

B A R B E R

FALL 2023

SPIRIT

Shining Bright, Winter Night



Barber National Institute
Making dreams come true.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We "Make dreams come true." We provide children and adults with autism, intellectual disabilities and behavioral health challenges and their families the education, support and resources needed to be self reliant, independent and valued members of their community. In addition, we provide the professionals who serve them with world-class education and training.



Aubriella, 8 pictured with Brent Manti and Amy Cosart, gets her pedals on at Barber National Institute Bike Camp

Dear Friends,

This time of year is a time of reflection on the many special moments that have been shared among our employees, individuals, friends, and family. We look back on these past months and are filled with great hope as we continue to provide opportunities, programs, and services that so many of our individuals enjoy.

Aubriella is eight years old and learned to ride her bicycle this summer in our annual Bike Camp. Our introductory learning approach removes training wheels and pedals. She began the camp learning about the importance of bicycle safety, then practiced walking with a bike, then balancing, steering, and turning – all without pedals and training wheels. After weeks of practice and building her confidence, the moment she'd been waiting for finally arrived: GET YOUR PEDALS ON DAY. She beamed with pride as she rode for the first time.

Barber Bridgeville residents celebrated David's 54th birthday in style as they took a limo to the Cheesecake Factory. David likes to be "fancy" and chose a limo to get him to his dinner destination in style. He had the driver play oldies music so he could dance all the way there and home. He had a grand time!

Pennsylvania State Representative Jesse Topper and Representative Carl Metzgar met and visited with Barber employees and our individuals in Bedford and Somerset to learn more about the importance of our Community Participation Support and Supported Employment programs. You'll read more about the impact of these programs on the coming pages.

We awarded the first Paul T. Nelson Service Award to Barber employee Sharon Johnson. Sharon's known for her bright light and "get it done" attitude. If you see Sharon, be sure to congratulate her on this recognition.

Finally, we look forward to our annual Barber Christmas Ball hosted by the John and Colleen Bloomstine Family. And, the very next day, our individuals will enjoy the decorations, food, and dancing.

Enjoy the upcoming holiday season!

John J. Barber



David, 54, pictured second from the right, celebrates his birthday with a day of dancing with friends and enjoying the Cheesecake Factory in Pittsburgh

ON THE COVER: 2023
Ball Hosts, The John & Colleen
Bloomstine Family





Food, fellowship, and fun was had by all at the 2023 Barber National Institute Founder's Day celebrations throughout Pennsylvania.

FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATES DR. GERTRUDE A. BARBER'S LEGACY

Employees across the Barber National Institute celebrated the legacy of our late founder, Dr. Gertrude A. Barber, on Friday, September 22. We marked this occasion in celebration of her birthday which was September 16.

The world that Dr. Barber faced in 1952 held few opportunities for persons with disabilities. Schools were not required to educate children with disabilities, whose only options were to remain at home without a formal education or be sent to a

distant institution. Having a job or being a part of a community was not even considered.

Dr. Barber decided to change that. She began by working with families and retired teachers to open a single classroom for children with intellectual disabilities. Very soon, her mission would ignite a community, a region, a state. Each of our employees plays a vital role in carrying out that legacy to bring hope and opportunity to the more than 6,200 children, adults, and families we serve.

Our Barber family celebrated with music, games, art, and fellowship. Congratulations to our TV raffle winners: Kenneth Bacon (Erie), Dominique Lubaya (Pitts/Central PA), and Dayshanah Tierra (Philadelphia).



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NEW BARBER LEADERSHIP

The Barber National Institute has appointed two new senior vice presidents to its leadership team.

Bob Barber, pictured bottom right, was recently appointed senior vice president and has administrative responsibility for intellectual disability services, behavioral health services, facilities, and fleet management.

A veteran of the United States Navy, Bob began his career at the Barber National Institute as a Direct Support Professional (DSP) providing daily care for adults with intellectual disabilities. Over the years, Bob worked as a DSP in both the residential and adult day service divisions. Since that time, he has held a variety of positions within the Institute, most recently serving as Chief of Staff. Bob is a graduate of DePaul University School of Law with a Juris Doctorate and holds a degree in Business Administration from Mercyhurst University.

Patrick Barber, pictured top right, also was appointed senior vice president and has administrative responsibility for information technology, finance, human resources, governance, risk management, and compliance.

Patrick began his career at the Barber National Institute as a DSP in transitional work services and summer camp programs. He has most recently served as manager of accounting, acting controller, and vice president of treasury management for the Institute.

Patrick is a graduate of Penn State University with a Bachelor of Science in Accountancy. A Certified Public Accountant, Patrick has extensive experience in public accounting, having previously worked as a Senior Associate for Schaffner Knight Minnaugh & Company P.C. and as an advisory senior staff at the international accounting firm Crowe Horwath LLP where he specialized in Transaction Services.



Patrick and Courtney Barber say hello to the Barber Beast on Founder's Day



Bob Barber takes time to celebrate on Founder's Day



The Bloomstine Family - (L-R) Will, Peter, Jack, Elise, John, Colleen, Jill (Charlotte) and Joe invite you to join the fun for the Barber Christmas Ball

PLEASE JOIN THE

John & Colleen Bloomstine Family

FOR THE 2023 BARBER NATIONAL INSTITUTE CHRISTMAS BALL

Family is important to John and Colleen Bloomstine. It's one of the reasons they are looking forward to welcoming you to the 2023 Barber National Institute Christmas Ball as this year's host family. John and Colleen will be joined by their son Will, son Joe, daughter-in-law Jill, daughter Ellie, son Jack and son Peter-making it a true family affair!

"The Barber Ball truly is special as it brings together generations of families in support of the Barber National Institute mission. We are excited to carry on this tradition with our entire family," said Colleen Bloomstine. "We support the mission of the Barber National Institute because of its generations-long commitment to families and caring for their loved ones."

The Bloomstines are Erie natives who have a tremendous dedication to their hometown. Together, they own Insurance Management Company where their four sons also have found careers. Their daughter Ellie lives in nearby Cleveland as a Channel Account Manager for a Norwegian video technology company.

Graduates of Cathedral Prep and the former Villa Maria Academy, the Bloomstine family value community service and investment.

★ "We've been attending the Christmas Ball for many years and always have a wonderful

evening with family, friends, and coworkers. Best of all, it supports a world-class organization right here in our community and throughout Pennsylvania that really makes a difference in the lives of children and adults with intellectual disabilities and autism," said John Bloomstine.

"Dr. Barber's dream of a good life for all children and adults has been brought to reality through the love and dedication of parents, staff, volunteers, advocates, donors and community and government leaders," said John. "She believed that all things are possible if we set a goal, persevere, and put wings on our dreams."

The goal set at last year's Ball was the pool renovation project. With a floor that can be raised to deck level, wheelchairs can be rolled onto the floor and lowered in up to 4 ½ feet of water. This feature frees children to move their arms and legs without restriction. What a feeling!

"Last year, we learned about the important pool renovation project. Well, we're happy to say that we're taking our last lap and nearing the finish line. We know that water works wonders! It calms and brings joy," said Colleen. "Please consider joining our family at this year's Ball: Shining Bright, Winter Night to help us sprint to the finish of this important project."



SPECIAL OVERNIGHT PACKAGES ARE AVAILABLE FOR CHRISTMAS BALL GUESTS. ADDITIONAL ROOMS NOW AVAILABLE
AT Courtyard Marriot Hotel at 814-636-1005 by Dec. 1 for reservations.

2023 BARBER CHRISTMAS BALL

Shining Bright, Winter Night

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2023
8 P.M. - MIDNIGHT ★ DOORS OPEN AT 7 P.M.
BAYFRONT CONVENTION CENTER

Continuous music from Stiletto Fire, a dance and show band from Detroit, Michigan, and entertainment by DJ Tony B.

Guests will enjoy heavy hors d'oeuvres, tasty desserts, soft drinks and two cocktails per person (cash only bar available). Complimentary valet parking.

RESERVATIONS ARE \$95 PER PERSON.

Proceeds from the Christmas Ball will go toward the \$3 million renovation of the multi-use pool that provides therapy and recreation for children and adults at the Barber National Institute.

Please Join Us!



NO NEED FOR A WRITTEN INVITATION!
RESERVATIONS & SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AT
BARBERINSTITUTE.ORG/BALL

Thank You 2023 Sponsors!

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In Memory of Dr. Gertrude A. Barber



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Red Letter
HOSPITALITY

Joe & Rhonda Schember

WAVEPOINT

SETTING THE TABLE FOR SUCCESS

Red Letter Hospitality believes in a cycle of caring that begins with how they value and treat one another, guests, and the community.

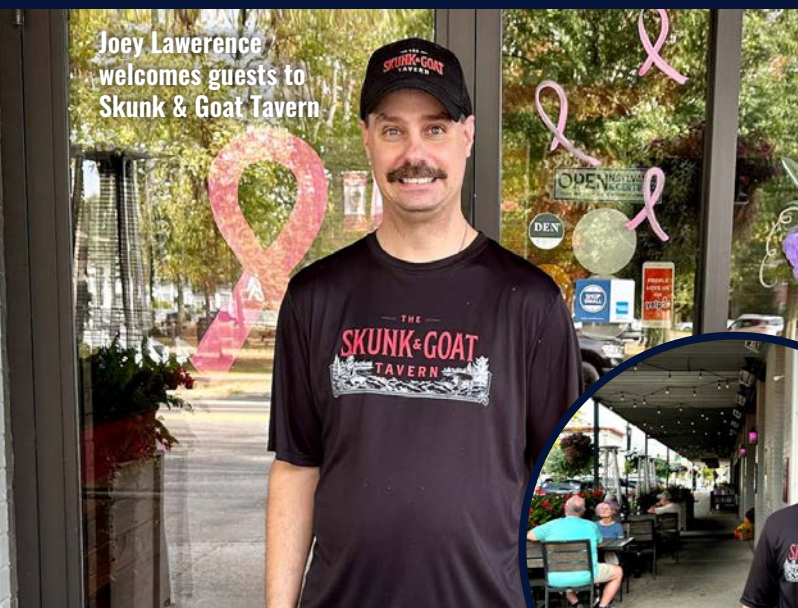
Red Letter Hospitality has partnered with the Barber National Institute for many years, beginning with its adult day programs in the early 1990s and providing individuals with paid work opportunities. The partnership then evolved to Supported Employment through vocational skill development and career exploration.

all job duties to the employer's satisfaction," said Barber National Institute Chief Officer for Intellectual Disabilities and Autism Day Services Carolyn Kontis. "They will return to the site whenever needed to assist the adult in learning new responsibilities. The goal for each supported employee is that he or she will successfully and independently maintain employment in the community."

Annē DiPillo, Red Letter Hospitality director of marketing, says the job coach adds value to the equation. "This has been a great experience for Red Letter. The Barber job coach starts as a liaison between us and the employee, easing training and adjusting to different approaches of learning and communication," said Annē. "This program has expanded our pool of reliable and enthusiastic employees. Joey and Shawn are held to the same professional standards as the rest of the team. We don't look at them as people with a disability. We make accommodations for them, as we would for any employee, as they learn and adjust to a working environment."

The Cork, a Red Letter Hospitality subsidiary, hosted several groups of children from Barber National Institute Camp Connections, a camp for children with autism. The Cork's executive chef Jason Finnerty and his wife Megan relocated to Erie from Virginia to seek services for their son with autism which were unavailable in his hometown. They developed a summer program in a field trip setting where children cut carrots, make a mocktail, fold a napkin, set a table, and enjoy a lunch together.

"Kids come and learn about a restaurant in a public setting," said Annē.



Joey Lawrence welcomes guests to Skunk & Goat Tavern



Shawn Bowman buses tables at Skunk & Goat Tavern



Barber National Institute Camp Connections campers at the Cork

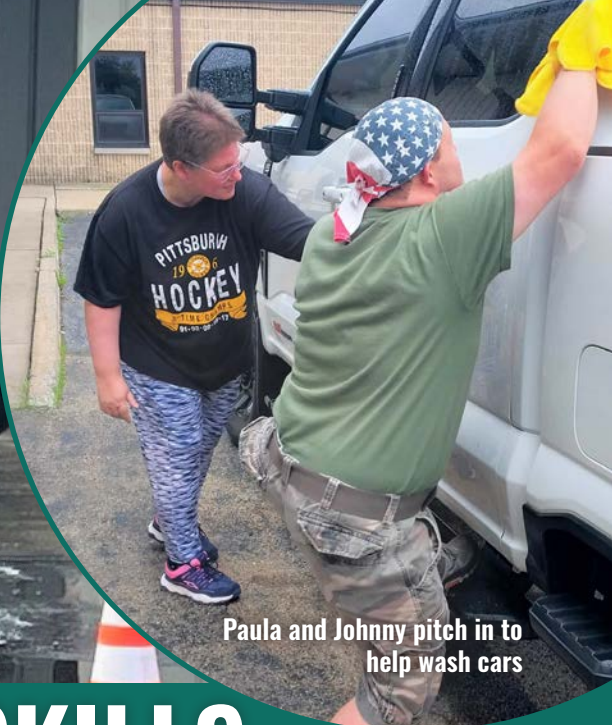
In the last 18 months, Barber National Institute job coaches have placed two individuals at Red Letter's Skunk & Goat Tavern. Joey Lawrence has been employed for over a year as a dishwasher and now, successfully maintains his employment independently of the Barber National Institute. Shawn Bowman, also a dishwasher, works alongside his Barber National Institute job coach and has diversified his skills to include catering services.

The Barber National Institute's Supported Employment program provides a range of services to ensure a good match for both the adult seeking employment and the prospective employer. Hiring adults with intellectual disabilities can be a winning business formula. "The adults work side-by-side with highly trained professionals, remaining at the worksite until the new employee performs



Red Letter
HOSPITALITY

Red Letter Hospitality is owned by Billy and Beth Lewis. Beth, a long-time Barber supporter, will chair this year's Ladies Only Luncheon on Saturday, November 18 at The Kahkwa Club in Erie, PA. This annual luncheon has become an Erie tradition that supports the services for children at the Barber National Institute. "We are so blessed to have the Barber Center in our community. They are known throughout the region and the country as a reliable resource for so many," said Beth. "I am proud to serve as this year's Ladies Only Luncheon chair."



Paula and Johnny pitch in to help wash cars

CAR WASH TEACHES SKILLS, BUILDS CONFIDENCE

Learning how to wash a car is a task usually learned as a child, or at least by the time a person reaches his or her teens. For adults who attend Barber National Institute Somerset Campus, washing a car is one of the life lessons being taught through the Community Participation Support program.

"Adults with intellectual disabilities become more involved in their community through activities that interest them and work towards a variety of goals including experiencing meaningful community participation and inclusion and increasing the potential for employment," said Barber National Institute Central Region Day Services Manager Andrew Rupp.

Barber National Institute Program Specialist Jessica Borosky ran with the idea of a car wash and bake sale. She encouraged staff and individuals to brainstorm and come up with a plan to host a community car wash.

"In discussion with our program staff, individuals expressed an interest in life skills such as lawn care, snow removal, house cleaning, baking, and washing cars. Preparation included involvement of the staff and individuals every step of the way. We agreed on expectations, duties, and how to effectively reach the public," said Jessica. "Individuals assisted with creating signs to hang in town, handing out flyers to local businesses, bagging and selling baked goods, and setting up and closing the day. Each participant was given an assigned task for the day from handling cash to washing/drying cars or handling bake sale transactions."

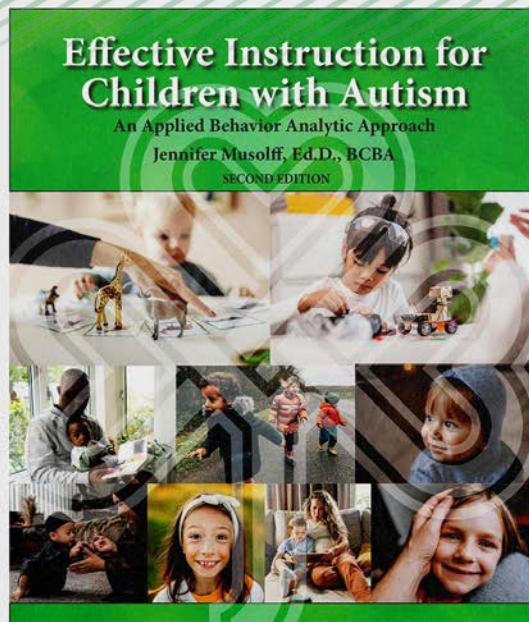
The car wash involved nearly 25 individuals and staff who created signs, shopped for supplies, baked treats, set up tables, and washed cars. "On the day of the event, we washed dozens of cars and so appreciated the support from the community. Some knew our individuals personally and would get out of the car and give them a big hug."

According to Jessica, the desired result of the Community Participation Support program is for the individual to develop and sustain a range of valuable social skills and relationships. By fulfilling a necessary role, individuals are building resources, having new experiences, and increasing independence.

"The most impactful part of the car wash was the sense of accomplishment. It was truly amazing to witness the individual's dedication and determination," said Jessica. "They deserve the opportunity to feel needed in a way they may not often feel due to their disabilities. I am so grateful that we could make this happen for our individuals."



Isaiah, Susan and Tammy collect money for the Bake Sale



Barber National Institute

SECOND EDITION AUTISM MANUAL PROVIDES HOPE AND HELP

Disease Control estimated that 1:88 children have autism. The prevalence of autism continues to rise and is 1:36 in 2023.

“The incidence of autism has increased and there are numerous discussions and controversies on the causes of autism,” said Barber National Institute Executive Vice President Maureen Barber-Carey, Ed.D. “We know so much more today than we knew in 2007 and more than in the mid-1990s when the Barber National Institute began its programming for persons with autism. Most people know someone with autism – they are in your neighborhood, attend your church, or work beside you. It’s important to know the strengths and challenges of a person with autism.”

The Barber National Institute’s second edition of “Effective Instruction For Children With Autism: An Applied Behavior Analytic Approach” includes more recent resources, references, and additional information on how there have been changes in the field over the past 16 years since the first publication of the book in 2007.

“I have seen hundreds of children, who are nonverbal as three-year-olds, have successful careers as an adult. Our mission with the manual is to take the knowledge of Barber National Institute’s experts and spread that knowledge and expertise nationally and internationally,” said Dr. Barber-Carey.

Autism spectrum disorder is a condition related to brain development that impacts how a person perceives and socializes with others and can cause problems in social interaction and communication. The disorder also includes limited and repetitive patterns of behavior. If you know one person with autism, you know one person with autism. Because it is a spectrum disorder, there is a wide range of symptoms and severity.

If you were to Google the word autism, more than 243,000,000 results will come up in 0.47 seconds. If you were to Google “autism treatments”, approximately 162,000,000 results show up in 1.09 seconds. The treatment options are endless, and for someone who is not sure how to evaluate all the approaches, or who does not understand the key elements to look for when selecting a treatment option, it can become very overwhelming.

Since autism is a global disorder, it is critical to identify appropriate and effective interventions for children with autism. In 2008, the Centers for

When a child is diagnosed with a disability (including autism), there is an added urgency for information. Families are often hurtled at full speed into a world of technical jargon, an army of professionals with many philosophical perspectives, a whirlwind of opinions from family and friends, and an avalanche of paperwork. At the center of this firestorm is the child.

Parents find themselves desperate for answers to questions such as: “What will her life be like?” “Will she be happy?” “Who can help us do the best we can for our child?” Caring and committed teachers and professionals feel a similar desire for answers because they share the responsibility of providing the child with the skills and experiences that will lead to the highest quality of life possible. As a result, a furious search begins to gather as much information as possible.

With a focus on techniques based solely on Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), the manual serves as a general guide and an outline of step-by-step programming. This guide is designed to help parents and professionals meet the child at his or her current skill level and build a foundation of skills for future growth and development. As such, it has been a tool for colleges and universities preparing thousands of students to teach children with autism, as well as educators and behavioral staff now on the front lines.

Author Jennifer Musolff, Ed.D, BCBA explains essentially, ABA, is a method used to improve or change specific behaviors. This technique is often



used to help children improve their social skills, communication patterns, fine motor skills, grooming, and academic skills. Treatment approaches based on ABA also have been used to help individuals improve their job proficiency and learn simple skills like maintaining a clean and organized room.

Dr. Musolff wants families to know that this manual is a way to share knowledge.

“I think it’s important for parents to realize that we are in this for the long run- we are here with them – to support them. Families feel alone and they don’t know where to go or who to turn to. I firmly believe that all children can make progress and achieve their goals when they are taught in an effective and efficient way.”

Preview chapters of “Effective Instruction For Children With Autism” by scanning the below QR code.



***Don't face
autism alone.***

**SCAN THE QR CODE TO
ORDER THIS LIFE-CHANGING GUIDING TOOL
FOR CHILDREN WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM
DISORDERS.**

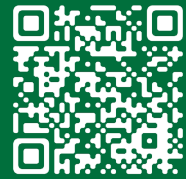
Thank You Erie Gives Donors!



Donors jumped right into Erie Gives 2023, helping us blow our goal out of the water! A special thanks to the 297 generous donors who contributed a total of \$ 131,647.82 along with the sponsor match during Erie Gives on Aug. 8. All proceeds from Erie Gives will really make a splash by helping to get our pool renovation project underway.

The Barber National Institute pool has been a resource for our entire community for more than 40 years and now needs renovations and updates to ensure it will be here for generations to come. We couldn't do it without you! Donors are helping us provide updates to the pool as well as renovations that will make the locker rooms and changing areas more spacious and increase handicap accessibility.

The pool has been emptied and preparations are underway for construction to begin in late fall.



**KEEP MAKING A
DIFFERENCE &
DONATE TODAY.**



Architectural rendering of pool renovation project courtesy of Weber Murphy Fox



Staff and students enjoying the pool pre-renovation

Special appreciation to the following donors who made a gift during Erie Gives:

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Team Noah's Little Engines That Can celebrate completion of the Beast on the Bay

A DECADE OF CROSSING THE FINISH LINE TOGETHER: NOAH'S LITTLE ENGINES THAT CAN

Obstacle course races and mud runs have increased in popularity in the past decade, but, there's only one event in the country that has an adapted course for adults with intellectual disabilities and a finish line that coincides with a 10-mile challenge, as the two courses meet up for a final obstacle and participants cross the finish line together.

And, that event is the Barber Beast on the Bay in Erie, PA which marked its 10th anniversary on Saturday, Sept. 9, 2023.

"We started the Barber Beast on the Bay 10 years ago, as a visible example of our belief that all people must be afforded every opportunity to attain the greatest use of their potential," reflected Barber National Institute President and Chief Executive Officer John Barber. "This is one of the things that is so special about our event and something that participants say is gratifying about our finish. It really speaks to how everyone is striving to overcome obstacles and enables us to celebrate all those achievements together."

All participants have their own reasons for competing, but for one first-time group, it's more than just an obstacle course.

Angela Hoopsick spent a year training for her first Beast on the Bay and lost over 100 pounds in the process. Many participants may compete to see if they can finish all the challenges, but Angela competed in honor of her late son, Noah. And her team's name is "Noah's Little Engines That Can".

As Angela explained, "You think you're getting one thing when you're pregnant with your child and then you arrive at a destination. You know, when you have a special needs child, that's just a little different than what you would have thought. But it's still beautiful. It's unknown. It's scary, and uncertain at times. For me, the Beast is just very symbolic of overcoming obstacles. You might be scared. You might not know what's coming. It's big, it's hard. But you can still do things with joy."

Angela's son, Noah was born with special needs and spent most of his life in the hospital and getting support from the Barber National Institute until he passed away at age two in 2019.

"After completing the Beast, physically I feel a little beaten and battered. But mentally, I feel on top of the world. This race reminds me of Noah's life and my own life. Each obstacle showed each person's different strengths and how each person handled things. I truly believe that each person on our team became a team member for a specific reason- nothing was happenstance," said Angela. "I think we needed each other. Many of the team members, and others I met, reminded me of the same characteristics my little boy Noah had during his challenges – courageous, brave, bold, joyful, fierce, and strong."

The Barber Beast on the Bay event stands out for many as an event that connects diverse people around a common cause. Participants encourage each other



ER
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Y

Angela Hoopsick tackles a Beast on the Bay obstacle

and unite through shared experiences. "The energy on the course was amazing- from bag check to the bus drivers to the finish line – someone was hyping us up."

For Angela and her team, the Barber Beast on the Bay was both a learning and growing experience. "Right before the start, the sun shined so brightly. It had been so gloomy all morning and the shining sun was a sign to me that it would be a great day! Along the course, I kept noticing a butterfly -almost like it was racing with me. I truly believe these were signs of Noah – telling me to keep going in the hardest parts- the butterfly would just appear," recalls Angela. "At one nutrition stop, the butterfly LITERALLY landed on me."

Team Noah's Little Engines That Can surrounded by family and friends



TIRED OF TALKING ABOUT IT? BE ABOUT IT!

WHATEVER THE REASON, YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS THE 2024 BARBER BEAST ON THE BAY.

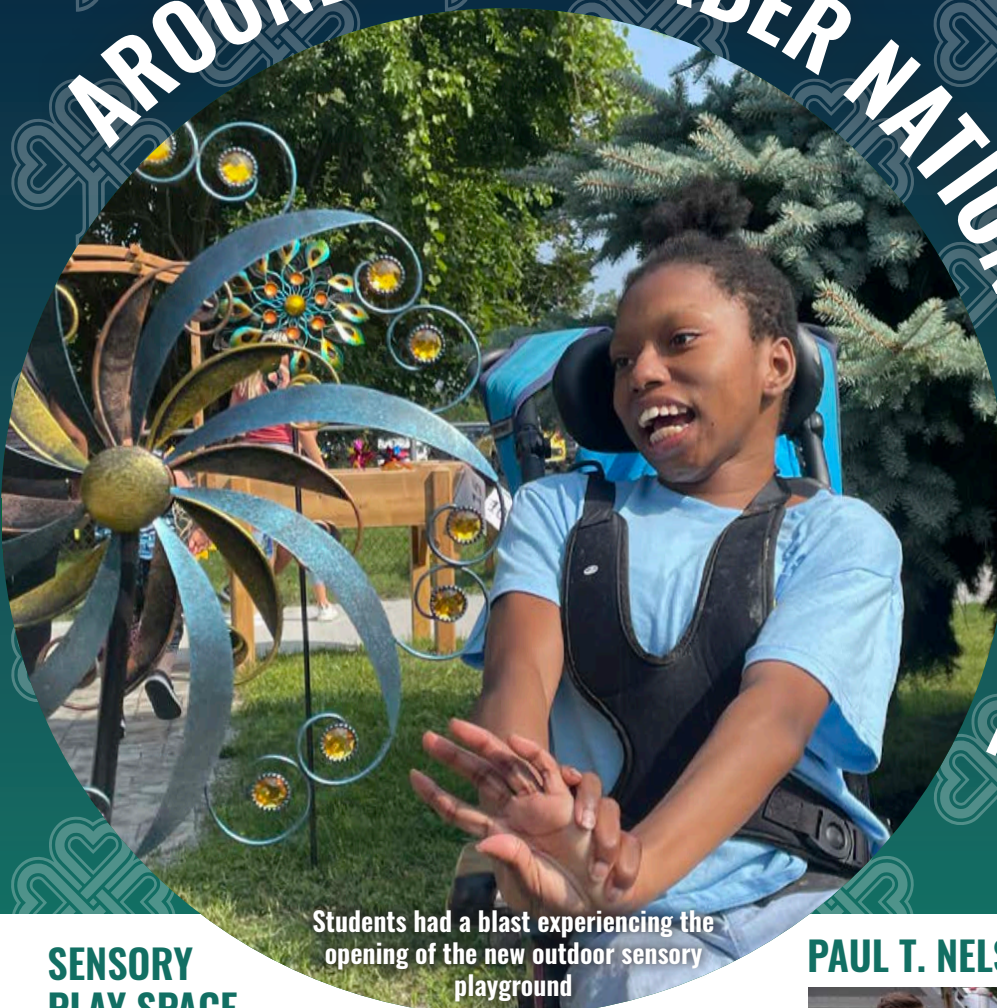
IT'S THE PERFECT TIME TO SIGN UP!
REGISTRATION IS JUST \$100 THROUGH MAY 31.

SEPTEMBER 7, 2024
PRESQUE ISLE STATE PARK

WWW.TINYURL.COM/2024BEAST

 **2024**
REGISTRATION

AROUND THE BARBER NATIONAL INSTITUTE



Students had a blast experiencing the opening of the new outdoor sensory playground

SENSORY PLAY SPACE RIBBON CUTTING AT ELIZABETH LEE BLACK SCHOOL

Barber National Institute Elizabeth Lee Black School students cut the official red ribbon on the completion phase of its sensory play space funded by a \$39,000 grant from Erie Insurance through Pennsylvania's Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program. This space was created knowing the unique needs of the students as well as the desire to create outdoor sensory and play opportunities that were not previously available. It's important the students experience this new outdoor space using as many senses as possible, so a bird feeder, wind chimes and spinners, bubble tubes, outdoor play kitchen and utensils, steppingstones, and many more items were incorporated. Each classroom also will have its own raised garden bed and the ability to plant, water, and cultivate a flower, vegetable, or herb of their choosing.

SOAKING UP SUMMER

It was a busy summer for children and adults this summer as they entertained us with their vast talents, made a float for a parade and enjoyed picnics and lemonade. Some of us even celebrated our birthday on a Pirate Ship! It makes us so happy to see everyone enjoying their community.



Over 180 Barber employees and individuals enjoyed a day at PNC Park cheering on the Pittsburgh Pirates

A DAY AT PNC PARK

Over 180 Barber employees and individuals spent the afternoon at PNC Park rooting for the Pittsburgh Pirates on Thursday, Aug. 10. The Barber National Institute was honored to be recognized as the "nonprofit of the game"!

PAUL T. NELSON SERVICE AWARD



(L-R) Robert Barber, John Barber, Sharon Johnson, Gary Johnson, the BEAST and Bridget Barber at Beast on the Bay

The Barber National Institute has established the Paul T. Nelson Service Award to annually recognize a Barber employee who goes above and beyond to lend a hand, volunteer, and support the events and activities of Barber. This year, the award was given to Sharon Johnson who joined the Barber family in 1995. Sharon is a bright light and is known for her cheery disposition and "get the job done" attitude. She serves the Barber National Institute with pride and love in her heart for our individuals. Some say she owns the keys to the castle, so to speak –as she knows Barber as well as anyone! She is not fond of public recognition and lends a hand, often behind the scenes, to get the job done. Sharon and her husband Gary - volunteer for countless Barber events – often early morning shifts that are hard to fill – weekends – and jobs that aren't very glamorous.

Thank you Sharon!

HONORING DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS DURING NATIONAL “DSP WEEK”

Barber National Institute celebrated the nationally recognized Direct Support Professionals Week, September 10 through 16. Direct Support Professionals – or DSPs – are caregivers specifically trained to care for individuals with developmental disabilities and autism. At Barber National Institute, a nonprofit organization, 800 DSPs provide care for 1100 individuals with developmental disabilities. Thank you DSPs!



Our Philadelphia Direct Support Professionals enjoyed fellowship, fun and food throughout the week as we thank them for all they do every day

BARBER PRESENTS AT 20TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE FOR DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS

Barber Chief Risk and Compliance Officer Jennifer Kennedy and Certified Behavior Analyst Jennifer Musolff, Ed.D., BCBA spoke at the Alliance for Community Service Providers annual conference for direct support professionals in Philadelphia in October. Topics covered were “Building Teamwork through Communication” and “Evidence-Based practices for children with autism and intellectual disabilities putting the pieces of the puzzle together”.

BARNHART GIVES ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF OUTING

The 2023 Barnhart Gives Charity Golf outing was a remarkable event that demonstrated unwavering support for both the Barber National Institute and Shriners Children Erie. Through the collective efforts of generous participants, sponsors, and volunteers, this event managed to raise an impressive \$70,132.16, providing vital assistance to the children and families these organizations serve. It’s worth noting that Barnhart Transportation’s enduring partnership with the Barber National Institute exemplifies its commitment to making a lasting and positive impact on the community.



Barnhart Transportation employees present Bob Barber with over \$35,000 at this year’s Barnhart Gives



Elizabeth Lee Black School students loved drumming and making music

DRUMMING AND DISABILITIES WORKSHOP FOR EDUCATORS

National speaker Jim Donovan visited the Elizabeth Lee Black School to share the healing power of music through education and performance. Jim is a professional musician, trainer, Assistant Professor and Director of Music and Wellness at Saint Francis University and TEDx speaker.

He specializes in placing music and wellness programs in organizations that focus on people with disabilities and people recovering from addiction.

Having presented over 3000+ rhythm and sound-based programs since 1999, Jim works internationally facilitating music and wellness events with a wide variety of populations including corporations, universities, people with disabilities, and people recovering from addiction.

SUNNY DAY CAMP WITH PENNSYLVANIA STATE POLICE



PA State Police Troopers hosted Sunny Day Camp with Barber National Institute Corry campus individuals

This unique concept called Sunny Day Camp, was the vision of a Pennsylvania State Trooper, Samantha Minnucci, in 2016 to promote good relations between police and children/adults of special needs. Cpl. Minnucci wanted a program where no one would be left out of learning about the law-enforcement agencies that serve their community. This was inspired by the Trooper’s youngest brother, Gabriel Minnucci with special needs. Individuals from Barber’s Corry, PA campus attended this event and had a great time!

BARBER SPIRIT

Barber Spirit is a quarterly publication for friends of the
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Upcoming Events

BARBER CHRISTMAS BALL

Saturday, Dec. 9, 2023 ★ Bayfront Convention Center

ADULT SERVICES CHRISTMAS DANCE

(funded in part by donors to the Dr. Gertrude A. Barber Foundation)

Sunday, Dec. 10, 2023 ★ Bayfront Convention Center

JAY & MONA KANG ART SHOW & SALE

Call for entries ★ February 22-24

Donor Debut & Artist Reception

In-Person & Virtual Art Show

North Complex & On-Line ★ April 4-8

SHILLELAGH GOLF TOURNAMENT

June 20, 2024 ★ Whispering Woods Golf Course

ERIE GIVES DAY

Tuesday, August 6, 2024

BARBER BEAST ON THE BAY

Saturday, Sept. 7, 2024 ★ Presque Isle State Park

LADIES ONLY LUNCHEON

Saturday, Nov. 16, 2024 ★ Kahkwa Club

*Learn more &
save-the-dates!*



**BARBERINSTITUTE.ORG/
EVENTS**

Many sponsorship levels are
available to support these
fundraisers and the mission of
the Barber National Institute.
For more information, contact:

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