

## Great Things are Happening at Friends Aware!



New Construction at Friends Aware

It is amazing what can happen in a month and a half. After a large open area of dirt sat for almost a year and a half, the workers moved in mid-February to begin the new addition in earnest. There has been a lot for our individuals to watch as the ground was re-leveled, pipes were laid, and gravel dumped and leveled. We are beginning to see where the rooms will be and the general layout is getting clearer each day. Inside, we have had to make some adjustments and cut

holes in some walls in order to keep access to vital areas, such as rest-rooms. And you thought the LEC was a maze before? You should see it now, with passages cut through storage closets to allow our staff and individuals to get around.

To sum it all up in one word, it would be “productivity” for the workers on the project. The construction workers are keeping up with a timeline that was established at the beginning of the project. They are sensitive to the needs of our individuals and have been keeping pace with our need to be in and under roof soon.

For our staff and individuals, the word would be “adaptability.” Noise, activity, closing hallways, and re-routing traffic through closets could create quite a bit of anxiety and disturbance for our folks. However, everyone has risen to the challenge and is hanging in there despite almost daily changes in routine.

It's exciting to see the progress that is being made. If you haven't been to the LEC lately, please stop by for a look. Great things are happening!

## \$100,000 Community Legacy Award presented to Friends Aware

The Community Legacy Awards Presentation was held on March 11, 2014 at the Tire Shop, a former light industrial building in central Baltimore City. Kathleen Breighner, FAI Community Relations & Resource Development Director, was in attendance as Lt. Governor Anthony Brown, Secretary Skinner and officials from throughout Maryland announced \$5.5 million in awards to 64 projects. “Community Legacy is one of Maryland’s most powerful programs to promote neighborhood revitalization, affordable housing, tourism and economic growth,” said Lt. Governor Anthony Brown. Allegany County received \$410,000 in awards for various community redevelopment and renovation programs. Friends Aware was awarded \$100,000 in Community Legacy funding towards the building expansion and renovation project. Community Legacy provides local governments and community development organizations with funding for essential projects aimed at strengthening communities through activities such as retaining businesses and encouraging home ownership and commercial revitalization.



### 17th Annual Ox Roast

Friday, June 20, 2014,  
from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m.  
at the Ali Ghan Shrine  
Club Picnic Grounds  
**Tickets on Sale Now!**

Order Online at  
[www.friendsaware.org](http://www.friendsaware.org)  
or Call 301-722-7268

Donor Packages also available

## Spotlight



**B**eau Shank was awarded the 2014 MACS Achievement Award through the Maryland Association of Community Services on April 29, 2014. Over the past year, Beau has shown tremendous personal growth and perseverance in the face of obstacles and challenges. Beau has been working with Friends Aware for the past 3 years to assist him in attending college. Enrolled at Allegany College of Maryland, Beau maintains a 4.0 GPA and is working towards earning his Associate's Degree with plans to move on to earn a Bachelor's Degree. Beau faces obstacles daily while working towards his college goals. He has quadriplegia and is non-verbal. He uses a wheelchair for mobility and a communication device to assist him with speaking. To attend college, Beau has partnered with DORS to attain the equipment he needs, Allegany College of Maryland's Disability Navigator, June Braken, and other agencies that support him in addressing his challenges. Beau has kept a positive attitude and no set-back will prevent him from achieving his dreams. Beau's success in college is a triumph for him and an inspiration for his friends and family. Beau's efforts are paving the way toward a brighter future for individuals who have dreams similar to his. Beau always has a big smile on his face and is often described as having the biggest heart, always giving of himself. It is for Beau's persistence in achieving his dreams, generous nature, and positive attitude that he was chosen for this award.

## Friends Aware Takes the Plunge!



The 2014 Friends Aware Hooley Plunge Team.

Photo: W.A. Hedrick

**T**wenty-four members of the Friends Aware Hooley Plunge Team braved the icy waters of Lake Habeeb on Saturday, March 1, 2014. The Hooley Plunge raises funds for the Special Olympics of Allegany County and other local programs for the developmentally disabled. Friends Aware raised \$4,213.00 for the cause. Friends Aware is grateful to all of the community members and organizations who continue to support the Developmentally Disabled Community Programs in Allegany County.



Matt Smith, FAI Employment Services Manager, took the Plunge!

Photo: W.A. Hedrick



Hooligans Skip Sullivan and daughter Chelsea getting ready for the big event!

Photo: W.A. Hedrick



Friends Aware Staff Contest winners receiving Hooley Gift Baskets for raising the most donations for the FAI Hooley Plunge team. Left to right are Kathleen Breighner, Second Place Winner Ember Ball, First Place Winner Nicol Starr, and FAI Executive Director Robert Godfrey.

Photo: W.A. Hedrick

### Thank You to our Friends Aware Hooley Plunge Team and Volunteers:

- Blake Bowman • Joel Bowman • Tyler Drexler • Jade Ford • Robert Godfrey  
 Robin Godfrey • April Harden • Jeff Hook • Danielle Hook • Pat Kauffman  
 Dave Kerns • Sierra Lane • Greg Leake • Gary Morris • Richard Nicol  
 Julie Park • Victor Scarpelli • Matt Smith • Skip Sullivan • Kelly Washington  
 Justin York • Mary Garlitz • Kamini Hitch • Kaitlyn Wharton



## First United Bank & Trust Contributes to Friends Aware Capital Campaign

First United Bank & Trust recently presented a charitable pledge to Friends Aware in the amount of \$50,000 toward the "Building Independence" Capital Campaign. This generous donation has been earmarked for the new construction phase of the Friends Aware building renovation and expansion project. In recognition of this "Dream Builders" level pledge, Friends Aware's 780 square foot conference room will be named in their honor upon completion.



(L to R) Shelley Friend, Keyser/Tri-Towns Community Office Manager; Phil Rodeheaver, Market Area President; John Will, Commercial Relationship Manager; Donna Creegan, White Oaks/Bel Air Community Office Manager; Allen Shapiro, Business Relationship Banker; Chris Sisler, Senior Trust/Investment Sales Officer; George Tusing, Commercial Relationship Portfolio Manager; Robert Godfrey, FAI Executive Director; Bill Brotemarkle, FAI Board Member; and Mary Bond, Center City Community Office Manager.

## Contributors to the "Building Independence" Capital Campaign

January 1, 2014 - March 31, 2014

**Dream Builder... \$50,000+**

Doug & Betsy Schwab & Family Foundation

First United Bank & Trust

**Friend... \$10,000 - \$49,999**

Mr. John F. Boyer, PhD

**Champion... \$1,500 - \$9,999**

John & Gail Ralston

**Hero... \$50 - \$1,499**

PNC Foundation Matching

For more information on Friends Aware's "Building Independence" Capital Campaign, or to make a contribution online, visit [www.friendsaware.org](http://www.friendsaware.org). Contributions may also be made by phone at 301-722-7268.

## Spring has Sprung!

Friends Aware's Annual Spring Fling was held March 29, 2014 at Windsor Castle. It is one of four annual events hosted by the Friends Aware Social Committee. The committee is comprised of families, friends, staff, individuals, and community members who are committed to providing social events to offer fellowship for the individuals and families served by FAI. The committee thanks Alhambra, Wamba Caravan #89, Dr. Sean McCagh, and all supporters of the Hooley Plunge for their generosity.



(L to R) David Ketterman, Jennie Myers and Gary Morris at "The Fling."

## Western Maryland Trades Councils Support the Capital Campaign

The Western Maryland Civil Trades Council and Western Maryland Building & Construction Trades Council each presented \$5,000 donations to Friends Aware, totaling \$10,000 to benefit the "Building Independence" Capital Campaign.



(L to R) Kathleen Breighner, FAI Community Relations & Resource Development Director; Robert Godfrey, FAI Executive Director; Larry Wolfe, Secretary-Treasurer, Western Maryland Civil Trades Council; and Teresa Owens, Operating Engineers Local 37.



(L to R) Tom Mulholland, Insulators Local 2; David Morris, Painters District Council 53; Mike Loeffert, Insulators Local 2; Rodney Rice, IBEW Local 307; Robert Godfrey, FAI Executive Director; Larry Wolfe, President - Western Maryland Building & Construction Trades Council; Kathleen Breighner, FAI Community Relations & Resource Development Director; and Mike Adams, Sheet Metal Local 100.



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Gifts ♦ January 1, 2014 – March 31, 2014 ♦ Gifts

**Friends Aware Contributors**

**Thank You for Your Generous Donations!**

- Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Winner
- Ms. Mildred Westfall
- Ms. Carol Harvey
- Ms. Shirley Wigfield
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- Pope John XXIII Council #5450
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- Mr. & Mrs. William Blake
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**Band Blitz 2014**

The 14th Annual Band Blitz was held on March 28-29th at the Cumberland Outdoor Club. The two-day event raised over \$11,000 for Friends Aware and Arc of Frederick County to help fund unmet needs for individuals who receive services. Over the years, the funds have paid for adaptive equipment, training materials, clothing, shoes, and dental work. The event is coordinated by Tim Haines, Arc of Frederick County, and Kimberly Lattea, Friends Aware.

Thanks to the community sponsors and the musicians who donate their talents to make this event a success! This year's lineup included: Baer Bones, Runnin' On Empty, He Said She Said, Simon Sez, Transcending, The Travis Minnick Band, Greg and Randy, Cramer Brothers with Tim Haines, Heart Gravy, Public Menace, Sonic Mule, So Low, Tucker Hill Haze, Surrender Dorothy, The Limit, Strangerz, Lady Invidia, Anger Box, and Revv. Thanks to our staff volunteers: Lois Russell, Carol Ketterman, Diana Dorsey, Don Bucy, Angie Rudd, Brenda Hayhurst, Sue Buehler, Debbie Oates, Libi William Ziler, Al McDonald and Meagan Davis. And thanks to our staff who performed—Jen Brown, Harley Kuhn and Jentil Thomas of Transcending, and Eric Breighner of Sonic Mule. Special thanks to our supporting partners WCBC, GO I06, Personal Best, Jim House, and the Cumberland Outdoor Club.



Adam Lazarus gives "High Fives" to the fans!



Tim Haines and Billy Patterson are ready for Day Two!