

# Our Report to the Community



Serving Our  
Community for Over  
115 Years



# 2017

# Keeping Promises For More Than 115 Years

## A Letter from our 2017 Board President

### OUR MISSION

Our Mission is to provide quality recreational, social, fitness & educational programs for people of all ages in our communities.

### OUR VISION

Our Vision is to provide individuals & families a positive, accepting environment, enabling them to achieve excellence in their leisure, education, physical fitness & life.

### OUR LEADERSHIP

#### Board of Directors

Doug Pyle, Chair  
Laura Miklos, Vice Chair  
Dr. Brian Crow  
Frank Evans  
Robert Fiscus  
Dr. George Garrow  
Joe George  
Greer Hayden  
John Hudson  
Lew Kachulis  
Jen Krezeczowski  
Georgiana Luce  
Georgia Macris  
Dr. Barry Marchetto  
Jack Monaco  
Julianne Stefanick  
John Thiel  
Butch Thiel  
Samantha Thompson

#### The Buhl Community Recreation Center

28 Pine St, Sharon, PA 16146  
(724) 981-3700  
[www.buhlcommunityreccenter.com](http://www.buhlcommunityreccenter.com)

Picture children — lots of them — everywhere in the building. In gymnastics and dance classes. In the pool for lessons or open swim. Playing or in classes in the new Child Care Center. Nothing is more rewarding to my fellow board members and me than seeing these signs that the renaissance that started a few years ago at the Buhl Club is succeeding.



Pictured Above: Left to Right:  
Frank Evans, Board President 2016-2017  
& Jason Kmick, Executive Director

Frank and Julia Buhl's incredible vision that created this organization 115 years ago is rapidly returning to its former status as that essential home away from home for so many in our community. Here are a few ways the community has responded to the new Buhl Community Recreation Center (formerly known as The Buhl Club)

- Membership has increased 25% in the last two years
- Program participation has increased by 15%
- Over 200 donors made financial contributions in 2017 – raising \$104,000 on a goal of \$100,000
- Immediate response to the opening of the Preschool and Child Care Center with rapid growth toward full enrollment

While the center's programs benefit youth from preschoolers to youth, adults, seniors and families enjoy the state of the art fitness center, adult swim programs, handball and racquetball, Silver Sneakers and much more. This is possible through the efforts of our new executive director, Jason Kmick, an entirely revamped supervisory staff and a board that includes ten members recruited in the last two years. Partnerships with major community organizations, ranging from Penn State Shenango to Primary Health Network, also enable more and better services and the resulting growth.

If you have not seen the center recently stop in and give us a look give us a look. You will be impressed!

Frank C. Evans  
President of the Board

# A Few Promises Kept Makes A Big Difference

## Here's how we helped our community in 2017

### MEMBERSHIP ASSISTANCE

Youth, Adult, and Family Memberships - \$86,180  
Mercer County Schools Youth Memberships - \$3,600  
Memberships to Community Organizations - \$2,536  
Silver Sneakers Membership - \$2,100  
Child Care Family Memberships - \$13,800

### PROGRAM ASSISTANCE

Childcare - \$4,555  
Swim Lessons - \$3,250  
Silver Sneakers - \$2,705  
Youth Programs - \$18,400  
Summer Camp - \$1,600

### ANNUAL CONTRIBUTED SUPPORT

The Community Foundation of Western PA  
EJ Kavanagh Foundation  
Gilberts Risk Solutions  
Henry and Catherine Evans  
Joy Cone Company  
Kimberly Boys Club Trust  
Margaret Walker Foundation  
Primary Health Network  
Rosemary and Dave Bestwick  
Shih-Nana George Foundation  
TJ Kavanagh Foundation  
United Way of Mercer County



### PHN supports the mission of the BCRC

PHN supports the mission of the BCRC and the programs that it offers for a variety of reasons including the great work that it does with its members and the Community and the focus it has on the same people that we direct our mission towards.

We look at the BCRC as a key component of the Greater Sharon Community and without it the Community would suffer. Having the opportunity to partner with an Organization with that much diversity has allowed us the ability to create cooperative and integrated programs that have had many widespread benefits. We look forward to continuing our relationship with the BCRC and are very excited at what our future relationship could produce.

**Drew C. Pierce,**  
**CPA, NHA, CPC**

Chief Executive Officer  
Primary Health Network

# Our Impact Is Felt By Families Every Day

## THE MISSION OF THE BUHL CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

The BCRC Child Development Center is to provide exemplary early education and childcare for families, by offering a safe, secure program that promotes the social, physical, cognitive and language development for ALL children.

### THANK YOU

to those who contributed  
generously to make the center a  
reality...

Buhl Regional  
Health Foundation

Frank and Linda Evans

Joe George

John & Mariangela  
Hudson and Family

Mark & Pam Hudson  
and Family

Joy Cone Company

Lew Kachulis

Jen Krezeczowski &  
Jim Landino

Shih-Nana George  
Foundation

Pearl Knott & Mark Longietti  
In Memory of Tony Knott

## The Buhl Child Development Center is Part of Our Family

Choosing Buhl Childcare for my daughter has been an excellent choice. My daughter has learned so much in the last few months. She has made some drastic changes in her speech and expression, is learning her colors, numbers, and ABC's and is much more verbal. The hours extend from early morning throughout the day, which very conducive to my work schedule.

I love that the Childcare Center offers free family memberships which gives the opportunity to see what the Center has to offer, including swimming and tumbling. Hailey loves going to school there, loves the staff and has made several new friends. I cannot wait to see what's next. Hoping the Buhl Club Childcare grows, and we get to experience more great opportunities.

- Carmella Clark



Pictured Above: Laura Ackley, SV Chamber of Commerce  
Child Care Center Director Kelly Caruso,  
BCRC Executive Director Jason Knick,  
Teachers Ciara Rice & Rhonda Rickert



Pictured Above:  
Carmella and her daughter Hailey

## Mom Loves Experience at the New Center

Our experience with Center has been amazing. Our family had the opportunity to take advantage of the Summer Program last year and our son Logan loved everything. Our family also got to be a part of the beginning of the Child Development Center. My daughter Leah was one of the first children enrolled.

She loves her teacher and the staff, she brings her artwork home and has learned so much. She also looks forward to going to school every day. She benefits tremendously from the swimming program and the gymnastics. We are very happy that The BCRC offers a daycare program now and we love everyone that cares for the center. The BCRC is doing an amazing job and definitely has made a difference in my children's lives and in our family.

-Ericka Milliren



Pictured Above:  
Leah Milliren and her Mom Ericka

# The Return of College Athletics to the Shenango Valley



Pictured Above: Left to Right: PSU Athletic Director & Men's Basketball Coach Aundre Smith, Jason Kmick BCRC Executive Director, William Dungee Director of Business & Finance at PSU

**The Buhl Community Recreation Center (BCRC) partners with Penn State Shenango to bring college varsity sports back to our area.**

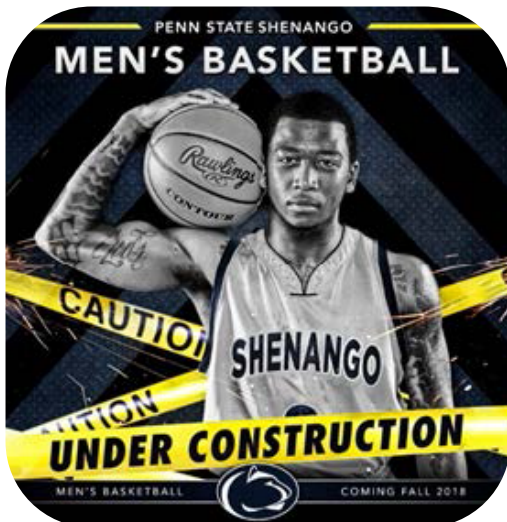
"It should be a win-win situation for both of us," said Penn State Shenango Business and Finance Director Bill Dungee nearly one year ago. Dungee was referring to the campus' newly reinstated athletic program and its collaboration with the Buhl Community Recreation Center (BCRC) in Sharon, PA. Dungee and BCRC Director Jason Kmick have been working closely over the past two years to re-establish the partnership that spanned over three decades from the mid-sixties to the mid-nineties.

Recently, the campus signed a three-year formal contract with the BCRC which outlines Penn State's usage of the facility to host its athletic practices and competitions, specifically its upcoming men's basketball program and future women's volleyball program. We couldn't be more pleased with the contract that we've worked out with the center," said Dungee. "We have had a great collaboration with them for many years. This current contract is exclusively for our reinstated athletic program." As part of the contractual agreement, the Shenango campus will collaborate with the center on upgrades and renovations to its gymnasium, which will enhance and improve the facilities aesthetics, including painting and new wall padding, scoreboards, and backboards. Most notably will be the restoration of the gymnasium floor, which will be trademarked with the Penn State athletic logo.

This work has been approved by the BCRC board of directors to begin May 19 with a completion date of June 8. The campus will host its first men's basketball game in the newly renovated gymnasium on November 10. "Anytime you have the opportunity to build an athletic program and partner with such a well-rounded, well-respected organization as the BCRC, it's a great building block," said Penn State Shenango Athletic Director and Men's Basketball Coach Andre Smith. "This unique partnership will have a positive impact on both Penn State Shenango and the community. There are several new ideas that we can collaborate on to enrich this community. This agreement will also allow local businesses to take part in sponsorships in the gymnasium area. I know all parties are extremely excited about the future as we move forward." us and Penn State.



Picture of BCRC gymnasium before renovations.  
Renovations set to begin 2018



The Shenango campus is also currently working on a separate agreement with the center where its students will have more access to the facility as a whole. "We are very excited about this partnership and playing our part to bring back college athletics to our town," said Kmick. "Bill and his team at Penn State have been great to work with leading up to where we are today...just a few months away from the start of it all.

As a part of this partnership, we will be making improvements to our gymnasium that will not only serve Penn State athletics but will also be accessible to our members and program participants. We believe that this is just the start of what promises to be a great partnership between these two historic local organizations.

# Friends Tell Us Some Of Their Stories

## A Special Message from One of Our Families



Pictured Above: The Bechtel Family  
Noel, Jenny, Keith & Owen

When I discovered the Buhl Community Recreation Center I was an exhausted, overwhelmed, working mother of three children. My daughter, her friend and my two sons expressed an interest in dance and other activities, however financially, I was unable to accommodate these requests. One morning I heard a radio ad for the BCRC gymnastics open house. We went to the BCRC to check things out and haven't left since.

After we got our family membership I was able to work out in the fitness center, my boys played in the babysitting room, and the two older girls enjoyed the dance program. My children have made progress in gymnastics, swimming and other sports, and the science and art programs have filled gaps in our homeschooled curriculum. Thank you, Buhl Community Recreation Center!

**-Jennie Bechtel**

## Jim Feeney Honored at the 2017 BCRC Dinner



Pictured Above: Jason Kmick, Jim Feeney &  
Joe George

James E. Feeney was honored at the Henry & Catherine Evans Community Service Award Dinner on September 20th, 2017. James E. Feeney retired as chief operating officer in 2001 from Wheatland Tube Corp., Wheatland, PA. He was with the company for 41 years. Mr. Feeney's extensive community leadership and involvement includes 40 years on the board of Sharon Regional Health System, F.H. Buhl Trustees; Shenango Valley Foundation; United Way of Mercer County; PA Economy League; Shenango Valley Chamber of Commerce; and being a co-founder of Penn Northwest Development Corp.

Mr. Feeney earned a BS in Business Administration from Youngstown State University and served three years in a U.S. Army Artillery Nike Guided Missile Program. He is married to the former Joan Kavanagh for 57 years and has three sons, Kevin, Tim, and Ned, nine grandchildren, and one great-grand child.

Jim continues to serve on several boards in the community, but more importantly he continues to serve the community.

## Members Appreciate the Aquatics Program



Pictured Above: Life Guard Richard Thomas &  
Aquatics Director Chuck Dunkerley

When we think about where we were a year ago and where we are now, it makes us smile. We made the decision in June/July 2017 to join the Buhl Community Center for several reasons: To get healthier, feel better, and to do something together as a couple a few times a week. Our lives are busy but now being in our 50s with the kids grown and on their own, there had to be more to life than going to work, right? It took us too long to realize that. We had moved to Hermitage two years prior and I used to be a synchronized swimmer.

Buhl's pool and its aquatics classes were calling to me and my husband was game, so here we are. Chuck Dunkerley was good for us. He gives good advice and integrates the perfect mix of cardio, joint/muscle movement, and yoga – we love the deep water classes. When we can, we participate in other aquatic classes and events at Buhl, as well. In the process, we've both lowered our blood pressure, lost weight and improved our eating habits. We've thoroughly enjoyed our membership at FHBC. Our best advice to anyone is "What are you waiting for? Do this!" Thank you, Chuck and FHBC, for making our lives happier and healthier. We literally weren't doing it without you!

**-Shaun and Beckie Erwin, Hermitage**

# Giving Back To The Community Is Natural

## COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

The ARC of Mercer County

Alliance for Behavior & Developmental Disabled Associates in Counseling Childs Guidance

Boy Scouts

Buhl Park

Capable Kids

Community Counseling Center Comprehensive Children and Family Services Covenant

Presbyterian Church

Diversified Family Services

Keystone Adolescence Center

Saint Michaels School

Saint Anthony's Point

Salvation Army (Mercer County)

Sharon Fire Department

Sharon School District

Shenango Valley Library

Whole Life Services

Youth Advocate Program

## OVER 5,000 HOURS VOLUNTEERED



Pictured Above: Nancy and Jim Bestwick have volunteered for a combined 30 years.

For over 100 years the BCRC has used volunteers in a variety of ways such as greeting members, instructing youth programs, teaching swim lessons, and organizing events to name a few.



Pictured Above: Hannah Wilhelm, one of our newest volunteers who just started this year.

In 2017, a total of 57 individual volunteers contributed just over 5200 hours of their time. Some of these volunteers give their time to help supervise youth in the building, interact in the wellness center and even help our custodial staff to keep the facility clean. Our organization has been very lucky to find, engage, and retain great volunteers.



## Our Friends from the Salvation Army

The Salvation Army and the Buhl Community Recreation Center teamed up in 2016 to teach toddlers and young children how to swim. Under the direction of centers Aquatics Director, Charles Dunkerly, the youth group from The Salvation Army Sharon Corps, under the leadership of Christian & Kiara Blaire, have joined the children's classes to be assistants in the program.

According to Major Amanda Jung from the Salvation Army, "the center has been a generous and community-driven site in the City of Sharon and has provided the local Salvation Army with recreation opportunities in donating pool hours to a variety of different Army programs. This has benefitted hundreds of children in the community over the past two years.

As a way to give back to the Buhl Rec Center, The Army joined up with Mr. Dunkerly to help aid in the classes. Major Jung goes on to say, "the one on- one attention from the teens to the children have benefitted everyone involved in the program. The children are gaining confidence in their swimming while the teens are learning nurturing and leadership skills." This kind of community partnership is a reflection of the positive happenings going on in Sharon."

Majors Michael & Amanda Jung, Corps Officers of The Salvation Army Corps would like to thank the Buhl Community Recreation Center staff, for their community-minded vision in bringing these two services together to create a strong program.

# Strengthening Our Community Through The Generosity Of Our Donors

**BRAVO! We are grateful to our 250 donors who generously to our Annual Campaign raising \$104,728 on a goal of \$100,000!**

Alan Nathan  
Alice McKinney  
Allison Wilson  
Ann Petrarca  
Arnett Carbis Toothman LLP  
Aurora R. Kittredge Trust  
Banjak Heating and Cooling  
Barber's Chemicals  
Barry, Kimberly, Alexandria Marchetto  
Ben & Mary Cricks – Young's Vending  
Bill and Jennifer McConnell  
Black, Bashor & Porsch  
Bob Fran Wilson  
Bonnie Nagy  
Brian Beader  
Buhl Train Society - Ken Rogers  
Carl Sizer  
Carol and Francis McElhinny  
Carol Connelly  
Cathy Bender  
Charles & Barbara Stover  
Charles & Mary Jo Sanitate  
Charles & Barbara Rogers  
Christian Buhl Legacy Trust  
Chris Levitt Electric Inc  
Chuba Lock Stock and Barrell Inc  
Cintas  
Clifford Elliot  
Daffins, Inc  
Darin & Michelle Flower  
Darla Carbone & Nick Santucci  
David E. Wood  
David & Diane Starr  
David & Barbara Stabile  
David George  
David Mathison - Leather Miracles LLC  
David Woods  
Debra Schnur  
Dennis & Madeline Fedele  
Donald & Janice Gill  
Donald & Patricia Voytik  
Donald Miller  
Donna Winner  
Douglas & Lynn Pyle  
Dr. David Coker & Dr. Sharon Price  
Dr. Brian Generalovich  
Dr. Donald & Joan Stoudt  
Dr. Ernest & Rebecca Swanson  
Dr. Jerry & Pam Hrabosky  
Edward J. Kavanagh Foundation  
Ed Kish  
EKKER, Kuster, McCall & Epstein, LLP  
Eliano Goehring  
Elizabeth De Noi  
Elizabeth Rose Stein  
Eugene & Judith Bianco  
Eugene Dougherty

Feeney & Gurwitz LLC  
FH Buhl Handball Association  
FN Trust Company  
Fran Piccioto - Pic Electric  
Frances Chrastina  
Frank & Ann Bober  
Frank & Judy Mindicino  
Frank & Linda Evans  
G. & R. Pettet  
Gary & Mary Kay Wassmuth  
George & Nancy Gearhart  
Gerald & Pam Hrabosky  
Gary Godfrey - Godfrey Auto Body  
Gilberts Risk Solutions  
Gordan & Mary Davis  
Gregory & Deanne Koch  
Henry & Anne Pajak  
Henry & Elizabeth Russell  
Hersh Exterminating Service  
Hill, Barth & King  
J Bradley McGonigle Funeral  
J.J. Smartz  
Jack Sanford  
James & Beverly Lazor  
James Bird  
James & Diane Hodgson  
James & Jean Winger  
James & Marlene Misavage  
James & Barbara Divens  
James & Karen Ferenick  
James & Lynn Anderson  
James & Marguerite Scullin  
James & Patricia Golubich  
James & Rosemary Farmakis  
James & Ruth Ann Aaron  
James & Ruth Black  
James & Wendy Bailey  
James Feeney  
Janice Dallap  
Jeff Godfrey  
Jeffrey & Denise Meier  
Jeffrey & Janet Catron  
Jim Landino & Jen Krezeczowski  
Jim & Mary Hanuscin  
Jim & Sandy Scharman  
Jim & Marie Hanuscin  
Jim & Nancy Bestwick  
Joan & Edward Fischer  
John & Andrea Davidson  
John & Brenda Longstreet  
John & Denise Van Verth  
John & Laura Miklos  
John & Lori Thiel  
John Hudson - Hudson Group

John J. Monaco  
John Thiel  
John Wallace -Fringe Benefit Services  
John Williams  
Joseph Kittredge Foundation  
Joseph & Judith Kahl  
Joseph & Terry Evans  
Joseph & Mary Szabo  
Joseph Georgen & Ruthann Beighley  
Josephine Miller  
Joshua & Jennifer Manning  
Joy Cone Company  
Kachulis Foundation  
Karen Winner Sed  
Ken & Patty Warrender  
Kenneth & Doris Cope  
Kirk & Leslie Ainger  
Lew & Nancy Kachulis  
Lisa Chavara  
Louis DeJulia  
Lu Lu Beans Café & Coffee Shop  
Lynn Sherretts  
Marc & Mariellen Gargano  
Margaret & Donald Gresko  
Margaret Conti  
Mark & Janice Ritter  
Mark & Mary DePietro  
Mark Carano  
Mark Hudson - Hudson Construction  
Mark Mallcolson - Mercer County State Bank  
Marlene DePietro  
Mercer County Hall of Fame - James Tamber  
Michael & Ann Isacco  
Michael DeForest  
Nancy & George Gerhart  
Nancy Sed & Amy Wertz  
Nick Fatimus - Conely Island  
Norman Wilson  
O'Brien Children Memorial Fund  
Patrick and Pamela McGonigle  
Paul & Kate McSherry  
Penn Northwest Development Corp.  
Penn State Shenango  
Peter & Kelly Calla  
PHN Charitable Foundation  
P I & I Motor Express  
Pong Woo  
Premier Power Solution, LLC  
Primary Health Network  
Quota International of the Shenango Valley  
Ralph Mehler Agency Inc.  
Reynold Baseball & Softball Booster  
Richard & Barbara Mckee  
Richard & Susan English  
Richard Epstein  
Paul O'Brien - Rien Construction  
Robert & Frances Wilson  
Robert Miller  
Robert Piccirilli

Ron & Jane DeBacco  
Ronald Amrhein  
Ronald J. & Starlit Koshar  
Ronald & Gayle Anderson  
Rosemary Bestwick  
RT & PP Smyth  
S.W. White  
Salvatore Mitchell Endowment Fund  
Samantha Thompson  
Sandra Hoover  
Sandra Morris  
Schagrin Association  
Sharon American Legion Post 299  
Sharon Elks Lodge No 103  
Sharon George  
Sharon Optical  
Sharon Tube  
Slovenian Home Athletic Club  
Saint George Roman Catholic Church  
Stephen & Nora Lee Garay  
Stephen & Sandy Gurgovits  
Steve & Betty Carbone  
Steven Juberlier & Alice Mattocks  
Stewart Sharon Regional Hosp  
Sue Simion  
Sulick Designs  
SV Catholic School System  
Synergy Community Foundation  
Taylor & Associates Ameriprise  
Terry & Cristine Daughenbaugh  
T. James Kavanagh Foundation  
The Community Foundation Western PA  
Thomas & Geraldine Flynn  
Thomas & Leslie Marshall  
Thomas & Mitzi Kuster  
Thomas & Ryan Roberts  
Thomas Petrilla  
Thomas Richards  
Timothy Schell  
Tom & Christina Kachulis  
Tom Brewer  
PL Kimberly Boys Club Trust  
United Way of Mercer County  
UPMC Horizon - Jacqueline Bonier  
Vicki & Richard Ligner  
Vucenovic  
Wallace & Pancher Group  
Walter & Renne Lucas  
Wayne Bair  
Werner Family Foundation  
Wheatland Tube  
William & Lisa Hoodin  
William & Lou Ann Bestwick  
William McConnell  
William Welsh  
Winner Foundation  
World Wide Golf School  
Yourga Trucking

**Executive Director** Jason Kmick • [jkmick@fhhbuhlclub.org](mailto:jkmick@fhhbuhlclub.org) • 724-981-3700 x104  
**Program Director** Michelle Bower • [mbower@fhhbuhlclub.org](mailto:mbower@fhhbuhlclub.org) • 724-981-3700 x108  
**Child Development Director** Kelly • [kcaruso@fhhbuhlclub.org](mailto:kcaruso@fhhbuhlclub.org) • 724-981-3700 x110  
**Aquatics Director** Chuck Dunkerley • [cdunkerley@fhhbuhlclub.org](mailto:cdunkerley@fhhbuhlclub.org) • 724-981-3700 x107  
**Group/Senior Fitness Director** Vicki Vargo • [vvargo@fhhbuhlclub.org](mailto:vvargo@fhhbuhlclub.org) • 724-981-3700 x106



**Thank you for helping the Buhl Club keep our promise**