

# Working with You Working for You

Bollinger Enterprises, Inc.

## BEi-LINE

March 2017

## 5th Annual Warren Gives set for Wednesday, May 17, 2017

### Lead Story

#### Warren Gives

The Community Foundation of Warren County has announced that Warren Gives will take place on Wednesday, May 17, 2017. This special Warren County online fund raising event involves sixteen hours of online giving with goals to raise awareness and appreciation for Warren County non-profits and to encourage new giving.

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Tens of thousands of dollars in match pool money makes donations mean even more to the organizations community members choose to support. Match dollars are distributed proportionally among organizations based on the donations they receive. The more community members donate the more match dollars go to local organizations.

The 2016 event was a great success raising \$345,323 thanks to the incredible generosity of donors and match pool sponsors, and the involvement of local non-profits! Over 3400 donations were made benefiting 96 participating organizations.

BEi is one of the ninety-six nonprofits that benefits from the Warren Gives event. Funds received from Warren Gives are utilized for: 1) "Art as a Vocation" Project, 2) Production equipment, 3) workplace improvements to retain or expand work opportunities, or 4) Program supplies for Adult Training Facility.

Please consider a donation on May 17th to BEi so we can continue to meet our mission which is to enrich the lives of people with disabilities.

2017 Match Amount & Sponsors To Be Announced In March!

give  
back

A Warren County Day Of Online Giving  
**WARREN** **MAY 2017**  
**gives** **17**  
WEDNESDAY  
[www.warregives.org](http://www.warregives.org)

Donate to your favorite Warren County organizations and help them get a portion of thousands of dollars in match pool money!

## Donations Received

The United Fund  
The ARC of PA



## BEi Services:

### Educational Opportunities

Pre-Employment Transition Services for Youth

### Employment & Skill Building

Pre-Vocational Services  
Transitional Work Services  
Supported Employment

### Community Living & Learning

Life Skills Training  
Adult Training Facility  
Therapeutic Activities Program

### Support for Families

Information Sharing

### Recreational Activities

BE inspired Community Art Program  
Wellness Activities  
Community Events

### Business Outsourcing Opportunities:

Packaging or Repackaging of Materials  
Hand Assembly Work  
Quality Control Inspections  
Shrink Wrapping of Products  
Light Industrial Work  
Custodial Contracts

For more information, call BEi at (814) 723-8431 or visit

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

## ATF Enters the Digital Age

The Adult Training Facility (ATF) at BEi has entered the digital age. Computers have become a regular part of our daily morning orientation. ATF uses the internet to access videos on topics being discussed. The tablets are used daily to look up the weather. Sometimes the computer is used to type letters to loved ones or to research a recipe being made that week. In addition, clients use different apps on the tablets which promote various skills such as hand-eye coordination, life skills, language skills, and therapeutic experiences (such as listening to music or making art).



## BE-inspired Art Group has Successful Gallery Showing



The BE-inspired art group had a successful showing of art work and photography at the Warren Library Wetmore Gallery from January 3rd - 30th. The show, "Through the Artist's Eyes", was brought to life by the help of local artist/photographer Monika Garami who donated her time to work with the group along with Lisa Streich, BEi Art Instructor and Business owner of Seasons on the Avenue. Several pieces of artwork including paintings, photography, jewelry, hand-painted coasters, and re-finished furniture were sold during the showing with all of the proceeds going back to the BE-inspired

Artists. BEi would like to thank Monika Garami, Lisa Streich, and all others involved in making this show a success!

## P.E.T.S. Program

BEi in cooperation with the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation continues to provide Pre-Employment Transition Services classes for students in the Warren County School District. In Mid-February the students successfully completed the first section of the training which involved instruction in the area of Independent Living Skills. On February 20, 2017, instruction began in the area of Self-Advocacy Skills. Instruction in Workplace Readiness is projected to begin in Mid-April and conclude at the end of the school year.

Plans are underway to include P.E.T.S. training as part of the school district's Extended School Year (ESY) curriculum. BEi is also working with OVR to provide additional services. Students are meeting with OVR counselors and expressing interest in Job Shadowing and Work Based Learning Experiences. BEi is now accepting student referrals through OVR to provide these services that complement the skills learned in the P.E.T.S. training program.

## Warren County Therapeutic Activity Group Happenings



The Therapeutic Activities Program has been busy this winter participating in a variety of activities in the community. The group participates in many routine activities such as cooking classes, bowling, bingo, movies, celebrating birthdays, exercising at the YMCA, and socializing in community hubs such as Sheetz café, the library, and Country Fair. Socialization skills are also practiced by attending community activities such as church luncheons at Hessel Valley, Mission Covenant and Sugar Grove United Methodist Churches. Special events attended include dress rehearsals at the Library Theater, Special Olympics Bowling, and swimming at the Polk Center. The group is looking forward to warmer weather so they can enjoy putt-putt golf, picnics, and day-trips to the Audubon, Kinzua Bridge, and beautiful Morrison Park in Seneca.

## Forest County Therapeutic Activity Happenings

The Forest County TAA group is busy on Thursday evenings. We participated in Special Olympics Bowling and competition in Seneca. The group also enjoys open bowling at Seneca Lanes. We currently are participating in Special Olympics swimming held at Polk Center. It is so fun seeing the snow fall on the sky lights while we are in the very warm water having so much fun. Our group also enjoys celebrating our peer's birthdays. All of us are looking forward to warm days so we can go to the beautiful Morrison Park in Seneca for picnics, basketball, bocce and board games. We recently visited Warner's Bakery in Titusville. The owner, Kathy, gave us a tour of her "old time" bakery and told us the story of how Mr. Warner sold his "Smiley" face cookie recipe to Eat n Park restaurant in exchange for labor at his bakery.



## 1st Quarter Outstanding Employee for 2017



Jim Meabon has been a mainstay working at Bollinger Enterprises for almost 24 years. He is an outstanding employee who has been able to work proficiently in any department of our workshop and has excelled in all of his job accountabilities: quality, productivity, reliability, attendance, job knowledge and initiative.

He comes to work every day and gives 100% effort and has been a mentor and role model to many of our new employees. He is always available for overtime and weekend work and will do anything that is needed to get our work shipped to our customers on time.

Jim also promotes a harmonious work atmosphere by treating everyone he meets and his co-workers with dignity and respect and is a team player. His favorite job in our workshop is checking legstraps for shorts and grease for Osram-Sylvania and his favorite foods are hotdogs with sour kraut, potato & macaroni salad and Roast beef from Brigotta's in Jamestown.

He truly is worthy of being named 1st quarter Outstanding employee for 2017.

Congratulations Mr. Meabon!

## Perfect Licensing Inspections

BEi had two perfect licensing inspections over this past Fiscal year! The Department of Human Services, Bureau of Human Licensing conducted their inspection of BEi's Pre-Vocational (Sheltered Workshop) Program on 9/27/16 and the Adult Training Facility( ATF) on 1/12/17 . Both audits had no areas of non-compliance identified. In addition, several positive comments were made regarding both programs including the overall satisfaction of the individuals, the programming choices offered, and the commitment and knowledge of the staff.

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### **Mission**

To Enrich the Lives of People with Disabilities

- \* **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.beigarren.com](http://www.beigarren.com)**



## **Executive Director Message**

Dear Friends of BEi:

As we wrap up the first quarter of 2017, I was reminded that on November 15, 2017 BEi will be celebrating 45 years of serving individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Warren and Forest County.

My goal as the new executive director is to honor the past by respecting those who came before me in terms of what they created and the sacrifices they made to build BEi into what it is today but I cannot allow BEi to sit still. BEi needs to look to the future and anticipate what our customers will need and want, then pursue changes in order to stay relevant.

In order to move forward, Kim Nowell and I have been members of the Rehabilitation and Community Providers Association (RCPA) 6100 workgroup. We participated in conference calls to review and provide input into the proposed regulations relating to governing facilities such as BEi and other areas. First, I am happy to report that due to public input the timeline for the implementation of community participation has been scaled back to 25% time in community locations and hubs. A second change was the choice whether to participate in the community activity, the amount and frequency will remain with the individual.

Taking time to pause and acknowledge accomplishments is critical to maintain a successful organization. BEi employees and management created Outstanding Employee nomination form so individuals could be recognized for their work efforts at BEi. Jim Meabon was selected as the Outstanding Employee for the 1st Quarter. Mr. Meabon attended the March BEi board meeting to receive his award and led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Over the next several months not only will plans be made to celebrate BEi's 45 year history but also plans are being made to shape the future of BEi as the regulation landscape continues to evolve.

Sincerely

William A. Clark, D.Ed.  
Executive Director