

# That's Providence Center

*Shaping Lives, Creating Futures.*

Published by Providence Center

Spring 2014

## Danny's Day Foundation Gets Dirty to Support Providence Center Participants at JBB



**Foundation members Kushner, Ernst, and Storck built and planted seeds for growth with horticulture participants.**

On a beautiful Monday in late April, Pat Ernst came to Providence Center's Jean Bradbury Building ready to work. He and two other members of the Danny's Day Foundation were here to help build vegetable gardens with the horticulture program. What started as a day of volunteering for a local foundation with close ties to Providence Center soon turned into an enriching experience for everyone involved, including many of those in other programs.

Pat, Larry Kushner, and Buck Storck are all members of the Board of Directors for the Danny's Day Foundation, named in honor of Daniel Patrick Ernst, Pat's son, who passed away suddenly at the young age of 24. Since that devastating time, Pat and his wife, Neysa, as well as friends of the Ernst family, banded together to turn their loss into a legacy – starting the foundation to promote compassion for others with a focus on those with disabilities.

But on that sunny day in April, the three men were simply teammates, mentors, and students in the horticulture program,

constructing the raised beds that will be used to cultivate vegetables and herbs that will be used in soaps produced by Providence Center participants and sold to customers at the glass greenhouse. Their shirts were brilliant blue with a 4x4 Jeep bearing on top of a mountain on the upper left chest. The 4x4 is the new logo for the foundation and a reminder of something Danny loved to do. Danny also formed a bond to those with intellectual and developmental disabilities after working with a Providence Center participant at Woodfire Grill in Severna Park.

As they began the construction work, participants began to gather around. Many, who often only participate sporadically, were engaged and eager to assist. The group quickly began working in tandem, sleeves rolled up and protective eye wear on, drilling screws in place with an electric screwdriver and collaboratively laying the netting that rests inside the wooden beds to keep the soil in place for seeds to grow.

"Pat, Larry, and Buck did amazing work," Horticulture Manager Nathan Ullrich said. "The beds look great and already have seedlings sprouting but more importantly they got people participating who often prefer more solitary things to do. They encouraged our participants, even those not in the hort program, to join in the project. It was a great day for everyone. The Danny's Day Foundation actively supports those we serve. They got a little dirty and it was an all-around rewarding day."

"This is what it's all about," Ernst said. "We don't just talk about supporting organizations and people. We know that organizations like Providence Center need financial support, but for us, getting in there and doing the work side-by-side with these wonderful people gives us all the clarity we started Danny's Day for – to make connections and hopefully help move lives forward."

The Danny's Day Foundation didn't just stop there. In addition to the volunteer day, they presented the Horticulture program with a check for \$250 for gardening supplies and a

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## Chuck's Notes

From the desk of Chuck Coble, CEO

At Providence Center, it is our duty to take care of lives with dignity, respect, and trust. We work to move lives forward. We discover people's dreams and help them travel their own path in life. Our work is intimate, holistic, and therapeutic. In our work, we commit ourselves every day to

make sure the care and support we provide brings more experiences, more connections, and more self-awareness to each person.

In seeking new ways to help lives bloom, we often come to know some great new people along the way. The perspective of another person, the diversity of thought and experiences, provides tremendous benefits to everyone, not just those with disabilities. In this edition of *That's Providence Center*, we are highlighting some of these remarkable people who want to impact lives for the better. Eaton the therapy dog and his owner Emerson Davis as well as the Danny's Day Foundation are doing that for those we serve. Their impact is wonderful to witness.

Connections are too often limited for those we serve. Many of those with disabilities have fewer interactions in a day than those

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## Providence Profile: Eaton the Therapy Dog and His Handler, Emerson



***JBB Director Tom McQuillan greets Emerson Davis and Eaton for their weekly visit.***

Rarely do you hear him enter a room, but when the participants at Jean Bradbury first see Eaton, a positive energy fills the space and broad smiles cover nearly every face. Eaton, a three year old Golden Lab, has the poise of a much older dog and the sweet disposition that make these dogs among the most popular breeds for families. Once a week, he and his owner Emerson Davis come to JBB and visit with the participants, providing a therapeutic exchange for this certified therapy dog.

Eaton's visits started last November as a way to let Eaton continue his work and serve despite his severe food allergies that prevented him from being a certified service dog, a job he trained two years to do. The allergies create additional care needs for Eaton and increased costs to feeding him and medications. Davis, who fostered Eaton during his training, was given the option of adopting him permanently, which he readily did. The two then began their journey together and brought them to their work of brightening days and building bonds with those at Providence Center.

Each morning of work is the same – Eaton patiently and proudly waits as Davis puts his therapy dog vest on and they jump in the car to Shore Acres Road in Arnold. Eaton is patient and doesn't get distracted from noises from the cars and people. He listens attentively to Emerson's commands and is a calm, cool presence.

***That's Providence Center will feature participants, staff, employers, or people in the community that inspire and empower us. Nominate the person you think is helping Providence Center advance its mission and tell us why you think they should be featured in our Providence Profile. Send your nomination to Audra Harrison, Director of Community Relations, at [aharrison@providencecenter.com](mailto:aharrison@providencecenter.com).***

JBB Director Tom McQuillan jumped at the chance to offer pet therapy to participants there. "The joy an animal creates in people is a great thing to experience for so many of our men and women. Dogs in general, and Eaton in particular, can speak to people sometimes better than people can. Eaton engages participants. They light up when they see him and you almost literally see any tensions melt away when they can have Eaton put his nose on their laps and pet him."

"By being petted or hugged, Eaton, as a therapy dog, has a way to reach into the inner soul of people and assist with their physical and mental wellbeing," Davis says of Eaton's work. "You can readily see the smiles, comfort and joy he brings to people as he interacts with them."

From their first visit, Davis and Eaton fit in well among the nearly 100 participants at JBB. Each time that they come, they go through the building to greet people in each program space. Ever polite and demonstrating his superior training, Eaton waits to be approached to keep from frightening those who may be afraid of dogs or simply tentative.

"Because of his background, his training, and his gentle demeanor, we knew he could bring a lot of joy and comfort to many people," Davis explained. Because of his years of training, Eaton knows about forty-five commands.

The team is certified by Therapy Dogs International, a New Jersey based volunteer organization that tests and registers therapy dogs throughout the United States and Canada. Therapy dogs are used in a wide variety of groups and situations, including hospitals, schools, disaster areas and shelters. They provide companionship and have the effect of relieving stress, lowering blood pressure and raising the mood of those they help. Simply patting dogs releases chemicals in the brain that cause feelings of happiness and bonding.

Davis is the former Assistant Chief of Police for the Anne Arundel County Police Department. He retired after 35 years in the fall of 2012. "My volunteer work with Eaton allows me to work with people in need and especially with people with disabilities," he said. Those with disabilities are special in his heart as Davis had a brother, John, with Down's syndrome who passed away in 2010. He credits John for inspiring him to continue to serve and focus their work on those with disabilities.

In addition to their work at Providence Center, they also visit the Kennedy Krieger Institute, Anne Arundel Medical Center and St. Anne's School of Annapolis.



## Providence Production Update with Kathy Middlebrooks



First I would like to thank all the individuals and employees that help with all of our production sites. All of your hard work on producing, creating, assembling and the quality of our finished products has made selling our products to retail partners possible.

Over the last few months we have reached out to a variety of businesses and counties throughout the state. From Cecil County to Calvert County. This Spring we partnered

with MEDA to produce pottery for their award ceremony with their logo stamped inside. We also provided personalized pots for Anne Arundel Medical Center for their award ceremony in March. In the next few months we will be doing specialty items for Calvert County. These opportunities help us build business relations throughout the state of Maryland.

Our products can be purchased and seen at a variety of businesses throughout Maryland. We are now in two Wegmans locations - Gambrills and Columbia - and we are not stopping there. I plan to have all of the Wegmans locations in Maryland by the end of the year. Other businesses that we have started a

retail partnership with are The Maryland Store, Brentwood Art Exchange, Greenstreet Growers, S & K Printing, AAMC, Beans, Leaves, Etc., Kathy's Corner Shop, The Great American Car Wash, Anne Arundel Farmers Co-Op and Homestead Gardens locations in Davidsonville and Severna Park.

More exciting news! We are on [Etsy.com](https://www.etsy.com). Being on Etsy will help us reach out to a wider range of potential customers world wide. Since our launch on April 4, 2014, we have had a few orders for our pottery. We also have a Facebook page under Providence Center where we advertise up-coming events, sales, new items and news about Providence Center. Please become a friend of Providence Center and spread the word with all of your friends on Facebook. You can find us at [www.facebook.com/ProvidenceCenterInc](https://www.facebook.com/ProvidenceCenterInc).

For the next few months I will be exploring new ideas for our production line with the help of our new Entrepreneur Committee. We have formed this committee to help with new marketing tools, design ideas and to give a professional opinion on what sells well out in the retail world. The committee is made up of some of our current retail partners and staff members.

Thank you again for working so hard and keep up the great work here at Providence Center. If you have any ideas or potential business contact information, please contact me at [kmiddlebrooks@providencecenter.com](mailto:kmiddlebrooks@providencecenter.com).

Kathy Middlebrooks  
Production Sales Manager



***Constructing the beds went seamlessly with all taking part.***

### Danny's Day Foundation, *continued from page 1*

\$5000 donation to Providence Center for the purchase of four iPads and a whiteboard for training. The iPads have become important communications tools by providing specialized, adaptive technology which encourage more and better communications, promote critical thinking, and limitless learning opportunities. They are significantly less expensive than traditional communication devices, with iPads costing nearly 90 percent less. They can be linked with the whiteboard technology provided by the Danny's Day Foundation for group or individualized learning.

"I'm just grateful," said Providence Center CEO Chuck Coble. "Pat and everyone with the Danny's Day Foundation have wholeheartedly embraced Providence Center and those we serve. We are fortunate to have the opportunity to continue to earn their support. They're doing great things with and for the men and women of Providence Center. They are a real gift to us."

Danny's Day Foundation has organized events for participants at Providence Center and their families. Last year, they held a St. Patrick's Day luncheon at the Doubletree Hotel in Annapolis and a visit from Santa and his elves in December. The foundation has also participated in Providence Center's Golf Classic and other special events.

# How Can I Help?

When you make a gift to Providence Center, whether it's a donation or the gift of volunteer time, you are helping to enrich the lives of 500 of our community's residents. There are many ways you can help the men and women with developmental disabilities who count on Providence Center.

## Financial Support

- You can make a cash donation payable to Providence Center at 930 Point Pleasant Road, Glen Burnie, MD 21060. **Don't forget to check to see if your employer has a matching gift program.** Donations can also be made by credit card. To process a credit card payment, call our Development Department at 410-766-2212, ext. 110. You can also go online at [www.providencecenter.com](http://www.providencecenter.com) and donate directly.
- You can donate stocks, bonds, real estate, and name the Center as the beneficiary on a life insurance policy. Contact your financial advisor to learn more about these and other options.
- Planned Giving can make a lasting impact that will serve the future of the Center. Planned gifts are ways a donor can leave money or assets to a nonprofit at his or her death; or a way to invest money so that the donor receives benefits during his or her life and then bequeaths the remaining funds to the nonprofit. To learn more, contact your financial advisor.

## In-Kind Donations

Donations of goods and services allow the Center to allocate funds to other program needs. Examples include art supplies for our art program, lawn equipment for our Horticulture Program or medical supplies. Please call our Development Department for a list of desired items and services at (410)766-2212, ext 110.

## Donate a Car

Providence Center's car donation program is ready to accept your vehicle in exchange for the tax benefits you will receive for donating to a registered non-profit organization. For more information on our car donation program, contact [info@providencecenter.com](mailto:info@providencecenter.com).

## Gift of Time and Talent

Volunteers are a tremendous asset to our programs. You may have gardening skills to help in our greenhouses, an artistic flair to assist in our art program, an entrepreneurial spirit that can help a participant start his own business, or just the desire to be a friend to someone, spending time over lunch, working on the computer or reading. Volunteer with Providence Center and make a difference in the lives of adults with developmental disabilities.

Volunteers must be at least 16 and go through a background check. We are happy to work with eligible students fulfilling community service requirements but ask that they volunteer a minimum of 40 hours. For more information, please contact Erin Bishop at [ebishop@providencecenter.com](mailto:ebishop@providencecenter.com) or at (410)766-2212, ext. 105.

## Employer Charity Campaign

If your employer participates in the United Way's Maryland Charity Campaign, you can designate Providence Center as your beneficiary. **Providence Center's Maryland Charity Campaign number is #1256 and Combined Federal Charity Campaign number is #66186.**

## Chuck's Notes, *continued from page 1*

"nondisabled." Creating connections, whether short-term or long-lasting ones, is an integral part of our work. Sometimes we have to get creative in having a person come out of their shell, so to speak, but overwhelmingly those we serve want to share who they are and what they can contribute to everyone around. It's a beautiful thing to be around.

I like to think of the 480 men and women we serve each day as a therapeutic look into the joy of life and the beauty of humanity. It's in the smiles when I visit a program or the pride they have in their jobs. Last year, the Danny's Day Foundation provided a grant for interactive whiteboards for our programs. They're used in many different ways but the overarching fact is that the technology the foundation provides us is connecting people to the world at large. They have a looking glass into different

cultures and what lies outside our doors. They provide inspiration and motivation to strive and achieve.

Eaton the dog and the members of the Danny's Day Foundation have helped make greater connections for everyone. They may be viewed as serving us but, as we know, everyone who encounters Eaton or was there in April outside of JBB with Danny's Day, the therapeutic and all-around positive benefits are and were enjoyed by all. Those are good days that confirm our mission is alive and well.

## 22nd Annual Moran Golf Classic Swings to Success



**Presenting sponsors Moran Insurance and Chiron Technology Services helped make this year's Classic another great success. Pictured left to right are: Chiron's Jeff Weaver, Moran Insurance's Matt Lehmann and Marc Dorman, and Chiron's Dave Pappas and Brian Oliver.**

It was a beautiful day at Queenstown Harbor Golf for Providence Center's 22nd Annual Moran Golf Classic, presented by Moran Insurance and Chiron Technology Services, Inc. The event raised more than \$61,000 for Providence Center's programs and services.

Thank you to everyone who made the Classic another great success!

### **Providence Center's 22nd Annual Golf Classic Committee:**

**Conor Gilligan, Co-Chair**  
**Matt Lehmann, Co-Chair**  
**Pete Metrinko**  
**Donna Moran**  
**Dennis Wells**

### **Presenting Sponsors**

Chiron Technology Services, Inc.  
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### **In Kind Donors**

JBA Infinity  
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Southwest Airlines  
Gilligan Design Group



# Commemorative Gifts

This listing reflects commemorative gifts from  
February 21, 2014 – May 16, 2014

**In Memory of Donna Baldwin**  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas I. Baldwin, Jr.

**In Memory of Barbara Galloway**  
Mr. Frederick Galloway

**In Memory of John Hill**  
Ms. Patricia Hill

**In Memory of Michael Hirsch**  
Mr. Robert L. Hirsch

**In Memory of George Moran**  
Avon Dixon Insurance Agency  
Ms. Terry Doggett  
Ms. Diana Johnson

**In Memory of Margaret Yarrison**  
Mr. Brandt Heisey  
Mr. William Voigt

**In Honor of William Harrison**  
Ms. Lisa Brawner  
Mr. and Mrs. John Stevens

**In Honor of Andrew and Alex Jones**  
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Gombatz

**In Honor of Lisa Pizarro**  
Mrs. Linda Crawford

## In the Community

Providence Center works to actively engage our participants in the community through our Supported Employment program with employment and volunteer positions. Thanks to all of our community partners and we hope that you will consider supporting those partners that support our important work. The following is a list of new employers since November 2013.

**Panera Bread**  
6633 Ritchie Highway  
Glen Burnie, MD

**Habitat for Humanity**  
8101 Ft. Smallwood Rd  
Curtis Bay, MD

**PetSmart**  
597-c E. Ordnance Rd  
Glen Burnie, MD

**Maryland Therapeutic Riding**  
1141 Sunrise Beach Road  
Crownsville, MD

**Sarah's House**  
2015 20th Street  
Fort Meade, MD

**Emmaus Home**  
407 Crain Highway  
Glen Burnie, MD

**Walk the Walk Foundation**  
P.O. Box 342  
Millersville, MD

## Retail Partners

The retailers and partners below offer their customers, or facilitate the sale of, our products. Through our partnerships, these important supporters of our work are also assisting our participants gain greater independence by earning a paycheck for the sale of their work. Please consider supporting those retailers that support the artists, potters, woodworkers, and growers of Providence Center:

**Anne Arundel Farmers Co-Op**  
155 8th Ave N.W.  
Glen Burnie, MD 21061

**St. Martins Lutheran Church**  
1120 Spa Rd  
Annapolis, MD 21403

**Anne Arundel County Facilities**  
8313 Grover Rd  
Millersville, MD 21108

**United Church of Christ**  
8 Carvel Circle  
Edgewater, MD 21037

**Hospice of the Chesapeake**  
90 Ritchie Hwy  
Pasadena, MD 21122

**Christ Our Anchor**  
1281 Green Holly Dr.  
Annapolis, MD 21409

**Wegmans of Crofton**  
1413 South Main Chapel Way  
Gambrells, MD 21054

**Great American Car Wash**  
825 Ritchie Hwy  
Severna Park, MD 21146

**Wegmans of Columbia**  
8855 McGraw Rd  
Columbia, MD 21045

**S & K Printing**  
7550 Main Street  
Sykesville, MD 21784

**Greenstreet Growers**  
391 West Bay Front Rd  
Lothian, MD 20711

**The Maryland Store**  
2200 Sykesville  
Westminster, MD 21157

**Homestead Gardens**  
743 W. Central Ave Rd  
Davidsonville, MD 21035  
522 Ritchie Hwy  
Severna Park, MD 21146

**Blossom & Basket**  
3 North Main St.  
Mt. Airy, MD 21771

**Anne Arundel Farmers Co-Op**  
155 8th Ave N.W.  
Glen Burnie 21061

## Announcements

❖ Congratulations to **Travis Nichols** for his promotion to Assistant Director of Self-Advocacy!

❖ Thank you to owner **Erin Dryden and Luna Blu Restaurant** in Annapolis for hosting a wine tasting dinner to benefit Providence Center!

❖ Thank you to the **Jesse and Hertha Adams Charitable Trust** for their support of \$23,096.12 for the renovation of our Baldwin Industries.

❖ Thank you to everyone who donated through the **Great Give**. We raised \$840 during this year's event!

❖ Thank you to the **Knights of Columbus Council #11214** for its donation of \$1,032.93 and **Knights of Columbus Council #5263** for its donation of \$268.85 to support our programs and services.

❖ Thank you to everyone at the **Danny's Day Foundation** for their grant of \$5,000 to help purchase iPads to be used as vital communication devices in our programs and an interactive whiteboard for training staff and participants alike. Thanks too for your donation of \$250 for our horticulture program and your hands-on work helping our growers build and plant portable gardens.

❖ Thank you to **Atlantic Lighting and Irrigation** for your donation of \$500.

❖ Thank you to **Linda Adelson** for donating arts and crafts supplies and books.

❖ Thank you to **Paul Lee** for donating arts and crafts supplies and filing cabinets for our programs.

❖ Thank you to **Ernest Downs** for your donation of clothing to be used in our programs.

❖ Thank you to **Linda Zelinski** for donating fabric and craft supplies.

❖ Thank you to **Petroleum Payment Solutions** for your donation of point of sale equipment.

❖ Thank you to the **Severn Town Club** for donating arts and craft supplies.

*A full listing of donors will be featured in Providence Center's 2014 Annual Report.*

## Contracted Services at Baldwin Industries

Providence Center's Baldwin Industries is an innovative business entity that serves companies while supporting our participants. Baldwin operates as a subcontracting business providing a diverse range of services to businesses and agencies throughout the Baltimore-Washington Metropolitan Area. These services include:

retail and wholesale packaging, product assembly, hand packaging, wafer sealing, heat sealing, delivery and pick-up, mass mailings, door hanger and flyer distribution, office cleaning, group enclaves for work at employers' sites and individual placement with supported employment services.

**Do you have assembly or production work that Providence Center could help with?**

Contact Toron Green at (410)766-2212 ext.305.

Thank you to our new Baldwin Industries partner:  
General & Mechanical Services (GMS)  
1007 Skidmore Dr Annapolis Md 21409



Providence Center  
930 Point Pleasant Road  
Glen Burnie, MD 21060

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 ProvidenceCntr

## Save the Date!!

### **Providence Center Kiwanis Aktion Club**

Wednesday, July 2, 2014  
Wednesday, August 6, 2014  
Wednesday, September 3, 2014  
4:00 PM – 6:00 PM  
Cloverleaf Building  
Millersville, MD

For more information, contact  
Rosemary Elger at [relger@providencecenter.com](mailto:relger@providencecenter.com)  
or at (410) 766-2212 ext. 205

### **11<sup>th</sup> Annual Jalopyrama**

Saturday, October 25, 2014  
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
Annapolis National Guard Armory  
For more information,  
visit [www.jalopyrama.com](http://www.jalopyrama.com).

The mission of Providence Center is to provide services that allow individuals with disabilities to enjoy increased self-determination in leading a more independent, valuable and functioning role in society. These support services are individually designed and professionally managed to enable these individuals to exercise higher levels of control over their lives.

For more information on how you can help our participants achieve their dreams, contact Aimee Bullen in Providence Center's Development Department at (410)766-2212 ext. 110.