



BRENDA BUNDY AND LITTLE SISTER D'ANNA

News from Big Brothers Big Sisters of Cumberland and Salem Counties

Big News



March April 2012

RECENT BBBS EVENTS

Vineland's Brenda Bundy named NJ Big Sister of the Year

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Cumberland & Salem Counties is proud to announce that we have a winner in our midst! Brenda Bundy was recently named "Big Sister of the Year" for the state of New Jersey! Agency representatives, Donna Bennett, President CEO and Arianne Hegeman, Vice President of Programs, caught Bundy by surprise at her place of employment; Fenwick School in Salem, NJ on Friday, February 24th, 2012. School principal Syeda Woods helped with the surprise and was happy to help Bundy receive the recognition.

Brenda and her Little Sister D'anna were matched in 2008 when D'anna's grandfather signed her up for BBBS after the loss of her mother. D'anna and Brenda hit it off instantly. The two quickly became "family". Brenda says that D'anna came into her life at the right time, just as she sent her daughter off to college.

Since then, the two ladies have met on a weekly basis, attending church activities and family parties. They always attend agency-sponsored activities like the BBBS Easter Party, Holiday Party, and summer picnics.

The Big Brothers Big Sisters State Association of NJ selects two mentors each year from the 5,000 or more Bigs who are mentoring youth across the state. Each agency nominates two mentors who have a positive impact on their Little and who offer support to the organization. Because Brenda Bundy was named Big Sister of New Jersey, she is now in the running for the Big Brothers Big Sisters of America "Big Sister of the Year" National Award for 2012. The winner of the national honor is invited to the National Conference and may get a chance to meet President Obama!

Both Donna Bennett and Arianne Hegeman are proud to have Brenda and D'anna as a part of the Big Brothers Big Sisters family. Hegeman adds; "D'anna's grandfather said it best; Brenda has been the answer to my prayers for D'anna".

Everyone at Big Brothers Big Sisters wishes Brenda all the best as we wait to see the results of the national award campaign!



Read Across America Book Event

Little Sister Teresa and Big Sister Alana check out books at the BBBS book give away on March 6th. Littles were able to select from a huge collection of books provided by Barnes and Noble Booksellers in Deptford, NJ.

Many Thanks to the sponsors of our very successful Financial Seminar on March 7th, 2012.

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National Award for BBBS Office Painters

The South Jersey Chapter Painting and Decorating Contractors of America (PDCA) was recognized with a 2012 Picture it Painted Professionally (PIPP) award from the Painting and Decorating Contractors of America. The annual awards program recognizes the best performances in the coatings application industry by individuals and contracting company members of PDCA. The South Jersey Chapter won an award for the Charity Projects category.

On February 19, 2011, nearly 20 painting professionals of the South Jersey PDCA Chapter spent their day revitalizing the office of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Cumberland and Salem Counties. For years, this organization had been trying to find the resources to renovate the neglected interior offices of its Sears Craftsman-style kit home built in 1916. PDCA contractors worked diligently to improve the interior of the office building by repairing damaged walls, painting walls, ceiling and trim and adding art graphics to the conference room. A highlight of the day's work was a detailed artistic mural reading, "Making a Big Difference One Child at a Time," painted onto the wall in the meeting room of the office.

Each year, the South Jersey PDCA Chapter hosts a community service project benefiting local charities



in need. Their continued support of the local community has earned them a 2012 PIPP Charity award.

"The PIPP awards recognize the very best of the best in the painting industry and honors PDCA members by showcasing their stellar work among their peers from across the nation," said Darylene Dennon, past chair and current treasurer of PDCA. "I applaud the South Jersey Chapter PDCA on their outstanding performance and excellent craftsmanship."

The Painting and Decorating Contractors of America serves the coating and wall covering industry with standards, education, training,

advocacy, and best practices essential to member success. Find a local painting contractor in your area at www.findapainter.com.

SEE MORE ABOUT THE PAINTERS

See the painters in action painting the BBBS office on YouTube.

[HTTP://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=MXy3OAHNGNO](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MXy3OAHNGNO)

Big Brothers Big Sisters invites everyone to



Aaron Ploch

Run, Have Fun, Help BBBS

The Ploch family of Vineland, NJ hosts an annual 5K run and 1 mile walk in honor of their beloved son Aaron who passed away at a young age. The popular event helps fund the Aaron Ploch Scholarship Fund along with another local charity chosen by the Ploch family. For the second year in a row, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Cumberland & Salem Counties is the chosen charity. Donna Bennett, President/CEO is proud of the partnership. "Having the Ploch family chose Big Brothers Big Sisters as their charity for another year is such an honor. We are excited about this year's event and look forward to having our Matches, Bigs, Littles, parents, and siblings participate in the event. It is a great way to not only support our program, but to support the community in which we all live".

register for the event. Come walk or run with us to support one-to-one mentoring in our area. Your participation has a positive impact on the lives of children and families throughout Cumberland and Salem Counties. Events such as this allow Big Brothers Big Sisters to provide services to local children and volunteers without a cost to participants.

When: Saturday, April 14, 2012

Time: Registration begins at 7:30am or on line at: <http://runforaaron.com>

Race Time: 9:00am

Course: The course is a scenic tour of East Vineland's farmlands. Runners will get a taste of Vineland's agricultural heritage as they pass fields and fields of freshly planted spring vegetables.

Where: Our Lady Pompeii Rosary Hall



Join us for a Spring Fling!

Bigs, Littles, and their families are invited to hop on over to the BBBS office on Thursday, April 5 from 5 to 6 pm and enjoy our annual Easter festivities. The BBBS office is located at 1944 East Landis Avenue in Vineland.

Children will enjoy games and activities, an egg hunt and baskets. Adults will enjoy the bake sale and information tables. The Easter bunny will join us for the fun, games, and photo opportunities.

Plan on fun and festivities, come rain or shine!

The Easter Bunny needs to know who will attend to make certain there are enough goodies for all the children. Please RSVP at [\(856\) 692-0916](tel:8566920916).



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Meet Board Member, Mark Fox



In this issue we spotlight long-time Board Member, Mark Fox.

Mark's relationship with BBBS of Cumberland and Salem Counties began in 1988 when he became a Big Brother to Jerry Green. Shortly after becoming a Big Brother, Mark joined the board of directors.

Over the years Mark has served President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. In 1995 Mark moved to Tampa, Florida. Mark has served as an out-of-state board member for the last 18 years. He attends major fundraisers in person and most board meetings via teleconference.

Mark grew up in Vineland and graduated from Vineland High School in 1982. Mark went on to the University of Florida and graduated with a BS in Business Management in 1986. Mark worked for

his family's 106 year-old business until 1994 when the operating business was sold.

Since moving to Florida Mark has owned and operated a custom framing businesses, and a real estate business. Simultaneously he and his family continue to manage a 50+ yr old charitable foundation, The Fox Foundation. Mark is a long time volunteer board member of the Dunedin Fine Art Center in Tampa.

Mark's hobbies include attending Phillies Spring training games in Clearwater, playing poker, attending the games of Tampa's professional sports teams and traveling.

Mark's Little Brother, Jerry, moved to Alabama. After all these years, they still share an ongoing rivalry when the Florida Gators play the Alabama Crimson Tide.

Attention High School Seniors!

Are you planning to attend college or other post high school training?

Big Brother Big Sisters of Cumberland and Salem Counties may be able to help with your tuition.

Each year Big Brothers Big Sister of Cumberland and Salem Counties offers \$500 scholarships to deserving high school seniors who were either a Big or Little or whose parents/guardian are involved in the program. The award is \$500 payable to the higher education institution the recipient is attending. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Salem and Cumberland Counties awarded six scholarships in 2011.

To apply for a scholarship you must complete the brief application and include an essay. The essay must either describe

- How has being a High School Big or Little impacted you at this time in your life, and how will you continue to use the skills and experience that you have learned to be a leader in the future?

Or

- How your experience participating in Big Brothers Big Sisters events/activities made an impact on your life. What skills have you learned and what experiences have you had that have prepared you for your future? How will you use those skills and experiences to be a leader in the future?

If you are a senior at one of the following high schools and you are interested in applying for a BBBS scholarship, please call the office at 856-692-0916 for more information:

Cumberland Regional
Vineland High School
Millville High School
Woodstown High School
Our Lady of Mercy Academy
Bridgeton High School



March and April Events

Date	Event
Monday - Saturday	Woodruff Museum of Indian Artifacts at the Bridgeton Library - Free
3/15 - 3/17	Beauty and the Beast - Vineland High School
3/25	Nate the Great at Cumberland Community College. \$5
3/25	Antique Car Show at the Salem County Fairgrounds
4/1	Paws for Art at the Wheaton Arts Center - Free. Celebrate dogs and the joy and enrichment they bring to our lives. Created in partnership with the Cumberland County SPCA
4/5	BBBS Easter Egg Hunt
4/14	Run for Aaron - 5K and 1 mile Run/Walk - Vineland
4/15	April 15 th - Child Advocacy Day in Bridgeton- 2-6 pm Car Show, Family Activities
4/29	Are you My Mother? at Cumberland Community College \$5

March and April Match Anniversaries

Tina & Ahnonda	6 Years	Lana & Dominique	2 Years
Craig & Omar	4 Years	Connie & Makala	1 Year
Mickey & Zach	3 Years	Germene & Alfred	1 Year
Randi & Kevin	3 Years	John & Miguel	1 Year
Roxanne & Amanda	3 Years	Edwin & LaDarian	1 Year
Rahed & Tahmere	2 Years	Jennifer & Alexis	1 Year
Dana & Sada	2 Years	Earnest & Revell	1 Year
Will & Ra'Quan	2 Years	Camille & Tashana	1 Year
Sharen & Seiasha	2 Years	Linda & Vanessa	1 Year

Congratulations to our New Matches

Gabriella & Jeremiah	Sheila & Carolina	Jessica & Tahnya
Deanna & Meredith	Thaisha & Tah-J	Joanna & ShaMier
Dalton & Neal	Erika & Niah	Sheldon & Crawford
Molly & Logan	Dazra & Dominique	Jessica & Lacey
Lydia & Lordess	Rebecca & Xavier	Fallon & Michell
Kyle & Jaiyon	Jailene & Monserrate	John & Tayron
Orlando & Jaime	Lisa & Trinity	Logan & Daniel
Kiley & Amanda	Desiree & Tamasia	Kenneth & Anthony
Christina & Kaitlyn	Nina & Jacob	Christine & Julaika
Allison & Kasandra	Guadalupe & Cristal	Jessica & Sirenicity
Felix & Julian	Marissa & My'Asia	