

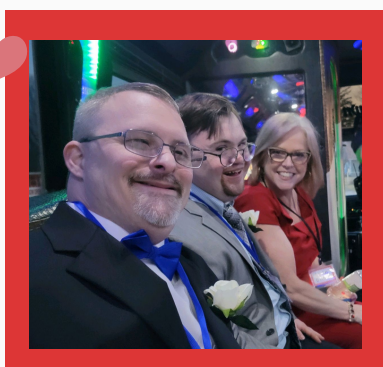
VOL.3 FEBRUARY 2023

DOWNSIZE FARM MOOSLETTER

Night To Shine

Night To Shine was a success again this year! Everyone one was dressed up and looking sharp. They walked the red carpet and received a crown as they danced the night away. A special thanks to Cornerstone Church at Huntsville and to all the volunteers and everyone who participated in this special night.

Written by: Mandi, Mandy, Willie, & Burr



Client Spotlight: James

James chose Downsize Farm for programming because he enjoys caring for animals. He also gets to work at the job center doing bus detailing. His favorite things to do outside of Downsize include swinging on swings, driving golf carts & going on dates with his girlfriend. James has 8 chickens and 2 cats he cares for at home.

Written by: Mandi, Mandy, Willie, & Burr

This issue:

Night To Shine
PAGE 01

Client Spotlight
PAGE 01

We Love Our Local Library
PAGE 02

In Loving Memory of
Bob Custer
PAGE 02



Client Spotlight: James

We Love Our Local Library

Highlighting The Champaign County Library



WE WANTED TO HIGHLIGHT ONE OF OUR FAVORITE LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS, THE CHAMPAIGN COUNTY LIBRARY! WE HAVE ENJOYED VISITING THE LIBRARY FOR YEARS, AND THE LIBRARIANS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN SO WELCOMING AND HELPFUL. WRITER AND INTERVIEWER AMANDA, WAS ABLE TO MEET WITH AND INTERVIEW A FEW OF THEM, HERE IS WHAT SHE FOUND OUT.

OUR LOCAL LIBRARIANS ENJOY READING COMEDY, FAMILY, GARDENING, AND MYSTERIES. SOME OF THEIR FAVORITE BOOKS INCLUDE HARRY POTTER, THE BIBLE, AND THE HELP. THEY HAVE WORKED MANY YEARS AT THE LIBRARY IN URBANA. PATTY HAS BEEN AT URBANA LIBRARY FOR 14 YEARS. STACY HAS BEEN THERE 12 YEARS, AND AMBER HAS BEEN THERE 9 YEARS. BEFORE AMBER STARTING WORKING AT THE LIBRARY SHE WAS A STAY AT HOME MOM. STACY WAS A TEACHER BEFORE SHE CAME TO THE LIBRARY. PATTY HAS ALWAYS BEEN A LIBRARIAN WITH 39 YEARS IN THIS FIELD. IN HER SPARE TIME, AMBER ENJOYS THINGS LIKE FAMILY TIME, CHURCH ACTIVITIES AND GRADENING. STACY ENJOYS WATCHING MOVIES AND TRYING NEW RESTAURANTS. PATTY ENJOYS SPENDING TIME WITH HER NEW GRANDSON. WE REALLY APPRECIATE ALL THE LIBRARIANS IN URBANA AND HOW WELCOMING THEY ARE WHEN WE VISIT.

THE LIBRARY HAS MANY AMAZING RESOURCES BEYOND BOOKS AND MEDIA. JUST A FEW INCLUDE A 3D PRINTER, GLOWFORGE, HEATPRESS, AND CRICUT. THESE TOOLS ARE AVAILABLE THROUGH APPOINTMENT AT MINIMUM TO NO COST OTHER THAN MATERIALS. THE LIBRARY ALSO HOSTS A VARIETY OF CLUBS AND EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR SO BE SURE TO CHECK OUT THEIR WEBSITE!

ARTICLE WRITTEN BY AMANDA AND NELSON
INTERVIEW AND RESEARCH BY AMANDA



In Loving Memory of Bob Custer

BOB AND MIDGE CUSTER MOVED TO CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, OHIO FROM THE DAIRYLANDS OF WISCONSIN IN 1989 TO SERVE AS PASTOR AT JENKINS CHAPEL, BRINGING ALONG A WELL CULTIVATED DESIRE TO GROW THINGS. AFTER THE BIRTH OF THEIR SON LEVI, BOB AND MIDGE RESPONDED TO AN INNER DESIRE TO DEEPEN THEIR ROOTS IN THE AREA AND FOLLOW GOD'S DIRECTION TO BE MORE INVOLVED IN THE NEEDS OF INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES AND THEIR FAMILIES.

IN 2006, THE CUSTER'S OPENED THE DOORS OF DOWNSIZE FARM. LIKE OTHER FAMILIES THAT PRAYERFULLY APPEALED FOR ANSWERS TO THE UNIQUE DEMANDS OF RAISING KIDS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, DOWNSIZE FARM WAS THE PLACE FOR THEIR TWO SONS, LEVI AND ERIC, TO LOOK AT LIFE THROUGH THE DISTINCT TRADEMARK EYES OF DOWN SYNDROME (DOWN'S-EYES). THE SOWER HAD PLANTED THE SEEDS OF THE HOPEFUL AND REDEMPTIVE ADVENTURE "LIFE IS LOOKING UP AT DOWNSIZE FARM" AND IT WAS READY TO GROW.

BOB WROTE THE DOWNSIZE FARM MISSION, "TO BE A PATH AND A PARTNER, OF HELP AND OF HOPE, TO LIVE PURPOSEFUL AND PRODUCTIVE LIVES." BOB AND HIS WIFE RETIRED FROM DOWNSIZE FARM IN 2020, BUT BOB CONTINUED TO FIND WAYS TO CONTINUE THAT MISSION WITHIN THE COMMUNITY. BOB CALLED THIS PERIOD OF HIS LIFE, "RETIREDMENT", AND KEPT THE CONSTANT MOMENTUM TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF EVERYONE AROUND HIM. HE FOUND PASSION IN HIS NEWLY APPOINTED SEAT AS THE CHAIR OF CHAMPAIGN HOPE 4 GOOD. IT WAS NEVER REALLY KNOWN WHAT ADVENTURE HE HAD IN STORE FOR THE DAY, BUT HIS HEART WAS IN BUILDING HOPE IN THE PERSON WITH A DISABILITY, THE INMATE, THE PASTOR, THE BUSINESS OWNER, THE NEIGHBOR. BOB SAW EVERY HUMAN BEING AS HAVING THE DIGNITY OF LIFE, WHICH HE PREACHED PASSIONATELY IN HIS WORDS AND SERVICE.

BOB ACCOMPLISHED SO MANY AMAZING THINGS IN HIS LIFETIME AND HIS LEGACY LIVES ON THROUGH EVERY PERSON THAT HAD THE HONOR OF KNOWING HIM. WE ARE FOREVER GRATEFUL FOR THE GIFT OF DOWNSIZE FARM AND WE ARE SO THANKFUL FOR OUR FRIEND, BOB CUSTER.



ROBERT IRVIN CUSTER.
BORN FEBRUARY 20, 1951
ENTERED ETERNAL LIFE
FEBRUARY 12, 2024

WITH THIS IN MIND, WE CONSTANTLY PRAY FOR YOU,
THAT OUR GOD MAY MAKE YOU WORTHY OF HIS
CALLING, AND THAT BY HIS POWER HE MAY BRING TO
FRUITION YOUR EVERY DESIRE FOR GOODNESS AND
YOUR EVERY DEED PROMPTED BY FAITH.

2 THESSALONIANS 1:11



Burr's Verse Of The Month

FOR GOD SO LOVED THE
WORLD THAT HE GAVE HIS
ONLY BEGOTTEN SON SO
THAT WHOEVER BELIEVES
ON HIM SHOULD NOT
PERISH FROM THE EARTH.
JOHN 3:16

BURR SELECTED THIS VERSE
BECAUSE IT REMINDED HIM
OF SPRING AND NEW LIFE.