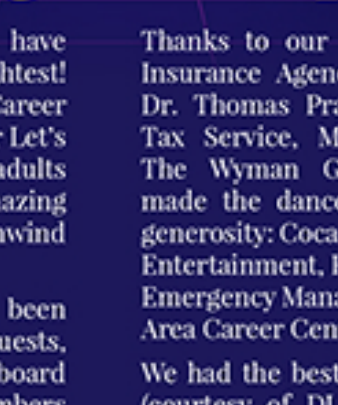


# THE COMPANION

## WINTER 2019



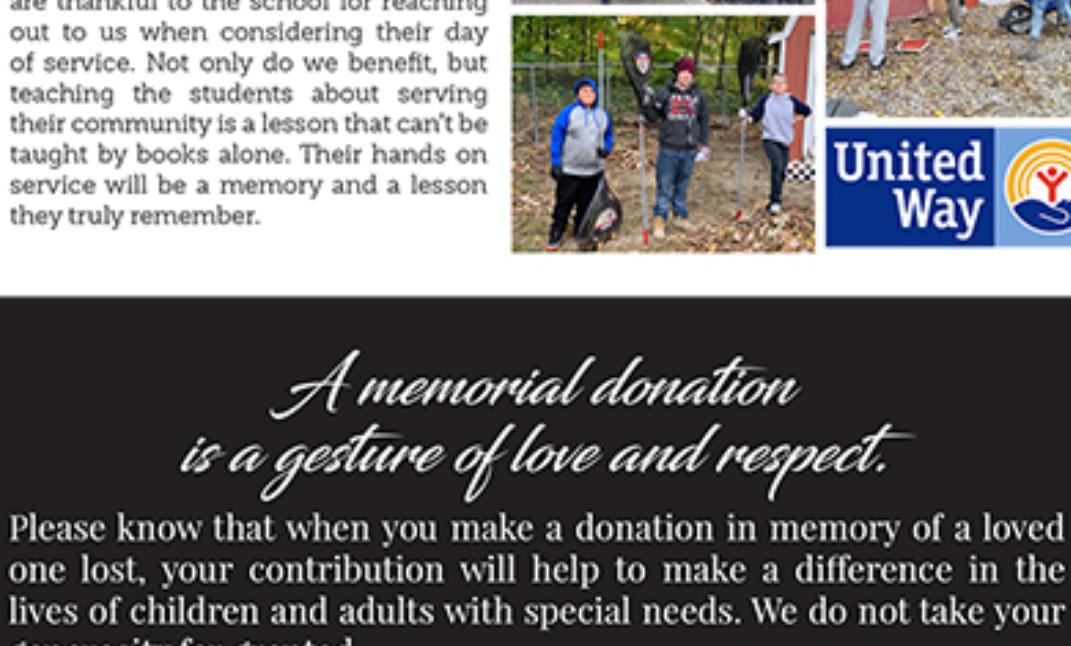
## Let's Glow 80s Crazy Wrap-Up

It wasn't the first dance we have ever put on, but it was the brightest! Thanks to our Kokomo Area Career Center intern, Jacob Moore, our Let's Glow 80s Crazy dance for adults with special needs was an amazing opportunity to rewind and unwind the night away.

The event wouldn't have been possible without the amazing guests, staff, volunteers, sponsors, board members, and community members who joined us. Events don't just happen overnight. There's a lot of planning and preparation. And, when you're a non-profit there's a lot of partnership!

Thanks to our financial partners: Hobson Insurance Agency, Community First Bank, Dr. Thomas Prather, Jansen's Asphalt and Tax Service, Moore Title & Escrow and The Wyman Group, and to those who made the dance possible by their in-kind generosity: Coca-Cola, UAW Local 685, Jansen Entertainment, Heartland Ministries Church, Emergency Management Agency and Kokomo Area Career Center Cosmetology students.

We had the best time dancing to 80s music (courtesy of DJ Troy Bowers), eating food made by the Kokomo Area Career Center's Culinary Arts students and providing our special friends with a night to let loose and have some fun!



## WORK FOR A CAUSE NOT AN APPLAUSE!

**INDIANA UNIVERSITY KOKOMO**

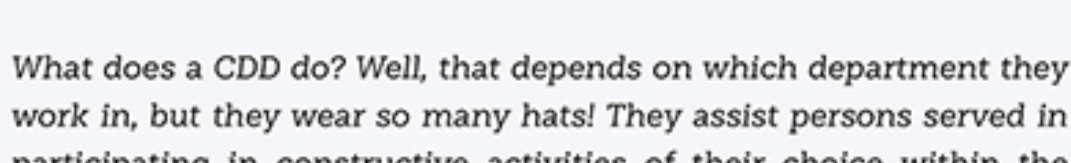
For the third year in a row, the Indiana University Kokomo baseball team partnered up with the adults we serve in a fun softball game at Kokomo Municipal Stadium. The Athletes for All Abilities game pairs college baseball players up with adults from Bona

Vista Programs. They bat, field and run together, but more than that they spend time together. The students learn about adults with different abilities, and those we serve make new friends. ALL have a great time, though, and we can't wait to do it again!



**TAYLOR COMMUNITY SCHOOLS** sent their students out in large quantity again this year to make a difference in their local community. We were lucky enough to have a large group of middle school students who cleared out trash and weeds from the landscaping, hauled equipment and then got down and dirty with some kiddos to paint. We appreciate their work hard, play hard attitudes, and we enjoy having them each year! Thanks go out to the United Way of Howard County serving Howard and Tipton counties for coordinating the day, and including us in it!

This year, **BON AIR MIDDLE SCHOOL** also sent students out into the community. These students painted a shed, raked leaves and pulled weeds. We are thankful to the school for reaching out to us when considering their day of service. Not only do we benefit, but teaching the students about serving their community is a lesson that can't be taught by books alone. Their hands on service will be a memory and a lesson they truly remember.



**United Way**

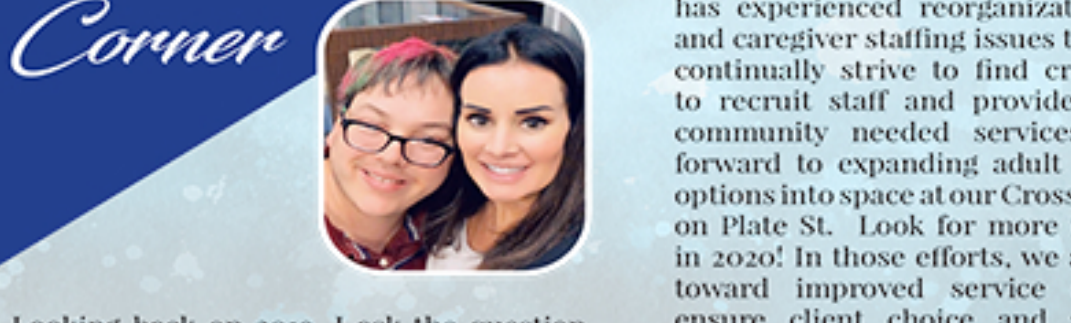
## A memorial donation is a gesture of love and respect.

Please know that when you make a donation in memory of a loved one lost, your contribution will help to make a difference in the lives of children and adults with special needs. We do not take your generosity for granted.

Thank you to the individuals who honored the memory of the following loved ones by making donations to Bona Vista Programs:

- |                           |                 |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| BETTE BECK                | DALE KINGSEED   |
| EDITH BORELLY DE CASTILLO | TOM MAHER       |
| DAVID BREWSTER            | JIM PUTTERBAUGH |
| MILLIE & LARRY BROWN      | JIMMY RAYL      |
| WAYNE ALAN BROWN          | ROBERT RICHARD  |
| MARY GALLOWAY             | JERRY SHULTZ    |
| DAVID KANOUSE             | MARK ZIRKLE     |

If you would like to honor the memory of a loved one, you may do so with a tax-deductible contribution online at [bonavista.org](http://bonavista.org) or by mailing a check to 1220 E. Laguna St., Kokomo, IN 46902.



## NOW HIRING

We are hiring, and we would love to have you or someone you know join us as a Caregiver of the Developmentally Disabled (CDD)! What does a CDD do? Well, that depends on which department they work in, but they wear so many hats! They assist persons served in participating in constructive activities of their choice within the organization, in the community or the persons served home. They get to help the people we serve work on daily living skills, communication skills and any other individualized skills they are working toward to maintain their independence. More than anything, though, they get to love the people we serve! Become an integral part of their daily lives and watch them grow and succeed!

To apply, go to [bonavista.org](http://bonavista.org) and click on "Apply." Interested applicants may also stop by 1220 E. Laguna St. in Kokomo, call 765-457-8273 or email Staff Recruiter Marcy Kistler at [mkistler@bonavista.org](mailto:mkistler@bonavista.org) for more information!

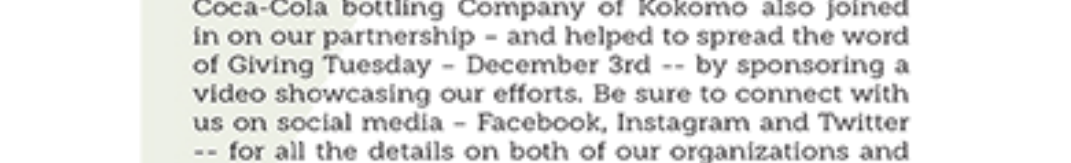


## President's Corner

Looking back on 2019, I ask the question, "Could you imagine what would happen in the community if Bona Vista was not here to provide services to the 1,000 children and adults we serve on a daily basis?" Include the additional number of family and friends that would be impacted. Consider how difficult it would be to go to work, complete errands, go to the doctor, and spend time outside of your family home if you did not have programs accessible to you through Bona Vista. The number of individuals with disabilities that need our services continues to grow annually.

I celebrate this holiday season for multiple reasons. I could not imagine Bona Vista without our amazing staff! I believe we have strong, dedicated and caring staff members who are dedicated to the mission of Bona Vista and are focused needs of our persons served. Bona Vista has experienced reorganization and caregiver staffing issues this year, but we continually strive to find creative ways to recruit staff and provide the community needed services. We continue to expand adult day programs into space at our Crossing on Plate St. Look for more info in 2020! In those efforts, we are toward improved service delivery, ensure client choice and satisfaction. We continue to need additional caregiver staff. If you would like to join our team, I would encourage you to our web site - [bonavista.org](http://bonavista.org) apply today! We are hopeful that the state of Indiana will recognize how it is to Indiana, the local community and families that services continue to be provided.

I am thankful to the persons served, families/guardians, board members, community members, organizational elected officials that have contributed to the success of Bona Vista in 2019. We look forward to and welcome opportunities that will come in 2020. Happy Holidays!



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS - OFFICERS

<b>CHAIRPERSON</b>	RHODA REYBURN AMI
<b>VICE CHAIRPERSON</b>	KEVIN O'KEEFE Attorney
<b>SECRETARY</b>	STEPHEN NUDGE Retired, Chrysler
<b>TREASURER</b>	KEVIN JOHNSTON Duke Energy

## 2019 BONA VISTA PROGRAMS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BRANDON BISHOP	STEPHANIE
PEDRO CASTILLO	KEVIN O'KEEFE
CHAD HOWERTON	RHODA REYBURN
CHRIS JACK	TROY STEIN
KEVIN JOHNSTON	GREG STIMP
DOTTIE KNEPLEY	SALLY VYAM
STEPHEN NUDGE	SHELLY WYAM

## DON'T STOP AT GIVING TUESDAY

Bona Vista wants to extend "Giving Tuesday" throughout the giving season! Giving Tuesday is a national campaign that takes place the Tuesday after Thanksgiving every year. It is an opportunity for people to give back after days of shopping and buying. It's a chance to show the non-profits in the community (or around the nation) that they are doing important work that you believe in. This year at Bona Vista Programs, we partnered with a Kokomo CEO student, Kaleb Lewellen, through Champions Together at Lewis Cass High School.

Kaleb approached Bona Vista's Development Department to ask how to raise funds for his cause, Champions Together. Champions Together is a collaborative partnership between the Indiana High School Athletic Association and Special Olympics Indiana that promotes servant leadership among student athletes while changing their lives as well as the lives of those with intellectual disabilities.

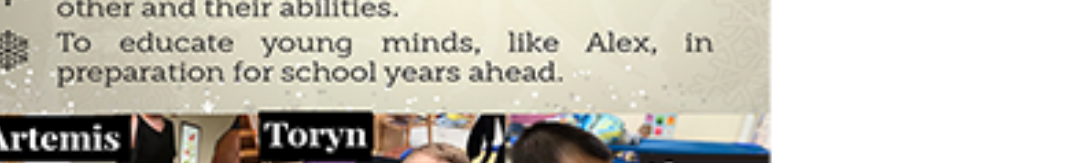
After learning about their mission and vision, Bona Vista easily realized how we could align forces, work together, and raise funds for those with disabilities in both programs! One common goal together for Giving Tuesday!

Bona Vista has many individuals in our programs that participate in Special Olympics, and we wanted to embrace the giving season by collaborating with another organization that shares our goals of servant leadership and enriching the lives of those with disabilities.

Coca-Cola bottling Company of Kokomo also joined in on our partnership - and helped to spread the word of Giving Tuesday - December 3rd - by sponsoring a video showcasing our efforts. Be sure to connect with us on social media - Facebook, Instagram and Twitter -- for all the details on both of our organizations and how you can give back, and check out our collaborative video!



## #GIVINGTUESDAY

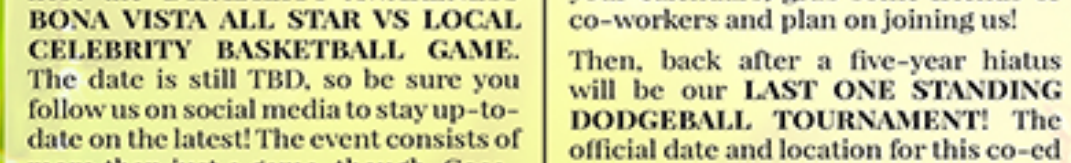


Video powered by Coca-Cola bottling of Kokomo

## We Care

If you are from Kokomo or the surrounding areas, you have definitely heard of We Care. Started in 1973 during a recession, We Care was a response to a caller to the WWKI radio station that couldn't provide Christmas for his family. Dick Bronson called to listeners to step up and help... and right then and there We Care was formed. The next year, the 47 hour auction commenced and continues today. Currently, five organizations are the beneficiaries of the funds raised through We Care efforts all season long.

Bona Vista is one of those lucky five. Each year, we are gifted a donation to help continue to support clients during the holiday season and to help continue to serve children and adults with high quality services. We even used the funds to invest We Care Wednesday's through our pediatric therapy program. You can bring in your child, ages 0-18 any Wednesday to visit with a pediatric physical or occupational therapist



to receive a FREE developmental screening!

To help raise funds for We Care, Bona Vista helps to promote the We Care tree auction and telethon. This year, our organization went all out fundraising for We Care by selling walking tacos, root beer floats, pancakes, bake sale items, and we even spooked each other's offices (long story short... we paid to move spooky creatures to co-workers office doors) during the Halloween season.

We took all of those funds and created a farmhouse Christmas tree for the We Care Tree Auction. "Farming for Inclusion" was our theme, and we embraced the current buffalo check/farmhouse feel. Our tree was purchased by our friends at Soupley's Wine & Spirits, Kyle & Lisa Rayl - and they are giving it away as part of a drawing at their Southwest Boulevard location! Stop in, sign up, and they will draw the winner on December 16th!

Be sure to mark the following dates to support We Care:

Dec. 6th - 8th: We Care Telethon

Dec. 13th: Wrap-Up Auction at Kokomo Event & Conference Center

Dec. 18th: We Care Check Presentation Day - WWKI

## Bona Vista's Holiday Wish List

Bona Vista's wish list is more than items under the tree. It's about creativity, expression, opportunity, encouragement, independence and inclusion for the 1,000 individuals we serve each day. It is mission driven. Help us this holiday season with a donation to continue to provide high quality services. When you think about where your money is going, look below to Jeffrey, Sommer, Rod, Artemis, Toryn and Alex. Make your tax deductible donation today by visiting [www.bonavista.org](http://www.bonavista.org) or returning the enclosed envelope.



**Jeffrey**

To allow Jeffrey to explore his creativity in art class.

**Sommer**

For Sommer to find her dream job where she can express her personality.

**Rod**

To give Rod the opportunity to share his smile during community outings.

For students like Artemis to graduate Preschool ready for Kindergarten.

For Toryn and his friends to learn about each other and their abilities.

To educate young minds, like Alex, in preparation for school years ahead.



**Artemis**

**Toryn**

**Alex**

## Save the Date

- Spring is just around the corner!

Spring is a very busy time for Bona Vista, and we want to make sure your calendars are marked with all of the fun ways you can come out and support us!

Our 4th Annual VIVA LAS VISTA casino night will be held at the Kokomo Country Club on Friday, Jan. 31. Tickets are on sale now online and at all Bona Vista locations! The evening will include delicious food, DJ/dancing, starter poker chips and all the gambling for a good cause that you can handle. The Sertoma Group of Broadripple will once again man the casino games and keep the evening running smoothly. We can't wait to have you join us!

For the 18th year, Memorial Gym will host the **DISABILITY AWARENESS BONA VISTA ALL STAR VS LOCAL CELEBRITY BASKETBALL GAME**. The date is still TBD, so be sure you follow us on social media to stay up-to-date on the latest! The event consists of more than just a game, though. Coca-Cola's pop-a-shot halftime contest, concessions, halftime entertainment and so much more are on the agenda! We can't wait to see which celebrities end up on the team this year, and hope you'll come out to support the rookies and the veterans who take the court.

SPECTACLE IN TASTING is already shaping up to be one of the best yet!

Save the date for Saturday, May 16! Tickets will be sold online and at all Soupley's Wine & Spirits locations once they go on sale. Line up your babysitter and designated driver, and plan to be on the grounds of Bona Vista that night to sample all of the local food and new wine and microbrew releases!

Those three events aren't the only ones that will take place in 2020! We are ramping up and getting excited for one new event and one event that we are bringing back by popular demand!

On August 28, 2020, we will host a 9-hole golf outing at WILDCAT CREEK GOLF COURSE. Details haven't been ironed out in total yet, but this outing will feature lunch, prizes and beautiful weather (we are calling it now). Mark your calendars, grab some friends or co-workers and plan on joining us!

Then, back after a five-year hiatus will be our **LAST ONE STANDING DODGEBALL TOURNAMENT!** The official date and location for this co-ed tournament haven't been finalized, but this event will take place Fall 2020 and be just as fun as you remember. If you never participated in the past, you can plan on dressing up, ducking, dodging and raising money for Bona Vista Programs all while having a great time!

Make sure you follow us on social media to stay up-to-date on all of our events and upcoming activities!