

14th Annual Friends Aware Ox Roast

Friends Aware held its 14th Annual Ox Roast on June 17, 2011 at the Ali Ghan Shrine Club Picnic Grounds. Over 800 tickets were sold for the event. Guests enjoyed the all-you-can-eat barbecued beef, sausage, salads, soda, draft beer, and Rita's Ice. Acoustic entertainment was provided by Jim House of Surrender Dorothy. Many thanks to all of the staff, Board members, volunteers, and sponsors who helped to make this year's event a great success!



Left to Right: FAI Board Member Michael Llewellyn, Esq. welcomes Maryland Attorney General Douglas Gansler, and State's Attorney Michael Twigg, at the Ox Roast.



Pat Hunter (left) is the Big Winner!



2011 Ox Roast Winners

- \$50 Winners – Julie Christopher, Bernie George, Brittny Stakem, Jamie Wilson, Mark Troutman
- \$75 Winners – Steven McIntyre, John Irons
- \$100 Winner – Chesapeake Rehab
- \$200 Winner – Shari Carlo
- \$300 Winner – Kathy Cox
- \$500 Winner – David Cox
- \$1000 Winner – Pat Hunter

THANK YOU! Ox Roast Sponsors!

- **Platinum** —
- First United Bank & Trust
- Wamba Caravan #89
- **Gold** —
- AES Warrior Run
- Cumberland Firefighters Local 1715
- Rita's Italian Ice
- Wells Fargo
- **Silver** —
- In Memory of Karen Marie Howell
- Dr. Carlos & Lee Ann Santiago
- Hunter Douglas
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- Coca-Cola
- **Bronze** —
- Allegany College of Maryland
- Mr. & Mrs. Harry Haag
- Furlow's Garage
- Cumberland Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Association, LLP
- Beckman's Greene Street Pharmacy
- Chesapeake Rehab Equipment
- First Peoples Community
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- **Friends** —
- Mr. Adam Lazarus
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- Dr. & Mrs. Frank Mitchell
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Other Ox Roast Contributors

- Lee Ann Santiago • Don & Lynn Bucy • Lisa Williams • Holly McDonald
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 Libi Williams-Ziler • Lucky's Liquor Store • Troy McKenzie • Susan Shackelford
 Past & Present Antiques & Flea Market • Robin Brooks • Sukh Gates • Peggy Blume
 Shooter's Bar & Grill • Rhonda Blubaugh • Margie Anderson • Lashbaugh's Bar
 Bedford Road Liquor • Gehauf's • Braddock Motor Inn • O'Beery McLiquors
 One Stop Liquor • The Big Claw • Dam Tavern • Allegany Liquor Store • Liberty Liquors
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Platinum Level Ox Roast Sponsors



First United Bank & Trust presents \$1000 Platinum Level Ox Roast Donation to Friends Aware. Pictured (L to R) are: Mary Bond, First United Community Office Manager; Kathleen Breighner, FAI Community Relations & Resource Development Director; Jane Eaton, FAI Interim Executive Director; and Ed Lease, First United Branch Manager.



Friends Aware receives \$1000 Platinum Level Ox Roast Donation from **Wamba Caravan #89, International Order of Alhambra**. Pictured (L to R) are: Jane Eaton, FAI Interim Executive Director; Bill Blake, Wamba Caravan #89; and Lee Ann Santiago, FAI Board President.

American Legion Lends Support!



Left to Right: Fort Cumberland Post 13, American Legion Fundraising Co-Chairs, Bernie Lechman and Bob Snoeberger, present \$800 donation to FAI Human Resource Director Jessica Neff, and FAI Interim Executive Director Jane Eaton.

Day of Caring and Sharing

During the County United Way's Day of Caring and Sharing, Friends Aware completed two landscaping projects—at the Life Enrichment Center and the Furnace Street Group Home. FAI teams also gave back to the community by lending a hand at the Western Maryland Food Bank and Constitution Park. Many thanks go to Columbia Gas and Pitt Ohio, as well as to Dave Yates and Kevin Kauffman, for all of their hard work on the Life Enrichment Center project. They went above and beyond to move ground, build planters and complete the extensive landscaping project. Many thanks also go to WCI and the Optimist Club for their donation of flowers, the FSNE program, the City of Cumberland, and the numerous contributors, donors, and volunteers who made this wonderful event happen. Many thanks also go to Juvenile Services, Green Ridge Youth Center, for all their hard work and landscaping skills at the Furnace Street Group Home project.



Cleaning up Constitution Park—FAI Program Coordinator Charlene Bovey and Diane Kerchevale.



Moving ground at the Life Enrichment Center.

Beautification Day

On Beautification Day, the Friends Aware community of friends, family, Board members, staff, and volunteers gathered to beautify the agency grounds. They spent the day pulling weeds, pruning, planting and mulching. Warm thanks go to all who donated supplies and participated in the day's events.



Mister Softee sweetened the day!



Digging in the dirt!



Planting Seeds.

Bishop Walsh Students Volunteer



Bishop Walsh students stopped by to give the Friends Aware transportation fleet a shine.

Michael Maupin is Quarterly Winner of LEC Achievement Award

Michael Maupin is the recipient of the LEC Achievement Award for second quarter 2011. Michael was nominated by numerous staff in the LEC for the milestones he has achieved in both his personal and employment endeavors during the past several months.

Michael has been involved with Friends Aware since 1997. His work ethic, motivation, and limitless energy afforded him opportunities to work in a variety of settings including: several years as a member of a mobile lawn crew; on-site to fulfill contract demands both upstairs and in the woodshop; in the commercial kitchen at the Life Enrichment Center; and numerous stints in community-based, integrated work settings. It wasn't until the past few months, however, that Michael's life really began to change. In February, he began working in the Dietary Department at the Western Maryland Health System, and currently works 32-34 hours per week. He also works one day a week performing general maintenance duties at the Department of Juvenile Services. He performs all aspects of both jobs with minimal assistance from his Job Coaches. Michael is a very hard worker, is helpful to others, reliable, dependable, and always exudes positivity. In addition he cuts grass on his own time, often mowing lawns in the cooler morning hours before he catches his ride on All-Trans to the hospital. Michael's ultimate goal is to have his own lawn care business one day.

On May 14th, Michael realized his longtime dream of moving into his own apartment. It has been challenging for Michael to learn many of the new skills necessary to live independently. He is learning how to responsibly manage his money, pay his bills, prepare food, shop for groceries, do his laundry, and he is learning how to live safely in his new apartment, etc. There have been a few hiccups along the way, but Michael's excitement at finally having a place of his own is contagious. He loves his independence, but admits he has a lot to learn and he is a very eager student. What he loves most about his new place is that it is close to the city parklet he maintains for the City of Cumberland. Michael decorates this parklet each holiday season and he is especially excited to have his own apartment to decorate this year.

Michael is well-known around town and has many friends. He is a very kind and giving young man, who loves to purchase special gifts for people he cares about. He is an active participant in the local self-advocacy group, People First—currently serving as treasurer and very active with fundraising activities. Michael likes to be busy and is always up for a new adventure. When not working at the hospital or cutting grass, he spends his spare time fishing, attending church, walking around town visiting with friends, shopping, doing odd jobs for people, collecting aluminum cans, listening to music in his apartment, and tending his parklet.

As recipient of the quarterly award, Michael received a commemorative document and was acknowledged in front of his co-workers. He will also be taken to lunch at the restaurant of his choice, by a staff member of his choice, and will receive a FAI logo hoodie sweatshirt. Congratulations, Michael, on your many accomplishments over the past quarter!



Michael Maupin

WMHS Partners with Friends Aware to Provide Employment Opportunities

Last year, FAI Employment Service Manager Matt Smith opened the door to an amazing opportunity while participating in Leadership Allegany! He met classmate Jo Wilson, Vice-President of Ancillary Support Operations for Western Maryland Health System (WMHS) and, with her help, they launched a successful partnership that currently employs eight individuals in a variety of positions at the hospital. The partnership provides over 180 hours of service per week in dietary, housekeeping and recycling throughout the facility. This opportunity is mutually beneficial—supplying WMHS with a strong dedicated work force, while fostering independence and employment for individuals with intellectual disabilities. The new employees take great pride in their work; when asked about working for WMHS, all expressed gratitude and excitement over their new positions.



Proud new employees of Western Maryland Health System.

April 1, 2011 - June 30, 2011

Friends Aware Contributors

Thank You for Your Generous Donations!

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Get ready to PULL!

Sign your team up today!



Saturday, August 20, 2011

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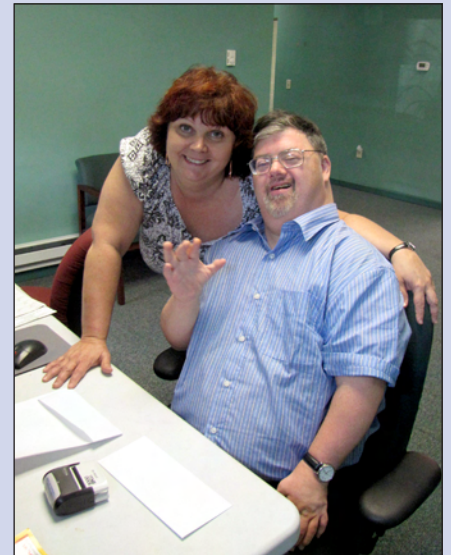
Welcome Aboard!



Left to Right: Jane Eaton, FAI Interim Executive Director; Robert Godfrey, new FAI Executive Director; and Lee Ann Santiago, FAI Board President.

We are proud to announce that **Robert Godfrey** is the new Executive Director of Friends Aware, Inc. Robert is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, with over 25 years experience in the healthcare field at various facilities. He most recently spent 12 years as the Clinical Coordinator for the Jefferson School at the Finan Center. Friends Aware welcomes him as its new Executive Director.

The newest addition to the Residential Supports Team is **Brian Evans**. Support Case Manager Joanne Wilt, and Residential Director Robin Kerr, recently helped Brian meet his long-time dream to work in an office setting. Brian attends the Life Enrichment Center and now works several days a month at the Paca Street location of the Residential Program—doing clerical work, answering phones, completing mailings, and running errands to the bank. He has done a fantastic job and everyone looks forward to having him help out at the Residential Program.



Joanne Wilt and Brian Evans hard at work.



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Executive Director
 Robert Godfrey

Officers of the Board
 Lee Ann Santiago, President
 Dottie Turner, Vice-President
 Barb Evans, Secretary
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