 111 S Hersey Box 190 Beloit 67420	RAWLINS CO. 607 Main Atwood 67730	SMITH CO. 218 S Grant Smith Center 66967
ATCHISON CO. 423 N 5th Atchison 66002-1861	COWLEY CO. 311 E 9th Winfield 67156	GRAHAM CO. 410 N Pomeroy Hill City 67642	KINGMAN CO. 130 N Spruce Kingman 67068	MONTGOMERY CO. 217 E Myrtle Box 446 Independence 67301	RENO CO. 206 W First Hutchinson 67501	STAFFORD CO. 209 N Broadway St John 67576
BARBER CO. 120 E Washington Medicine Lodge 67104	CRAWFORD CO. 111 E Forest Box 249 Girard 66743-0249	GRANT CO. 108 S Glenn Ulysses 67880	KIOWA CO. 211 E Florida Greensburg 67054	MORRIS CO. 501 W Main Council Grove 66846	REPUBLIC CO. 1815 M Street Belleville 66935	STANTON CO. 201 N Main Box 190 Johnson 67855
BARTON CO. 1400 Main Rm 202 Great Bend 67530	DECATUR CO. PO Box 28 Oberlin 67749	GRAY CO. Box 487 Cimarron 67835-0487	LABETTE CO. 501 Merchant Box 387 Oswego 67356	MORTON CO. 1025 Morton Box 1116 Elkhart 67950	RICE CO. 101 W Commercial Lyons 67554	STEVENS CO. 200 E 6th Hugoton 67951
BOURBON CO. 210 S National Fort Scott 66701	DICKINSON CO. 109 E First Box 248 Abilene 67410	GREELEY CO. PO Box 277 Tribune 67879	LANE CO. 144 S Lane Box 788 Dighton 67839	NEMAHA CO. 607 Nemaha Box 186 Seneca 66538	RILEY CO. 110 Courthouse Plaza Manhattan 66502	SUMNER CO. 300 N Court Wellington 67152
BROWN CO. 601 Oregon St Hiawatha 66434	DONIPHAN CO. PO Box 278 Troy 66087	GREENWOOD CO. 311 N Main Eureka 67045	LEAVENWORTH CO. 300 Walnut Leavenworth 66048	NEOSHO CO. 100 S Main Box 138 Erie 66733	ROOKS CO. 115 N Walnut Stockton 67669	THOMAS CO. 300 N Court Colby 67701
BUTLER CO. 205 W Central El Dorado 67042	DOUGLAS CO. 1100 Massachusetts St Lawrence 66044	HAMILTON CO. 219 N Main Box 1167 Syracuse 67878	LINCOLN CO. 216 E Lincoln Ave Lincoln 67455	NESS CO. 202 W Sycamore Ness City 67560	RUSH CO. 715 Elm Box 220 LaCrosse 67548	TREGO CO. 216 Main WaKeeney 67672
CHASE CO. Courthouse Sq Box 529 Cottonwood Falls 66845	EDWARDS CO. 312 Massachusetts Kinsley 67547	HARPER CO. 201 N Jennings Anthony 67003	LINN CO. 315 Main Mound City 66056	NORTON CO. 105 S Kansas Box 70 Norton 67654	RUSSELL CO. 4th & Main Box 113 Russell 67665	WABAUNSEE CO. 215 Kansas Box 278 Alma 66401
CHAUTAUQUA CO. 215 N Chautauqua Sedan 67361	ELK CO. 127 N Pine Box 606 Howard 67349	HARVEY CO. 8th & Main Box 687 Newton 67114	LOGAN CO. 710 W 2nd Oakley 67748	OSAGE CO. 717 Topeka Ave Box 226 Lyndon 66451-0226	SALINE CO. 300 W Ash Box 5040 Salina 67402	WALLACE CO. PO Box 70 Sharon Springs 67758
CHEROKEE CO. 100 W Maple Box 14 Columbus 66725	ELLIS CO. PO Box 720 Hays 67601	HASKELL CO. 300 Inman Box 518 Sublette 67877	LYON CO. 430 Commercial Emporia 66801	OSBORNE CO. 423 W Main Box 160 Osborne 67473	SCOTT CO. 303 Court St Scott City 67871	WASHINGTON CO. 214 C St Washington 66968
CHEYENNE CO. 212 E Washington Box 985 St Francis 67756	ELLSWORTH CO. 210 N Kansas Ellsworth 67439	HODGEMAN CO. 500 Main Jetmore 67854	MARION CO. Courthouse Box 219 Marion 66861	OTTAWA CO. 307 N Concord Ste 130 Minneapolis 67467	SEDGWICK CO. 510 N Main Wichita 67203-3798	WICHITA CO. 206 S 4th Drawer 968 Leoti 67861
CLARK CO. 913 Highland St Box 886 Ashland 67831-0886	FINNEY CO. 311 N, 9th St., Box M Garden City 67846	JACKSON CO. 400 New York Holton 66436	MARSHALL CO. 1201 Broadway Marysville 66508	PAWNEE CO. 715 Broadway Larned 67550	SEWARD CO. 415 N Washington Ste 109 Liberal 67901	WILSON CO. 615 Madison Fredonia 66736
CLAY CO. 712 Fifth Box 98 Clay Center 67432	FORD CO. 100 Gunsmoke Dodge City 67801	JEFFERSON CO. PO Box 321 Oskaloosa 66066	MCPHERSON CO. 117 N Maple McPherson 67460	PHILLIPS CO. 301 State St Phillipsburg 67661	SHAWNEE CO. 911 SW 37th Topeka 66611-2378	WOODSON CO. 105 W Rutledge Room 103 Yates Center 66783
CLOUD CO. 811 Washington Concordia 66901	FRANKLIN CO. 315 S Main Ottawa 66067	JEWELL CO. 307 N Commercial Mankato 66956	MEADE CO. PO Box 278 Meade 67864	POTTAWATOMIE CO. 207 N 1st Box 187 Westmoreland 66549	SHERIDAN CO. 925 9th St Box 899 Hoxie 67740	WYANDOTTE CO. 850 State Ave Kansas City 66101

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Topeka, KS 66612-1594



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COUNTY ELECTION OFFICER

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