

## GBS grad contributes to downtown revitalization

**CNC Medical Equipment strives to serve young children with disabilities**

ALAN P. HENRY, Staff Writer

As Glenview's downtown goes through the revitalization process, Glenview-born businessman Chris Camp is thrilled to be in a position to contribute.

On Oct. 19, Camp's CNC Medical Equipment Inc. will officially be welcomed to its new home at 1814 Glenview Road. A ribbon-cutting ceremony will be attended by the Chamber of Commerce at 11 a.m.

"We have purchased the building and put in new windows and a new roof and are trying to help make downtown Glenview what it once was," said Camp, a 1990 Glenbrook South graduate. "I have emotional ties to downtown Glenview. To see all

these empty stores, it's hard. I appreciate that there is now a focus on getting the area moving again, and I want to support it."

Camp started doing just that 10 years ago.

He and his wife Caryn — the other "C" in CNC — had worked together in other medical equipment companies and decided to venture out on their own. They opened CNC in her garage in Carol Stream because, in order to work with Medicare, they needed to have a showroom.

In 2001, CNC began renting space at 1804 Glenview Road. A decade later, they saw the old Cat's Meow building at 1814 Glenview Road go up for sale.

"We jumped on it," Camp said. "I certainly wanted to stay in downtown Glenview. I think it's just a great area."

The most visible part of CNC's business is the purchase or rental of manual and power wheelchairs, scooters,

lift chairs, beds, walkers, rollabouts, bath safety products and the like.

Still, the walk-in retail business represents only 10-20 percent of what CNC does.

"It may pay the rent," as Camp put it.

Their primary focus, built up over the course of the last eight years, is working with the state's "early intervention" program to serve children with disabilities from birth through age 3.

CNC now serves more than 1,000 children annually. It provides everything from \$10 chewy tubes for children with speech problems, to weighted blankets for children with autism, to four-figure positioning chairs for children with cerebral palsy.

CNC contracts with one of the Illinois Department of Human Services' 21 Child and Family Connections offices to purchase the product, which has been authorized by the state.

Camp said CNC has been successful in the highly competitive business because it is efficient.

"Agencies keep coming back to us because they know we get the job done," he said. "We get back to people. Nobody gets lost in red tape."

Unlike some of their competitors, CNC is also willing to wait to get paid by the state.

"When the approval comes in, we purchase the equipment, even though we know we won't get paid for up to a year," Camp said. "Some companies won't do that. They won't place the order until they get paid."

To date, CNC revenues have increased every year, though that has leveled off the past four years.

But it's not revenues that make Camp most proud. It's the letters from customers.

"I cannot express in words how thankful we are to you for this kidwalk," one letter said. "My son just loves it.



CNC Medical Equipment Inc. President Chris Camp (left) and office manager Roberta Mitchell demonstrate the fitting of a knee walker. ALAN P. HENRY/22ND CENTURY MEDIA

When he first set his eyes on it, he wanted to get in it and start walking. On that first day, he took four steps on his own. With each day of practice he is getting stronger, taking more steps and walking farther. This kidwalk has given him a whole new sense

of independence that is incredible."

"We are always on the side of the family," said Camp. "We make sure they get the proper equipment. That is what is most important to us."

## Glenbrook Hospital home to new sexual health clinic

ALEX MAYSTER, Editor

Glenview residents looking for sexual health treatment will no longer have far to travel.

NorthShore University HealthSystem has launched its new William D. and Pamela Hutul Ross Clinic for Sexual Health, which is located at Glenbrook Hospital.

The clinic is aimed to help people who struggle with a range of sexual health issues, especially after prostate or other cancer treatments.

Research has shown that even patients already seeking care don't ask for help with sexual issues for a number of reasons, including embarrassment.

Dr. Jeffrey Albaugh, the director of the new clinic, wants to change

that.

"Sex is one of those things, as a culture, that we're embarrassed to bring up and we're not sure if it's OK to talk about," he said. "Often times, patients are reluctant to bring up these issues ... I think there's a myriad of reasons why people don't always do that. But the bottom line is there is no reason for a man or woman to suffer in silence."

The clinic is one of only a few of its kind in the country, especially because it provides treatment for both males and females.

Albaugh will see people of all ages, and has treated patients from 18 to 90 years old.

The clinic is part of NorthShore's John and Carol Walter Center for Urological Health, a recently es-

tablished department built with funds exceeding \$15 million.

Albaugh, who wrote the book "Reclaiming Sex & Intimacy After Prostate Cancer: A Guide for Men and Their Partners," was brought in to head up the new sexual health department.

"It's just to give patients this essential information that over and over I kept hearing patients needing," he said.

While the care center opened in September, an official grand opening has been planned for Oct. 24.

But Albaugh is already seeing patients, and is giving out a copy of his book to each one.

For more information on the clinic, visit [www.northshore.org/Urological-Health/Conditions/Sexual-Health](http://www.northshore.org/Urological-Health/Conditions/Sexual-Health).



Dr. Jeffrey Albaugh speaks with a patient at the William D. and Pamela Hutul Ross Clinic for Sexual Health. PHOTO SUBMITTED