

# winter 2005 touchstone

**Stone Belt** presents news and information for persons with disabilities and families.

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## MEET THE BOARD

Take a minute to get to know these people who help shape Stone Belt.

**page 1**

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## GROWING UP

Years of inadequate office space needs are solved with two new buildings: a new purchase and old expansion.

**page 4**

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## STONE BELT EAST

Stone Belt expands its Supported Living and Life Skills Enrichment services into two new counties, Jennings and Jackson.

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## HIGH SIGHTS SET

Three cases illustrate the importance of giving during Stone Belt's capacity building fund-raising campaign.

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## OUR MISSION

We believe in the uniqueness, worth and right to self-determination of every individual. Therefore, it is our mission, in partnership with the community, to prepare, empower and support persons with developmental disabilities and their families to participate fully in the life of the community.



*Chief Financial Officer Dave Gootee (left) and Client Representative on the Board Betsy Higgins (right) cut a ribbon to officially open the new 10th Street addition. Read more about this new space on Page 4.*

PRESIDENT  
**DON HOSSLER**



**OCCUPATION**  
Vice Chancellor for Enrollment and Professor of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies at IU

**BOARD TENURE**  
Four years, first time as president

**INTERESTING FACT**  
Lived in Russia after Perestroika started

VICE PRESIDENT  
**ED OTTING**



**OCCUPATION**  
Retired Information Systems Corporate Division Director at Eli Lilly

**BOARD TENURE**  
Seven years

**INTERESTING FACT**  
Ed previously served as President of the Arc of Indiana.

SECRETARY  
**PHIL MEYER**

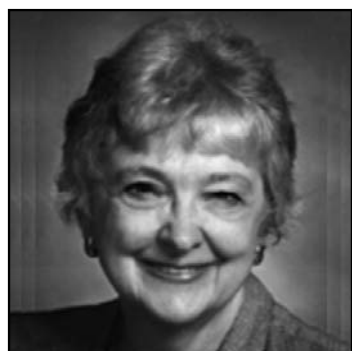


**OCCUPATION**  
Station Manager for WTIU Bloomington

**BOARD TENURE**  
Three years

**INTERESTING FACT**  
Phil has won a regional Emmy Award for his work at WTIU.

TREASURER  
**CHARLOTTE ZIETLOW**



**OCCUPATION**  
Economic Development Coordinator of Middle Way House, Inc.

**BOARD TENURE**  
Charlotte has also served as President, Vice President and Secretary

**INTERESTING FACT**  
Has been President of the Board of Trustees for Indiana State University.

spotlight

# Meet the Board

## Members have many responsibilities

The Stone Belt board of directors consists of 15 elected members. There are five officers including a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Past President. There are also representatives from Lawrence and Owen counties as well as one Stone Belt client. According to board bylaws, at least five members must be parents or guardians of persons with developmental disabilities.

Each year the board of directors adopts a written service plan identifying goals, objectives and policies to promote Stone Belt's mission. The board also evaluates the effectiveness and efficiency of Stone Belt programs.

Board meetings are held the third Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in Stone Belt's main conference room at its 10th Street facility. The meetings are open to anyone interested in attending.

Officers and members are nominated each year at the Annual Meeting. Current board members and Stone Belt's CEO are responsible for recruiting new members. If you are interested in serving on Stone Belt's board of directors or any of its other committees contact Leslie Green at 332-2168, ext. 249 or email lgreen@stonebelt.org. New volunteers are always needed and welcome.

Read on to learn more about this year's board.

MEMBER CLASS OF 2005-2007  
**VICKI BAKER**

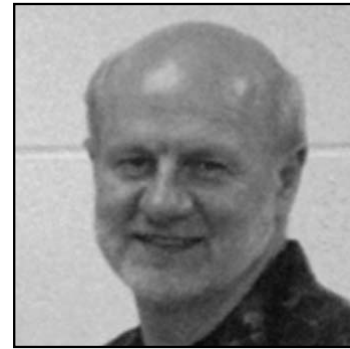


**OCCUPATION**  
Special Education Teacher

**BOARD TENURE**  
Four years. Also serves on Stone Belt's Human Rights Committee.

**INTERESTING FACT**  
Has taught several Stone Belt clients in her classes.

MEMBER CLASS OF 2004-2006  
**PATRICK ROBBINS**



**OCCUPATION**  
Retired Business Owner

**BOARD TENURE**  
Is a member of the LARC board. Joined Stone Belt's board in 2003.

**INTERESTING FACT**  
Owned Conva Care Services, a family business for 28 years.

MEMBER CLASS OF 2005-2007  
**TIM HINES**

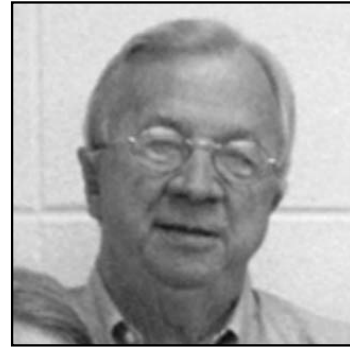


**OCCUPATION**  
Retired Businessman

**BOARD TENURE**  
Has served as President, Treasurer, Secretary and Past President

**INTERESTING FACT**  
Tim has been involved with the Arc movement since 1961.

PAST PRESIDENT  
**HENRY UPPER**



**OCCUPATION**  
Retired Piano Professor at IU

**BOARD TENURE**  
Six years

**INTERESTING FACT**  
Henry's wife Celicia is an Interior Designer who helped choose colors for Stone Belt's 10th Street expansion.

MEMBER CLASS OF 2003-2005  
**BETSY HIGGINS**



**OCCUPATION**  
Stone Belt 10th Street and TIS College Bookstore

**BOARD TENURE**  
Four years

**INTERESTING FACT**  
Betsy is a Stone Belt client. She is also on the Arc of Indiana board.

MEMBER CLASS OF 2004-2006  
**BARBARA WILSON**



**OCCUPATION**  
Attorney at the Eric Koch Law Firm in Bloomington

**BOARD TENURE**  
Two years

**INTERESTING FACT**  
Barbara spent a number of years abroad championing human rights issues.

MEMBER CLASS OF 2005-2007  
**DOUG GILES**



**OCCUPATION**  
Business Office Director at Ivy Tech

**BOARD TENURE**  
Newly elected this year

**INTERESTING FACT**  
Graduated from Ball State University and recently moved from Anderson, IN.

MEMBER CLASS OF 2003-2005  
**CHARLIE BRADLEY**

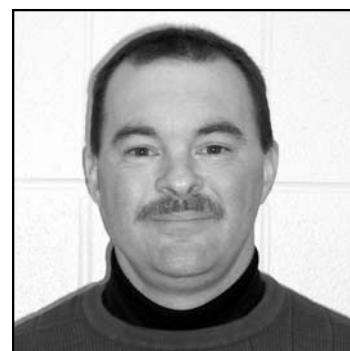


**OCCUPATION**  
Retired Lumberjack

**BOARD TENURE**  
Has served on the Stone Belt board and Owen County Arc board

**INTERESTING FACT**  
After an accident years ago Charlie changed his life for the better.

MEMBER CLASS OF 2004-2006  
**DAVE GREGOIRE**



**OCCUPATION**  
Business Development Director at the National Educational Service

**BOARD TENURE**  
Two years

**INTERESTING FACT**  
Has been involved in not-for-profit issues for over 15 years.

MEMBER CLASS OF 2005-2007  
**STUART MUFSON**



**OCCUPATION**  
Professor of Astronomy at IU

**BOARD TENURE**  
Has been on the board for over 10 years and has served in every position.

**INTERESTING FACT**  
Born and raised in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

MEMBER CLASS OF 2005-2007  
**CATHI CANFIELD**



**OCCUPATION**  
Branch Manger for Employment Plus, Inc. in Bloomington

**BOARD TENURE**  
Newly elected this year

**INTERESTING FACT**  
Cathi enjoys playing tennis, traveling and is learning to play the guitar.

from the CEO

# New year brings with it changes, growth

*Nobody succeeds beyond his or her wildest expectations unless he or she begins with some wild expectations.*

— Ralph Charell, Author

Life at Stone Belt is anything but boring these days. Some of our energetic program development is part of our strategic initiatives (things we've planned) and some of them are opportunities that have never been afforded to us. Stone Belt has never been afraid of taking on ambitious projects and now we are certainly living up to this reputation in a big way.

As you will read in this issue our space expansion planning has come to fruition. We are presently moving into our 10th Street addition and the

new location on Adams Street. The Adams Street building will house a fully staffed outpatient mental health clinic with a specialization in serving people with developmental disabilities. This gives us the opportunity to really move forward with our Professional Services – now named Milestones, Clinical and Health Resources.

In addition, our Infant and Child Developmental Services and part of our Community Employment program will be conveniently located close to some of our community partners in the Landmark area. The 10th Street expansion will eliminate the overcrowding of our burgeoning Supported Living and Life Skills Enrichment programs. Look for open house and ribbon cutting



activities for both these locations.

And, as we have been moving along with these planned activities, our reputation for quality services brought us two new opportunities. First, we received referrals for 10

residents of Muscatatuck State Developmental Center who were looking for supported living arrangements. Although these individuals bring intense challenges because of their behavioral support needs, our supported living staff quickly jumped at the chance to provide them with an opportunity for a new life in the community. Second, we have been asked by the Jackson County Arc to provide Life Skills Enrichment activities in Seymour. This will start after February 1. While both of these initiatives were unplanned, we are excited about the opportunity to meet the wants and needs of these new clients and their families.

The energy of the staff toward accomplishing all of our initiatives is outstanding. They never shirk from

a challenge and have impressed everyone with their drive, expertise and enthusiasm. I think you, our stakeholders, can be very proud to be associated with such fine professionals. I know I am.

We know that many challenges, both programmatic and financial, lie ahead of us, but our expectations for a progressive and successful future are great. As always, thank you for your ongoing support of Stone Belt Arc.

With Wild Expectations,

**Leslie Green**  
Chief Executive Officer

from the editor

## Introducing *Touchstone*

Stone Belt is an ever growing and evolving organization and periodically there is a need to update publications to reflect our image. We are so excited to offer you a first look at *Touchstone*, our newly named and designed quarterly newsletter. 2005 brings to Stone Belt not only many program initiatives, but also changes in the way we publish information. Starting with this flagship edition, *Touchstone* will replace the *Mainstream News*.

*Touchstone's* new design will help make this possible. The larger page size will allow for more articles and pictures. In addition, the new magazine-style format will help with readability. We hope these changes will quickly give you the information you want and need.

It was a long-overdue but easy decision to replace the title of *The Mainstream News*. The term mainstream was extensively used in this business during the '70s and '80s and referred primarily to mainstreaming children with disabilities into regular schools. Today "mainstreaming" is not commonly used, but is instead replaced with words like inclusion – one of Stone Belt's core values.

The title *Touchstone* brings with it a fresh outlook. On the surface *Touchstone* might seem like a witty play on words, but delving deeper into its definition reveals it has a lot in common with Stone Belt's mission. A touchstone is a hard black stone once used to test the quality of gold or silver. We feel *Touchstone*, will be a great instrument to attest to the quality of our programs, values and mission. *Touchstone* is

also defined as a criterion and a standard on which a judgment is based. We hope your judgment of *Touchstone* and its contents will be positive

*Touchstone* will be packed with familiar articles you love like program spotlights and the message from the CEO, as well as many new features like client spotlights and photo spreads. We hope you will find this information interesting and entertaining.

We welcome your feedback in any way. It is important to us to know we are reaching you and giving you articles with information you are interested in because you are part of Stone Belt's extended family. Let us know if there's something you would like to read about or if you want to get involved with one of our many programs.

There are many parts of Stone Belt that we want you to learn more about. This issue brings to you information about our board of directors. Take a minute to get to know these people who help shape Stone Belt. There are several spotlights about our growth profiling new buildings and program changes. Finally, you can learn about our 2005 fund-raising campaign. With a goal of \$200,000, it will take a lot of support from readers like you. Find out why you should help and how you can make a difference.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to many more years of collaboration together.

✉ If you have any feedback about *Touchstone* please contact editor Cheryl Paul at 332-2168, ext. 261 or email cpaul@stonebelt.org.

calendar of events

### March 8 Employer Awards Ceremony

2 to 3:30 p.m.  
Bloomington Convention Center  
Cook Group Room  
302 South College Avenue  
■ For more information contact Elizabeth Hall at 332-2168, ext. 234 or email ehall@stonebelt.org.

### March 8 Aktion Club Meeting

4 to 5 p.m.  
Stone Belt 10th Street,  
Main Conference Room  
■ For more information contact Ann Dininger at 332-2168, ext. 247 or email adininger@stonebelt.org.

### March 17 Job Club Meeting

4 to 5 p.m.  
Stone Belt 10th Street  
Main Conference Room  
Special Guest: Mary Banks, Front Office Manager for Four Winds Resort.  
■ For more information contact Elizabeth Hall at 332-2168, ext. 234 or email ehall@stonebelt.org.

### April 25 Dr. Brazelton Parent Night

7 to 8:30 p.m.  
Jackson Creek Middle School Auditorium.  
Community night. Free to attend.  
Dr. Brazelton will talk then parents can participate in a question/answer session.

### April 26 Dr. Brazelton Seminar

8 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Ivy Tech Commons.  
Advanced registration required with minimal fee. Various speakers.  
■ For more information on either event or to register call Karen Serfling at 349-3787 or email kserflin@stonebelt.org.

### May 30 Memorial Day

Stone Belt's day program facilities and offices will be closed.

### July 4 Independence Day

Stone Belt's day program facilities and offices will be closed.

### September 5 Labor Day

Stone Belt's day program facilities and offices will be closed.

### November 24 & 25 Thanksgiving

Stone Belt's day program facilities and offices will be closed.

### December 23 & 26 Christmas Observance

Stone Belt's day program facilities and offices will be closed.

# touchstone

## WINTER 2005 ISSUE 11

Touchstone is published quarterly by:  
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Advertising: Stacey Ryner

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Don Hossler  
Vice President: Ed Otting  
Secretary: Phil Meyer  
Treasurer: Charlotte Zietlow  
Past President: Henry Upper

## BOARD MEMBERS

Stuart Mufson, Vicki Baker  
Charlie Bradley, Dave Gregoire  
Betsy Higgins, Tim Hines,  
Patrick Robbins, Barbara Wilson,  
Cathi Canfield, Doug Giles

## MANAGEMENT TEAM

Leslie Green: Chief Executive Officer  
David Gootee: Chief Financial Officer  
Kim Hodges: Director of Stone Belt of Owen County (SOI)  
Vickie Fry: Director of Financial Services  
Brad Galin: Director of Human Resources  
Bitta DeWees: Director of Employment and Personal Resources  
Maureen Gahan: Director of Milestones  
Larry Pejeau: Director of Development and Marketing  
Shirley Stumpner: Director of Infant and Child Development Services  
Jack Clark: Director of Management Information Systems  
Tonya Vandivier: Director of Group Living  
Dottie Stewart: Director of Supported Living



Helen Warmouth, Outstanding Client Employment at Columbus Annual Celebration



Teresa Bible, Outstanding Sweet Owen Employee at Stone Belt Owen County Annual Meeting

**FINAL AWARD CEREMONIES HELD**

In late fall Stone Belt held its final two award ceremonies. Stone Belt of Bartholomew County's Annual Celebration was October 25 while Stone Belt of Owen County's Annual Meeting was November 6.

Bartholomew County's celebration was held at Stone Belt's Columbus office and started with refreshments, followed by a welcome from Dan Mustard, Employment and Personal Resources (EPR) Team Leader, and Susan Russ, Assistant Director of EPR. The welcome was followed by a message from Stone Belt CEO Leslie Green.

Next, Human Resources Director for the City of Columbus, Chuck Boll issued a statement proclaiming October as Disability Employment Awareness Month in Columbus. Finally awards were handed out. Winners were: Advocate of the Year, Mary Brown; Community Partner of the Year, Horizon House; Educator of the Year, Nancy Lewis of Columbus North High School; Employer of the Year, C.L. Miller Home Planning and Building; Outstanding Client Employment, Helen Warmouth; and Outstanding Client Life Skills Enrichment, Jessica Gault.

The meeting ended with closing remarks given by Stone Belt EPR Director Bitta DeWees.

Stone Belt of Owen County's Annual Meeting is sponsored by the Owen County Arc. It featured Stone Belt's services and the excellent partnership that exists between the organizations.

Owen County's meeting opened with an invocation by Sweet Owen Industries Manufacturing Supervisor Adam Hill which was followed by Director Kim Hodges handing out Client Awards. Winners were: Outstanding Client Manufacturing, Rocky Freeman; Outstanding Client Life Skills Enrichment, Cookie LaHue; Outstanding Client Employment, Jeff Stillions; Sweet Owen Jester, Vaughn Monroe; Ms. Congeniality, Electa Holsapple; and Mr. Congeniality, Greg Johnson. A special recognition for 15 years at Sweet Owen Industries was also awarded to Herb Fisher, Sheryl Jones, Jenny Ross, Terry Smith and Myra Hawkins. Following client awards participants were treated to a buffet dinner catered by Kim Hale.

Following the dinner Stone Belt CEO Leslie Green spoke, then staff awards were handed out. Winners were: Client Selected Staff, Suzy McDonald; Volunteer of the Year, Mike Turpin; Residence of the Year, Options for Better Living's Jefferson Street Home; Industry of the Year, Cook Urological; Employer of the Year, Owen Valley Health Campus; Special Recognition, Amanda Hodges; Employee of the Year Employment Services, Marsha Greable; Employee of the Year Life Skills Enrichment, Julie Webb; Employee of the Year Manufacturing Services, Mary Lopossa; and Outstanding Sweet Owen Employee, Teresa Bible.

The event ended with an auction, which is unique to Owen County's meeting. Twenty-nine gift baskets filled with a variety of items were auctioned. The baskets were created with donations from area businesses.

**CEO GREEN RECEIVES HONOR**

Stone Belt CEO Leslie Green was recently awarded the Rebecca McDonald Award from the Indiana Association of Persons in Supported Employment (IN-APSE) at the state conference in Indianapolis on December 7.

APSE, The Network on Employment, is a membership organization formed in 1988 to improve and expand integrated employment opportunities, services and outcomes for persons with disabilities.

The Rebecca McDonald Award honors the memory of Ms. McDonald, who was a tireless advocate for supported employment and a dedicated friend and promoter of APSE. She passed away in August of 1999 after a long and valiant struggle with breast cancer.

Green was recognized for the award because she strongly embodies the principles of APSE and is a credit to the memory of Rebecca McDonald through her commitment to the mission of APSE and her hard work in improving and expanding employment services and outcomes in Indiana.

She has served three years as a conference committee co-chair and will complete a two year term as board president this year. Through her presence and leadership in the organization, she has demonstrated the importance of person-centered service and competitive, community-based employment.

**LEATHER WORKS HOSTS BUSINESS AFTER HOURS EVENT**

On October 21, Stone Belt Leather Works hosted Business After Hours, a networking event sponsored by the Bloomington Chamber of Commerce.

Leather Works is a new division of Stone Belt that offers a variety of leather products. Business After Hours attendees could view the leather showroom and a take a tour of the production facilities.

Light food was catered by Middle Way Food Works, Stone Belt's partner in the event. Food Works is a new catering business venture by Middle Way House. Middle Way House is a domestic violence and rape crisis center in Bloomington. Big Red Liquors sponsored a cash bar with beer and wine. To keep the party lively, Grand Rouge, a local band, also played during the event.

CEO Leslie Green helped plan the event. "We received so many compliments. It was a great resource for meeting other area businesses and showing them our products," Green said.



**CHRISTMAS TREE DONATION**

Stone Belt decorated a Christmas Tree for the Bloomington Hospital Foundation Silent Auction on December 3.

The Stone Belt tree was titled "Diamonds." It was a joint effort by both staff and clients. The inspiration for the tree design came from a recent project where diamonds were used on a belt to represent the many facets and services of Stone Belt. Designers chose to carry this theme through to the Christmas tree and continue to use the diamonds to represent Stone Belt.

To begin making the ornaments, diamonds were cut from leather donated by Stone Belt Leather Works. Stone Belt Art Teacher Karen Holtzclaw then had clients paint the diamonds. Next staff added extra touches that made the ornaments sparkle. Finally, the embellished ornaments were placed on the tree.

There were six large trees, six small trees and seven wreaths auctioned at the event. Stone Belt's tree was purchased by Julie Slaughter for \$200. Slaughter had a special interest in the Stone Belt tree because her son Owen works here. Slaughter donated the tree back to a Stone Belt group home.

Funds raised during the auction will be used to purchase an infant warmer for the special care nursery at Bloomington Hospital.

**DR. T. BERRY BRAZELTON OFFERS SEMINAR IN BLOOMINGTON**

Dr. T. Berry Brazelton, a renowned pediatrician, will host a seminar in Bloomington in April.

The two-day educational program is designed to support parents and health-care professionals and is offered for groups interested in parenting and child development.

The first day of the seminar is a Parent Community Evening. This event will be held on Monday, April 25 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Jackson Creek Middle School Auditorium. It is free to attend.

During this presentation Dr. Brazelton combines an informative topical presentation with an interactive question and answer period. His talk focuses on infant and child development, contemporary parenting issues and the ten stresses that parents face today.

The second day of the event is a Professional Seminar. This event will be held Tuesday, April 16 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Ivy Tech State College Commons. Advanced registration and a small fee will be required for this event.

This full-day of lectures combines Dr. Brazelton's expertise with three other Seminar faculty, all eminent in their fields. This seminar is most frequently attended by nurses, pediatricians, psychologists, social workers, and professionals in early intervention, childcare and early childhood education.

For more information or to register for the Professional Seminar call Karen Serfling, Family Resource Center Manager at 812-349-3787 or email kserflin@stonebelt.org.



**A CREEPY OCTOBER**

What do haunted fire trucks, magicians, surprise prizes and creepy trees have in common? They were all part of Stone Belt's 2004 Halloween Celebration.

The festivities kicked off the beginning of October with weekly staff drawings. Staff entered their names via email and each week five entries were drawn for a variety of prizes including gift certificates to the Stone Belt store and area restaurants.

As the month progressed there were two "Show Your Halloween Colors" days where staff and clients were encouraged to wear black and orange. Other ongoing events throughout the month included tree decorating, a centerpiece contest and a decorating contest.

A party on October 29 capped off the festivities with a food tent, magic show by Extreme Magic, a haunted attraction and fire truck, music, food and costume contests.

A group of Stone Belt staff dubbed the "Pumpkin People" planned the activities. The committee was led by MIS Director Jack Clark, "The Great Pumpkin." A special thank you goes out to all who made the month of events a success.

**UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN WRAPS UP**

Throughout November Stone Belt participated in an internal United Way campaign.

In Monroe and Owen counties there are 24 member agencies that benefit from contributions from the community. Lawrence and Bartholomew counties also have United Way agencies that need funding. Stone Belt and the Lawrence County Arc (our partner who supplies our building in Bedford) both receive allocations from their United Way campaigns.

This year employees raised \$8,344. This amount is added to the Monroe County United Way Campaign which reached its goal of raising \$1.6 million. Stone Belt staff members in other counties could direct their contribution to their home county or to a specific agency.

The United Way's mission is to "improve people's lives by mobilizing the caring power or our community." About 1 out of every 3 residents in Monroe County are impacted by United Way services like food, medication, after-school programs and first aid classes. To learn more about the United Way in Monroe County log on to [www.monroequitedway.org](http://www.monroequitedway.org).

growing up

# Growth sparks new spaces

2005 brings many exciting new endeavors to Stone Belt of Monroe County. These include a newly purchased office space on South Adams Street as well as a new addition to our 10th Street building.

## ADAMS STREET PURCHASE

With the purchase of a building at 550 South Adams Street Stone Belt has taken a major step toward solving its space difficulties.

In November, Stone Belt signed an agreement with the Rogers Group to buy the building for \$1.2 million. Staff started moving in January 20.

The 17,000-square-foot concrete block structure will be used to house Stone Belt's Infant and Child Developmental Services (ICDS) program — including First Steps, a statewide program catering to preschoolers who have developmental disabilities or are at risk for developmental delays; and Monroe County Healthy Families, a statewide program designed to strengthen families by providing education and support services to parents.

The new facility will also house Stone Belt's Milestones program (see page 5 to learn more) as well as some employment services for clients.

These programs, along with Supported Living

worth of renovations — including equipment, furnishings and modifications. Stone Belt is applying for a Community Development Block Grant from the City of Bloomington to help with repairs. This is federal money from the Department of Housing and Urban Development that is distributed by cities. In order to receive a CDBG grant 51% of the business must serve city residents. Stone Belt will be notified if they have received the grant in June.

Staff members moved into the new facility at the end of January. Milestones services will be located on the first floor of the building, however there will be different entrances for its programs. Customers for clinical services including Psychiatry and Counseling will enter through Suite B, located on the South side of the building. Customers for health services including case management, nursing and speech therapy will enter through Suite A, located on the North side of the building.

Infant and Child Developmental services will be located on the second floor of Adams Street. Customers for ICDS should enter through Suite A and use the stairs to reach the second floor.

Once all are settled into the new facility there will be a ribbon cutting and open house activities planned.



Stone Belt purchased 550 South Adams Street in November. The new building will house Stone Belt's Infant and Child Developmental Services (ICDS) and Milestones programs.

program staff, were formerly housed in a rental unit on 2nd Street in Bloomington. This lease expired in January and in the months leading up to it, Stone Belt decided it was perfect timing to find a larger space in closer proximity to some of its important community partners.

The Adams Street building is adjacent to professional businesses at Landmark Center such as Southern Indiana Pediatrics, Vocational Rehabilitation and Workforce Development. This location in the heart of the medical community is also ideal for many of our Milestones programs including Psychological Services and Health Care Coordination.

"The location is great," said Stone Belt Development Director Larry Pejeau. "It's in the heart of town and close to Landmark, where there are a lot of health-care providers we work with."

All the programs housed at 2nd Street were limited in their growth potential by their lack of space. The new Adams Street building will vastly improve Stone Belt's ability to meet the increasing demand for our services.

Pejeau said purchasing the new building is also a fiscally responsible move that will brighten Stone Belt's long-term future.

At the end of the 2004 fiscal year Stone Belt completed an evaluation of its facilities' operating costs. One result of this was the recognition that purchasing a new building could be accomplished for only a small increase annually to what was paid in leasing expenses. The 17,000-square-foot facility is more than twice as large as the rented office space.

"It's increased our equity to the point where we've been able to secure a long-term, tax-free bond at a very low interest rate," Pejeau said.

That said the new facility will require about \$250,000

## 10TH STREET EXPANSION

Last March, Stone Belt broke ground on a new 8,000-square-foot, two story addition at its 10th Street facility — its first expansion since the 1970s.

The \$800,000 metal and stone addition will provide much needed office space and programming space for clients. Some amenities of the building include four large accessible restrooms, a permanent training room, several new conference rooms and a long-term storage space. Financed in part with a \$100,000 Community Development Block Grant, the building was completed in January.

In addition to providing new programming possibilities, the space will also allow supported living program staff to move from its rented space on 2nd Street. This will enable staff to be in closer proximity to their clients and other employees with whom services must be coordinated at 10th Street.

The original 10th Street building was built in 1970 at a cost of \$512,000 to provide services to 120 clients and 50 employees. The warehouse was constructed in 1974 to provide employment opportunities through recycling. An addition to the original 10th Street structure was completed in 1976 to provide services to 75 more clients, bringing the total to 195. Today, Stone Belt serves approximately 400 clients at its 10th Street building. Close to 200 employees also work in the building.

The need for an expansion is far overdue. The addition brings the 10th Street facility's total size to about 58,000-square-feet.

➤ To take a tour of either the new Adams Street building or 10th Street addition please contact Development Director Larry Pejeau at 332-2168, ext. 279.

## construction timeline

before



The empty space between the the workshop (left) and the warehouse (right) before construction began.

the early days



The corridor between the workshop and warehouse (left) was demolished to make way for the addition.

halfway there



Concrete walls and floors have been erected. A stairway connects the addition's two floors. Next the roof will be added.

the home stretch



A view of the completed addition from the outside between the workshop (left) and the warehouse (right). The room above will be used for conferences and training.

it's all in a name

# Professional Services gets new name

Stone Belt's Professional Services department has been given a new name: Milestones, Clinical & Health Resources.

After months of brain-storming possible names, Milestones was chosen by a group of Stone Belt staff members.

The decision to rename Professional Services was made after the department started to include a diverse group of programs. The new name will better reflect these offerings which include: psychiatric and psychological services, counseling and psychotherapy, behavioral support services, speech and language services, nursing, case management, and consultation.

Milestones is a multi-disciplinary department that is a division of Stone Belt. Staff members have a lot of expertise in very specialized areas. With this in mind, one goal is to grow Milestones as a resource for the community.

A logo to reflect the chosen name was created by the Development Department and a team of staff from Milestones. The logo will be used on Milestones' new Adams Street sign, letterhead, business cards, advertising and many other materials.

Along with Milestones' new name comes a new building to call home. The new Adams Street offices (see story on Page 4) will play a big part in supporting future growth.

One of the biggest benefits of the new office space is that for the first time all Milestones staff members will be located in the same building. This will allow for much improved collaboration.

Another exciting change that is taking place within Milestones is the addition of a psychiatrist to the staff. Dr. M. Melinda Weakley started this new position January 31. To learn

## MILESTONES



## CLINICAL & HEALTH RESOURCES

*This is Milestones' new logo. It was designed to reflect the chosen name. The image is of a winding road, symbolic of the paths we take in life.*

more about Dr. Weakley see story at right.

For the past year Stone Belt has been looking to hire a full-time staff psychiatrist, but factors like a shortage of psychiatrists in the area and high turnover rates in the business, made the search hard.

Up until now Stone Belt has had a psychiatrist on contract, Dr. Sajal Bose who would spend only a few hours a week treating patients. This worked for a while, but the program's needs grew to be much greater than this. To better service its clients, the decision was made to hire a full-time doctor.

"By hiring our own psychiatrist we will be able to assure that our client's psychiatric needs are met," said Maureen Gahan, Milestones Program Director.

At Milestones, Dr. Weakley, a board certified psychiatrist, will treat individuals with developmental disabilities as well as children and adolescents. She will also continue to serve some of her current clients.

"Her focus is good for our

mission. She works in a collaborative model with counselors, therapists and behaviorists," said Gahan. "This is perfect for us because that is what Milestones is about: focusing on all facets of care. With all these resources pooled at one location there will be a lot of specialized talent to choose from."

Milestones hopes that as part of its growth it can target individuals with developmental disabilities who have been under served in their psychiatric needs.

To help with this, Behavior Support Specialist Katherine O'Brien has been promoted to Manager of Behavioral Support Services. She will develop and supervise all behavioral services and assist with growing all Milestones' psychological services.

"Up until now we were under serving our clientele," said Gahan. "Our rental facility was inadequate as a therapy facility. Now that our space needs have been met we are on our way to growth."

One final area where growth is imminent comes with the expansion of Stone Belt East residential services (see story on Page 7 to learn more). With many new clients to serve in Bartholomew, Jennings and Jackson counties, Milestones hopes to increase its behavioral supports, health care coordination and case management programs in that area.

It is hopeful that with all of these exciting new changes Milestones will grow to meet the needs of people with developmental disabilities in South Central Indiana.

**✉** If you are interested in any of Milestones' services or have any questions about the program contact Program Director Maureen Gahan at 333-6324, ext. 284 or email [mgahan@stonebelt.org](mailto:mgahan@stonebelt.org).

## Milestones hires Psychiatrist

Fate would have it that Milestones and Dr. M. Melinda Weakley found each other at exactly the right time.

Milestones was growing frustrated with a year-long search for a psychiatrist that kept coming up empty and Dr. Weakley had just given her resignation at her last position, hoping to find something that was more within her professional interests.

Dr. Weakley heard about Stone Belt's job opening via word of mouth and applied. She was then invited

for an interview. During the interview Milestones Director Maureen Gahan was convinced Dr. Weakley was exactly what Milestones was looking for: someone well-known in the community, someone that already had a full and thriving practice, someone familiar with individuals with developmental disabilities, someone interested in working with children and adolescents, and someone who had a good business sense. All Gahan could do after the interview and ensuing job offer was hope Dr. Weakley was feeling similarly about Milestones.

On the other hand Dr. Weakley was equally impressed with Milestones' offerings. She was ready to jump into a new opportunity and be involved from the ground up. There were also things that made the decision easier. She already treated many of Stone Belt's clients and it was important to her that she work at an organization where patients come first.

"At my interview I was impressed with the happiness of the staff and the good work environment. Everyone was so positive. This definitely made me want to come to Stone Belt," Weakley said.

Dr. Weakley is a graduate of the University of Louisville School of Medicine and completed her psychiatric residency at the Indiana University School of Medicine. She is well-known in Bloomington for her work with children and adolescents, as well as individuals with developmental disabilities.

Dr. Weakley has been employed by the Center for Behavioral Health, Bloomington Hospital and most recently, Meadows Hospital. At Stone Belt she looks forward to being a part of the many opportunities and growth awaiting Milestones. She cites the desperate need in the community for Milestones' services.

"I'm so excited to be part of such a terrific organization. I'm coming in at the perfect time, prepared for changes and ready to contribute," she said.



breaking away

# CLS divides into two programs

In its seven year history, Stone Belt's Supported Living program has grown tremendously. The program started in 1997 serving one client and today serves almost 100 making it larger than the Group Living program.

This rapid and substantial growth has led to Stone Belt's Community Living Services (CLS) program's decision to divide into two smaller, separate programs. Group Living and Supported Living, previously grouped under CLS, will now each become their own individual programs.

The Group Living program will be headed by Tonya Vandivier, current CLS Director. Tonya has worked at Stone Belt for over 13 years in CLS and has been program director since November 2003.

The Supported Living program will be headed by new director Dottie Stewart, previously Assistant Director of CLS. To learn more about Stewart see the story at right.

When it was decided to split the two programs Vandivier chose to stay with Group Homes. "I started working in Group Homes and have been involved with them for all 13 years of my career at Stone Belt," she said. "The logical choice for both programs was for me to stay with Group Homes and give Dottie the chance to be promoted to Supported Living Director. She has a lot of experience in that area."

The separation will also help develop Stone Belt's new Supported Living sites in Jennings, Jackson and Bartholomew counties. These areas have a large potential for growth with the recent inclusion of former Muscatatuck clients as well as opportunities for several other additions. For more on these changes please see the story on Page 6.

The division of CLS should not have any impact on services to clients. There will only be positive benefits as a result of the change. The programs will only grow stronger as Vandivier and Stewart have the ability to spend more time focusing on their individual programs.

Vandivier is excited about future growth for both of the programs. "Our challenges will continue to be that of maintaining the very best staff possible in every setting so that the needs of our clients will continue to be met with the highest quality of standards as our Stone Belt tradition has always provided. This is definitely something we're ready to meet and we look forward to improving services," she said.

## Dottie Stewart named new director

Dottie Stewart has been named Director of Stone Belt's newly independent Supported Living program.

Stewart was formerly Assistant Director of CLS; from here she was promoted to her new position. "It seemed a natural choice to promote Dottie," said CEO Leslie Green. "Her years of experience and knowledge about Supported Living make her a perfect fit."

Stewart is a native Hoosier who was born in Indianapolis and has never left the state. She has worked at Stone Belt since 2003, but has been in the business of rehabilitative services for over 38 years. She started her career in 1967 as a special education teacher after graduating from IUPUI with a degree in education.

Stewart has also worked as an Intermediate Care Facility/Mental Retardation (ICF/MR) surveyor and Program Director for the Indiana Department of Health for 11 years. In this job she surveyed group homes, large facilities for people with developmental disabilities and state operated facilities. While in



this position she worked on a national task force to develop a new federal survey protocol that was outcome based. She was also a panelist on the first Presidential Listening Session for people with developmental disabilities.

In 1996 Stewart made the decision to leave state employment and became the administrator for a large residential provider in south west Indiana. She stayed in that position until 2002 when she moved back to central Indiana and worked for the Bureau of Developmental Disabilities (BDDS) as a waiver specialist until she joined the Stone Belt team in 2003.

Stewart has kept busy during the early days of her transition with the recent growth of Stone Belt's Supported Living program in Bartholomew, Jennings and Jackson counties. She gives credit to those who have helped with these many program changes.

"We have hired approximately 50 staff and are in our third specially scheduled orientation. The effort to accomplish this has been a great example of teamwork. Our Human Resources and Milestones departments along with several SLP coordinators have worked together to make this happen," she said.

Stewart doesn't see any big changes on the horizon for the program. "We take pride in the quality of our supports and want to maintain that quality," she said.

Over the next few months Stewart looks forward to enhancing supports for clients. "I can't think of anything more rewarding than seeing an individual learn any skill that makes them more independent and gives them a higher quality of life."

In her spare time Stewart loves to read, work in her garden and cook.



Stone Belt's Supported Living program recently welcomed six new clients formerly housed at Muscatatuck State Developmental Center. They are from left to right: Dale Mouzin, Enix Brewer, Martin Bonowski, Amanda Brewer, Tony King and Chad Effner.

## Staff vital in helping new clients move

It may sound like an easy job moving two clients into their new home, but Supported Living Teams Coordinator Mark Norris and Program Coordinator Beth Helmerich will tell you that it's harder than it seems, especially in the midst of a snowstorm.

December 22, moving day for two former Muscatatuck clients Amanda Brewer and Enix Brewer (no relation), turned out to be less than perfect because of a snowstorm that was in progress.

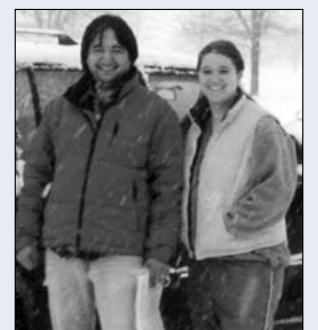
Jennings County, the location of Amanda and Enix's new home, received over 30 inches of snow. However, rescheduling the move was out of the question. Norris had promised them they could move in on that date. So true to his word, Norris and Helmerich ventured through the snow to Muscatatuck to bring them to their new home.

Throughout the day the snow deepened and Norris made the decision to stay with Amanda, Enix and their staff throughout Christmas Eve and Christmas Day to provide needed assistance. Snowed in, staff were set on making the clients' first Christmas in their new home memorable. First they festively decorated the home. Then, they made sure gifts were available. In order to do this, Norris drove through the snow to Muscatatuck to pick-up their presents.

In addition to providing needed staffing during this period, Norris and other staff with four-wheel-drive vehicles made additional trips out to drive staff to and from work.

Norris and the staff also wanted to make sure the clients were as comfortable as possible. To do this Norris made numerous trips to the grocery store and Wal-Mart. Norris praises all who helped with the move and subsequent settling in. "It would not be possible for the move to happen without Beth's help and all of the direct care staff who did whatever it took to make the transition a success. Thank you to everyone for all their hard work," said Norris.

"Mark's dedication and commitment to Stone Belt clients is tremendous. Without his hard work and great leadership, Stone Belt would not be on track moving in the first group of Muscatatuck clients," said Tonya Vandivier, Director of Group Homes.



Mark Norris and Beth Helmerich helped move two clients into their new home the week of the big Christmas snowstorm.

# A new place to call home

Stone Belt is pleased to announce an expansion of services into Jennings and Jackson counties. These new regions will be managed with Stone Belt's current offices in Bartholomew County and will be known as Stone Belt East.

Bartholomew County and Jennings County will become home to 10 new Stone Belt Supported Living Program (SLP) clients. These new clients formerly resided at Muscatatuck State Developmental Center. There will be no office in Jennings County; services in this area will be headquartered at the Columbus offices.

Jackson County will be the home of Stone Belt's new day program. The building and program services will be headquartered in Seymour.

Read on to find out more about these exciting new changes.

### NEW MUSCATATUCK CLIENTS

Admitting and preparing for Stone Belt's 10 new clients has been a long process with a lot of hard work by many staff members including the Human Resources Department and many SLP Coordinators.

Their work started in September 2004 when Stone Belt received a request from the Transition Team at Muscatatuck State Developmental Center. The team asked that Stone Belt consider providing 24-hour supports to two or three individuals currently residing at Muscatatuck. The center is slated to close by summer 2005 and needed to find community homes for its few remaining residents.

Within two weeks, the number of referrals had grown to 10 individuals.

Over the next few months, Stone Belt staff members, including new Supported Living Director Dottie Stewart, met with the referred clients. After numerous interviews and meetings, the decision was made to accept them into our program. This spurred a chain of events including a hiring frenzy and housing search. It was estimated that at least 50 new



The Jackson County School System is providing Stone Belt the use of this building in Seymour for their new Day Programming services in that area.

staff would need to be hired to handle the influx of clients who require around the clock support.

On December 3, Stone Belt East welcomed its first two clients to their new home in Columbus. Tony King and Chad Effner have a beautiful historic home downtown.

The next two clients, Amanda Brewer and Enix Brewer (no relation) moved into their new home in North Vernon in the middle of a snowstorm on December 22. For more on their exciting move see the story at right.

On December 28, Dale Mouzin and Martin Bonowski were the fifth and six clients to arrive. They are now comfortably settled into their new home in Columbus.

2005 brought to Stone Belt its final four new clients, they are slated to move in February. So far the clients' transition from institution to community living has been very successful.

Supported Living Program Coordinator Beth Helmerich has been instrumental during the clients' move. "They are so happy to be living on their own for the first time. Little things like running out to Wal-Mart a few times a day make them feel so happy and independent. It's exciting to see the smiles on their faces."

Feedback from many of the clients' parents has been positive as

well. Mariam Ogan, mother of Amanda Brewer said, "We have no complaints about Stone Belt's services. Amanda's sisters recently saw her smile for the first time in years."

Teams Coordinator Mark Norris loves seeing the clients' settle into their new homes, "It's great to watch them get an opportunity to live a different quality of life," he said.

In addition to SLP's growth with the Muscatatuck clients, there have been many other calls for service.

At this time, Stone Belt will help the Muscatatuck clients adjust before any other clients are accepted into the SLP program. However there are plans for future expansion.

### JACKSON COUNTY DAY PROGRAM

Another new service to be offered at Stone Belt East is day program services.

Near the end of 2004 the Jackson County Arc approached Stone Belt to see if they would be interested in providing day program services in that area. The board approached Stone Belt because they had heard about the quality services Stone Belt provides in Bartholomew County.

After much consideration Stone Belt decided to broaden services into Jackson County. "We thought it was important to expand and meet a need in that community," said Susan Russ, Assistant Director

of Employment and Personal Resources (EPR).

Russ prepared a proposal of services for the Jackson County Arc board. The board approved Stone Belt's proposal unanimously and plans were put into motion to start services.

Russ has been key in the early development of the Jackson County day program. This is a job she's familiar with having done the same in Columbus when Stone Belt started services there.

"I am really excited about developing the Jackson County day program. It's very rewarding for me to know that the community will get quality supports and services for individuals in need," she said.

One of the main reasons Stone Belt decided to expand was the low start-up cost. Since day programming doesn't garner as much income as Supported Living, it was important that the program could break even. One thing that helped make this possible was the donation of a building for services. The Jackson County School System is allowing Stone Belt to use a building on their property rent free.

Stone Belt plans to start serving clients in Jackson County by the end of February. About 20 clients are expected to start at that time.

Stone Belt is in the process of hiring three new staff members. Debra Barnes, former Employment Support Consultant in Columbus, has already been promoted to Team Leader for the program. She will be joined by two Instructional Associates.

Russ looks forward to the program's future growth, "A year from now I hope we have done what we said we'd do and that we do it well. We also hope that the community knows we're here and is glad we're here," she said.

➤ For information about Stone Belt's day program services in Jackson County contact Susan Russ, Assistant Director of EPR at 332-2168, ext. 290 or email [sruss@stonebelt.org](mailto:sruss@stonebelt.org).

# Three stories illustrate need for funding

Stone Belt Arc exists because there are individuals with developmental disabilities who need support to participate in and contribute to the life of our community. These individuals are life-long members of our community and by taking responsibility for their inclusion into our daily lives you can help make our community a more diverse, productive and better place to live.

Stone Belt is dedicated to being the premier service provider for these citizens. We want to be the most ardent advocate for natural inclusion and a proactive partner in helping better prepare all of our citizens to participate in this process.

Stone Belt Arc has been successfully practicing our mission of community inclusion for individuals with developmental disabilities since 1958 growing from a small group of nine clients to now serving over 1000 clients a year.

The federal government's Medicaid public health insurance program, as well as state funding, has paid for the majority of these support services but this funding dynamic is rapidly changing as government budgets are increasingly operating in a deficit. Optional Medicaid services such as those received by individuals with developmental disabilities are being seriously threatened and there is a state waiting list of close to 15,000 more individuals trying to secure funding for support services through the Medicaid Waiver. Justin Lovell (see story below) is a perfect example of someone on this list.

Funding changes and challenges are constants in the lives of disabled individuals as well as their service providers. Stone Belt wants to offer the most effective support services to our community members with developmental disabilities and to remain the

provider of choice in Indiana.

We work diligently every day to maximize the value of our financial resources, but we need your help. We have started our Capacity Building campaign to help meet these future funding challenges and to help prepare and empower every individual to participate in our community.

We believe in the uniqueness and worth of each individual. We trust that you support this principle and our efforts to carry it out. We hope you will consider making a contribution. You can use the enclosed envelope to make your donation.

Please consider how your contribution can help:

- \$50 will buy admission tickets for up to 10 individuals to participate in a community event.
- \$100 will buy resource materials for 10 families of young children, giving those

parents the information they need to provide the best developmental support for their children.

- \$250 will provide First Aid and CPR training to 10 staff members who work directly with clients.
- \$500 will provide developmental screenings for more than 50 children and possibly identify issues that, with early intervention, can be reduced or eliminated.
- \$1000 will provide all materials needed for Life Skills Enrichment classroom instructions for one year in areas such as art, current events, cooking and sensory awareness.

✉ For more information about the Capacity Building campaign or to arrange a tour of our programs and facilities please contact Larry Pejeau at 812-332-2168, ext 279 or email at [lpejeau@stonebelt.org](mailto:lpejeau@stonebelt.org).

## child



Justin Lovell's needed therapies are dependent upon State Waiver funding that may take years to come through.

### Justin Lovell, boy next door

Justin Lovell loves to hug everyone he meets despite the many challenges his family faces.

Justin has Downs Syndrome and has received physical, occupational and speech therapies since he was an infant. His mother Gina Lovell has been encouraged by the results of these treatments and believes, as do most professionals, that early therapies greatly increase their potential for a successful life.

For the Lovell family, one important concern has been how to fund these therapies. As a family with four children, privately paying for the services just wasn't possible. So like many other families in their position, they turned to the State of Indiana for assistance.

Gina enrolled Justin in First Steps, a state-funded program that offers early intervention services to infants and young children with disabilities or who are developmentally vulnerable. In this program, Gina found an excellent resource in Shirley Stumpner, Director of Stone Belt's Infant and Child Developmental Resources. Gina selected Shirley to be Justin's First Steps Coordinator and Case Manager.

With Shirley's assistance and Gina's perseverance, Justin was eventually granted some funding through Hoosier Healthwise and the Children's Special Healthcare program. However, these programs limit the type and amount of services an individual can receive. In fact, Hoosier Healthwise only covers medically based therapies and at anytime could determine the therapies Justin needs are no longer medically necessary.

To secure a more stable source of funding, Gina applied for Indiana's Support Services Waiver. This funding would stay with Justin for as long as necessary, and would provide funding for his therapies, as well as much needed respite care for his parents. As he ages, the Support Services Waiver would also fund residential-based services.

Justin's application for the Support Services Waiver was submitted in May 2002, a few months after the Waiver was created. Due to the high demand for this funding and the State of Indiana's financial difficulties, a waiting list of applicants formed. Justin is currently on this list, and it may be another five to seven years before he's granted funding.

Justin's challenges aren't going away, and neither are his mother's worries about how to get and fund the services he needs to be as independent as possible. "I don't know what the answer is to the State's funding difficulties, but it would be nice to know that funding would be there year after year," she said.

## transition



Terry Simpson's life of independence includes having his own apartment, a part-time job and taking public transportation.

### Terry Simpson, independent man

Terry Simpson has been at Stone Belt since it started in 1959 and even then as a young boy he had a dream to be independent.

Terry lived with his father while growing up until he was a teenager when he moved into Stone Belt's first residential setting, The Cottages, in the early 70s. From there he continued using Stone Belt residential services, moving into Hite House, then Kirkwood House and finally into Travis House.

In 1997 Stone Belt started its Supported Living Program (SLP). Terry was so excited, he signed up for this new service immediately. This meant he would finally be able to fulfill his dream of living on his own. SLP would provide him independence with just the right amount of support services he needed. While waiting to receive Medicaid Waiver funding needed to make this transition, Stone Belt divided Travis House into two SLP apartments with four residents living on each side.

Despite this great push forward for the program, the transition to independence took a long time; Terry did not receive his Waiver funding from the State of Indiana until February 2003. In the meantime he prepared to live on his own. He learned many new skills and gained a new level of confidence in his ability to live independently.

Today, Terry finally lives in his own apartment and receives support services from Stone Belt a few days a week.

Another facet to Terry's independence is his part-time job at Crazy Horse where he helps with food preparation. To get to work everyday Terry rides Bloomington Transit. While at work Terry enjoys the camaraderie on his job where he is affectionately known by co-workers as T-Bone.

In his spare time Terry goes to the Monroe County Library, Adult Basic Education classes and attends church on Sundays. Some afternoons he stops by Stone Belt to visit friends and occasionally works in our Manufacturing Facility.

Despite living a full and active life Terry has found that living on his own can be challenging. Recently he has had some significant medical problems. During this time he had to be responsible for getting proper medical attention and taking care of his own needs during his recovery. He also needed to learn how to live on a budget, because he was unable to work. It is times like this that Terry needs support from the community and extra support from Stone Belt.

Terry has led a life full of transitions to finally achieve his dream of being independent.

## senior



Joy McCune at work in the 10th Street Manufacturing facility. Joy had to return to work after retirement due to a lack of funding.

### Joy McCune, working woman

Joy McCune has been a hard worker since she was 19.

She first proved her willingness to work as a patient at Logansport State Hospital in 1958. Joy was supported by the State at this time, but she was still expected to help with living expenses. During her time at Logansport Joy made beds, and worked in the hospital's laundry room and kitchen.

Joy didn't even let a serious injury derail her enthusiasm for work. Periodically she would have seizures and it was during one of these seizures that Joy fell and broke her hip. After enduring two surgeries she would need the use of a wheelchair, but she still cheerfully continued to work as much as possible.

After spending 11 years at Logansport, Joy spent her next 12 living in many different state institutions; she moved from Central State Hospital to Danville Nursing Home and back again before finally spending 12 years at a nursing home in Marion.

All this instability changed in 1993 when Joy entered Stone Belt's residential living program. Her first home was Southern House where she made friends quickly.

Also, at this time Joy worked in Stone Belt's Manufacturing Services program. In the workshop, she was always willing to learn a new job. Her motivation for working was her love of shopping.

After a while Joy ventured out to find a community job. Stone Belt's Employment and Personal Resources (EPR) staff helped her gain a number of different community jobs including stints at Sabin Corporation, Steak & Shake and O'Charley's.

In 1998 Joy received State Waiver funding and moved into an apartment with one roommate. With Stone Belt's assistance Joy lived even more independently and she still continued to work. Because she received paychecks she was entitled to extra money from state Individual Community Living Budget (ICLB) funding. ICLB is a program that provides money based on income level.

In 2004, at the age of 65, Joy finally decided it was time to retire. This seemingly happy time in life turned hard when without a paycheck Joy lost her ICLB funding. Joy's monthly income has now been reduced to \$651 in Social Security funding. Her rent is \$381 which doesn't leave much for leisure activities.

Due to this financial burden Joy is back looking for work. She enjoyed her short retirement, sleeping in and visiting friends, however she misses having extra money that allows her to enjoy her independence.

Today individuals with developmental disabilities are living longer due to improvements in medical care and there are no new funding sources available for this growing group of senior citizens. Joy McCune will have to continue to work in order to have the funds needed to enjoy her senior years like any other retiree.



**Stone Belt**

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**Halloween Fun**

Halloween is always one of Stone Belt's biggest parties. Clients and staff got into the spirit with scary and funny costumes. Read more about the party on Page 3.

