

Inspirations

March 2009

Terrebonne Association for Retarded Citizens



Celebrating Intellectual Disabilities Awareness Month

Director's Corner



2009 is well underway. Three months have already come and gone, with much activity and expansion of jobs available at TARC. The beginning of January brought a great opportunity for TARC to open the screen printing business "GRAND DESIGNS!" This "NEW" program is very exciting and brings more job opportunities for our participants. In addition to the screen printing, one of our long time participants, Richard Bonvillain's mother, Lonnie Browning, donated her embroidery equipment before moving to Houston, Texas. Grand Designs will be incorporating embroidery into the business as soon as Lonnie gives the staff lessons.

February was fun and busy with TARC's Mardi Gras activities. King Bryant Scott and Queen Stacy Steele were great royalty. Many members from Terrebonne Parish Mardi Gras krewes participated in this annual event. Also participating were officers from the Sheriff's Office, Houma Police Department and Louisiana State Trooper's motorcycle patrols. The parade was quite awesome and those who participated are greatly appreciated. TARC participants especially enjoy the Friday of the Hercules parade. The riders made a special trip to TARC in order to give special beads and throws to each individual. THANKS HERCULES!

Also in February, the State of Louisiana

informed TARC and other ARC's in other parishes that provide services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, the brutal facts regarding the budget cuts we would be facing beginning in July 2009. These cuts to TARC would be a minimum of 10.7% reduction, in Medicaid rates paid to TARC, for services to the individuals who attend and receive services in TARC's residential and vocational programs. In dollars, this could mean as much as a \$400,000 reduction in income. This is the largest budget cut in TARC's history. Therefore donations and the continued support from our community are very important to us.

Some ways that the community can support us is by purchasing products and services from our many businesses. This includes shopping at THE CEDAR CHEST BOUTIQUE THRIFT STORE, eating at the TARC RESTAURANT AND GIFT SHOP, purchasing baked goods from LE BON TEMPS BAKERY, ordering candy from SWEET SENSATIONS, purchasing salsa and pepper jelly from BON TERRE ENTERPRISES, having your grass cut by BAYOULAND YARD KREWE, landscaping done by HOUMA GROWN, cleaning your business by LAIGNAIPPE CLEANING COMPANY, and enrolling your young children at "SUNSHINE EXPRESS EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION CENTER.." All of these services can be accessed by calling TARC at 985-876-4465 and asking for these services by name. Our staff will be happy to accommodate your needs.

The month of March has also found TARC busy with "NEW" ventures that hopefully will bring in new revenue in the form of more jobs and opportunities for TARC individuals. H O U M A G R O W N has planted a spring garden with produce that will be sold in the TARC Restaurant. Another activity will be to farm yard eggs at our facility and to sell the fresh eggs in the restaurant as well. This same group will attempt to raise earthworms

for sale to fishermen and to manufacture compost with worms for organic gardeners.

The next several months will be busy preparing and planning for the budget cuts to take place in July and in continuing to provide the outstanding services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities that TARC is proud to deliver to Terrebonne Parish recipients.

Mary Lynn Bisland
TARC Executive Director

TARC is now hiring the following:

PCA

CLS

DSW I, DSW 2

DSW 3

Child Care Worker

Inside This Issue:

Let's Get Together	2
Art After Dark	2
Mardi Gras	3
Family Luncheon/ MLK Celebration	3
Donations/Tidbits	3
People First	4
Upcoming Events	4
Membership	4

Let's Get Together Club



The Let's Get Together Club educational night, Hygiene they watched. In April, the has been off to a great start Education, with over 70 mem- members are looking forward this year! In January, the club bers in attendance! Members to the 2nd Annual New Or- had a membership month in were treated to a hot supper leans Zephyrs baseball game which the club now boasts with cheese spaghetti and field trip on the 25th. Due to over 100 members! In Febru- chicken tenders. After supper, a conflict with Special Olym- ary, the club sponsored a the members were dispersed pics, the Spring Fling dance movie night with pizza, and into two groups: the women has been changed and moved they enjoyed the screening of and the men. Each group to June 20th, and it will no "Big Mama's House." Every- watched a hygiene video in longer be a formal. It will be one in attendance enjoyed the which they learned various the Summer Sock Hop!! We movie and laughed so hard ways to promote better per- look forward to this new event throughout the entire time! In sonal hygiene. After the video, and will reschedule a formal in March, the club sponsored an each group discussed what the fall of 2009.

3 TARC Artists exhibit at Art After Dark



TARC Artists Teri Boudreaux, Paula Lapeyrouse, and Florence Naquin

For the first time ever, While Paula and Teri have from her first canvas TARC exhibited three both exhibited before, this work. TARC is very artists work in a public art was Florence's first time proud of Florence, and we exhibit on April 4th at Art exhibiting her artwork. A look forward to seeing After Dark Spring Fiesta little over a year ago, Flor- more paintings from her. in downtown Houma. ence was in the Maison d' We are very happy for our artists. Being a part of this Art department and was art exhibit helps the public learn and understand what Florence Naquin, and Folk Photog- paint. Unbeknownst to amazing talents these women have. Congrats Ladies! rapher, Teri Boudreaux TARC staff and herself, Florence found a major hidden talent and has im- proved tremendously

TARC participant plays Good Samaritan



In February, it was just a nor- were little cards from Curves, and lost them during a Mardi- normal day for TARC Bayouland Best Buy, and Sally. They Gras parade. She was ex- Yard Krewe worker, Stephen were able to call these busi- tremely grateful for the re- Young. He was cutting grass nesses and find the woman's search and help in locating her at a contract in the community name and contact information. to give back her keys. She when he found some car keys With the new information, thanked Mrs. McGee and in the yard. With the help of they tracked the woman down Stephen a lot of times. TARC the Adult Services Manager, and gave her back her car keys. is very proud of Stephen and Lourean McGee, they were She was very happy to hear Ms. McGee for going the extra able to find the owner of the that her car keys were found. mile and locating the woman! car keys. On the car keys, It turns out that she dropped

TARC Mardi Gras Celebration 2009



TARC Family Luncheon



Kicking off Intellectual Disability Awareness Month, TARC held it's annual Family Luncheon at the TARC cafeteria. Over 150 family members attended and enjoyed a buffet of Barbeque delights!

MLK JR Celebration



TARC participants and staff enjoyed commemorating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday with an excerpt of his famous speech, "I Have A Dream." Everyone also enjoyed celebrating with cake and refreshments afterwards.

TARC TIDBITS



Now Taking Donations!

TARC's Cedar Chest Boutique thrift store is accepting daily Tuesday-Saturday any donations. We accept all donations except for small and large appliances and furniture. Come by and shop for new arrivals at 6453 West Main in Houma. Call for more information at 985-876-2285.



Formal Dance Moved!

Due to a conflict with State Special Olympics, the Spring Fling Formal Dance has been moved to the fall of 2009. We will have a SUMMER SOCK HOP on JUNE 20TH at the Woodmen of the World building on Hollywood Road in Houma. Call Erica with any questions.

Donate Mardi Gras Beads

Don't forget! TARC collects your Mardi Gras beads year round! When you donate your beads, jobs are created for our "BUY-U Beads" packaging department. Please contact TARC for more details!!

