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We're turning Top Hat Upside Down in 2021!

Looking back at our year – Gil Fonger

Holiday Celebrations will be a little Different

A Record-Breaking Virtual Run, Walk & Roll

Meet our QIDPs!

Support our Year-End Appeal

Marklund Merchandise

Join our Leadership Giving Circle

Check inside for details on how you can enjoy this year’s special Top Hat Ball experience!
This 25th annual event will be our most unique to date!
Needless to say, it has been quite a year. In fact, unless you were around during the 1918 flu pandemic, none of us has ever experienced anything like this. This has been a challenging year not just for our residents, students, community clients, and staff but also for our volunteers and most especially the parents/guardians.

If you can imagine having your loved one at Marklund and being restricted by public health since mid-March from being able to hold your child’s hand or give them a hug and kiss. Our parents/guardians have been so very gracious in understanding these challenges and trusting that we are doing all that we can for their daughter, son, brother, sister, grandchild; etc.

Despite the challenges, we provide opportunities for families to visit their loved ones, both virtually and physically, to the extent allowed under our current restrictions. We have celebrated special occasions, participated in Summer Games, the 5K/1-Mile Run, Walk and Roll, Halloween, Thanksgiving, and are getting ready to celebrate Christmas and New Year’s.

Life goes on.

No matter what, we are meeting the challenges of the pandemic and continuing our legacy of service, since our very first resident, Mark William Lund, in December 1954. Please continue to keep us in your prayers as we begin another 65 years of service.

God bless you!

Gil

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**Celebrating the Holidays 2020**

No Grinches allowed here! As always at Marklund, we are determined to make the holidays festive and enjoyable for our residents, even during a pandemic!

**GIVING TREE DRIVE**

Yes, we are going ahead with our Giving Tree Gift Drive! Just like every year, each of our 174 residents has a personal wish list, and during our annual Gift Drive, these items are featured on individualized tags that hang on Marklund’s holiday Giving Trees throughout the community in private businesses. Presents purchased by supporters can be dropped off at our various locations by Dec. 21, or, if there are large quantities, can be arranged to be picked up. Different this year, is the gift opening process. Our traditional Gift Opening days, usually attended by hundreds of volunteers, is cancelled. Once sorted, the presents will be given to our residents by staff and opened together. There are sure to be plenty of smiles! We will capture the moments on photos and post as many as possible on our social media sites. To request an assortment of the resident tags or arrange for large quantity gift pickup, email Cathy Nikrandt, Manager of Volunteer Engagement, at cnikrandt@marklund.org.

**OUR WISH LIST**

Marklund has a general wish list that can be helpful when shopping for gifts. If your school or church group, business or family wants to put together a gift basket for Marklund, you will find many ideas on this list. Items range from arts and craft materials, personal care items, room decor and even gift certificates. Find it at www.marklund.org/wishlist.

**VIRTUAL VISITS instead of Open Houses**

Since holiday Open House celebrations are cancelled, families/guardians who wish to connect with their loved ones should contact the QIDP at the specific home to set appointments for virtual visits. (Please note: Indoor visitation options are based on current IDPH restrictions.)
We’re turning Marklund’s Top Hat Ball upside down in 2021!

Top Hat upside down
Our Ball, Your Ballroom

A LIVESTREAM GALA EXPERIENCE FOR MARKLUND

Because an in-person event of our typical size and magnitude won’t be possible this year, it IS possible for ALL of us to make a difference—from a distance.

It’s still OUR TOP HAT BALL, but in YOUR BALLROOM! You’ll enjoy complimentary access to our hour-long show from the comforts of your home or private venue space, and you’ll get to host your own WATCH PARTY as you gather friends for Marklund’s one-of-a-kind Livestream Gala Experience. You choose the food and drink package that fits you best, and we deliver it. We’ll also help you create your free fundraising page to gain support from your social network and those who won’t be able to attend your private event.

SAVE THE DATE
Saturday, February 6, 2021 from 7-8 pm CST

REGISTER FOR FREE VIEWING ACCESS
Sign up for FREE registration which gives you viewing access from your phone or computer to the Livestream Gala Experience on February 6, 2021. Whether you plan to watch from your home as a family or couple, or host a big Watch Party, registration is free, but required! All Watch Party hosts will air the Livestream from their home/private venue, but each guest MUST be registered to participate in all the free raffles and event activities!

RESERVE A TOP HAT BALL PACKAGE OPTION
SEE INSERT PROVIDED. Choose the Sponsorship or Watch Party package that fits you best. All Watch Party hosts will receive complimentary viewing access for all of your guests to Marklund’s Livestream Gala Experience, plus several food and beverage options delivered straight to your doorstep. We’re offering technical assistance setting up your fundraising page, plus big prizes for top fundraisers! You won’t want to miss the virtual photo booth experience and photo share contest!

SET UP YOUR FUNDRAISING PAGE
Get your social network engaged in supporting Marklund as YOUR cause! Host special occasion Peer-to-Peer giving for birthdays, Christmas giving, memorials, tributes, anniversaries! Highest Fundraising Team will win their choice of (1) Pizza Party and Wine Tasting for 20 guests at Aspen Lane Wine Company in spring/summer 2021 OR (2) $1,000 Apple gift card to snag the newest iPhone or Apple gadget! Good luck!

Contact Jeannine Zupo at jzupo@marklund.org or call 630.593.5445
www.marklund.org/tophatball

Saturday, February 6, 2021
from 7-8 pm CST
Honoring Friends of the Year: Peg and John Haskins
Event Chairs: Catie and Max Schmidt
Event Vice Chairs: Kelly and Tom Roule
Marklund Staff Profile: Meet our QIDPs

Qualified Intellectual Disabilities Professionals (QIDPs) also referred to as Qs, manage an important role at Marklund. They are essentially Case Workers assigned to a specific number of residents at each of the sites. A QIDP is an advocate, caregiver, friend, educator, cheerleader, and so many other things. Some of the responsibilities of a QIDP are to coordinate, implement, and monitor the Individual Program Plan for each resident, act as a liaison to families, and sometimes arrange medical appointments. They work with staff to make everyday life possible for the residents, and support the residents so that they can live their best lives.

**MARKLUND WASMOND CENTER**

**Jessica Rodriguez**
I have been at the Wasmond Center for 10 years now, started when the building was Little Angels as a CNA right after high school. I worked here part-time throughout college. I became a QIDP last August!

**Kimberly Rusthoven**
I have been working at Marklund for 3 years. I started as a part-time Q in May of 2017. I have been a Q the entire time I have been at Marklund.

**Christy Drach**
I have been at Marklund for a year and a half. This is my first job at Marklund, however, I was a previous Q for 4 years at another facility.

**MARKLUND HYDE CENTER**

**Bernadette Pauls, Sayers Home**
I have been with Marklund since January 2018, and I started as a QIDP in Richard Home. I started the position as QIDP/Group Home Manager of Sayers Home in April 2019.

**Sue Molenkamp, Vandermolen Home**
I have been at Marklund since before computers were used and everything, everything, was done on paper. We punched in via a dinosaur biting our time card. A Q actually is all positions melded together – it has evolved endlessly over my time at Marklund so that I never felt a need to change positions, as I learned and did so much as a Q.

**Devyn Denney, Tommy Home**
I have been with Marklund for nearly 3 ½ years! I have only been a Q for Marklund.

**Lem Pablo, Haverkampf Home**
I have been with Marklund for 25 years, starting as a CNA for 6 years, then I became a Q.

**Angela Williams, Dreher Home**
I have been with Marklund over two years. I started as a PSP in August 2018, then moved to being a Developmental Instructor in November 2018. I then moved again to become the QIDP for Dreher Home in June 2019.

**Gina Allen, Richard Home**
I have been with Marklund for 16 years this past September. I began with Marklund as a CNA (or PSP as they are currently known) at the Marklund Tommy Home. I worked there for about 3 years before transitioning into the Therapeutic Activity Aide (TAA) position. I was the TAA for a few years and then switched back to PSP for the Haverkampf Home while attending college. In 2016, I was hired on as QIDP for the Richard Home! No matter what position or home I have worked, Marklund has always been my home away from home.

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**MARKLUND PHILIP CENTER**

**Valerie Skogman**
I have been at Marklund for nearly a year and a half. I worked as a paraprofessional at MDS in 2013.

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**UPDATE**

Changing two of our large fundraising events to virtual formats due to the COVID-19 pandemic did not deter Marklund supporters. Our last two events, The Cyber Classic, held in August, and October’s Run, Walk & Roll-Geneva, were big successes!

**The Cyber Classic** offered in place of the annual Marklund Golf Classic, this virtual event included a 1-hour video and auction program featuring Bloody Mary demo by Food Network star Jeff Mauro, putting lesson from PGA-Champion golfer Craig Stadler, and sponsor shout-out from Chicago Bears Hall-of-Famer Mike Singletary. Event hosts Bud and Jim Porter broadcast live from their Addison-based company Porter Pipe & Supply, encouraging those who regularly enjoyed the golf classic to purchase a special golf opportunity at the renowned Rich Harvest Farms course.

The result: $167,884 raised in net proceeds with more than 200 households tuning in!

**SAVE THE DATE** for next year’s 39th annual Golf Classic on June 2, 2021.

They Ran, Walked & Rolled on their own for Marklund. We could not gather together in front of our Hyde Center in Geneva to run a 5K or walk 1 mile, but 326 participants did it on their own, shattering all previous Run, Walk & Roll records! Some took to the streets or trails while others jumped on their treadmills. Thirty-five fundraising teams gathered in their own way, and 21 sponsors supported us from afar.

The result: Netting $92,600, the highest total in the event’s eight-year history!

**SAVE April 18, 2021**, for a Virtual Run, Walk & Roll - Bloomingdale.

**SAVE October 17, 2021**, for a regular (or hybrid) Run, Walk & Roll - Geneva.
I have this quote on my bulletin board as a daily reminder, and it couldn’t be more relevant than it is today.

“May my work today be an answer to someone’s prayer.”

Over this past year, our staff have literally been an answer to prayer and worked tirelessly to keep our residents safe and active throughout the COVID-19 crisis. While we hoped to maintain a sense of normalcy for the individuals we serve, certain aspects of everyday life have been on hold for their safety. Our residents have been unable to enjoy outings, attend our Community Day Service program, or visit with their loved ones. However, as we adapted to this crisis, we are excited to be moving forward into a new phase at Marklund.

You give our residents hope for the future!

Our residents miss their families. At the beginning of the pandemic, visits were restricted, and Marklund purchased new laptops and tablets so our residents could stay connected to their families and friends through video calls, Zoom and FaceTime. Recently, we installed large screens with Zoom capabilities in the classrooms and group homes to create even more opportunities to connect.

Our adult residents miss their day program! Through Community Day Services, they had vocational and volunteer opportunities, daily social activities, and lots of fun community outings. Moving forward, we are excited to reopen this program to our residents again, on an alternating schedule, to allow them to continue social distancing.

We are working harder than ever to continue making everyday life possible for every individual we serve, and we rely on you to help us fulfill our mission. With your gift, we can ensure that our staff have the support they need to provide our residents with the best care possible.

Life looks a little different at Marklund because of the COVID-19 crisis, but our promise to keep our residents safe, healthy and happy remains the same. Thank YOU for your commitment to the people we serve.

Gilbert W. Tonger - President/CEO

Families from each Marklund campus have come together to generously match your gift!

Your gift will be matched, dollar-for-dollar, up to a total of $6,000, if made by December 31!

Enclosed is my gift of:
☐ $_____

Payment Method
☐ Check enclosed (payable to Marklund)
☐ Please charge my credit card
☐ I commit to a monthly gift of $___________.
   This gift is ☐ in honor ☐ in memory of
   __________________________
☐ I (we) wish to remain anonymous
   My birthday is: _____ / _____ (MM/DD)

I would like more information about
☐ Volunteering or taking a tour at Marklund
☐ Naming Marklund in my will
☐ Doubling my gift with a match by my employer

To give online, please follow the QR code or visit www.marklund.org/together

Credit Card Information
☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express ☐ Discover

CRedit CARD NUMBER __________________________
EXPIRATION DATE __/___ CVV NUMBER ___________
NAME ON CARD ________________________________
SIGNATURE _________________________________
ADDRESS
CITY STATE ZIP
MOBILE NUMBER EMAIL ADDRESS
1S450 Wyatt Drive, Geneva, IL 60134 630.593.5500
www.marklund.org | info@marklund.org
Contributions to Marklund are tax-deductible as permitted by law.
**2021 EVENT CALENDAR**

We are excited to present the upcoming Top Hat Ball as a hybrid event, with individuals hosting small watch party gatherings at their own homes/venues, and guests tuning in to a livestream event online. However, we are hoping to hold our other 2021 events in person, although they could become virtual or hybrid if necessary, depending on the status of the pandemic. Stay tuned for more details as 2021 progresses.

- **25th Annual Top Hat Ball**
  - “Top Hat Upside Down” – A Livestream Gala Experience
  - **February 6, 2021**

- **4th Annual**
  - Run, Walk & Roll-Bloomingdale
  - **April 18, 2021**

- **39th Annual**
  - Marklund Golf Classic
  - **June 2, 2021**

- **9th Annual**
  - Run, Walk & Roll-Geneva
  - **October 17, 2021**

**Pick up Marklund Gear for holidays and year-round fun!**

Thanks to a partnership with HyperStitch, an Illinois-based branding company, anyone can now obtain Marklund merchandise! From t-shirts, hoodies and polos, to leggings, sweatpants and more, there are many stylish ways to show your allegiance to Marklund!

All orders are individualized so customers shop at their own convenience and choose which shipping method they prefer. Collections change often so check back frequently.

Marklund does not make any profit from HyperStitch merchandise purchases.

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**OUR LOCATIONS**

**MARKLUND HYDE CENTER & SCHOOL**
1S450 Wyatt Drive, Geneva, Illinois 60134
Phone: 630.593.550 | Fax: 630.593.5501

Intermediate Care Facility (ICF) for adults. 25-acre campus includes Six 16-bed Residential Homes, Community Day Services, on-site heated aquatic therapy pool, main administrative offices, therapy program, and Miracle League baseball field. 96 residents plus community day clients.

**Foglia Education Center** (same address as above)
A non-public state-certified school for students ages 3 through 21 with multiple complex medical conditions and those on the autism spectrum. Offering special education within Multi-Needs and Life Skills programs.

**MARKLUND WASMOND CENTER & SCHOOL**
1435 Summit Street, Elgin, Illinois 60120
Phone: 224.523.7530 | Fax: 847.622.5523

Medically Complex/DD Facility for children and adults. Skilled nursing, Community Day Services, and therapy services. The five-acre campus includes the residential facility and Community Day Services. Additional services include recreational and community activities. 57 residents. Site also features two Marklund Day School classrooms for students in the Multi-Needs program.

**MARKLUND PHILIP CENTER & SCHOOL**
164 S. Prairie Ave., Bloomingdale, Illinois 60108
Phone: 630.529.2871 | Fax: 630.529.3266

Medically Complex/DD Facility for children and adults. Skilled nursing, Community Day Services, therapy services, and recreational and community activities. 21 residents.

**Marklund Day School** (same address as above)
Phone: 630.307.1882 | Fax: 630.307.6491

A non-public state-certified school that partners with area school districts to provide a highly specialized education experience. This therapeutic, sensory-driven Multi-Needs program serves individuals ages 3 through 21 with medical, developmental, and physical disabilities.

**Ann Haskins Center** (same address as above)
Through the Life Skills Program, teachers and paraprofessionals provide individualized functional curriculum and supports for students who are diagnosed on the Autism Spectrum, those with emotional/behavioral disorders, specific learning disabilities, and developmental disabilities.

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