



*Believe in Us*

**The Galena Gazette**

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## **Together we move forward**

*Dave Decker, Galena ARC Executive Director*

This Saturday the Galena ARC is again the beneficiary of great generosity. A group of citizens have worked very hard to bring to Galena the 4th annual "Festival of Trees". This event is rather unique in the sense that the committee does the event and then offers the proceeds to a community not for profit, this year the ARC in the beneficiary of their efforts. They are not a group or an organization they are citizens who work to make our community a better place. They call upon many generous businesses and individuals who donate items, table top Christmas trees, stockings, wreaths and other holiday décor. The selection is grand and the quality of items is outstanding.

We couldn't be happier to be a part of the event. It will take place on Saturday the 29th from 1 to 5 at the De Soto House Hotel. More than fifty holiday decorations will be on display and available for you to bid on in a silent auction format.

There is also some raffle items that can be won. You don't need to stay all day simply stop in and give a bid on the item that you desire and we will contact you if that bid wins. Enjoy shopping in down town Galena before or after you stop in at the De Soto House. Have a great dinner to cap off a wonderful day in Galena.

I have had the opportunity to work with the committee on this event. They are very passionate about it and our community. It seems to me that that is a very typical formula for successful events. Passionate people making things happen. I love it when we get the opportunity to work with people who take time out of their busy lives to make a difference in our organization so we may pay it forward to those who need it most the kids and families of Galena.

Thank You: Fran, Helen, Lynn, Mary, Gloria and Roberta for all you do.

In 2014 the ARC has placed a great emphasis on improving health and wellness in the community. We often try to lead by example in these efforts. We have the ARC pre-school kids exercise we offer adult fitness classes we see people working to be "Younger Next Year". We try to do that almost all year, I say almost...

On Friday December 12th and Saturday December 13th we throw health and wellness to the wind. The ARC has two events that weekend on Friday is the Take the Cake Auction from 7 to 9 and Saturday we have the Cookie Walk from 9 to sell-out usually between 11 and noon. These two events are both ARC events that go against the health and wellness but are a great time and will give you the opportunity to purchase baked goods that are out of this world delicious.

Again, these events showcase the best of Galena. We have cookie makers who have done this for years, we have young people who come back from college to attend families from outside the area visit and purchase cookies ever year. The cake auction has 20 plus bakers some professional and then folks like me who make great cakes. The event is a success because people bid very generously on these cakes to create a wonderful event for the ARC.

Thanks to all of you who do so much for the ARC. I am very proud of what the ARC does and means to this community. I hope all of you who put in time for us feel the same pride. Without you folks and your kindness the ARC wouldn't be able to exist as it does. What we've done makes me proud but what we can do is what excites me...

*Together we move forward.*