

# Working with You Working for You

Bollinger Enterprises, Inc.

## BEi-LINE

April—June 2011

**Lead**

**Story**

**BEi Nominated for Award**

**Chapman Concessions**

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## Chapman Concessions Open to Big Crowds

The campground and day use areas of Chapman State Park were full Memorial Day weekend providing many hungry customers and boat renters for the BEi managed concessions in the beach area of the park. Good weather throughout the summer has kept the concession busy. The BEi Beach Concession is an employment/retail experience project for BEi workers and it also provides employment to the three other summer concession workers who manage the project. The Concessions are open every day except Tuesday, from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Download and /or clip the discount boat rental coupon located in this newsletter, and come on down to Chapman State Park to enjoy some time on the lake or the beach!



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## BEi Nominated for Award

BEi has been nominated to receive the Northwest PA Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Youth System Achievement Award in the category of Community Partner of the Year. Several WIA youth worked at BEi last year and several more will work at BEi this year. The work experience for both BEi and the youth involved was very positive. WIA sponsored youth were invaluable for production operations at BEi. Connie Fisher, the local WIA Program Coordinator for the Venango Training and Development Center, the Lead Agency for the Workforce Investment Board, nominated BEi for this honor.

## Contributions:

Warren Forest Arc  
 David Rutsky  
 Gary and Cecilia Parker  
 Staff of Lifestyles Support  
 Services, Inc.  
 Warren County Special Olympics  
 Carolyn Randas  
 Tom and Janet Buser  
 Tim and Marlene Sandberg  
 Carolyn Shaffer  
 Sokolski Family Fund  
 Crowley Charitable Trust  
 Judy Davison  
 Dr. and Mrs. J. Blair Logan  
 Arthur and Susan Stewart  
 United Fund of Warren County  
 James R. and Romaine L. Barrett  
 Memorial Fund  
 Glenn and Arlene Saluter  
 Staff of Warren County Human  
 Services

## Long Time Employees Pass Away

Three of our long time co-workers and friends passed away recently causing much sadness. Richard Regina, Eddie Griffith, and Duane Fry were all 30+ year employees with their combined work experience exceeding 100 years. All three worked hard to their abilities and were quick to give a friendly smile. They will be missed.



## Changing of the Guard at BEI

Carolyn Shaffer, Rehabilitation Supervisor at BEi, has retired after 25 years of service at BEi. An ice cream social was held in Carolyn's honor with all employees offering their well wishes. During her tenure, Carolyn was very involved and instrumental in the formation, development and expansion of the current programs of BEi including the Life Skills Program, the Therapeutic Activities Program, the Chapman State Park Concession Project, and the after work Activities Programs. Her oversight of these programs in addition to the workshop programs helped achieve eleven straight years of 100% compliance in licensing reviews by the PA Office of Developmental Programs.



Kim Nowell has replaced Carolyn Shaffer as Rehabilitation Supervisor, assuming her duties on May 2, 2011. Kim brings a wealth of direct care and supervisory experience in the field of developmental disabilities to BEi. Prior to coming to BEi, Kim had 20 years experience through several positions with Aspire of Western New York and The Resource Center in Jamestown, NY. Kim is enthusiastic about BEi's programs and looks forward to continued development of them.

## Café 905 Used for Fun Nights Out!

The Area Agency on Aging (AAA) has graciously offered the use of its Café 905 on Fourth Avenue in Warren for after work hours recreational and training activities for BEi employees. Café 905 became available for use after the consolidated senior centers relocated to their new facilities in the Transit Authority Building on Clark Street. BEi employees have been getting together on Tuesdays to relax at the café, share common bonds, and play games. Ron Heinrich, BEi Program Manager, coordinates the activities and transports those interested in joining the fun.



## Walking Club Starts Up Again!



For the third summer, BEi workers have formed an after work walking club for fun and fitness. Eight people along with group leader, Marilla Norton, Program Manager at BEi, trek the streets and bike trail in North Warren for an hour after work on Tuesdays. If it is excessively hot and humid or rainy, walkers are transported to the mall in North Warren to complete their walking routine. All walkers keep hydrated with water bottles donated by Whirley-DrinkWorks!

## Production Booming at BEi!

The local and regional economy has become strong again providing high volumes of work to BEi employees. Whirley DrinkWorks, Entech, Petrex, OSRAM Sylvania, Interlectric, and Truck-Lite have kept shop operations at 100% capacity. BEi workers love the challenge and opportunity and have worked hard to meet customer order deadlines. Production Manager, Jeff DePetro is also forging new business relationships with potential customers to develop more contract work opportunities.

## Team B Holds Life Skills Open House!

Participants in BEi's Life Skills Program, known as "Team B," demonstrated their skills and acted as tour guides at an Open House for the program on May 18<sup>th</sup>. The BEi Life Skills Program is based at an apartment at the Conewango Towers with the purpose of teaching independent living skills and healthy lifestyles and participants are also involved in other community based activities. Team B guides proudly showed off their training place and prepared and served refreshments to visitors who included families, referral agency staff, and other interested members of the public.



## TAA Weight Loss Contest Successful!



The BEi Therapeutic Activities Program Groups for Warren and Forest Counties held a six week weight loss contest to encourage better exercise and eating habits. Willing participants got really involved in learning to eat healthier foods and became more physically active. The combined weight loss by everyone was 62 pounds! Julia Cutshall won the contest for most weight lost and received a \$25 gift card for the effort. Turney Yount and Ella Gregori tied for second place and won gift certificates for a chicken salad at Burger King. A fourth prize, a gift certificate for a farm house salad at Arby's, went to Matt Johnson.

### Chapman Dam Concession Stand

Present this coupon for a 10% discount on Canoe or Kayak rentals from Bollinger Enterprises, Inc. (BEi) Concessions at Chapman State Park.

*Offer good during the 2011 season.*

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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](http://www.beiwarren.com)**



### **Licensing Streak Extended**

BEi has extended its streak of 100% compliance licensing reviews to eleven years! The Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare / Office of Developmental Programs licenses BEi annually under regulations that govern basically all operational aspects of the facility including programs of service, health and safety concerns, and administrative structure. The licensing review held in early June by the state commended BEi for: Being at full production offering a variety of work and earning opportunities for workshop employees; maintaining comprehensive records on participant activities and progress; being recognized for achievements such as getting the 2010 American Legion award; providing diversified services and activities that go above and beyond such as BEi sponsored community activities and special events; being vigilant and attentive to health and safety concerns and for the strength of its Safety Committee and safety practices; and providing services and experiences with substance to program participants. The 2011 review also ushered in many new regulations to make them current with changing practices and standards of operation. BEi staff worked long and hard to achieve compliance with the new standards.

### **\*\*SAVE THE DATES\*\***

BEi will be participating in the North Warren Yard Sale Day on **Saturday August 20<sup>th</sup>**. Please stop by and browse through our sale items. Free parking across the street in our lot! All proceeds from our sale will benefit BEi programs. If you have some items you would like to donate for our sale call 723-8431 extension 10 or just drop them off at BEi on State Street in North Warren.

Christmas in July? No, but save the date of **Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup>** for the Fourth Annual BEi Holiday Craft and Vendor Show when the BEi workshop turns into Santa's workshop. If you are interested in being a vendor at the show, call 723-8431 extension 10 for details.