

Working with You Working for You

Bollinger Enterprises, Inc.

BEi-LINE

January-March 2010

Special Points of Interest

- 2010 American Legion Award to BEi
- Charitable Contributions to Support BEi

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Pennsylvania American Legion Selects BEi for the "2010 American Legion Award to Enhance the Lives of Disabled Persons"

BEi received notification that it was selected as a winner of the 2010 American Legion Award which recognizes employers who "enhance

the lives of disabled persons." The award letter read as follows: "Congratulations on behalf of Department Commander Joseph Socha and the over 240,000 members of the Pennsylvania American Legion on Bollinger Enterprises, Inc., being selected as winner of the 2010 American Legion Award to Enhance the Lives of Disabled Persons."

BEi was nominated for the award by Jeff Walters, Veterans Employment Representative of the Warren CareerLink. The award will be presented to BEi in July at the American Legion Convention that will be held in Harrisburg. BEi is pleased and honored to be the recipient of this award.

Charitable Contributions Support BEi Facilities and Programs

BEi was the recipient of grants from the Sokolski Family Fund, the Whirley Industries Inc., Trust, and the Barrett Memorial Fund in January. These charitable contributions have been earmarked by the Board of

Directors of BEi for the Building Improvement Fund and for production equipment to enhance employment opportunities for our workers. Charitable giving from Family and Corporate Trusts, as well as individual

gifts, supports facility and programming quality improvements and innovations that are not customarily provided for through fees for BEi vocational rehabilitation services.

BEi Blips

The Community Activities Group has been busy these last few months.

* On January 23rd, the Activities Group went to Arby's for lunch then walked to the movie theater to see the movie, "The Tooth Fairy". It was a funny movie and was enjoyed by all!

* On February 26th, we hosted a "Hawaiian Luau" Dance at the Jefferson DeFrees Family Center which everyone had a "hula-riffic" time!

* On March 25th we went to see the Junior All School Musical which was, "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory". It was funny and we all had a good time. We especially enjoyed the chocolate bars!

* On March 18th we teamed up with the Therapeutic Activities Group and created several pieces of artwork that we put together to form one large piece of art that we submitted to the Barber National Institute in Erie, PA for their annual Art Show which will be in April.



a new boat fleet and restaurant equipment for the BEi concessions at Chapman Stat Park. The application for the grant was made in December of 2008 but awarding of the grant was delayed as a result of state budget concerns. BEi has a ten year contract to manage the food and boat concessions at Chapman State Park. The new equipment enables us to better serve the tourists visiting the park which has undergone many infrastructure upgrades over the past two years including a new concession stand which opened in July of 2009. The DCED grant, championed by State Representative Kathy Rapp, funds the purchase of six canoes, six kayaks, two paddleboats, two freezers, a beverage cooler, two microwave ovens, restaurant tables, storage racking, and miscellaneous equipment. The concession stand provides BEi with the opportunity of offering competitive employment experiences to current employees of the workshop and promotes good public relations with the community.

DCED Awards BEi Grant for Equipping Chapman State Park Concessions

The Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (PA DCED) has awarded BEi a grant of \$16,976 to pay for

BEi Technology Welcomes New Audiences

From the Warren Times Observer; Progress in Industry Edition

As Bollinger Enterprises, Inc., (BEi) forges ahead into the final year of the first decade of the third millennium and in our 38th year in business, we are promoting awareness of BEi through the launching of BEi's new website, www.beiwarren.com in October, 2009, "Working with You-Working for You," and a Facebook page presence in February, 2010. Whether you are a business looking for an economical and efficient way to complete a production order or a family looking to help in developing independent living skills or employment skills for an individual with disabilities, BEi will help meet those needs. Our new website and Facebook pages are two of the tools we are using to bring us together with new business prospects and individuals who could be helped by our services.

Although the economy is still soft and business activity slowed over the past year, BEi production volumes have begun to improve with our existing customers; Whirley Drink Works!, Petrex, Interelectric, OSRAM Sylvania and Blair LLC, New customer relationships are developing with companies such as Entech Plastics, Inc., in Corry. BEi workers took on the new challenge of assembling components that are used in various types of garden spraying equipment. BEi is always seeking new work opportunities for its workers. Visit our website, www.beiwarren.com, to see how we can be "Working with You or Working for You."



Western Caucus Meeting

PARF (Pennsylvania Association of Rehabilitation Facilities) held its first meeting of the Western Caucus on February 16, 2010 in Clarion, PA with the goal of improving all services for individuals with disabilities. Members will identify major issues affecting member services and programs for individuals with disabilities and plan for meetings and legislative activity. This organization evolved from the Northwest Providers' organization which was made up primarily of vocational facilities in northwestern PA as a networking and support group to increase contract work and competitive employment opportunities for the agencies.

Winterfest 2010

January 23rd marked the annual celebration of Winterfest in Warren County at Chapman State Park with sunny skies and throngs of people waiting to view the Polar Bear plunge. BEi opened the concession stand to accommodate the "chilling" needs of spectators with hot chocolate, coffee and Bob's chili for sale. Board members Jane Dunshie and Kris Whitaker; staff Jeff DePetro, Jennifer Slack and Carolyn Shaffer; and family members Maria Slack, Savana Repine and Emily Whitaker hustled to keep the cocoa coming netting almost \$300 which was donated to the American Red Cross for the Haiti Relief Fund. It was a fun filled and profitable day for all involved.



Haiti Relief Donation

Employees of Bollinger Enterprises, Inc. in North Warren have donated \$500 to the American Red Cross International Haiti Relief Fund. The donated funds were from individual employee contributions, proceeds from BEi's chili and hot drink sales at Warren County Winterfest, and from a meatball sub sale at the BEi workshop. Here, BEi employees, Jerrod Ongley and Sue Zimmerman, make their contributions to the effort.

Safety Committee Receives Re-Certification Training

Robin Anderson from Highmark Casualty Insurance Company conducted her annual Safety Committee training for all new and current members of our Safety Committee for 2010 on March 15th. This training enables BEi to maintain our yearly Pennsylvania state certification and discounts on our Workers' Compensation insurance premiums. The training covered the following topics:

- * Safety Committee duties, functions and responsibilities
- * Workplace inspections and accident investigations
- * Developing and reviewing employee safety rules
- * Testing safety devices and equipment
- * Review employee injuries monthly, analyze trends and develop recommendations for corrective action plans to prevent repeats and

- * Material Safety Data Sheets.

Safety Committee members for 2010 are:

- * James Farnsworth
- * Carl Johnson
- * Stephanie Nelson
- * Bob Klebacha
and
- * Jeff DePetro

Family Services Provides Training to BEi Staff

Gary Lester, Executive Director of Family Services of Warren County, provided two training sessions for BEi staff in February and March as part of Family Services training outreach to other United Fund

agencies. Sessions of "Stress Management" and "Where are These !@#%^&* People Coming From!!?? (Officially known as the Transactional Analysis), were well received by staff and offered tools

to improve job performance as well as meeting the state licensing regulations for training. Future sessions focusing on "Communications" and "Team Building" are planned.

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Mission

The mission of Bollinger Enterprises, Inc., (BEi) is to enrich the lives of people with disabilities by being the most innovative provider of vocational, life, and social opportunities through a caring and dedicated staff by:

- * *B*ringing opportunities to people with disabilities for independence at work, at home and at play!
- * *E*nhancing self-worth and enjoyment in life!
- * *i*nvolving the community to make it happen!

**Check out our website at
www.beiwarren.com also check
us out on our new Facebook page!**

Hawaiian Luau Dance.....Aloha!

On Friday, February 26th, we hosted a Hawaiian Luau Dance at the Jefferson DeFrees Family Center. We celebrated with Hawaiian leis, flowered hair clips for the ladies and bracelets with "Aloha", "Hang-Ten", etc. People wore their Hawaiian garb including orchids for their hair, a muumuu, authentic leis and beads from Hawaii as well as boldly flowered shirts. We had snacks that were made by Maryanne Lindell and Angie Gruber in the Life Skills class. They made Hawaiian bread that was delicious and Carolyn Shaffer made a coconut cake that was out of this world! We also enjoyed some Hawaiian style punch with a pineapple kick! The dancing was fun as usual with our favorite DJ, Dr. Vig. Thanks to everyone who attended and to everyone who helped make this another smashing success!

