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WHAT'S DOUNG IN WESTCHESTER AND PUTNAM

Ready, Willing & Extremely Able

areers for People with Disabilities, Inc.(Careers) bestowed an honor for "Longevity" at its recent Achievement Awards Breakfast on Christopher Meyers, an 18-year employee of Curry Automotive. Stop & Shop Supermarkets received the Employer Recognition Award for hiring 12 people with disabilities to work in its Port Chester store within the past year.

The breakfast, held since 1986 to celebrate National Disability Employment Awareness Month, is sponsored by the Westchester County Office of the Disabled and the Westchester Employment Network (WEN), a consortium of organizations that serve individuals with disabilities.

Westchester County Executive Rob Astorino addressed the hundreds of people representing public agencies, employers, and disabled individuals in Westchester County who attended the event held Thursday, October 14, 2010 at the Doral Arrowwood Conference Center in Rye Brook, NY.

Christopher Meyers is a maintenance porter at Curry Automotive in Peekskill. He began working for Curry 18 years ago. Working side-by-side with his supervisor through the years, he has learned how to help maintain Curry's facilities expanding the scope of his work to include making repairs within the facility. "Despite his disability, Chris has overcome many challenges



Curry Automotive 18-year employee Christopher Meyers (left) of Putnam Valley is congratulated by his supervisor Mike Pierorazo on receiving the prestigious Employee Longevity Award at this year's Careers Achievement Awards Breakfast.

and is a loyal, dedicated employee, who never misses a day of work," said Careers Executive Director Tina Cornish-Lauria.

Stop & Shop Supermarkets has been active in hiring individuals with disabilities, especially at its Port Chester Store. Of the 23 people with disabilities Stop & Shop hired to work in its stores last year; more than half were assigned to Port Chester. Store Supervisor Jamie Smith, who was primarily responsible for hiring Careers' clients, accepted the award on behalf of Stop & Shop.

For additional information about how Careers helps disabled individuals, or employers in need of qualified help, contact its Valhalla office, which serves central and lower Westchester, at 914-741-8500, or the Carmel office, which serves northern Westchester and Putnam Counties, at 845-225-8007.