

# Area contractors band together to assist injured Batavia teacher

by Michael McCulloh

The spirit of goodwill during the Christmas season is alive and well. Anyone who does not believe this simply needs to speak to the family of Joy Vaughn.

Vaughn was injured in an accident earlier in the year and needed a special bathroom built to accommodate her. The entire renovation could have cost about \$10,000. However, it only cost the family approximately \$4,000, because some area contractors decided to lend a helping hand.

According to Mary Lou Rowe, a friend of Vaughns who worked with her in the International Club at Batavia High School, the family was looking to remodel their bathroom to meet Joy's special needs. She realized that their medical bills were really tearing into the family's finances.

Rowe then spoke with Contractor Steve Zerby of Windsor Custom Homes, 1173 Danforth Dr., who offered to do the construction work at a discount with a little help from his friends.

Zerby then made sure the time and labor was split between different companies, according to Rowe. They included Kraft & Son Plumbing, Inc. of Batavia, Ray Hogan Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc. of Batavia, Jensen Electric of St. Charles, Magouirk Drywall of Crete, Amron Stair Works of Gilberts, Ill., Carlson Flooring of Geneva, F.E. Wheaton Lumber Co. of Wheaton, Kitchen Distributors of America of Addison, Heights Glass & Mirror Co. of Arlington Heights, William F. Meyer Co. of Aurora.

Zerby said he has a sister who is in a similar predicament as a result of an accident 24 years ago, and his daughter had Vaughn for a teacher. There was an instant motivation to help her out, he said.

"It surprised everybody he (Zerby) was able to get people to contribute their time," Rowe said. "We simply thought Windsor would do the work for a discount."



Joy Vaughn

She added that people have really shown their concern for Vaughn's welfare the past couple of months.

The Batavia High School Key Club helped coordinate a spaghetti fundraiser in May for Vaughn that raised almost \$20,000 from about 1,000 area residents.

Rowe also pieced The Garden Twist, a quilt made by The Kalico Kwiklers of Yorkville. The quilt was raffled last October at St. Patrick's Church in Yorkville.

"It shows what a great community this really is," Vaughn said. "All these people were willing to help Joy."

Vaughn, 24, was an adult chaperone of an independent student trip for spring break sponsored by the American Council for International Studies (ACIS), based in Boston. She was accompanied by fellow foreign language teacher Julie Johnson and nine students on a rafting excursion on April 1 when the accident occurred. There were no injuries to other members of this group.

## Symposium helps participants look to future

Thursday, Dec. 14

Kane County Board Administration Committee, 9 a.m., Kane County Government Center.

Kane County Historic Preservation Commission, 7 p.m., Kane County Government Center.

Friday, Dec. 15

Kane County Board Human Services Committee, 9 a.m., Kane County Government Center.

Monday, Dec. 18

Kane County Board Public Service Committee, 9 a.m., Government Center.

Tuesday, Dec. 19

Council meeting, 7:30 p.m., City Hall.  
Kane County Board County Develop-

## Calendar

### New Year's Eve lock-in

Tri-Cities residents can find a safe alternative to the New Year's Eve frenzy all night long at Funway Entertainment Center in Batavia.

"New Year's Eve is a big night for us," said Funway owner Bob Hansen, who notes the rink's early session for families and Allnite Lock-In party for those staying up past the midnight hour.

"Between the rink parties, countdowns, contests and the arcade, we stay pretty busy all day and night," Hansen said.

Offering fun for families early in the evening, Funway Skate Station will host a pre-midnight Family Party from 7 to 10 p.m. Roller skating, party hats and noise makers, contests, a balloon drop and a countdown are all part of the fun. Admission for all ages is \$4 plus \$1.25 for skate rental.

Funway's New Year's Eve Lock-in, which begins at 11 p.m., features an expanded balloon drop, raffles, roller skating, free bumper cars and video games (redemption games excluded), a countdown, contests and more. Doors will re-open at 6 a.m.

Considered to be a smart alternative to other New Year's Eve options, Funway