

# CAP ABILITIES

**ABILITY WORKS, INC.**

Ability Works employs over 50 people with developmental disabilities and 100 people overall.

*Working to Meet Your Needs*

## from the director

We were fortunate to be a part of the Governor's visit to Sandusky. Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) organized a wonderful day of recognition for employers of people with disabilities and employees working in the community.



Employers recognized include: Quaker Steak & Lube; The POP! Shop; Tradesmen International; The Home Depot; the Sandusky Area YMCA; Sawamill Creek Resort; Kalahari Resorts and Conventions; Sam's Club; Corso's Flower & Garden Center; Olive Garden; Kroger; Lowe's Home Improvement; Great Wolf Lodge; The Volunteer Center of Erie County; Parkvue Community; Firelands Regional Medical Center; Goodwill of Erie, Huron, Ottawa and Sandusky Counties; Dave's Food Mart; Step by Step Employment & Training; Ability Works; Hula Construction; and Save-A-Lot.

Employers talked about the value of employees with disabilities to their business. You can join the other employers just by contacting us and learning about the benefits of hiring people regardless of disability.

*Allison*

## pay it forward

Ability Works is out volunteering in our community on a regular basis. We help out at New Day Family Resource Center, Care and Share, The Salvation Army, the Humane Society, the Veteran's Home, and more! We want to do even more. Do you have volunteer needs during the day? If so, we want to hear from you!



Shelley Miller and Celeste Hillman accept a certificate of recognition on behalf of Ability Works for their excellent work in helping underemployed people find and maintain employment.



July Cyrek thanks her boss, Becky McCartney at Steak & Shake, for giving her the opportunity to work at their restaurant.



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# featured person of the month

## Christy Burris

Ability Works has the pleasure of featuring Christy Burris in this Spring issue. Christy always has a welcoming smile. She loves mint milkshakes and French fries at McDonald's.

Christy is attending EHOVE and will soon have the honor of graduating. She is eagerly waiting to start employment; currently, she is doing a CBA at Sawmill Creek (Community Based Assessments are offered through Ability Works, making it possible for a person to gain skills on a job while receiving an hourly wage).

If you are interested in meeting Christy, please feel free to contact Mary Kalizewski at 419-626-1048, extension 3102. We pride ourselves as an employment team that customizes an individual's choice of employment, giving each person the

support they need to gain longevity and a sense of pride that comes from being a valued team member.

For more information



about hiring people with disabilities, you can visit [www.ood.ohio.gov/](http://www.ood.ohio.gov/)



Christy Burris on the job at Sawmill Creek.

# CAPABILITIES

Capabilities is a publication produced by Ability Works, Inc. and The Krabill Marketing Group, LLC. Inquiries can be addressed to [ayoung@ability-works.com](mailto:ayoung@ability-works.com)

Working to Meet Your Needs

## did you know?

Ability Works is pleased to be the first recipient of grant funds from *The David and Jacquie Clark Family Fund*. These funds will support transportation services for individuals with disabilities in Erie, Huron, and Ottawa Counties, enhancing greater opportunities for individuals to access employment and community activities.

After working professionally as a speech pathologist for 30 years, Jacquie set out to fill a void in the special education curriculum. In 1997, Jacquie began N2Y to create a current events newspaper with interactive activities. The business was very successful. In 2016, N2Y was sold to The Riverside Company.

"We have always wanted to give back and enrich lives of individuals with special needs," said Jacquie Clark. The Clark family is committed to charitable giving and plans for fundraising are underway in 2017.

Ability Works is privileged to have worked with N2Y for the past seven years, and will continue to work with the Clark family into the future. We're excited about the possibilities this fund will create for individuals with disabilities in Erie County and the surrounding area made through The Clark Family Fund.

## calendar of events

**Weds. Coffee Club every Wednesday at 9am**  
Ability Works Lunchroom

**May 29 Memorial Day**  
**Ability Works is CLOSED**  
Watch for us in the Sandusky Memorial Day Parade!

*Each Memorial Day Holiday, Ability Works volunteers are honored to place an American flag on each veteran's grave in the cemetery at the Ohio Veterans Home in Sandusky.*



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