



# The BWCIL Quarterly

### Special points of interest:

- Blue Water Kick Ball Tournament to be held August 27th
- Benefiting Recreational Opportunities for People with Disabilities
- Completely Inclusive with Accommodations for People with Disabilities
- Macy's Shop for a Cause also August 27th

July 2011

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## The Blue Water Kick Ball Tournament

The Blue Water Kick Ball Tournament is in its second year of operation, serving as a source of recreation for people with disabilities. It is our goal to provide a kick ball for all experience. Any person wishing to play is accommodated regardless of disability. In the past we had participants ranging from college athletes to paraplegic pitchers. The Tournament will be held at the Joseph B. Klecha Little League Complex

in St. Clair, Michigan on Saturday, August 27th. Proceeds from this tournament are utilized



www.facebook.com/bwcil, under the kickball tab. Here you can find sign up forms, official rules, directions, Frequently Asked Questions, contact information, media and much more.

We are truly excited to be hosting such a wonderful event and would encourage you, your consumers and friends to take part or come show your support.

to provide access to recreation for people with disabilities, including the continuance of the Blue Water Kick Ball Tournament. Complete details can be found at

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## Earn Huge Savings & Support the BWCIL

On Saturday, August 27, 2011, Macy's will host its 6th annual Shop for a Cause benefiting charities nationwide. This year the BWCIL is your local provider of the Macy's \$5 shopping pass. We receive 100% of the proceeds from this sale and you receive 25% off\* on regular, sale and clearance merchandise, including designer

brands you love, throughout the store. And you will be eligible to win a \$500 gift card. Now you are thinking how are you going to shop at Macy's when you are busy dominating the Blue Water Kick Ball Tournament, well no need. The same savings and sales will be available on www.macys.com all day long. So order yourself something you

have been needing, save some money and help the BWCIL all at the same time. To get your shopping pass you can either stop in your local BWCIL office or contact us for other arrangements at 1-800-527-2167.



## 25th Annual Dome Reunion is Approaching

### Special points of interest:

- 25th Annual Dome Reunion
- July 9th
- 8 p.m.— 1 a.m.
- McMorran Place in downtown Port Huron
- Live Appearances by:
  - Full Throttle
  - The Dynasty
  - The George Brothers Band

The Dome was born in 1961, two geodesics joined together over an enormous slab of concrete, with a canopied entrance. This dance pavilion was located on the west side of 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue north of Keewahdin Road. Here the youth of Port Huron “hung out” and released their excess energy.

In 1971 the Dome erupted in a great funeral blaze. But memories of the decade of its

life remained, and remain to this day.

Each year in July the Blue Water Center for Independent Living (an organization serving people with disabilities throughout the Thumb Area of Michigan) sponsors the Dome Reunion. This year marks the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of both the BWCIL and the Dome Reunion. The celebration will occur on Saturday, July 9<sup>th</sup> from 8 p.m. until 1 a.m. at McMorran

Place in Port Huron. There will be live entertainment, food, and dancing, of course. Tickets are \$10. – a bargain held over from the past.

The Dome Reunion benefits the BWCIL and therefore strengthens the ability of the organization to carry out its mission. Everyone is invited – Come celebrate and enjoy – and have the Time of Your Life.

**ENTER THE TIME WARP...**

# REUNION 2011

Featuring: ~ Full Throttle (Doo Wop) ~ THE DYNASTY ~

**SPECIAL APPEARANCE By: The George Brothers Band**

**Tickets:**  
\$10 CHEAP  
at POWERS,  
CAR SHOW &  
McMORRAN  
PLACE

21  
&  
OVER  
PLEASE!

**July 9th - 8pm to 1am - McMorran Place**

WELCOMING  
CRUISERS &  
HONORING THE  
PHHS CLASS of 1971

-PROCEEDS TO THE BLUE WATER CNTR for IND. LIVING-

The City of Port Huron has Plan. This will be an opportunity for the community to provide suggestions, ask questions, and make recommendations on how to remove barriers. These meetings will consist of a short presentation at the beginning of the meeting to provide information on the Title II of the ADA requires that each of the City's services, programs and activities be readily accessible and usable by individuals with disabilities. The City has scheduled two meetings to solicit public input and comment on the Transition

**2011 at 3 p.m. and at 6 p.m.**

Comments can be provided at the meetings or in writing by the deadline of July 15, 2011 at 5 p.m. Comments can be submitted to Dave Smith, Assistant City Engineer at the M.O.C. or via e-mail at [smithd@porthuron.org](mailto:smithd@porthuron.org). All comments will be reviewed and considered and included in the appendix of the document.

## Y.O.U Program Success Story

Over each program year, the BWCIL's Youth Opportunities Unlimited Program guides dozens of youth towards a path to independence. Through GED prep and testing, work readiness skills and continuing education counseling this program has become a valued asset in the community. To illustrate the successes of the program we are highlighting just one of the many success stories here. For the purposes of confidentiality we will call our consumer; Sally.

Sally enrolled into the YOU Program displaying multiple learning disabilities and deficiencies in basic literacy skills; made evident through testing that showed a grade equivalence of 6.4 in reading and 5.3 in math. Sally also and no work experience to speak of.

Through our dedicated staff here at the BWCIL, Sally received personalized GED prep, employment services and college enrollment counseling that served to motivate and support her in reaching both personal and program goals..

Sally raised her grade equivalence to 12.9+ in both reading and math and attained her GED credential on 9/3/2010. In September of 2010 she enrolled into college and has been attending classes full time at Baker College working towards a management degree. By February of 2011, Sally was hired by Baker College as a tutor for a work/study program assisting at-risk middle school and high school youth. We here at the BWCIL are very proud of Sally's successes thus far and we know she will continue on this path for a lifetime to come.

# OUR MISSION

The Blue Water Center for Independent Living is a consumer driven organization that advocates, informs and supports all people with disabilities to live Independently.

## Campaign to End the R Word



[facebook.com/bwcil](http://facebook.com/bwcil)

**WE'RE ON THE  
WEB VISIT US  
WWW.BWCIL.ORG**

It is time we **Spread the Word to End the Word™** and build awareness for society to stop and think about its' use of the R-word. That R-word is something hurtful and painful – “retard” or “retarded.” Most people don't think of this word as hate speech, but that's exactly what it feels like to millions of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their families and friends. The R-word is just as cru-

el and offensive as any other slur. Visit [www.r-word.org](http://www.r-word.org) to make your pledge today.



The word retard(ed) hurts millions of people with intellectual disabilities, their families and friends. Take the pledge and help promote the new R-word: **RESPECT**

Gallup, reveals that throughout the world, over 60 percent of people *still* believe that people with intellectual disabilities should be segregated in schools and in the workplace. This is intolerable. We need massive attitude change now to attack and reverse the stigma that is destructive to the lives of people with intellectual disabilities and a barrier to growth.

Special Olympics' Multi-National Public Opinion Study of Attitudes toward People with Intellectual Disabilities, conducted by

### Port Huron

1042 Griswold  
Suite 2  
Port Huron, MI 48060

Phone:  
810-987-9337  
Fax:  
810-987-9548  
E-mail: [info@bwcil.org](mailto:info@bwcil.org)

### Lapeer

392 Nepessing  
Lapeer, MI  
48446

Phone:  
810-664-9098  
Fax:  
810-664-0937

### Sanilac

103 East Sanilac  
Suite 3  
Sandusky, MI  
48471

Phone:  
810-648-2555  
Fax:  
810-648-2583

### Tuscola

1184 Cleaver  
Rd.  
Caro, MI  
48723

Phone:  
989-673-3678  
Fax:  
989-673-3678

### Huron

P.O. Box 29  
614 N. Port Crescent  
Bad Axe, MI  
48413

Phone:  
989-269-5421  
Fax:  
989-269-5422