April/May 2012

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### **BUZZ News**

# Washer Tournament Anyone???

When: May 19<sup>th</sup>, 11am until 6pm

Where: Tiemeyer Park 3311 Ashby Rd, St. Ann, MO

Cost: \$20 before May 1<sup>st</sup> (\$25 after May 1<sup>st</sup>) for all you can eat and drink while you play.
\$10 to watch, eat and drink

Why? To benefit Action for Autism! BIS is hosting this event for this wonderful St. Louis non-profit organization that assists families in finding and funding services for their loved ones with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

Teams of 2 will compete for the title and a great prize. Sign up with a coworker, friend, loved one, or client! Bring some friends to play against or to cheer you on!

There will also be a silent auction and musical entertainment.

So far, we have received donations from Hilton St. Louis at the Ballpark, the 360 Group, and many more local businesses. Middendorf Meats and O'Fallon Brewery have graciously agreed to be our food and beer sponsors for the event—it's sure to be a super great time!

Register online at http://behaviorinterventionservices. com/washers-tournamentregistration

#### BIS Employee BBQ

Brat burgers, potluck, volleyball and tornado sirens, OH MY! The BIS Employee Appreciation BBQ was held at Shaw Park on Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>. Despite the rain, BIS employees enjoyed volleyball, honed their



washer skills, and ate wonderful food like homemade tie-dye cupcakes, whipped cream fruit salad, and cheesy hash brown casserole. Berly ran karaoke, Matt Thielemier and Dean Wright manned the BBQ, and a very happy birthday song was sang to Lindsey Brefeld. BIS families did not shy away from dancing and singing off-key while Saturday's storm rolled in. It was an event to remember as the sirens let everyone know that it was time to go home. Thank you Kim for hosting and Lynn for planning!

#### Tree of Appreciation

As a part of continuously trying to improve and expand our ways of showing BIS employees how much they



mean to the agency, there is a Tree of Appreciation at the entrance to the office! The tree features



white boards in frames that are updated weekly with Employee of the Week nominations. This

way *everyone* who comes into the office can see what wonderful things employees are doing out in the field and around the office.

#### Future Dr. In the House!

Meghan Halbrook announced that she will be entering the Sport and Exercise Psychology Program at West Virginia University to get her Ph. D in August. She will also be obtaining a Master's degree in Counseling while there. This is a 3-4 year





program, and Meghan's end goal is to be a professor at a university.

Meghan was also published in The Journal of Sport Behavior. Her article is called "Relationships Among Motivation, Gender, and Cohesion in a Sample of Collegiate Athletes." **Way to go!** 

#### Blog'n with BIS

#### Written By Nick Hogan

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Late last year BIS started a blog on the Behavior Intervention Services website. The goal of the blog is to keep parents and employees informed about what's going on at Behavior Intervention Services as well as industry news and developments.

"Getting the blog up and running is really just a small part of our strategy to maintain contact with both clients and caregivers. The BIS Facebook page is another convenient place to find out what's going on and what important information parents and PCAs need to have" says Nick Hogan, a PCA regularly posting on the blog. "We're also working on an email list and regularly using that to get information out. I know parents and PCAs both have enough spam in their inboxes and we don't want to add to that, so we'll temper the frequency of our emails to critical items only."

We strongly encourage comments on both the blog and our Facebook page. In addition to that we welcome guest blog posts from parents, industry experts or any other interested parties. The more discussion and discourse in these online avenues the easier information flows and the more informed everyone is.

Check out the blog at http://behaviorinterventionservices.com/blog.

Find us on Facebook at http://www.facebook.com/BehaviorInterventionServices
For more information please contact NHogan@behaviorinterventionservices.com



### 📄 Android & iPad for Autism

WebTeam Corp. now offers a new series of apps for Android, Tablet, & kiosk users that are specially designed for individuals with autism. The apps have been carefully designed based on ABA interventions. Below is a list of the apps offered. Take a look. These apps may be of great use with clients and other children who benefit from using touch screen technology to learn and communicate.

For further inquiries, please contact:
WebTeam Corporation, 370 Campus Drive Suite 103, Somerset, NJ 088736
www.webteamcorp.com www.colorsacademy.com www.shanesh.com



Color Find
Let your child learn
to recognize colors
using this app...



Shapes
Let your child learn
to recognize
different shapes such
as Triangle, Square,
and more...



Multiply Me
Let your child practice
and learn
multiplication skill
using this app...



Spell Me
Let your child learn
spelling in an
interactive way...



Digital Time This app lets your child learn concept of time using digital time display...



My Words
This app helps your
children learn their
first words with touch
of finger...

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## **Employee News**

## **BIS Anniversaries!**

| Lynn Brook          | 5/20/2006 |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Melissa Atis        | 5/16/2008 |
| Wes Brown           | 5/18/2009 |
| Sarah Dunn          | 5/25/2010 |
| Stacey White        | 5/10/2011 |
| Denise Pachlhofer   | 5/19/2011 |
| Elizabeth Robertson | 5/19/2011 |
| Kylie Holtmeier     | 5/19/2011 |
| Kristin Robinson    | 5/19/2011 |



"All your hard work and your effort, the drive that has brought you this far, were more than just making a living... they've made you the wonderful person you are, who's a real pleasure to work with." Congratulations!

#### **Employee Promotion!**

Full Name: Stacey White **Birthdate:** 07/23/90 Where are you from? Edwardsville IL **Education?** I received my undergraduate degree in Communication Disorders. I



plan to attend SLU in the fall to receive my Master Degree in Applied Behavior Analysis. What is your new role at BIS? QDDP- House

Manager

What are you looking forward to most with this promotion? I am excited to assist my consumers in their upcoming transition. It's going to be fun helping them take the next big step in their lives.

**Favorite thing about BIS?** 

The consumers! They help me leave work most days with a smile on my face.

Welcome to the ISL Department!

PCA Lisa Brown will be marrying Doug Weidman on May 26th, 2012! They will move to San Antonio, TX where Doug is a UAV pilot for the US Air Force.



PCA Raquita Glover will be marrying Christopher Williams on May 4, 2012. They will honeymoon at Panama City Beach.



ledding Bliss

Beth Pinkley 5/2 Lauren Roberts 5/3 Damian Pierce 5/4 Jackie Kline 5/9 Tori Newman 5/10 Annette Prater 5/15 Amy Laemmli 5/16 Fanta Lamin 5/16 John Goldkamp 5/19 Shenika Farr 5/20 Lauren Kaeser 5/24 Jennifer Floyd 5/28 Christopher Inman 5/29 Jordan Kulage 5/29

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### **BIS Employee of the Week**

| Week      | PCA             | ISL            |  |
|-----------|-----------------|----------------|--|
| 4/6/2012  | Lauren Hediger  | Brittany Thorn |  |
| 4/13/2012 | Debby Scheafer  | Ryan Minor     |  |
| 4/20/2012 | Lindsey Brefeld | David Taylor   |  |

## It's A Girl!

PCA Kristen Anderson
welcomed her baby girl
Carissa Marie into the world
on March 27 at 12:01am.
She was 5lb 15oz §
19 1/2 inches long.
Congratulations
Kristen!



### **Employee of the Month**

**Karen Beck** was nominated on 4/26 by Staffing Coordinator, **Brittany Thorn** for picking up a shift at the Hazelwood ISL at the last minute! Karen has been with the agency since March of 2009. In her time here at BIS she has served as an integral part of many Natural Home and ISL teams as well as worked as part time office staff. Her positive attitude and willingness to help out her teammates earns her numerous nominations per month from her supervisors and coworkers alike and we are proud to announce her as April's Employee of the Month!

### **Human Resources**

**New position at BIS!** The PCA Floater position is a part-time or full-time hourly position that has a starting pay rate of \$12.00 per hour. A FPCA will assist and support a variety of clients in regard to age, functionality and Behavior Support Plans. Possible FPCA's have proven to be responsible, reliable and dependable employees. They have shown effective time management skills, exceptional communication skills and a strong knowledge of the Personal Care Assistant/Direct Support Staff position. A FPCA's schedule will vary from week to week, depending on staffing needs, emergency situations and any other issues that may arise as it pertains to meeting the clients' needs



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More exciting news about the great changes we are making within BIS! **Beginning May 1, 2012**, we will be opening up full time positions to individuals whom are currently meeting a minimum of 37 hours per week.

#### **Break Down of Hours:**

Part time employees (paid hourly): minimum of 10 hours per week, maximum of 36 hours per week Positions include – PCA's, PCA Floaters (FPCA)

**Full time employees** (paid hourly): minimum of 37 hours per week, maximum of 40 hours per week *Position include – PCA's, PCA Floaters (FPCA), Office Assistants* 

**Full time employees** (salaried): minimum of 40 hours per week, no exceptions *Positions include – ISL Lead Staff (LPCA), QDDP's, Staffing Coordinators, Supervisors/Directors.* 

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## **Client Events**



Jessica Deimeke – May 17<sup>th</sup> from Southview

Kelly Schmitt - May 17th from Southview

## Prom!

Dressing up and dancing the night away... Kelli Null & Savannah Politte celebrated Prom on April 26<sup>th</sup>.





Snap'n photos before the big night. Look how pretty they look!

PCA Raquita Glover and PCA Trainer Melissa Atis dancing with the girls.

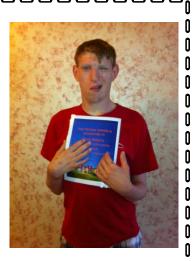
Ryan Martin received a volunteer award from Ranken Jordan. He has been recognized for completing 62 hours of work. Join us in congratulating him on a job well done!

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### Art Club

**Who:** Individuals with Developmental Disabilities **What:** Painting, collages, paper mache, clay, etc. **When:** Every Wednesday 11am-12pm or 4:30-5:30pm

Where: BIS Office

Cost: \$25 for 8 weeks, or \$3 per week.

\*\*\*New 8-week session begins May 16<sup>th</sup>!\*\*\*

Contact: Beck Swendig,

rswendig@behaviorinterventionservices.com

### Glee Club

Who: Individuals with Developmental Disabilities
What: Sing, dance & play instruments along with fun &

popular music!

When: Every Thursday 12:30-1:30pm or 5:00-6:00pm

Where: BIS Office

Cost: Free

Contact: Meghan Halbrook, 314-395-9375,

mhalbrook@behaviorinterventionservices.com

### **Fun With Fitness**

**Who:** Individuals with Developmental Disabilities **What:** A variety of fun games and activities that will promote fitness and an overall healthy lifestyle. Staff and clients will learn the importance of stretching and proper technique, teamwork and good sportsmanship.

When: Every Tuesday 5:00-6:00pm May 15<sup>th</sup> – September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Where: Stacy Park, Old Bonhomme Road, Olivette, MO

63132

Cost: Free

Contact: Gina Noble, 314-780-5887

gnoble@behaviorinterventionservices

Each class will be an hour in length. The class is once a week for 5 months and free for both clients and staff. We highly encourage every client to be assisted by a staff member during each class. The sign-up sheets and registration forms have been sent out, but you may also contact Gina or Beck for registration packets. Be on the look-out for more information about this opportunity to have fun and get fit on our website and in our blog!

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## **Out and About**

#### Things to Do This Month:

Stingrays at Caribbean Cove Exhibit - April 20, 2012 - September 30, 2012 @ The Saint Louis Zoo. Visitors can watch, touch and occasionally feed these gentle and fascinating ocean creatures as they glide through a tropical saltwater habitat. Designed for hands-on, safe family fun, the 17,000-gallon pool is designed for easy navigation by cownose, southern stingrays and horseshoe crabs.

Warhol's Polaroids: A Method Exhibit - April 27, 2012 - June 10, 2012 @ The Saint Louis University Museum of Art. The exhibition features Polaroids and black and white photographs from the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts.

**33rd Annual St. Louis Storytelling Festival** - May 2, 2012 - May 5, 2012 @ Various Venues.

http://www.stlstorytellingfestival.org for venues and times. Professional storytellers from across the nation tell many fun & exciting tales.

17th Annual St. Louis Microfest - May 4, 2012 - May 5, 2012 @ Upper Muny Parking Lot in Forest Park. A St. Louis premiere craft beer tasting festival. The event features over 80 craft beers and 50 international beers along with live music, homebrew competition, brewers' Olympics and more. 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. (May 4); 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. (May 5). http://www.stlmicrofest.org

Star Trek First Friday - May 4, 2012 @ Saint Louis Science Center in Forest Park. A special evening rate, participate in a Public Telescope Viewing outside the Planetarium, take in unique activities throughout the museum and top off your evening with a free showing of a Star Trek movie or episode in the OMNIMAX Theatre.

http://www.slsc.org, (314) 289-4400 or (800) 456-SLSC

Cinco de Mayo St. Louis - Saturday, May 5, 2012 @ Cherokee Antique Row, 11:00 a.m. – 9:30 p.m. Over 15 bands performing, authentic food and drinks, arts and crafts, street entertainment and a People's Joy Parade at 1:11 p.m. starting at Minnesota and Cherokee. The parade will feature midnight minstrels, Gigante puppeteers, art cars, bike brigades, moving installation artists, Elvis impersonators, and more.



#### **Donate to Action for Autism!**

We are on the hunt for generous individuals/businesses to make a tax-deductible donation for the Washer Tournament. Any business/individual that donates goods or monetary contributions at the \$250-\$499 level will be sponsoring a washer box and will have their logo placed at said box and be entered to win a weeklong stay at Beaver Creek Lodge. Any contributor at the \$500-\$999 level will be sponsoring a table under the pavilions and be entered into the drawing as well. Any contributor at the \$1,000+ level will be sponsoring one of the 3 pavilions, where their merchandise/logo will be displayed. We will also give two admission wristbands to contributors at any level for representatives to come enjoy the event!

Contact Brittany Thorn at 314-395-9375 or bthorn@behaviorinterventionservices.com if you or someone you know would like to contribute to the cause!

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| Sunday        | Monday   | Tuesday                                  | Wednesday                                       | Thursday                                 | Friday  | Saturday                                 |
|---------------|--|--|---|--|---------|--|
|               |  | 1  | 2<br>Art Club<br>11am-12pm<br>4:30-5:30pm       | 3<br>Glee Club<br>12:30-1:30pm<br>5-6pm  | 4       | 5  |
| 6             | 7  | 8  | 9<br>Art Club<br>11am-12pm<br>4:30-5:30pm       | 10<br>Glee Club<br>12:30-1:30pm<br>5-6pm | Pay Day | 12                                       |
| Mother's Day! | New Time Sheets Due by Midnight!               | 15 Fun with Fitness 5pm – 6pm Stacy Park | 16 Art Club 11am-12pm 4:30-5:30pm *New Session! | 17<br>Glee Club<br>12:30-1:30pm<br>5-6pm | 18      | BIS Washer Tournament!  Armed Forces Day |
| 20            | 21   | Fun with Fitness 5pm – 6pm Stacy Park    | 23<br>Art Club<br>11am-12pm<br>4:30-5:30pm      | 24<br>Glee Club<br>12:30-1:30pm<br>5-6pm | Pay Day | 26                                       |
| 27            | New Time Sheets Due by Midnight!  Memorial Day | 29 Fun with Fitness 5pm – 6pm Stacy Park | 30<br>Art Club<br>11am-12pm<br>4:30-5:30pm      | 31<br>Glee Club<br>12:30-1:30pm<br>5-6pm |         |  |