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Ten Who Made a Difference: Mary Barks

The Gillette News-Record ran an article last month recognizing Mary Barks, who also is the Vice President of the P&A Board, as one of **"Ten People who made a difference in 2018**." Ms. Barks also is the Resident and Family Relations Coordinator of the Legacy Living and Rehabilitation Center located in Gillette as part of the facilities and services offered by Campbell County Health. When she went to work at Legacy, she decided she wanted to help people with Alzheimer's disease and dementia.

To support Legacy residents, Ms. Barks spent her spare time researching how best to work with people who have Alzheimer's and dementia. After reading about the **Walk to End Alzheimer's**, an Alzheimer's Association event that enables communities to raise money for research, caregiver support, awareness and education, she decided Gillette should host one. As a result of Barks' efforts, about 450 people showed up for the walk — likely the largest turnout ever for a walk or run held in Campbell County — and the community raised \$47,589, significantly more than Barks' goal of \$10,000.

"To see our residents who have Alzheimer's out there, walking by with a smile on their face, with their promise flower in their hand ... participating in something that is so full of life and seeing that smile, that's a reward in itself!"

- Mary Barks

Source: https://www.gillettenewsrecord.com/ image e6da2b43-f483-5650-9ae6-6f5b838d69cc.html





in our lives in 2018

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Barbie introduces dolls with wheelchairs and prosthetic limbs

In June, Barbie will debut a doll with a prosthetic leg and another that comes with a wheelchair.

The new dolls are part of Mattel's 2019 Barbie Fashionistas line, which aims to offer kids more diverse representations of beauty.

"As a brand, we can elevate the conversation around physical disabilities by including them into our fashion doll line to further showcase a multi-dimensional view of beauty and fashion," Mattel said in a statement.

Source: <u>https://www.cnn.com/2019/02/12/us/barbie-doll-disabilities-trnd/index.html</u>.



New Emoji Include People With Disabilities

A dozen icons depicting the experiences of people with disabilities are coming to smartphones and other devices later this year.



The Unicode Consortium — the organization that standardizes the emoji offered by Apple, Google and other device makers released 59 new emoji this week. Among them are many images portraying various aspects of the disability experience. The new disability-related icons were requested by Apple last year.

The new offerings include icons showing people using manual and power wheelchairs, a service dog, a hearing aid and prosthetics, among other special needs. Some of the emoji have male and female versions and variants for skin tone.

Source: https://www.disabilityscoop.com/2019/02/06/new-emoji-includedisabilities/26001/

Employment disparity grows for rural Americans with disability

Employment rates have increased since the recession, but

these gains haven't reached all communities across the country, nor has everyone benefited from these gains. While overall employment rates have improved, employment for people with disabilities in rural areas has decreased. The American Community Survey of 5-year estimates explored changes in employment rates for people with and without disabilities across the nine divisions of the United States, and for metropolitan, micropolitan, and non-core counties. A fact sheet was released (December 2018).

Source: https://scholarworks.umt.edu/ruralinst employment/42/



On the road again

Advocate Carolyn Yeaman and Staff Attorney Bob Walters went to Casper last month to provide trainings on "Recognizing and Reporting Abuse and Neglect" to staff at NOWCAP. They also provided a "Rights and Responsibilities" presentation to NOWCAP service clients.

If you would like to schedule a training for your staff or clients, contact P&A.