

Support the Arc!

The Arc receives no funding from the city, county, state or federal government, with the exception of periodic project grants. We rely on the Oshkosh Area United Way, grants, donations and fundraisers to continue our work in ensuring that necessary services and supports are available to you and your family. Any donation, large or small, makes an incredible difference. To discuss your options of giving to services now, or as a legacy for the future, give us a call at 236-9230.



Arc EXCHANGE

Arc - Winnebago County Disability Association, Inc.
 115 Washington Ave., Suite A, Oshkosh, WI 54901
 920.236.9230 www.arcwinnebago.com

National Council on Disability Calls for Sweeping Changes in Emergency Management

From an NCD News Release (8/12/09): The National Council on Disability (NCD) recommends sweeping emergency management changes for people with disabilities. The NCD released its report *Effective Emergency Management: Making Improvements for Communities and People with Disabilities*, calling on federal, state, and local authorities to make sweeping changes in emergency management practices for people with disabilities.

According to NCD Chairperson John R. Vaughn, "NCD's first evaluation of government work in this area was published in a 2005 report *Saving Lives: Including People with Disabilities in Emergency Planning*. That report laid out a scenario of a major hurricane striking the Gulf Coast and outlined steps that the federal government should take to include people with disabilities in emergency preparedness, disaster relief, and homeland security. Hurricane Katrina struck four months later."

As a result of NCD's work, the 2006 Homeland Security Appropriations bill's Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act (H.R. 5441) required Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to employ a National Disability Coordinator and to interact, consult, and coordinate with NCD on a list of eight other activities.

According to NCD Vice Chairperson Pat Pound, "NCD identified a major gap in the government's homeland security knowledge base, which involves the availability and use of effective practices for community preparedness and response to the needs of people with disabilities in all types of disasters. In 2008, NCD began reviewing the spectrum of available studies and defined a

set of best/promising practices for emergency management across the life cycle of disasters and geographic areas. With this new knowledge, it is time to act. The lives of people with disabilities hang in the balance." Scientists report a worldwide increase in the number of natural disasters over the past 25 years. In 1980, only about 100 such disasters were reported per year, but that number has risen to more than 300 a year since 2000. The increase is expected to continue, and storm-related disasters are predicted to increase in intensity.

According to NCD Vice Chairperson Chad Colley, "NCD's report offers information and advice to assist all levels of government in their work to establish evidence-based policies, programs, and practices across the life cycle of disasters."

Some of the recommendations and interventions include:

Federal Recommendations

- Continue strengthening efforts to enforce compliance with Federal Communications Commission policies regarding emergency broadcasting to reach people with disabilities.
- Complete the FEMA Comprehensive Planning Guide (CPG) series—including 301 Special Needs and 302, which includes service animals—in sync with other CPG series guides.
- Hire disability coordinators at the FEMA regional offices.

State-Level Interventions

- Task a state official with disability and disaster issues.
- Involve disability community organizations and state offices or agencies in

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People First Oshkosh People First is a self-advocacy group for people with disabilities dedicated to increasing personal independence and capabilities; defending civil rights; and eliminating prejudice and discrimination of people with disabilities. **People First Oshkosh will meet on Wednesday, September 9, from 3:30-4:30 p.m.** at the Ability Resource Center, 115 Washington Ave, Oshkosh. This month members will continue to learn about self advocacy which simply put means people advocating for themselves. It is also about having the right to make life decisions without undue influence or control by others.



Movie of the Month: Nacho Libre

3:00-4:45p.m. on Wednesday, September 16, 2009, .

Ability Resource Center, 115 Washington Ave., Oshkosh
 Berated all his life by those around him, a monk follows his dream and dons a mask to moonlight as a Luchador (Mexican wrestler).

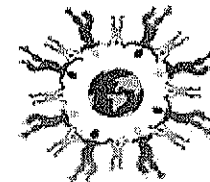
Please arrange for your transportation home~

DOWN to Earth: Oshkosh Down Syndrome Parent Support Group

DOWN to Earth is a parent support group for families with children who have Down Syndrome. The group usually meets 6:00-7:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month, at the ARC, 115 Washington Ave., Oshkosh.

For all of you who were able to enjoy the annual picnic we hope you enjoyed the fun. A really big thank you to Julie Keifer for all your work organizing the party!!!!

DOWN to Earth



DOWN to Earth will NOT have a monthly meeting on Sept 2nd.

Life Basics: September 2009

Game Day: Thursday, September 3, 2009

3:30-4:30 p.m. at the Ability Resource Center, 115 Washington Ave., Oshkosh

Bring in a favorite game to play or use the games on hand. Either way join in the fun and companionship at this month's Game Day.

Public Enemies (Bring \$1 for Admission) Wednesday, September 23, 2009

3:30-4:30p.m. Meet at the Oshkosh Public Museum. Take the #6 bus and get off at the corner of Algoma Blvd and Congress Ave.

Come see the exhibit that was inspired by the filming of public enemies. You will learn about the gangsters, g-men and life in the 1930's. **Sorry, but we are not able to provide rides from the Arc office.**

Creating Friends Thursday, September 24, 2009

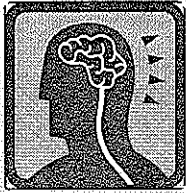
3:30-4:30 p.m. at the Ability Resource Center, 115 Washington Ave., Oshkosh

This session we will discuss how to create new friends and maintain the ones we have. There will be interactive discussion with some role playing involved.

Computer Basics Wednesday September 30, 2009

3:30-4:30 p.m. at the Ability Resource Center, 115 Washington Ave., Oshkosh

At this class we are going to spend the first half of the session learning how to use the Paint program, then the other half will be free time for people to do email, play games or research. We have only 4 computers available so the first 4 people to call Bob at 236-9230 will get signed up. **You must call Bob to participate.** *If there is enough interest, more sessions may be added at a later date.*

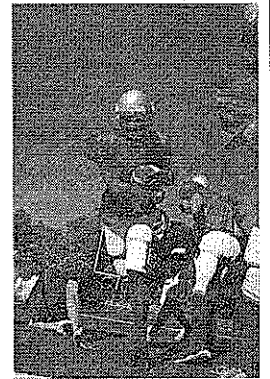


Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Support Group: Thursday, September 17, 2009

During our August TBI meeting, member discussion included the upcoming "Walk for Thought" fundraiser, public awareness campaign activities, and updates from group members. We also had a guest representing Wisconsin in the Miss Teen International pageant competition. The TBI support group is open to individuals with traumatic brain injuries, their families and friends. The strength of the support group is based on the participation of individuals, their willingness and ability to offer understanding and support to their peers, as well as developing the ability to ask for assistance when needed. The TBI support group has been meeting the second Thursday of every month, from 10:30 a.m.-noon at the Ability Resource Center, 115 Washington Ave., Oshkosh. The next meeting will be September 17. If you or someone you know is interested in the group please call (920) 236-9230 or email ashley@arcwinnebago.com for more information.

Autism Society of the Fox Valley Football Camp is Back!

The Autism Society of the Fox Valley (ASFV) in conjunction with the Xavier High School football team is sponsoring its 4th annual (free) Football Camp for Kids on the Autism Spectrum on Saturday, September 12th at Xavier High School 1600 West Prospect Avenue Appleton. The camp is for children of all ages who are on the autism spectrum. The kids have a chance to learn new skills and just have fun. Parents and family members are welcome on the field and lunch will follow. We had almost 100 kids last year, please register early, picnic meal for the family to follow! Sign-up is required. Please print out the brochure and send in the application form or call Bob Olson at 920-788-5298 or e-mail him at: bob.olson1976@gmail.com. Visit our website at <http://www.focol.org/asfv>.



Farewell to a Special Olympics "Champion"



Mrs. Eunice Kennedy Shriver died on August 11, 2009 at the age of 88. As founder and honorary chairperson of Special Olympics and executive vice president of the Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation, Eunice Kennedy Shriver was a leader in the worldwide struggle to improve and enhance the lives of individuals with intellectual disabilities for more than three decades.

Mrs. Shriver transformed both America's view and the worldwide perspective of people with intellectual disabilities, from one of ostracism and denial of basic human rights and freedoms to friends, students, workers, neighbors and athletes. She was instrumental over the past decades in bringing public attention to the status of children and adults with intellectual disabilities in our society. She worked often with the U. S. Congress to secure services, supports, benefits and rights for people with intellectual disabilities and their families. She also began the Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Public Policy Fellowship program, bringing promising professionals and family advocates to Washington for a year at a time, to work on a Congressional Committee, learning how policy is made in Washington.

Her son Tim Shriver said, in a letter to the Special Olympics Movement "She fought the good fight, she kept the faith, and though she knew the race for equality was not finished, she knew that the army of supports she had hoped for long ago had become a reality that would carry and someday complete her vision. On her behalf, as we prepare to say our last goodbyes, my family and I thank you for your shared commitment to that dream."

Arc staff, along with thousands throughout the world, are truly thankful for her commitment to the cause of social justice and work on behalf of persons with intellectual disabilities. She is missed.

Public Input Needed: Emerging Issues and the Lives of People With Disabilities

The National Council on Disability (NCD) is gathering public input for a study of emerging issues and trends affecting the lives of people with disabilities. Information gathered will be used in the development of NCD's next annual progress report to the President and Congress, *National Disability Policy: A Progress Report*, which is required by Section 401(b) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Please send your input by September 15, 2009. The purpose is to gather input to inform NCD of the status of the nation in achieving policies that guarantee equal opportunity for all individuals with disabilities, and empower individuals with disabilities to achieve economic self-sufficiency, independent living, and inclusion into all aspects of society. We are seeking input on disability issues such as health, housing, employment, insurance, transportation, assistive technology, recreation, emergency preparedness, training, prevention, early intervention and education. Your input will be used in the development of recommendations for changes in legislation, regulations, policies, or programs, as appropriate. Email to: ncd@ncd.gov, Type "Emerging Trends" in the subject line, or by U.S. mail to: National Council on Disability, ATTN: Emerging Trends Committee, 1331 F Street NW, Suite 850, Washington, DC 20004. In general be brief; focus on what is important to you; provide evidence; submit your response ASAP; tell us who you are; let us know if you want your response to be kept confidential.

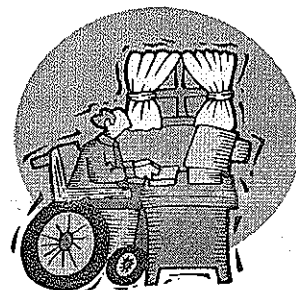
Assistive Tech Helps Soften A Harsh Job Market

The following came from www.abledbody.com June 2, 2009, 7:00 am

As a wheelchair user with laptop, this is a question I am often asked: Does the shaky economy make it harder for people with disabilities to find a job? Undoubtedly, yes. The job marketplace is more competitive, and frankly, it's easier for an employer to hire someone who doesn't need an accommodation. Though the American with Disabilities Act prohibits discrimination of the disabled, it still happens indirectly and more so when the hiring pool is larger.

Just look at U.S. employment rates from the past year. Only 46 percent of working-age people with disabilities held jobs, versus 84 percent of non-disabled people. The national unemployment rate for people with disabilities was 12.9 percent in April 2009, compared to 8.6 percent for non-disabled Americans. And here's a little-known fact: It takes someone with a disability 10 times longer to land a job than the average person. Employers want to hire people with disabilities but they're often not trained on how to find, interview or manage this group, says Sheridan Walker, founder of consulting firm HirePotential. The good news is assistive technologies can level the playing field. Many of these accommodations are already in use in the workplace, and most cost less than \$500 or are free to use. For instance, a screen reader for the blind is built into both Windows and Mac computers. Speech-recognition software, around \$200, is used by both busy CEOs and workers who are dyslexic. Instant messaging programs, free and used in offices everywhere, are also very useful for the deaf and hard of hearing. One of the coolest technologies today that is incredibly beneficial for the deaf is the universal mobile communications in-box. For a small fee, this service will transcribe voice mails into text. It's available on the the iPhone and BlackBerry Storm as applications. Google is also planning a similar service called Google Voice. I'm also continuously amazed at accessible PDAs that people who are blind can use to surf the web, send emails, read books, and write documents. You can choose Braille or audio versions; both will connect to a computer and synchronize information. Some models, like HumanWares' Braille Note, include GPS receivers. And you've heard of video conferencing, but how about in sign language? Video relay service is a free service from the FCC that allows deaf people to make telephone calls to hearing people using their native sign language. It is done on the Internet using voice over internet protocol (VoIP) using a computer with a camera, such as Apples iSight. So there you have it: Many accommodations are already in use in the workplace, and most cost less than \$500 or are free to use.

If you have a disability, brush up on your assistive technology knowledge and make it clear to employers that these tools are the key to your success.





PUBLIC WORKSHOPS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

9:00-12:30 PM MENASHA PUBLIC LIBRARY

&

5:00-8:30 PM FVTC RIVERSIDE CAMPUS

OSHKOSH

*WORKSHOP LOCATIONS LISTED AT THE BOTTOM OF ANNOUNCEMENT

WISCONSIN'S SELF-DIRECTED, LONG-TERM CARE PROGRAM FOR ELDERS & ADULTS WITH PHYSICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

IRIS Manager, John O'Keefe will present information about Wisconsin's newest self-directed, publicly funded, community-based, long-term care program for Medicaid eligible elders and adults with physical or developmental disabilities.

- Gain information to determine if IRIS is the right choice for you or your loved one;
- Get answers to the questions you may have about the IRIS program and how it really works;
- Learn how individual budgets are established and how the money can be used;
- Find out about program eligibility requirements and the level of assistance IRIS offers to help you manage your chosen supports and services.

Both IRIS presentations will provide for maximum opportunities to ask questions and dialogue with the IRIS Program Manager for Wisconsin. This is your chance to increase your understanding of Wisconsin's alternative to the managed care project known as Family Care.

These two workshops are specifically for parents, guardians, people with disabilities, elders, caregivers, and providers of long-term care services.

—SPACE IS LIMITED—

— PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED —

Phone: (920) 236-9230 Email: ashley@arcwinnebago.com

Workshops Sponsored by:

Arc-Winnebago County
Disability Association
115 Washington Ave., Suite A
Oshkosh, WI 54901
Phone: (920) 236-9230
Fax: (920) 236-8830

Menasha Public Library

440 First Street
Menasha, WI 54952
For directions, call:
(920) 967-3660

Oshkosh Riverside Campus

150 N. Campbell Road
Oshkosh, WI 54903-2217
For directions, call:
(920) 233-9191 or (877) 272-4559

SEPTEMBER 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 DOWN to Earth NO Meeting	3 Game Day 3:30-4:30 PM	4	5 Gallery Walk Artists for Arc 5 Preview Exhibit 6:00-9:00 PM
6	7 Labor Day OFFICE CLOSED	8	9 People First 3:30-4:30 PM	10	11	12
13	14	15	16 Movie of the Month Nacho Libre 3:00- 4:45 PM IRIS Workshops 9-12:30 PM/ 5-8:30 PM	17 TBI Support Group 10:30-12:00PM	18	19
20	21	22	23 Oshkosh Public Museum Public Enemies 3:30-4:30 PM	24 Creating Friends 3:30-4:30 PM	25	26
27	28	29	30 Computer Basics 3:30-4:30 PM <i>Pre-Registration Required</i>	October 2, 5:30-9:30PM Artists for Arc 5 See page 8 for details		
Notes:						

August 2009

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October 2009

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ART OFF MAIN GALLERY

Artists for Arc⁵: Preview Exhibition

Be one of the first to sneak a peek at some of the fantastic art items that will be auctioned off at this year's Artists for Arc, a live and silent charitable art auction and dinner.

This year's grandiose event will take place in the main court at the City Center plaza, in Oshkosh. We plan to auction off fabulous prizes and gift packages to the lucky bidders of the evening. You can also try to win any of the marvelous hand crafted art works at one of the numerous silent auction tables. Artists for Arc is the major fundraiser of the year and its success is critical to the agency being able to continue doing the good work

the Arc is known for, both now and into the future. Event registrations and art donations can be made at the Arc office or call (920) 236-9230 for more information or visit www.arcwinnebago.com.

~ Art Off Main Gallery ~

115 Washington Ave., Oshkosh

Hours: 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.,

Monday-Friday

or By Appointment:

920-236-9230



Celebrating Abilities Speakers Bureau

Does your business or civic group have a need to learn more about the "abilities" of persons with a "disability"? If so, there is a fabulous opportunity approaching that you will want to take advantage of. October 5-11, 2009, is designated as Celebrating Abilities Week throughout the Fox Valley.

During this week, the Celebrating Abilities coalition is making available, at no charge, a number of individuals to present their unique messages through the Celebrating Abilities Speaker's Bureau. Each of these local speakers either has a disability or lives with a person who has a disability. Local members of the Speaker's Bureau include Jon Wos, an artist who has exhibited his artwork throughout North America including the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. and Beth Detienne, a local woman interested in speaking about the challenges and joys of pursuing personal hopes and dreams as a woman with a cognitive disability. The Celebrating Abilities Speaker's Bureau also includes presenters like Bill Micklitz, an accomplished public speaker born with Arthrogyrosis, whose passion for life is a true inspiration to others and a great role model for anyone.

Celebrating Abilities is a community coalition focused on promoting greater acceptance of persons with disabilities and better understanding of their abilities as well as how they enhance a community's quality of life. Celebrating Abilities is in its seventh year of sponsoring events to raise awareness among our community of the incredible abilities of people, regardless of any apparent disability.

The 2001 L.I.F.E. study in the Fox Cities identified a need for all of us to better understand our friends and neighbors with disabilities, and to develop ways of integrating their capabilities into our everyday lives for the betterment of the community overall.

We welcome requests from local businesses, schools, civic groups, youth groups, support groups or religious or spiritual assemblies, to "host" a presentation by one of the individuals on the Celebrating Abilities Speaker's Bureau. Please make your free presentation request no later than September 15 by calling Cindy Romnek, Celebrating Abilities Scheduler, 920-740-2628, or email her at cindyromnek@new.rr.com.

For more information about the Celebrating Abilities Coalition or the Speakers Bureau, please visit www.celebratingabilities.org or contact Ashley Hesse, Arc-Winnebago County Disability Association, 920-236-9230, or email him at ashley@arcwinnebago.com.

**Celebrating
ABILITIES**



Oshkosh Special Olympics Agency 4-02 Newsletter



September 2009

SPECIAL OLYMPICS SPORTS

Softball Team – August 7-9 the Softball Team went to the **State Outdoor Sports Tournament** in Eau Claire. Our **Softball team** received a **1st Place!!** Congratulations to the team!! A **Big Thank** you to the coaches and volunteers!

Bowling starts Saturday, August 29th at Shoreview Lanes. Athletes can arrive at 12:30, be ready to bowl 1:00-3:00!! **Cost for bowling is \$6.** Coach Ann is has the schedule ready:

Aug. 29 – bowling practice

Sept. 5 – **NO BOWLING** – Labor Day Weekend

Sept. 19 – bowling practice

Oct. 3– bowling practice

Oct. 17– **NO BOWLING**

Oct. 24 – **NO BOWLING**

Oct. 31 – bowling practice

Nov. 7 – bowling practice

Nov. 21 – **NO BOWLING** – **Cookie & Craft Sale**

Dec. 5 – **NO BOWLING** – **State Bowling Tournament in Milwaukee**

Sept. 12 – bowling practice

Sept. 26– **NO BOWLING** – **Truck Convoy**

Oct. 10– bowling practice

Oct. 18 – **Area 4 Bowling Tournament**

Oct. 25 – **Regional Bowling Tournament**

Nov. 14 – bowling practice

Nov. 28 – bowling practice

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Our **Picnic with the Arc Winnebago Co. Disability Assoc** on August 15, at Abe Rochlin Park was a great success! The weather was beautiful, the food was delicious, the games were fun, and everyone there enjoyed themselves! **Thank you** to all the volunteers that brought food and helped serve and clean up!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Cops Gone Wild – Sat., Sept. 12, 11:00-2:00 and 4:00-9:00. Police officers will be the servers at Buffalo Wild Wings in Oshkosh. All tips raised by the officers will benefit Special Olympics Fox Valley Area. Officers will also be onsite with squad cars and SWAT vehicles for families to tour. McGruff the Crime Dog will be present handing out badge stickers, coloring books and trading cards to the kids!

5th Annual World's Largest Truck Convoy for Special Olympics – Sat., Sept. 26. Truckers from all over the US will join the World's Largest Truck Convoy for Special Olympics. In Wisconsin, the Convoy will be escorted by law enforcement to the EAA Grounds for a celebration recognizing truckers and the support of the trucking industry. It is their way of saying thank you for your commitment to Special Olympics athletes and for keeping America moving.

Lock Up a Cop – Fri. & Sat., Oct. 30 & 31 at Neenah Wal-Mart. More information will follow.

Cookie & Craft Sale – Sat., Nov. 21, 8:00-2:00 at Peace Lutheran Church. We are expecting a great response to this sale; the Church is also having a Craft Sale on the same day. Again we are looking for donations of cookies and crafts. If you would like to donate 3-20 dozen cookies, please call Ruth at 235-4237.

VOLUNTEERING TIME TO SPECIAL OLYMPICS IS HIGHLY ADDICTIVE!

****Next Meeting will be Monday, September 21, 2009 at 6:30 at
River Valley Church – 1331 High Ave.****



Arc-Winnebago County
Disability Association, Inc.
115 Washington Ave., Suite A
Oshkosh, WI 54901



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Arc Staff

- Lea Kitz
Executive Director
- Ashley Hesse
Program Director
- Bob Poeschl
Client Advocate
- Ted Larson
Receptionist

Jim - Hoegemeier
Arc - Wisconsin Disability Association
2800 Royal Ave., Suite 209
Madison, WI 53713

Arc Board of Directors

- Wayne Winistorfer, *President*
- Deb Hogue, *Vice President*
- Meghann Kasper, *Treasurer*
- Jon Wos, *Secretary*

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Sheila Anderson | Gary Arms |
| Peter Culp | Jim Englund |
| Cindy Schmitt | Margaret Winn |

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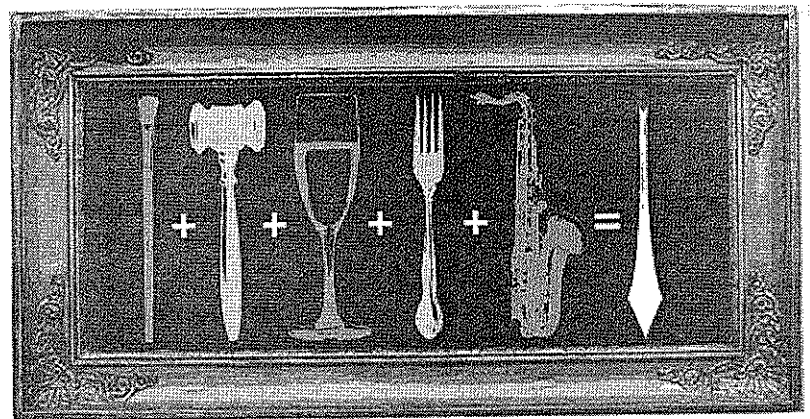
all state efforts regarding natural hazards, terrorism, technological or hazardous materials concerns, and pandemic planning.

Local-Level Interventions

- Local jurisdictions should create working groups to review and revise emergency operations plans, mitigation plans, and recovery plans to address the issues of people with disabilities.
- Cross-training on disability and disaster issues should be conducted among emergency managers, first responders, voluntary agencies, and disability agencies.

Individual-Level Interventions

- Accept personal responsibility for preparedness in a disaster context; where that is challenging, involve caregivers in such efforts.
- Create contingency plans for evacuation and other protective action, shelter life, medical care, and service animals.



ARTISTSFORARC⁵
(THE BEST DARN LIVE ART AUCTION OF 2009™)
EVENING OF OCTOBER 2, 2009 • CENTER COURT, 1 CITY CENTER, OSHKOSH

Join us for a rousing live auction of wonderful artwork and fun packages with the incredibly entertaining David Goodman, who wowed the audience at last year's event. A delicious menu has been selected that is sure to please your discerning taste. Enjoy grooving music and silent auction tables of interesting pieces.
Dinner and Auction \$75/plate • Table of Eight \$500
To register call 236-9230 or check out www.arcwinnebago.com.
Sponsorship opportunities still available.