

# “The Back Page” March 2008

## Logansport Employee Of The Month RAY ALDRIDGE

One night last month Ray thought he might get snowed in at his house over night. In order to make sure that the plowing was complete and the sidewalks were clean for the staff & consumers at the Logansport Facility, Ray spent the night on-site here at Peak Community Services. He woke up at 3 AM to start the plowing and sidewalk cleaning.



Thank you Ray for your dedication to your job, co-workers and our consumers!

Jammin' For Joy! Band is looking for a Haywagon! They haven't been able to be in parades for the past couple of years due to being without one. If you have one, or know of one for sale, please send it through to Danny Lonsinger in SGL. They are willing to purchase one, and even rebuild it if necessary!

## Welcome New Employees!

Rita Ross	Becky Vladetich
Keith Johansen	Norma Miller
Rachel Iles	Erika Elpers
Wendy Wallace	Martha Watkins



## Don's Message

March is Disability Awareness month. One of the statements Kathi makes during the Peak Your Interest Tours is that being disabled is the only minority group that offers an open invitation to join. Because of a change in health, aging, or accident, any person can become disabled at any time.



One of the realities that many are not aware of is that a disabling condition may not have any outward physical signs but still be disabling. When you see someone parking in a handicapped accessible parking space but they are not using a walker, wheelchair, cane, or other mobility assistance device, that does not mean they are not entitled to park in that space. So long as they have proven to a physician and the State of Indiana that they meet requirements for a handicapped parking plate or placard, they are legitimately using the space. Complications from disorders such as diabetes, heart disease, lung disease, or a variety of other conditions may limit mobility.

It is also important to understand that individuals who are taking medication for a disability are not cured of the disability because of the medication. The medication may off-set some of the symptoms, may allow for more typical functioning, and may serve to make the disabling condition invisible, but the person remains disabled.

Disability is a complex and life-altering reality that impacts thousands of individuals. Remember that disabilities are not always visible and that medication may not cure the disabling condition.

*Don*

# PEAK Community Services

So far in 2008, many of you have heard about a whole lot of “surveys” and “focus groups” going on. Some of you are probably sick of hearing it! Most wonder what, if anything, will come of all of the surveys that are being conducted.

As you know, we are required to do the surveys by CARF. But beyond the requirement of doing it, we take the information we glean from them seriously. The survey results will be used as we make plans for Fiscal Year 2009. They will also be used more quickly if the responses require a more immediate addressing.

There will be several focus groups meeting in March. If you have been invited, please plan to participate. If you have not been invited but are interested in joining a group, contact me right away, and I'll set you up!

Kathi - Ext 128 / [kthompson@peakcommunity.com](mailto:kthompson@peakcommunity.com)

