



# Notes

Fall 2011 | Volume 22, Issue 3

Charese Hill, editor

## Andy Kachik

### PHOTO ID LICENSE TECH AT LARGE

Born in 1959 in Phillipsburg, Pennsylvania Andy was the middle child to an older brother and two sisters. Andy intends that he really is the normal one in the family. He was born with Congenital Arthrogyrosis, a severe deformation of the body's joints. Andy spent much of his young life in the Elizabethtown, PA Hospital, near Harrisburg from age 3 months to age 9 years undergoing treatment and therapy and overcoming the struggles of learning how to live with his condition and how to manage his life.

Andy graduated in 1980 from Bald Eagle High School in Wingate, PA, and is the father of two sons, Colby 16 and Andrew 19. Andy is an avid Pittsburgh Steelers, Pirates and Penguins fan. Oh and here is a surprise he likes Penn State as well. Why not Pitt –just ask him!

Andy's first job was to work for Blair/Clearfield Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired in the Photo ID Program which began with his interview in May of 2001.

During Andy's interview for the Photo License Technician position he conducted himself in an extremely pleasant and professional manner. Andy was perfect; he displayed the right attitude, poise and demeanor. He was just an all around nice person who had all the right answers to the interview questions.

There was still some question as to whether Andy could do all aspects of the job partially due to the design of the equipment and partially due to Andy's supposed limitations. Andy politely laughed and asked for the opportunity to dispel any doubt. Andy demonstrated his abilities and proved very capable of operating all aspects of the equipment and then really excelled in the customer interaction aspects of the job.



### Inside Notes

- Blair Clearfield Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired . . . . .page 2**
- President's Corner . . . . .page 3**
- Chairman's Corner . . . . .page 3**
- Member Corner . . . . .page 4**
- PIBH New Products . . . . .page 6**
- The Sassy Gourmet . . . . .page 7**

1007 North Front Street P.O. Box 5865 Harrisburg, Pa. 17110-0865  
phone: 717-236-3610, toll free: 800-447-8860  
fax: 800-561-9794 E-mail: [pihb@aol.com](mailto:pihb@aol.com)

continued on page 2

# BLAIR CLEARFIELD ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

The Blair/Clearfield Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (BCAB) is a nonprofit organization that has been in existence since 1926. BCAB provide supportive and educational services to person who are visually impaired, conserve sight and prevent blindness, and to advocate for services and rights of persons who are visually impaired.

- Provide transportation and Social Services for our Blind and Visually Impaired Clients.
- BCAB sells Eye Glasses to the public which includes Trifocal lenses, Progressive lenses, UV coating and Transitional lenses.
- Blue Mountain Candles which are double wicked and double scented.
- Provide free Prevention of Blindness Eye Screening in day care centers as well as preschool, older adults in senior centers, workplaces and health fairs.

## **EMPLOYING PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

- Hires the Photo Techs at the Drivers License center.
- Janitorial workers for many of the State agencies in the area.
- Fundraisers

**With the State budgets cuts, and grants being harder and harder to secure, BCAB does the above mentioned programs and services as a means to help support the agency.**

**Specialized Services:  
TRANSPORTATION • LIFE SKILLS  
EDUCATION • SUPPORT GROUP**

Transportation to and from Doctor/Hospital Appointments, Community Service facilities, Banking, Bill Paying and Shopping-

## ***THIS SERVICE IS FREE OF CHARGE!***

Life Skills Education/Support Group provides practical education or training in skills needed to perform activities for daily living. Topics and instruction may include nutrition, food preparation, consumer education, management of finances, health care and family problems.

## **LOW VISION PRODUCTS:**

We supply catalogs to the general public to select and purchase aids and appliances that improve the quality of daily living for the visually impaired.

- Any donated visual aids are recycled back in to the visually impaired community.
- We provide applications for Talking Books
- Assist by referring to the Bureau of Blind and Visual Services, LIONS clubs, and the Department of Public Welfare.

For more information please contact us:

We are located at:

300 Fifth Avenue

Altoona, PA 16602

814-944-2021- Office

888-912-5463 or (888-91-BLIND) Toll Free

814-944-3197- Fax

[Bcab1@verizon.net](mailto:Bcab1@verizon.net) email

Hours of operation: Monday-Friday

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

## **Andy Kachik**

cont. from page 1

Andy was hired that day in May of 2001 and since developed into an experienced License Tech who loves what he does. In 2002 Andy was nominated for the Nettie Mann Achievement Award by Blair/Clearfield Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired. In addition, that very same year, he was selected as the North Central District's, Photo ID State Manager Award winner.

Andy's quick wit and charming personality is a perfect match for his position at the photo center. He has excel-

lent customer service skills and regularly receives above average scores in the Customer Service Surveys.

Just recently he received a glowing comment from a customer who said "He really understands how to be with customers, he should teach the class". This quote says it all. From the moment you meet Andy you see he is designed "differently" and these differences come through in his charm, wit, tenacity and extreme will. We are very proud to have Andy as part of the team at the Rockview Photo License Center; he has taught us a lot.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



We are coming into a wonderful time of year; a time for giving thanks for the many gifts we have been given and for those who have given the gifts. During the upcoming holidays, however, we should be more thankful for the gift givers rather than the gifts they give.

It is in this spirit that I thank everyone who has given gifts to

persons with disabilities; gifts of love, support and especially employment. The latter is a very meaningful gift given by state and local governmental agencies and others that purchase PIBH products and services produced and provided by persons with disabilities through our member agencies.

All of us associated with PIBH are thankful for that as it gives individuals with disabilities a sense of personal worth, pride and, most importantly, hope.

Thank you gift givers!

May you, in turn, receive many gifts particularly those of faith, family and friends and the warm, rewarding feeling of being a gift giver.

Enjoy the Holidays. And, may the New Year bring great happiness, good health and much personal satisfaction.

### Winter is coming before we know it. Now is the time to be purchasing your SNOW SHOVELS!

PIBH has a SNOW SHOVEL, SNOW PUSHER and a FLOOR and ICE SCRAPER right on our contract.

5120-4400-570	318163	SNOW SHOVEL
5120-4400-560	318162	SNOW PUSHER
5120-4400-550	318161	ICE SCRAPER

These are 100% guaranteed, assembled in Mercer County, PA by people with disabilities.

Thanks to all of you for helping to provide quality jobs for the people that we employ. If you have any questions or comments, please call me at 1-800-447-8860.

## THE CHAIRMAN'S CORNER



On October 4, 2011, a bill was introduced into the U. S. House of Representatives (H.R. 3086) Fair Wages for Workers with Disabilities Act of 2011. This bill, if enacted, would eliminate Section 14C of the Fair Labor standards Act.

Proponents of this bill think this would somehow magically remove disabled individuals from vocational training center across the country and move them into competitive entry level jobs in the community.

For the last twenty years there has been a push to find jobs in the community for disabled workers and all vocational training centers have a placement department to find jobs for these workers. They have had some success but the workers now receiving services in the training centers tend to be the ones with the most significant disabilities.

If this law was enacted, these work centers could no longer afford to train these workers with a "paid work model" that is currently used. These individuals would end up going to adult day care situations if there is room or worse yet just sit at home, which would turn the clock back to the 1950's.

There has been a lot of positive legislation in the past 25 years that has genuinely helped the live of people with disabilities. This bill would have the opposite effect and deny the opportunity to work, pay taxes and live a life that work creates in all of us. The right to work should not be taken away from workers with disabilities who cannot meet productivity standards you would find in community placements.

I'm sure this bill is intended to help the disabled population, but I feel lawmakers should research the negative effects and find out just how difficult it will make the lives of the people they are trying to help.

Scott Campbell  
Chairman

Achieva\*Allied Services\*ARC Human Services  
 \*Association for Retarded Citizen-Butler County  
 \*Avenues\*Beaver County Association for the Blind  
 \*Beaver County Rehabilitation Center\*Bedford-Somerset  
 MH/MR\*Berks County Association for the Blind  
 \*Blair/Clearfield Association for the Blind and Disabled  
 \*Blind and Vision Rehabilitation Services of Pittsburgh  
 \*Bollinger Enterprise, Inc.\*Butts County Association for  
 Retarded Citizens (BARC, Inc.)\*Butler County  
 Association for the Blind\*Cambridge Association for  
 the Blind and Handicapped Center for the Blind and  
 Visually Impaired\*Chesapeake Branch, PAB  
 \*CopperTree, Inc.\*CTC Manufacturing, Inc.\*Danville  
 State Hospital\*Developmental Enterprises Corporation  
 \*Dr. Gertrude A. Barber Center Inc.\*Easter Seals  
 Western Pennsylvania Federation of the Blind  
 PA\*Fayette County Association for the Blind\*ForSight  
 Vision\*Futures Rehabilitation Center, Inc.\*Goodwill  
 Industries of Conemaugh Valley, Inc.\*Goodwill Industries  
 of North Central PA, Inc.\*Goodwill Keystone  
 Area\*Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania\*Greene  
 County ARC\*Handi-Crafters, Inc.\*Hope Enterprises,  
 Inc.\*Inglis Foundation\*Inspire, Inc.\*Inglis Blind  
 Association\*Lark Enterprises, Inc.\*Lawrence County  
 Association for the Blind\*Liberty Housing Development  
 Corp.\*Life's Work of Western PA\*MCAR, Inc.\*Mon-Yough  
 Community Services, Inc.\*Mountainview Industries of  
 Hamburg Center\*NHS Human Services\*North Central  
 Sight Services, Inc.\*NuVisions Center\*Occupational  
 Development Center\*Partners in Progress, Inc.\*PBA  
 Products & Services, Inc.\*Pittsburgh Opportunities,  
 Inc.\*Philadelphia Developmental Disabilities Corp. and  
 the ARC of Philadelphia\*Program Employing People  
 \*Progressive Workshop of Armstrong County, Inc.\*Quest,  
 Inc.\*Rehabilitation Center & Workshop, Inc.\*Serve,  
 Inc.\*Shadowfax Corporation\*Shawnee Behavioral  
 Health\*Suncom Industries\*Susquehanna Association for  
 the Blind and Vision Impaired\*The ARC of Cumberland  
 and Perry Counties\*The Sight Center of Northwest  
 Pennsylvania\*Threshold Rehabilitation Services, Inc.  
 \*Tioga County Human Services Agency\*Transitional  
 Employment Consultants\*Tri-County Association for the  
 Blind\*United Rehabilitation Services, Inc.\*Venango  
 Training & Development Center, Inc.\*Washington-Greene  
 Blind Association\*Westmoreland County Blind  
 Association\*White Haven Center

## BCRC RECORDS MANAGEMENT

Owned and operated by the Beaver County Rehabilitation Center, (BCRC) Records Management began operations in 1997 with 5 microfilm cameras and 1 small flatbed scanner. The commitment to offer more diverse work experiences that would build marketable work skills for our clients drove the need to apply for a grant and secure this equipment. Soon we learned the value of our services as we microfilmed and scanned our own records.

Our customer base grew greatly over the next 14 years. Many customer driven changes altered the look of our business. Four of the five original microfilm cameras are still with us, but all but one has been packed away. BCRC now operates four very fast mid volume scanners, 2 flatbed scanners, 3 film digitizers (16mm or 35mm microfilm), a film writer (creates archive microfilm from digital images) and a large document scanner for engineering drawings and maps. We have the capability of scanning both color and black and white documents and can store in several formats on various media. We also operate an industrial shredder and hopefully will soon add another one of these to our equipment roster. Secure shredding is just as highly sought after as secure digitization.

Our customers today include banks, schools, municipalities, hospitals, doctor's offices, airlines, architects, settlement companies, area manufacturers, social service agencies and BCRC.

BCRC also "takes our show on the road" to work in other companies' offices offering excellent clerical support services of all kinds along with scanning services. Sites in our local courthouse and in two business parks closer to Pittsburgh offer our highly trained staff and clients integrated work settings in beautiful surroundings.

Although BCRC Records Management's customers vary, the move away from microfilm to digital scanning is across the board. The digital world is small and we work with customers as close as across the street and as far away as India.

Although microfilm is not requested often at all anymore, there are times when the security of archive microfilm is necessary. Currently, we are working with a local photographer, assisting him with his project of creating a Beaver County Picture History. He was fortunate enough to have been given several thousand photos dating back to the early 1800's. Unfortunately the chemical composition of photography film does not offer long term storage of pictures on film format, so the negatives for these pictures are long gone. We have just the photographs to work with. However, once the pictures are scanned we can use our film writer to create negatives (microfilm) for each picture. He will not only have the digital picture to publish, but can have negatives to assure the longtime storage of each picture.

BCRC has also been approached by an order of nuns asking for help. The order's only historical record is housed in old, handwritten ledger books also dating back to the early 1800's. No other records were kept, so these books are not only priceless, but deteriorating rapidly. The plan is to gently film the pages of the



(cont. on page 5)

## BCRC RECORDS MANAGEMENT (cont. from page 4)



ledger books then digitize the film to give them a working copy that is easily accessible while the film will assure the historical account of the order remains intact for future generations.

All of our microfilm and scanning services are done in a secure, alarmed building housing just those services.

BCRC's latest, very exciting news is the opportunity to provide Document Management services for the Commonwealth of PA. This is the newest addition to the PIBH Carve-Out list with the Commonwealth. We are anticipating this newest business venture will offer much work to our clients for many years to come.



## BEAVER COUNTY REHABILITATION CENTER

***"Their Work is Putting People to Work"***

The Beaver County Rehabilitation Center, in operation since 1962, is acknowledged as an organization founded on integrity and quality of service. BCRC is the only licensed vocational training facility in Beaver County, serving more than 500 people at five locations. BCRC has grown steadily over the years to meet the ever-expanding needs of people with disabilities, serving persons with mental retardation, mental illness, physical disabilities and economic disadvantages.

BCRC has gone far beyond typical vocational programs to offer a comprehensive range of services. In addition to their vocational production centers and community work experiences.

### **BCRC services include:**

- Psychiatric Rehabilitation
- School to Work Transition, CAPS (for juvenile offenders)
- Welfare to Work
- Vocational Assessment
- Supported Employment
- Employment Transformation for persons with mental illness.

In addition, BCRC offers the only programs for persons who are deaf in Beaver County. Deaf services include interpreting and very popular sign language courses available to persons from the community.

BCRC, a leader in vocational services, has developed affirmative businesses and vocational experiences that exceed the usual opportunities offered to people with disabilities. BCRC work experiences include everything from the highly technical nature of digital scanning to the creativity of beautiful silk and candy arrangements through their Gifts Delivered Featuring Candy Bouquet business.

For more information please contact us:

We are located at:  
 Beaver County Rehabilitation Center  
 1517 Sixth Avenue  
 New Brighton, PA 15066-2219  
 724-847-1306 Office  
 724-847-1126 Fax  
[www.bcrc.net](http://www.bcrc.net)

# PIBH HAS ADDED SOME NEW PRODUCTS TO OUR CONTRACT.

All the ordering information can be found on our website at [www.pibh.org](http://www.pibh.org).

## YIELD TO PEDESTRIAN CHANNELIZING DEVICE -

This sign is used on low speed streets and highways to advise drivers that they must yield to pedestrians in the crosswalks. The sign has an overall height of 47" with two panels, size 12" X 44" and are manufactured with fluorescent yellow green diamond grade sheeting. All signs are equipped with an "anti-twist" feature that prevents the sign from being twisted sideways. NCHRP-350 approved. Rubber base measures 14" X 34".



## VERTICAL PANEL -

Vertical Panel is a channelizing device with orange and white high intensity reflective sheeting. Panels are 36" or 48" in height and are available in three panel sizes. 8" x 24", 12" x 24" and 12" X 36". All reflective panels are equipped with an "anti-twist" feature that prevents the panel from twisting sideways. NCHRP - 350 tested. Rubber base measures 14" X 34" or 8" X 8". NCHRP approved.



## ASPHALT SQUEEGEE -

Long 60 inch handle asphalt squeegee, v-shaped heavy duty rubber squeegee. Reversible bracket enables user to push or pull funneling material in to the cracks. Replacement rubber available - 11 1/4" X 2 1/4" .



## P.O.L. NATURESORB ABORBENT SOCK -

P.O.L. (Petroleum, Oil, Lubricants) Naturesorb absorbent sock is an environmentally friendly dehydrated peat moss hydro-carbon absorbent product. It repels water but has the ability to absorb hydro-carbons on contact, lock them up and not release them back into the environment and is nonleaching. This is effective on both land and water. When a hydro-carbon is absorbed into the P.O.L. Sorb sock, it is retained until it degrades naturally by the microbes contained in any bio-active soil. P.O.L. Sorb is certified SEG incinerable. Each sock is 8" X 72", packed 2 per plastic bag, 2 plastic bags per case. The sock can easily be opened to apply loose product to a spill. Each sock can absorb about ten gallons of spill.



# The Sassy Gourmet

Are you tired of planning the menu for your corporate luncheon? Would you like to supply boxed lunches for your employees during the company retreat? Could you utilize a la carte services for your monthly employee meetings? If you answered 'yes' to any of these questions, why not let **Sassy Gourmet**, the S. Wilson Pollock Center for Industrial Training's specialty catering service, eliminate your worries?

The Sassy Gourmet is not your usual catering company. They provide **gourmet** boxed lunches or buffet lunch services to all types of local businesses within the Harrisburg area, while training persons with vocational challenges. They are an extension of the Food Service Training Program at the S. Wilson Pollock Center for Industrial Training, a program of The Arc of Cumberland & Perry Counties (CPARC).

The Sassy Gourmet provides hands-on training to persons with disabilities who wish to expand their culinary skills, enabling them to work in the food service industry. Trainees in the program receive instruction in all aspects



of food service, while providing customers with **first rate catering**.

Sassy Gourmet has been providing food service and caterings for over 15 years and offers quality food at competitive prices.

The diverse menu selection includes lunch and specialty items, including their famous cookies. Lunch items include a cold cut buffet, submarine and club sandwiches, and chef or garden salads.

All menus are custom designed to meet the needs and budget of your special events. Sassy Gourmet's catering team pays meticulous attention to the details of your special event. We promise to give you the best product we possibly can, in a timely and professional manner. All catered events deserve special attention, and we can make that happen.

Please visit our website at [www.pibh.org](http://www.pibh.org) to see our full menu and service area, or contact Tracy DeBlasio at (717) 236-3610 or [tdeblasio@pibh.org](mailto:tdeblasio@pibh.org).



Pennsylvania Industries for the Blind & Handicapped  
1007 North Front Street  
P.O. Box 5865  
Harrisburg, PA 17110-0865

NON PROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
HARRISBURG  
PAPERMIT NO 909

## PENNSYLVANIA INDUSTRIES FOR THE BLIND AND HANDICAPPED BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### 2011-2012

#### *Treasurer*

**Barry Bussell**  
Freedom Valley Disability  
Enablement, Inc.  
3607 Chapel Road  
Newtown Square, PA 19073-  
(610) 353-6640

#### *Secretary*

**Mr. Robert Ames**  
Allied Services  
650 North South Road  
Scranton, PA 18504-1406  
(570) 348-5375

#### *2nd Vice Chair*

**Mr. John Connolly Jr.**  
InspiriTec, Inc.  
340 North 12th Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19107-1102  
(302) 792-8299

#### *1st Vice Chair*

**Mr. Joseph Pierangeli**  
United Rehabilitation Services, Inc.  
287 N. Pennsylvania AVE  
PO Box 1344  
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703-1344  
(570) 829-3681

#### *Past Chairman of Board*

**Mr. Dennis Steiner**  
Susquehanna Association for the  
Blind and Vision Impaired  
244 North Queen Street  
Lancaster, PA 17603-3512  
(717) 291-5951

#### *Chairman of Board*

**Mr. Scott Campbell**  
Lark Enterprises, Inc.  
2665 Ellwood Rd.  
New Castle, PA 16101-6217  
(724) 658-5676

#### **Ms. Willa Adams**

NuVisions Center  
658 Valley Street  
Lewistown, PA 17044-1423  
(717) 242-1444

#### **Mr. James Bennett**

Easter Seals Western Pennsylvania  
2525 Railroad Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4608  
(412) 281-7244

#### **Ms. Danette Blank**

Tri-County Association for the Blind  
1130 S. 19th ST  
Harrisburg, PA 17104-2912  
(717) 238-2531

#### **Mr. Paul Causgrove**

Barber National Institute  
100 Barber Place  
Erie, PA 16507-1899  
(814) 453-7661

#### **Roy Cigola**

Progressive Workshop of Armstrong  
County, Inc.  
301 Oak Avenue  
Kittanning, PA 16201-1311  
(724) 548-5664

#### **Allen Connely**

Beaver County Association for the  
Blind  
616 Fourth Street  
Beaver Falls, PA 15010-4704  
(724) 843-1111

#### **Mr. Jonathan Fister**

Keystone Blind Association  
1230 Stambaugh Avenue  
Sharon, PA 16146-2826  
(724) 347-5501

#### **Mr. Robert Garrett**

North Central Sight Services, Inc.  
2121 Reach Road PO Box 3292  
Williamsport, PA 17701-0292  
(570) 323-9401

#### **Mr. James Gurreri**

The ARC of Cumberland and Perry  
Counties  
71 Ashland Avenue  
Carlisle, PA 17013-2601  
(717) 249-2611

#### **Mr. Lawrence Helkowski**

Westmoreland County Blind  
Association  
911 South Main Street  
Greensburg, PA 15601-4140  
(724) 837-1250

#### **Mr. Steve Peterson**

CTC Manufacturing, Inc.  
PO Box 67 Rose & Hazle Streets  
Beaver Meadows, PA 18216-0067  
(570) 454-3754

#### **Ms. Rebecca Shaner**

Lawrence County Association for the  
Blind  
428 Eleanor Drive  
Newt Castle, PA 16105-  
(724) 652-4571