

YOUR Shares

newsletter

OCTOBER 2012



IT'S YOUR RIGHT!

On September 5 and 25, 2012 the participants of Shelby and Rush Counties participated in a training session presented by Indiana Protection and Advocacy on Voter's Rights. The topics discussed included Voter Registration, Voting at the Polling Place, Absentee Balloting, Indiana Voter ID Law, Deadlines, and Grievances.

ARE YOU READY TO VOTE?

- ✓ Do you know the date of the election? (Tuesday, Nov. 6)
- ✓ Are you registered to vote?
- ✓ Do you have your ID card?
- ✓ Do you know enough information about the people you will be voting for?
- ✓ Do you know where you will go to vote?

SELF-ADVOCATES LIVING SELF-DETERMINED LIVES

On July 20th Shares, Inc. sent 43 participants from all three county programs to the annual Self-Advocates of Indiana Picnic. This event is a celebration and promotion of self-advocacy.

You might be asking, "What is self-advocacy?" Boiled down, self-advocacy is defined as speaking up for yourself and others while fighting for civil rights for all persons. Self-Advocacy is the civil rights movement for people with developmental disabilities.

With many partnerships the Self-Advocates of Indiana strives to allow people with disabilities to take control of their own lives. Self-Advocates do not have to stand alone, but can use the help

of friends and peers to improve their independence and be entitled to control of their lives.

The group enjoyed dancing, games and a picnic in beautiful Eagle Creek Park in Indianapolis. It was a great day to spend with old friends and to make some new ones. Self-Advocacy is about making connections and strengthening our community.

Joe Land
Living Skills Instructor

Photos from left to right:
"Enjoying the outdoors" Grace Coulston and Chris Gilpin
Group shot of Shelby, Hancock, and Rush Counties Self-Advocates
Fun day at the picnic
"Staying cool" Annie and Gearen Day



"There is no such thing as too much free stuff"
Cassidy Ewick

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NONDISCRIMINATION ON BASIS OF HANDICAP
Shares, Inc. is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination as required by civil rights legislation, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1990 as a result of the organization's commitment to equal opportunity. EOE-M/F
Shares, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer



CLIFF'S NOTES

REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We recently returned from taking 165 participants and staff on our annual educational trip to Virginia. This was a great learning experience as we heard about the early days of the people who formed the original colonies that became the United States of America.

Our nine-day trip took us to Monticello, home of President Thomas Jefferson, several days visiting Colonial Williamsburg, Jamestown, Busch Gardens, a tour of the Virginia Beach area and Aquarium. On the way home we stopped at the Horse Park in Lexington, Kentucky.

Many adventurous meals were enjoyed as we went to several colonial-type taverns, some of which date back several hundred years. We tasted good seafood from the Chesapeake Bay area and Atlantic Ocean, had oriental, Italian and Mexican food, a pizza party and lastly, German food at a replica of a castle found in Munich.

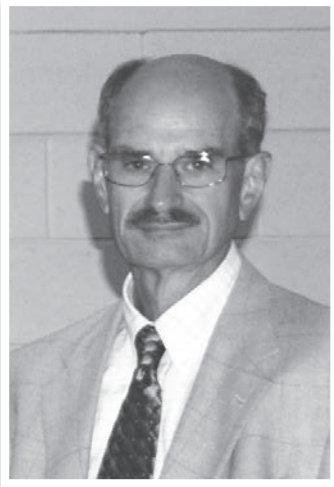
Shares, Inc. and WAP have been working aggressively to gain new business opportunities and work within a balanced budget in response to these trying economic times that find so many people unemployed and businesses failing. We completed our most recent fiscal year June 30th and our audit shows much improvement being made in this area. New jobs are now starting to come into our agency that will have long term effects on improvements to our financial stability.

I want to personally thank our Board of Directors for their volunteer effort in setting the stage for the many program areas designed to help persons with disabilities lead better lives. I also want to thank our participants in our programs for setting high goals for themselves so they can strive to reach their potential. And lastly, I want to thank our staff for their great effort in training, education and placement of our participants.

A special thanks also is extended to the many companies and partners we have in our local community that have helped our participants grow in their lives.

I close with wanting to offer our condolences to the Wilson family for the death of their daughter Katie, who was a participant in our agency program for close to four years. I am sure they will have great memories of the excitement Katie found in her life and her time spent with the many people at Shares, Inc. Katie's smile lit up life for all and she will certainly be missed.

Clifford Strachman



COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

Alexander Richardson began his community job as a dishwasher at the Greenfield Pizza Hut in July of 2011. When Alex was first referred to Shares Community Employment Services, there were many barriers that needed to be addressed to his being successfully employed.

Alex was able to perform a job trial at Pizza Hut, which allowed him more time to try out the job to see if he had an interest in this type of work and to develop his skills. After a successful job trial, he was hired in the position of dishwasher.

Both the management and his Employment Specialist, John Branson, recognized Alex's potential. He had the support of a job coach to assist him with learning more about the job when he started as well as his coworkers at Pizza Hut.

Over the past year Alex has improved in all areas of his job. He started out working one or

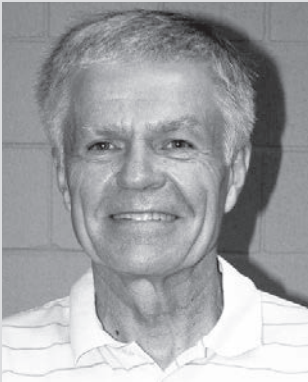
two days a week to more recently filling in for another coworker while they were on vacation. Alex's manager, Tom McMahan, states that Alex is a joy to work with because of his positive attitude and hard work. He always has a smile on his face and unlimited energy.

When Alex was asked about his job at Pizza Hut he stated "I love it" and gives a big "thumbs up". Because of his positive, friendly attitude and hard work to meet and surpass his employment goals and perform his job duties at Pizza Hut, Alex was nominated by his Employment Specialist, John Branson. He has been selected to receive the Employee of the Quarter Award for Community Employment Services.

Brian Montgomery
Director of Employment Services



We are very proud of Alex and his growth since he started at Pizza Hut and would like to congratulate him on this award!



LETTER FROM BOARD PRESIDENT

Where has the summer gone? It seems like just yesterday that the leaves were budding on the trees, and now it won't be long until they fall and autumn will be upon us. (And, you know what season is to follow!)

Fortunately at Shares, even though many things do change, there are some things that remain the same, like our goal of providing good employment opportunities for those who are disabled. This does not happen all by itself. There are many people who are dedicated to making sure that jobs are available. This requires

that each person be alert to the opportunities as they present themselves and continue to develop new ideas. Our management team has been doing a very good job of seizing the "moment" and carefully evaluating the potential of new business. Much is new on the horizon and our business side seems to have made a turn for the better. Thanks to everyone for your diligence and patience. Board members also have been looking for ways to become more involved. We are all pleased to be a part of the Shares Family.

David Oakes

FIRST IMPRESSIONS COUNT... HERE'S SOME GOOD ADVICE WHEN COMPLETING A JOB APPLICATION AT AN EMPLOYMENT SITE:

- 1 Dress as you would for an interview.
- 2 Bring your own pen - blue or black ink.
- 3 Write in your best handwriting.
- 4 Don't leave any spaces blank.
- 5 Know a specific job you're applying for.
- 6 List your most recent work and educational experiences first and go backwards from there.
- 7 Have at least three references that are not family.
- 8 Always double check the application for spelling or grammatical errors.

Good Luck!
Meredith Davis
Employment Specialist



YOUR 2012 EDUCATIONAL TRIP



Left Page

Situated on a mountaintop outside Charlottesville, Virginia, Monticello, a 5,000-acre plantation, was the home of Thomas Jefferson, author of the Declaration of Independence, third president of the United States, and founder of the University of Virginia.



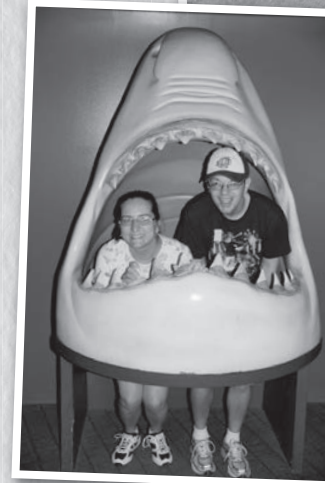
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- A. Lunch at the historic **Michie Tavern Restaurant** in Charlottesville, Virginia (Picture provided by Dennis Newland)
- B. **Historic Colonial Williamsburg**
- C. **Virginia Aquarium**
- D. **Virginia Beach** (Picture provided by Dennis Newland)
- E. **Boardwalk at Virginia Beach**
- F. **Kentucky Horse Park**
- G. **Historic Jamestown**

A.



B.



C.



D.



E.



F.



G.



YOUR FAVORITE THING ABOUT THE TRIP

"I like learning about our history"

Melissa V. /Shelbyville

"I liked the swimming and dancing!"

Tammy E. /Greenfield

"The dance was my favorite part"

Travis T. /Shelbyville

"Roller coasters at Busch Gardens going upside down was fun"

Joe C. /Rushville

"I had a great time at the aquarium... I touched a Stingray!"

Jane W. /Greenfield



"It was great... I liked the shopping"

Ralph L. /Shelbyville

"The horse park...learning about the different horses."

Ross S. /Rushville



"Hanging out with everyone was the best part!"

Cathy S. /Greenfield

"Staying at the hotels and shopping was fun"

Mary C. /Rushville



"I enjoyed it...especially the history of Thomas Jefferson and downtown Colonial Williamsburg"

Cathy H. /Shelbyville

"The show of the horses and parade was fun"

Harold R. /Rushville

"Learning about Thomas Jefferson was fun"

Brenda B. /Greenfield

"Busch Gardens was my favorite and the rides!"

Calvin H. /Shelbyville

"Jamestown was interesting with all the types of buildings"

Haley C. /Rushville

"I loved the food and the Polka music at the German restaurant"

Tom C. /Greenfield



"The horse park was fun... I love animals"

Howard H. /Shelbyville

"Pizza party and dance was my favorite"

Nick C. /Rushville

"The aquarium was fun learning about the different types of fish"

Elizabeth R. /Greenfield

"The food was great and I liked the pizza party"

Bobby Z. /Rushville

"It was fun to go together as a group"

Deanna G. /Shelbyville

"Staying at the hotel was great!"

Adam R. /Greenfield

"Swimming!"

Tommy B. /Rushville



YOUR LIVING SKILLS LEND A HELPING HAND

The wheelchair helper program is an exciting new program that has started in Shelbyville and Greenfield. There were 17 participants in Greenfield and 17 participants in Shelbyville who have signed up for the program, participated in the training, and successfully completed a competency assessment. The participants demonstrated competency in the following areas:

- Proper pushing technique
- Avoiding obstacles when pushing a wheelchair
- Guiding a wheelchair downhill (simulated)
- Pushing a wheelchair through a doorway that pushes open
- Pushing a wheelchair through a doorway that pulls open

The participants who passed the assessment were given an official certificate of completion and a laminated license to push wheelchairs in the facility and community. The training and assessment will occur annually. If there are participants who would like to sign up next year for the wheelchair helper program, please see Laura Fano in Greenfield or Allison Hackman in Shelbyville.

Laura Fano

Living Skills Coordinator



A.



B.



C.



D.



E.



F.



G.



A. David Dwyer and Tony Jeffries on their trip to the **Basketball Hall of Fame.**

B. Therese Stewart showing her, "BINGO" at the **Senior Center.**

C. Lena Velasquez goofing around while taking a break from shopping at the **Edinburg Outlet Mall.**

D. Shawn Coaley at **Blue River Memorial Park.**

E. **Hanging with Rupert from Survivor!** (Back row: Sebrina Miller, Harold Renollet, Rupert, Mary Scroggham, Halley Coon, front row: Rhonda Mozingo)

F. Tim Hauk at **IMA.**

G Attending the **Indiana State Fair.** (Back row: Mary Beth Hughes, Sebrina Miller, Harold Renollet, Chris Gilpin, Halley Coon, Mary Scroggham, front row: Deena Thompson, Mike Wine, Rhonda Mozingo)



OUR MISSION

"Shares, Inc. provides service and support for people with disabilities to enhance their successful inclusion in the community."

YOUR UPCOMING EVENTS

AKTION CLUB MEETINGS

2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm.
Trinity United Methodist Church.
Briley Family Center. 741 Fair Avenue, Shelbyville

ANNUAL KIWANIS/AKTION CLUB HALLOWEEN DRESS-UP DINNER

October 23, 2012 at 6:30. Trinity United Methodist Church. Everyone is invited.

BOARD MEETING AT 7:30 P.M.

November 12, 2012 Rushville
January 14, 2013 Shelbyville

ELECTION DAY

Tuesday, November 6. Don't forget to vote!!

ANNUAL THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON

For Hancock County Participants.
Tuesday, November 20, 2012. Greenfield.

ANNUAL THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON

For Rush County Participants. Wednesday, November 21, 2012. Rushville

THANKSGIVING

The agency will be closed November 22 and 23

ANNUAL KIWANIS/AKTION CLUB THANKSGIVING DINNER

November 26, 2012 at 6:30. Trinity United Methodist Church. Everyone is invited.

NATIONAL HANDWASHING WEEK

December 2 - December 8, 2012.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

And Gift Exchange For Shelby County Participants. Friday, December 21, 2012.

CONTACT US: SHELBY COUNTY 1-877-398-8218 or 317-398-8218
HANCOCK COUNTY 317-462-4824 **RUSH COUNTY** 765-938-5321

www.sharesinc.org

YOUR INDUSTRY SPOTLIGHTS



Chris Gilpin

County: Rush

Birthdate: January 28

Hire Date: February 4, 1987

High School: Rushville High School

Favorite Job at Shares:
Copeland Tote Jobs

Favorite Shares Activities:
Volunteering at the
Rushville Library

Favorite Hobbies: The Civil War
(books, searching the web...)

Favorite Movie: All
John Wayne Movies

Favorite Music/Song:
Rock and Roll

Proudest Moment: Graduating
from High School

Favorite Food(s):
Tacos and Soup

Favorite Sport(s): Basketball,
Football, and Nascar

Three words that describe me:
Funny, Friendly, Good
sense of humor

**The funniest thing that ever
happened to me:** Watching
my cat do funny things

Greatest Fear: Lightening
and Thunderstorms

Greatest Hope: To have
a good and long life



Patricia McCord

County: Shelby

Birthdate: December 12

Hire Date: June 30, 2001

Favorite Job at Shares:
Glow Plugs

Favorite Shares Activities:
Riding the Shares bus with
my Quarter man, Ted

Favorite Hobbies: Reading and
Shopping at Cracker Barrel

Favorite Movie: Milo and Otis
was funny. I like Disney movies.

Favorite Music/Song:
"Tomorrow" from the
movie Annie

Proudest Moment: Getting
a star on my paycheck

Favorite Food(s): Hamburgers,
hotdogs and French fries

Favorite Sport(s): I am not a
sports lover, but my mom is

Three words that describe me:
Funny, easy-going

**The Funniest thing that has
ever happened to me:** Funny
things happen everyday—
I can't pick just one!

Greatest Fear: I am not
afraid of anything!



*Rosalee (Rosie)
Fredricks*

County: Hancock

Birthdate: August 11

Hire Date: May 11, 1981

High School: Greenfield Central

Favorite Job at Shares: Sealing

Favorite Shares Activities:
The Educational Trips

Favorite Hobbies: Watching TV
(Popeye), reading magazines,
and buying jewelry

Favorite Music/Song:
Love Songs

Proudest Moment: When I
got my biggest paycheck

Favorite Food(s): Spaghetti

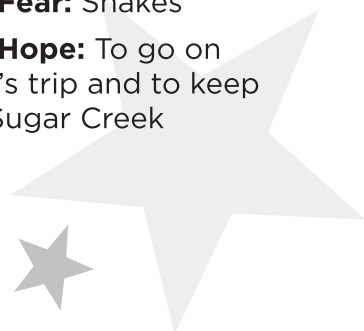
Favorite Sport(s): Bowling

Three words that describe me:
Happy, Sweet Tooth,
Like to make money

**The funniest thing that ever
happened to me:** I bought
a necklace on the trip with
the name "Michalea"

Greatest Fear: Snakes

Greatest Hope: To go on
next year's trip and to keep
living at Sugar Creek



YOUR SOCIAL SERVICES

Change, Change, and More Change! Effective September 1, 2012
the following changes went into effect for people on a Medicaid Waiver Program:

Support Services Waiver

- The name changed to Family Supports Waiver
- This will be the entry point for everyone to receive waiver services
- Anyone who is currently on a waiting list for any of the waivers, will now be targeted for the Family Supports Waiver
- Case Management was added as a Waiver service
- Families can now choose a Case Manager from four different companies
- The budget cap was increased from \$13,500 to \$16,250 per year
- There is more flexibility on how budgets can be used
- Participant Assistance and Care is a new service option for people who are living on their own or with their families
- For a completed list of the services offered under this waiver, visit www.arcind.org



Developmental Disability Waiver

- The name changed to Community Integration and Habilitation Waiver (CIH)
- The CIH Waiver is now a “Needs Based” Waiver for individuals who meet a specific criteria
- Case Management was added as a service

Autism Waiver

- The Autism Waiver ended August 31, 2012
- These individuals were transferred to the Community Integration and Habilitation Waiver effective September 1, 2012



STAY IN THE KNOW!!

Check your status on the Waiver waiting list and keep your information up-to-date on the Waiting List Web Portal. **Visit:** www.in.gov/fssa/ddrs/4328.htm

Updates on new enrollments to the waiver are posted every Monday.

Visit: <http://in.gov/fssa/ddrs/3347.htm>

To obtain further information on Indiana's Medicaid Waiver changes and to stay up-to-date, **Visit:** www.arcind.org

“ THE SAFE WAY IS THE RIGHT WAY! ”

Congratulations to several of the drivers and Living Skills Instructors at Shares, Inc. for participating in and successfully completing the Passenger Assistance and Wheelchair Securement Training that was held on September 5, 2012. A special thanks to Megan Lawson, Vicki Warner, and Todd Jennings from RTAP (Indiana Rural Transit Assistance Program) for providing this training to our staff and for all of their support throughout the year in helping us to keep our participants safe while they are on our vehicles.



Amy McCarty demonstrating the “safe way” with Ed Brown

“Your life does not get better by chance, it gets better by change.” -Jim Rohn

