

Marie Mills Center, Inc.



1800 Front Street, Tillamook, OR 97141

Spring 2015

Working Hard

Miguel Mendoza, Twinetta Frazer, and Jody Cecil are the latest individuals to be placed into competitive jobs.

Miguel first started working at the Tillamook Coliseum and then chose to accept a position at the *Pelican Brewing Company in Tillamook.*

In our last newsletter we reported that the

Jody Cecil accepted a position at *P&L Heating & Sheet Metal* where she is doing janitorial work in their office & shop areas. She also maintains the parking lot and washes vehicles.



Miguel Mendoza



Pelican had offered a position to another individual in our program and that placement is going so well they decided to offer another position to another program participant.

Since Miguel is now working most of the week at the Pelican, the *Tillamook Coliseum* offered their vacant position to Twinetta Frazer. "Twin" (as she likes to be called) is working 2 days a week at the theater and has

most recently accepted a position at the *Sandlake Country Inn* where she is also working 2 days per week.



Twinetta Frazer



Jody Cecil



These three individuals have made great strides in their employment over the last couple of months and we applaud them and their hard work.

Keep Up The Good Work!

Contact Us

MMCI has many individuals in our program that are willing and ready to work for your business. ***If you would like to find out more about job placements through our program please call 503-842-2539 ext 14 for Cindy Green, Vocational Program Manager or ext. 16 for Chris Olson, Employment Specialist.*** We also provide ***confidential record destruction***, if you have any needs in this area please contact Cindy.

Our agency also provides janitorial services to local businesses, sub contract labor, as well as landscaping services, for any interest in this area please call Jodi Bradley at 503-842-2539 x 15.

Emphasis on Competitive Job Placements

Over the past year, providers like us in Oregon have had a major shift in how vocational services occur. This shift involves an *emphasis on the development of competitive employment opportunities* for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. This emphasis came about through changes in state policies for programs like ours. Programs throughout the state have always developed, to some degree, competitive work opportunities for those served. However, with this new emphasis the state is providing sufficient resources to enable us to do this even better. As you can see by the article on the first page, we are excited about this change. To achieve this new focus we expanded our program by *hir-*

ing an Employment Specialist whose main focus will be on development of competitive job placements. We are happy to report that *Chris Olson has joined our agency in this role.* Chris's main role will be to assist individuals in our program in pre-employment activities as well as to market MMCI to the business community in hopes of developing work opportunities with other local employers.



Chris Olson

Marie Mills Foundation Update

The *Marie Mills Foundation* continues to strive towards their goal of generating support and funding for the future of Marie Mills Center. This past winter the Foundation completed *its most recent Annual Appeal raising \$17,226.*

If you would like to find out more about the Marie Mills Foundation please *contact Ron Rush at 503-842-2539 x 12 or visit our web site at www.mariemillscenter.com.* Also by remembering the Foundation in your estate planning you can help assure the future of Marie Mills Center and its services to the intellectually and developmentally disabled in Tillamook County.

The Marie Mills Foundation and the Marie Mills Center would like to express a heartfelt thank you to those who are helping them to continue to move forward in meeting their goals: *Debbie Kelly; Tammy King-Crossley; Lisa Phipps; William Sargent; Tom & Betty Waud; Robin & Michael White; George & JoAnn Widmer in Memory of Nadine Honey; Jean Bailey; Ken & Barbara Bell; Helen Benschmidt in Memory of John Wehinger; Michael Benschmidt in Memory of Carl Benschmidt; Linda & Larry Beyer in Memory of Frank & Lena Landolt; Bizeau Dentistry; Coast Printing and Stationary; Cecilia Dwigans; Farmer's /Fitzsimonds Insurance; Ruth & Rudy Fenk; Reinhold Heckel; Doug & Lynn Holman; Pat & Pearl Ireton; Brent Jacobsen; Debbie Kelly; William Mah; Frants Poulsen; Walt & Marilyn Rigterink; Brain & Sheryl Seaholm; Jack & Eliane Streeter; Terimore Motel; Tillamook Pharmacy; Dave & Joan Trusty; Mark Wittwer & Bren Wallace in Memory of David Coon; Bob & Elva Weeks; Mahlon & Pat Wirfs; Ron & Muriel Beeler; Vince & Louise*

Bogard; Frank Bohannon; Paula Brazeale in Memory of Sheryl Schweizer; Katy Cain; Julie Chick; Columbia Bank; Ted Fowlks; Helen Gienger; Judy Golon; Phyllis Holmes; Wanda Hurliman in Memory of Sheryl Schweizer; Wayne & Kathy Jacobsen; Julianne Johnson; Debbie Kelly; Tara Kottre; Loretta McFarland in Memory of John Wehinger, Sheryl Kelly, & Wayne McFarland; Judy Mohr in Memory of Joelle Mohr; Eddie & Judy Murray in Memory of Joe, Ethyl & Ronnie Murray; Carolyn Olsen in Honor of Steven Olsen; Carlo & Roger Raymond in Honor of Helen Benschmidt; Rockaway Lions Club; Bruce & Carolyn Scherzinger in Memory of Sheryl Schweizer; Francie Schneidecker in Memory of Sheryl Schweizer; Carol Schweizer in Memory of Sheryl Schweizer, Anne Seeger in Memory of Charles & Emma Zeman; Carol & John Steele; Tom & Carol Thompson; Tillamook Chiropractic Clinic; Tillamook Duplicate Bridge Club; Sally Wallace in Memory of Jim, Bertha & David Coon; Roger & Tina Weeks; Jeanette Werner in Memory of Sheryl Schweizer; George & Myar Wilson; Charles Benschmidt; Tom & Carol Thompson in Memory of Carol Lane; Jo & Don Averill; Mike Erskine; Debbie Kelly; Tammy King-Crossley; Paulette Rush, Tillamook Chiropractic Clinic; Tillamook County Farm Bureau; Mahol & Pat Wirfs in Memory of Bill Baumgartner; Catholic Daughters of America; Eric Nelson Estate; Debbie Kelly; Tammy King-Crossley; Mollie Nuppenau in Honor of Gary Crenshaw; William Sargent, The Women's Club of Manzanita; Debbie Kelly, THS Charity Drive; Tillamook Options Program; Tillamook Duplicate Bridge Club ~Thank You All For Your Kindness~

Supported Living Program Gets a Car

Earlier this spring we purchased a 2012 Subaru Legacy that had only 10,000 miles for our Supported Living program. This program has operated without their own vehicle for a few years. Typically only transporting 1 or 2 individuals at a time, it was felt that having a smaller vehicle suited for these types of situations made perfect sense. We make many trips over to Portland for medical ap-



pointments and shuttles to vacation destinations, among other things. Owning this vehicle is more economical than using one of our much larger buses or vans. This vehicle will serve our program well for years to come. *We were*

able to make this purchase through local donations and a contribution from the Marie Mills Foundation. A great big thank you to all who helped with this project!

Passing of Long Time Program Participant



Frank Fisher was born in Eureka CA but grew up with his family in Pacific City where they were mink farmers. Frank spent a lot of time in the Gold Beach area where he frequently spent time on the Rogue River. Frank loved to travel, especially by train. He and his family also enjoyed going clam digging.

Frank had lived at the Marie Mills Center Madrona House since 1990 and worked at the Tillamook Country Smoker, where those around him enjoyed his infectious smile and his witty sense of humor. Once you met Frank, you knew you were his friend for life.

Big Things Happening for Loretta

Many times in life we tend to take the “small things” for granted. *Loretta Landolt’s smile helps one appreciate those “small” things.*

Consider the things that you would not necessarily be able to do if you were in a wheelchair your whole life. For instance, *swimming in a big pool* because you did not have the use of your legs or *feeling the wind on your face as you road down the road on a motor cycle.* These are a couple of the things that Loretta had wanted to do. *She has done both of these things.* Thanks to the wheelchair accessible swimming pool at the *YMCA*, Loretta now is able to enjoy swimming on a weekly basis. Not only does her being able to swim fulfill her desire, it also provides her a great form of exercise.

On June 11th Loretta’s other life long desire was fulfilled when *she got to go out on the open road with Bill Beck in his side car on his motorcycle.*

While it took many willing individuals to make this work, it was definitely well worth the effort with *much thanks going to Bill & his lovely wife Alice.*

Bill took Loretta out by Alderbrook Golf Course and to the Cheese Factory for an ice cream!



Fall & Winter Happenings

Like it is every year, our fall and winter seasons are very festive at our agency. In late October we held *our annual Open House* honoring long time staff, recognizing their devotion and lengthy service to those we serve.



Bob Ouzounian, our Residential Director, reached his 30 year milestone while **Therese Jenck, Direct Care Staff**, reached her 15 year milestone and **Jaime Hahn, Supported Living Coordinator**, reached her 10 year milestone. Each of these individuals was given a form of recognition as well as a bonus to recognize them for their longevity and dedication to those we serve.

The next day we held our *28th Annual Halloween Party and Dance* for the community.



We estimate that *we had about 300 individuals in attendance.* The evening was enjoyed by all and *we also raised 371 lbs. of food for our local food bank* which was a record amount.

Shortly after these events we start gearing up for the holiday season with our *annual Christmas gift shopping trip* occurring on November 22nd with numerous staff, family members, and interested others spending the day picking out perfect gifts. These gifts are delivered by Santa at our *Annual Christmas Dinner* that was held on December 12th. We maintain a Christmas Gift Fund consisting of miscellaneous donations that come in so that gifts can be purchased for those we serve.



As you may recall, **Barb Woodesky**, the wonderful lady who made each of our program participants a quilt in 2013 again did herself making a personalized quilt for each of our staff members in 2014. These quilts were presented to staff on December 13th at our Annual Staff Christmas Party. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts Barb for your acts of kindness!



Joining the Quilt Block Trail

Installation of the *Quilt blocks* over the past number of years has been a very popular activity for local business' in Tillamook County it started out marking historical spots around our county and has taken on a life of its own. A few years ago the MMCI facility on Front Street received theirs marking the location of the original dock where local goods were shipped to and from. In March of this year *one was installed at our Madrona House.*



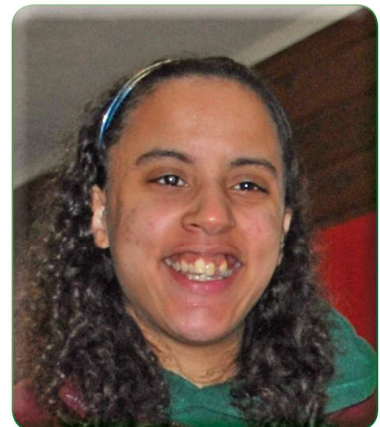
Employees of the Month



September 2014
Dale Otto



October 2014
Bertha Moffett



November 2014
Markeeta Morgan



December 2014
David Anderson



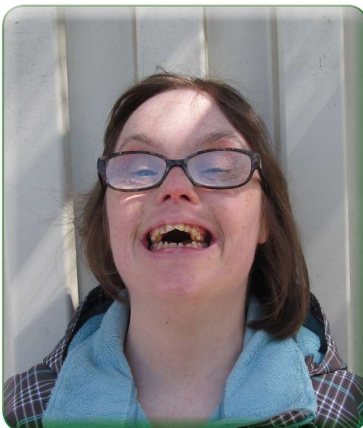
January 2015
Clint Vareberg



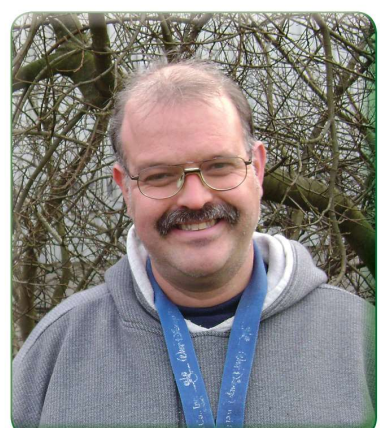
February 2015
Emil Kruse



March 2015
Miguel Mendoza



April 2015
Melanie Hamblen



May 2015
Richard Hatfield

Retirement of Long Time Staff Member

An employee of Marie Mills Center for over 25 years, **Brenda White** was a dedicated employee who helped many individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities over the years of her service. *We will miss her greatly but wish her a happy and active retirement!* A party was held for Brenda on April 22 where she received flowers, plants, many good luck cards and well wishes from all of her fellow employees and residents that she worked with.



Mark Your Calendar

MMCI Summer Picnic
August 22, 2015
Noon - 2:00 PM
Kilchis Park

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Annual Open House  
October 23, 2015  
5:00 - 7:00 PM  
1800 Front Street

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29th Annual
Halloween Party & Dance
October 24, 2015
6:00 - 9:00 PM
Swiss Hall

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Christmas Dinner  
December 11, 2015  
12:00 - 1:30 PM  
Swiss Hall

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Staff Christmas Party
December 12, 2015
6:00 - 9:00 PM
Swiss Hall

Visit Marie Mills Center

We invite you to tour Marie Mills Center. You will observe individuals at work and see our programs in action. Call Ron Rush at (503)842-2539 ext. 12 or visit us on the web at www.mariemillscenter.com

Executive Director
Ron Rush

Residential Director
Bob Ouzounian

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