#### Winter 2014

#### Volume 4

Enriching Our Communities by Connecting Local Employers & Individuals With Opportunities to Succeed

#### Inside this issue:

20th Annual Catch & Release Bass-A-Thon Fishing Tournament	1
21th Annual \$10,000 Raffle Extravaganza	2
United Ways Day of Caring	2
Building Puzzles one piece at a time	3
Calling all Super-fans!	3
Come one, Come ALL! Are you interested in a new group?	3
Winter Driving & Safety Tips	4



This issue of "Networks News" was made possible by the News Crew:

Nathan St. Jean

Nicholas Needler

Joshua Nadeau

Jane Hunnewell

Richard Brown



**OPPORTUNITY** 

**NETWORKS** 

#### 20TH ANNUAL CATCH & RELEASE BASS-A-THON FISHING TOURNAMENT—THE NEWS CREW



Early on Saturday, September 20th, Opportunity Networks held it's 20th Annual Catch & Release Bassathon Fishing Tournament. Over 50

fishermen and 9 junior fishermen participated in this annual event. Taking in the top honors of the day was Robert Goss whose largemouth bass weighed in at 5 pounds, 8 ounces!

The 20th Annual Catch and Release Bassathon Fishing Tournament fundraiser was held at the Lone Pine Hunter's Club in Hollis to raise muchneeded funds for the 501 (c)3 non profit organization.

Opportunity Networks greatly appreciated all the fishermen and volunteers that made the day so successful, and would especially like to thank their event sponsors and donors: The Lone Pine Hunter's Club, Bellavance Beverage, Hannafords Market, Pete's Gun and Tackle, and Granite State Rod and Reel Repair.



**OPPORTUNITY** 

NETWORKS

Congratulations! Robert Goss -2014 \$1,000 Grand Prize Winner. Winning Largemouth Bass weighed in at 5 lbs. 8 ozs.!!









And our Raymond Emmons jams with the band, 13 Steps.



And The Winning Number is?



Opportunity Networks held its 21st Annual \$10,000 Raffle Extravaganza on Friday, December 5th, 2014 at The River Card Room in Milford. It's hard to believe its been 21 years, but the raffle extravaganza continues to be a wonderful event which promotes the work that Opportunity Networks does. Its through events like these that families, friends



2014 Raffle Extravaganza Winner: Kevin Bianchi of Milford, NH

and the community in general can come together to benefit individuals with disabilities. This event featured a \$10,000 Grand Prize with additional cash prizes of \$1,000, \$750, \$500, \$250 and\$150 that were awarded throughout the evening!

A large turnout of several hundred guests enjoyed the complimentary cocktail and hors d'oeuvers reception, as well as listening to and dancing to live music by 13 Steps. It was truly a great night for a great cause! Thanks to everyone who attended the event.

# UNITED WAY–DAY OF CARING BY RICHARD BROWN & JOSH NADEAU

Day of Caring is a fantastic event when volunteers work hard, get their hands dirty, and witness firsthand the great things non-profit organizations such as Opportunity Networks do in Greater Nashua area! For one day, volunteers from companies in Greater Nashua and the Souhegan Valley take the day off from work to volunteer at area non-profit organizations.

On September 10th, for a third consecutive year Opportunity Networks had the good fortune of receiving helping hands from United Way volunteers. A total of 10 volunteers from UPS, BAE Systems and St. Josephs Hospital converged on our Perimeter Road, Nashua location to help give the office a new facelift! United Way volunteers worked hand in hand with Opportunity Network staff, painting walls, installing carpet and new base boards.

Special Thanks to all the Volunteers for helping to beautify our Perimeter Road Office!







Thanks to the Volunteers from UPS, BAE Systems and St. Josephs Hospital for their hard work at Perimeter Road during United Ways Day of Caring!





### **BUILDING PUZZLES ONE PIECE AT A TIME**

For years, Nancy has enjoyed collecting and putting together puzzles of all shapes and sizes. Nancy likes to say there is no puzzle too small or too big that she does not like to put together. Nancy will work on different types of puzzles from ones with wildlife on them to beautiful outside scenery. Nancy will spend time everyday working on her puzzles and feels that it is not only relaxing but therapeutic as well. If you walk into her home and the apartment complex were she lives you will see her puzzles which have been framed and are hanging on the walls. Nancy is very proud of this!

### CALLING ALL SUPER-FANS! BY NATHAN ST. JEAN & JOSH NADEAU

Hey WWE fanatics! Here's your opportunity to join a group called, "The WWE Fan Club" which will be hosted by Josh Nadeau. There will be 2 groups that will meet on certain days of the week for your entertainment. During these pow-wows, we will talk about the wrestlers, the history of the WWE, the famous wrestling moves and play some WWE video games that will teach you the basics of all of the action. The WWE was founded by Jess McMahon and Toots Mondt in 1952. The superstars that will be discussed will include Batista, Big Show, Undertaker, Brock Lesnar, and many more as well as legends like Jimmy Snuka, Roddy Piper, Bret Hart, Hulk Hogan and others. There will be plenty of excitement and a lot of information being given. You will also learn how these superstars train for the competition and how they have recovered from injuries. This fan club is free so there is no money required at all. You may bring any WWE merchandise and be as creative as you can be. So, don't waste another minute and join up. I hope to see you there!

### COME ONE, COME ALL! ARE YOU INTERESTED IN A NEW GROUP? BY NATHAN ST. JEAN

Are you a fan of anime or comic strips? Would you be interested in starting a new group?

My name is Nathan St. Jean, and I am looking to start a new group for everyone to share their fandom of anime TV series, movies, and more. The club will have many fun activities like watching DVD collectables of you favorite anime shows or movies in the Tech Theatre, draw your own anime characters or existing characters you enjoy in the Creative Room, read manga series, and play anime RPG video games.

We will also have a tribute Anime guessing game where we get to let you or anyone of the group to take turn on writing questions of anything on one of the Anime TV series, and Anime bingo.

So come on down to Opportunity Networks located at 11 Caldwell Drive in Amherst, NH and join in the fun!

Please contact George Barrett at gbarrett@opportunitynetworks.org for more information or to suggest an idea for a new group.



Nancy with her latest puzzle creation!







#### THANK YOU FOR THE GENEROUS DONATIONS FROM:

NORWIN S. & ELIZABETH N BEAN FOUNDATION.

COGSWELL BENEVOLENT TRUST

MILFORD ROTARY CLUB

AGNES M. LINDSAY TRUST

ANN DE NICOLA TRUST -- RBS CITIZENS, NA TRUSTEE

NEW HAMPSHIRE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

ARTHUR L. KEYES MEMORIAL TRUST

WALMART FOUNDATION

KALEY FOUNDATION

FIDELITY FOUNDATION

SAMUEL P. HUNT FOUNDATION



#### WINTER DRIVING & SAFETY TIPS, BY JOSH NADEAU

- Keep your gas tank at least ½ full to avoid gas line freeze-up.
- Drink heated beverages, such as hot tea or soup. DO NOT drink alcohol, as this will lower your body temperature.
- Avoid driving while fatigued. Getting the proper amount of rest before taking on winter weather tasks reduces driving risks.
- Wear a hat, hood or scarf as most heat is lost through the head.
- If possible, avoid using your parking brake in cold, rainy & snowy weather.
- Do a few stretching exercises before shoveling snow to prevent injuries.
- Do not use cruise control when driving on any slippery surface (wet/ice/snow).
- Walk carefully on snowy & icy sidewalks. If using a snow blower, NEVER use your hands to unclog the machine.
- Never mix radial tires with other tire types.
- Keep fingertips, earlobes and noses covered if you go outside.
- Never warm-up your car in an enclosed area, such as a garage.
- Dress in layers as they provide better insulation and warmth

# **Upcoming Events**

# Our Fundraising Events:

25th Annual Souhegan Valley Classic Golf Tournament, Save the Date: Thursday, June 4th, 2015

Please check out our website at <u>www.opportunitynetworks.org</u>, for more information on our fundraising events and how you can participate!!

#### Join Us in Playing!

Due to funding arrangements for Nonprofit Programming providing services to individuals with disabilities, Opportunity Networks continues to rely on the generous support of individuals and businesses in our local community.



Check us out on Facebook!!!

# **Program Locations**

#### Administrative Office:

11 Caldwell Drive Amherst, NH 03031 603-883-4402

Day Habilitation & Supported Employment Program 116A Perimeter Rd. Nashua, NH 03060 603-889-0796

#### **Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment Services**

116C Perimeter Rd. Nashua, NH 03060 (603) 402-1444

#### www.opportunitynetworks.org