



# The Competitive Edge

BCRC, Inc., 131 Pleasant Drive, 2nd Floor, Aliquippa, PA 15001-3515

Summer 2014 Edition, Volume XVIII Issue 2

## CenterPlace is Licensed

*by Pat Healey*

The CenterPlace building has been licensed by the state to provide our vocational services. This enormous undertaking has taken the better part of two years. The moving committee which is made up of production center staff has been meeting and planning for the transition to CenterPlace.

With a new license needed for the building, Kathy Davis and staff began the

process of forwarding required documentation to the state. The agency address and anticipated services were first entered into HCSIS (Home and Community Services Information System). Next, BCRC had to qualify as a provider of services with appropriate documentation sent to Harrisburg. The review process took quite some time, but BCRC was finally given a date for a state inspection of the building.

Once the inspection date was set, the CenterPlace crew really kicked into high gear. Scrubbing was done, work stations were set-up and shelving was strategically placed. Eight months after the paperwork

was started, the state OMR inspector visited the new facility, ensured that all of the requirements were met, and issued a new license.

One of the last hurdles, prior to actually moving the workshop, is placing the new facility into the state billing system. BCRC's business department has started the process. This procedure also takes a great deal of time, but each step, brings us closer to welcoming our program participants and staff to CenterPlace.

Congratulations to everyone involved in the licensing of CenterPlace. ■

## WIN Participants Serve Up Dinner Delights

*by Frank Shialabba*

Between March 3<sup>rd</sup> and April 3<sup>rd</sup>, WIN participants delighted their families and friends by cooking and serving them a scrumptious meal. According to WIN Director, Sheila Silbaugh, "The dinner parties gave WIN participants the chance to share their cooking talents, social skills, sense of humor and yearly progress with their families and friends."

Just over 400 dinners were served during five weeks as guests for individual parties ranged from one to six. Menu items included stuffed chicken shells, lasagna, chili, meatball sandwiches, tuna noodle casserole, wings, chicken salad, macaroni and cheese, tossed salad, every possible kind of potatoes, rolls, cookies, fudge, sugar free pudding, and brownies.

Clients also offered presentations including telling jokes, Zumba, picture demonstrations of skills learned, and Power Point presentations of, "A year of growth through a variety of activities."

WIN Director, Sheila Silbaugh, would like to extend her deepest appreciation to the staff of WIN Services for doing such a phenomenal job of organizing, providing assistance, teaching cooking, providing support to clients and providing a welcoming atmosphere for the families and friends who participated in the event. ■

## Eat'n Park is Top Employer

Eat'n Park of Monaca was presented the Louis G. Herle Employer of the Year Award by the Mental Health Association at their banquet on May 14. The award is presented annually to a Beaver County employer that has shown exemplary practices in employing people with mental illness.

The Monaca restaurant has worked closely with BCRC to provide employment opportunities for persons with mental illness in Beaver County.

The award was presented to Jeff Dengler, Eat'n Park Manager, and Melissa Burnecke, Restaurant Supervisor.

Stephanie Baldwin, Program Specialist for BCRC's School to Work Program, also presented a "Thanks a Million" arrangement to the award recipients from BCRC's Gifts Delivered Featuring Candy Bouquet. ■



**L to R: Jeff Dengler, Melissa Burnecke and Stephanie Baldwin**

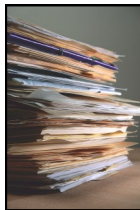
## Clients Shine at Moon

by Bonnie Smith

"It takes special people to work at the Record Management enclave in Moon Township," says Pat Healey, Director of Business Development. Their tasks are complicated and involved, from opening the files to ensuring the required signatures are present to checking for an outstanding balance. All this has to be completed before they can begin preparing the files for scanning.

One of Moon's valued employees is Sean Bresnahan who has worked at the Moon enclave for five years. On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, Sean travels to Moon along with the other clients to sort and prepare the files. His reliability, work ethic, and dedication to the job are some of the things that make him an excellent employee.

Another hard-worker is Marybeth West, a retired preschool and kindergarten teacher from Portland, Oregon. Marybeth's advice to her fellow employees and people looking for work is, "Be prepared to be flexible," something she has been able to practice in the requirements in records management and life in general. ■



## Our 'Mr. Trophy' Will Be Missed

by Frank Shialabba

Larry Shee, age 81 of New Brighton, passed away in January, 2014. Larry worked at BCRC as a bookkeeper for many years. He was also the owner of Mr. Trophy, a well-known Beaver County business.

Larry was known for his infectious laugh and easy-going manner. After retiring from BCRC, he continued working at his trophy business with his wife Marilyn. He was self-effacing and often referred to his trophy warehouse as his "shanty." Larry was a consummate businessman, however, who turned his "mom and pop" business into a rousing success.

Larry was also successful at life and at building friendships. He will be greatly missed by his many friends at BCRC. ■

## Clients, Families and Staff are Patient During Aurora Flood

An unfortunate water line break necessitated extensive renovation at BCRC's Aurora building in Beaver this winter.

Damaged dry-wall was completely stripped, insulated and painted to provide for the long-term safety and well-being of the building's occupants.

The most extensive damage occurred to two network servers and the building phone panel. The damage to the phone panel temporarily interrupted phone service. According to Executive Director, Paulette Miller, "our IT disaster plan worked and network service was quickly restored thanks to the efforts of our IT staff and consultants."

Ms. Miller also wishes to thank our clients and their families and BCRC staff for their patience and understanding during a very difficult time. ■

## Staff Attend Trainings

by Kelly Newhouse

BCRC staff has been attending trainings covering topics critical to the success of the services we provide to our consumers. Various topics have included WRAP for development



distinction, commonly prescribed meds, dual diagnosis, dealing with active shooters, self-care for helping professionals, mental health first aide, bipolar disorder and person centered thinking, just to name a few. Train-

ings have provided staff with best practices, up to date theories and techniques to help all our consumers in the specific programs we provide. Staff has participated in trainings relevant to our mental health services, habilitation, vocational training programs including our transitional program, and our community service programs. ■

## Safety Lights 2-1-1 System

by Cindy Kirkpatrick

Most people know about the 9-1-1 emergency number, but did you know that Beaver County now has a number to call if you have a human services question? Now you can dial **2-1-1** twenty four hours a day seven days a week and reach a trained resource navigator who will connect you with a service agency that may be able to meet your needs. Just pick up the phone and get the information you need. Help is just three digits away, **2-1-1**. ■



**School to Work students spell out "Go Pittsburgh Pirates" on their t-shirts as they wait for a Pirate's game at PNC Park.**

**L to R:** G Miranda Soos, O Walter Moakley, P Justin Leavitt, I Shayne Remler, T David Lipinski, T Kim Cunningham, S Morgan Sova, B Kayla Irvin, U Shay Truss, R Jimmy Rose, G Randy Palombo, H Hunter Giles, P Tom Negley, I Kelvin Davidson, R Shane Murphy, A Armani Harper, T Michael Taylor, E Myesha Milliner, S Katherine Belcher



## Spotlight On:

### Sean Sen

by Jennifer Gengarella

"My computer's not working :where's Sean?" Those words can be heard throughout BCRC at any given time. Sean Sen is the force behind BCRC's technology. As the IT Administrator/Webmaster, he is usually in demand by staff in every building. Undertaking the daunting task of maintaining network systems, computer projects, network maintenance, installation of computer



hardware and software, maintenance issues and staff training, he is constantly on the move between BCRC locations.

A graduate of DCI, Sean began his career at BCRC as an intern. This quickly morphed into an offer of employment upon completion of his studies in 2006. At the time he began, BCRC employed 57 staff. This number has grown to approximately 120 staff. Sean notes that this is one of the biggest changes he has noticed. He is challenged with keeping BCRC abreast of the latest technological difficulties and resources, while keeping us functioning efficiently. He notes that working at BCRC and realizing the staff, "Care about the clients that we serve more than themselves," is the reason he knew BCRC was the place he needed to be.

Raised in Istanbul, Turkey, Sean came to Baltimore, MD in 1985. He found himself in western PA in 1987 while working for a company that was based in Turkey. Finding it to his liking, he decided to remain here and became a US citizen in 1993. His wife Heidi and daughter Burju joined him in 1995. Sean's family is completed by another daughter, Melissa, and son Dennis. To relax from the rigors of keeping BCRC technologically updated, Sean enjoys woodworking and cabinet making (among other hobbies) and is a member of the Handymen of America.

Sean's knowledge of computers and technology keeps us working efficiently in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. ■



## CenterPlace Upgrades Security

by Amanda Dodd



As events like Franklin Regional and Sandy Hook continue to plague our news, it becomes increasingly important that organizations, especially those entrusted with the care of others, are up-to-date in their security technology as well as plans and procedures for handling emergencies.

In an effort to provide increased security to our CenterPlace location, BCRC recently signed a contract for the purchase of eight video door stations and 4 master touchscreen stations. The video door stations will allow us to safely identify visitors at various points throughout the building before granting them access inside. Using some of the latest technology, the video camera stations will adjust to the time of day to ensure the clearest

images possible. Each master touchscreen station will also have the capacity to record a visitor's image for future access, providing BCRC with back-up security footage in the event of a break-in or safety emergency.

Apart from up-to-date technology, BCRC is also committed to maintaining security by accessing regular training for staff and clients alike on safe practices. Most recently, multiple staff attended an Active Shooter Preparation Training. As a result of these trainings, BCRC's policies and procedures have become increasingly competent and effective within the realm of safety and emergency preparedness. ■

## STW Students Donate Time and Effort to Worthy Cause

by Susan Smith

During the past school year, BCRC's School to Work students gave 279 hours of volunteer time to Habitat for Humanity.

In the Fall of 2012, David and Cody Lipinski began volunteering one day a week in the ReStore through the CAPS Youth Program. They have performed miscellaneous maintenance tasks...in fact, there was no job too big or too small at ReStore for the Lipinski twins! The boys enjoyed the Habitat environment so much that they asked CAPS staffers if they could continue on at ReStore through the Job Training of Beaver County Summer Program.

According to BCRC Coordinator of Youth Services Maureen Hawk, "Students did a great job while volunteering at Habitat for Humanity. An example of their efforts is one occasion when they helped to move 100 sheets of drywall that had been donated. The people at Habitat for Humanity were very grateful for the efforts of the students." ■



**L to R: Marjorie Marcellus, Morgan Sova, Josh Rickard, Shayne Remler, Hunter Giles, Walter Moakley, Shane Murphy**

# Employee of the Month

**Paulette Miller**  
*Executive Director*

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Jennifer Gengarella, Pat Healey,  
Cindy Kirkpatrick, Kelly Newhouse,  
Kay Podbielski, Frank Shialabba,  
Bonnie Smith  
Sean Sen Website Editor  
Pat Tengeres Layout and  
Photography

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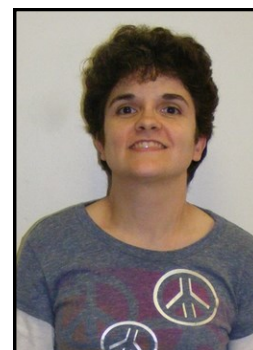
## Production Centers



**Tony Prunty**  
*February*

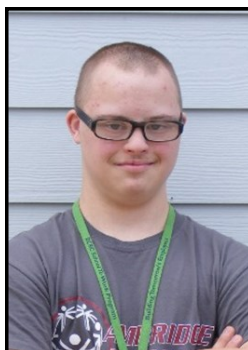


**Mary Hopkins**  
*March*

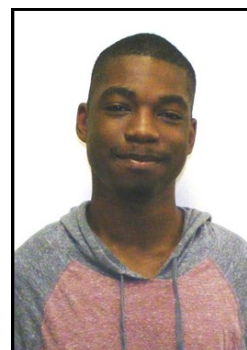


**Sarah Holly**  
*April*

## School to Work



**Joseph Poling**  
*February*



**Armani Harper**  
*March*



**Adam Komraus**  
*April*

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