

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



# Networks News

## SPRING FLING – BY JUSTIN

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

Steven Ayotte  
Richard Brown  
Brendan Curnow  
Justin Houle  
Jane Hunnewell  
Matt Ranieri

Back in April, Opportunity Networks had their annual Gala at the Share Building in Milford NH with generous help from The Fiduciary Trust. This year was a Spring Fling theme. The tables were decorated with colorful table cloths and balloons that were orange, blue, green, and pink and had hibiscus flowers on them. There were also hanging flowers and streamers. Everybody dressed up for the night. Most girls wore dresses, and some guys wore suits.



The Pasta Loft delivered the lasagna, chicken parmesan and salad. The food was delicious!



For dessert, we had vanilla and chocolate cake. The cake said Happy Spring on it!

Some of the songs we danced to were the Macarena, The YMCA, the Chicken Dance, Cotton Eye Joe, I Want It That Way, The Cupid Shuffle, My Tractor Is Sexy, and Mambo Number 5. The Conga was fun. The song was Conga by Miami Sound Machine. Music was provided by Solid Gold Productions.

There were about 100 people that attended including Opportunity Networks program participants, Opportunity Networks staff, family members, friends, the SNHU Buddies, and the Best Buddies from Milford High School. It was good to see the SNHU Buddies again, and it was good to meet some of the students that do Best Buddies in Milford.

We donated over 2 tables worth of food including drinks to the SHARE program. Thank you to SHARE to hosting us!



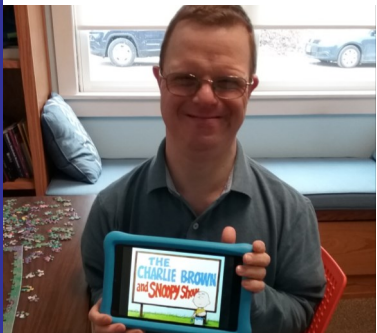
Richard is saving the money he earns to spend on vacation.

## CLEANING ONE BUS AT A TIME — RICHARD

Back in November, I started to work at the Hollis Bus Company. I work three days a week. I work on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:30 to 11:30 am. I work with my Job Coach Sean. We work as a team together.

When I first get in I have to sign in with the date and time that I got to the location. After I finish signing in, I go through the garage and get all the items I need to clean the buses. The buses are all kept on a large parking lot. The doors are closed, Sean and I will open the doors of the bus we need to work on and start to clean. Sometimes the children that ride the bus can make a huge mess. But I enjoy cleaning.

On a good day I can clean 3 to 4 buses. I wipe down the seats, sweep the isles and I also clean the windows. On Thursday when I get paid, I like to try to save some money for when I go on a Vacation. Working at the bus company, I have learned how to clean more efficient so that I can get more done in one day. I really enjoy my position there.



Bobby and his tablet

## WHO'S THE MAN? BOBBY! — JANE

I have decided to do something different for this newsletter. I have decided to write about different people that go to Opportunity Networks and for my first one I have decided to write about Bobby.

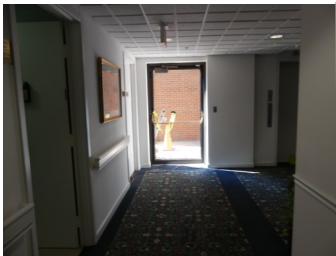
After lunch on most days you can find him either shooting hoops in the gym or watching his tablet that he got for Christmas while he's doing his puzzle in the library. He might be watching the Muppets because he loves the Muppets. He always has a puzzle going at the same time. Bobby watches different movies when he's at home and one of the movies he likes to watch is The Princess Bride with the Giant. Also he likes to watch the Muppets singing on TV.

When Opportunity Networks had their Spring Fling, Bobby went to it and danced. I have known Bobby for a long time and sometimes I go out to eat with him and his sister. He is one of my good friends.



Bobby at the Deerfield Fair

## PHOTOGRAPHY – BRENDAN



Inside The Hunt Community building



Hi my name is Brendan. I'm new here at Opportunity Networks and my hobby is Photography. I wanted to learn how to take pictures after I started taking a scrapbooking class with a friend. I wanted to take my own photos for my scrapbook. A Friend comes over to my house on Wednesdays and we scrapbook together. I have a nice camera. It is a cannon camera. It was a birthday gift and I enjoy it. Sometimes I take my camera to the Hunt Community and take pictures of the construction, the outside of the buildings, and my coworkers. Keri, Robin, Matt, and Michelle at Hunt. We do cooking, wipe down railings and doorknobs, and follow other directions for our volunteer position.

After I take photos, I like to use Photoshop to edit them. After I crop them and edit them I print them up at Walgreen's. Once they are printed, my friend and I can then put them in my scrapbook.

That is it for now, Love Brendan.



## NEW STAFF & PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS - BY MATT

Opportunity Networks is pleased to welcome the following new staff: Allison, Kandi, Lexi, Lisa, Ashley P, JP, Evan, Heather, Kris, and Vicki, Meryl, and Taylor.

Opportunity Networks is also pleased to welcome the following new program participants: Brendan, Sam, Ryan, Brandon, Quentin, Altan, Margaret, Barbara, Ahmed, and Gabe.

In order to get to know these new people better, I asked some of them what they like to do in their free time. Kandi likes to write and jog. Lexi likes to walk her dog at the dog park. Lisa likes to walk in

the woods and look for mushrooms. Ashley likes to sing and dance and hang out with her family. JP likes to play video games. Brendan likes to scrapbook, take pictures, play bocce, and cook. Quentin likes to play basketball and video games. Gabe likes to listen to music, bike, and tell jokes.

Welcome to Opportunity Networks!



## STEADICAM — BY STEVEN

April has now become the defacto time of the year for professional development on the broadcast industry, information systems and technology and content creation at the annual spring NAB Show (see Fall issue for more information about last years.) This year, I spent more time on the tradeshow floor. I grew tremendously, professionally and socially.

I had the privilege to meet someone I had been following on social media of a lady named Jess Lopez, or better known @StediJess on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. She operates what is called a Steadicam, a special mounting device to stabilize the camera, in fast moving, walking with an outcome of smooth shots. Without it, it would look bumpy and jerky. I met her, as well as several arguably high profiled people such as Manolo Rojas (humbly known to be a Steadicam op in the Xmen film) and Jerry Holloway, a co-inventor of the system.

The Steadicam was invented and came to market in the 1970s and have been in movies, and was popularized in broadcast TV in the 1990s in prime time dramas, and on cable news programs (during election night specials) in the 2000s, and is often seen in action at the endzone when someone makes a touchdown in football.

The basics of a Steadicam (trigger warning for sticker shock!) using Jess' rig as an example (60lb with an ARRI digital cinema camera), starts with a supported vest which the operator wears (nearly \$6,000); followed by the articulated arm (roughly \$12,000), which slides into a special mount on the vest. You must hold onto this arm or it could automatically smack you. Why? At this point, the "sled", that attaches to the arm, where the camera,



the "gimbal", and other components come to play, that alone is about \$40,000. Between that arm and the sled, the operator uses the gravity to retain the smooth shots.

The "gimbal" is area where the operator moves the rig to turn, twist, glide gently, etc. Another difference between a Steadicam rig and a typical camera on tripod rig, such as a broadcast camera; the viewfinder and focus controls are removed, and replaced by remote controlled focus

and zoom (nearly \$2,000) and a return video monitor on the bottom of the "sled", where the cost can go up much more. Alternative solutions such as clones and low end units for DSLR cameras, and smaller broadcast camera could still break the bank, but you could get lucky and get it down to roughly \$10,000

Most importantly, a Steadicam op does not go alone. Wonder what a "grip" means in the movie credits? Their job is to "grip" the operator, ensure they won't be tripping on cables; and most literally they have their back. There are two poles on the back of the vest where the grip is guiding the Steadicam. The operator is typically looking down at the return monitor and using their peripheral vision.

I had tried the 60lb rig at first, the following day, I tried a 30lb version, and struggled at first, because I conditioned myself to the heavier one! The lighter ones for DSLR cameras, or small camcorders only need a little muscle and grip. For me to not understand how to let gravity to help me was a bit of a challenge. When it comes to technical equipment, I feel like I must be in charge, and to not understand of letting go was a bit of a challenge for the lighter rig. (Continued on page 5)



(Steadicam continued from page 5)

Most of these operators are freelance, and have to be physically fit. Some take cold baths, do yoga;

while some will run on a daily basis. Depending on the rig, they could be looking down, and walking around with this device up to 12 hours a day, depending on the work.

## THE SPRING COLLAGE — BY NEWS CREW



### **OPPORTUNITY NETWORKS RECEIVES GRANTS FROM:**

BISHOP'S CHARITABLE ASSISTANCE FUND, INC.

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THE TOWN OF HOLLIS

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We would like to Thank Fiduciary Trust  
for helping fund our Film and Food Festival  
and our Winter Gala.



Fiduciary Trust Company was founded as a family office in 1885 and incorporated as a trust bank in 1928. Throughout its history, the firm has maintained a proud tradition of providing clients with objective and comprehensive investment management, trust, estate settlement, and other services. As a privately-held company, unfettered by the demands of Wall Street or a public parent company, we have maintained a steadfast commitment to long-term alignment with client objectives. This focus and commitment have resulted in a sustained 98% annual client retention rate.

## **Upcoming Events**

### **Our Next Fundraising Events:**

#### **Winter 2018 \$10,000 Extravaganza**

Please check out our website at [www.opportunitynetworks.org](http://www.opportunitynetworks.org), for more information on our fundraising events and how you can participate!!

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.

## **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](http://www.opportunitynetworks.org)

