



# THE CONNECTION

familyconnections

Counseling resources with *family* in mind

www.familyconnectionsinc.org

VOLUME 9 Edition 1 2013

## GIVING BACK

**CLINIC**—Call for information about our counseling services:

Weirton Medical Center  
Medical Office Building  
651 Colliers Way, Suite 412  
Weirton, WV 26062  
Phone: (304) 723-3423  
Fax: (304) 723-3426  
E-mail:  
admin@  
familyconnectionsinc.org

**BROOKE PLACE**—Call for a referral for residential group treatment for girls:

P.O. Box 348  
Tent Church Road  
Colliers, WV 26035  
Phone: (304) 527-3303  
Fax: (304) 527-3306

This facility is funded in part under an agreement with the Bureau of Children and Families, WV Department of Health and Human Resources

Email:  
brookeplace@  
familyconnectionsinc.org



The second week of school's summer break had just started when the residents started asking, "What can we do today? Can we help anyone with anything?" One resident found a box with bright yellow vests and orange bags used for collecting trash along the road. Immediately the girls

donned the vests and gloves, grabbed an orange bag, and along with staff, headed out Tent Church Road to gather litter. Upon completion, one resident remarked how much better it looked while others chimed in saying they felt good by doing something positive. The following week, the residents assisted the Colliers Rebekah Lodge members in cleaning the local hall, washing and packing dishes no longer in use.

Community service means giving back to our community and shows that young people today have kindness and manners. Community service is an opportunity to improve not only our surroundings but ourselves. Long after the completion of these projects, the questions continue, "When are we going back? Can we pick up trash again? What can we do next?"

### Brooke Place Wish List

- |   |                                     |                         |
|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Gift cards for girls' birthdays                   | Underwear—all sizes                 | Toiletries              |
| Overnight carry all bags/satchels for home visits | Mesh bags for large laundry baskets | Notebook paper          |
| Pajamas—S,M,L,XL                                  | Batteries, all sizes                | Pens/Mechanical Pencils |
| Slippers  | 60 watt light bulbs                 | Notebooks               |
| Regular white towels                              | White twin sheet sets               | Flash drives            |
| Toilet paper, paper towels                        | White washcloths                    | Backpacks               |





## SAYING GOODBYE



In July, Family Connections bid farewell to our dear and valued colleague Carolyn Schafer. For some reason, she thought it was time for her to retire. But what does retirement mean when you live on a 250 acre farm? Her husband, pictured with her at April's There's No Place like Home Dance, thinks it means she'll have more time to bounce across the fields on the tractor or hold something-or-other in place while he hammers, saws, or drills. Carolyn envisions sitting on her patio in the morning, drinking coffee and staring off into the wild, green yonder. It's early days yet, so we don't know how it's going, but we wish her the very best.

Carolyn worked for Family Connections for 10 years, but she has been a good friend to this agency for better than 20 years. Carolyn guided our decision making in human resources, facilitated the accreditation process on two separate occasions, wrote and updated administrative policies, chaired the staffing and program committee, and was critical in helping Family Connections develop a fund development mission and vision. She is a woman of many talents and interests. We hope she's getting her morning cuppa Joe, especially if she's going to be on the tractor later.

## WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Family Connections Board of Directors welcomed back former board member Bernice Pitcock and welcomed new member Sally Greathouse. After an absence of two years, Bernice returned to the board after her recent retirement. Bernice and her husband Gary live in Weirton. Sally, along with her husband Bill, owns Greathouse Realty with offices in Weirton and Chester. In addition to Sally and Bernice, the other board members are Chris Byers, President, Jennifer Kirkbride, Vice-President, Peggy Cartus, Secretary, Katherine Shelek-Furbee, Treasurer, Joanne Dobrzanski, Executive Director Family Connections, Cathy Sobel, and Michael Palma.



## FUND DEVELOPMENT AUXILIARY NEWS

Pictured are Brenda Ice and Barbara Glaspell, members of Family Connections Fund Development Auxiliary, showing some of the many WVU items recently raffled at the Weirton Renaissance Festival. More than \$500.00 worth of sports memorabilia along with two tickets to a WVU home game were won by Michelle Burda of Weirton. Members of the Auxiliary are committed to making the community aware of our services and assist in fundraising efforts for the general operating fund of Family Connections.



### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Never Alone WV, Inc.'s** drug free rally was held on August 17th at the Weirton Event Center. Volunteers, along with staff and residents were on hand giving bottled water to participants. The Brooke Place Logo and Say No To Drug sign were on the water bottle. The rally commenced with a candlelight walk through downtown Weirton.

**Top of WV Community Resource Day** Saturday, September 7, 2013 4-8 PM Staff and Volunteers will be giving out information to those attending regarding the many services Family Connections/Brooke Place has to offer.

Members of the Auxiliary will be on hand at **New Cumberland's Riverfest** on September 28th and 29th serving hot dogs, sloppy joes, chips and a drink. If you would like to donate to or sponsor this event, please call Jean at 304-527-3303.

**Christmas In The Park**—October 12-13, Follansbee, WV. Volunteers will be selling raffle tickets for a chance to win tickets to a WVU game and sports memorabilia.

The Auxiliary is currently seeking members to assist in our fund raising events. The Auxiliary meets the fourth Thursday of each month at 6 pm. If you would like further information, please contact Jean at 304-527-3303.

### MISSION STATEMENT

*Family Connections is committed to helping individuals function to the best of their abilities by engaging the resources that exist naturally within their family and community. Interventions provided by Family Connections are theory-based and are guided by the principle that the individual is best treated within the context of their family. Family Connections is dedicated to the care, welfare, and respect of families and the individuals who comprise them.*

*family connections, inc.*

P.O. Box 348

Colliers, WV 26035

*By giving a contribution in memory of or in honor of a family member or friend, many generous people have found a way to express their caring spirit while investing in the lives of those served by Family Connections.*

***In Honor Of***

***Carolyn Schafer by Joanne Dobrzanski***

***In Memory Of***

***Stewart Pitcock by Jean & Rick Bartholow***