

**Winter 2010 Edition**  
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**Director Celebrates 20 Years  
 of Leadership**

*by Frank Shialabba*

The BCRC Board of Directors recognized Paulette Miller recently for her twenty years of service as Executive Director of the Beaver County Rehabilitation Center. Ms. Miller became director on December 13, 1990.

According to Commora Woodfork, BCRC's longest active board member with 38 years of service, "When Paulette became director, she was filled with enthusiasm and that enthusiasm was passed on to the board." Ms Woodfork especially appreciates the lives that have been touched by Paulette's mission. She recalls one lady who said, "My son had been very down and had no motivation. However, he did a complete turnaround when he went to BCRC. He loves to go to work and he is like a new person." Ms. Woodfork believes that, "Paulette and the BCRC staff truly care about the people served by BCRC and it's obvious that the people sense that caring."

Along with bringing a sense of caring and enthusiasm to BCRC, John Francis, Board Secretary and 26 year member, says Ms. Miller is a "go-getter." He cites the numerous new programs and many grants that have caused the agency to grow and prosper. He feels that instead of playing it safe, "Paulette has been willing to try new things that have greatly benefited the people served by BCRC."

Seventeen year board member Arthur Cornell attributes BCRC's growth to Paulette's ability to anticipate trends and opportunities. He states, "The agency is constantly positioning itself to move forward and increase opportunities for the BCRC clients." Mr. Cornell also admires Ms. Miller's ability to juggle so many priorities at once. He says, "She reminds me of the guy who used to spin pie plates on the old Ed Sullivan show. He would go from plate to plate without dropping one."

Current president and 29 year board member Don Bolland has seen Paulette juggle numerous projects, "While always keeping the welfare of mentally and physically challenged individuals as her main priority." He states that, "Under the leadership of Paulette and the board, BCRC has grown from serving 60 clients to more than 700 today. We have expanded facilities and programs in an effort to meet the needs of the many persons with disabilities in Beaver County. We will always place our emphasis on the people that we are serving."

The Board of Directors, staff and her beloved clients would like to thank Paulette Miller for serving BCRC so well for the last 20 years. Paulette's tenure as executive director is the longest in the history of the Beaver County Rehabilitation Center. ■

**EMPLOYEES  
 OF THE  
 MONTH SPEAK OUT**

*by Mike Little and  
 Gloria Beighey*

As fall shines its brilliant colors on Beaver County, BCRC shines with three new Employee of the Month winners: Cheryl States, Troy Levinger, and Linda Shadd.

Cheryl States is the July Employee of the Month. Cheryl has worked at BCRC for 14 years, and she wishes to continue working in the Work Center. She keeps a good work attitude by "doing contract jobs to the best of my ability." Cheryl likes working with plastic sleeves and other paid work. She states, "I did the most sleeves according to my Program Specialist Karen Buccelli." Cheryl feels "very good" about winning this award. As Cheryl looks to the future, she hopes to win other awards for being a good employee.

The Employee of the Month for August is Troy Levinger. Troy has worked at BCRC for eight years. He maintains a good attitude by, "working hard, doing all kinds of jobs." Troy feels really good about winning this award, and he hopes to "vacation in South Carolina," sometime in the future.

The most recent winner, Linda Shadd, won for September. Linda has only been with BCRC for one and a half years, but she feels her good attendance helped her to win the award. Linda keeps a good ▶

**BCRC's Special Rose Retires**

*by Frank Shialabba*

Donna Runyan retired recently after 17 years of employment at BCRC. Donna was a valued member of the Candy Bouquet creative crew. Donna took great care and pride in her work, and she was known by her coworkers as the master rose maker. Her joyful spirit, talent, and concern for others are just part of what make her such a remarkable person. She came to BCRC each day full of joy, innocence and love for others.

Donna plans to spend her retirement using her talent to create many new craft items, build puzzles and visit friends and neighbors. Donna is always a welcome guest in her neighborhood, and she is quick to share her gentle charm and sense of humor. All of us at BCRC want to wish Donna the very best!! ■



work attitude by “keeping my mind on my work and not my peers.” Linda is very happy about winning the award and states, “It made me feel like a new person.” Linda hasn’t decided on her plans for the future. For now, she is happy working at BCRC.

BCRC congratulates each of our winners, and we wish them continued success. ■



*BCRC staff participated in a pumpkin decorating contest recently and raised money for the client gift fund. Some of the entries are pictured below.*



Steelers

1<sup>st</sup> place client choice.

Hamburger

3<sup>rd</sup> place staff and client choice.



Honey Bear

2<sup>nd</sup> place staff and client choice.



Humpty Dumpty

1<sup>st</sup> place staff choice.



## Spotlight On: Starlette McNutt

*By Jennifer Gengarella*

Starlette McNutt, a part-time job coach since 2005, recently achieved full time status as she was put in charge of her own group. Her promotion was well deserved.

Star is a bright spot at BCRC with her love of the clients and her lively sense of humor. Starlette enjoys seeing a smile on a client’s face when they accomplish a new task. She notes that the humor that accompanies the smile is also heartwarming. Star enjoys each moment with her clients, and they enjoy her calm, supportive leadership.

Star also enjoys the many changes that have occurred at BCRC. Among those changes, are the addition of the WIN and CAPS programs, an increase in autism programs, career classes, and an increase in the overall workforce.

Star is married with two daughters. She enjoys reading suspense authors in her free time. Star is a bright light, and with her guidance BCRC clients can achieve their best. ■

## Seventeen Attend Children’s Day



Seventeen children attended BCRC’s annual “Bring Your Child to Work Day” on Tuesday, August 17. The children spent time learning about BCRC and the job duties of their family members. They also participated in a question and answer session with Executive Director, Paulette Miller.

Attending were Gina and

Salvatore Greco, children of Contract Acquisition Director, Joanna Greco; Alex, Nathan, Emily and Julianna Hawk, children of Youth Services Coordinator, Maureen Hawk; Samantha Hildman, daughter of Job Coach, Kim Hildman; Desarae and Tierney McNutt, daughters of Job Coach, Starlette McNutt; Austin Koman, grandson of Accounting Clerk, Sue Bogdan; Alivea Gimbus, daughter of Roseanne Smith; Lindsay DeAngelis, daughter of Job Coach, Amy DeAngelis; Bradley Barret, grandson of Building Manager, Janet Simon; Josiah Santiago, son of Career Instructor, Christina Thompson; Everett Weller, son of Job Coach, Heather Hairhoger; Chloe Wijnen-Reims, daughter of Job Coach, Stacy Winen-Riems; and Patricia McMillen, daughter of Accounting Clerk, Theresa McMillen. ■

## BCRC Scores Marketing Touchdown

*by Amanda L. Pullinger*

T-shirts soaring into the crowd at Central Valley’s first official football game were a sign that Joanna Greco, BCRC Director of Contract Acquisition, had scored a marketing touchdown. The t-shirts featured a message introducing BCRC services to Central Valley’s new group of enthusiastic followers.

A few months ago, BCRC was offered the opportunity to be featured at football games during Central Valley’s inaugural football season. Ms. Greco felt this would raise awareness of BCRC services with a large amount of people in a short amount of time. Thus, an agreement was made to have BCRC featured at Central Valley’s first home football game.

BCRC’s web site address name and information will also be listed in each home game program and announced for the remainder of the season. ■



## Follow-Along Program Aids Man's Dream

Rob Robinson found that his dream of having a family and a good job was in jeopardy. After eight years of employment at a mail-order prescription business, Rob reached a cross-road in his life. A change in demands at work threatened his job and his family's security.

For the last eight years Rob's job entailed entering extensive information on each prescription into a data base as a means of processing a mail order. Things like the person's billing address, shipping information, correct names of medication, number of pills, etc. had to be entered with a high degree of accuracy into the company computer. In addition to this accuracy, Rob received a daily report on his production from the previous day. This caused Rob to start each day worrying about the previous days' production. A high degree of productivity and accuracy were necessary to maintain his employment, but they also lead to a high degree of anxiety.

As a married man with responsibilities, Rob felt the stress of these new more stringent requirements. While being highly capable, the stress of living up to increased expectation caused Rob's job performance to suffer.

Rob had been placed in his job by BCRC's WIN services. Thanks to funding from the Community Service Block Grant of Beaver County Community Development, WIN was able to come to Rob's assistance in his hour of need. WIN's capable staff provided support and strategies that enabled Rob to meet production goals with the required degree of accuracy. More than anything, the confidence that WIN showed in Rob helped him to see past his anxieties to a successful job experience.

Both Rob and WIN are grateful to Beaver County Community Development for their steadfast support over the years for the employment follow along program that allows people to receive the support they need to maintain their employment in the community. ■



## Clients Teach "Safety with Safety"

by Frank Shialabba

This year's BCRC safety carnival held on September 17 was truly client-centered. The carnival was highlighted by safety tips from the clients themselves. Many BCRC clients stepped to the podium to give safety suggestions to their coworkers. They were greeted with the appreciative applause of all who attended this popular event. Clients also enjoyed prizes, a chicken dinner, gourmet ice cream from Bruster's, a strolling magician, and the ever popular fortune teller, Mazy. Our thanks go to the BCRC safety committee for hosting this year's event. ■



## Safety Lights

by Cindy Kirkpatrick

Every winter it is a fact of life, 5 to 20 percent of the population gets hit with the influenza virus and more than 200,000 people are hospitalized with flu complications. But there is a simple way to stop the spread of the flu-by getting a flu vaccine. This simple action can protect yourself and possibly the people around you. In addition to the standard flu shot, FluMist, a nasal flu vaccine, is now available for healthy people between the ages of two and 49. Everyone should get a flu shot. The elderly and those with serious medical issues or the people who live with or care for those at high risk should certainly get the vaccine. Remember to protect yourself and those around you.

**Get vaccinated!** ■

**Paulette Miller**  
*Executive Director*

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## Shop Talk

### Congressman Visits Friends at BCRC



Congressman Jason Altmire took time out of his busy schedule recently to visit BCRC and his good friend Sherry Lombardo. Congressman Altmire first met Sherry a few years ago during a visit to BCRC. The two struck up a friendship and have been corresponding ever since. Congressman Altmire presented Sherry with an autographed picture and his sincere thanks for her continued support and encouragement. ■

### Rosa's Law is Federal Mandate

Rosa's Law, a bill changing references to mental retardation, has passed both the United States House and Senate. It is now federal law that the term **"intellectual disability"** be used in place of the term **"mental retardation."**

The inspiration for the law came from the Marcellino family, who managed to bring about similar legislation in the state of Maryland. ■

### Team Aurora Walks for NAMI

On October 3<sup>rd</sup> Aurora Rehabilitation participated in the annual NAMI Walk in Pittsburgh. "Team Aurora" raised \$405 through pledges for the three mile walk. The money went to causes supported by the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill.

Pictured are: *back row l to r-* Sean Sen, Sandy Petrella Paul Martin, Anita Martin, Jalee Tuma, team captain.  
*Front row l to r-* Frances Brown, Marianne LaSalle, Marty Shafer. ■

