

Black Mountain Center

Serving Persons with Developmental Disabilities &
Persons with Alzheimer's Disease

Western Horizons

2006 – Volume 2

Gail West Honored



Congratulations to Gail West for her selection as a 2006 YWCA TWIN (Tribute to Women of Influence) Honoree. Gail was presented with this honor on March 30 at the Awards Banquet. Gail was chosen for this recognition due to her leadership achievements, her professional contributions, and her community work. Black Mountain Center is truly fortunate to have an Assistant Director who demonstrates such leadership, vision, and commitment to our mission. It is fitting that our business and professional community is taking this opportunity to recognize Gail's many talents. Congratulations, Gail!

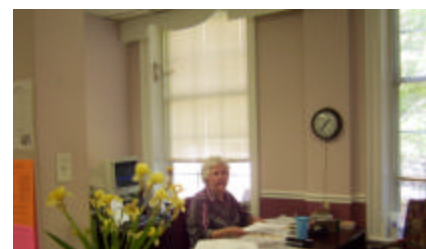
E.V. Gouge, Director of Human Resources, retired from his position at Black Mountain Center, effective May 1st. E.V. has a long and successful history in human resource management in Buncombe County. He joined BMC to direct the HR Department eleven years ago, bringing with him years of valuable experience from the private sector. His labor expertise and real world experience has been extremely valuable to the employees of Black Mountain Center. He has been an effective advocate for staff, a strong voice on the Executive Committee, and a leader for his department. As E.V. moves on to a well deserved retirement, he will be missed by the staff of BMC.

E.V. Gouge Retires



Gladys Banks, Program Department Secretary, retired effective June 1st. Gladys' ever ready smile and attention to detail will be missed. Her helpful attitude and willingness to assist others was a huge asset to the Program Department and Black Mountain Center. Congratulations, Gladys! We'll miss you!!!

Gladys Banks Retires



Employee News

Ronnie McMahan Assists with Hurricane Relief

Ronnie McMahan, Warehouse Manager, traveled to Gulfport, MS, in February to assist with Hurricane relief efforts. Ronnie traveled with the Baptist Men's Organization. The group prepared meals, three times a day, for over 250 persons. Ronnie served as the Head Chef and Stock Chief during this operation.

Rebekah Landes has joined the Resident Records Department. Rebekah has extensive experience in medical records and compilation of statistical reports.

Sharon Cole has assumed her new duties as Facility Timekeeper. Sharon previously worked as the Secretary for the Gravely I Unit and has vast experience in the area of time and shift premium.

Mynde Mull, Gravely I Unit Manager, has accepted a position as an Area Director at J. Iverson Riddle Center in Morganton. Mynde's skills and expertise will be missed. Our loss is their gain! Good Luck, Mynde!

Gravely III News: Jane Carroll, GIII Unit Manager, has announced the following new staff: **Melissa Jackson, 1st Shift HCSI; Bridgett Trammel, 1st Shift HCTII; Carrie Pulley, 2nd Shift, HCTII; and Glenda Cox, Secretary.**

Brenda Johnson, formerly of the Resident Records Department, has joined the Program Department as Secretary. Please welcome Brenda in her new role.

Shirley Shelton has assumed her duties as Secretary for the GI Unit. GI staff are please to have Shirley as a part of their team.

Kathryn Hensley, GI QDDP, has been promoted to Unit Manager for the Gravely I Unit. Kathryn's expertise and knowledge of GI procedures and residents will be a great asset to the Program Department.

Lisa Bain, RN for Gravely I, has accepted the position of RI Unit Manager. Lisa previously served in this role and the team is pleased to have her back on the unit.

Team BMC –Psychology – Participates in Relay for Life

Team BMC, you have a lot to be proud of! We raised \$2,849.71 for the American Cancer Society in our Relay for Life participation. That's a lot of lab equipment, computer time, or supportive counseling time that the American Cancer Society can now provide. We came in fourth out of 24 teams!

Thank you to all those people who dropped a dollar in the jar, bought a luminaria, or met Kay's \$50 challenge to raise that money. Thanks to Melissa for raising her bail and being such a good sport, to Executive Committee to facing up to their crimes and raising their bail, to Genny for contributing pottery to sell, to people who got - and gave - corporate sponsorships, to people who bought coffee from the pajama-clad Team Psych, to Team Psych itself for the Cheshire Triathlon, to RI for their FANTASTIC mini-Relay, to the people who came out and walked at the Relay with us, and to the people who camped overnight - or intended to, but got flooded out! And to everyone who supported this wonderful effort, with money or with smiles and thumbs-up to us.

Thanks especially to Cathy Lewis, who organized this effort and made sure it worked, it worked beautifully, and it was great fun. What great leadership!

We can add to our total through August... so if the spirit moves you, contact Cathy to make further donations. And remember the American Cancer Society at SECC time.

WELLNESS COMMITTEE

The BMC Wellness Committee continues to provide important health information to employees. The group continues efforts with the Walking Program and recently held a Legume Taste Fair emphasizing the importance of a healthy diet.



Alzheimer's Memory Walk:

I wanted to say Thank You to all that contributed to the walk. I was able to turn in over \$800 of donations that came from BMC families and staff! The walk turned out to be a fun event. Several residents from R3 and G3 were able to join us and this made for a fun day. Thanks to all the staff that helped to coordinate getting the residents out for this event. I was very proud to say that I was a part of Team BMC. To all the staff that came out and joined us - Thanks for the support.

Stephanie Watts
Team Chair

SHADES CREST BAPTIST CHURCH YOUTH CHOIR PERFORMS

The Shades Crest Baptist Church Youth Choir from Birmingham Alabama is under the direction of Tim Mann. This 70-voice choir consists of young people in grades 7-12. The choir offered a wide variety of music including a handbell choir presentation. BMC was only one concert given by the choir during their 5-state Southeastern U.S. tour. Tim Mann conducted the N.C. Baptist All State Chorus several years ago and asked to return for another concert with his current choir. The event was enjoyed by everyone!



Upcoming Events:



FIREWORKS ARE BACK! The Annual Black Mountain Center Community Independence Day Celebration is scheduled for Thursday, June 29th, beginning around 6:00 p.m. Music, food, games for the kids and Raffles! **FIREWORKS** are planned at dark. Sponsored by the Black Mountain Center Foundation. Join us for an evening of fun and fellowship!!

9th Annual Black Mountain Center Alzheimer's Conference
"Creating the Family Quilt: A Cross Cultural Approach to Alzheimer's Disease"

Keynote Speaker:

Dr. Brian Bonfardin

Tacoma Hospital Senior Care &
East Tennessee State University

Friday, August 11, 2006 – Ridgecrest Conference Center

Contact Curt Salthouse for Additional Information – 669-3174

ANNUAL GARDEN PARTY



VFW Ladies Auxiliary Post 9116

Joyce Preston (L) and Margaret Ballew (R) recently visited BMC to deliver their annual donation of Easter Eggs. The eggs were distributed to Recreation staff and residents enjoyed coloring and decorating the eggs for Easter. Thanks to Ms. Preston and Ms. Ballew and all the members of the VFW Ladies Auxiliary Post 9116 for their continued support of our programs.



Gail West, Assistant Director, accepts the donation from Joyce Preston (l) and Margaret Ballew (r).

Knights of Columbus

Members of the Knights of Columbus, St. Margaret Mary Council #13016, recently visited Black Mountain Center to present a check in the amount of \$3,483.35 to help support the services provided by the facility, and a check in the amount of \$200 to assist with Special Olympics' activities. The Knights of Columbus have provided support for persons with developmental disabilities for many years. (l-r) Dr. Rudy Valencia, Chancellor (KOC), Beth Allison, Executive Director, BMCF, Inc., George Frazier, Operation LAMB Chairman (KOC), Gail West, Assistant Director, BMC, Genny Pugh, Director, BMC, and Dan Quarles, Grand Knight of Council 13016.



VFW Ladies Auxiliary

The N.C. VFW Ladies Auxiliary visited BMC to present a very generous donation. This donation will be used to fund the "Dance Around the World" event scheduled for June 21st at BMC. Diane Trainor, far right, visits with the ladies from VFW. The Ladies Auxiliary continues to provide unselfish support to the residents of BMC.



**25th Anniversary
Swannanoa Valley Special Olympics
May 12, 2006**

