

the GOARC GAZETTE

FEBRUARY 1976

Love has no
other desire but
to fulfill itself.

For love is
sufficient unto
love.
The Prophet

Martha

A PARENT'S LOVE

WHERE TO FIND IT...

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GOARC Executive Committee: John Clark, President; Paul Tamisiea, 1st Vice-President; George Armstrong, 2nd Vice-President; Jan Novicki, Recording Secretary; Shirley Dean, Coresponding Secretary; Pat Jung, Treasurer.

GOARC Staff: Tom Miller, Executive Director; Amy Humphries, Administrative Assistant; Lynne MacDonald, Office Manager; Patty Smith, Coordinator, Pilot Parent Program; Carl Sullivan, Client Ombudsperson; Billie Cook, Coordinator, Poverty and Mental Retardation Program.

Editor: Pamela Kooiker

GOARC is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to provide a strong volunteer support organization for all mentally retarded citizens and their families by advocating for the rights, needs, and full development of these citizens of Douglas and Sarpy Counties. Annual membership: \$9.50, Life membership: \$100.00.



A United Way Agency

1976 - INDEPENDENCE FOR ALL

1976 has a historical ring to it as we celebrate our nation's bicentennial. Throughout the country, various events will be held as a tribute to those people who fought hard for America's independence. Historical monuments throughout the United States will be visited by numerous Americans who will again become reinvigorated with the "Spirit of 76".

In our own area there's also been a "Declaration of Independence" which has gone on for the last several years among mentally retarded people. Prior to several years ago many individuals were totally dependent upon an institution which provided for their every need. Because parents felt that a new life style should be provided to their children, a plan was drawn up in collaboration with professionals that would allow their mentally retarded children much more independence than they had ever known before.

Mentally retarded citizens fight for independence has not been an easy one. Their struggle has been fraught with anxiety, worry, and frustration. Learning to live in the community is not an easy thing to do, especially when they have not had adequate preparation. And yet despite the problems and difficulties encountered, there are today, in Omaha, many mentally retarded adults who are living independently, who are working on a job in the community, who are supporting themselves in their own living environment, who are facing up to and coping with the challenges that confront them.

I really become excited every time I see examples of a mentally retarded person's struggle for independence. Recently, I talked to a mentally retarded man, who had been institutionalized for several years. He told me about a house that he was going to purchase. That would have been impossible had he always been dependent upon an institutional setting. On January 10th, I attended the wedding of a man that I had known for several years who had also been previously institutionalized. He and his wife are joining other mentally retarded adults who have been married over the past several years, thanks to the opportunity they had to socialize with one another in the community. Several mentally retarded people I know are now driving around in their own automobiles, or saving up enough money to purchase one. Other mentally retarded adults are saving their money on a regular basis and now have a good sized savings account. Although these are commonplace occurrences for most Americans who have always had their own independence, these activities have not been so typical for mentally retarded adults who have been institutionalized.

Independence has two sides to it. Besides the joys and benefits that we receive from living in a free country, there are also the frustrations and failures in making wrong decisions. One mentally retarded couple that I know who have been married for several years and who have a child are now thinking of getting separated. There have been mentally retarded adults who have been lost because they got on the wrong bus. Others have lost their jobs after short periods of time. Some have failed to make an adequate adjustment in a less dependent residential setting. Some mentally retarded adults and adolescents that I have worked with have been in serious trouble with the law. Some people, when given the chance to exercise their independence, have failed repeatedly.

However uncomfortable the effects of risk taking may be, however difficult it might be at times to live on one's own, to make one's own choices, I still feel that independence is what we have to strive for for all mentally retarded citizens. Some mentally retarded citizens, because of their severe handicaps will not be able to enjoy the spirit of independence as others who may be more capable. The potential to be free and to experience freedom depends on so many factors - education, exposure, opportunity, mental intelligence, physical limitations, etc. For mentally retarded people whom I know who are not capable of living on their own or who never may be working on the floor of industry, for these people, too, independence is important. For individuals who are more severely handicapped the constant stimulation of their limbs so they can use them may be one of the most independent things they will ever do. The capability of feeding themselves without help may be one of the best ways that they can express the spirit of '76.

I hope all of you who join in on the celebrations for America's independence this year will remember that whenever you help a mentally retarded child or friend become more independent, you too are participating in the bicentennial celebration.

Thomas Miller
Executive Director

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PARENT FEES

The Nebraska State Department of Public Institutions has recently published rules and regulations regarding client and parent payment for services, either in the institution or in community-based programs. The Department of Public Institutions is requiring the six regional programs to enforce the new regulations. A lot of concern regarding the regulations has come from the service providers, i.e. ENCOR and the ARC's.

GOARC together with NebARC is attempting to get the amount that parents and clients have to pay lowered so that the rate can be more reasonable. We do feel that the current schedule is especially inappropriate for those clients who receive partial services from an agency, for example counseling services only, or half-day developmental services. We do want to repeat here that if a client is not living in an ENCOR facility, unearned income (Social Security benefits or other Federal benefits that go directly to the client) is not assessed in figuring one's ability to pay.

If you feel you are, for any reason, unable to pay the full amount of the fee that you have been assessed, please contact the GOARC office at 551-9450 and we will assist you in writing a letter of appeal. You can also call your advisor for assistance.

CAN YOU HELP?

Do you want to do something positive in this Bicentennial Year of 1976 to help GOARC help you and your families? Here are some ways that you can help. Come to the General Membership meetings and keep informed. Volunteer some of your time to serve on a committee or the Board or become an officer. If you are already on a committee or the board, don't wait for someone else to get things moving, be decisive and push for progress. Many committees have done well this past year but many have really stagnated. If you were a chairperson of this type of committee, would you have allowed this to happen?

Join in the effort to increase the membership roster and renew your own membership. Ed Skarnulis needs help on the Membership Committee. His telephone number is: 444-6561. Can't some of you spare a few hours to help. Don't be afraid that you aren't qualified or can't contribute because effort is 90% of the battle.

And remember...Hike-Bike is coming up soon. This activity will be critical for the financial success of GOARC this year. Are you going to be too busy with other activities to help?

John Clark
President

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PEOPLE WHO CARE

During these times when GOARC and ENCOR are both in the throws of yet another funding crisis, let's do a little reflecting. Is it really money that has brought about all the improvements that we know have concerning the rights and privileges now enjoyed by our sons, daughters, or friends whom we know to be retarded? It would be foolish to believe that money isn't necessary for running a viable program. But, how do successful programs develop in the first place? Did they just happen? Emphatically, no! It took people. It took people with vision, determination, and an old fashion willingness to work for something worthwhile.

If you believe in a cause strongly enough, you will eventually do something about it. This happened when our organization was an infant. Because of the labors of a few who believed in the rights of retarded citizens for an education, the developmental centers were born. Because of the labor of others, the doors of Beatrice are open and its inhabitants were returned home.

The whole thing boils down to this: as needs become necessary and we want something badly enough, we can get it. It takes work. It takes determination. It takes organization. The nucleus for all this lies within the organization called GOARC. When and if needed, the people of GOARC will be there.

Dr. Paul Tamisiea
First Vice-President

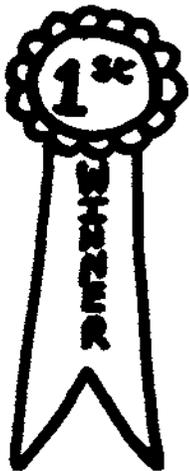
HERE'S YOUR CHANCE

GOARC NEEDS BRIGHT, ACTIVE, ENERGETIC PEOPLE!

It's that time of year again when GOARC must begin looking for fresh faces to fill positions on the GOARC Board of Directors. The Nominating Committee, which consists of Thelma Carr, Bob Salach, Jane Upton, Joe Friend, Carla Dyer, Ray Loomis and Mr./Mrs. Joseph Schultz, was selected at the General Membership Meeting and the January meeting of the GOARC Board of Directors. They will be looking around the membership for people who would be interested in filling the slots for officers and board members. If you are interested in filling one of these positions (you won't have to begin until July) or if you know of someone who could be energetic enough to work on the board, please call the GOARC office at 551-9450 and let us know. We'll send your name or the name of your candidate to the Nominating Committee and they can talk to you further about the tasks of GOARC board members and officers. If you don't volunteer, we'll have to go out looking for you. Save us the time and give us a call!

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AWARDS AND OUTSTANDING PEOPLE



Each year NebARC and GOARC recognize those individuals and groups in Nebraska that have made a significant contribution in the area of mental retardation during the past year. The categories for the annual awards are: Citizen of the Year, Employer of the Year, Special Education Teacher of the Year, and Organization of the Year. The winners in each category for NebARC awards will be announced, and awards presented at the NebARC State Convention on May 1, 1976 at South Sioux, Nebraska. GOARC Awards will be presented during the May General Membership Meeting. We would like you to help us by furnishing GOARC with nominations for these four categories. We must have our nominations into the NebARC office no later than March 15th for them to be considered. If you know of anyone that you feel would be eligible for such an award, please call the GOARC office at 551-9450 and we will get the information that is needed from you at that time. Thank you very much.

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TOOTSIE ROLL WEEK



From March 22 to March 28, the Knights of Columbus along with GOARC will be sponsoring a Tootsie Roll Week. This particular fund-raising project has been very successful for ARC's in several states. Tootsie rolls are sold on street corners and door-to-door during that week. We will be giving you more details on it in a future GAZETTE article but we did want to mention to you now that it will be coming up. Norm Stava, who has been actively involved in chairing Honey Sunday, will also be chairing this project.

"EVERY CHILD HAS HIS OWN SONG TO SING"

Every child owns the sunlight
To see what he can see
To find out where and who he is
And all that he can be.

Help the child in his springtime
To know all he can know,
And be the one, the only one,
Who makes his flowers grow.

Every child is a person
With smiles and tears his own.
A was, and is, and shall become,
A song that must be sung.

(Refrain--after each verse)
The sun shines bright in the
morning,
Flowers bloom in the spring,
Every child has his own song
to sing,
Let him sing, let him sing.



GOYARC CALENDAR: FILLING UP FEBRUARY

GOYARC is on the go again. Been lagging for the past few weeks, but there's plenty planned in the weeks ahead. Skating seemed to be high on everyone's list of things to do when we're together. We'll try that a couple different ways this month.

February 1 (Sunday) GOYARC Supper/Skate

GOYARC gets the month rolling at Cheap Skate. Meet there (at 90th and Maple) at 3:00 and we'll skate till 6:00, or whenever we work up a good appetite. Georgie Bender (393-0358) has it planned so that we'll work our way over to El Fredo's for pizza. That's right next door.

Skating is only "semi" cheap: \$1.25 for admission and \$.50 for all eight wheels. Plan ahead, though, and join Georgie and all of us on the first. Mike and Rose White (551-6306) will be along as GOYARC's Advisors.

February 8 (Sunday) AWARENESS

The young adult discussion group hasn't been meeting over these past few months. But it's back now to our regular group, place, and time. St. Timothy Church (93 and Dodge) welcomes us to use their lounge. Pastor Charles Harman and Tim Norris are pulling together a film to lead to some ideas they want to share. The familiar group will likely be there at 2:00 until 3:30. As always, anyone who comes is made to feel welcome. Call Tim (397-3315).

February 18 (Wednesday) Ice Skating at Ak-Sar-Ben

Back on skates again. Only this time we'll be on the Ak-Sar-Ben ice. Heidi Davies (391-0669) has it planned so that we'll meet just before the session starts at 8:00 p.m. Since it's a school nite, we'll plan to leave at 9:30. Give Heidi a call to let her know you'll be there. Judy Peterson and her husband, Hans Christian Peterson, will be asked to bring their silver skates and be the nite's Advisors.

February 22 (Sunday) Spaghetti Supper

GOYARC will be back doing what it does best, eat. This time we'll get together to finish cooking and serve a spaghetti dinner at the basement of St. Timothy Church (93rd and Dodge). Plan to meet at 6:00 to put the finishing touches to the Italian flavor of the food and decorations. Elaine Larson (392-2518) and Vicki Kelly (397-1054) will have some ideas for a program that will last till about 8:30. Dave Fisher (291-7047) is GOYARC's advisor that nite.

February 29 (Sunday) General Membership Meeting

Only once in 4 years is there a February 29. We'll meet to celebrate the Leap Year at First Federal Savings (on 84th just south of Dodge). This is a must, a nite you'll only find on this year's calendar. GOYARC's President, Rick Duffer, can field any questions you might have. Call Duff (334-9303) or his advisor that nite, Pat Henry (397-3315), and be sure to come.

Finally, look ahead to March. Block out the 19th and 20th (Friday and Saturday) for the GOYARC Retreat. Details will be coming with next month's GAZETTE. We want you there!

SPECIAL FEDERAL INCOME TAX DEPENDENCY RULINGS

The material which follows came from Action Together, Information Exchange, an NARC publication. We thought during this time of year when everyone is looking for deductions and exemptions, that the following information might be helpful to you.

Background Information

In the preparation of Federal personal income tax returns, parents and other responsible relatives of mentally retarded children should take into consideration a number of special rulings relating to dependency. The information set forth below should be useful with regard to the computation of medical deductions, transportation costs and home child care expenses.

1. Medical deductions for dependents who are residents in an institution for the mentally retarded person-- A new ruling on exemptions for dependency of mentally retarded persons in institutions is now in effect. It extends an earlier ruling which held that the cost of room and board for such a student may be considered a scholarship grant which will not be taken into account in determining whether the parents have provided more than one-half of his support. The extension no longer limits such care to state institutions, and includes retarded persons regardless of age.

In the case of a dependent child being placed in a specially selected home to aid his adjustment to life in the community, following the recommendation of a psychiatrist, the following rules would apply:

1. There was no family relationship between the taxpayer and the persons in whose home the retarded child was to stay.
2. The taxpayer paid a substantial amount to obtain the type of living accommodations for his child that the doctor prescribed as referenced above.

For purposes of this section of the regulations, an agency that is regularly engaged in providing the types of care or services outlined therein is considered an institution. To be "regularly engaged" in providing medical care means that persons who are providing such care and that they are providing the care in exchange for a determined consideration.

2. Deductible Medical Expenses and Related Transportation Costs--Taxpayers may deduct as medical expenses sums paid for the care and treatment of dependents in institutions or at home, limited to the amounts which exceed 3% of the taxpayer's total income as shown on his income tax return (line 18, Form 1040).

If the patient's transportation is for medical care then the cost of a parent's transportation to accompany a sick child or that of a nurse to attend the patient is deductible. Transportation costs are not likely to be allowed as a deduction unless incurred primarily for and are essential to the alleviation of a physical or mental defect or illness on the advice of a doctor.

Costs of taxi-cabs and other public transportation to and from special schools for the handicapped, hospitals and doctors' offices are deductible, but the Internal Revenue Service requires proof of the expenditure, such as receipts, cancelled checks, etc. The cost of the person accompanying the child to the special school, if the child cannot travel alone, is also deductible. (Taxi-cab fares to and from work were allowed as medical expense deductions to a physically disabled individual where employment was recommended by a physician as part of a therapy program.)

Costs of transportation by private car are similarly deductible. The Internal Revenue Service has approved the use of a standard deduction of 7 cents per mile or actual expenses, whichever is larger, for transportation costs in connection with medical care. Parking fees and tolls attributable to medical transportation are separately deductible. Similar rules apply to years 1963 - 1969. Cost of parents transportation expenses to visit a mentally retarded child, where competent medical advice deems visits necessary part of treatment, is deductible; but meals and lodging are not.

The total cost of meals, lodging, and ordinary education, furnished a mentally retarded child attending a special school, is deductible as a medical expense only where the availability of medical care in such institution is a principle reason for the child's presence there. It is immaterial whether such medical advice is furnished in a public or private institution. Reference Revenue Ruling 55-261, CB 1955-1, 307, mod.

3. Home Child Care Expenses--The Revenue Act of 1971 provides for liberal changes in child care deductions for years beginning after 1971. For the years prior to January 1, 1972, other less liberal rules applied.

4. Medical Deductions for a Dependent Living at Home--

a. For a dependent earning \$750 or more " it is...well established that under the present law taxpayers may include in computing their medical expense deductions amounts paid on behalf of a dependent or a person who could be claimed as a dependent except for the fact that he or she had an income of \$750 or more."

b. Deductibility of the cost of attending a sheltered workshop as medical expense:

"A primary factor to be considered is whether the services rendered by the workshop constitute 'medical care' within the meaning of the Internal Revenue Code. Generally, the service of teaching an individual to perform a job would not constitute medical care. However, the service of counselling a mentally retarded person toward the goal of enabling him to cope with the normal everyday problems of living in the community may alleviate his condition and qualify as medical care. This might be considered comparable to the blind child learning Braille alleviating the lack of sight, or the deaf child learning lip reading alleviating the lack of hearing."

Questions of interpretation should be discussed by the taxpayer with his accountant or attorney, or with the local Internal Revenue Office.

PILOT PARENT PATCHWORK

Fran Porter and Patty Smith made a double presentation at Immanuel Hospital January 13th. Again, the hospital staff was most receptive to the information and assistance of Pilot Parents.

Two Pilot Parents, Fran Porter and Lila Schafer, along with Dr. Aaron Armfield were discussion leaders at the monthly MCRI film presentation. The discussion of "Nicky and Danny" (about two Down's Syndrome boys) was a good subject for Lila and Fran as they have had lots of experience at home with their sons and with many other parents of Down's Syndrome children.

On Monday evening, January 5th, Shirley Dean, Fran Porter, Ron Morrow and Patty Smith presented the Pilot Parent Program to the Dodge County ARC in Fremont. One of the Fremont couples, Charles and Elsie Phiifer, who have taken Pilot Parent training at GOARC, have made the arrangements for the group training in Fremont. Ten couples there had expressed a desire to take the training, so it began January 14th.

Patty Smith, with the assistance of Susan Rippke of the University Social Service Dept., recently gave the Pilot Parent Program presentation at University Hospital. The nurses in obstetrics and pediatrics were very enthusiastic about the hospital packets that Pilot Parents makes available for parents at the time of diagnosis.

Saturday, January 17th found Ron Morrow, Sherry Bauer, Dorothy Monroe, Shirley Dean, Fran Porter and Patty Smith presenting the first Pilot Parent workshop at the Holiday Inn in Grand Island. This was another unique opportunity to share the concept of "parents helping parents of handicapping children".

December 16th Dorothy Monroe held a lovely Christmas Coffee for Pilot Parent people. It was an enjoyable time of sharing in the middle of some hectic pre-Christmas days.

THANKS TO ALL
FOR GIVING SO
GENEROUSLY OF
THEIR TIME AND
TALENTS TO THE
PILOT PARENT
PROGRAMS.

"THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT"

If you weren't at the General Membership Meeting in January, you missed a lot of things! To start off the evening, we had our regular business meeting at which time Honey Sunday awards were presented. The area coordinators who received the awards in recognition of their dedication and hard work were: Fran Porter, Joe Carro, Don Grimm, JaWanda Allis, and Murph Gartner. Special awards were also presented to Honey Sunday chairperson Norm Stava and assistant chairperson Bob Gehrman.

This was followed by some fantastic entertainment including a skit entitled "Have Gum Will Travel" featuring Jan Novicki as narrator, our illustrious executive director Tom Miller as Big Shot Pete (the fastest gumchewer in the West), Ed Skarnulis as Beautiful Bertha Humdinger (dance hall girl), Jack DeMay as High Hat Twerp (the sheriff), Chuck Schorr as the bartender, and Laura Hoffman as one of the saloon girls. It was really funny seeing these people in a Western "Mellerdrama" (complete with commercials featuring Arlene Lee as the lady selling horseradish with a kick!).

The skit wasn't the end of the show, though. Tom Porter came on stage next and dazzled us with some of his magic. (I still can't figure out how he got those ten cards from his left hand to his right pants pocket!) After this magical treat, we got another treat from John Pleiss in the form of a humorous reading entitled "Cohen's Wedding." (I can't even begin to tell you how much we all laughed!)

To more or less close out the evening we had some musical entertainment with Gene Loftis and his guitar. He sang a couple of popular songs plus a song he wrote himself called "Every Child Has His Own Song to Sing" (you saw the words on page 6)...just beautiful. We even had a sing-along time followed by a presentation by a barbershop quartet, "The Sweet Adelines."

The last thing on the agenda was the drawing for a dinner for two at the restaurant of their choice which was won by Mrs. Richeson. (As an added bonus, a five pound bag of ready-made popcorn that was left over from the night's snacks was also given away. Skarnulis' were the happy (?) winners! I bet their kids were ecstatic!)

Anyway, that's what you missed!...A fun evening (see the pictures on the following two pages) packed with entertainment and information. Try to make the next meeting--you'll be glad you did!

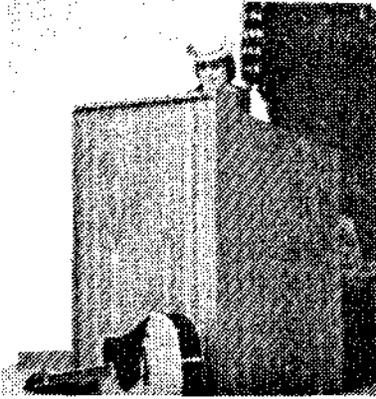
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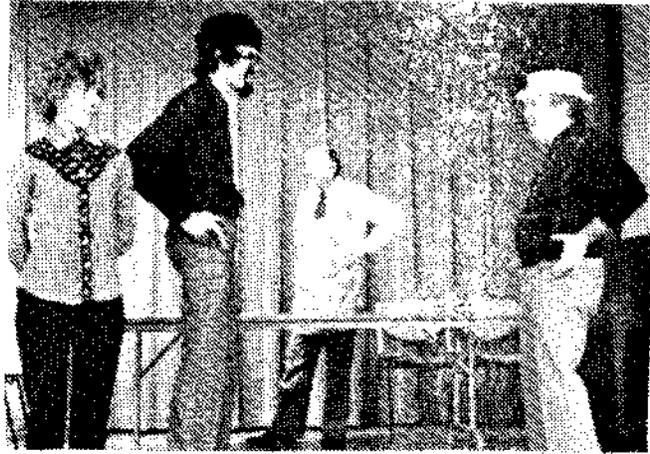
HAPPY BIRTHDAY,

MR. WASHINGTON and MR. LINCOLN !

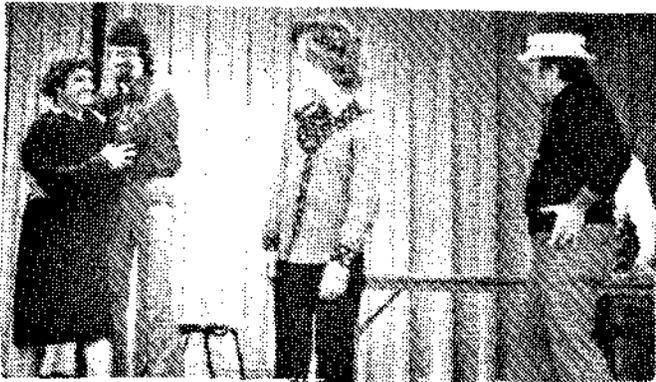




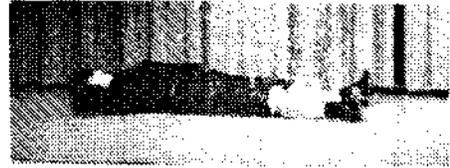
Jan Novicki narrated the Board of Directors skit, "Have Gum Will Travel"



Big Shot Pete (Tom Miller) and High Hat Twerp (Jack DeMay) are ready for a shoot-out while Bartender Chuck Schorn and Dancing Girl Laura Hoffman watch and wait.



Beautiful Bertha Hundinger, played by Ed Skarnulis, is gettin' mighty friendly with Big Shot Pete.



Poor Beautiful Bertha Hundinger lost her cool (and her wig) and fainted on the stage floor.



Our fine actors could hardly keep a straight face during a slight pause after Big Shot stood up with Bertha in his lap!



Commercial time -- Arlene Lee promotes horseradish with a real kick!



Tom Porter amazed the audience with a fascinating magic show.



Music and song were enjoyed, provided by ENCOR employee, Gene Loftis.



Long-time Board and GOARC member John Pleiss, gave a reading entitled "Cohen's Wedding"



"The Sweet Adelines" provided Barbershop music to close out the entertainment for the evening.



Don Grimm (left) and Joe Garro (Right) accepted their awards given in appreciation of their hard work and long hours spent on the 1975 Honey Sunday campaign.

RECREATION ALTERNATIVES

GOARC has had a couple meetings with Omaha's City Park and Recreation Department in order to set up a few recreation programs in a couple of city facilities. Omaha City Parks and Recreation has indicated a real willingness to integrate mentally retarded individuals into their programs. Currently, the task is to identify one or two programs for children and one or two programs for adults. Then volunteers will be sought (if you are interested, please call the GOARC office!) so that mentally retarded people can participate in the regularly scheduled City Parks programs. If your child does not need a lot of supervision, however, you may be interested in calling one of the City Parks locations yourself to see what they offer for their spring programs which begin in March. They really have a wide variety of programs.

Following is a list of the City Recreation facilities, phone numbers, and supervisors. According to Clarence Schafer, Director of City Parks and Recreation, mentally retarded citizens would be more than welcome to attend any of the programs which are offered by the Recreation Department.

Benson Community Center, 6008 Maple St.
Susan Paskevic, Supervisor, 551-2368

Florence Center, 8702 No. 30th
Ken Pelan, Supervisor, 451-0721

Bryant Center, 2417 Grant St.
James Daniels, Supervisor, 345-3155

Lucas Hall Senior Center
923 No. 38th Neil Becker
397-3150, Ext. 324

Christie Heights Center, 3623 "P" St.
John Coschka, Supervisor, 731-2073

Montclair Center, 2304 S. 135 Ave.
Linn Templeton, Supervisor
333-4484

Adams Park Center, 3230 John A. Creighton Blvd.
(Scheduled opening March 1, 1976)

Kellom Community Center
1311 N. 30 St., 342-1116

A.V. Sorensen Center (Dundee), 4808 Cass St.
(Scheduled opening April 1, 1976)

Martin Luther King Center
3706 Maple St., 451-9089

Florence Center, 8821 No. 30th St.
(Scheduled opening April 1, 1976)

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GOOD-BYE AND THANK-YOU

At the end of January, Linda Lund, who has been a secretary with GOARC since 1971, left to work with Holland Dreves, an advertising firm. A luncheon was held at "The Depot" in her honor on January 23rd.

We, the staff at GOARC, would like to personally thank her for all that she has done over the past year. Because of all the work that she did and all the knowledge that she had of GOARC's "inner workings," it will be very difficult to replace her. We wish Linda the best in her new position and again want to thank her for all she has done for us!

FLASH!...FLASH!...PRESIDENT FORD SIGNS S-6 INTO LAW

The White House announced on Tuesday, December 2, that President Ford signed into law S. 6, the Education for All Handicapped Children Act, on November 29, 1975, prior to leaving on his trip to China. His signature marks the end of a three-and-a-half year battle to greatly increase the federal funding mechanism to aid state and local education agencies in financing education for the handicapped programs. This major victory on behalf of handicapped children came about through a tremendous effort on the part of Congress and many national organizations concerned with the education of handicapped children.

The overwhelming votes by both Houses of Congress in passing the Conference Report on S. 6 clearly indicated to the President that the Congress could easily override an anticipated veto of this legislation. This certainly must have influenced Mr. Ford's decision. A message released by the White House, however, expresses the President's great concern over the expenditure levels contained in the bill and states his desire to seek some changes in the measure in the future.

A major victory has been won but an even larger battle looms ahead. The Congress must now appropriate the funds to carry out the full education services provisions for all handicapped children.

Please write a letter of thanks to Nebraska Senator Carl Curtis and Representative John Y. McCollister who voted in favor for S. 6. Senator Hruska was one of seven negative votes in the Senate and Representative Martin of Nebraska was also one of seven negative votes in the House of Representatives. Altogether, 87 Senators and 404 Representatives voted in favor of S. 6.

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SENATORIAL DINNER

On Tuesday, January 13th, members of GOARC joined other ARC members throughout the state in sponsoring a dinner for Nebraska's State Senators. Over 30 state senators were present for the event. The dinner, which is annually sponsored by NebARC and other ARC's throughout the state, gives the ARC members an opportunity to talk informally to their state Senator about their own child or friend who is mentally retarded and about the legislative concerns for the upcoming 1976 convention. Meg Brink, the president of NebARC, gave a brief presentation to the senators and a film was also shown called "Try Another Way" which talked about vocational training for severely mentally retarded adults. Hopefully, this kind of involvement with the senators will carry through during this session when GOARC members will be asked to call upon their Senators to discuss legislation for mentally retarded persons.

PILOT PARENTS' EVALUATION

Each year as part of the quarterly evaluation of the Pilot Parent grant, one professional who cooperates with the Pilot Parents and two active Pilot Parents are to submit an evaluation of the program. The following are the evaluations submitted for the October-December quarter:

Dear Patty,

I have just tucked our 8 1/2-year-old Down's Syndrome son in bed for the night. Do you know what I think of when I see him sleeping so soundly, safe and warm? I remember the first time I held him in my arms and thinking what is ahead for our first-born -- the child we waited and prayed for. Those days in the hospital were not easy for me as my husband was in Vietnam, many miles away. It wasn't easy for him either, as all he was told was "your child is retarded". Those words are so hard to hear for the first time. We would have given a month more army pay to have had other parents to talk to, but we didn't know any and we didn't know how to get in touch with any. So now you understand why being Pilot Parents means so much to us. We also need Pilot Parents. We have made some lifelong friends and met some really terrific people through GOARC and Pilot Parents. Whenever our son is sick or takes one step forward, we know we can talk or brag to another Pilot Parent. They always have an open heart and understand. I feel that we have helped many new parents either through listening or referring a service. Life would have been easier 8 years ago if Pilot Parents would have been around.

Sincerely,

JoAnn Volcheck

Dear Patty,

What Pilot Parents means to me. We get as much out of it as we put into it. There's always more to learn, each new experience leaves us a little wiser. Some people just need a shoulder to cry on, brag on or lean on. Others need much more. We try and help them get to the right people who can help.

I've had the very rewarding experience of working with a mother who was going to put her baby in an institution. After a few months this same mother said to me, "I'm so glad I didn't give her up, she's so cute, I'm so proud of her. She's going to be the smartest Down's in her part of the city, she's going to have every chance." With an outlook like that, they both will do very well.

Sincerely,

Lila Schafer

Dear Patty,

The Pilot Parents have, since their inception, provided an invaluable service to parents encountering distress due to their child's developmental

problems. They have responded quickly and sensitively to requests from Visiting Nurses to reach out to mothers, fathers, and siblings with concern and creative assistance. Individually and in their gatherings of mothers, parents, Pilot and Piloted Parents, and complete families they have done unending good in lessening the sense of isolation, and in welcoming these aching families into a warm, resourceful fellowship.

In this day of limited funding for nursing, especially in the areas of identification and referral, the Visiting Nurse Association is particularly appreciative of the selection and training of these people to assure their helpfulness in providing support without creating problems. And of the focus on the ability to recognize and refer families who are overwhelmed and in need of assistance in selecting and utilizing available resources.

The close cooperation between our groups deserves recognition as does the key role of the Pilot Parent coordinator. The common denominator is quick and sensitive responses based on mutual respect.

Sincerely,

Jane Sherratt, R.M., M.A.
Clinical Specialist for
Handicapped Children
Visiting Nurses Association

* * * * *

PILOT PARENT TRAINING

Pilot Parents are going to begin a new training session on March 1, 1976. The training will last for six weeks, two hours each Monday evening.

Anyone interested in taking the training please contact Patty Smith at the GOARC office. Also, if you have any parent that you would recommend for Pilot Parent training, call GOARC.

At this time we have no parents active in the program of children who have microcephaly or hydrocephaly. We need more parents of children with epilepsy, or cerebral palsy who might be interested in working with parents whose children have similar disabilities.

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

The Action Committee on Poverty and Mental Retardation has completed the first stage of Project Identification. The statistical report for May through December is:

Total number of homes contacted and information disseminated: 14,363

Persons Identified: 210
Total number of persons identified as mentally retarded: 20
Total number of persons identified as cerebral palsy: 15
Total number of persons identified as epilepsy: 20
Total number of persons identified as other: 195

Breakdown by age group:

Total number between the ages of 0-4: 14
Total number between the ages of 5-18: 42
Total number between the ages of 19-61: 115
Total number 62 years and over: 79

Total number of males: 111

Total number of females: 139

The Committee is proud of the success of this project. It points out the necessity for every agency to become involved with outreach, assuring that each individual is aware of their services and providing the necessary services to further enrich the handicapped person's life.

The second stage of the project is the continuation of follow-up with the agencies and the individuals identified.

Billie Cook, coordinator of the Poverty Committee wishes to thank the Committee for the excellent response and cooperation given for this project.

* * * * *

SESAME STREET HAS PROGRAM FOR MENTALLY RETARDED CHILDREN

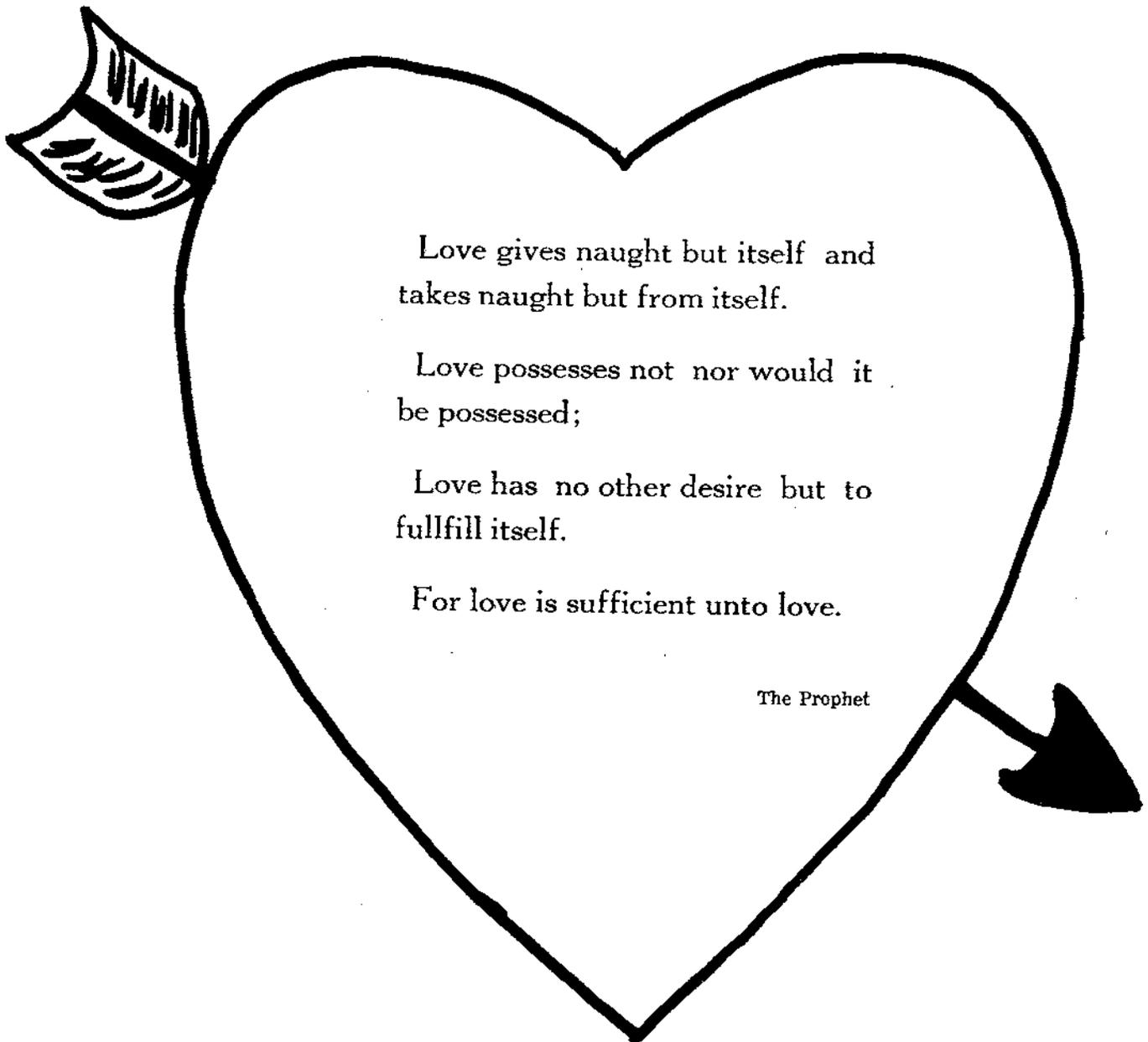


This season on TV the Sesame Street program will include something entirely new. Every Wednesday there will be a segment for mentally retarded children - something that non-handicapped children can also enjoy but which is specifically geared for retarded children themselves. If you're interested, please tune in.

UNO NEWSLETTER

The UNO Department of Special Education is planning to initiate a newsletter to parents of exceptional children and interested professionals. This newsletter will be mailed on a regular basis and will provide information about parent groups, meeting times, places, and topics, as well as information about seminars, regional meetings or speakers of interest. In addition to the newsletter, the Department is also planning a course for parents of exceptional children designed to inform parents of interesting and timely topics. If you are interested in receiving the newsletter and in finding out times and dates of special courses, please mail or phone your address to Jean Muncy, Department of Special Education, UNO, Box 688, Omaha, Nebraska, 68101, Telephone: 554-2201.

* * * * *



LOOKING BACK - 1975

The New Year has begun with the Nebraska community-based mental retardation programs still facing a bleak financial crisis. Parents are dealing with a fee-scale many find confusing and unfair. The shock-wave still is felt in the ENCOR system as programs and personnel are shifted and cut back. Other Regions are said to be suffering more drastically than ours.

The New Year has some promise, though, that the bottom may have been reached and things may get better from here on. The Beatrice Consent Decree awaits implementation; the Panel has already met. The State's Senators ate dinner with parents and professionals to talk about a common concern. Other rebuilding strategies have begun. In any case, government action will likely be needed to reverse the problem brought on by government policies acted on last year.

These pages of pictures offer a look back to the closing days of 1975. In early November, the funding crisis was very much an intramural problem of the ARC's. But graphic action on NebARC's part to educate the State's Administration and citizens have by now made it a problem generally known and felt by many in Nebraska communities.

If the first step in solving a problem is to identify it and make it known, we're probably moving in the right direction. The State effort climaxed by a rally on the capitol steps was heavily supported by GOARC and even it's youth, GOYARC. We can all take some credit as hope continues for solutions in this crisis as well as better days in the New Year.



The message



John Clark at the mike

PLEASE DO THESE SIMPLE THINGS:

(So you can be part of us in '76)

1 FILL THIS OUT

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Home Phone _____ Business _____ New () Renewal ()
 Place of Employment _____
 Parent of a retarded person ___ Interested citizen ___
 Interested youth ___ Professional in the field ___

2 TELL US WHICH YOU'D RATHER BE (CHECK ONE... IT'S \$9.50 FOR ADULT OR FAMILY MEMBERSHIP OR \$3.50 FOR YOUTH MEMBERSHIP)

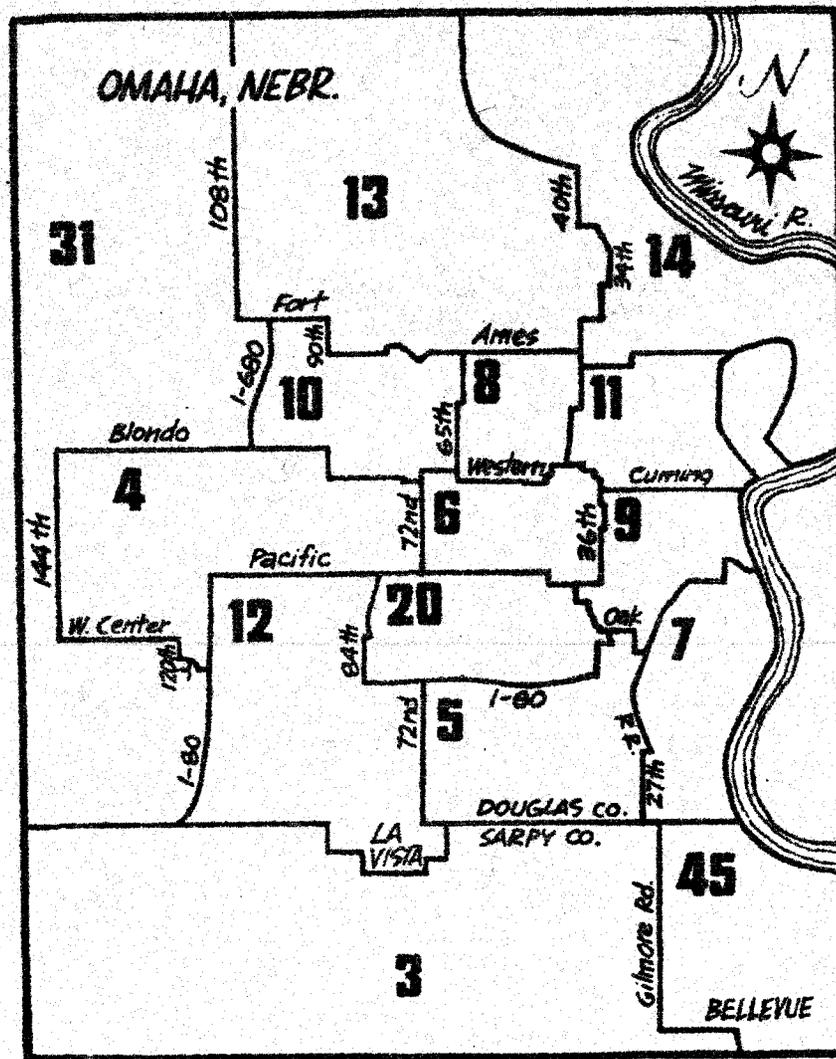
- () AN ACTIVE MEMBER- One who would like to be actively involved in volunteer projects, services or committees.
- () A SUPPORTIVE MEMBER- One who wants to root for the cause without being actively involved. (The GOARC Gazette, Mental Retardation News and FOCUS will be sent just the same.)

3 LOOK AT THE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT MAP.

Put an "X" in the area where you live.

4 DO YOU KNOW OF OTHERS WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN JOINING GOARC OR GOYARC?

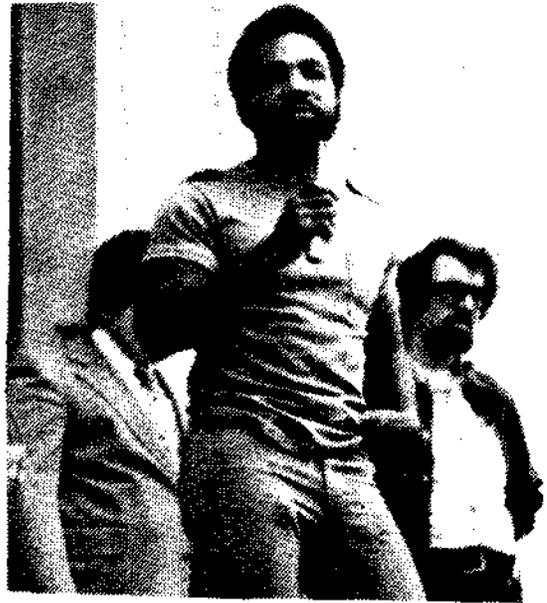
Please list their names, addresses and phone #'s:



- (5) PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:
 Enclosed is \$9.50 for adult individual,
 or couple ()
 \$3.50 for youth (GOYARC) ()

Bill me ()

- (6) PLEASE MAIL TO:
 GOARC
 140 South 40th Street
 Omaha, Nebraska 68131



Senator Chambers speaks



FEBRUARY

- 9 Leadership Development Meeting
Nasr's Restaurant
6553 Ames - Noon
- 11 Film Festival - 7:30 P.M., MCRI
Video Night
Guests: Kay Galloway
Dr. Jack Stark
- 11 GOARC Youth Committee
7:30 P.M.
GOARC Office
- 12 GOARC Executive Committee Meeting
7:30 P.M.
GOARC Office
- 12 Pilot Parent Growth Group - 10:00 A.M. - NOON
Catherine Williams
3820 North 17th St.
- 16 Pilot Parent Monthly Meeting, GOARC Office, 7:30 P.M.
17 GOARC Board of Directors Meeting, GOARC Office, 7:30 P.M.
18 Madonna Home and School Meeting, 7:30 P.M., Madonna School
19 Pilot Parent Growth Group
Catherine Williams
- 26 Pilot Parent Growth Group
Catherine Williams

MARCH

- 1 Pilot Parent Training
GOARC Office
7:30 P.M.
- 4 General Membership Meeting
First Federal of Lincoln
2101 South 42nd St.
7:00 P.M.

Shirley Dean
4842 Sahler #107
Omaha, NE. 68104

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.....and now
the
good NEWS?

You can stretch your Tax dollars
and I can get an education
by voting FOR Amendment six (part 1)

STRETCH TAX DOLLARS Here's one way your public school district can avoid more expense by working with other schools and by eliminating the need to establish new programs, staff, equipment and facilities in each school district.

SERVE HANDICAPPED CHILDREN Who cannot wait for new programs to be developed by utilizing existing programs.

IT IS NOTHING NEW Let's have Nebraska join the 40 other states which have taken this practical, economical, fully constitutional approach to serving ALL their children.

BE PRACTICAL Untie the hands of our public schools. If contracting is more economical and would better serve handicapped children, let them do it.

HELP PUBLIC SCHOOLS Help all handicapped children.

Won't You please
vote FOR Amendment six (part 1)

BALLOT AMENDMENT 6

PART I

A VOTE FOR THIS PROPOSAL WILL ENABLE THE LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LEGISLATION PROVIDING THAT THE STATE OR ANY POLITICAL SUBDIVISION MAY CONTRACT WITH NON-PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS FOR THE PROVISION OF EDUCATIONAL OR OTHER SERVICES TO HANDICAPPED CHILDREN AS LONG AS THE SERVICES ARE NON-SECTARIAN IN NATURE.

A VOTE AGAINST THIS PROPOSAL WILL CONTINUE THE PRESENT SITUATION WHEREBY NEITHER THE STATE NOR ANY POLITICAL SUBDIVISION MAY CONTRACT WITH NON-PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS FOR THE PROVISION OF EDUCATIONAL OR OTHER SERVICES TO HANDICAPPED CHILDREN EVEN THOUGH NON-SECTARIAN IN NATURE.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO PERMIT CONTRACTING WITH INSTITUTIONS NOT WHOLLY OWNED OR CONTROLLED BY THE STATE OR ANY POLITICAL SUBDIVISION FOR NON-SECTARIAN SERVICES FOR HANDICAPPED CHILDREN.



FOR



AGAINST

EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE ELECTION DAY NOV. 2, 1976

Citizens for the Education of Handicapped Children
(Support Amendment VI)
Mrs. Gene Nicholson, Chairperson
13305 William Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68144
Mr. Luther Schmidt, Treasurer
407 Hillside Drive, Hastings, Nebraska 68901

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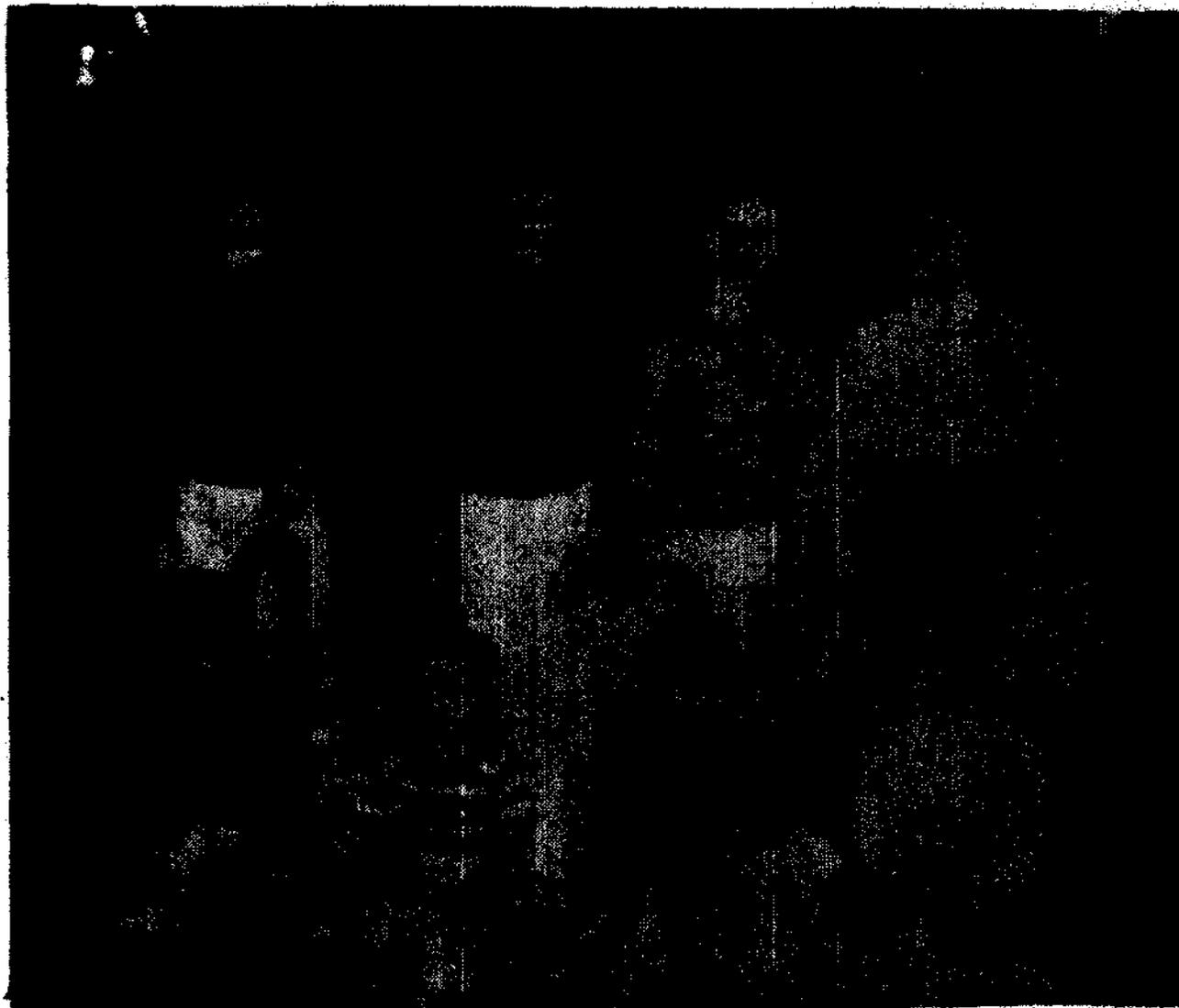
the GOARC GAZETTE

Greater Omaha Association for Retarded Citizens

140 So. 40 St. Omaha, NE.

Ph: 551-9150

APRIL, 1976



SPECIAL OLYMPICS

(see story pages 4 & 5)

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GOARC Executive Committee: John Clark, President; Paul Tomisica, 1st Vice-President; George Armstrong, 2nd Vice-President; Jan Novicki, Recording Secretary; Shirley Dean, Corresponding Secretary; Pat Jung, Treasurer.

GOARC Staff: Tom Miller, Executive Director; Amy Humphries, Administrative Assistant; Lynne MacDonald, Office Manager; Patty Smith, Coordinator, Pilot Parent Program; Carl Sullivan, Client Ombudsperson; Billie Cook, Coordinator, Poverty and Mental Retardation Program.

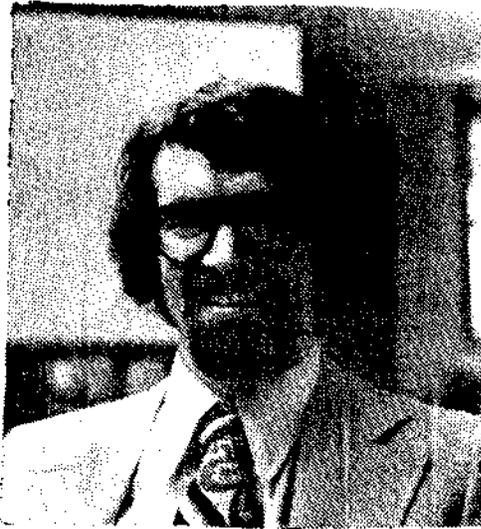
Editor: Pamela Kooker

GOARC is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to provide a strong volunteer support organization for all mentally retarded citizens and their families by advocating for the rights, needs, and full development of these citizens of Douglas and Sarpy Counties. Annual membership: \$9.50, Life membership: \$100.00.



A United Way Agency

WERE THEY LISTENING???????



During October, 1975 GOARC members rallied down in Lincoln, called their own Senators, sent letters to the Governor, paid for a newspaper ad in the World Herald, and signed thousands of petitions. The reasons for these various activities was to get support from Governor Exon to make up a deficit created by a shift in federal dollars away from mental retardation programs. After a meeting NebARC and GOARC members had with Governor Exon, Governor Exon did come out with a deficit appropriation bill for the state to the tune of \$528,000 for pre-school programs. Although these dollars will help support pre-school programs, they were not sufficient to cover the entire deficit in other programs. (See article in this Gazette which describes those

programs and services which were cut.) On March 15th, GOARC members, some of them with their children, again made the trip to Lincoln to talk to state senators about the loss of programs within ENCOR. Unfortunately, many parents met with objections from their Senators which they were unable to answer. Senators had been receiving confusing information regarding the funding situation and it appeared as though no one had the straight facts down. John Clark and I also met with much confusion from Senators while we were in Lincoln on March 15th and 16th.

However confusing the fiscal facts may be, one thing is clear...Unless more money is delivered to community-based mental retardation programs throughout the state many valuable programs will close. Unless the Senators approve a deficit bill and the Governor signs it, mentally retarded children and adults will not have the service they once had. Or if they do continue to receive a service, that service will be so diluted in quality that it will in effect be little better than babysitting. Those facts are clear. And it was those very facts that parents talked to their senators about when they visited with them.

Will the information on program and service cuts mean more to the Senators than mere fiscal information? Will the Senators fully understand the implication of programs ending for numerous people? Will money stand in the way of quality education, training and care for numerous retarded citizens in Nebraska? In other words, were they really listening?

As of the writing of this article (March 19) there had not yet been a vote by the senators. We sincerely hope they were listening, and we hope the Governor was listening too and will sign the bill for State retardation programs.

Tom Miller
Executive Director

BITS AND PIECES

FROM THE EDITOR

I thought "Bits and Pieces" was an appropriate heading for pages two and three this month, because I discovered all kinds of "little" things that needed to be passed on to you. I hope you'll take time to read each one of them...

* * * *

THANK YOU! To all the parents who have sent pictures of themselves and their kids to me for the May and June GAZETTE's. If you forgot, Mom's, you can have an extra two weeks until April 15 (just like taxes!). Dad's, you have 'til May 1. Let's all brag a little! Send them to me at 1313 So. 97th Street, 68124.

* * * *

APRIL 14 You have another chance to see a free film in the 3rd floor conference room at MCRI on that date. "Cast No Shadow", a film about handicapped persons enjoying a variety of recreational activities, begins at 7:30 P.M. Jean Milder will make an Easter Seal Camp presentation at that time. Which brings me to...

* * * *

EASTER SEAL CAMPS Easter Seal's Camp Kiwanis will again be offering residential camping for all handicapped persons. The 1976 sessions are as follows:

June 27-July 3	Physically Handicapped	Ages: 6-13yrs.
July 4-July 10	Mentally Retarded	Ages: 15-24yrs.
July 11-July 23	Physically Handicapped	Ages: 25-60yrs.
July 25-July 31	Mentally Retarded	Ages: 8-14
Aug. 1-Aug. 13	Physically Handicapped	Ages: 14-24
Aug. 15-Aug. 21	Mentally Retarded	Ages: 25-60

If you want more information and/or an application form, please call Dave Evans at 333-9306 or write Easter Seal's Camp Kiwanis, Box 14204, Omaha, Nebraska, 68114.

* * * *

ANOTHER DATE TO REMEMBER On May 1, 1976, the Nebraska Student Speech and Hearing Association, UNO Chapter, will present their annual symposium. Dr. H. Fisher will present and demonstrate Crager's Test of Concept Utilization. Mrs. Kathy Fisher, M.A., and Ms. Mary Simon, M.A., will present Speech and Language Programs and Techniques for the Trainable Retarded Child. They will present many innovative

techniques and programs available to parents, paraprofessionals and professionals. The symposium will be held on UNO campus, Auditorium A, College of Business Administration Building. The cost is \$10.00 (\$5.00 for students) for those who pre-register, and \$12.00 at the door on May 1st. Send your pre-registration fee to NSSHA, Special Education Department, UNO, Box 688, Omaha, Nebraska, 68101.

* * * *

SPECIAL SUMMER SCHOOL Millard Public Schools are preparing a six-week summer school program to meet the needs of special children in either regular or special classes. It is anticipated that the program will be held mornings at Norris Elementary School. Emphasis will be on academic skills. Special classes will be limited to 12 students and will be held in conjunction with regular summer school classes. Availability of speech and language therapy will be determined by the expressed need of these services. Anticipated cost is \$20.00. Contact Adeline Reis, Special Education Director, Millard Public Schools for more information: 895-9494.

* * * *

FOSTER HOMES NEEDED ENCOR has a possibility of one adult and two children in need of a place to live due to the funding cuts.

Douglas County Adult Foster Home Program is willing to work with ENCOR by certifying families and/or individuals as adult foster parents to prevent adults from being committed to the Beatrice State Home due to lack of a place to live. If you can help (or know someone who can) by providing a residence, peer modeling, supervision, and assistance with the mastery of a self-help skills contact: Ruth Corbin at the Douglas County Social Services, 444-7271. The county pays \$185.00 per month for each individual's room and board.

* * * *

NEEDED Guardian - advocate for adult multi-handicapped and mentally retarded person recently returned from the Beartice State Home. Anyone who might want to assume this critical role, please contact: Harry Naasz at the ENHSA Central Office, 444-6500. Thank-you, in advance.

* * * *



HAPPY SPRING & HAPPY EASTER !!

SOMETHING SPECIAL

I had the opportunity to attend my first Olympic competition Saturday, March 20. What an experience!

You're probably saying, "She must be crazy! The Olympics are over until summer." You're wrong! I attended some "Special Olympic" basketball games at Offutt Air Force Base which were sponsored by the Nebraska Special Olympics Inc. and directed by Edward King, the committee chairperson.

The participants, which came from all over the state, arrived at noon Friday, March 19. They were served their evening meal on the base, had a tour of the Underground Command Post, individual and team competition, and a dance all in that one day. Saturday was just as busy!

Singles competition in the Run-Dribble-Shoot part of the games ran from noon Friday to 5 P.M. I didn't get to attend, but Mr. King (the committee chairperson) told me there were 266 winners (people who placed 1st through 8th). There's no way I can list all their names, but I congratulate them on their good work—WOW!

Approximately thirty teams from across the state played in the team competition which began Friday evening and finished up on Saturday afternoon. I took quite a few pictures, but not nearly enough. There was just too much going on for one person with one camera. I hope the pictures on the following page can give you some idea of the "games". (A few didn't turn out as well as I'd hoped!)

I'd like to congratulate all those who took part...I loved it! Also Thank-you to the Nebraska-Iowa Athletic Officials Association referees for their time and excellent officiating. An extra Thank-you to all Offutt personnel for everything they did to make these Olympics a success!

* * * * *

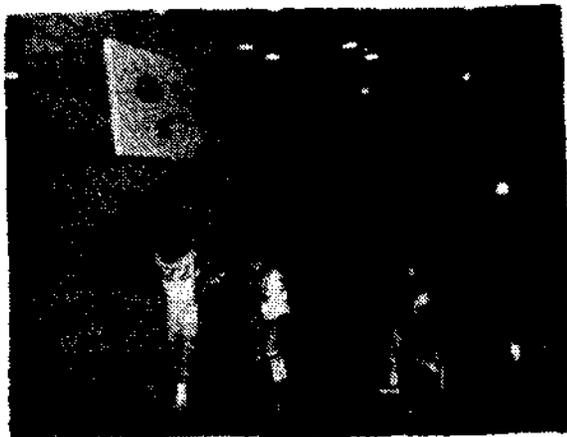
MARK YOUR CALENDAR

IF YOU THINK YOU MISSED SOMETHING SPECIAL THIS TIME, DON'T MISS THE AREA 6 SPECIAL OLYMPICS TRACK AND FIELD COMPETITION TO BE HELD ON MAY 6TH AT BERQUIST STADIUM AT 4TH AND MARINDA. STATE COMPETITION WILL BE MAY 21-22 AT WAYNE STATE COLLEGE IN WAYNE, NEBRASKA. THERE'LL BE MORE INFORMATION ON THIS LATER. PLAN TO ATTEND!



NEBRASKA
SPECIAL OLYMPICS INC.

SOMETHING SPECIAL



North Platte takes a shot in vain as they lose to Martin Luther Home from Beatrice 13-28.



Ken Willensiek, coach of the Martin Luther Home girls' team, leads his girls on to first place in their division.



Martin Luther Home's 1st place team. (L to R Standing): Vicki Kane, Leann Ensign, Terry Stanley, Eilleen Wogan; (Sitting): Susie Clegg, Kristy Kelsy, Marcia Sidebottom, Julie Nickal.



CHAP School cheerleaders cheer for their team with the assistance of Marge Waterman and Ann Hayex. Cheerleaders are: (Standing, L to R) John Maddix, Phillip Hymore, Andy Peterson, Ellen Hallin; (Sitting, L to R) Shawn Willson, Bryon Willson, Tommy Betz, Julie Hamilton.



The CHAP bench looks on as their team loses to the Westpoint Cadets. But... it was a great game!



The action was fast - no standing around!

GOARC'S REVISED ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

During the latter part of last year and the beginning of this year, the Constitutional Review Committee worked on the revision of GOARC's by-laws and articles of incorporation. As stated in the initial articles of incorporation, "members of GOARC may by two-thirds vote of the membership amend and change the original articles of incorporation." The articles of incorporation in their entirety are presented on the following pages in order for you to view them prior to the May General Membership meeting when they will be voted on. Please read these articles and if you have any questions prior to the meeting you may call the GOARC office at: 551-9450. Also, if you would like to see a copy of the original articles of incorporation please call the GOARC office.

Thomas Miller, Executive Director

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF GREATER OMAHA ASSOCIATION FOR RETARDED CITIZENS

These revised Articles of Incorporation are adopted pursuant to the provisions of the Nebraska Non-profit Corporation Act and shall supersede the original Articles of Incorporation and all amendments thereto.

ARTICLE I

NAME

The name of the Corporation shall be "GREATER OMAHA ASSOCIATION FOR RETARDED CITIZENS."

ARTICLE II

DURATION

The Corporation shall have perpetual existence.

ARTICLE III

PURPOSE

The purpose of the corporation shall be to provide, through the volunteer efforts of its members and through its employees, guidance and support to mentally retarded citizens and their families and to promote the rights, welfare and development of retarded citizens. Such purpose shall be carried out primarily in the Douglas and Sarpy County, Nebraska, area and may be carried out through the corporation's own activities and in cooperation or association with other public and private organizations, entities and individuals. The corporation may take and own property, both real and personal, by gift, purchase, grant, bequest, or device and its funds may be invested in real and personal property necessary for carrying out the corporate purpose and in such securities of every kind and nature as the Board of Directors may authorize. The corporation may also sell, transfer, encumber and otherwise dispose of any property so acquired.

Upon receiving the prior approval of its Board of Directors in each instance,

the Association may act, to the extent authorized by the laws of the State of Nebraska, as a guardian of the person of retarded citizens.

It is the intent that the corporation shall comply with and be subject to the provisions of the Nebraska Non-profit Corporation Act, and no part of the corporation's funds shall ever be distributable to its members, directors or officers as such and no member, director or officer of the corporation shall receive any compensation for his or her service as such, but may be reimbursed for authorized reasonable expenses incurred in the conduct of the corporate affairs.

ARTICLE IV

MEMBERS

The corporation shall have members but no shareholders or share or capital stock. Private property of the members shall not be subject to the payment of corporate debts to any extent whatever.

ARTICLE V

REGULATION OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS

1. Members. Any individual may become a member of the corporation upon meeting such qualifications and paying such dues as shall be provided from time to time in the By-laws. Each member shall have one vote on all matters submitted to a vote of the membership. The annual meeting of the members shall be held at the time and place designated in the manner provided in the By-laws.
2. Directors. (a) Number and qualification. The management of the corporation shall be vested in a Board of Directors which shall be composed of not less than 15 nor more than 50 members of the corporation. Not less than one-half of the directors shall be parents or guardians of retarded citizens. Subject to the foregoing, the number of qualifications of directors shall be such as are provided in the by-laws, may appoint an Executive Committee of the Board which shall consist of not less than seven members of the Board of Directors. To the extent provided in the By-laws, such committee shall have and may exercise the authority of the Board of Directors in the management of the corporation. To the extent authorized in the By-laws, the Board of Directors may appoint advisory members of the Board and may appoint other committees including advisory committees, the membership of which need not be restricted to members of the corporation.
- (b) Election and Term. Directors shall be elected for a term of two years at the annual meeting of the members.

ARTICLE VI

AMENDMENTS

These Articles of Incorporation may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular or special meeting of the members. Written notice of any proposed amendment and the place and time of the meeting shall be mailed to all members not less than 15 days prior to the date of the meeting at which the amendment is to be voted upon.

ARTICLE VII

DISTRIBUTION OF ASSETS

On dissolution or final liquidation and after complying with the required provisions of the Nebraska Non-profit Corporation Act, the remaining assets of the corporation shall be devoted to such charitable purpose consistent with the purpose of the corporation as the Board of Directors shall determine in a manner consistent with the provisions of the Nebraska Non-Profit Corporation Act.

ARTICLE VIII

REGISTERED OFFICE AND REGISTERED AGENT

The street address of the registered office is 140 South 40th Street, Omaha, Nebraska, 68131, and the name of its registered agent at such address is Thomas Miller.

* * * *

PILOT PARENT GROWTH GROUP

Some really nice things have been happening at Catherine William's house each Thursday morning these past weeks. Gathering there for coffee and lots of sharing have been a number of the ladies from the area. Patty Smith, with the help of Elaine Pierce (student), has been leading the group. Our hope is to extend help to many of the families who have not yet received the assistance of Pilot Parents. This group will provide positive ways for the acceptance of your handicapped child. If you want to join with Catherine's group, please call her at 455-4475 or Patty Smith at the GOARC office - 551-9450.

* * * *

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL

On March 12, 1976 about twenty representatives of various organizations and agencies attended a meeting at the GOARC office to begin a regional Developmental Disabilities Council. Their first meeting was primarily an orientation for the group as to the possibilities and need for such a council. At the next meeting, on Thursday, April 8th, at the Easter Seal Society, the council will develop a mission statement and begin to set their goals. The council is being established under the direction of the State Information and Referral Service with Gay Crosier, as the Director of the project. Anyone wanting information about the Developmental Disabilities Council may call Gay Crosier collect at (402) 464-8279.

SOMETHING FOR SPRING

Take a look at April and what GOYARC is up to this month. You may well find something you are interested in, or an activity that would interest someone you know. You sure are welcome to join in!

April 4 (Sunday) Kite-flying and Picnic

Counting on the Nebraska weather can be a pretty chancey venture. But with hope that the storm clouds won't be there and the pacific winds will, we'll meet at Fontenelle Park at 3:00 in the afternoon. Lori Borgen (393-1683) and Vicki Kelly (397-1054) will lead the committee to plan the supper cook-out with everyone bringing a part of it. Bill and Judy Peterson (393-8242) are their advisors.

April 10 (Saturday) Easter-Egg Hunt

Gary Sargent of the Younkers Junior Achievement group plans something for kids. The JA company will likely have their activity at Elmwood Park at 2:00 in the afternoon. Plan to call Gary if you know of a child who is interested. Rick Duffer (334-9303) and Pat Henry (397-3315) are the GOYARC contacts.

April 11 (Sunday) AWARENESS

Monthly discussion group on value-oriented subjects appropriate to young adult concerns. Pastor Charles Harmon (571-1128) will be the advisor for this shared exploration of what life is. Feel free to come along; 2:00 to 3:30 at St. Timothy Church (9700 Dodge). Call Tim Norris or Pat Henry (397-3315) for more information.

April 18 (Sunday)

Happy Easter!

April 21 (Wednesday) Iowa Western Community College

Rick Duffer and Vicki Kelly have been asked to teach a class on Normalization on campus at Clarinda. In past years, GOYARC's presentation has been a regular feature of the spring course on mental retardation. Congratulations!

April 24 (Saturday) Cage Ball

Another challenge to the ZTA Sorority! We'll take them on in volleyball (using a large cage ball as an equalizer). Hopefully we can use the Prep gym from 2 until 3:30. Rose and Mike White (551-6306) are the advisors working on this project with Linda Micek and Chris Beem (333-8169). We'll see how the ball bounces!

April 25 (Sunday) Spring Hike At Wankonsie

The Wankonsie State Park is located in the Iowa bluffs across from Nebraska City. It's a pretty place to be in the Spring. We'll leave in the afternoon from Crossroads and be back at 10:00 that night. Call Elaine Larson (392-2518) and Heide Davies (391-0666). Dave Fisher (291-7047) is their advisor.

Be part of our April!

PROPOSED - ENCOR PROGRAM CUTS

In last month's Gazette, the effects of the cuts made at ENCOR in November were listed. On March 11th, the ENCOR Governing Board proposed an additional \$336,000 cut from ENCOR programs and services. These additional cuts will have the following impact on ENCOR clients and programs until July 1, 1976. If the Unicameral should happen to appropriate funds for ENCOR, not all of these cuts will go into effect.

-the client records staff will be cut by one half. This staff is responsible for keeping client record information for program planning purposes within the agency and for reporting to numerous County, State and Federal Governmental agencies.
-The billing services staff will be cut by one half. This staff is responsible for computing days of client service in order to bill the Department of Public Welfare and other funding agencies.
-The MagCard staff will be cut by one and a half staff members. MagCard provides typing services for the entire agency.
-Personnel services will be cut by one and three quarters staff members.
-Six staff members will be cut from the transportation department. Approximately 75 mentally retarded clients will no longer be able to receive transportation services from ENCOR, though they had relied on this service to participate in other programs and services, such as special programs provided by ENCOR and the public schools.
-ENCOR will no longer have an Executive Director who is paid from the ENCOR budget.
-There will no longer be a staff member responsible for licensing ENCOR facilities for the State Department of Health.
-There will no longer be a staff member responsible for writing grants or searching for alternative funding sources.
-There will no longer be an administrative assistant to ENCOR's Executive Director.
-Because of two staff cuts from the Program Development and Training Division, the division will be eliminated. This Division provided all on-going staff training, new staff orientation and other staff development services.
-43 staff members will be cut from the Residential Division. Five alternative living units and one residence will be closed.
-25 clients will be totally cut from residential services. All of these clients may potentially be institutionalized or re-institutionalized at the Beatrice State Home.
-26 clients will be dropped from 7 day residential services and will receive services for 5 days a week.
-The crisis residence will be closed. This service has been used by parents of retarded children who are in dire need of short term respite services. Without this valuable community service, several children may potentially be institutionalized at the Beatrice State Home.
-One residential coordinator will be terminated.
-Two of three residential secretaries will be cut. Also, the two remaining secretaries for the family resource offices and three vocational secretaries will be terminated. This means that records

of services to clients must be written by hand, and staff who are serving clients directly must take time to answer telephones and perform other secretarial duties.

-The Developmental Maximation Unit, which serves severely and profoundly retarded children who are multi-handicapped and have medical needs, will terminate services for 8 children who will be placed in other ENCOR residences.
-The Vocational Division will lose 25 staff members. The Industrial Training Centers will not be able to provide programming for clients, but instead will focus on production only, for most clients.
-Many of the remaining vocational staff members will receive a cut in pay. This was done in order to retain as many clients as possible.
-The South Industrial Training Center will be closed. The clients will move to other training centers further from their homes.
-All vocational placement services will be terminated. This means that no clients will be placed in jobs in the community. In other words, all movement from ENCOR vocational programs will be stopped.
-All vocational specialists (a psychologist, a speech and physical therapist) will be terminated.
-18 staff members including the Division Director will be terminated from ENCOR's Educational Services Division.
-68 children will no longer receive services from ENCOR's integrated pre-school programs. Seven pre-school centers will no longer provide services.
-All home training programs to mentally retarded infants will be terminated.
-All Family Resource Service Offices, which provided services close to families, have been closed.
-The Toy Lending Library which provided educational and instructional toys and materials to impoverished families will be cut.
-Guidance (counseling) services to all clients who are in direct ENCOR programs will be terminated. Individualized program planning for these clients will no longer be possible.
-Four advisors (counselors) will be terminated from the Adult and Child Guidance Service.
-Service quality for every client will be seriously affected. Over 110 clients will have their services cut; over 100 staff will be terminated.
-Many well-trained and highly specialized staff members will be cut from ENCOR. It will be very difficult and very expensive for the agency to re-build when the agency receives funds in July, 1976.

These cuts are taking place in spite of the recent consent decree which stipulates that mentally retarded citizens have a right to adequate care and rehabilitation in the least restrictive alternative, and to a good quality program. The consent decree also states that up to 750 mentally retarded residents of the Beatrice State Home will move to the community programs in the next three years. These ENCOR cuts could mean that several clients will have to return to an institution, and that many persons not now receiving direct services will be admitted to an institution because services are not available to them in the community.

PANEL PUSHES FOR MORE FUNDS

Shortly after Governor Exon and Judge Albert Schatz signed the consent decree regarding the Beatrice State Home, a mental retardation panel was selected to plan for and implement services in community programs. The panel members are Richard E. Shugrue, Chairperson; Patricia Stivins, M.D., Vice-Chairperson; Fredric Girardeau; Dean Settle and Dr. James Shelton. Recently the panel sent a memo to Governor Exon and also a resolution requesting the funding of community-based programs. Their memo and resolution follows:

MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Governor J. James Exon
Members of the Nebraska Legislature

FROM: Nebraska Mental Retardation Panel

RE: Resolution adopted on March 5, 1976 concerning funding of community-based mental retardation programs.

Enclosed please find a copy of a resolution related to the funding problems of the community-based mental retardation system which was passed by unanimous vote at today's meeting of the Nebraska Panel on Mental Retardation.

The resolution, while largely self explanatory, was adopted because according to the information we have been able to gather to date, it is our conclusion that the fiscal problems in the community-based mental retardation system are not limited to pre-school programs but extend to all service areas being offered by the Mental Retardation Regions. We therefore are urging that any additional funds appropriated for fiscal year 1975-76 be unrestricted so that they might be used in the most efficient manner possible according to whatever program areas have the greatest needs.

While we are not able to name specific amounts at the present time, it is also our conclusion that the additional \$528,000 currently being considered in LB 972 is insufficient to restore the community-based system to the previous level of quality which existed as of the end of FY 74-75. We are very concerned that it not be necessary to use any appropriations for FY 76-77 for the purpose of regaining ground previously lost in order to obtain the previous standards of program quality. If the current level of funds being considered in LB 972 is not increased for at least some of the Mental Retardation Regions we feel that it would be necessary to divert some of the funding for FY 76-77 to regain previously lost ground.

We would like to request that you carefully consider this matter and we hope that you will be able to support the Panel's efforts to obtain sufficient funding for the community-based mental retardation system.

Patricia C. Stivins, M.D.
Vice Chairperson

Frederic L. Girardeau, Ph.D.
Panel Member

Dean B. Settle, M.D.
Panel Member

James T. Shelton, M.D.
Panel Member

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the Nebraska Mental Retardation Panel has the responsibility under the Nebraska Consent Decree No. 72-L-299 to develop a plan of implementation for submission to the Governor and,

WHEREAS section 8g (4) of the Consent Decree emphasizes a "plan for increasing and supplementing the present community-based programs so as to facilitate the placement of members of the class in community-based programs..." and,

WHEREAS the realignment of federal dollars has resulted in severe cutbacks in present community programs and placement of members of the class and,

WHEREAS such cutbacks have drastically reduced the short-term and long-term program effectiveness for the continuation and expansion of community-based mental retardation programs to meet the needs of the class,

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved that the Nebraska Mental Retardation Panel stands strongly behind the restoration, expansion, and improvement of community-based programs.

BE IT THEREFORE further resolved that in order to restore existing programs to their previous levels and provide for a sufficient foundation for improvement and expansion of such programs in the future, that the Nebraska Mental Retardation Panel on Friday, March 5, 1976 by unanimous action hereby recommends that the additional funds being considered for the Mental Retardation Regions in LB 972 be appropriated without restrictions so that they may be used in the programs where the immediate needs are greatest and that consideration be given to increasing the amounts now contained in LB 972 to a level sufficient to restore the programs to the level and quality which existed at the end of fiscal year 74-75, and to increase funding for FY 76-77 in order to insure the continued expansion of community-based mental retardation programs.

* * * * *

PILOT PARENT BOXSCORE—Taken from the annual report given to the GOARC Board at their March Meeting:

Number of training sessions held: 3 (one in Fremont, NE.)
Number of Pilot Parents trained: 16—Omaha; 11—Fremont
Number of active Pilot Parents: 27
Number of new parents served: 107
Number of children served: 110 (3 families with 2 handicapped children)
77% of our referrals are ages 0-6; 21 referrals were for children not mentally retarded (7- cerebral palsy; 7- epilepsy; 7 other disabilities)

This is a rather short summary of some of the things that have happened in Pilot Parents this past year. We hope to have a more detailed picture in a future issue of the Gazette. It's all very exciting and we want to share it with you.

A GIFT FOR CHILDREN

Cheri Jo Jung was three years old on January 11, 1975. She was scheduled for enrollment in CEEP's Cooperative Classroom at Wee Care I in September.

Cheri Jo died on September 17, 1975, following complications after surgery. In her memory, her parents, Pat and Connie Jung, have donated the following equipment to the Cooperative Classroom: large floor mat, speech mirror, large wedge, sociable and 5 bolsters.

Connie expressed the family's feelings about the memorial: "The classroom is where Cheri would have been and where her friends are. We want it to be something that will be used by the children."

The equipment has added a lot of color to the classroom. If you would like to see for yourself, stop and visit. (72nd and Dodge, behind Paramount Furniture) Phone: 551-8231.



Rolling is fun!--and much easier for Lori McManus on this giant WEDGE. Lori's helper is supervising teacher Terry Unterseher.



Carrie Leeder's emerging language skills are developing with the help of the SPEECH MIRROR.



The SOCIABLE is the setting for a story being read by teacher Mary Stuckey to a group of handicapped and non-handicapped children.

DEE EVERITT RUNS FOR SCHOOL BOARD

Dee Everitt, a parent of a mentally retarded child in Lincoln, has been a very active ARC member in both the local and state association. Dee was Chairperson of NebARC's Legislative Action Committee and also past President of Lancaster County Association for Retarded Citizens. We are very excited that finally a strong ARC member will be running for a state position. Dee Everitt has filed as a candidate for the 1st District on the State Board of Education. She feels that she has the expertise for understanding the regulatory functions for special education.

Following are several issues that Dee would like to stress if she is elected to the State Board:

1. She would like to see increased State Aid to Education. For years, the State of Nebraska has been far behind what the local school districts have been paying for educational costs. She would like to see the state take more responsibilities for educational programs throughout the state.
2. She would like to see the State Board of Education serve in leadership capacity rather than merely reacting to crisis situations.
3. Dee would also like to see the State Board of Education supply leadership for the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation which in recent years has acted autonomously from the State Education Department.

Some of you may know Dee Everitt personally. Those of you who do know her know that Dee is a very strong committed and dedicated person, and could provide the Board of Education with a point of view that they have not been receiving. Also, as a parent of a retarded child, Dee Everitt is a strong advocate for all programs which serve handicapped children. If any of you are interested in assisting in Dee Everitt's campaign for the State Board, you can send a check to her at:

Dee Everitt for State Board
4325 Meredith
Lincoln, Nebraska 68506

* * * * *

"POLLING"

"Polling", a new quarterly magazine for developmentally disabled citizens, is seeking input from persons with epilepsy, cerebral palsy, and mental retardation. While consumer oriented (the magazine's editor/founder is an activist from a consumer group called "Caurus" and the American Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities,) the magazine welcomes any poems, articles, and stories. If your mentally retarded child or friend has written anything which can give us non-handicapped people new insights, please have him/her send his/her article to:

Polling Magazine
122 East 23rd Street
New York, New York 10010

WHERE TO LIVE?

If mentally retarded people are to have a place to live in the community, then a number of things have to be already present in the residential system that serves them. For one thing, residences have to be truly integrated into normal neighborhoods. People can't be "ganged together", or it becomes much like an institution. The reason why a person is in this type of service has to be known to everyone who interacts with him. For example, it doesn't make much sense for the residential staff to be doing elaborate behavior programs with a youth who happens to be in the residence only because his folks need time to get things together at home.

Issues like these and others similar to them make a quality residential system difficult to build. Some people maintain it cannot be done well. Others ignore the question of quality and dismiss the hope of community services offhandedly computing that it cannot be done at a cost that competes with the apparent savings in dealing with large numbers in an institution.

A few months ago, a Pennsylvania newspaper ad bluntly stated just that -- community-based residential services are no more than a fanciful dream. As it turned out the ad was the product of local labor unions whose numbers were institutional employers. But just the same, this incident did arouse the NARC Task Force on Residential Services. What about their conviction that this plan of services could be done well?

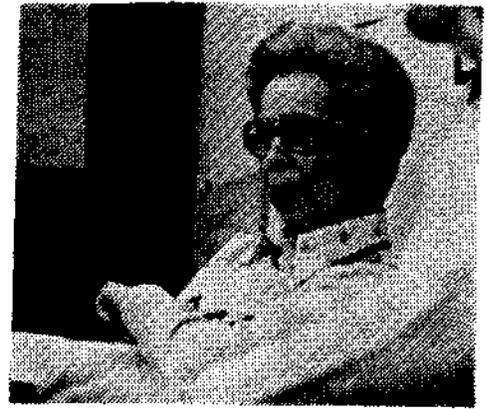
Eleanor Elkins is a near-legend in the National Association for Retarded Citizens. Her untiring efforts as a foster-parent of a retarded youth (now a young adult) are matched by the intensity and conviction that the same opportunity to live in the community should be offered to all. The Task Force she leads is marked by her own feelings of advocacy and wide experience. Eleanor has traveled widely, often at her own expense. Her seriousness and critical searching reflect the importance she and her committee place on their quest.

Why come to Omaha, particularly in blustery March? The volunteers in the Residential Task Force needed to see more data that a quality system can indeed work. They met with one of our own, Ed Skarnulis, the author of the Alternative Residence concept, sometimes called "ALU's". If Ed does not have all the answers in residential services, he is asking the most important questions in the field right now.

The Residential Division of ENCOR set an exhausting pace for the day-long tour. There is an ideology behind this system that had to be first understood. Questions of human dignity, the least-restrictive alternative, and what helps people develop were debated. There are strengths and weaknesses in the practical matters of implementing this plan. Parents of children in the Hamilton Core Residence took part. Jean Higgins and Betty Smith told plainly of the hopes they shared with the staff for their children. At the same time, they had misgivings about how such a system affected their sons. The task force, staff, and parents (joined by Patty Smith) looked at the system from varied points of view. It's from the fusion of ideas, in settings like this, that the plans of future services will, likely, be forged.



Parent's concerns are of predominant interest to this NARC team and Patty Smith.



Eleanor Elkins looks for an explanation of ENCOR's efforts to answer questions facing her Task Force on Residential Services.



Ed Skarnulis (left), ENCOR Residential Director, leads a discussion of tailor-made residential alternatives.

WHERE
TO
LIVE?

Rick McDowell (right), President of Ohio Youth ARC, has joined with other collegians to set up an alternative residence in Akron.



Bob Schroeder (left), an ENCOR Residential Manager, and Gene Patterson (right) of the NARC staff join in the debate at the Hamilton Residence. Tom Higgins (center) ponders.

A PARTING TRIBUTE TO PIONEERS

By

Charles Galloway, Director, Educational Services for ENCOR

The end of March will mark the conclusion of my formal association with ENCOR, one that has lasted a little over five years. Many beautiful changes have developed in ENCOR's educational services during that period. I cannot let this time go by without giving special tribute to two of my long-time colleagues who have contributed immensely to services for youngsters with mental retardation and their families.

Linda Esterling has been with ENCOR for 4½ years. She started as a teacher at the West Developmental Center (since phased out), later was promoted to head teacher at South Developmental Center, and, most recently to be the Director of School Programs for ENCOR's school-age services. These promotions were not arbitrary. She has displayed, over the years, an ever-expanding ability to develop programs, teaching staff, and community resources. Under all circumstances, she has maintained a total commitment to the principle of normalization and the developmental potential of her students. Her drive has been felt throughout ENCOR.

Perhaps Linda's crowning achievement was the merger of ENCOR's Adolescent Program in Omaha with Ryan High School. The combination of Linda Esterling and Sister Patricia, the Principal of Ryan, has produced some outstanding accomplishments. Under their leadership, the staff and students of both ENCOR and Ryan are working together toward ever increasing integration of the retarded teenagers into the main body of the fantastic Ryan experience. This endeavor is just one of many in which Linda has shown us all what commitment and persistence can produce. Linda has recently resigned from ENCOR. Her energy and optimism will be missed.

My second tribute and thanks goes to Phyllis Chandler, another pioneer from whom I've learned so much. Phyllis started as a teacher at the Benson Developmental Center in 1969, while it was still operated by GOARC. Because of her organizational skills and eagerness to try new educational ideas, Phyllis was promoted to head teacher shortly after I came to ENCOR. Phyllis has maintained two professional commitments: to the development of quality early education opportunities for all children and to the inclusion of developmentally delayed children in those settings. Because of this dual commitment, she was the logical choice to head up the development of ENCOR's Coordinated Early Education Program (CEEP) which began three years ago to the month. Since last fall, ENCOR has provided services to all its pre-school aged children in regular early education centers, regardless of degree or multiplicity of handicap. There's no way to account here for all the details that have demanded her problem-solving potential over that period. The more dispersed the service is (and CEEP is highly dispersed throughout the region), the more complicated the management issues become. Phyllis has done an outstanding job with building and maintaining this complicated network.

During this last year, this network has been seriously threatened by funding upheavals forced on ENCOR. Very painful decisions and contingency plans have had to be designed and implemented. Phyllis has borne the brunt of much of this activity but has continued to be effective in her operation of CEEP. We've all had to maintain our optimism that the storm will pass and the young

children and their parents will not have to seek alternative services that unduly separate them from quality services available for all young children. When the cloud passes, Phyllis will deserve to share a large part of the credit for having established a model that touched so many lives in our community.

ENCOR, including the educational services, has attracted a great deal of national attention and positive regard during the last five years. It is unfortunate that many workers--such as Phyllis and Linda-- who stayed with this developing system through thick and thin do not also receive the recognition due them.

I'd like to conclude this tribute with a personal thanks to Linda and Phyllis for all they've taught me. This relationship has been a pleasure throughout.

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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR
EDUCATION OF THE SEVERELY/PROFOUNDLY HANDICAPPED FORMED

Recently the American Association for the Education of the Severely/Profoundly Handicapped (AAESPH) was incorporated as a non-profit organization. The president pro tem is Dr. Norris G. Haring (Director, EXPERIMENTAL EDUCATION UNIT, CDMRC, University of Washington, Seattle, Wash.). The goals of the AAESPH are as follows:

1. To function as an advocate organization for the development and implementation of comprehensive, high-quality educational services at birth through adulthood in the public school sector.
2. To serve as a separate entity in advocating:
 - a. the development of relevant and efficient preservice and inservice teacher-training programs;
 - b. the development of highly specialized doctoral level, teacher training, research, and instructional design personnel.
3. To develop, refine, and disseminate training packages, instructional programs, and materials.
4. To facilitate parent involvements in all program services for the severely and profoundly handicapped.

Materials from the Association's information exchange are now available to members. (REHABILITATION LITERATURE, National Easter Seal Society for Crippled Children and Adults, 2023 W. Ogden Ave., Chicago, Illinois, 60612; Vol. 36, No. 10, October, 1975, p. 300.).

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"So long as we love we serve, so long as we are loved by others...we are indispensable; and no one is useless while he has a friend."

TELEGRAMS OF SUPPORT

Many telegrams and letters concerning the ENCOR funding problem from all around the United States and Canada were sent to the GOARC office. After reading many of the letters and telegrams the following five telegrams were selected to give GOARC members an example of the input received:

Am very distressed to hear about another cutback in funds for ENCOR. During the research for two writing assignments for Readers Digest, I have met many of ENCOR clients and their families and know how desperately they need the program. Perhaps it takes an out of state person to see clearly how outstanding Nebraska's community programming is. I am hoping that Nebraska will show the rest of the country the way to go.

Sara D. Stutz, La Jolla, California

* * * *

Concerned persons throughout the nation have been watching the good things Nebraska did when they started to help retarded citizens achieve a full life in their community instead of limited life in an institution. Because of you, other states have been inspired to help their handicapped persons do things they never did before. Now, with a repeated barrage of financial cuts, the curtailing of vital community programs, has Nebraska begun to back down? On behalf of many handicapped citizens who need Nebraskas pioneering leadership, please don't back down now.

Robert Perske, Institute for the Development of Human Resources

* * * *

It has come to our attention that the ENCOR program faces a possible cutback in funding. The Council for Retarded Citizens of Jefferson County Kentucky is urgently concerned that this not happen. The future development of humane and quality community-based services to mentally retarded citizens not only in Nebraska but also throughout the nation depend heavily on the continued development of the ENCOR model we add our pleas to those with similar concern in Nebraska that any such planned funding cutback be reconsidered.

Council for Retarded Citizens of Jefferson County Kentucky, Inc.

* * * *

Very concerned with turmoil in developing loss of programs at ENCOR. Urge you to do everything you can to maintain national model with highest quality of programming possible. If quality and quantity of services at ENCOR are cut the national model loses its credibility and mentally retarded citizens throughout the U.S. suffer. Good Luck.

Denver Association for Retarded Citizens