

THE EXCHANGE

*Published for parents, family members, and guardians
of individuals served by Black Hills Workshop*

January/February 2009

BHW will weather economic storm

As family members of people supported by Black Hills Workshop, recent economic news may have you concerned. I want to reassure you that Black Hills Workshop has what it takes to weather this economic storm. Author Jim Collins said in a recent issue of Fortune Magazine that, when tough economic times come, there are two factors that will keep an organization strong. I am proud to say that Black Hills Workshop has them both:

First our employees understand they have responsibilities, not just jobs. Their responsibilities are a reflection of their role in the very mission of our agency: Creating a community where everyone participates to achieve a life of full potential.

Secondly, organizations who survive tough times have core values that not only carry them through hard times, but actually make them better than they were before the crisis. Along with a strong mission, we are driven by the following core values: BE accountable, BE our best, BE supportive and BE respectful. Our employees are trained in what these values mean in their work and every day lives. And the Power of B, as we call these values, have become a way of life for all of us here at Black Hills Workshop.

We continue to look for ways to do our jobs as cost-effectively as possible without sacrificing the quality that you and your loved one have come expect from us. If you have concerns or questions, please feel free to call me at 605-718-6200.

*Brad Saathoff,
Chief Executive Officer*

Autism Society's new office to showcase BHW artists

The Autism Society of the Black Hills now has an office at 521 7th Street downtown Rapid City. They are planning an open house in April for Autism Awareness Month. They will also be showcasing artwork from the Suzie Cappa Art Center.

Nancy Weiss Artist of the Year

Nancy Weiss has been named the 2009 Black Hills Workshop Artist of the Year. One of Nancy's paintings has been reproduced on note cards and will be added to the growing selection of cards produced by Suzie Cappa artists.

Nancy has blossomed into a multi-media artist at the center. Along with painting, she takes dance and theatre classes and was one of the performers in Flutter, last summer's joint production by the Suzie Cappa Center and Black Hills Community Theatre. She participates in bell choir and is one of the volunteers from the Suzie Cappa Center who performs regularly at a local nursing home.

Nancy will be honored at Suzie's Royal Tea April 19 at 2:00 at the Radisson. The tea is a fund raiser for the Suzie Cappa Center. For ticket information, contact JoAnne Schriver at 718-6204.

Black Hills Workshop

Pancake Feed

Sunday, February 22

8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**At the Black Hills Workshop
Sponsored and hosted by the
Rushmore Lions Club**

**Admission \$6.00
Children 8 and under eat free**



The Exchange is published bimonthly by the Black Hills Workshop for parents, family members, and guardians of the individuals we serve. Comments and questions are encouraged and may be addressed to Dorothy Rosby, Editor, Black Hills Workshop, Box 2104, Rapid City, SD 57709; call (605) 718-6205; or email drosby@bhws.com. We also appreciate your keeping us up to date on your address changes, corrections, or duplicate mailings.

Making a difference



(The following employee testimonial was written by Jill Neff.)

“I’m a service coordinator at Indiana group home where I coordinate services for 12 people. I have been with Black Hills Workshop since July, 2007. I love my job. I like feeling like I go home from

work every day making a little bit of difference for people. There have been many changes in the field over the years, and I’m glad to see them. I worked at Custer State Hospital in the 1980s. Things were different then. Things are person centered now, like they should be. I like all aspects of my job. I like the one-on-one time with people, and seeing them accomplish their goals. The very best part of my job is seeing the sense of accomplishment when people reach a goal. I know how I feel when I personally reach a long sought after goal, and I love seeing that feeling in others.”

Black Hills Workshop is a great place to work. Our employees have an excellent benefit package, opportunities to learn new skills, and the knowledge that they make a difference. If you or someone you know is interested in employment, call our job line at 343-4581 or see www.bhws.com.

Mark your calendar

February 28-Polar Plunge, Memorial Park.

March 13-14: State Basketball Tournament, Corn Palace in Mitchell.

March 16: Track and Field every Monday, two choices 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.

March 10: Bowling Banquet, Black Hills Workshop gymnasium. Morning session 11:30, afternoon session 4:30.

April 24: Regional Track & Field Meet, Black Hills State University Spearfish.

For information on any of the above events, contact Bill Clucas at 718-6288.

May 7-8: Fourth Annual Black Hills Brain Injury Conference. For more information, see www.brainrehab.org

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