

Shoptalk

September 2011

DSP week September 11-17

Wonderful things are happening in the lives of people we serve, accomplishments once thought impossible, dreams coming true. And it's thanks in large part to our wonderful Direct Support Professionals! During Direct Support Professional Recognition Week September 11-17, we honor and thank them for their contributions to the lives of those we serve.

The Curious Georges Power Group is coordinating activities for the week. Among other activities, starting Monday, September 11, they will draw the names of two DSPs to win various prizes. On Friday, there will be a drawing for a LARGE prize for one lucky DSP.

Senator visits Offutt AbilityOne staff

Nebraska Senator Mike Johanns toured the Alert Dining Facility at Offutt Air Force Base August 1. Roger Lempke, who handles military issues for him, was also along. They visited with the AbilityOne employees that were working and were very impressed with what they do and how they support the mission at Offutt AFB. His comments were very positive and he said that the AbilityOne program is great.



Irvin Roland, Terry Wilson, Marty Krause, Ruanmoon Aston, unidentified military personnel, Jason Gerken, Ted Hemmingson Sonja Fry, and Senator Mike Johanns.

Candu Week

Black Hills Workshop's first Candu Week was held August 13-26. A variety of businesses contributed, some financially and others by hosting "Candu" man on their properties. Candu is the running man that is part of the Black Hills Workshop logo. RPM & Associates made and donated the six-foot, metal sculpture of Candu, which made the rounds throughout the week. Thanks to RPM & Associates, First Interstate Bank, Boston's Gourmet Pizza, Arby's (Mt. Rushmore Road), Zaynerz Parkway Restaurant, Strider Sports, Dunn Brothers Coffee, and the Central States Fair.



Alex Drewitz and Rob Mudge of RPM & Associates pose with Candu man.

Don't forget to SIGN UP!
YMCA Corporate Cup
September 29
80s theme this year

Published monthly for employees of BH Services, Inc.
and Black Hills Workshop & Training Center.

Statue dedication at Allen Avenue

The Gabrielson and Lien families who contributed to the building of Jake's Place and Helen's Home also purchased a beautiful angel statue for the lawn. We will dedicate the statue on Tuesday, September 6 at 8:30 am. We'd like as many people there as possible to show our appreciation.



Power of B winners

We have two Power of B winners this month. Congratulations to **Marie Greenfield-Sahli and Jennifer Harp**.

Her payroll assistant has been away on family leave since June 1, but Marie has kept all payrolls flowing through bonuses, year end, raises, three-week pay periods, etc. "We couldn't ask for a better job than she is doing," says Connie Keyser. "She has give up summer vacation days to keep us all with paychecks." Way to go Marie. And thank you also to staff for keeping paperwork turned into Marie in a timely manner.

Jennifer Harp walked into Edwards C one day and into an emergency. She was able to take over performing CPR on a person served, and for the second time in a year, was able to save his life. "Jen not only saved a life, but was a role model and the perfect example of a leader," says home manager Jessilyn Larson.

Thank you both for **being respectful, being accountable, being your best and being supportive!**

If you would like to nominate someone for a Power of B award, you can find *B nomination forms* elsewhere in Shoptalk or on Lotus Notes. To locate, click on Agency Main; click on Staff (left-hand green buttons); then click on Staff Forms. Choose your location, choose B Recognition Award, launch the document and print. Send your nominations to Dorothy Rosby at RSC. Winners receive \$50 and their story appears in Shoptalk.

Artists show work



Shaviq Studio and Gallery at 632 Saint Joseph Street featured Barb Heagy and her original art work on Friday, August 5.

The Suzie Cappa Center will have its annual show at the Dahl from November 15 through the end of January. They will show 15-20 pieces at the Spearfish Art Center beginning September 23.

Congratulations to the following artists who participated at the 2011 Central States Fair: **Connie Smith, Corky Leach, Tom Emley, Taylor Zesiger, DJ Davis, Sara Mellegard, and David Tanner** all brought home blue ribbons for ceramic art. **Molly Holsworth** won two blue ribbons and one red and **Marlene Bryant and Charlotte McLean** both received red ribbons also for ceramics. **Jill Holien** received a blue ribbon for an abstract. **Mike Studer** won a blue ribbon for a chair he decorated. **Connie Whitley** won a red ribbon for her acrylic and **Carisa Headid** won two third place ribbons for her photography.

Check your pay stubs!

When you receive your pay stub each payday, please take the time to review it. Make sure that all of the benefits that you signed up for are being deducted. Are the amounts correct (examples: single health coverage versus family coverage or is the amount you requested to be deducted for your TSA(retirement) correct?) If you have any questions or concerns, please e-mail (mariegs) or call(605.718.6251) Marie Greenfield-Sahli, Payroll Manager.

Seeking opportunities!

Larry Meendering

As many of you know, one of our main sub-contracts with Balance Systems has been discontinued. Their work had slowed to the point that they were forced to choose between laying off employees at their facility or pull some of their sub-contract work back in-house. Unfortunately, their decision has resulted in a loss of work for the people we support. This loss leaves us with the task of seeking work which will replace Balance Systems.

We currently have contracts with Perdue, Servall, Symcom, the City of Rapid City, Pacific Steel, Jean-a-ma-jig, Dakota YOTE, South Dakota Tourism, Outback Steak House, Regional Health, and Key Safety. We also have pending contract work with Dakota Panel and Fleet Services (oil change). While these are all valued customers, most of the work involves fewer employees and limited quotas.

We are actively seeking opportunities. This is an "ALL HANDS ON DECK" situation and we are treating it as our TOP PRIORITY. We are approaching our existing customers, looking for additional work and we are contacting companies with potential subcontract needs. Also, we are looking for possible products we could produce and sell. If you have any ideas, leads, friends or contacts that could help find work for us, we would appreciate a call or e-mail.

Types of work we typically look for are packaging, sub-assembly, and light manufacturing. However, we are willing to look at anything that will put people to work. If you have ideas, contact Larry Meendering.

Welcome new employees

Nenita Abueg	OPC Commissary
Rachel Turner	OPC
Sydney Huebner	Fir
Rebecca Thompson	BHWI
Laura Brooks	RSC
Jesse Hamer	Minnesota
Becky Trainer-Carlson	Fir
Ashley Moore	RSC
Kevin Reynolds	Community Transitions
Tracy Burrus	Minnesota
Christopher Flockhart	RSC
Emily Mills	Minnesota

New job at Knology



Ruben Leonard has been employed at Knology for several months. He refurbishes remotes by cleaning them and checking and replacing batteries. He removes jumper cables from modems and scans modems and supports staff in many other processes. Employment Specialist Tina Kempf says the other staff are happy Ruben is there. "He is loved by everyone. He boosts morale."

Weight Watchers at Work Program

Sign up on

Tuesday, September 13

RSC training rooms 1&2

11:30 a.m.

If you have any question please feel free to
e-mail Elizabeth Passmore or call ext. 262.

New medical needs fund honors Doree Alexander



A new fund, Doree's Medical Needs Fund, will honor Doree Alexander who died on July 8. Doree's nursing career spanned 45 years, 23 of them at Black Hills Workshop. Doree made a huge difference in the lives and health of people we serve. She would be happy to know medical needs not covered by funding sources will be covered by gifts made in her memory.

Every gift helps!

Once a year, United Way of Rapid City unites the community for one big fund raising effort. One hundred percent of our United Way donations stay in the Black Hills area, making a difference in the lives of our friends and neighbors--even people we support and our fellow employees. The campaign allows United Way agencies to spend more of their time, energy, and dollars doing what they do best: helping people, rather than raising money themselves.

Thank you to all who have pledged so far. If you haven't, please return your form to Sheila Vetsch at RSC by September 23. **Even if you pledged last year, new cards are needed this year.**

Free books for kids

United Way teams up with the Dolly Parton Foundation to provide books to every preschool child in the Black Hills. Through the Imagination Library program, all children, 0-5 years old, are eligible to receive books, regardless of family income. There is no cost to their family. Once the children are signed up, the Foundation mails them the books, one per month until they reach age 5. The United Way pledge form allows you to make a separate donation to this program.

*To sign up a child to receive books contact Dorothy Rosby. Thanks to generous donations, there is no cost to the child's family.

Congratulations

Congratulations **Cindy Roan Eagle**, who has been reappointed by Governor Daugaard for her second three-year term on the Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Congratulations **Tom Miller** who was chosen to appear in a video created by NISH for the Alliance for Full Participation conference which will be held November 17-19.

Congratulations to **Vince Horne, David Jennings and Amy Jobgen** for reaching their goal weight and becoming Weight Watcher's Lifetime Members!

Congratulations **Tara Wilcox and Connie Melvin** who, despite lost luggage and canceled flights, presented a successful all-day session at the National Association of Qualified Developmental Disability Professionals Preconference on August 2.

Congratulations **Janice and Bob Arnio** whose Triumph TR8 won the Participant's Choice 1st Place award in the TR7 and TR8 class at the VTR (Vintage Triumph Register) Convention August 17-20 in Breckenridge Colorado.

Good deals for Workshop employees

•See you at the movies

Black Hills Workshop/BH Services employees can purchase discounted movie tickets to both Carmike and Rushmore Theatres for \$7.50. You can purchase tickets from Ellen Sylliaasen at RSC.

•WaTiki discounts

Employees may also purchase WaTiki Indoor Water Park tickets at a reduced rate of \$8. Normally the tickets run \$16.50 per person. You can purchase tickets from Ellen Sylliaasen at RSC.



Due to an interest at Industries, the Monday Zumba class currently held in the gym at BHWS will move to Industries starting Monday, September 12 from 4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. Please use the side kitchen door. Wednesday and Saturday classes will continue in the gym. The class is open to anyone and is \$3 a person or you can purchase a punch card from the Kerry, the Zumba instructor. If you have any questions please text Kerry at 484-1040 or e-mail Colleen Fines.

Tom Miller honored by governor



Tom Miller receives his Outstanding Citizen with a Disability Award from Governor Dennis Daugaard on July 26. The award is presented in recognition of outstanding achievements in living with a disability and promoting independent living and employment opportunities for others with disabilities.

Hall of Fame

The Hall of Fame is an employee recognition program that provides the opportunity to reward and recognize outstanding employees for their contributions and achievements. Supervisors submit the Hall of Fame nomination to the Hall of Fame committee (input and nominations can come from any staff member submitting their nominee to the Supervisor.) Supervisors will complete the nomination according to the criteria and nomination forms.

The selection criteria for Hall of Fame nominee is:

- Full time employee with a minimum of 5 years continuous employment.
- Excellent attendance record.
- Commitment to the organization’s mission, vision and values.
- Model standards of performance through the Power of B.
- Seeks to satisfy all staff development and learning requirements, i.e. attend seminars, take classes and further develop their skills.

The recognition package for the Hall of Fame employee includes:

- \$1000
- Hall of Fame coin
- News and media recognition
- Participation in Company Functions
- Letter of congratulations from CEO
- Hall of Fame certificate
- Wall plaque permanently displayed in the Resource and Support Center lobby.

Watch for upcoming details on the nomination time line. Consider nominating employees who demonstrate to be role models and are respected for their contributions, people who contribute positively to the mission and values of our organization.

Donations needed for Main Street Square production

Flutter Productions and Outright Dance Theatre were selected to create and perform a site specific, performance piece for the Holiday Celebration and Dedication Ceremony of the new Main Street Square on Saturday, November 26. The piece will be a mixed-ability movement piece that will feature oversized puppets, including a buffalo and many more creatures of South Dakota, created from recycled materials with help from the Suzie Cappa Arts Center. They are in need many items to begin building the animated puppets and sculptures that we will bring to life in the downtown square. If you have any of the following you'd like to donate, bring them to the Suzie Cappa Center. Chicken wire and wire snips, a single burner that is electric, old feed sacks, bicycle inner tubes, PVC piping - ½" – 2", brown paper bags, newspapers, boxes of cornstarch, spray paint that will work on plastic – browns and blacks, small containers of FLAT, latex wall paint and acrylic paint (brown, black, greens, blues, reds, yellows, purple), flat, white bed sheets, old window screens (NOT metal), packing tape, hot glue sticks and hot glue guns, staple gun with staples, 1" - 1 ½" thick extruded polystyrene.

We are also looking for black turtle necks, leggings, tights and socks, in both adult and children's sizes, and black knitted gloves and stocking caps.

Stop, Look, Listen



Cindy Gresch poses with Brad Saathoff after performing in Stop, Look Listen, the latest production of Outright Dance Theatre. Katie McOwen, Heather Morris, Karrin Rolfstad and Shad Bebout also performed with other community members in the show on August 20.

Thank you

Special thanks to **Jacki Schoenrock and Jack Young** for loaning their vans to the BITC Office after our delivery vehicle broke down. We were in a tight spot and they altered their schedules to support us, which in turn saved the government money for the cost of renting a van for a week. And thanks to Marty Krause for his quick actions and expertise coordinating this support. Kudos and special thanks for going above and beyond for us. It's times like that speaks volumes about the kind of great people and company the Black Hills Workshop and BH Services are.

Joseph Sabrowski.

Thanks to **Mike Turner, Jeremy Corcoran, Jim Steele, Justin Fines, Dan Hern, Tim Strauss and Van DeVries** for all the hard labor moving furniture at RSC while the new carpet was being installed.

Thanks **Tina Kempf** for all the great employment photos taken for future newsletters!

Dorothy Rosby

Thank you to all the following stars who agreed to be interviewed for gala videos: **Michelle Aman, Suzette Wasvick, Bill Clucas, Tammy Murner, Doug Meiron, Amy McGlade, Chantil Wilkerson, Danette Schille, Connie Whitley, Brad Winter, Larry Meendering, Bob Kringen, Marty Krause, Mike Brennan, Lynn Vallette, Connie Whitley, Chelsea Stratton, Richard Harrington, Paula Cross, Brad Saathoff, Deanette Frein, and Tina Boschee.** We could never tell the stories of the gala winners so well without you!

Dorothy Rosby

EE team making plans for upcoming holidays

The EE team will be again doing the Trunk or Treat on October 22. They will be also hosting the Pumpkin Contest between BHW, Industries, and Concourse.

There will also be a holiday decorating contest between housing units and the holiday party will be January 14. Plans are being made for a very exciting entertainer! More news later.

Consumer Credit Counseling Classes

To pre-register, call (605) 348-4550. Credit When Credit Is Due, Make Your Move...Guide to Home Ownership, and CheckWi\$e are all offered for no charge. There is a \$50.00 fee for Start Right class. Rapid City classes are to be held at 2310 N. Maple Avenue.

Wednesday, September 7, Credit When Credit Is Due, 6:00-9:00 p.m., Lessons 1-6.

Tuesday, September 13, Start Right: Build Your Own Business, 6:00-9:00 p.m., Lessons 1-10.

Wednesday, September 14, Credit When Credit Is Due, 6:00-9:00 p.m., Lessons 7-12.

Wednesday, September 21, Make Your Move...Guide to Home Ownership, 6:00-9:00 p.m., Lessons 1-6.

Tuesday, September 27, Credit When Credit Is Due, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Lessons 1-12.

Tuesday, September 27, CheckWise, 6:00-8:00 p.m. Lessons 1-6.

Wednesday, September 28, Make Your Move...Guide to Home Ownership, 6:00-9:00 p.m., Lessons 6-11.

Wednesday, October 5, Credit When Credit Is Due 6:00-9:00 p.m., Lessons 1-6.

Tuesday, October 11, Start Right: Build Your own Business, 6:00-9:00 p.m., Lessons 1-10.

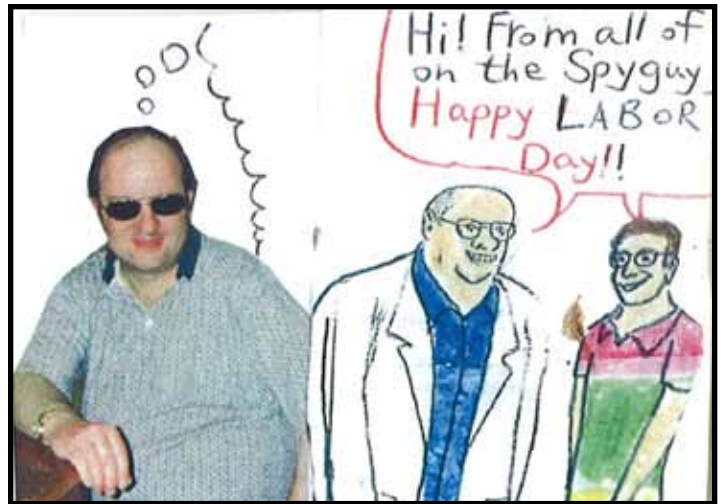
Wednesday, October 12, Credit When Credit Is Due 6:00-9:00 p.m., Lessons 7-12.

Wednesday, October 19, Make Your Move...Guide to Home Ownership, 6:00-9:00 p.m., Lessons 1-5

Tuesday, October 25, Credit When Credit Is Due 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Lessons 1-12

Tuesday, October 25, CheckWise, 6:00-8:00 p.m. Lessons 1-6

Wednesday, October 26, Make Your Move...Guide to Home Ownership, 6:00-9:00 p.m. Lessons 6-11



John Shoemaker

Calendar

Buddy Walk September 10
YMCA Corporate Cup-Sept. 29
Trunk or Treat-October 22
Recognition Gala-November 5
Dahl Show opens-November 15
Holiday Party-January 14

Dianne Mehrer Usdane nominee



Beth Dubay (right) presents Dianne Mehrer with an award for being our nominee for the NISH AbilityOne William M. Usdane Award. Unfortunately, the photo was taken on Dianne's last day at the Switchboard. She is moving to Florida. She will be missed.

Backpack Strategies for Parents and Students



Aching backs and shoulders? Tingling arms? Weakened muscles? Stooped posture? Does your child have these symptoms after wearing a heavy school backpack? Carrying too much weight in a pack or wearing it the wrong way can lead to pain and strain. Parents can take steps to help children load and wear backpacks the correct way to avoid health problems.

Loading a Pack

- A child's backpack should weigh no more than about 15% of his or her body weight. This means a student weighing 100 pounds shouldn't wear a loaded school backpack heavier than about 15 pounds.
- Load heaviest items closest to the child's back (the back of the pack).
- Arrange books and materials so they won't slide around in the backpack.
- Check what your child carries to school and brings home. Make sure the items are necessary for the day's activities.
- If the backpack is too heavy or tightly packed, your child can hand carry a book or other item outside the pack.
- If the backpack is too heavy on a regular basis, consider using a book bag on wheels if your child's school allows it.



Wearing a Pack

- Distribute weight evenly by using both straps. Wearing a pack slung over one shoulder can cause a child to lean to one side, curving the spine and causing pain or discomfort.
- Select a pack with well-padded shoulder straps. Shoulders and necks have many blood vessels and nerves that can cause pain and tingling in the neck, arms, and hands when too much pressure is applied.
- Adjust the shoulder straps so that the pack fits snugly on the child's back. A pack that hangs loosely from the back can pull the child backwards and strain muscles.
- Wear the waist belt if the backpack has one. This helps distribute the pack's weight more evenly.
- The bottom of the pack should rest in the curve of the lower back. It should never rest more than four inches below the child's waistline.
- School backpacks come in different sizes for different ages. Choose the right size pack for your child as well as one with enough room for necessary school items.



Need More Information?

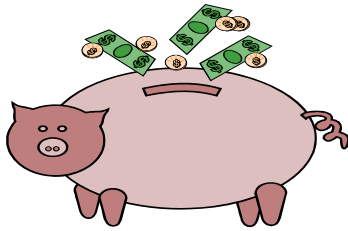
For more facts on backpack safety, see "Backpack Facts: What's All the Flap About?"

If you would like to consult an occupational therapy practitioner about an ergonomic evaluation regarding backpacks, computer use, or other learning-related issues, talk to your child's teacher about whether a referral to occupational therapy is appropriate. Your physician, other health professionals, and your school district's director of special education may also be able to recommend an occupational therapy practitioner.

2011

WORK RELATED ACCIDENTS

Requiring medical attention



**Invest in
tomorrow.
Practice
safety
today!**

		August accidents requiring medical attention	August work accidents resulting in lost time	Total thru Aug 2011 medical attention claims	Total 2010 medical attention claims
BHWS Admin					0
Mfg/Production/Elderly cc:17					1
Kitchen					0
Sensory/Lettershop/Suzie Cappa				2	1
Hospital Contract					1
BHWI Admin					0
Production					0
Community Transitions					0
Community Homes		1		3	2
Concourse Enterprise Admin					0
DLT					0
Production					0
Edwards A					0
Edwards C				2	1
Edwards D					0
Enclave				1	0
Fir					3
Hampton		1	1	2	3
Indiana					1
Johns					0
Lacrosse					0
Maintenance					0
Mechanics				1	1
Minnesota				3	3
Parkview					0
Quincy					3
Resource & Support (Service Coord/Nursing/CSS)				2	4
RSC					0
Sitka					2
St Cloud				2	0
Wisconsin				1	5
BH Services Admin					0
Bandit Inn				1	2
Commissary				4	2
Custodial/Janitorial				7	7
Drivers (EAFB & OPC)					0
Offutt Commissary				3	6
Offutt Food Service				1	1
Supply Store					0
Switchboard					0
Totals		2	1	35	49

“B” Recognition Award



Name of the staff person you'd like to recognize: _____

Title of the person you are recognizing: _____

Department or area they work in: _____

What you'd like to recognize them for: Check the “B” that applies with the example of the “B” they demonstrated. Please be specific.

- For Being Respectful of Others
- For Being Accountable
- For Being Your Best (Their Best)
- For Being Supportive

Your name and title: _____

Your department or area: _____

Please send this form to Dorothy Rosby at RSC. Your nominee could be selected to receive the \$50 prize and be featured in Shoptalk. Feel free to make copies of this form for additional people you'd like to recognize.

Happy birthday

Linda Green	2
Gus Gustke	3
Dallas Thompson	4
Justine Ashokar	5
Maranda Walter	5
Mike Brennan	6
Karen Burdick	6
Melanie Strauss	6
Robyn Wimmer	6
Cara Keyser	6
Shelley Wilson	7
Celestino Galvan	8
Jean Derrick	8
Kayla Vickerman	8
Tina Kempf	8
Lindsay Dartt-Houghton	8
Richard Frybarger	9
Jacki Schoenrock	10
Robert Kisler	10
Lisa Huschle	10
Mandy Hertel	11
Melinda Swigart	11
Brad Saathoff	12
Crystal Young	12
Ladonna Wilson	12
Kimberly Tollman	13
Robert Maples	14
Jill Neff	14
Matthew Brady	14
Lisa Abel	14
Patricia Naugle	15
Barb Larsen	16
Eric Duvall	17
Suzann Caulfield	18
Ok Hilburn	18
Diane Bartlett	19
Richard Hern	19
Dee Shane Cortinas	21
Michael Curtin	22
Tony Geter	22
Nicole Roberts	22
Bill Pashby	23
Stephen Martinez	23
Michele Benda	25
Darcy Hansen	26
Phyllis Rensch	27
Alecia Apa	28
Nicole White	28
Kendra Yellow Boy	28
Jean McMahon	30

Employment anniversaries

Bill Anderson	23 years
Dawn Fairbanks	23 years
Deanette Frein	13 years
Jolene Hopperdietzel	20 years
Jessilyn Larson	9 years
Kathrine McNeary	11 years
Jerry Potter	15 years
Sherrill Selwyn	1 year
Darrell Slone	17 years
Jeff Smith	1 year
Sara Pekny	6 years
Gena Bradford	8 years
David Jennings	6 years
Kyle Ross	4 years
Nancy Haugen	4 years
Elizabeth Dubay	5 years
Suzette Wasvick	4 years
Chuck Conlee	4 years
Robyn Wimmer	1 year
Jenny Stevens	1 year
Joel Anderson	3 years
Lori Clanton	3 years
Daniel Hern	3 years
Darra Woodward	2 years
Jolene Nichols	2 years
Karri St. John	2 years
Shawn Snellgrove	2 years
Jamie Hanson	2 years
Ryan Steele	1 year
Tammy Gross	1 year
Cameron Parette	1 year
Shana Neustel	1 year
Megan Peterson	1 year
Erin A. Neal	1 year
Robin Ostwald	1 year
Linda Green	1 year
John Lowe	20 years

