



# MOVING FORWARD, LOOKING BACK

MEMBER NEWS AND INFORMATION FROM THE MUSEUM OF DISABILITY HISTORY

SPRING 2014: VOLUME 10



Museum of  
disABILITY History  
A PROJECT OF PEOPLE INC.

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## Message from the Director



Having survived an especially long, cold winter, let me congratulate you on your successful passage of the seasons and officially welcome you to what I hope will be a fantastic Western New York spring! You deserve it!

With spring, we see the signs of new life everywhere, and the Museum of disABILITY History is no exception. With the help of our friends at The Western New York Foundation who provided a generous \$19,000 grant, we are beginning an ambitious project to create an experiential “Tour Room” with state-of-the-art theater that will be used to deliver an immersive learning experience to enrich our visitors’ experience. This new tool is designed to present a 21st century message to a 21st century audience. Work on this endeavor is now underway, so we ask you to pardon our dust for a few months while we sort out the details of this great new project.

Another sign of spring we hope you will enjoy at the Museum is the newly completed “Monument for the Forgotten” exhibit. The Museum recently commissioned a mosaic artwork by Buffalo photographic artist, Brian Nesline, to be the focal point of its newest exhibit. Nesline, celebrated artist for “Faces of Buffalo,” created a ten-foot tall artwork to anchor our new exhibit that we hope will bring identity and respect to the thousands of nameless individuals who were buried without pomp or fanfare at dozens of institutional cemeteries around WNY. Often times, these individuals

*continued on page 2*

## Museum of disABILITY History Breaks Ground

*By Pamela Formoso, Museum Store Manager*

In previous volumes of this newsletter, you may have read about the Museum’s new café area located near the reception desk. Featuring a variety of delicious foods and drinks, the café is enjoyed by all who visit.

As part of our ongoing effort to enhance visitors’ experience, we are thrilled to announce another very exciting addition to the Museum of disABILITY History, which is made possible by the generosity of local organizations, our board of trustees and Museum members. We want to thank all of you, especially The Western New York Foundation, who has shown their generous support of a \$19,000 grant.

*continued on page 5*



“Like” the Museum of disABILITY History on Facebook!  
[www.facebook.com/museumofdisability](http://www.facebook.com/museumofdisability)

*"Message from the Director" continued from page 1*

were buried in mass graves that are now long forgotten and overgrown. A public opening for "Monument for the Forgotten" is planned for the weekend of June 5-6, and the exhibit will be in place throughout the summer. Please plan to join us.

The Museum of disABILITY History was proud to participate in a signature opportunity with seven local cultural attractions in a new collaborative event entitled, "History in Your Backyard." The seven-stop "Passport" partnership allowed visitors to see seven history museums during May 8-10. The seven participating sites included Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village (formerly the Amherst Museum), Erie Canal Discovery Center, Col. William Bond-Jesse Hawley House, Herschell Carrousel Factory Museum, Niagara Aerospace Museum, Niagara County History Center and (of course) the Museum of disABILITY History.



Looking back, winter was also a busy time at the Museum. I hope you were able to visit us for one of our events that have occurred since last I wrote. We were pleased to welcome our International Advisory Board member, Dr. Kim Nielsen, on February 21, who offered a well-attended "Dialogues on disABILITY" presentation entitled, "Disability History is Our History." Dr. Nielsen travelled from The University of Toledo to share insights from her book, "A Disability History of the United States."

Another excellent program took place at the Museum on March 29, when disability rights advocate, Alec Frazier, presented for our Person First Forum, with "Nothing About Us, Without Us." A Master of Arts student at University at Buffalo, Alec shared his interesting experiences and perspectives.

We are always grateful for everyone who visits the Museum, and we were especially pleased to welcome several groups from area schools, colleges and businesses during the winter months, including:

- Amherst Chamber of Commerce Business Blender
- Aspire of WNY
- The Buffalo Mothers Group
- Buffalo State College: Early Childhood Education
- Canisius College: Special Education
- Community Health Leadership Fellows
- The Council on Quality and Leadership
- Cub Scout Program
- Daemen College: Physical Therapy
- D'Youville: Healthcare Programs
- Erie 1 BOCES
- Falk School
- Nicole Fontana's Girl Scout Troop
- Learning Disabilities Association
- Medaille College
- People Inc. Ambassador Tours
- People Inc. Daffodil Senior Living
- People Inc. Direct Support Staff
- People Inc. Elmwood Day Habilitation
- People Inc. Ivy Rose Senior Living
- People Inc. Maple Residence
- People Inc. New Employee Orientation
- People Inc. Pine Senior Living
- Staten Island Developmental Disabilities Council
- SUNY-Geneseo
- University at Buffalo: Anthropology of Disability Seminar
- University at Buffalo: Center for Disability Studies
- University at Buffalo: Disability Services
- University at Buffalo: Pharmacy School
- Venture Forthe
- Villa Maria College: Safety and Accessibility
- The Western New York Foundation
- WNYDDSO Pine Street Day Habilitation

I hope you enjoy this issue of "Moving Forward, Looking Back." Thank you again for your interest and support of the Museum of disABILITY History.

Hope to see you soon!

Doug Farley, *Museum Director*

## Upcoming Events

All events held at the Museum of disABILITY History.

### Friday, May 16

10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Encore presentation of *Raising Matty Christian*

### Friday, May 30

7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Dialogues on disABILITY Speaker Series featuring Susan Connors "Tourette Syndrome - What makes us tic?"

### Thursday, June 5

10 a.m.

Ceremony of Remembrance Event  
Almshouse Cemetery  
5526 Niagara Street Extension  
Lockport, NY

### Friday, June 6

11 a.m.

Public Opening of *Monument for the Forgotten*

### Saturday, June 7

Museum open 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Opening weekend continues for the *Monument for the Forgotten*.  
Light refreshments served

### Saturday, June 21

1 p.m.

Person First Forum featuring a presentation and Art Exhibit by local artist Cindy Few

### Saturday, July 19

1 p.m.

Person First Forum featuring U.S. Paralympic Sled Hockey Champion Adam Page

### Friday, August 8

7 p.m.

Dialogues on disABILITY with Lance Fogan, retired neurologist and author will speak about epilepsy.



## Raising Matty Christian made New York Debut at disABILITIES Film Festival

By Nicole Forgiione, People Inc. Public Affairs Manager



The Spring 2014 disABILITIES Film Festival and Speaker Series, featuring the New York premiere of the movie *Raising Matty Christian*, was held April 25, 2014, in Buffalo. The film paints a portrait of a young man, Matthew ‘Matty’ Christian (1983-2009), who despite severe physical challenges, was able to achieve a great degree of success in life.

The event was hosted by the Museum of disABILITY History and People Inc. The organizations were proud to share this compelling movie as Buffalo was one of the first cities where the film was shown.

Two screenings of the film were held at the Amherst Dipson Theatre and a Meet and Greet Reception with the filmmakers was held in between the showings at the Museum of disABILITY History. *Raising Matty Christian* Director and Producer Christian de Rezendes and Associate Producer Paul Plotkin shared the story behind the film’s creation and answered questions from audience members.

“A great crowd with thought-provoking conversations and wonderful hospitality by the Museum of disABILITY History staff made this special RMC event one we will always remember and cherish,” said de Rezendes in the Breaking Branches Pictures e-newsletter.

*Above L-R: Doug Farley, Director, Museum of disABILITY History; Paul Plotkin, Associate Producer of Raising Matty Christian; Christian de Rezendes, Director and Producer of Raising Matty Christian; Dave Mack-Hardiman, Associate Vice President, People Inc.*



*WKBW-TV Channel 7 AM Buffalo Host Linda Pellegrino interviewed Museum of disABILITY History Director Doug Farley. He shared news about the Spring 2014 disABILITIES Film Festival and Speaker Series event.*

*continued on page 5*

## Our Visit to Perrysburg

By Sarah Jerge and Thomas Stearns, Research Assistants



On March 28, we had the pleasure of traveling to the Perrysburg Historical Museum to research the former J.N. Adam Memorial Hospital, which served as a tuberculosis sanitarium from 1912 to 1960. The hospital then became part of New York's mental hygiene system before closing in 1993.



We were greeted at the museum by historian Jody Shaw and volunteer Myrna Moss, who had already begun scanning packets of information for us. They proceeded to show us around the museum, pointing out some of the more interesting items in their collection. We were amazed by what was there and, for our purposes of researching J.N. Adam, the museum is a veritable goldmine of information.

While we perused their collection, we discovered some fascinating links between the hospital and the city of Buffalo. One of which involved a man from Buffalo named James H. Vaughn, who came to the hospital as a patient in 1918. During his convalescence from tuberculosis, Vaughn met and fell in love with a nurse at the hospital named Mary Gleason. They were married in July 1919, and had two children. Photographs showing Vaughn and Gleason at the hospital were donated to the museum by their son, James, and prove that romance can occur in the most unlikely places.

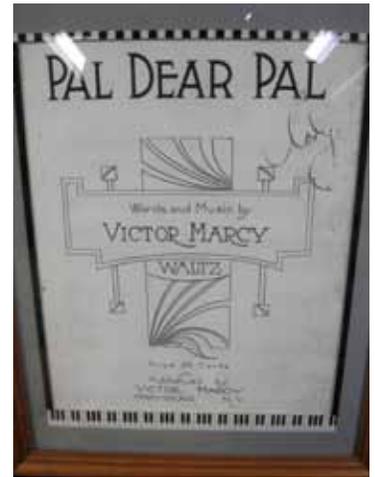
Another fascinating link was a young man from Buffalo named Victor Marcy, who composed an award-winning song while he was a patient at the hospital. According to an issue of Grit-Grin Magazine – published monthly by hospital patients – Marcy's composition, "Beautiful Sunshine and Roses," became "one of the most popular waltz songs of the day." The song was so beloved that Marcy received letters from the governor of New York and the mayor of Buffalo, praising him for his work.

But perhaps the most interesting artifact that we encountered was an elaborate miniature model of the entire J.N. Adam Memorial Hospital campus as it existed in 1940 (minus one section that was lost many years ago). The model was constructed by Dr. Paul John Trudel, a bacteriologist at the hospital, with the aid of his wife and a few other employees. Scaled to one-eighth of an inch to the foot, the model originally measured seventeen feet long and seven feet wide.

Jody Shaw saved the model from being discarded a few years ago and has done her best to preserve it, but it is in need of a professional restoration artist. If you know of anyone who might be able to assist in such a project, please contact the Perrysburg Historical Museum.

After we finished our introductory tour of the museum, Jody drove us to the hospital campus to show us what it looks like today. Though the buildings remain architecturally stunning on the outside, their insides are in dire straits as a result of general decay and years of people stealing valuable materials such as copper pipes. We had to view the hospital through a chain link fence that encircles the property. Otherwise, we would have run the risk of being arrested for trespassing.

Before driving back to Buffalo, we met up with Jody and Myrna at the Perrysburg Diner, where we enjoyed a delicious lunch and made plans for a return trip.



*All images are courtesy of the Perrysburg Historical Museum.*

*"Breaks Ground" continued from page 1*

What are we building? A brand new theater room which promises to provide visitors with an unforgettable educational experience. Historical treatments of people with disABILITIES will come to life in this new space.

Once completed, visitors will start their tour of the Museum by entering the theater room and watching a series of videos specifically designed to augment the resources and information displayed in the main Museum gallery. We assure you that it will be an experience like no other!

The theater room will also enable us to show selections from previous years' disABILITIES Film Festival events that you may have missed out on. We are very excited to see the finished theater and hope that you are, too!

And no worries about missing out on anything in between; the Museum will remain open during construction within our normal operating hours until further notice. Additional details regarding the completion of this project will be displayed periodically on our website: [www.museumofdisability.org](http://www.museumofdisability.org). Stay tuned for news on this exciting development!

*"Film Fest" continued from page 3*



Plotkin shared these thoughts on the Museum's Facebook: "The Museum of disABILITY History couldn't have been kinder to Christian and I. Thank you to the entire staff who made us feel as warm and welcome as could be! We are beyond grateful! ....Many thanks to the Museum of disABILITY History and People Inc. for an unforgettable weekend and for making us feel like part of your family....a family I'm very proud to be part of!"

The Museum of disABILITY History and People Inc. would like to extend their congratulations to the whole movie team of *Raising Matty Christian* as the film was awarded Best Documentary Feature by the SENE Film Music and Arts Festival.

The sponsor of the Spring 2014 disABILITIES Film Festival was the

## Join us for an encore presentation of ***Raising Matty Christian***

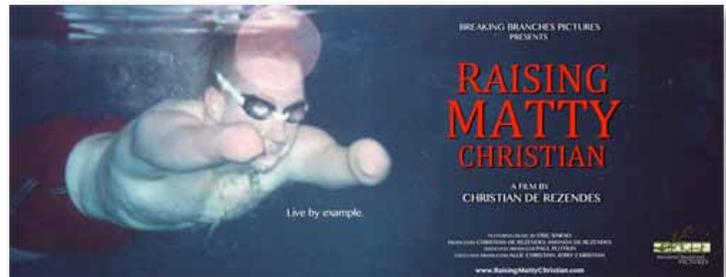
If you missed the Spring 2014 disABILITIES Film Festival event, there is still a chance to see the featured movie, *Raising Matty Christian*.

**Friday, May 16, 2014**  
**10 a.m. and 2 p.m.**

**Museum of disABILITY History**  
**3826 Main Street, Buffalo, NY**

**Admission \$5.00**  
**Free admission for**  
**members of the Museum**  
**of disABILITY History**

**RSVP to Pamela Formoso at**  
**[pformoso@people-inc.org](mailto:pformoso@people-inc.org)**  
**or 716.629.3626.**



New York State Council on the Arts. Stay tuned to future issues of this newsletter and the Museum's Facebook for updates about the Fall 2014 disABILITIES Film Festival!

The purpose of the event is to educate attendees, challenge stereotypes and celebrate the contributions of people with disabilities. *Raising Matty Christian* is not yet available for distribution, but the filmmakers are working to make that happen. In the meantime, if you would like to see the film, an **encore showing will be held at the Museum of the disABILITY History and People Inc. Training Center on Friday, May 16 at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.** The cost is \$5.00 per person and free to members of the Museum of disABILITY History. **To RSVP or for more information, call 716.629.3626.**

# Retired Neurologist and Author Dr. Lance Fogan to Speak about Epilepsy

By Doug Farley, Museum Director



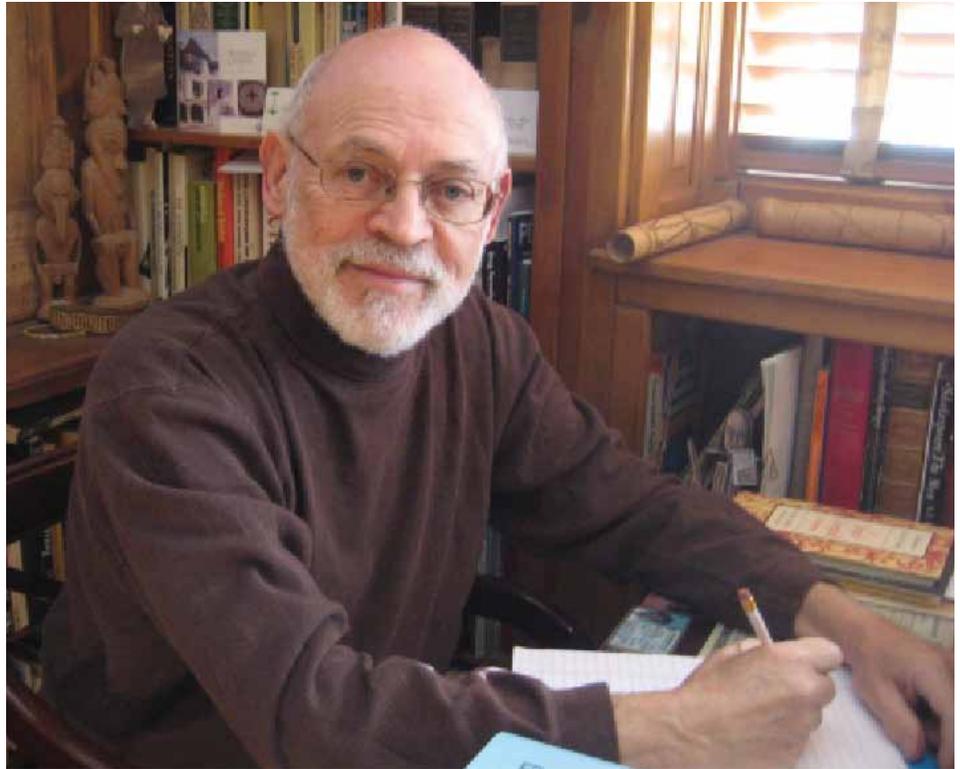
Born and raised in Buffalo, NY with big dreams of being a veterinarian, plans soon changed however for California resident and retired

neurologist Dr. Lance Fogan. “I always wanted to be a veterinarian,” states Dr. Fogan. “When I was in 8th grade, I read all kinds of books about veterinarians and I sent letters out to veterinarian schools. They all said I needed large animal experience on a farm.”

Arranged by Cornell University’s Veterinary School, the “city boy” from Buffalo spent the summer between his sophomore and junior year in high school on a farm just 60 miles from his hometown. It was not quite what Lance had expected. “I didn’t like the farm, and I didn’t like working with large animals,” states Dr. Fogan. “It just wasn’t for me, so I thought...medicine.” When he returned from the farm in 1957, he began working after school at a cancer research facility in Buffalo where he operated the cigarette-smoking machine. From then on, it was all about medicine.

Dr. Fogan joined the Future Doctors of America club and after high school attended the State University of New York at Buffalo, where he majored in Anthropology and Linguistics. “While I was in medical school, I had some opportunities to travel all over the world to primitive places,” states Lance. “I had found a doctor in New Guinea. I wrote to him asking if I could come for the summer.” In 1964, he traveled to the tropics of Papua New Guinea for two and a half months, followed by several other medical trips all over the world.

A board certified neurologist, Dr. Fogan practiced general clinical neurology full-time at Kaiser Permanente Medical Center in Panorama City. He worked with Kaiser Permanente for 26 years before retiring in 1997. He continues to share his love and knowledge for medicine with



others, teaching medical students and resident physicians as Clinical Professor of Neurology at the UCLA School of Medicine.

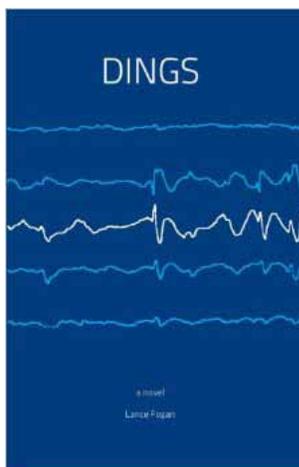
In March of 2013, Dr. Fogan released his book titled *Dings*, a novel chronicling the struggles of an individual dealing with undiagnosed epilepsy. Sandra Golden’s world is falling apart. Her son Conner is failing third grade. He does not complete class assignments, he forgets to do his homework and he ignores teachers’ instructions. Disturbing, too, is that he has even started to wet his pants again. Psychologists suggest that the boy’s inattention at school may be caused by stress and worry for his soldier-father, Sam, who

is serving in Iraq. As she struggles to keep the family together without her husband’s support and income, Conner’s behavior and grades seem to improve. But life does not improve for the family even after Sam comes home. Sam is drinking heavily and has a short temper. Sandra’s husband is not able to provide the emotional support she needs

to help her son get back on track at school. One night, Conner has a convulsion. Doctors initially believe it was brought on by his high fever, but mother’s intuition worries her – is there more to the story?

Subsequent referral to a neurologist results in a shocking diagnosis that will change the family’s lives. They learn of Conner’s unspoken mysterious symptoms: occasional blank out and confusion episodes and unfounded fears, with hallucinations of smelling foul odors. Follow the Golden family on their clinical and emotional journey in dealing with Conner’s epilepsy. Learn about epilepsy as the neurologist teaches the family about the condition Conner shares with one percent of the population: three million Americans.

***Dings* is available as a paperback at the Museum of disABILITY History bookstore and online at [store.museumofdisability.org](http://store.museumofdisability.org). Dr. Lance Fogan will present at the Museum of disABILITY History on August 8, at 7 p.m. for the Dialogues on disABILITY Speaker Series. For more information or to RSVP, call 716.629.3626.**



# We are Members!



*NYS Senator Mark Grisanti*



*NYS Senator Michael H. Ranzenhofer*



*Ann McElroy, Department of Anthropology, SUNY/Buffalo and Doug Farley, Museum director*



*NYS Senator Timothy M. Kennedy*

## New Members!

A warm welcome to our newest members:

### Individual/Student

|                            |                           |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Catherine Carey            | Christian de Rezendes     |
| Senator Timothy M. Kennedy | Alan Shibley              |
| Esther Owens               | Sara Elizabeth Williamson |
| Paul Plotkin               |                           |

### Family/Dual

|                     |                 |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Cindy and Linda Few | Sallie Randolph |
|---------------------|-----------------|

### Friend

|                       |                                |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Dan Barry             | Sally Johnson                  |
| Senator Mark Grisanti | Senator Michael H. Ranzenhofer |

## Support the Museum, Become a Member!

Want to support the Museum of disABILITY History? Membership opportunities are now available! With five different levels available, you can choose the one that is right for you. All supporting membership levels are good for one year.

**To become a member, please call 716.629.3626 or log on to our website at [www.museumofdisability.org](http://www.museumofdisability.org).** Click on the "Support Us" tab, click on "Membership," and then "Click Here to Become a Member." Thank you for your support!

Don't forget that as a member you receive free admission to the Museum and events, and a 10% discount in the Museum Store!

[store.museumofdisability.org](http://store.museumofdisability.org)

## Disability History comes to you!



**Disability themed exhibits available to rent for businesses, schools, colleges, conferences and events.**

The Museum of disABILITY History proves that everything's possible. It is a trusted, go-to resource for anyone that is looking to learn about the history, challenges and achievements of individuals with disabilities over the past few centuries. Here, the history of people with disabilities becomes alive.

**Enhance your event. Educate your community. Reserve an exhibit today! 716.629.3626**

## Spotlight on “PeopleMade”

By Pamela Formoso, Museum Store Manager



Among experiencing many other important aspects of life, some of People Inc.’s Day Habilitation programs allow individuals with disABILITIES to express their creativity through art, dance, craft making and entrepreneurship. Since it opened, the Museum Store has showcased the incredible handmade products that some individuals create as “PeopleMade” items. These items include beautifully hand painted silk scarves, plates, wine glasses, carefully sewn decorative pillows, cement turtles to spruce up the garden and much more!

Recently, some new merchandise has been added to this impressive collection with People Inc.’s Hamburg Day Habilitation’s flawlessly handcrafted wooden products. This program is rapidly expanding its production and the Museum of disABILITY History is delighted to be able to offer such hot commodities! Wide varieties of colorful wood pieces are transformed into unique pens and wine bottle stoppers that will catch anyone’s attention.

Aside from the remarkable attention to detail and skill involved, the

individuals use rare wooden sections that are not the normal wood tones that you may think of. Yes, the selection includes a variety of common wood shades in these pens and wine stoppers. Excitingly enough, some of these items also embrace other hues such as lime green, lavender, orange, red and blue. The best part is that much like other “PeopleMade” items, no two wooden products are the same!

If you have not seen them already, they are definitely something worth making the trip for! These new “PeopleMade” items make beautiful and unique gifts or even great additions to your own office or home. Take your “PeopleMade” pen or wine bottle stopper home today or ask us to include them in Dad’s custom built Father’s Day basket! They also make great gifts for college graduates and birthday gifts!



## TOP 10 REASONS to Visit the Museum of disABILITY History

Recently, a group of students, ages 12-14, from Stanley G. Falk School toured the Museum of disABILITY History. The students provided their own “top 10” list on why people should visit as well.

- 1 It helps you realize that people with disabilities aren’t so different.
- 2 You can learn about all kinds of famous people with disabilities.
- 3 There is great staff there.
- 4 It gives you a better look on how people with disabilities are still able to do everyday stuff just like you.
- 5 It has some great exhibits.
- 6 To see the “ABILITIES” and not the “dis.”
- 7 You get to see really cool stuff!
- 8 They have a three-wheeled car there for disabled vets which was the first car to be designed to accommodate a wheelchair.
- 9 You have a great time.
- 10 The tour is AWESOME and gives good information.

## Monument for the Forgotten

By Dave Mack-Hardiman, Associate Vice President, People Inc.



More than one million Americans are buried in institutional cemeteries. Often abandoned and neglected, these lonely and desolate graveyards are often in deplorable condition. Monuments are tipped, broken or missing among the weeds. Identities of those resting there are frequently reduced to a number, as if they were imprisoned.

On June 6, at 11 a.m., the *Monument for the Forgotten* exhibit will open to the public at the Museum of disABILITY History. This dramatic and unforgettable exhibit will showcase the national and regional movements to restore institutional cemeteries. The Museum of disABILITY History will unveil panels which show the efforts of many volunteers who have devoted countless hours to restore dignity to these final resting places. Cemetery symbolism and restoration supplies are additional aspects of the exhibit. The exhibit will be on display throughout the summer.

The centerpiece of the exhibit is the massive *Monument for the Forgotten*. Local Faces of Buffalo artist Brian Nesline created this incredible mosaic from hundreds of photographs of individual institutional graves. Brian's unique style of art allows him to "build" a monument to hundreds of people who have never had one. This is a one of a kind exhibit, never seen elsewhere. It must not be missed!



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## SAVE THE DATE! SATURDAY, JULY 19 AT 1 P.M.



### Person First Forum

Hosted by the Museum of disABILITY History

U.S. Paralympic Sled Hockey Champion Adam Page of Buffalo recently visited the Museum of disABILITY to look at his first sled hockey chair, on exhibit at the Museum of disABILITY History in the Sports and disABILITY exhibit. Adam is making a return visit for the Museum's Person First Forum on Saturday, July 19, at 1 p.m. School groups and athletes are encouraged to attend! For more information or to RSVP, call 716.629.3626.



Dialogues on disABILITY  
**SPEAKER  
SERIES**  
Hosted by the Museum of disABILITY History

## “Tourette Syndrome - What makes us tic?”

Featuring Susan Conners, author and president and founder of the Tourette Syndrome Association of Greater New York State

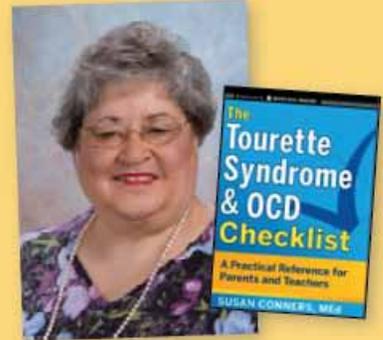
**Friday, May 30, 2014**

**7p.m. - 8:30p.m.**

**Museum of disABILITY History**

**3826 Main Street, Buffalo**

*Admission fees apply.*



“ The Museum of disABILITY History is an awesome place and I have been a supporter from day one. The speaker series has been great and gives the community an insight into a fabulous world of people with many abilities. Thank you for the opportunity given to us.”

- Don Bach, resident of East Aurora, NY and creator and advisor for the Aktion Club of East Aurora, which is a Kiwanis Club of East Aurora-supported service organization for adults with disabilities.

## CQL Awards People Inc. with Person-centered Excellence Accreditation

The Museum of disABILITY History is pleased to share news about its parent agency, People Inc., Western New York's leading non-profit human services agency. People Inc. has been awarded the coveted four-year, national CQL Person-centered Excellence Accreditation from CQL | The Council on Quality and Leadership.

People Inc. is the first agency headquartered in Western New York to achieve this accreditation, and with it the confirmation that People Inc. shares CQL's vision for person-centered solutions to improve the quality of life for people receiving supports and services.

Rhonda Frederick, People Inc. chief operating officer, has noted the CQL Person-centered Excellence Accreditation process was “an important avenue for all of us at People Inc. to reaffirm our commitment to providing the highest level of services focused on helping individuals with disabling conditions to participate and succeed in today's society.”

With this accreditation, People Inc. will continue to enhance its systems directly related to person-centered services and “in empowering the people who receive support from us to make choices in how they live their lives ... where they work, where they live, and how they create a community.”

Please join the entire People Inc. team and all those whom the agency serves in celebrating this achievement in person-centered excellence.



*Delegates of CQL participate in a tour of the Museum of disABILITY History prior to awarding People Inc. the prestigious accreditation.*



## Museum of disABILITY History Across the State and Across the Pond

By Doug Platt, Curator



In March, the Museum of disABILITY History had the pleasure of playing host to Diane Buglioli, Lorraine DeSantis and Peter and Susan Cheung who are planning a “Willowbrook Walking Trail Project” through the Staten Island college campus formerly known as the Willowbrook State School.

“ We wanted to thank you both for our special tour of your Museum. Doug, you are very informative and made the tour even more interesting with your ‘back stories.’ ”

- Diana, Lorraine, Peter and Sue



*Doug Farley, Doug Platt, Susan and Peter Cheung, Lorraine DeSantis and Diana Buglioli.*

The Museum of disABILITY History had the chance to contribute to a film project in Scotland:

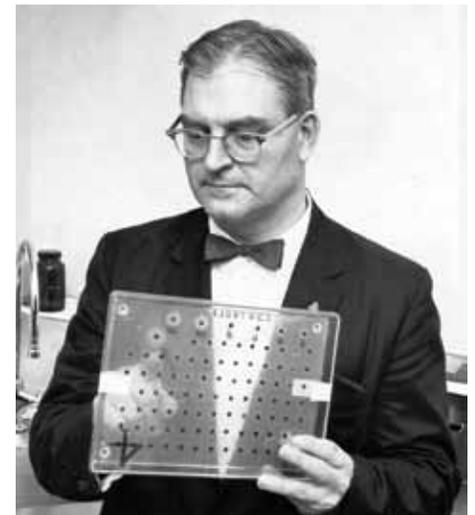
“ I’m working on a documentary about the history of the polio vaccination for the BBC and part of the story includes Dr. Hilary Koprowski testing this live-virus vaccinations on patients at Letchworth Village. The director would like to illustrate this with a photo showing some of the residents which I think she found on your website. ”

- Helen Wood, Production Manager, Matchlight Limited, Glasgow

The Museum of disABILITY History had the opportunity to reach back to its inaugural exhibit, “The Birth of Newborn Screening” to contribute to this publication:

“ In The Netherlands this year we will celebrate the 40th anniversary of the official nationwide newborn screening programme. I am in the final phase of writing a book relating to 40 years of screening in NL, commissioned by the RIVM (Natl. Inst for Public Health) Bilthoven and the Free University Amsterdam Medical School. The book will be in Dutch and is aimed at the former and present professionals involved in newborn screening. One of the pictures that I would like to include is the famous photo of Dr. Guthrie with an agarplate showing the spots and the growth zones, a picture that was also included in last year’s APHL memorial book. ”

- Gerard Loeber, Bilthoven, NL



*Dr. Guthrie*

The Museum of disABILITY History is also helping to educate educators in Nebraska:

“ I wanted to let you know that here at Southeast Community College, I use the virtual Museum as a module in some new employee orientation that I do for our new hires. Most folks like what they see...Many say the site is interesting and worth the time they put into it. ”

- Susan M. Dunn ADA/Access/Equity Specialist, Southeast Community College, Lincoln, NE

Staff members of the Museum of disABILITY History are happy to contribute to disABILITY endeavors at the local, state-wide, national and international level.

## From the Docents

The Museum of disABILITY History Docents have been extra busy. Not only have they been giving tours, but also a presentation at University at Buffalo's South Campus for first year medical students. Many of the docents have done this for about five years now. They truly enjoy it! The docents this year spoke with about 144 students. Two of our newer docents had this to say about the experience:



"It was cool, getting to give the students a brief story about my life, and helping them better understand people who have disabilities."

- Israel Cruz, Jr.



"I loved it, It was fun! I talked to them a little about myself and things I would need."

- Isaac Cote

A few Docents helped to pick the movie for the Spring 2014 disABILITIES Film Festival. They took the job very seriously and wanted the movie, *Raising Matty Christian*, to be one with a great message.



"The movie is a must see! I like how his family helped him out, and how he was always proving people wrong. People told him he couldn't and he did!"

- Maria Bell

Over the past four months, the docents participated in 22 tours totaling 265 people. Their biggest month was March where they had seen a total of 129 people in tours. Some of the groups were new People Inc. employees, University at Buffalo medical students, colleges, Cub scouts and the Stanley Falk School. We hope to bring in more people in the upcoming months.

The Docents had the pleasure of meeting Paralympic gold medalist Adam Page, who is a Buffalo native. He will provide a presentation at the Museum in July. The Docents heard about what he does and his experience at the Winter Paralympics this year in Sochi Russia. The Museum has Adam's childhood hockey sled in the Museum's Sports and disABILITY exhibit. The Docents shared their thoughts:

"He stated he talks to crowds of about 2,000 people and doesn't get nervous. I get nervous at 15 people."

- Israel Cruz, Jr.

"I enjoyed meeting him and hearing his story, as well as seeing what he does to help out other people."

- Maria Bell

### MUSEUM INFO

3826 Main Street, Buffalo NY 14226  
716.629.3626  
info@museumofdisability.org  
www.museumofdisability.org  
store.museumofdisability.org

### MUSEUM HOURS

**Monday-Saturday:** 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
**Sunday:** Closed

### ADMISSION

#### General Admission:

Museum Members.....FREE  
People Inc. employees.....FREE  
Adults.....\$5.00  
Students, Seniors, and Human Service Employees.....\$2.50  
Children ages 6-17.....\$2.00  
Children ages 5 and under.....FREE

#### Group Tour Rates:

**All groups** (greater than or equal to 10 people): \$4 per person  
**Rental of the KeyBank Room** (1st Floor, up to 20 people): \$50 fee added to the total amount per person  
**Rental of the Main Training Room** (2nd Floor w/ elevator access, up to 80 people): \$100 fee added to the total amount per person

### MISSION STATEMENT

The Museum of disABILITY History advances the understanding, acceptance, and independence of people with disabilities. The Museum's exhibits, collections, archives and educational programs create awareness and a platform for dialogue and discovery.

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### STAFF

Doug Farley - *Museum Director*  
David Mack-Hardiman - *Associate Vice President, People Inc.*  
Douglas Platt - *Museum Curator*  
Pamela Formoso - *Museum Store Manager*  
Sarah Jerge - *Research Assistant*  
Thomas Stearns - *Research Assistant*

### DOCENT STAFF

Janet McNevin - *Employment Specialist*  
Maria Bell - *Docent*  
Isaac Cote - *Docent*  
Israel Cruz - *Docent*  
Charles Degraffenried - *Docent*

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