



The Grapevine

Your Employee Newsletter

Keystone Community Resources Inc. — Keystone Independent Living Inc.

October 31, 2008



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Online Edition
www.keycommres.org

Our New Home on Calvin Street!



A beautiful home from the front (above)
And a view of the back yard and patio area (below right)

Renovations on the home included restoration of original hard wood flooring that had been covered by carpet and other cosmetic improvements around the house.

Over the past few weeks staff and residents have focused on getting to know each other and have already begun meeting neighbors and joining in community activities.

"The neighbors on Calvin Street have been wonderful!" says Brenda. "They have been very friendly and welcoming and we speak with them every day!"

After several years in preparation, Keystone opened our first home designed to serve the special needs of adults living with Autism, Calvin Street Residence!

Manager **Brenda Kellogg**, and her staff welcomed the first two of four men who will call Calvin Street home on October 6th, 2008.



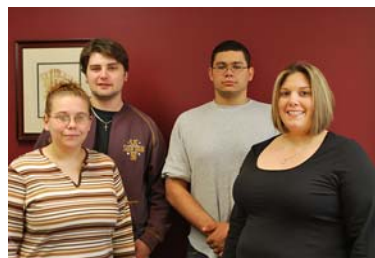
Meet the Latest Additions to Your Staff!

September 29, 2008

Anna Baratta
Anthony Kasimakis
David Kizer
Jennifer Thomas

October 13, 2008

Leonard Balleli
Karen Davis
Linda Rosengrant-Lohrey
Cassandra Scott
Matthew Smith



Say 'Hello' to new staff
Jennifer Thomas,
David Kizer, Tony Kasimakis
and **Anna Baratta!**

October 27, 2008

Cory Brazil
George Knutelski, Jr.
James Kull
Christina Larnerd
Laquana Paniagua
JoAnne Santore
Ebone Thomas
Jennifer Yeisley

Welcome to our New Staff!
Thanks for joining OUR TEAM!

Looking Forward to Thanksgiving!



Tyrone and Steve Help to "Feed a Friend" for Thanksgiving!

Every year, Keystone consumers and staff find many ways to both help others and have fun around Thanksgiving. Here are some upcoming events in and around our neighborhoods!

Gabrielle Quinn and the youth of South Webster are participating in the "Feed a Friend" program, sponsored by television station WNEP, Scranton, to benefit local families in need.

Residents **Ron S., Tyrone D.** and **Deshawn C.** are active in

this annual event by collecting food donations and preparing food packages for delivery to selected homes.

Madlyn Yuschovitz and the Recreation Committee are sponsoring a food drive for the Catherine McAuley Center, Scranton, an agency that supports homeless women and children.

Collection baskets will be located at Abington and the Nursing office at Hickory Street for the dona-

tion of non-perishable food items.

The Human Resources Department invites everyone to celebrate Thanksgiving early. Bring your favorite holiday dish to share and enjoy!

Everyone is welcome Friday, November 7, 2008 from 11:30 to 12:30 at Abington Conference Room D.

For more information call **Kate Ricci** at 702-8066

Best Wishes to **Melissa Mecca** and **Joseph Gregory** on their recent wedding!

Melissa is a therapist in the Clinical Services Department



A Dress Made of Glass!

Lose Pounds and Win Prizes at Weight Watchers!

It's Fall. As trees shed their leaves it's time for you to shed those extra pounds! And now, you have an extra incentive: save money and win prizes by joining Keystone's sponsored Weight Watcher's group starting November 13, 2008!

Keystone's Weight Watchers program will be held every Thursday from 2:00 until 2:30pm at the **Abington location**. The session will be for 5 weeks starting 11/13/08 and ending 12/18/08. There **will**

be no meeting on 11/27/08. and keep it off.

The cost for the entire 5 weeks session is \$50.00 dollars. Keystone Community Resources will be contributing half of the cost and the remaining balance of \$25.00 will be paid by you.

In Weight Watchers, you learn how to actually allow for indulgences without sacrificing weight loss. Through weekly meetings, you will get support in making lifestyle changes, which helps you lose weight

And...at the end of the session gift cards from a choice of Target, Sheetz and Cinemark will be awarded in the amounts of \$30.00 for 1st place, \$20.00 for 2nd place and \$10.00 for 3rd place. These awards will be presented to the participants with the top three percentage weight loss for the entire session.

For more information contact **Laura Davis** at 702-8029 for full details!

Leslie Ladies Travel to the Glass Museum!

Mary B., Maria, P., Mary Jo C. and **Marie Hesser** of Leslie took an autumn ride up to Corning, NY with the Deutsch Institute to see The Corning Museum of Glass October 1, 2008!

"We had a wonderful time", said Marie. "We saw an artist who works for the museum create a gorgeous hand blown

glass vase right in front of us!" The ladies were particularly impressed by a glass ball gown, with a pair of glass slippers to match! (pictured left).

The museum collection includes a large exhibit of Tiffany stained glass windows, and antique cut glass pieces; many made in factories once active in our area.

Since 1979, the Deutsch Institute, named in honor of Keystone's founder, **Mr. Ignatz Deutsch**, has offered frequent recreational trips and activities designed especially for people living with disabilities.

For more information on The Deutsch Institute's schedule and programs call 570-348-1968

Celebrating the Finest in Teamwork!



Ladies at Clover Apt Present Their Pumpkins!

Thank you to every person that spent time supporting, volunteering and just plain offering to help at the Lahey Family Fun Day!
- Rebecca Hokien

Anna Narcoonis. Your support has been invaluable!
- Gillian Reilly

Thanks to all staff who have helped at Clover Apt: **Kelly Cosgrove, Jonelle Curran, Dawn Kubilius, Wanda Johnson, Jennifer Torres, Bobbie Barron, and Christa Angelo** ,MANY thanks for caring so much for the Ladies we Serve!

- Lucille Pietrocarlo

Thank you to **Brenda Kellogg** for all the help you gave me while you worked at Laurel and to wish her good luck on her new position as Manager / Program Specialist at Calvin Street. Good Luck Brenda!
- Jayne Ward

A special Thank You to the staff of Greenbush and the following people for all of your help welcoming our new consumer to Greenbush: **Jessica Sawyer, Laura Foy, Helene Santos, Jayne Ward, Tracy James, Chris Gabello,**

Congratulations to **Kate Ricci**, HR Intern, for completing 120 internship hours at Keystone!

Best Wishes to Jessica Walsh and Paul Lewis on their recent wedding!

Jessica is a DSP at Marjorie.

Honoring October Years of Service!

Ann Kennedy	33 years!	Christine Roche	11 years!	Tracy Robinson	3 years!
Marge Cook	26 years!	Nicole Dishong	9 years!	Mark Ventimiglia	3 years!
Jorja Sukowaski	23 years!	Ruth Meredick	8 years!	Diane Powell	3 years!
Alyce Archer	16 years!	Loraine Savakinas	6 years!	Wanda Johnson	2 years!
Carla Walker	15 years!	Mark Pierre	6 years!	Lorraine Marek	1 year!
Lisa Yackamovich	14 years!	Brenda Urpack	6 years!		
Michielle Reviello	12 years!	Donna Mooney	4 years!		

Families Gather for Halloween Celebration!

Families of Keystone consumers living with Prader-Willi Syndrome (PWS) came to Gouldsboro, PA for a day of fun, fellowship and to share news and information with each other at Saturday's Annual Family and Friends Day!

The day began with a conference for families of consumers with PWS and Keystone staff to celebrate individual successes, and share views and concerns.

After the conference it was time for fun

at the Halloween party and dance. Families, homes and individuals planned activities, costumes and decorations for weeks.

This year's festivities included Dance Freeze, Pin the Nose on the Pumpkin, Costume Contest, Mummy Wrap, and carefully created nutritional snacks.

Mrs. Gallagher, a parent of a consumer with PWS hosted a popular arts and crafts project table where people could create their own Halloween themed decorations.

At the Gouldsboro Fire Hall, the décor was there to SCARE! Bats, rats, Frankenstein, ghosts, skeletons, a graveyard scene, and a motion-sensored "Psycho" Shower curtain set an eerie scene!

"It was wild!" said Residential Director **Mary Beth Leo**, "Congratulations to consumers and staff of **Gouldsboro, Laurel, Birch, Matthews, Greenbush, and Pine**. Everyone pitched in to make this another successful day. They covered every detail!"

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Keystone Community Resources, Inc.
Keystone Independent Living, Inc.

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OUR MISSION

To provide people with developmental
disabilities diverse opportunities to lead
fulfilling lives



Start earning holiday spending money today!

Employee Referral Bonus Program June 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008

Keystone Community Resources would like your help in recruiting new Direct Service Providers. All employees have the opportunity to earn **\$500** for referring someone to Keystone Community Resources.

Details:

Bonus is available for recruiting Direct Service Providers only

Program is available for **all** current Keystone employees

If you refer an applicant and they are hired you will receive \$100 when the new employee reaches their 90th day of employment and \$400 when the person completes their 6th month of employment. Referred employees can be full time or part time (part-time is pro-rated, \$250)

Please refer applicants to **Megan Tucker** (702-8088)

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Keystone and Lowe's: A Gateway to Success!

Laura Brown-Yadlosky, Executive Director announced that Keystone Community Resources was selected to operate a pilot program at the Lowe's Distribution Center in Pittston Township!

The new "GATEWAYS" project represents a Gainful Approach Toward Employment Where All abilities Yield Success. Developed by Director of Vocational Services **Gloria Lance**, this innovative service takes advantage of the growing need for distribution center workers in Northeast Pennsylvania to find gainful employment for people with disabilities.

Since 1994, Keystone's Vocational Training Program has developed manufacturing, assembly, packaging and other contacted services for 25 area businesses. The program currently serves over 200 adult consumers and up to 80 school students. Program participants develop work skills towards reaching an industry level of performance and competitive employment in the community.

Keystone will coordinate with the Office of

Vocational Rehabilitation, Veteran's Administration, Office of Mental Health and Office of Developmental Programs, Luzerne and Lackawanna Counties MH/MR offices and local service provider Step By Step to develop individualized programs for workers with disabilities at the distribution center.

Lackawanna county applicants referred by disabilities service agencies will be interviewed by Keystone to determine the most appropriate placements available to them in the center.

Keystone Job Coaches will work alongside trainees to facilitate skill development, identify and create adaptive solutions where work barriers exist, and mentor the new employee through their trial period.

Trainees in the GATEWAYS project earn a full competitive wage throughout their employment at Lowe's. They will be held to the same quality and production standards as every other employee doing the same job.

Keystone and Lowe's management team will

evaluate the new employee to meet objective standards. Regular employment will be offered at the successful completion of training.

Initially slated for 65 participants, the model could serve many more. Looking forward to the anticipated success of the GATEWAYS project, this pilot could be a prototype for expansion into other industries regionally and throughout the country.

The Lowe's Distribution Center occupies over one and a half million square feet of space and has bays for 40 trucks serving Lowe's Home Improvement Centers throughout the area. 900 workers are employed in a wide variety of positions both directly involved with distributing freight and in support office and maintenance jobs.

Lowe's Companies, Inc., founded 1946 in North Wilkesboro, North Carolina, now serves over 14 million customers a week in its 1,555 stores in all 50 states and Canada. Lowe's Companies, Inc. is ranked 48 on the Fortune 500 list.