



Winona ORC Connection

FALL 2014

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Winona ORC Has Made a Difference in Her Life

I have always believed if you care about someone and if someone has made a difference in your life it is important to let them know.

So I sit here thinking about Winona ORC and the companies like Fastenal, Watkins, Peerless Chain and Hal Leonard and so many others who contribute to Winona ORC. I am grateful to them all.

At Winona ORC we are not judged by our disabilities but are encouraged to use our abilities.

There is sometimes a certain stigma to places like Winona ORC. I also had some preconceived ideas that have been drastically changed since I began working there six months ago. At Winona ORC we are encouraged to do jobs we are comfortable with but never forced to do jobs that we are uncomfortable with.

The job coaches work with us to ensure that we do our work correctly and satisfactorily. I have met several new people as my coworkers and have great admiration for the jobs they do and the positive attitude they have. Some of them have severe handicaps but come to work happy and grateful to feel useful.

A year and a half ago I lost my eldest son. I didn't know that I could feel such pain. I am sixty-four, in a wheelchair and have anxiety problems so I tend to isolate even more since my son's death. Six months ago I could not handle the depression and anxiety anymore. I was at my lowest point and knew that I had to do something or I might not be able to come back from the dark and lonely place I had fallen into.

Because of my age and handicap, I wasn't exactly on the top of anyone's hiring list so I applied at Winona ORC. They hired me and since then this has turned into the most rewarding job I have ever had.

I still have to fight depression daily but I feel useful now.

I want the people at Winona ORC to know how grateful I am because they helped pull me from a dark place I didn't want to be in. The people at Winona ORC have made a difference in my life.

Thank you!

Sharon Burns

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Letter to the Editor - April 9, 2014



1053 East Mark Street • Winona, Minnesota
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Executive Director Bids Farewell



It was with heavy heart that we said good-bye to Executive Director Judie Foster-Lupkin on Friday, October 10th. Judie has taken a position as Executive Director in Albany, Oregon at a non-profit residential facility for adults with disabilities.

Judie shared that "The decision to move is bittersweet for me - I love ORC and what we have been able to accomplish these past five years - but Oregon is home. I was born and raised there; so going back to family and friends is going to be good for Ed and myself. Working with adults with disabilities has grown to be a passion and I am grateful for the opportunity to continue in this field."

Judie arrived in Winona in September of 2009 and in five years has transformed the organization and woven herself into the fabric of the Winona community.

As an operational leader, Judie with astute business acumen has eliminated waste, increased profitability and established new goals to better serve WORC clients. She was the driving force behind a 1.2 million dollar capital campaign for the ORC's commercial laundry

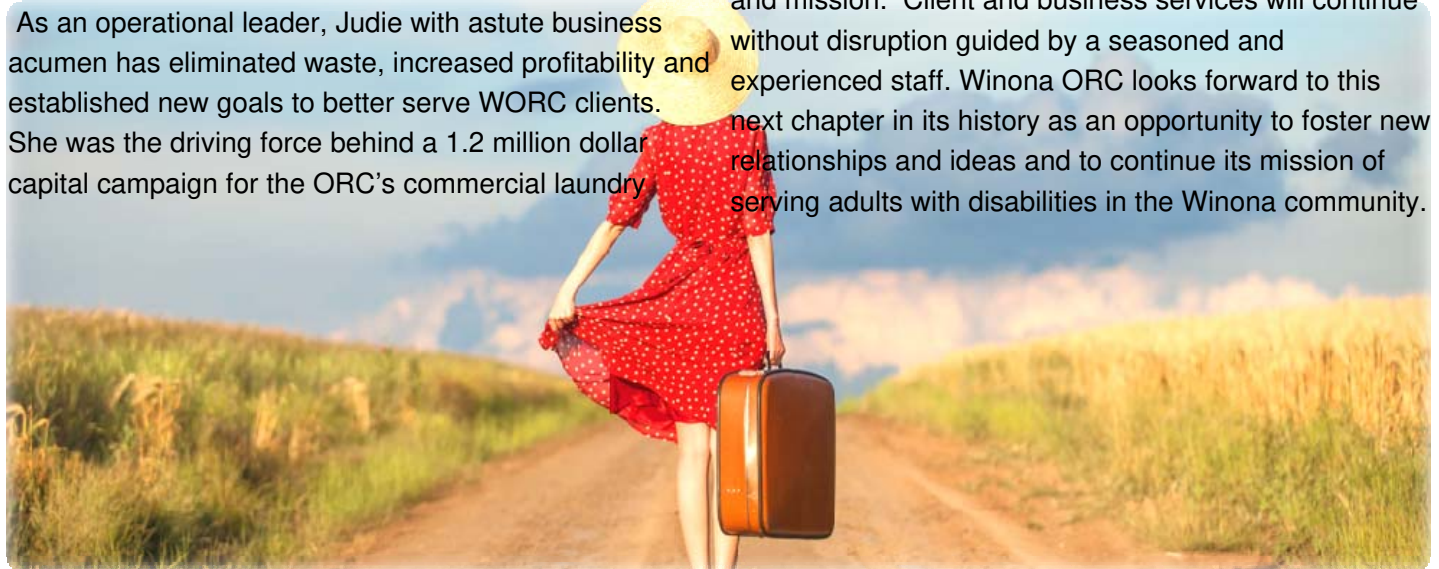
facility, Winona Laundry. The laundry was recently awarded a contract for Winona Health's hospital laundry needs starting in January 2015. In the community, she has worked to establish partnerships that are beneficial and share common goals.

While all of this deserves recognition; Judie's true achievement is her ability to inspire, engage and motivate.

"Influencing others to do great things" is one definition of leadership. It embodies the spirit of Judie. Under her guidance we have learned to overcome self imposed limitations, expand capabilities and discover untapped potential. She has taken a group of individuals and formed a cohesive team ready to take on any challenge. Early in her tenure, Judie shared her vision, passion and drive for improvement and invited us to "get on the train – its leaving the station". And what a ride the last five years have been.

Board President Jim Yenish stated, "It is with regret, that we have reluctantly accepted Judie's resignation as Executive Director. Judie's leadership these past five years has been instrumental in establishing a solid organizational foundation. She will be greatly missed by our clients, staff, board members and the community."

ORC will conduct a search for a new executive director that will meet the needs of the ORC's strategic goals and mission. Client and business services will continue without disruption guided by a seasoned and experienced staff. Winona ORC looks forward to this next chapter in its history as an opportunity to foster new relationships and ideas and to continue its mission of serving adults with disabilities in the Winona community.



Last Day with Judie



Benchmark Praises WORC Worker

In June an email was received from Deb Schmidtke, a Production Supervisor at Benchmark Electronics praising the work of Mike Millen.

Mike had been working with recyclable material at Benchmark and found a single board computer (SBC) board. The board had been overlooked during the initial unpacking and was valued at \$700.00. Mike took the initiative to contact someone and have this investigated. This mistakenly tossed board could have been easily overlooked. Benchmark appreciates the initiative and awareness Mike pays to his work.

Winona ORC joins in congratulating Mike for a job well done and your attention to detail. It's great to have you on the team! Great Work, Mike!



2nd Annual Starlight Stroll Run/Walk/Roll

WINONA ORC

starlight stroll

run / walk / roll

Winona ORC is accepting registrations for the second annual Starlight Stroll Run/Walk/Roll 5k and 1 Mile event, being held Friday, November 7, 2014. The Stroll will take place at East Lake Lodge and begins at 6:05 p.m. Those participating in wheelchairs will begin 5 minutes prior to the runners/walkers.

Registration forms can be found on the Winona ORC website at www.winonaorc.org or you can register online at www.active.com.

The Starlight Stroll is a unique fundraiser which will open the door for area runners, walkers and those with disabilities to join together in a healthy community activity. Wheelchair entries have the option of participating with or without assistance and are welcome in both distances.

Over 200 runners participated last year. This is an event you don't want to miss!



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Starlight Stroll Registration Form



Friday, November 7, 2014

Start Time: 6:05 p.m.

5K (3.1 mile) Run/Walk/Roll

1 Mile Run/Walk/Roll

Lake Park Lodge, Winona, MN

Wheelchair entries start 5 minutes prior to the runners/walkers 5k and 1 mile event

Proceeds support: Winona ORC

5k Registration: \$20 per person by October 23 to guarantee a T-shirt on race day
\$18 per person for groups of five or more
(group forms in one envelope)

Race Day: \$25 race day or after October 23 (not guaranteed a T-shirt)

1 Mile Registration: \$15 per person by October 23 to guarantee a T-shirt on race day
Race Day: \$20 race day or after October 23 (not guaranteed a T-shirt)

Early Packet Pick up: Thursday, 11/6 10 am-6 pm Winona ORC, 1053 E Mark St.

Race day registration and packet pick up: 4:30 p.m. at Lake Park Lodge—
foot of Main Street and Lake Street, Winona, MN

Course: East Lake Winona, out and back, flat and fast

5k Awards: 1st and 2nd place in each age division and overall winners
Age Groups: 14 and under, 15-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70+
No Awards for 1 Mile distance

Participants receive a t-shirt and refreshments

Tune in to Winona Radio on race day for any weather related announcements

Registration Form: **Register online at: www.active.com**

Check one: 5K 1 Mile

Male Female DOB ____/____/____

Age on day of race: _____ Phone #: _____

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Group Name (min 5 people): _____

Adult T-shirt Size: S M L XL XXL No T-Shirt

With my signature signed below, I acknowledge my understanding that participating in the Winona ORC Starlight Stroll 5k and 1 Mile event, involves a strenuous activity which I am physically capable of undertaking and I represent that I have received no restrictions on such activity from any physician. I further understand that my participation in the Run/Walk/Roll involves inherent risks of personal injury and loss of property.

I hereby absolve myself, my heirs, executors and administrators, forever, any and all rights and claims or damages I may accrue against Winona ORC Industries and its employees, the City of Winona and its employees, volunteers and any other advertised sponsor as well as individuals having connection to this event for any and all illness or injuries, accidents, property losses or hazardous health conditions suffered by me while participating in the race on Friday, November 7, 2014.

I also grant to the Released Parties the right and permission to copy, right and/or publish, reproduce or otherwise use my name, voice and likeness and/or written material, photographs, motion pictures and audio-visual, magnetic recording about me as a result of or in connection with my participation in the Starlight Stroll 5k/1 Mile Road Race. I agree to relinquish all rights, title and interest I may have in the finished product or the advertising copy that may be used in connection therewith and waive all rights to payment or compensation therefore.

Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian (if under 18): _____

Email address for Announcement: _____

Mail to: Winona ORC **Make checks payable to:**
Attn: Starlight Stroll **Winona ORC Stroll**

1053 East Mark Street
Winona, MN 55987 **Enclosed: _____**

For additional information, please contact Jayne Grupa at jgrupa@winonaorc.org

Krista Polus Awarded CWT



Krista Polus, DTH Job Coach was awarded certification as a Certified Washroom Technician (CWT) by the Association of Linen Management (ALM). Krista is instrumental in the day to day operation of our laundry facility. She was previously certified as a Certified Linen Technician (CLT).

ALM provides some of the most comprehensive training in the industry for laundry processing professionals. Subject matter ranges from production efficiency, chemistry in the wash process, maintenance and safety. The trainings provide skills and knowledge needed to improve overall performance and maximize efficiencies.

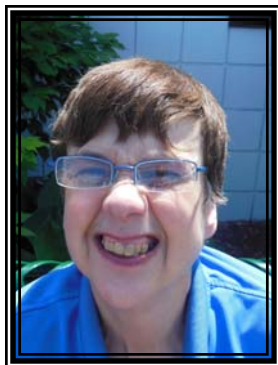
Congratulations Krista!

Bowling Champs



Congratulations to Terry Kubis and Joan Moor! They were recently announced as Project COMPASS bowling champions by Coordinator Helen Newell.

Terry was noted for his ability to brighten his teammate's days with his smile and positive attitude and Joan's bowling manners are exceptional!



Welcome Paul Sanders!

Paul Sanders is our new Director of Community Operations. Paul will maintain daily operations of community job sites and develop new work opportunities for our clients. He is responsible for the supervision of job coaches and team leaders.

Paul plans on spending time over the next couple of months becoming acquainted with our customers and learning how we can improve and expand our services to meet their needs. He enjoys helping individuals and teams be the best they can by providing resources and processes that help them reach their goals.

Previous to WORC, Paul was the Children's and Family Pastor at Pleasant Valley Church in Winona. Paul also worked as the Human Resources Manager for Apex Drugs in Novi, Michigan. He hold a Bachelors of Arts degree in Bible and Psychology.

When asked about his motivation to work at WORC, he responded, "I believe in the mission of ORC and I am thrilled to be able to serve with others to move toward that mission. I believe in the value of each individual. Sometimes it is easy to discount people because of something they do or can't do. Helping people find and hold jobs helps the individual and the entire community. There are many things that a person can spend time doing, but helping people is one thing that can make a difference in lives today and the future. "

Paul moved around a lot as a child. Michigan, New Jersey and New York were among the places he lived. Paul has been married to his wonderful wife, Barb, for 35 years. They have three married children, and seven grandchildren.

When not at work you can find Paul walking or riding a bike around the lake. Paul also enjoys photography, especially taking pictures of the grandkids.

Paul considers it an honor to be serving with the wonderful people at Winona ORC.



Welcome to the Team, Paul!

Employee of the Month

Each month, Winona ORC recognizes employees for their outstanding work performance. Workers are nominated and the Workers Council members vote. Congratulations, your commitment to excellence is appreciated by all at Winona ORC!



July

Todd Sveen

Todd currently works Monday through Friday at Riverside Electronics in Lewiston.

It is reported that he does a great job on the tasks assigned is very reliable. He has 100% attendance.

Congratulations, Todd!



August

Faye Kopperud

Fay works at the Winona County Court House Enclave through Winona ORC. She has great attendance and works well with others.

Congratulations, Faye!



September

Tim Simmons

Tim has been working so hard out in Laundry. Whenever he is asked to do something, he goes above and beyond expectations.

He is always willing to help his coworkers.

Congratulations, Tim!

Winona ORC Board of Directors

Jim Yenish, President
Watkins, Inc.

Steve Volkman, Vice President
Plasticomp, Inc.

Jim Pomeroy, Treasurer
County Commissioner, Winona

Ann Nelson, Secretary
Winona Workforce Center

Voting Members

Dave Adank
St Croix Knits

Chad Anderson
Winona National Bank

Deb McClellan
Live Well Winona

Maggie Modjeski
Sugar Loaf Senior Living

Kevin O'Reilly
Peerless Chain

Bob Peterson
Aerojet

Bill Reinarts
Reinarts Stained Glass

Ron Wenzel
Retired

Advisor
Blaine Krogh
Hawkins Ash, CPA

Senior Management Staff

Rich Anthony -Director of Facility Management

Michael Bellesbach -Director of Finance

Jayne Grupa -Director of Human Resources

Todd Olson -Director of Laundry Operations

Paul Sanders - Director of Community Operations

Lorin Thilmany - Director of Center Based Operations

Leslie Swartling—Director of Client Services



Winona ORC Industries, Inc.
1053 East Mark Street
Winona, MN 55987

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Or Current Resident

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Our Mission:

It is our mission to provide community based employment, vocational training and comprehensive job related skills and services to people with special needs. We will design programs to work harmoniously with other community resources to maximize opportunities to our clients and our community.

We envision a world where all people are uplifted by working. Through pride, dignity, continuous learning and respect for all, we build a healthier community.