

**Eagle's Nest Ice Arena**  
**103 Lincoln St.**  
**Verona, WI 53593**  
**Peter Johnson, 608-845-7465**  
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### **Background Information**

In 1992, a volunteer board from the non-profit organization ICE Inc. began meeting weekly to discuss the idea of bringing an ice arena to the Verona area. After countless hours of raising money for construction of the arena, the Eagle's Nest Ice Arena opened to the public in 1994. The Eagle's Nest Ice Arena, which currently employs 20 part-time individuals, is open year round and offers a variety of programs to the community. While its programs are focused on youth and adult leagues, the company also offers camps and free skates.

<b>Eagle's Nest Ice Arena</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Employs an individual with autism</li></ul>

### **Story**

A little more than two years ago, a Verona High School boy named Nathan with autism was hired by the Eagle's Nest Ice Arena as a part-time employee. With the aid of a supervisor, Nathan traveled to the rink twice a week after school to perform a variety of general cleaning tasks such as sweeping and mopping the lockers room. As time progressed, Nathan developed a routine that was comfortable for him and he flourished at his duties.

Nathan now works three times a week and rarely needs supervision from his aid. Rink manager Peter Johnson said, "Nathan has come a long way from when he started. I'm very proud of him." Although Nathan only works three times a week, he has started to hang around the arena more often. During this last high school hockey season, Johnson noticed that an enthusiastic Nathan regularly attended games.

Reported by Ryan Duntemann, Edgewood College, March 2007, for Professor Denis Collins ([dcollins@edgewood.edu](mailto:dcollins@edgewood.edu)) and the 2007 Good Samaritan Award, co-sponsored by the Samaritan Counseling Center and Edgewood College.