



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

for our upcoming Applebee’s breakfast and perennial plant sale on **Saturday, May 14th from 8-10 am**. Tickets are just \$5 (wow, what a bargain!) Applebee’s, 6845 W. State Street, Rockford, IL. This is a fundraiser for Rock House Kids. Tickets available through office, volunteers, online or at the door! Please join us!

## FACING OUR FEARS WITH HELP

For a child, the bogey man comes in all shapes, sizes, colors and disguises. For Carissa, one of our own Rock House Kids, her fears were any mask worn or a costumed person.



When Carissa was five years old, we had invited a clown to visit and make balloon creations. When Carissa saw the clown, she started to cry. At age



seven, we invited a famous mascot to join us for an event at Rock House Kids. The mascot changed in the restroom, and even though

she saw the person go into the restroom and come out as a mascot, she began shaking and would not go near that restroom alone. At age nine, we went to an Easter egg hunt, and the Easter bunny was more than she could handle. She hung onto me with such a strong grip most wrestlers would be impressed!



One of our caring volunteers took Carissa and her siblings to a special church event. When it was time

to leave Carissa was found hiding under a table. One of the classes had a person dressed up as a bible character that day. As time passed, of course, Carissa grew up. All along, we prayed with her, talked to her, and were there for her. We always alerted her if a costumed character would be part of our program. This way, she could prepare herself, and if necessary, we would be by her side.

Recently, we took children to a special outing. While we were getting off the bus, Carissa saw some costumed characters walk by the bus, and she hesitated getting off the bus by herself. With much consoling and prayer, she departed the bus to join the rest of the kids having fun. Carissa finally believed she could face her fears. As we walked around the grounds, she located a person in a giraffe costume and told me to take a picture! She wanted to make sure she had a picture of this. I took the picture for her and Carissa finally overcame her fear that day!

Here at Rock House Kids, we cater to the physical, spiritual, and emotional needs of our kids!

—Dola Gregory, Founder and CEO

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.”

Joshua 1:9 NIV



### ARE YOU THE MISSING PIECE?

Always looking for individuals, groups, churches or businesses to prepare a hot meal for our nightly programs. Please call our office at 815.962.5067 or for more information email [barb@rockhousekids.org](mailto:barb@rockhousekids.org)



### GO DIGITAL

Would you like to receive this newsletter by email? Send a message to [barb@rockhousekids.org](mailto:barb@rockhousekids.org)



### HELP NEEDED

Still looking for Volunteer kitchen servers on Wednesdays! Help is needed from 5:30-8 pm. Contact our office for an application!

Volunteer Tech Person needed for Mondays 6:30-7:30 pm. Email [dee@rockhousekids.org](mailto:dee@rockhousekids.org) for an application.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dola Gregory Executive Director  
Daniel Bross President  
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Lori Mitchell Secretary  
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### ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Kelly Willoughby  
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Robert Smith Electric



**THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR THE FAITHFUL SUPPORT YOU GIVE!**

We are honored that you would donate to us. These wonderful donations were received March 16th-April 15th!

**VOLUNTEER CORNER**

**Volunteer of the Year:  
Stan McCord**



Stan McCord, one of our long time volunteers, started serving with us in 2010. He has worn many volunteer hats which include a Mentor in our Teen Leader Program, Fifth & Sixth Boys Class Leader, and he joined in as a Camp Counselor. He continues to be a Helper in our Pebbles group and helps at our various fundraisers. He retired from his job last year but he continues to volunteer his time with us during the day with sorting, assembling and cleaning our facility. He shows real devotion to Rock House Kids and we nominated him for our first Volunteer of the Year Award Winner! Congratulations Stan!



**A shout out to our wonderful volunteers!** Last month, we had a special night of appreciation for them with food, prizes and a special thanks from our kids. We appreciate each and every volunteer who helps Rock House Kids in various ways. Thank you!

**PEBBLES:**

- W. Kyle & Collette Anderson
- Ronald & Nancy Blomquist
- Gentle Shepherd Fellowship
- Virginia Hamlett
- David & Rebecca Poirier
- Ruth Lindgren
- Barbara Muno
- John & Karen LeRette
- Larry & Janice Lathrop
- Timothy & Mary Sather
- Richard & Clara Stoll
- Patricia Davis Weber
- Gwen Koch
- Helen McNally
- Phillip & Ferol Labash
- Ken & Mary McGinn
- Robert & Linda Pearce
- Frances Sola
- Linda Rock
- Marilyn Beebe
- Peggy Marie Nuelle
- Robert & Pamela Kieper
- Kimberly Garst
- David & Rebecca Poirier
- Craig & Patricia Gramke
- Girl Talk - God Talk/Durand United Methodist
- James & Jennie Parrott
- Thomas & Lillian Vola
- Henry & Dorothy Schueler
- Margie Wiedenhoefler
- Nancy Houtz
- Sally Kaso
- Carl & Karen Winsett
- Phillip & Beverly Knowles
- David Knoblock
- Susan Eissens
- Jeffrey Cernick
- Homer Troy

- Robert Estrada
- Faith Community Church
- Kathryn Conrad
- Heather Garrison
- Steven & Cyree Hornbeck
- Marian Bonavia
- Linda Watts
- Sharon Aebersold
- Vivian Anderson
- Pamela Anderson
- Gentle Shepherd Fellowship
- Delores Circle
- Kimberly Garst
- Michael & Jodi Amans
- Carl & Lula Steele
- Mark & Patricia Kolb
- Brent & Cheryl Surowiec
- Catherine Stanphill
- Jeanette Rodriguez
- Nancy Smith
- Danny Whittaker
- Betty Norup

**STONES:**

- James & Willa Hendricks, Sr.
- Victory Sports Complex, Inc.
- Lori Mitchell
- Patricia Atwood
- Cornerstone Family Church
- Riverside Community Church
- Rockford Lutheran School
- Associated Bank
- Norman & Charlene Wills
- Bethesda Covenant Church
- Robert & Debra Marner
- Jerome & M. Gail Daleiden
- Flora Community Church
- Northeast Christian Church
- Timothy Durkee
- Russell & Karen Oellig

- Joanne Henry
- Robert & Constance Griffin
- J. David Wood
- Vincent & Ericka Sheely
- Liberty Ministries
- Viola Scadden
- First Baptist Church
- Forest City Fellowship
- Daniel McLevige
- Virginia Sharp
- Joseph & Marie Stachnik
- Kelly Wolf
- Marjorie Anders
- Abundant Grace Church
- Nancy Hoffman
- Chad & Paula Ruff
- Phillip & Leslie Frankfort
- Michael & Sharon Kohlstedt
- Kevin & Barbara Adams
- Westminster Presbyterian Church
- Frank & Margaret Shappert
- Charlene Erikson
- Shirlee Famighette
- Mary Van Camp
- Willowbrook Middle School

**BOULDERS:**

- First Assemblies of God of Robertsdale
- Keeling/Green Fund

**AS ALWAYS, THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN A CHILD'S LIFE!**

**MAKE A DIFFERENCE TODAY!**

Feel free to tear off the bottom portion and send it along with your next donation: Check here if no recognition is desired

Individual/Church/Service Group/Organization Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my gift to help continue the work at Rock House Kids: \_\_\_\_\_

Check the following: Monthly Gift  One Time Gift  Special Occasion  "In Memory/Honor of \_\_\_\_\_"  
(Circle One)

**Thank you so much for your support!** You ARE making a difference in the lives of hurting and hungry children in our community.