

## news release

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## Governor Quinn proclaims Lambs Farm Day in Illinois

*Libertyville, IL* – Governor Pat Quinn has proclaimed September 28, 2011 as “Lambs Farm Day” in Illinois, honoring the organization’s 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of serving men and women with developmental disabilities.

Although now located just outside of Libertyville, Illinois, Lambs Farm started in the city as a small pet shop on Chicago’s State Street. Co-founders Bob Terese and Corinne Owen, along with 12 men and women with developmental disabilities, opened the nation’s first non-sheltered business. There, the men and women learned to maintain inventory, care for the animals and wait on customers.

In issuing the proclamation, Gov. Quinn noted that “those with developmental disabilities served by Lambs Farm are provided the opportunity to advance in all areas of life through ever increasing residential, vocational and recreational choices...which allow the people served to gain independence by having the freedom to be as self-governing as possible.”

The proclamation comes as Lambs Farm is preparing for the *Growing the Legacy* 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala on September 17 at the Chicago Hilton. Hundreds of people will be in attendance to celebrate the organization’s achievements and build on the legacy left by the co-founders. Honorees will include Bob Terese and Corinne Owen, W. Clement and Jessie V. Stone, Mrs. Joan Golder and the Participants who worked in the original pet shop.

For more information on Lambs Farm’s 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, please visit [www.lambsfarm.org](http://www.lambsfarm.org).

*Lambs Farm is a premier nonprofit organization whose mission is helping people with developmental disabilities lead productive, happy lives and connecting with the human spirit in us all. Based near Libertyville, Illinois, Lambs Farm strives to maintain exemplary vocational, residential and recreational programs, and to operate our organization in a manner that will continue to help people grow.*

**NOTE: Interviews/photos with staff and Participants will be arranged upon request.**