



# Transitions News!

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## ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMMING WITH TRANSITIONS NORTH

By Deb Voss  
Transitions Program Coordinator

Several consumers have chosen to do different activities with some people from other locations. They were assisted with creating this new schedule by staff from Transitions North and CSDD Residential homes as well as other service providers. Recently, three of the involved consumers gave a presentation about their new schedules. The audience was made up of parents, guardians, staff and consumers and totaled around 50 people. The presentations were well prepared for the attentive audience. Each presenter had his own PowerPoint presentation through which they lead the audience. This was a huge success. Another presentation is scheduled for April 27, 10 am - 12 noon at 812 East Jolly Road in the Atrium. Staff are encouraged to attend and can sign up on the intranet. Others can reserve a seat by phoning Janice Wilks at 323-9558.

## FUNDRAISER FOR TRANSITIONS ST. JOHNS

April 28<sup>th</sup> Applebee's of St. Johns will host a pancake fundraiser for Transitions St. Johns. Piping hot pancakes will be served up along with beverages to fill your tummy. Cost is nominal. Please put this on your calendar for 8-10 a.m. Saturday April 28<sup>th</sup>. Applebee's is located at 2440 Ontario Drive, St. Johns, MI.

## TRANSITIONS MASON RECEIVES SERVICE AWARD

Submitted by Elizabeth Putnam  
Transitions Mason

The Ingham County Animal Control and Shelter recognized the volunteer efforts of the consumers at Transitions Mason by bestowing consumers with the Service and Education Award at a banquet March 28, 2012 at the East Lansing Kellogg Center. The shelter staff wrote "The participants at Transitions dedicate

hundreds of hours of volunteer time ensuring the ICAC information sent to community members is ready to go. They complete hours of volunteering for ICAC from folding letters to stuffing envelopes and cutting bookmarks. If you ever received a newsletter or announcement from ICAC, chances are this group folded the newsletter and stuffed and sealed the envelopes. If you've read one of our pamphlets, chances are they folded and stapled it for distribution. It's a huge comfort to know that when we have a huge task at hand, they are only a call away and within a day, we get it all back fully completed. They do great work!" Janice W. and Ian B. attended the banquet and accepted the award for all the consumers at Transitions Mason.

Speaking of awards, 22 consumers represented the Mason Rocks Aktion Club at a statewide bowling tournament in Ann Arbor on March 20. Janice W. won a trophy for Women's Best Score. If you know Janice, you know how much she LOVES bowling. This was a great honor for her. In other Aktion Club news, on Saturday, April 21, members plan to participate in the "Kiwani's One Day" at Raynor Park in Mason, to begin clean-up for Spring. Mason Rocks Aktion Club is responsible for keeping the children's playground area free of debris during the summer. They volunteer every Wednesday morning, weather permitting. We're like the energizer bunny around here!

## FLYING THE FRIENDLY SKIES

By John Vasquez  
Transitions Grand Ledge

On Monday March 26<sup>th</sup>, people from Transitions Grand Ledge had a scheduled tour of the Grand Ledge Airport. The people that worked there talked to us about the different airplanes.

Each of us was able to sit in a Cessna Sky Hawk Training airplane. A World War II



vet told us he had been flying for 60 years. He flew a bomber in the war, and told us cool stories about his service in World War II.

The president of the airport talked to us about weather and flying. He gave me some flying magazines, and offered to let me go for a ride, and I was able to fly the plane! I was very excited! We plan to go back again so other people can ride in the plane too!

## TRANSITIONS PROGRAM CLOSINGS

Friday, April 27.....Inservice Day  
Monday, May 28.....Memorial Day  
Wednesday, July 4.....Independence Day

welcome addition to the many other dedicated volunteers. The theatre depends on volunteers to make the community theatre what it is and will become. Thanks to Jason, Jeff, Natalie, Roger and Scott for making our theatre community a little better.

## WALK A MILE IN MY SHOES

Annually, Transitions programs join with others at the State Capitol building in Lansing to put a face on the statistics of mental health needs in Michigan. May 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m., groups from Transitions will put on T-shirts, showing unity with others from around the state, supporting continued funding for behavioral health needs. Consider joining us that day!

## NEW FACES AT TRANSITIONS ST. JOHNS

By Michelle Sheren  
Transitions St. Johns

We at Transitions St. Johns would like to introduce the newest member of our happy group...Her name is Jolynn B. Jolynn lives with her mom in St. Johns and began attending Transitions St. Johns just before Christmas. She says she is "happy to be here!" and said "before I spent my days sitting at home being bored and now I have someone to talk to."

(You may notice while reading this that all of the quotes of things Jolynn says are punctuated with an exclamation point—That is because that is the kind of person Jolynn is—VERY full of energy and excitement!)

Jolynn is currently attending activities here 3 days per week and says she is happy with that schedule. She says that she likes having her Mondays and Tuesdays off and that her favorite part of being involved in activities at Transitions St. Johns is that she gets to "meet new friends and do different things!" She said that she especially likes recycling, bowling and bingo at the Sr. Center and swimming but she "LOVES" going to Hazel Findlay Nursing Home! Jolynn also said "I'm happy I get to go on Field Trips too!"

She also mentioned that she likes using Clinton Transit to get to Transitions St. Johns. She says "I have a good looking bus driver!"

You may also notice another new face at Transitions St. Johns for the next few months....Lisa Babb has joined our ranks as a student intern from Spring Arbor College. She is mom to 2 children and works in addition to going to school - A very busy woman indeed. Lisa is

## VOLUNTEERS AT RIVERWALK THEATRE

By Nathan Wood  
Transitions North

The Riverwalk Theatre is located in downtown Lansing. It is a foundation that is maintained by many, many volunteers. Some ninety plus percent of the work that is done around the theatre is the result of dedicated volunteers. They love volunteers!



Since the summer of 2011 Transitions North has had a group of consumers that goes once a week and helps out at Riverwalk Theatre. Jason, Jeff, Natalie, Roger and Scott help

keep the theatre clean and the entrance looking nice by sweeping, dusting, watering the plants and whatever else that needs to be done. They enjoy all the activities plus the "whatever."

Their assistance was especially welcomed after "Annie" in the fall. Riverwalk ran full houses for "Annie" and the theatre got dirtier than usual because of the large audiences. They dusted and pushed the mops and brooms, helping to get the auditorium back in shape. Their reward was a cup or two of coffee and to be a part of a job well done.

The Transition North crew takes volunteering seriously digging in to get the jobs done. They have been a very

working toward her degree in Social work, though she is not sure exactly what area of Social Work she would like to pursue at this time. So far Lisa has accompanied consumers and staff to their community sites to help familiarize her with what happens at Transitions St. Johns....next up the fun part - meetings and paperwork!!

Welcome Jolynn and Lisa!!

## VALENTINE'S PARTY REVIEW

By Linda Kimball  
Transitions Central



Fun was had by all! Over 80 consumers from Transitions Central, Transitions Grand Ledge and Transitions Charlotte came together to celebrate Valentine's Day on February 17<sup>th</sup> at the Delta Presbyterian Church. A beautiful sunny, winter day, was a perfect backdrop to the festive atmosphere which included dancing, visiting friends and delicious refreshments. Martin and Company played wonderful music. Band members enjoyed the dancing as much as the consumers. The band graciously shared their music for 2 full hours, offering everything from rock to country, with even a polka or two. It was a great opportunity to work together on something really fun.



### Bubble Shoppe Enterprises

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Call Transitions North for scents, designs and prices.  
Special orders are available.

(517)323-9558, ext. 141

## MICRO OF THE MONTH SPOTLIGHTS

May will be wrapped candy bars from  
The Sweets Place.

**The Sweets Place**

Personalized Treats for Every Occasion  
Birthdays, Anniversaries, Graduations,  
Weddings, and great for Advertising!

Call Elizabeth at 676-3401 to order.

Prices: \$.25 each for 200 or less  
\$.20 each for over 200  
Please allow 2 weeks for delivery.

June will be the Pet Pantry.

Pet Pantry Etc.  
home of the  
"PUP TART"

989-224-7810  
petpantry@ceicmh.org  
315 Clinton St. • St. Johns MI 48879

## MICRO ENTERPRISE PRODUCTS AVAILABLE AT THE MEGA MALL

The Micro Enterprise Committee of Transitions continues to support booth B-8 at this 300 booth Store. Products are available 7 days per week with the Mega Mall handling the sales. Consumers volunteer twice per month at the store as helpers, along with the other volunteers for 3 hour shifts. This provides a meaningful experience for consumers to explore work in a retail setting. Consumers who have micro enterprise products on display are able to go to the Mega Mall to check inventory, restock, decorate and rearrange the display. They can solicit sales by telling their family and friends where their items can be purchased. The site is handicap accessible and all on one level.

We look forward to meeting your last minute shopping needs by inviting you to visit. The Mega Mall is located at 15487 Old 27, 2 miles South of I-69, exit 87. It is open every day from 11 am to 6 pm.