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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Beverly Herbert (413) 732-0531, ext 177, herbertb@theassn.org

The Association For Community Living, Inc.

Main Office: One Carando Drive, Suite 2, Springfield, MA 01104-3211

Phone: (413)732-0531 Fax: (413)732-1168 Website: www.theassn.org

Press invited to attend.

Bob Lauzon and Brooks Drug Store receive Good Neighbor Award from The Association For Community Living

Bob Lauzon of Springfield and Brooks Drug Store on Cooley Street in Springfield recently received THE ASSOCIATION FOR COMMUNITY LIVING's Good Neighbor Award. The award was presented to Lauzon at The Association's 54th Annual Dinner and Awards Ceremony on Monday, June 18, 2007 at The Log Cabin Banquet and Meeting House in Holyoke.

The award is presented to a community member and/or organization who support an individual served by The Association. The award honors members of the local community who create opportunity and improve lives for the individuals served by The Association. Bob Lauzon and Brooks Drug Store received the award because of the primary role they have filled in guiding an individual, David Cobb, served by The Association. The organization, Brooks Drug Store, and the man, Bob Lauzon, have truly collaborated to improve David's life.

The connection among David, Brooks Drug Store, and Lauzon began in 1997. When David became an employee, Lauzon immediately took David under his wing by teaching him different aspects of the business. David began working as a custodian, but Lauzon worked with David to develop other skills. Lauzon's gentle but firm instruction, his positive reinforcement, and his use of humor kept David on track and moving forward. Soon David earned more responsibility at work; he was promoted to stock handler for certain days of the week. Lauzon also trusted David enough to match numeric bar codes and read prices to apply to products. David now configures and applies price labels on products with little assistance.

Lauzon's support and encouragement of David is contagious. David receives praise and recognition not only from Bob, but also from his colleagues and regular customers. Both groups enjoy his humor, professionalism and positive work ethic. Although David has acquired these attributes from various influences over his lifetime, his professional success is due to the leadership of Bob Lauzon.

Lauzon exemplifies a "good neighbor." He has worked hard, in collaboration with all the Brooks Drug Store employees, to create a professional arena where David can thrive. It was the vision of the founders of The Association that community partnerships, such as this one, would exist for everyone's benefit.

The Association For Community Living's 54th Annual Dinner and Awards Ceremony was held at The Log Cabin Banquet and Meeting House, 500 Easthampton Road, Holyoke, beginning at 5:00 p.m., with a sit-down dinner at 6:00 p.m.

The Association For Community Living was founded in 1952 by five mothers of children with mental retardation. Headquartered in Springfield, The Association has satellite offices in Athol, Easthampton, Greenfield, Northampton, and Pittsfield. For more information on The Association For Community Living visit our website at: www.theassn.org.

To make a donation, include us in your will, or donate a charitable planned gift to The Association For Community Living, please contact Beverly Herbert, Director of Development and External Communications, at (800) 536 -2910, or visit our website at: www.thessn.org, click the link “Make a Gift”, or email us at donations@theassn.org to request more information.



Photograph: (L-R) David Cobb and Bob Lauzon at The Association For Community Living’s 54th Annual Dinner and Awards Ceremony, where Lauzon and Brooks Drug Store, located on Cooley Street, in Springfield, received the Good Neighbor Award.