



Community Link/ Volume 23, Issue 1

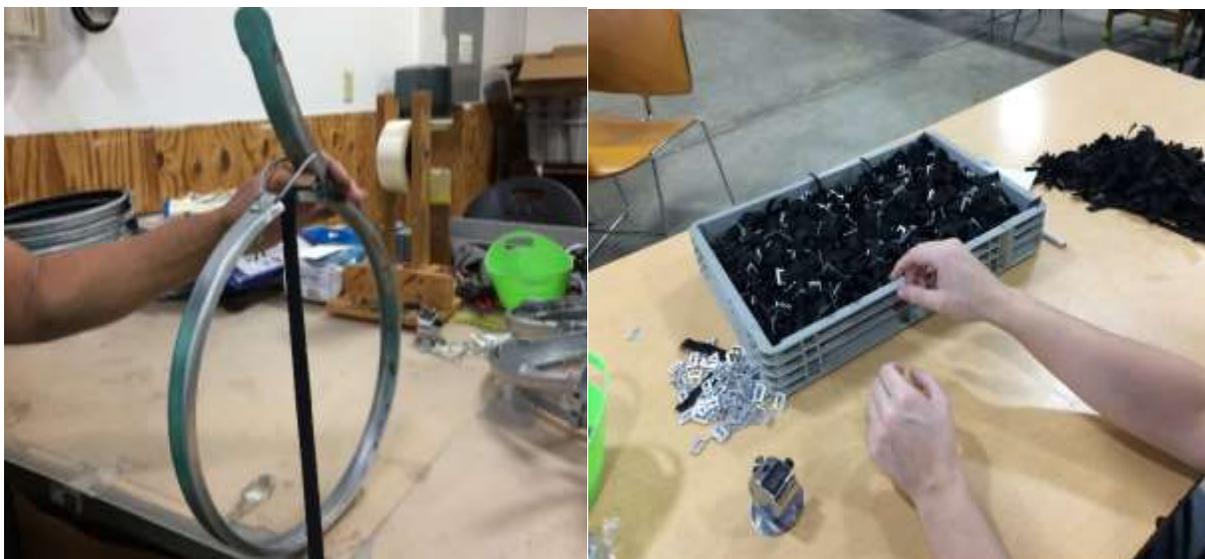
Welcome to the first online version of our newsletter. We appreciate your continued interest in our agency!

It's About Work!

Randolph Vocational Industries, Inc. (RVI) has been in operation since 1973 providing employment and job training for disabled adults in Randolph County. Once referred to as a sheltered workshop, the agency assists around 20 intellectually and developmentally disabled people who perform repetitive job activities, giving them an opportunity to be active in the work force. Additionally, RVI receives referrals from North Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation. For these clients, RVI provides vocational evaluation, job training, employment assistance and job coaching so they can find competitive employment out in the community.

To provide work experience for all clients, RVI recruits production/piecework jobs from industries in the Randolph County area. When a company project is too large, too time-consuming, or just too tedious, these tasks can be outsourced to RVI. Our flexible and dedicated workforce can help manufacturers save time and overhead while providing a service to the community. Clients can count, sort, pack components, perform pre-assembly work, and assist with bulk mailings.

We are always seeking contacts with manufacturers and industries to recruit more work for our clients. If you have a contact to share with us, please call Paul Lewallen at 336-629-0573 Extension 21 or email to pauill@asheboro.com



CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

On December 7th, our clients and staff were treated to a spaghetti luncheon sponsored by the Mayor's Committee for Disabled Persons. Thank you to our staff member, Tina Kinney, who serves on the Committee, and other volunteers who assisted with the luncheon. There was also a special visit from Santa Claus with gifts for the clients.

Our annual Christmas party was held on December 21st at the First Evangelical and Reform Church in Asheboro. All our staff, clients, and employees enjoyed a delicious lunch and dancing to the music provided by DJ Spence (Tommy Spencer). Volunteers from New Union Methodist Church provided the meal.





COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Sonya Diaz, Employment Specialist, and Holly Millikan, Job Coach, hosted an information table for students at Uwharrie Ridge Middle and High School in Trinity.

A special thank you to Carillon Assisted Living for choosing us to be the charity partner for their holiday event, A Carillon Christmas Concert. Cindy Wilkins, Director, and Sonya Diaz, Employment Specialist, provided an information table. Thank you to Beckie Johnson, Executive Director of Carillon, and her staff for their hospitality.

The RVI staff adopted a family for Christmas from the Randolph County Family Crisis Center. Thanks to all the staff who purchased and wrapped gifts to make the holiday special for people in need.

CLIENT SPOTLIGHT



Charlie Norwood started working at RVI in February 2006. He is a huge Duke fan and his favorite color is Duke blue. In his free time, he enjoys using the computer and playing video games. He likes to eat pizza but his favorite junk food is chips. Charlie likes to go to Walmart and he likes to eat out at America's Roadhouse.



Troy Hare began working at RVI in September 2003. Troy enjoys going out to eat and visiting the beach and the mountains. In his spare time, he likes to play video games and watch movies. Troy loves to tell people that he has several jobs, such as working for the FBI and the Secret Service. He likes to go with his group home staff to purchase groceries.

GREENHOUSE UPDATE

Our greenhouse, The Growing Zone, now has a heating system. A new propane tank has been installed and our clients have started planting flowers and vegetables for the spring sale in early May.

NOTE FROM OUR NEW DIRECTOR

Dear faithful supporters in our community,

Please join me in thanking Cindy Wilkins for her tireless work to better RVI. In addition to countless other things, she deserves credit for putting together the content of this newsletter you are reading.

I never would have imagined that I would be stepping out from my accounting role to help lead this cherished enterprise. Thank you for your trust and support to help RVI thrive now and for many years to come! Please feel free to let me know if there are any thoughts or concerns you would like to share with me.

Paul Lewallen

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

To all of you who have made contributions to Randolph Vocational Industries, we extend our sincere appreciation. Your kindness and generosity have truly made a difference.

Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Hill - In honor of Cindy Wilkins

Mr. & Mrs. Larry Bulla - In honor of Randy Bulla

Mrs. Debbie Kinney - Transportation to the Christmas Party

Mr. & Mrs. David Allen - In honor of Charlie Asbill

Mr. Richard Pugh - In honor of employees

Doug Leonhardt - In Memory of Marie Leonhardt and in honor of Sharon Pierce and Cindy Wilkins

Mr. & Mrs. Walter Stout - In honor of Pat Derrick

Mr. & Mrs. Wilson Alexander

Mrs. Amy Owens

McRae Roofing

Teresa Crumley

The Pratt Family

We hope you will consider a gift to our agency. All contributions are tax deductible. Please mail checks to Randolph Vocational Industries, Inc., P.O. Box 1367, Asheboro, NC 27204. Or you can contribute online at our website: randolphindustries.org. The donate button is on the "contact" page.

Our Board of Directors

Tom Morris, Chairman, Retired from Jimmy Ward hardwoods.

David Blalock, Vice Chairman, Owner of Express Employment Professionals.

Mike Ayers, Secretary/Treasurer, Owner of Asheboro Wholesale and parent of a client.

Mandy Anglemyer, Owner of Page Five Media & Marketing.

Myra Gaddy, Victim Advocate for the Randolph County Sheriff's Department.

John Nee, Financial Consultant with AXA Advisors and parent of a client.

Tom Robins, Attorney

Ken Hughes, Owner of Asheboro Alarm and Electric.

Our Staff

Paul Lewallen, Director and Controller

Sharon Pierce, Program Coordinator

Sonya Diaz, Employment Specialist

Rhonda Reekes, Sub-contract Coordinator/Instructor

Crystal Scott, Instructor

Tina Kinney, Support Staff

Holly Millikan, Job Coach