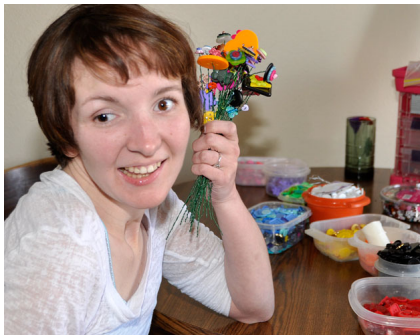


Brittney's Botanical Buttons blooms into big business

Written by Darci Tomky

The flowers are sure bloomin' this spring at the Ferguson house, as Brittney's Botanical Buttons blossoms into quite a business for this young entrepreneur.

These \$1 flowers, made out of colorful buttons and wire, are something that Brittney Ferguson can focus on, intently and carefully picking out just the right combinations for each flower.



Brittney Ferguson gets a smile on her face as she sorts through her vast array of buttons and shows off her pretty flower creations.☺☺

—Enterprise photo

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It's been four and a half years since Brittney, now in her mid-20s, was left in critical condition after a pickup rollover accident as a back-seat passenger in Laramie, Wyo.

Brittney's parents, Rance and Connie Ferguson, said Brittney understands everything, using a form of sign language to communicate, but it just might take her a bit longer to process information than other people.

She's been back in physical therapy again, but her parents say she's been doing a lot better walking with assistance. While Brittney uses a wheelchair when she's cruising around Holyoke, she can walk around on her knees by herself when she's at home.

Brittney's sister, Amanda, said they've tried other projects with Brittney, like tie-dying or painting, but her botanical button business is one project she can give her full attention to for long periods of time without getting bored.

Her family assists her with the flowers, but they must pass Brittney's critical eye for approval. They laughed when they said she usually has to change something about the flowers they make before they get her approval.

Brittney was introduced to the colorful flowers by Susette Bohlender, a lady who comes to the area for business at Highline about once a month. She began doing small projects with Brittney, and this one just stuck.

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