



Cascade Christian Services

SUMMER 2009 NEWSLETTER

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

*JANITORIAL SERVICES
MARKS 15 YEARS*

*VOCATIONAL WEBSITE
UNVEILED*

FEED THE HUNGRY

*NOTED AUTHOR
TO SPEAK AT
DONOR DINNER*

*SAVE THE DATES:
NOV 10TH
DEC 5TH*

FUN AT PINESTREET

RESIDENT IS THRIVING

*PEOPLE MAKE A
DIFFERENCE*



15-Year Celebration

This July marks our 15th year of providing janitorial services to federal government buildings. It was July 1, 1994 when we started cleaning the downtown federal building in Bellingham, with a small crew of one supervisor and three crew members. Since then we have added border sites at Sumas, Lynden and the Blaine truck crossing, as well as two more crews at state agencies and private businesses. Currently, this includes several WTA buildings in Bellingham and the county. The agency has gone from having one supervisor to two full-time supervisors plus five other staff that support the crews as needed. Our three janitorial crews provide meaningful employment, excellent wages and competitive benefits for 22 crew members.



July, 1994 Border Crew



One of our crew members at the border sites, Becky, is also celebrating 15 years of dedicated employment under our federal contracts. She works on an early morning crew, meeting her ride to work at 2:30 AM. Congratulations to Becky for 15 years of consistent, faithful service. She deserves a vacation and has planned a trip to San Diego this fall.

Website Introduction

Cascade Vocational Services is proud to announce the launch of their new website, at www.cascadevoc.org. CVS has expanded the website to include separate sites tailored to meet the needs of businesses and participants and families. Several stories about some of our successful participants are featured as well as information on how supported employment works. Perhaps most notably, the CVS website has created a *Resource* site. This section was created to serve as a clearinghouse of information for individuals with disabilities, family members, residential agencies and anyone interested in disability issues. We consider the new website to be a constant work in progress and look forward to any feedback. Please email us at cvs@ccssite.org with questions, comments or suggestions!

*SAVE THE DATES FOR
ENRICHING ACTIVITIES*

NOTED AUTHOR FOR
NOV 10TH DINNER



JEANNE DAMOFF TO SPEAK AT DONOR DINNER

Jeanne Damoff, author of the 2008 publication, "Parting the Waters," will be the featured speaker at our annual donor and staff appreciation dinner. This event will be held Nov 10th at the Sonlight Community CRC in Lynden. "Parting the Waters" chronicles the Damoff family's journey to finding beauty in brokenness. A sought after speaker for over 20 years, Damoff brings a special message for anyone whose life didn't turn out quite the way they expected. She will be appearing at other venues in the area as well. Watch the media for details.

Check out her website: <http://www.jeannedamoff.com/>

See the ad for her book:

<http://www.christianbookvideos.com/tag/jeanne-damoff/>

FRONT STREET CHRISTMAS

Whatcom County musicians will again tout their talent at the Christmas themed concert sponsored by Cascade Christian Services. Starting at 4:30 PM on December 5th, the concert will take place at the First Christian Reformed Church in Lynden prior to the annual lighted Christmas parade. The concert was well received last year. "It is a wonderful way to usher in the Christmas Season," one attendee reported. A new slate of musical numbers is being planned and the Dutch Christmas treat, ollie bollen, will be served after the concert. Ollie bollen sales benefit the activities funds for our homes residents. Families are encouraged to start a Christmas tradition by attending each year.

FEED THE HUNGRY

It was a perfect fit for Bellingham Food Bank Farm.

When it became clear that Cascade Gardens was not a viable project for the agency, we leased the land, greenhouses, and outbuildings to Bellingham Food Bank Farm. The timing couldn't have been better. Now, Cascade Christian Services is a part of the several organizations noted as contributing to the cause of feeding the many hungry people of Whatcom County. Check out a recent Bellingham Herald article:

http://www.bellinghamherald.com/727/story/1037481.html?storylink=email_msg



TROLLEY THANKS

Special thanks to John and Arlis Bosman for arranging, coordinating, scheduling and working trolley runs from parking to the Northwest Washington Fairgrounds in August. John felt there was opportunity for an agency fundraiser and publicity at the fair, so he asked and was offered \$1,700 to run the trolley. John and Arlis also provided caps with the agency name on them to increase CCS exposure. Appreciation goes to the tractor drivers and trolley conductors who signed up, starting Monday at 7AM and ending Saturday at 11PM.

Cheryl Martello
John & Arlis Bosman
Cornie & Darlene Timmermans
Lan Totten
Ed & Twyla VanderHaak
Lauren Huleatt
Gerald & Sue VanLoo
Nels Kalhovde
Gerrit & Pam Starkenburg
Phil Kornelis
Gordon & Marilyn Stremmer
Randy Cienfuegos
Jeff Davis
Rich & Linda Bosman

A PINESTREET WELCOME

It's fun at Pinestreet Home

Troy moved into Pinestreet home on May 7th from the Bow area. Troy grew up in Bellingham, attended and graduated from Bellingham High school. His hobby is collecting: baseball cards, football cards and stamps. Some of his other interests are visiting the library, which is now around the corner, and camping. He works three days a weeks at Auntie Anne's Pretzels in the Bellis Fair Mall. His duties consist of cleaning, sweeping and mopping; however, he really likes making the dough for those delicious pretzels. After a year on the job, Troy says he still enjoys it. Asked if he liked living at the Pinestreet home, he replied that he thought it was fun, and he really likes meeting new people. Troy noted the last place where he lived had a lot of strict rules, while these days he enjoys increased independence at Pinestreet. The social ability, fun-loving sweetness Troy brings home is refreshing.



Troy on the Phone

Troy's 40th birthday is September 15th. If you would like to send him a birthday wish, you may send a birthday card to the office and it will be delivered on his birthday: 8477 Double Ditch Road, Lynden, WA 98264.

CASCADE HOME'S NEWEST RESIDENT

Resident thrives, finds fulfillment at Cascade Christian Home

It's hard to believe our newest resident, Teri, moved into CCH almost nine months ago; but thanks to her helpful family and our supportive staff, her transition has been seamless. And thanks to Teri, it's also been fun.

Teri has been blessed with a wonderfully active life and seeks to enrich her days through a variety of pursuits. The Haggen market in Ferndale proudly employs Teri five days a week in their food court since 2007. A gifted athlete, Teri stays involved with Special Olympics programs for months on end, and recently earned gold medals with her baseball team at both regional and state levels. Teri will next participate in a bowling league which, next to bi-weekly riding lessons, is one of her favorite things to do. More recently, Teri wrapped up a week's worth of fun at Warm Beach Christian Camp in Stanwood, along with housemate, Valley Love. She then spent hours riding the roller coasters and loop-de-loops at the NW Washington fair in Lynden. For Teri there is no ride too scary or too fast!

Teri's health and well-being have continually improved during her time at CCH. Her blood sugar has been in a consistently healthy range. Her physician is convinced if she continues to manage her weight (25 lbs lost), she can stop tracking her blood sugar altogether. Staff at CCH assist Teri in making healthy eating choices and by taking her to a nearby Curves fitness center several times a week, which she enjoys.



Teri at Home

Relationships are very important to Teri and she continues to develop friendships with housemates and staff, despite any communication challenges there may be. Teri is hearing impaired and does not read lips. Nevertheless, she finds a way to connect and express joys, sorrows, and interests. Teri's legal guardians, the Hawkins family, are a source of encouragement and light in her life. They recently threw a party for Teri's 39th birthday in CCH's backyard; it was filled with happiness, laughter and food to spare. They are optimistic about Teri's increasingly enthusiastic outlook on life, good health, and the services and opportunities Cascade Christian Home helps her access. "Teri loves it (at CCH)," said Patricia Hawkins. "On family visits, she always looks forward to coming home at the end of the day and really likes everyone there. We, her family, are very blessed to have found such a great place for her."

CASCADE CHRISTIAN SERVICES
1611 N. STATE STREET
BELLINGHAM, WA 98225

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-PAID-

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Bellingham, WA. 98225

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.CASCADECHRISTIANSERVICES.ORG

PEOPLE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Thank you for your partnership and support:

Churches

Mt. View CRC, Lynden
Nooksack Valley Reformed, Nooksack
North County Christ the King, Lynden
Second CRC, Lynden
Sonlight Community CRC, Lynden
Third CRC, Lynden
United Reformed, Lynden

Businesses

VandeHoef Dairy, Everson

Memorials

In memory of Jerry Thorsen
Katherine Reed
Gwyneth Thorsen