



Clallam Connection

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January-February 2014

PACIFIC BAY INTERNATIONAL RECEIVES AWARD



Finding dedicated workers with a great work ethic can be a challenge, but Pacific Bay International (PAC BAY), a manufacturer and importer of quality fishing rod components, has found this dedication in at least one of their employees. This employee has been employed over 10 years at Pacific Bay and happens to have a developmental disability. His job duties include pulling orders and ensuring Quality Control. Human Resource Manager,

Peggy Suzuki says this employee works hard, never misses work and is always on time. Vic Cutter, Vice President of Sales & Marketing concurs. Vic has years of experience prior to, and including PAC BAY, where having workers with developmental disabilities on staff is the norm. He believes this demographic is an often overlooked job pool and encourages other employers to consider hiring; stating that in his experience you'll have workers who take pride in their work, feel committed to the "team" and are very dependable. He also praised the community Employment Providers like Morningside who come in once a week to make sure things are going well, both for the worker with a developmental disability and for the employer.

Pacific Bay recently was presented the Clallam County Health & Human Services Business Leadership Advisory Committee Employer of the Quarter Award by Corrina Dickinson, Human Resource Manager of Red Lion and member of the Business Leadership Advisory Committee. This award recognizes employers who demonstrate diversity and inclusion in their hiring practices by having one or more employees with developmental disabilities in their employ. The presentation took place December 17, 2013 at Pacific Bay's manufacturing and shipping facility in Carlsborg.



All life
is an
experiment.
The more
experiments,
the better.

- Ralph
Waldo
Emerson

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Because some of our local business leaders have experienced the benefits of hiring individuals with disabilities or believe in inclusion, they've become members of the Business Leadership Advisory Committee for Clallam County Health & Human Services Developmental Disabilities. This committee is a business to business network promoting the inclusion of people with disabilities in the community and workforce. They have established a mentorship program for businesses interested in exploring the possibility of hiring individuals with disabilities.

For more information about the Business Leadership Advisory Committee, please visit their website at: www.clallam.net/HHS/HumanServices/blac



**Clallam
County
Orcas**

The Clallam County Orcas are in the middle of a great basketball season. We are preparing for our regional tournament which will be held on February 1st in Kitsap County. If any of our 3 teams earns a gold medal there, they will travel to Wenatchee over the 1st weekend in March for the Winter Games. Our program keeps growing, and it is exciting to have new athletes join us—the more the merrier. We also have added a few more volunteers, whom we all adore. If you are looking for some fun in your life, please come and join us. Call Wendy at 360-477-4134 or email ClallamCountyOrcas@gmail.com. You can also check us out on Facebook at facebook.com/ClallamCountyOrcas



CLIENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Hannah and her job coach have been going to the WorkSource office to look for jobs and to take some classes to help improve her success in job searching. Because she had been taking classes with the same instructor, he began to ask questions about what a job coach does and what Hannah's skills are. Because of this, Hannah and her job coach had an interview at the Sequim Health and Rehab Center the very next morning. Hannah's interview went great and resulted in Hannah being hired as a "Hospitality Aid". Hannah will be doing small tasks, like pushing residents in their wheelchairs to the dining/activity rooms, bringing them their food and responding to requests, which nurses don't have much time for.

Since Hannah is in the DVR program, she will be able to have enough support to work 20-30 hours per week. She will be supported by the Department of Vocational Rehab (DVR) to be trained and supported in her job for the first three months. At the end of this time and when she is stable in her position, she will switch to long term supports through her employment provider.

Hannah has expressed a desire to work in places with the elderly and is excited to be working. During her interview, the role of a Job Coach was explained. The job coach is not her boss but is there to help her learn. The job coach is there to help her find a job that has a positive environment and where people work as a team and want to see each other succeed. The ultimate goal is to help Hannah become independent so that the job coach is needed less and less.

- Courtney Garcia, Job Coach, Concerned Citizens.

DON'T FORGET

-  **DDAC Meeting** — Thursday January 9th, 5:30 - 7:30pm at the Board of County Commissioners Board Room, Clallam County Courthouse and Videoconferencing: District Court, Forks.
-  **BLAC Meeting** — “Business Leadership Advisory Committee”, a subcommittee of the DDAC ,will be held on Thursday January 24th, 5:15—7:30pm at Dungeness Courte Memory Care, Sequim. Please check the BLAC website for updated dates and locations at www.clallam.net/HHS/HumanServices/blac .
-  **Clallam County Hiring & Resource Event**—Wednesday, March 26th, 9:00am—2:30pm, Vern Burton Community Center, Port Angeles.

AND AROUND TOWN



Polar Bear Plunge—January 1st, 2014, 10-11am, Hollywood Beach, Port Angeles.



Port Angeles Symphony—Chamber Orchestra Concert, January 17th, 7pm, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 301 E. Lopez Street, Port Angeles. Admission \$12.00, under 16 are free. For more information call 457-5579 or go to www.portangelessymphony.org



Mighty Messy Saturday—January 18th, 2:30pm, Capernum Center, St. Matthew’s Lutheran Church, 132 E. 13th Street, Port Angeles. Messy fun for persons with Autism—Sensory boxes, finger painting, play dough and building with boxes.



Port Angeles Symphony— February 1st, 7:30pm, Port Angeles High School Auditorium, 304 E. Park Ave., Port Angeles. Admission \$5.00 for individual, \$ 10.00 for families, under 16 are free. For more information call 457-5579 or go to www.portangelessymphony.org



Pancake Breakfast and Fundraiser for Mosaic, February 15th, Applebees Restaurant, Sequim. Call 681-8642 for tickets.

Do You Want To Make a Difference?

The Developmental Disabilities Advisory Committee acts in an advisory capacity to plan for and make recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners and the Department of Health and Human Services on the provision of services in Clallam County.

The DDAC provides an important link between the public, the Department of Health and Human Services and the Board of County Commissioners and provides important information about community needs and opinions that can affect Clallam County policies and lead to improved services and employment outcomes for county citizens with developmental disabilities.

If you are interested in applying to become a committee member, go to www.clallam.net/boards or stop by the Board of County Commissioners office in the Clallam County Courthouse to pick up an application. Questions? Call Tim Bruce at (360) 417-2428.



UPDATE

For Clallam Mosaic the end of 2013 brings reflection on the successes of the year and a drive towards taking the organization to “the next level” of growth and productivity. In 2013, we delivered more than 450 hours of programming to people with developmental disabilities, their families and the community at large. We held a number of successful fundraisers and garnered support from the United Way as well as a number of foundations and individual donors.

As we look forward to 2014, our focus turns to programming, resolution of space concerns, launch of a parent coalition, family education and continued revenue generation.

Programming for the Winter Quarter is scheduled to run from Jan 6 through Mar 17. Our “Week at a Glance” calendar shows the variety of classes that will be offered. Looking beyond the upcoming quarter, we hope to partner with other local agencies to address concerns of obesity, literacy and health. In Spring we plan to launch a “Literacy for Non-Readers” course, team taught by Tracy Wilson & Anna Wilson. We are working on designing a Health Class that brings in guest health care providers/trainees with expertise in fields ranging from diabetes and reproductive health to dental hygiene and podiatric care. Obesity also continues to be an area of focus for Clallam Mosaic since the “obesity rates for adults with disabilities are approximately 57% higher than for adults without disabilities.” We are looking to develop new ways to get our participants moving, whether it’s with a hiking club or with some new exercise classes. So keep an eye on our website as we introduce some new programs in 2014!

Of course, Clallam Mosaic’s programming is only possible because of the space that is so generously made available to us (by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints and Olympic Theater Arts in Sequim and by Holy Trinity Lutheran Church and Olympic Vineyard Christian Fellowship in Port Angeles). Unfortunately, due to some recent policy changes, we need to find a “new home” in Sequim by March 2014. We are searching for a facility that will be able to accommodate ~8 hours of weekly programming, scheduled between 10 am and 4:30 pm. Our space requirements include the ability to handle 8-25 students in classes ranging from art and film through recreation and exercise. We are actively evaluating various facilities that are reachable via the city bus/Paratransit system and are wheel-chair accessible. If you have any suggestions for low/no cost facilities that we should evaluate, please contact Priya Jayadev at info@clallammosaic.org.

Finally, Clallam Mosaic will be launching a Parent Coalition in 2014 with two kickoff meetings in January. The coalition will initially focus on providing a support network for all parents and caregivers and look for opportunities to provide education, advocacy and information exchange. The coalition will be open to families with minors or adults with developmental disabilities. At the kickoff meetings we plan to come to consensus on:

- Three top coalition priorities.
- The frequency and location of coalition meetings.
- Members of the “Coalition Board.”
- Date for hosting talk by Ed Holen of the Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council regarding the new WA Community of Practice network.

We look forward to hearing your input at one of the Parent Coalition Kickoff meetings. Please join us as we develop a new way for families to connect on issues of developmental disabilities!

Go to our website at www.clallammosaic.org for our classes and calendar of events.

Clallam Mosaic, PO Box 3081, Sequim, WA 98382 – 360.681.8642– info@clallammosaic.org

Port Angeles School District
Developmental Screenings
2014

Port Angeles School District provides screenings to children ages 0-6 in the areas of cognitive, communication, social, and motor skills.

Children are referred to appropriate agencies and programs as needed.

Parents do not need to have specific concerns about their child's development in order to arrange a screening.



In order to make screening appointments for children ages 0-3,
please contact the Infant Toddler Program at: 360-565-1672

Screenings for Infants and Toddlers will be located at the Infant Toddler Program (now housed at Hamilton Elementary) or at the child's home.

In order to make an appointment or to discuss questions about development screenings for your child ages 3-6

Please contact Leslie Mraz at 360-565-1734



Ages 3-6 screening dates for the Port Angeles School District 2012-13

Friday, March 7, 2014

Friday, April 11, 2014

Roosevelt Elementary address: 106 Monroe Rd.

Port Angeles, Washington 98362

If you live within the Crescent or Sequim SD boundaries please contact your local district:

Crescent School District
360-928-3311

Sequim School District
360-582-3404



The Capernaum Center for Autism plans to provide Early Learning Intervention services for children 18 months to 5 years of age in a center with highly qualified staff. In addition to the full time offerings of the Early Intervention aspect,

they will also offer counseling for children with Autism, of any age, for the family, the parents and siblings in group settings. Visit the family resource center now open every Thursday 12:30–6:00 pm and by appointment.

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, corner of 13th and Lincoln Street, Port Angeles.

Call Sarah Lovejoy for more information at: 360-797-4850.

Courthouse Closures

January

1st—Holiday

20th—Holiday

February

17th—Holiday

Winter

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Clallam County Health & Human Services
Developmental Disabilities
223 E 4th Street, Suite 14
Port Angeles, WA 98362

Got a Story? Got News? Contact Tim Bruce at
360-417-2428 or tbruce@co.clallam.wa.us

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TO END THE WORD
www.r-word.org