

FALL 2013



www.careforchildren.info

CARE NEWS

Consultation * Adaptation * Rehabilitation * Education

RAINBOW CORNER PRESCHOOL OPENS IN THE ASHLEY BOOTH GRIFFIN CARE FOR CHILDREN CENTER

Almost 4 months to the day that CARE for Children opened the doors to its new facility on East Main Street, the staff welcomed preschool students and toddlers into the new classrooms on Tuesday, September 4th. The squeals of delight, the happy laughter, and the other voices of little people were welcome sounds to the staff.

"The new preschool classroom was designed to be fun and efficient for our students and staff," said Tina Martin, CARE executive director. "There is a reading loft, kid size sinks and art center, and a great area for circle time."

The Creative Play Room (second classroom) is being used for CARE's Toddler Developmental Playgroup which promotes language development; and the development of social skills for children 24 months to 42 months.

The playgroup has two sessions and there is waiting list.

A Smart Board was recently installed in the preschool for the

teachers and students to use. The Smart Board was purchased by the Bradford Area School District as part of the Keystones to Opportunity Grant to support District-wide literacy efforts from birth through school age. The grant also supplied a literacy curriculum which

Preschool Director, Kimberly Engstrom, M.Ed. is adopting for the preschool this year. "The preschool staff is thrilled with the opportunities the new building is providing for our program," said Engstrom.

"We will be adding technology, which prepares students for Kindergarten. The



Tom Bowes, past president of the Kiwanis Club of Bradford, visited Rainbow Corner Preschool to present a donation of \$1,000 to CARE to benefit the early learning and literacy area in the classroom. Pictured from left to right are Jackson Peterson, age 3, Kimberly Engstrom, M.Ed., Preschool Director, Brooklyn Anderson, age 3, and Mia Acosta, age 3, engaged in reading a picture book during story time. Peterson is the son of Precious and Justin Peterson; Anderson is the daughter of Melissa Snyder and Wayne Anderson, Jr.; and Acosta is the daughter of Ashley VanGorder and Felix Acosta.

space enables us to incorporate more small group instruction, and focus on all the areas of early learning that make for a well rounded learning experience for our students."

The playground planning is still in the works and CARE hopes to have the playground completed in Spring of 2014.

CARE for Children Opens Early Learning Playgroup in Port Allegany



Students (l-r) Kaitlyn Kallenborn, Noah Mackey, and Ryan Carlson enjoy outdoor play at CARE for Children's new Early Learning Playgroup in Port Allegany. Teacher Alexis Close (left) and aide Vivian Lamont look forward to a rewarding and fun year.

Registration remains open for an Early Learning Playgroup in Port Allegany for children 3-5 years of age.

"CARE is exploring the possibility of opening a three day a week, licensed preschool program in Port Allegany," said Kimberly Engstrom, preschool director.

The playgroup meets on Thursdays from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at the Gethsemane Lutheran Church Social Hall and began on September 5th with eight students enrolled. The playgroup will accept students throughout the school year if space is available.

The playgroup promotes socialization, Kindergarten readiness skills, and structured play. Activities are based on the Pennsylvania Early Learning Standards for preschool students.

The Early Learning Playgroup is staffed by Alexis Close, M.Ed., who holds a masters degree in Early Learning, and teacher's aide, Vivian Lamont.



CARE EARNS SEAL FOR EXCELLENCE

CARE for Children passes rigorous ethics and accountability standards to be recertified

CARE for Children has again been awarded the Pennsylvania Association of Nonprofit Organizations (PANO) Seal of Excellence for successfully completing the Standards for Excellence® re-certification program. CARE voluntarily opened itself up to scrutiny by a "jury of its peers" who examined for compliance with PANO's Standards for Excellence: An Ethics and Accountability Code for the Nonprofit Sector®.

CARE for Children's programs and services, management, fundraising, and financial practices were re-examined in depth before the certification was awarded. CARE for Children was one of the first organizations to be certified under the Standards program that began in 2002 in Pennsylvania.

"The Standards seal shows that CARE has taken every step to ensure our organization is serving the community by operating in an ethical and accountable manner," stated Tina M. Martin, executive director. "CARE for Children's work on behalf of children of all abilities exemplifies both our dedication to our mission and to meeting the highest standards of ethical practice."

Tina Martin, CARE executive director and Mick Marshall, president, CARE for Children Board of Directors display the Seal of Excellence at the Dedication of the Ashley Booth Griffin CARE for Children Center on May 17th, 2013.

According to Joe Geiger, former executive director of PANO, "Organizations which are successful in the certification program should be commended for their commitment to excellence and integrity."

PANO is the statewide membership organization serving and advancing the nonprofit sector through leadership, advocacy, education, and services in order to improve the quality of life in Pennsylvania.

For more information about the Standards for Excellence® program or to request a copy of the Standards, contact PANO directly at (717) 236-8584 or visit <http://www.pano.org/Standards-For-Excellence/> on the web.

CARE FOR CHILDREN SUMMER SCRAPBOOK



CARE's annual Summer Day Camp was held in June at Pitt Bradford and included a fun walk on the McDowell Trail. The day camp is one of many therapeutic recreation programs that CARE offers annually for children of all abilities.

Summer Day Camp is sponsored by the Orak Grotto with proceeds from Tag Days.

The Team Jeep Trail Ride was held in September at the Elk Lick Boy Scout Camp in Smethport. CARE Kids and their families were able to travel the little known pathways throughout the reserve with certified Jeep drivers. Brendan Stidd, age 11, enjoyed the day with his Mom Christy Keck and driver Wally. The Smethport Rotary Club sponsored the annual event.



Safe Kids McKean- Top to bottom: Damien and Wyatt show off their new bicycle helmets at American Refining Group's Safety Day in June while Kimberly Engstrom fits Shane with a helmet. Funding for the helmets was provided by the United Way of the Bradford Area.

Gavin Daugherty, age 7, watches as Jonah Schmidt, age 9, putts the ball while Jonah's big brother Evan shows the boys how to hold the putter at the twelfth annual adaptive golf outing at Pine Acres Country Club in August, led by PGA Professional Kirk Stauffer.



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as we have helped
local children grow
since 1924.**

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Ashley Booth Griffin CARE for Children Center
Inspire. Build. Achieve. Donor Wall**

**Turn your favorite photo
into a lasting memory...**



**Display a business, club
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Tiles will be displayed on a beautiful mosaic tile Donor Wall that will serve as the focal point of the Ashley Booth Griffin CARE for Children Center's lobby. Tile orders accepted through December 2013.

2x2 tile - \$75 donation

3x3 tile - \$200 donation

4x4 tile - \$250 donation

Call (814) 362-4621

or visit

HelpCareGrow.org

20th Annual CARE 'fore' Children Golf Tournament

The 2013 Tournament Sponsor, Zippo Manufacturing Company, combined with over 114 additional community sponsors and 140 golfers to raise close to \$16,000 for the 20th annual tournament.

All proceeds from the event benefit CARE's pediatric therapy and health; early learning programs; and community outreach programs like therapeutic recreation and child safety and injury prevention.

This year's tournament marked a great milestone. Not only was it the 20th anniversary, but the annual event has raised close to \$186,000 overall for programs and services to improve the lives of children of all abilities in McKean County and the surrounding region.

For a complete list of sponsors, please visit the Tournament tab on our website.

CARE WELCOMES BACK DANA PENCE, PT



Physical Therapist Dana Pence is shown working with Bradford Area High School student Rodney Jones in the Therapy Room at the Ashley Booth Griffin CARE for Children Center.

Physical Therapist Dana Pence has returned to CARE for Children after a five year hiatus that saw her providing services in and around Cattaraugus and Chautauqua Counties. "I am excited to be back at CARE," said Mrs. Pence.

"CARE enables me not only to provide pediatric physical therapy services but to help kids participate in a wide range of activities that might not be typically available to them."

Mrs. Pence has 14 years of experience as a physical therapist and holds a B.S. in physical therapy from Daemen College. She is constantly expanding her scope of practice by taking a multitude of continuing education classes which focus on the pediatric patient.

Mrs. Pence is excited to help the organization expand services to better utilize the new facilities in the Ashley Booth Griffin CARE for Children Center and especially loves the therapeutic playroom that is geared for physical therapy sessions and gross motor activities.

She plans to help CARE develop pediatric outpatient services especially focusing on children who receive school based services and who may regress over the summer months if treatment is not continued and consistent. She is also trained to do wheelchair and equipment assessments and some repairs.

"I look forward to providing Early Intervention services in Warren and McKean County, therapy for school age children, and developing new and exciting programs that will help CARE meet its mission of 'improving the lives of children of all abilities,'" said Mrs. Pence.

CARE for Children Giving

MEMORIALS

March 1st, 2013 through August 31st, 2013

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March 1st, 2013 through August 31st, 2013

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memorial/honorarium that is a lasting
tribute in remembrance or
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in your life, you are supporting CARE's
mission of making a difference in the
lives of children of all abilities.

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In the event that CARE for Children misspelled, omitted, or made any other mistakes in the production of this newsletter, please contact us so that we may apologize and correct the mistake.

These pages reflect operating support only. Support for CARE's capital campaign will be listed in a special edition of the CARE News coming in December 2013.

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|  |  | United Way of the Bradford Area, Inc. 2013-2014 Campaign: \$330,000 goal |
| For more information, visit www.uwbnews.org or call 814-368-6181 | | |
| <i>CARE for Children is proudly supported by the United Way of the Bradford Area and the Smethport Campaign for United Way.</i> | | |