



# Winona ORC Connection

December  
2016

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## Starlight Stroll 2016 has highest turnout in WORC history!



We are proud to announce we had a larger than expected turnout for our 4th annual Starlight Stroll held on November 4, 2016. Energetic participants from all over the area enjoyed a beautiful, warm fall day while running, rolling, and walking to raise money for our employees with special needs.

Over \$14,000 was raised by our sponsors and 235 participants for this fun annual event. The number of new runners was a great surprise and we hope you enjoyed yourself and will be back next year!

We are so pleased by the outpouring of support for Winona ORC given by all of you in the community. Your enthusiasm for the event keeps our minds thinking of ways we can make each year better than the last.

Thank you to our Starlight Stroll committee, the wonderful volunteers, and most of all to the employees we serve each day. We are happy to be with you on your journey to gainful employment.



1053 East Mark Street  
[www.winonaorc.org](http://www.winonaorc.org)

Winona, Minnesota  
[facebook](#) Winonaorc Industries



# Starlight Stroll 2016



Thank you to the American Legion for hosting our post run event. Cotter students and The Circle K Club at Winona State helped out by greeting everyone, serving soup, and playing games with the children. Thank you to the Starlight Stroll Committee: Chianne Thicke, Deb McClellan, Maggie Modjeski, and Heidi Smith. Thank you all so much!

**Thank you to our wonderful Sponsors!**

**Mike & Joette Gostomski  
Bob & Deb Leaf**

**Bob Kierlin & Mary Burrichter  
John & Cindy Leaf**

**Cathay American  
River Hills Dental**



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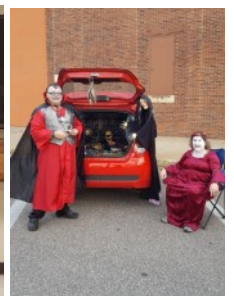
## Ode to ORC

by Jacob Grippen

Where we all fit  
 What we all do  
 All in same service  
 From me and from you  
 Our strength of being  
 Of "woring" our jobs  
 Helping the community  
 Our good work commands  
 Exceptional friendships  
 Twixt workers and worlds  
 The things we do together  
 Our potential unfurls  
 Uplifted we are able  
 With pride we take part  
 In learning and guiding  
 All with open hearts  
 We all are different  
 And we all do the same  
 In the service of community  
 Winona ORC (Industries) is our name

Jacob is one of our fabulous job coaches! He is also a great musician and is very involved with the Midwest Music Festival and active in many organizations.

Thank you Jacob for your beautiful song!



**Find the HIDDEN WORD in the pictures! It could be anywhere!**

The first person to call us at 452-1855 and reveal the hidden word will receive a free pair of mittens!

## Employee Superstar!



**Jeff Thill is a Superstar  
with 34 years of employment at Winona ORC!**

Jeff always wears his smile and his smile lights up the room!

While at Winona ORC, Jeff has worked at Montessori School, Fastenal, Restore, Wenonah Canoe and Riverside Electronics. In our building, he is always tidying up and keeping our floors clean. He is always willing to help others and pitches in whenever someone needs a helping hand.

Jeff enjoys spending time with his family, watching dirt track racing, camping, and cheering on professional sports teams.

Thank you Jeff for all that you do!

## Helen Nordby Achieves 35 Years of Service



Helen has been dedicated to the mission of Winona ORC for 35 years! We surprised her by all of the employees and staff singing to her!

Helen has done some amazing things for Winona ORC over the years, including starting as a sewer for Winona ORC as her first position, to being a Production Supervisor, Payroll Manager, back to Production, and now works as an accounting assistant. But she does so much more than accounting support! She is our newsletter guru, fund development tracker, thank you note writer, photographer at all events, and overall historian! We are so blessed to have Helen at Winona ORC and we thank her for her service for all these years!

On November 2, 2016, Winona ORC celebrated an anniversary of our longest serving staff, Helen Nordby!

-Heidi Smith, Executive Director

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It has been almost a year now that Watkins has set up a special room at the Watkins Plant for our WORC crew to diligently do random spice and packing jobs. These jobs include hand filling various bath salts, dips, seasoning, bay leaves, salves and more. The room has been totally refurbished with new painted floors, walls, and ceilings. It is divided into two rooms, one a controlled room for hand filling the spices and seasonings, the other adjoining room is set up for packaging lotions and salves and anything else that shows up.



Our site is under the watchful eye of June Sylvester, our primary coach, and followed up with several other coaches, Jacob Grippen, Heather Johnson, Cord Van Winkle to name a few. Depending on what is being done and in what room depends on the amount of clients working at the site. The amount of employees needed can be anywhere from 4 to 8 or more at times. The site does involve possibly working both rooms at the same time which becomes a challenge for our coaches and crew.

## Winona Laundry Adds Two More Customers

We are happy to announce that Saint Anne of Winona along with Good Shepherd Lutheran Services of Rushford have joined Winona Laundry. Work began on the culinary linens for Saint Anne's on September 1<sup>st</sup> of 2016. Good Shepherd started service with Winona Laundry one month later on October 1<sup>st</sup> of 2016, outsourcing a few linen items to supplement their existing work force. The new work is a great fit for Winona Laundry providing additional volume and meaningful work for our employees. The addition of Saint Anne of Winona and Good Shepherd Lutheran Services puts Winona Laundry at an estimated 80% of current equipment capacity.



The Winona community is so generous and Winona Laundry would not be here without that generosity. What goes unnoticed much of the time is the willingness of local businesses to form business relationships with Winona ORC. Without these relationships there would be no meaningful work for our employees.

Thank you Saint Anne of Winona and Good Shepherd Lutheran Services of Rushford for helping Winona ORC fulfill our mission by providing meaningful work to people with disabilities!

# Thank you!

The following people have made donations to our “Building Opportunity Fund” and to our “Bus Fund” from August through November 2016.

Slaggie Family Foundation

Ellen Zempel

Don & Sandra Curtin

Jim and Shannon Hanzel

James & Jeanne Danneker

Allan Carlson

Leon J. English

Stan & Suzanne Ferguson

Gerry Cichanowski Family

Bert & Ruth Schaffner

Jean Galewski

Mike & Linda Cichanowski

Helen & Ellsworth Simon

Ann & Brian Junker

David Zimmerman

Mike & Sue Hauser

Ken Bergler

Mr. James Frankard

Carl & Rhea Iverson

Dale Klabo

Hawkeye Forest Products

Carl & Bonnie Troke

Robert & Marj Deter

Mrs. Mary Nix

Dennis & Karen Cleveland

Dr. & Mrs. Arnold Fenske

Thank you to the Winona Community Foundation for their donation to purchase a shredding machine.

## Artwork by Vickie Gerken



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# Winona Shredding Service



Winona Shredding Service is pleased to offer a new option for your business or personal use.

Seal N' Shred is a great alternative for low volume or overflow business needs. Easy and economical.

- Purchase a sealable shredding bag
- Fill the bag with your documents, seal shut
- Drop off at Winona ORC for shredding
- Simple and cost effective
- Two convenient sizes

**Small - Holds 15 pounds**

**\$10 (includes shredding)**

**Large - Holds 35 pounds**

**\$15 (includes shredding)**

**For an additional \$10, call us and we will pick-up the full bag of shredding.**

**Make sure to order a replacement bag and we can bring it with us!**

**Walk in shred customer hours Tuesday and Friday 8-2**

## And don't forget our container service!

Secure and timely destruction of confidential documents is important in today's business world.

As easy as 1,2,3 . .

1. Select your lockable container(s).
2. Fill with your documents - no need to remove staples or paper clips.
3. We will take care of the rest.



**Our service is a convenient, economical and secure solution for your document destruction needs. We also offer a one time purge service.**

**Contact us today at 507-452-1855**

If you know someone who would enjoy a copy of the Winona ORC Connection, please contact Helen Nordby at [hnordby@winonaorc.org](mailto:hnordby@winonaorc.org)

## Winona ORC Board of Directors

**Bob Peterson, President**

Aerojet

**Maggie Modjeski, Vice President**

Sugar Loaf Senior Living

**John Milek, Secretary**

Fastenal

**Ellen Smith, Treasurer**

Winona National Bank

### Voting Members

**Marie Kovecs**

County Commissioner

**Deb McClellan**

Live Well Winona

**Kevin O'Reilly**

Peerless Chain

**Bill Reinarts**

Reinarts Stained Glass

**Matt Semling**

Watkins, Inc.

**Steve Volkman**

Trane

**Jim Vrchota**

Merchants Bank

**Ron Wenzel**

Retired

### Advisor

**Blaine Krogh**

Hawkins Ash, CPA (Retired)

## Senior Management Staff

Heidi S. Smith - Executive Director

Michael Bellesbach - Director of Finance

Linda Digby - Director of Human Resources

Randy Gotz - Director of Community Operations

Todd Olson - Director of Laundry Operations

Leslie Swartling - Director of Client Services

Lorin Thilmany - Director of Center Based Operations



**Winona ORC Industries, Inc.**  
**1053 East Mark Street**  
**Winona, MN 55987**

**Non-Profit**  
Presorted  
Standard  
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Winona, MN  
Permit No.  
127

**Or Current Resident**

**Inside the Winona ORC Connection**  
**2016 Starlight Stroll**  
**Jeff Thill—Employee Superstar**  
**Watkins Job Site**



**Our Mission:**

It is our mission to provide community based employment, vocational training and comprehensive job related skills and services to people with special needs. We will design programs to work harmoniously with other community resources to maximize opportunities to our clients and our community.

We envision a world where all people are uplifted by working. Through pride, dignity, continuous learning and respect for all, we build a healthier community.

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