

Staff News

Congratulations to Ernest Williams, the newest member of TVS' 20 Yr. Club

Paula Piercy, Administrative Assistant for the past nine years, resigned to accept a position with Transylvania County Department of Social Services.

Chase Henry accepted the position as WAT job coach after graduating from Brevard College. He is originally from Franklin, NC.

Metta Redding was hired as School Liaison Job coach in July. She is originally from Illinois, graduated from Brevard College and worked as a case manager/clinical assistant with Plans for Life before coming to TVS.

Sam King and Paul Long were hired as the newest direct support staff.

Congratulations to Brian Vickers



Brian Vickers, resident manager at TANJER House, received Honorable Mention in the 2011 Direct Support Professional of the Year Contest of the American Network of Community Options' and Resources' (ANCOR).

These are some of the comments about Brian from his nomination

Brian leads by example. In any observation of or interaction with Brian, he demonstrates a demeanor that is positive and respectful. It is not uncommon for new and veteran direct support providers to comment that when facing challenging situations in their work they ask, "How would Brian handle this situation?" That is the highest compliment.

All fourteen Direct Support Staff were recognized during Direct Support Week in September.

TVS has can provide the following services to individuals in the community and/or in their home:

- Day Support
- Supported Employment
- Long-term Vocational
- Respite
- Home and Community
- Personal Care
- Residential Supports

For additional information about services and supports, call Carla Hill 884-3195



REFLECTIONS

The Newsletter of Transylvania Vocational Services, Inc.

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Issue 1

Americans with Disabilities Working to Feed the Hungry Across the Nation and Around the World.

Serving People and Industry of Transylvania County and Western North Carolina Since 1967

Golden Leaf Grant

Director's Letter

TVS Accredited

New Products Development

National Disability Employment Awareness Month

2010-11 Program Evaluation

Community Service Exemplified

TVS is committed to providing skills development, career opportunities, and related services in a supportive environment for people with barriers to employment.

Golden Leaf Grant to Create Jobs and Expand Operations

The first shipment of TVS' newest product, Instant Corn Soy Blend (ICSB) will soon be on the way to Haiti. This new product is targeted for international and emergency feeding through World Hope International, Inc. and was developed through the partnership of TVS and the United States Department of Agriculture's Agriculture Research Services. It will provide a high-quality blend of corn and soy flour, along with an enhanced blend of vitamins and nutrients to optimize nutritional care.

Funding from Golden LEAF Foundation was pivotal to achieve this milestone and it is anticipated that over 25 new jobs will be created as a result of this project and follow-on activities. Golden LEAF's mission is to promote the social welfare of North Carolina's citizens and to receive and distribute funds for economic



Corn Soy Blend being packaged

impact assistance to economically affected or tobacco-dependent regions of North Carolina. The Foundation awards grants to 501(c)(3) nonprofits and governmental entities across North Carolina. Golden LEAF's grant making focuses on three priorities: agriculture, job creation and retention, and workforce preparedness.



Left to Right, Jack Parker, TVS Board Chairman, Rev. David Blackburn, Pastor Brevard Wesleyan Church, Nancy Stricker, Steve Green, TVS Plant Manager, Dean Jensen, Becky Alderman, Dr. Karl Eastlack, World Hope International

ICSB was introduced at an open house at TVS on September 8. Local officials as well as NC State Senator Jim Davis and representatives of Sen. Kay Hagen, Rep. Heath Shuler, NISH, USDA, and MARC helped TVS employees celebrate the launch of this new product. Dr. Karl Eastlack of World Hope International shared the work of his organization in Haiti and how ICSB will impact thousands of children in the slums of Port-au-Prince. World Hope International's work in Haiti was introduced to TVS by Rev. David Blackburn of Brevard Wesleyan Church.



Dean Jensen - USDA Retired

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REFLECTIONS
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Dear Friends,

This past spring TVS lost an old and dear friend when Bill Ives died.

Bill's relationship with TVS began in 1967 and continued until his death. He was there from the beginning. In 1973 Bill was Chairman of the Transylvania County Commissioners when TVS became a county agency. It would not be an understatement to say that this action saved TVS for the benefit of thousands of disabled citizens of Transylvania County.

Bill advised the County Manager that he thought I was the best candidate for the position of Executive Director of TVS in 1987. Upon his recommendation I was promoted. Bill's work with me was not finished. He became my mentor. He helped manage the responsibility; he cheered every victory; and encouraged me through every disappointment. He shared his sense of optimism freely.

My life is better for the gift of his friendship, and Bill's life was certainly one very well lived.

—Nancy

News from the Board of Directors

Rachel Smith is the newest Board member. Rachel is the President of AGRR Corp. AGRR, a certified HUB Zone company, won the USDA FSA Small Business Award in 2009 and is a small "hands-on" construction company with engineering capabilities in North Carolina. Barbara Boerner, professor of Business and Organization Leadership at Brevard College, joined the Board in June.

TVS Board Chairman Jack Parker was awarded the 2011 Paul Harris Community Service Award by the Pisgah Forest Rotary Club in recognition of his extensive service to this community. The Paul Harris Community Service Award is the highest recognition a Rotary Club can confer on a non-Rotarian. It is truly a signal honor. The award is named for the founder of Rotary International who started the organization in 1904 that today has more than 1.2 million members in over 200 countries.

TVS Accredited

Transylvania Vocational Services, Inc is proud to announce the continuation of its National Accreditation through CARF International. TVS was awarded accreditation for three years in the areas of Employment Services and Community Services. The accreditation



recognizes TVS for its ongoing demonstration of conformance to standards, policies and procedures and for its commitment to quality improvement.

New Products Development

Jeanne Speight is a Sensory Evaluation Consultant who is working on new food product development. She has 38 years experience in McCormick & Co., Inc.'s Test Kitchen where she conducted sensory panels, managed nutritional labeling activities, developed recipes, and participated on new product teams. Jeanne is a graduate of the University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland with a M.S. in Foods and Nutrition, 1974 and a B.S. Foods and Nutrition, 1967.



Jeanne in test kitchen

Together with TVS Plant Manager and Food Scientist Steve Green, Jeanne has worked to develop 8 new product recipes this summer that we plan to be offering to the US Military by the end of 2011.

National Disability Employment Awareness Month

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month and it is the perfect time to celebrate the AbilityOne Program, of which TVS has been a partner for many years. The AbilityOne Program is the largest single source of employment for people who are blind or have other significant disabilities in the United States and is a cost effective way to empower many of these individuals to achieve greater independence by reducing dependence on government support and joining the ranks of taxpayers. The program provides employment for over 47,000 people through over 600 non-profit agencies. However, people with significant disabilities remain one of America's greatest untapped labor resources, with nearly 70 percent of this population without jobs.

TVS thanks the following employers for their support of employment for persons with disabilities.

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|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Dollar Tree | Aramark – Brevard College |
| K-Mart | Nypro |
| CKS Packaging – Arden, NC | The Oaks of Brevard |
| Sodexo - Brevard College | Sav-More |
| Bi-Lo | Pinnacle Staffing - ArvinMeritor |
| Brian Center | Snelling and Snelling |
| Hampton Inn | Raflatec |
| Wendy's | Ingles Markets |
| Con-Met | TVS, Inc. |
| Dugan's Pub | |

2010-11 Program Evaluation

TVS programs saw positive results as 86 persons with disabilities were served through 14 various services. An additional twenty persons with disabilities were employed by TVS under the AbilityOne Program.

TVS programs and services were reviewed in June and nationally accredited until 2014. Employment Services includes Vocational Evaluation, Employee Development, and Supported Employment and Community Services includes ADVP, Life Skills, Community Housing and Respite.

Employment services served 46 individuals and helped 14 individuals secure competitive employment in a variety of jobs. Participants' satisfaction was measured at 92% and employers reported a 93% satisfaction rate. Community Services worked with 40 individuals through 8 different services with a 93% satisfaction rate.

Community Service Exemplified

This community is most fortunate to have people who volunteer in all kinds of ways. It's amazing to see so many people in a small town who give tirelessly of their time and energy to help others. Two of TVS' employees are examples of that service attitude through their volunteer efforts



Charles Merrill

with emergency services in Transylvania County. Charles Merrill and David Orr have given thousands of hours of



David Orr

service to Brevard Fire Department and Brevard Rescue Squad. Charles joined BFD in 1965 at the age of 19 and has actively served in numerous leadership roles. He is now the Safety Officer and although he lets the "younger guys" fight the fires these

days, his experience and dedication to the department are respected by all. David joined BRS in 1974 at the age of 15 as a Junior Member. He was Chief for over twelve years but has served in many capacities and was recently honored as Squad Member of the Year for 2010.

Charles and David are active in training new members in order to pass on the experience they've gained in a combined 82 years of service.

Charles and David have spent many cold and tiring nights at the scene of accidents, fires, searches and other emergency calls. It is the spirit of service to others that Charles and David demonstrate every time they put on their turn-out gear and step into unknown situations that makes this community safer for everyone.