

# GOARC gazette

Twenty Years of Advocacy 1963-1983 Twenty Years of Progress

VOL XV NO 1 GOARC - THE GREATER OMAHA ASSOCIATION FOR RETARDED CITIZENS JAN 1983

## Touche Ross Management Audit of ENCOR/ENHSA Is Released

By Dan Costello

On January 17th the firm of Touche Ross released their management audit of ENCOR and ENHSA. The audit had been commissioned by the ENHSA Governing Board - Mike Albert in particular. In part the audit was the product of the concerns expressed by a number of community organizations and individuals about the management structure of ENCOR and the ENHSA umbrella agency.

The audit was commissioned to study five specific areas:

The major ENCOR services, the cost, efficiency, and effectiveness of providing those services.

The organizational structure of ENCOR.

ENCOR administration and support systems, and their cost, efficiency, and effectiveness.

The relationship between the ENHSA and ENCOR organizations.

The audit provided a number of interesting results.

The audit found that the overall ENHSA structure to be cost effective and to be providing efficient and high quality services. It would seem that, for all practical purposes, the issue of the ENHSA structure. Continued on page 2.

## Educational Services Committee Provides Testimony for Special Education Funding

Members of the GOARC Educational Services Committee, and members of the GOARC staff appeared at the budget hearings for the Omaha Public Schools to advocate for funding of special education programs.

At the first budget hearing there were only three speakers and two of the three spoke regarding special education. At the second hearing four persons spoke about special education (one was a special education teacher). At the last hearing (the night after the snowstorm) the only person to speak was a member of the Educational Services Committee!

Special education and the sound of the strong support of parents for those programs must certainly be in the ears of the members of the OPS Board of Education. There were more people at the four budget hearings speaking about special education programs than any other topic!

Parents are still encouraged to send letters of support to their representative on the Board of Education.

Members of the Educational Services Committee, and other parents, are scheduled to make a visit to Lincoln on Wednesday, March 2 to meet with Senators representing the Omaha area.

Touche Ross, Continued from page 1.  
ture has been resolved.

Within the ENHSA structure, however, the audit found that there were unclear lines of authority, and a lack of clearly defined roles. The audit called for a strengthening of the position of the ENHSA Director and a clarification of the Director's authority regarding the various offices.

In terms of ENCOR the audit found a general lack of management tools and systems of accountability. The audit recommended the establishment of reporting systems and/or clear job objectives for the Contract Procurement Department, the Job Placement Department, and Public Relations. The audit also commented on the extreme inconsistency from area to area of the performance of, and the expectations on, the position of Residential Manager. The audit also found inconsistent application of personnel policies. The audit also cited inconsistencies in staff development, or staff training. One result of these findings is the recommendation that the position of a Deputy Director be developed for ENCOR. The Deputy Director would be responsible for the management of the Area Directors and, perhaps, some of the centralized ENCOR functions. More information will be available about the position in the next GAZETTE.

In terms of the quality of those services reviewed (including maintenance/ENHSA, transportation/ENHSA, billing/ENCOR, client accounts/ENCOR) they were found to be providing a high quality of service.

In addition to these management or administrative issues, the audit also raised some questions regarding programmatic issues. These appeared to be areas for review, rather than recommendations, but they are fundamental to some of ENCOR's services.

"ENCOR management is responding to low annual budget increases by limiting the number of new clients served as opposed to challenging service delivery models.

ENCOR should challenge its residential models from a cost/effectiveness standpoint; particularly one and two client agency-pay overnight facilities and the DMU. The cost savings potential involved with utilizing 4 client facilities for

clients currently being served in 1, 2 and 3 client facilities is over \$530,000 annually. Utilizing 5 or 6 client facilities, where appropriate, could save an additional \$5,000 - 20,000 per facility. In addition, moving the DMU to a CDD licensed facility would save at least \$54,000 annually and eliminating DMU services from the residential platform would save \$295,000 annually.

The Agency should investigate the option to gradually replace home teachers with Department of Public Welfare - Foster Care Parents. This option represents up to \$380,000 in cost savings. In addition, if the Agency would certify their Adult Family Homes, they would increase annual revenues by \$8,000."

These programmatic areas of review are certainly going to be under discussion for some time. It is GOARC's understanding that a working group will be assembled to develop a more detailed series of recommendations and a plan of implementation. The community is expected to have a role to play in that working group.

In addition to the comments outlined above, the Touche Ross audit contains a number of other comments and points of interest - including a wealth of statistical information on numbers of persons served, costs of service, etc. The report is available for review at the GOARC offices (in the Resource Room).

## EDITORIAL COMMENTS

Perhaps three short comments need to be made about this report.

First, without qualification, the ENHSA Board and Mike Albert in particular deserve a vote of confidence for commissioning the report. Members of the community have raised these issues for a number of years and neither those from the outside, or those inside, had the resources, time, or energy to do this detailed a review.

Second, even though there are some questions about the programmatic areas of review, they should be discussed with an open mind - with two exceptions. First, if the report in-

Touche Ross, Continued on page 3.

Touche Ross, Continued from page 2.

tends to suggest that services to multiply handicapped, medically fragile, and/or severely or profoundly retarded individuals (like those served in the DMU) should be eliminated from services - this should be viewed as an area totally unacceptable for discussion. We cannot be more specific about it. Considerations of cost cannot be used to eliminate a category of individuals from service! It is not an area open for review. Also, the discussions of other areas for review must balance the cost considerations with the individual programmatic needs of the persons involved.

Third, since the Touche Ross audit has given the ENHSA/ENCOR structure a reasonably clean bill of health, the management recommendations should be implemented in a timely way. It appears that Touche Ross is saying that the structure in place is a good and efficient way of delivering the services, but the management relationships within that structure need some work. Well, let's get the work done - and move on to a consistent monitoring of the management within that structure and within those newly defined relationships.

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The Association for Retarded Citizens of Nebraska and the Association for Community Professionals will hold their conventions jointly in Lincoln, NE over the weekend of March 25, 26, and 27. We would urge all of our readers to make plans to attend. The conventions will be held at the Lincoln Hilton. For further information call the GOARC offices at 348-9220 or the ARC/NE offices at 1/475-4407.

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## LEGISLATION

By Dan Costello

Action in the Legislature is underway for the 1983 session. Several bills have already been introduced, and presented be-

fore Committees which are of interest to the mental retardation community.

LB-14 - sponsored by Senator Kilgarin, would provide a state income tax credit for child and dependent care based upon the federal tax credit. IRS code defines child and dependent care as that provided for: 1) children under 15; 2) physically or mentally disabled dependents unable to care for themselves; and 3) a physically or mentally disabled spouse. Care of such dependents must be necessary because of a parent's or a spouse's employment. That means that the credit is applicable only if the care is necessary to keep the parent(s) working. It would be applicable, for example, to parents whose son or daughter graduated from school and is on a waiting list. If the parents needed to purchase care so that they could both remain on their jobs, this bill would allow them to take a tax credit on their state taxes like they can on their federal taxes. WE WOULD URGE YOU TO SUPPORT THIS BILL WITH A LETTER TO YOUR STATE SENATOR.

LB-250 - sponsored by Senator Fenger, would repeal the "Group Home Bill". Now there is a state law that says that a city can't use its zoning authority to keep out group homes. They can't, for example, say that R-1 (a residential zone) is only for families related by blood or marriage. The bill also says that group homes must be a certain distance from one another (unless the city grants a waiver), and that there can only be a certain number of group homes for the overall population of the city (again, unless the city grants a waiver).

Because of the uproar some neighbors in Bellevue caused when a group home tried to locate in their neighborhood, the Bellevue City Council asked Senator Fenger to sponsor this bill that would wipe out these critical rights.

Clearly all persons interested in the rights of people with mental retardation should oppose LB 250.

Some people have said that there should be no limit on the number of group homes in a city and they have supported LB 250 because it would repeal that restriction. Well, two comments. First, a city can, by waiver already allow as many group homes as it

Governmental Affairs, Continued on page 4.

Governmental Affairs, Continued from p 3.

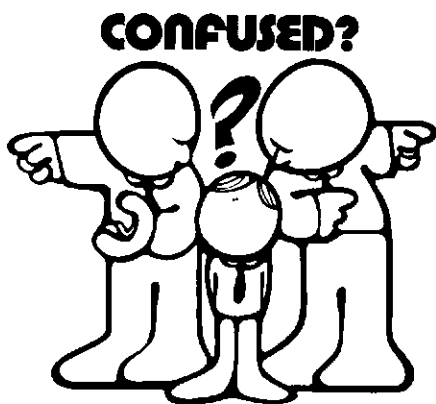
wants, Second, repealing the whole Group Home Bill just to remove the limit on the number of group homes is a very foolish move. It's a little like throwing out the baby with the bathwater!

Again, we would urge you to write your state Senator and oppose LB 250.

LB-414 sponsored by the Public Health and Welfare Committee, would strengthen the state's current infant metabolic screening procedures. Screening can detect if an infant has either PKU or hypothyroidism, both of which can cause mental retardation if left undetected and/or untreated. If these disorders can be detected early in life there is a good chance that any damage can be avoided! That is the reason behind LB 414 - to detect these disorders early! At the very least you should send a letter supporting LB 414 to your state Senator.

IF YOU NEED INFORMATION ABOUT WHO YOUR REPRESENTATIVE IS - CALL THE GOARC OFFICE AT 348-9220.

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*The work to make the GOARC offices accessible continues. We expect our offices to be accessible by the end of March. Persons requiring the use of the elevator to enter the GOARC offices should let us know in advance so we can turn on the power!*  
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ABOUT WHERE TO GO FOR HEALTH INSURANCE AND LIFE INSURANCE?

All GOARC (and other ARC) members under age 60, their spouses and eligible dependents

can apply for up to \$100.00 a day in HOSPITAL DOLLAR BENEFITS. Eligible dependents must be single, over 14 days and under 23 years. Retarded Citizens fully dependent on the insured for maintenance and support are eligible to age 50. If dependent coverage is selected, ALL eligible dependents in a family will be covered. There is NO ENROLLMENT EXCLUSION for retarded citizens.

A special benefit bonus for retarded citizens provides a 10% benefit bonus for each day of hospitalization up to \$200.00 in additional benefits per calendar year for each confinement.

Benefits are paid directly to you, beginning on the first day of hospitalization and every day thereafter for up to 500 days for each unrelated covered confinement. All benefits received under this program are entirely exempt for Federal Income Tax purposes according to current IRS code.

Benefits are NOT payable for hospital confinement caused by act of war/ pregnancy; self-inflicted injury; or for confinement in an institution owned or operated by national or state government or an intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded (ICF-MR).

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL THE GOARC OFFICES AT 348-9220.

The ARC Security Plan is a plan for life insurance for people with mental retardation. There are three plans available. The first pays \$2,500, the second pays \$5,000, and the third pays 7,500.

All members and dependents of members of the Association for Retarded Citizens are eligible to apply. Although acceptance is not guaranteed, the majority of past applicants have been accepted. The plan continues as long as membership continues, as long as the premiums are paid, and as long as the whole life insurance plan is associated with the Association.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL THE GOARC OFFICES AT 348-9220.

Both of these plans are another benefit of membership in GOARC and the ARC. Please, if you are interested, but are not a member call the office and we will provide information on both membership and these insurance plans.

# CORNERSTONES

By Joan Nigro

## MY WARM WELCOME!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the rest of the staff and all of you who are in some way associated with GOARC for your very warm welcome. I started work in January as Program Director with specific responsibility for fund raising, volunteers and public education, and have received tremendous support and assistance from everyone I've met so far. Mary Fischer did a wonderful job for GOARC; she will be a tough act to follow, but with YOUR help I will be able to accomplish all the goals before me.

Please let me know how I can help you become an active participant of GOARC; our strength comes from you.

## FUND RAISERS & YOU

There's lots of excitement at the GOARC office, and we'd like YOU to be part of it! We're working on a skate-a-thon for April and June Softball Tournament and need your help to insure their success. We will also be collecting money for tootsie rolls in downtown Omaha on Friday, March 25, to do our part to assist the Knights of Columbus in raising funds for GOARC. The object is to give away tootsie rolls and encourage people to respond with contributions; it's fund and easy! Can you spare an hour in downtown Omaha at breakfast or lunch time on March 25 to help raise money for GOARC?

The week of April 10 - 17, Channel 3 and the Red Cross will be holding the Midlands Health Fair at many locations in the community. We need your assistance to act as hosts and hostesses so that GOARC becomes better known in the community. Do you have a few hours to give that week to help us out? All you need is a smile and a friendly face!

Call Joan at GOARC, 348-9220, and we'll help you find the volunteer position that's just right for YOU!

## VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION AT GOARC

Since I started at GOARC in January, I have had the pleasure of working with some volunteers who have been extremely helpful. Nancy Loomis gives countless hours to assist Dena with mailings and updating our files. Barb Stewart is helping with the March membership mailing. We have been fortunate to have Lori Radden, a student from U.N.O. in special ed, working on updating membership cards and addressing envelopes. Three girls from Westside - Rachel Geisler, Cindy Swanson and Carolyn Schulze - were also in, helping with the cards.

Thanks to Jim Brentlinger, Mike Boehmer, Larry Quandt and Bob Shrader for their commitment to making the softball tournament a success.

## MEMBERSHIP

If you are not yet a member of GOARC, we encourage you to join. For \$12.00 a year (that's \$1.00 a month, the biggest bargain in town!) you will receive membership in 3 associations along with their newsletters, invitations to public forums, the Legislative Action News, and the friendship of some wonderful caring people. If that sounds like an offer you don't want to miss, please join today.

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# TUESDAY, MAY 3 - A GOARC FORUM - WRITING I.E.P.'S



#### EVENTS

Something new was tried in January - - WHAT? A Dad's Night Out! Chuck Aitkenhead organized

Other events will also be held, so watch your mail!

#### LENDING LIBRARY

More books have been added to our lending library. A bibliography will be prepared in the near future. Until then, call or stop in the office for more information.

#### TRAINING

Plans are underway for our Spring Pilot Parent Training. This year we will held the orientation on Friday evening, April 15 and the training on two consecutive Saturdays, April 23 and 30th. If you feel that your Pilot Parent was a help to you, this is your chance to offer help to another new family. If any one is aware of any parents who may be interested in becoming Pilot Parent, please have them contact Janet.

#### REFERRALS

There have been ten new parents referred to us so far this year. Some of the disabilities of their children are: brain damage, Spina Bifida, microcephally, 18 P-Minus Syndrome, and Down Syndrome.

this event and it was held at his apartment clubhouse. Ben Cacioppo spoke on "Being A Father". The dad's had an opportunity to share and their feedback was very positive. It was then time to play poker and it is my understanding that they played until the clubhouse closed. Because this was such a success, another event is being planned. DAD'S - If you have any ideas on activities you would like to have, please call Janet, 348-9220. One suggestion so far is a tour of Falstaff.

The weather was not too cooperative for the Mother's Coffee that was held on January 20th at the home of Barb Welshinger. Only a few moms ventured out to Barb's house in Papillion, but we still had a good time.

Mark your calendars NOW for these upcoming events:

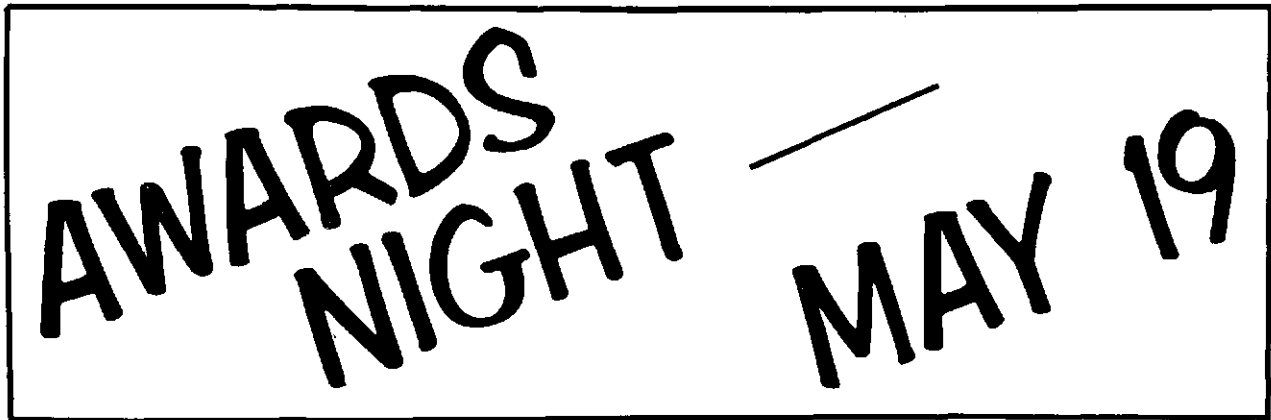
Saturday, March 12, 7:00 PM - ?  
Pilot & Piloted Parents Pot Luck Dinner at the home of Wally & Kathy Knight

Monday, April 18, 7:30 - 9:30 PM  
Beth Fine, from the genetics department of Children's Hospital, will speak on genetic disorders and genetic counseling. She will address your questions. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Monday, July 18, 6:00 - 10:00 PM  
Annual Picnic held at Cooper Farm. Remember this event is for all Pilot and Piloted Parents and their families and friends.

A few of the members of Pilot Parents are being interviewed by a freelance writer. He is preparing an article that will be printed in the Magazine of the Midlands. As yet, we do not know when the article will appear in the paper. You may wish to start checking the Magazine of the Midlands in the Sunday Paper.

Public Service Announcements on Pilot Parents were distributed in February to ten radio stations. Sweet 98 responded to them by requesting an interview. Janet did the interview and it was aired on Sunday, February 13th.



The Annual Meeting/Awards night, scheduled this year for Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, is an opportunity for the greater Omaha community to recognize those who have given meritorious service in a wide variety of areas. In the next four pages you will find nomination forms for the awards which are open to public nomination. Please make your information as complete as possible.

AWARD NOMINATIONS MUST BE RETURNED NO LATER THAN APRIL 22.

All nominations should be returned to the GOARC offices: 3610 Dodge St., Omaha, NE 68131.

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## RAY LOOMIS CITIZEN OF THE YEAR NOMINATION

THE RAY LOOMIS CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD IS THE HIGHEST HONOR GIVEN BY GOARC. IT IS INTENDED TO RECOGNIZE AN INDIVIDUAL WHO ADVOCATES FOR THE RIGHTS AND ACCEPTANCE OF MENTALLY RETARDED CITIZENS, WHO DEMONSTRATES OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP QUALITIES, WHO HAS VOLUNTEERED HIS/HER OWN TIME ON BEHALF OF MENTALLY RETARDED CITIZENS, AND WHO CONTINUOUSLY STRIVES TO ENLIVEN THE PHILOSOPHY OF THE ARC MOVEMENT. THIS PERSON EPITOMIZES THE TRUE MEANING OF THE TITLE 'ADVOCATE'.

1. NAME OF NOMINEE \_\_\_\_\_
2. ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_
3. OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_
4. DESCRIBE WHY YOU BELIEVE THE NOMINEE SHOULD WIN THIS AWARD:  
(PLEASE USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY)

5. SUBMITTED BY \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME ADDRESS PHONE

ATTACH ANY RELEVANT INFORMATION (CLIPPINGS, DOCUMENTS, ETC.)

# JUNE VANCE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE NOMINATION

THE JUNE VANCE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD IS GIVEN IN HONOR OF THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF GOARC. THE AWARD IS GIVEN TO THE INDIVIDUAL WHO IS SELECTED ON THE BASIS OF THEIR SPECIAL SENSITIVITY TO HUMAN NEEDS AND RIGHTS. IF YOU NEED ADDITIONAL SPACE, PLEASE ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS.

- 1. NAME OF NOMINEE \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. DESCRIBE WHY YOU BELIEVE THE NOMINEE SHOULD WIN THIS AWARD:

- 5. SUBMITTED BY  
NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_
- ATTACH ANY RELEVANT INFORMATION (CLIPPINGS, DOCUMENTS, ETC.)  
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# VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR NOMINATION

THE GOARC VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD IS FOR THE PERSON WHO HAS GIVEN THEIR TIME TO THE EFFORTS OF GOARC. NOMINEES WILL BE SELECTED ON THE BASIS OF THE NUMBER OF HOURS WORKED IN VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES IN THE PAST YEARS, ATTITUDES TOWARD MENTALLY RETARDED PEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILIES, DEPENDABILITY, COMMITMENT TO THE GOALS OF GOARC AND THE ARC MOVEMENT, AND THE DEGREE OF THEIR VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT IN GENERAL. NOMINEES DO NOT HAVE TO BE GOARC MEMBERS, BUT MUST BE INVOLVED IN VOLUNTEER WORK FOR GOARC. IF YOU NEED ADDITIONAL SPACE, PLEASE ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS.

- 1. NAME OF NOMINEE \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. ADRESS \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. DESCRIBE WHY YOU BELIEVE THE NOMINEE SHOULD WIN THIS AWARD:

- 5. SUBMITTED BY  
NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_
- ATTACH ANY RELEVANT INFORMATION (CLIPPINGS, DOCUMENTS, ETC.)



# EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR NOMINATION

THE DIRECT SERVICE EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR INCLUDES PERSONS PROVIDING DIRECT SERVICES IN THE FIELD OF RESIDENTIAL, VOCATIONAL, EDUCATIONAL, GUIDANCE, RECREATIONAL, OR OTHER DIRECT SERVICES TO PERSONS WITH MENTAL RETARDATION. THE NOMINEE CAN BE EITHER A DIRECT-LINE STAFF, OR SUPERVISOR. THE NOMINEE SHOULD POSSESS GOARC'S PHILOSOPHICAL OUTLOOK AND THEIR DEDICATION TO THE PHILOSOPHY SHOULD BE APPARENT IN THEIR WORK. NOMINEES WILL ALSO BE SELECTED ON THE FOLLOWING QUALITIES: PROGRAM CREATIVITY, ACTIONS WHICH HAVE GENERATED POSITIVE ATTENTION FROM THEIR PEERS AND FROM THE PUBLIC, AND THE QUALITY OF THEIR RELATIONSHIPS WITH PARENTS, CLIENTS, AND OTHER STAFF. IF YOU NEED ADDITIONAL SPACE, PLEASE ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS.

1. NAME OF NOMINEE \_\_\_\_\_
2. ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_
3. OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_
4. DESCRIBE WHY YOU BELIEVE THE NOMINEE SHOULD WIN THIS AWARD:

5. SUBMITTED BY \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME ADDRESS PHONE

ATTACH ANY RELEVANT INFORMATION (CLIPPINGS, DOCUMENTS, ETC.)  
.....

# EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR NOMINATION

THE EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR AWARD IS GIVEN TO AN EMPLOYER OF MENTALLY RETARDED CITIZENS - AN EMPLOYER WHO PROVIDES THEM WITH SUBSTANTIAL SUPPORT AND AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ADVANCEMENT. THE NOMINEE SHOULD BE AN EMPLOYER WHO WILL ADVOCATE FOR MENTALLY RETARDED EMPLOYEES. PLEASE DESCRIBE ANY ACTIONS OF THE EMPLOYER THAT INDICATE THAT THEY ARE COMMITTED TO THE BELIEF THAT MENTALLY RETARDED PEOPLE ARE ABLE TO WORK AND SHOULD BE CONSIDERED FOR EMPLOYMENT ON THE BASIS OF THEIR ABILITY.

IF YOU NEED ADDITIONAL SPACE, PLEASE ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS.

1. NAME OF NOMINEE \_\_\_\_\_
2. ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_
3. FIRM OR CORPORATE BUSINESS \_\_\_\_\_
4. DESCRIBE WHY YOU BELIEVE THE NOMINEE SHOULD WIN THIS AWARD:

5. SUBMITTED BY \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME ADDRESS PHONE

ATTACH ANY RELEVANT INFORMATION (CLIPPINGS, DOCUMENTS, ETC.)

# MEDIA OF THE YEAR NOMINATION

THE AWARD FOR MEDIA OF THE YEAR WILL HONOR EITHER THE PRINT OR BROADCAST MEDIA, OR A PROFESSIONAL OF EITHER (PRINT INCLUDES NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, ETC, AND BROADCAST INCLUDES RADIO AND TELEVISION). NOMINEES WILL BE JUDGED ON: QUALITY OF PROGRAMS, NEWS PIECES OR FEATURE STORIES, QUANTITY OF PROGRAMS, ACCURACY OF NEWS REPORTING, SPECIAL EFFORTS MADE TO INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF EITHER THE ASSOCIATION AND ITS PROGRAMS, OR ANY ASPECT OF THE LIVES OF MENTALLY RETARDED PEOPLE AND/OR THEIR FAMILIES, AND SPECIAL EFFORTS MADE TO CHANGE THE PUBLIC PERCEPTION OF PEOPLE WITH MENTAL RETARDATION. IF YOU NEED ADDITIONAL SPACE, PLEASE ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS.

1. NAME OF NOMINEE \_\_\_\_\_
2. ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_
3. EMPLOYER (IF A PROFESSIONAL) \_\_\_\_\_
4. DESCRIBE WHY YOU BELIEVE THE NOMINEE SHOULD WIN THIS AWARD:

5. SUBMITTED BY \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ATTACH ANY RELEVANT INFORMATION (CLIPPINGS, DOCUMENTS, ETC.) \_\_\_\_\_

# ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR NOMINATION

THE AWARD FOR ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR IS GIVEN TO A FRATERNAL, CIVIC, HEALTH, EDUCATIONAL OR OTHER ORGANIZATION WHICH HAS BEEN HELPFUL IN ANY WAY TO MENTALLY RETARDED CITIZENS. SPECIFICALLY, AN ORGANIZATION WHICH HAS ATTEMPTED TO EDUCATE ITS MEMBERS ON ANY ASPECT OF MENTAL RETARDATION OR THE FIELD, AN ORGANIZATION WHICH HAS DESIGNATED BOARD OR OTHER SUPPORT AGENCY AS THE MAJOR RECIPIENT OF FUNDRAISING PROCEEDS, OR AN ORGANIZATION WHICH HAS ATTEMPTED TO INCLUDE MENTALLY RETARDED CITIZENS IN ITS MEMBERSHIP. (THESE ARE PRESENTED AS EXAMPLES ONLY - THEY ARE NOT THE CRITERIA FOR THE AWARD.) IF YOU NEED ADDITIONAL SPACE, PLEASE ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS.

1. NAME OF NOMINEE \_\_\_\_\_
2. ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_
3. PRESIDENT OR CHIEF OFFICER \_\_\_\_\_
4. DESCRIBE WHY YOU BELIEVE THE NOMINEE SHOULD WIN THIS AWARD:

5. SUBMITTED BY \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ATTACH ANY RELEVANT INFORMATION (CLIPPINGS, DOCUMENT, ETC.) \_\_\_\_\_

## ENCOMH to Offer New Program Focusing on Needs of People With Retardation

Planning is underway at ENCOMH (the Eastern Nebraska Community Office of Mental Health) to develop mental health services specially focusing on meeting the needs of mentally retarded individuals and their families. The reason for this special focus is twofold: (1) people with mental retardation are susceptible to the same wide range of emotional problems as anyone else; and (2) there are also some unique problems for individuals and families surrounding the adjustment to this special handicap.

Alice Meilman, who has a masters degree in Social Work and experience in both fields of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, is coordinating the development of services which will be in place as of May 1, 1983. Services will include outpatient evaluation, counseling, education, case consultation, and coordination of mental health services with other service agencies, and will be provided by Ms. Meilman at the four ENCOMH area clinics. Anyone who has questions about these services or who wishes to request services is welcome to contact Alice Meilman at the West Omaha Mental Health Clinic, 444-6184.

Look for more information on the continuing development of these specialized mental health services in future issues of the GAZETTE.

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## TUNE-UP DAY

The Adaptive Equipment Shop at Hattie B. Monroe Pavilion located within the University of Nebraska Medical Center is sponsoring an equipment tune up and fix up day on Saturday, April 23rd from 9 A.M. to 2 P.M. Children and adults with adaptive equipment such as wheelchairs, specialized positioning and

and ambulation equipment are welcome to bring their equipment in for a free steam cleaning check up and tune up. There also will be demonstrations of how to adapt battery operated toys and small battery operated appliances so that they may be activated with remote control switches. We only ask that people send in a reservation form, or call in, to reserve an appointment time. For more information, or to make an appointment, call the Adaptive Equipment Shop, Hattie B. Monroe Pavilion, Rhoda Davis Blatt at 559-4327.

The Adaptive Equipment Shop is a nonprofit program which is partially supported by the Hattie B. Monroe Operating and Foundation Boards, the MCRI Women's Guild, and MCRI. Abbey Medical Supply is providing the free steam cleaning.

Again, please call 559-4327 for an appointment.

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## BREAKFAST AT BRYAN

By Dan Costello

The students at Bryan Junior High School sponsor an annual breakfast to demonstrate the skills of the students in the TMR (Trainable Mentally Retarded) program, and to provide the students another opportunity to practice those skills.

I was one of the lucky community representatives who was invited to the 1982 event. Other representatives included members of the OPS Board of Education, other educators, a representative of Special Olympics, etc.

The academic skills that were in evidence covered a broad range of skills necessary for both community living and employment. They ranged from telling time to reading, and appropriate social skills.

All of the visitors were met at the door by a student and escorted to our table. We had an opportunity to chat with the other students at the table before ordering our breakfast.

Bryan Breakfast, Continued on page 14.

# Notes <sup>from the</sup> Recreation Project

By Brenda Winn

## RECREATION PROGRAMS ARE AVAILABLE

GOARC now offers help in finding appropriate recreational programs for your child. We offer this service on a "call in" basis in order to accomodate your individual needs. Many programs have been contacted, some of which are adapted (segregated) and others that will mainstream your son or daughter. Currently, there are at least 100 different opportunities at varying places and times; some involving fees and many at no cost.

Since mid-January, (when my appointment began) I have researched opportunities, worked on new summer camp experiences, and referred individuals to a variety of programs. One family teacher called me and we're working out a boy scout and girl scout troop for her two children and she's now aware of several library programs and a free swimming time the children currently can participate in. Some of the available opportunities in Omaha/Bellevue are:

Cox Cable - Signed Story Hour

Omaha Libraries - "Read To Me" Program/Saturday Story and Crafts Hour

KIOS Radio 91.5FM - Readings from JRR Tolkien's, "Lord of the Rings"

1/2 hour episodes of "Star Wars/Empire Strikes Back"

Scouting for various ages at several locations

Bowling - individuals or groups

Swimming - several different options

Excercise Parcourses at several locations

FOR SPECIFIC DETAILS ABOUT THESE IDEAS, AND QUESTIONS ABOUT OTHER TYPES OF PROGRAMS, PLEASE CALL ME AT THE GOARC OFFICE.

Coming soon: NEW Summer Camping Opportunities

Gymnastics By Nebraska Gymnastic Development Club

PLEASE attend our "GETTING READY FOR SUMMER" forum, March 22, at 7:00 PM at the 3610 Dodge building.

The Hattie B. Munroe camp will run again this summer for three - two week sessions. The camp will be offering some different options at area outdoor camps. On April 9th there will be a dance and silent auction held at the livestock exchange. This is a fund raising project to support Camp Munroe; donations of items for auction are currently being solicited. For tickets and more information call Brenda at the GOARC office.

The Recreation Project is partially funded through a grant from Swing for the Retarded.

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### UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST:

March 19 - St. Patrick's Day Dance (Project II and the Adaptive Recreation Department)

March 22 - GOARC FORUM - Getting Ready for Summer - 7:00 PM GOARC Office

March 25, 26, & 27 - Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll drive

March 25, 26, & 27 - ARC/NE and ACP Convention

April 18 - Pilot Parent Sponsored Forum on Genetics (all are welcome) 7:30 GOARC office

April 22 & 23 - a parent training seminar sponsored by the MCRI Parent Training Project - "How to Make Positive Presentations Regarding Programs for Your Handicapped Child". For more information call 559-6406.

# PROJECT II

At the Project II meeting held on Friday, January 21, 1983 officers were elected for the coming year. The officers are responsible for the conduct of Project II meetings, for writing the Project II articles for the GAZETTE, and for other duties of their offices.

## PRESIDENT - OLLIE RECTOR

Ollie Rector is employed by the Field Club where she works in the kitchen preparing salads. She has worked there for six and a half years. Ollie is married and lives in her own home. She has lived there for three years. Ollie has been the President of Project II for two years. Ollie was also President of People First of Nebraska for two years. Ollie is a member of the GOARC Speakers Bureau and has presented on behalf of GOARC and Project II on a number of occasions. Ollie is also a member of the GOARC Board of Directors.

## VICE-PRESIDENT - TOM HOULIHAN

Tom Houlihan was elected Vice-President. Tom works for St. Vincent de Paul as a "jack of all trades". He also helps Mathew's Book Store in publicity. Tom is single, and lives in his own apartment with a roommate. Tom has lived in his apartment for seven years. Tom was the Project II Treasurer for the past two years and was Vice-President of Project II for four years before that. Tom was recently made a member of the Knights of Columbus.

Tom is a member of the GOARC Board of Directors and sits on the Administrative Services Committee.

## SECRETARY - NANCY LOOMIS

Nancy Loomis was elected secretary. Nancy is a housewife and the mother of a six year old son - Billy. Nancy goes to Metro Tech twice a week and is taking courses in math and reading. Nancy rents her house and has lived there for three years. Nancy was President of People First of Nebraska for one year and the Vice President for one year. Nancy is a GOARC member and works on a number of projects as a GOARC volunteer.

## TREASURER - JUNE CLAPPER

June Clapper was elected Treasurer. June works at Hill Haven Nursing Home as a housekeeper. June has worked there for two years. June has lived in Omaha for 13 years. June lives in an apartment with a roommate. June says she was married once, but is now divorced.

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THE MARCH PROJECT II MEETING WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY, MARCH 18. A SPEAKER HAS BEEN INVITED TO DISCUSS PROGRAMS IN AUSTRALIA. SATURDAY, MARCH 19, PROJECT II WILL SPONSOR A ST. PATRICK DANCE AT THE A.V. SORENSON CENTER.

# Sitter/Companion Program News

By Sue Halvorson

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Carol Marino left GOARC in November. She is now working for ENCOR as a Residential Manager in the North Area. I want to wish Carol good luck in her new position and thank her for all the work she has done for the Sitter/Companion Program. Carol has informed me she would like to be on the Advisory Committee for the Sitter/Companion Program. I think with her experience and expertise she would be a big help to the program.

My name is Susan Halvorson and I am replacing Carol as the Staff Assistant for the Family Support Program. I have not been too involved with GOARC since my days in the Youth Group. Since then I have worked for ENCOR's Family Support Program, for the Educational Therapy Program at Hattie B. Monroe, and for MCRI's Family Rehabilitation Program. I have already been in contact with quite a few providers and families involved in the Sitter/Companion Program and I am looking forward to meeting more of you.

## FAMILIES

There are currently eighty families registered with the Sitter/Companion Program.

## SITTER/COMPANIONS

There are currently fifty-six sitter/companions certified and available for service.

## QUESTIONNAIRE

I sent out a questionnaire to all the sitter/companions and all the families involved with the program. I want to thank those of you who have sent the questionnaire back to me. Those of you who haven't sent it back

yet please do. We need this information to keep the program running smoothly and to better meet the needs of families.

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE

We are setting up an advisory committee for the Sitter/Companion Program. This committee will provide input on and ideas for the program. So far, there are three providers who have told me they are interested. They are Joan Christie, Barbara Irvin and Carol Marino. There are two parents who have told me they would like to be on the committee. They are Debbie and Mark Solomon. I would like to have one or two more parents on the committee. If you are interested please call me.

## CPR TRAINING

If you are interested in CPR Training call the Red Cross Safety Programs at 341-2723, Extension 173. There is a six dollar fee and the classes are offered at least a few times a month.

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Bryan Breakfast, Continued from page 11.

Shortly after being seated, students came to the tables and took the orders. Other students helped in the preparation of the meals. Our breakfasts were served and our bills calculated by other students. Finally we "paid" for our meals to a student cashier.

After breakfast we were taken on a tour of the TMR classrooms at Bryan.

It was a unique opportunity to see these academic skills in practice. I think that the students, their faculty, and the school principal all deserve some share of the credit.

**etc.,etc.,etc.,etc.,**

An article appeared in the January 19th edition of the World Herald that indicated that the State ARC has taken a position on the proposed guidelines for admission into special education programs. These guidelines would probably effect students in the learning disabilities programs more than any other group of students. The ARC/NE has not taken any position on these guidelines.

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A child who was severely disabled before 22 and who continues to be disabled may get benefits when either parent retires, becomes disabled, or dies after having worked long enough under Social Security. When you apply for benefits you can also apply for payments for your son or daughter. The people at any Social Security office can tell you what medical evidence you will need for the application. DEPENDING ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES, HE OR SHE MAY ALSO BE ELIGIBLE FOR SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME PAYMENTS. For more information contact the Social Security office.

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Do you have information, or items of interest that you would like to have published in the GAZETTE? Drop them to Dan Costello c/o GOARC 3610 Dodge St., Omaha, NE 68131, or feel free to drop them by.

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*In one of the issues of the IYDP Reports we found the following quote:*

*"Current research indicates that if raised in their homes with access to services, 5% of children with Down's Syndrome test will within normal IQ range and over 50% perform in a mildly retarded range."*

-----

**SADLY, WE MUST REPORT THE DEATH OF DR. MARC GOLD. DR. GOLD HAD GREAT IMPACT IN THE FIELD OF MENTAL RETARDATION. DR. GOLD'S TRY ANOTHER WAY WAS USED TO TRAIN THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE.**

Betty Buss, of Valparaiso, Nebraska is looking for a parent she met at University Hospital in Omaha during December, 1982. Betty has a daughter who is about six months old and has Down's Syndrome. Betty said the mother she met has a son, who also has Down's Syndrome, who is approximately 18 months old and has blonde hair. They were not able to exchange names before going into see the doctor! If you remember Betty either call Janet at the GOARC offices 348-9220, or call directly to Betty at 1-784-3625.

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REMEMBER - MARCH 22, TUESDAY, BRENDA WINN, THE GOARC RECREATION COORDINATOR, WILL PRESENT A FORUM ON "GETTING READY FOR SUMMER" - A PREVIEW OF THE SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAMS THAT WILL BE AVAILABLE THIS SUMMER. THE FORUM STARTS AT 7:00 PM AT THE GOARC OFFICES - 3610 DODGE ST. (park in the north lot and come in the north door). See Brenda's article on page 12.

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The Infant Program at Meyer's Children's Rehabilitation Institute has collected information on infants and toddlers and would like to share this information in a six week course. Such topics to be included will be: Understanding Standardized Testing, Communication and Your Child, How Your Child Learns, and Using the Home Environment for Learning.

DATES OF THE COURSE: APRIL 4 - MAY 9, 1983. (1 hourly session per week, \$4 per session.)

MCRI is offering something that will hopefully be beneficial to both you and your child. During each session we will be meeting with you, discussing information that is relevant to your child. The sessions will include presentations led by Infant Program staff and guest speakers which will be supplemented by videotapes and demonstrations.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR TO ENROLL, CALL BARBARA JACKSON at 559-7451.

## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:

ALL ISSUES OF THE GAZETTE ARE AVAILABLE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. IF YOU ARE A MEMBER OF GOARC WE WOULD ASK THAT YOU PASS ON THE INFORMATION TO ANOTHER FAMILY, A COLLEAGUE, OR AN INTERESTED PERSON.

IF YOU ARE NOT A MEMBER OF GOARC WE WOULD INVITE YOU TO BECOME A PART OF OUR ASSOCIATION. MEMBERS OF GOARC SHARE A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE ASSOCIATION'S WORK.

MEMBERS ARE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ON ASSOCIATION MATTERS (INCLUDING THE ELECTION OF THE GOARC BOARD OF DIRECTORS) AT THE THREE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS HELD ANNUALLY. MEMBERS OF GOARC ARE ALSO MEMBERS OF THE ARC (ASSOCIATION FOR RETARDED CITIZENS) OF NEBRASKA, AND THE ARC OF THE US. THROUGH THESE LEVELS OF THE ARC MEMBERS PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR RESEARCH, THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW SERVICES AND PROGRAMS, AND SUPPORT FOR THE INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT IN MENTAL RETARDATION. MEMBERS ALSO PROVIDE VITALLY NEEDED FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR GOARC AND THE STATE AND NATIONAL ARC UNITS.

ALL MEMBERS OF GOARC ARE ALSO ELIGIBLE TO APPLY, THROUGH THE ARC/US, FOR ENROLLMENT IN THE ARC LIFE INSURANCE PLAN AND THE ARC HOSPITAL DISABILITY PLAN FOR THEMSELVES OR THEIR DEPENDENTS - INCLUDING MENTALLY RETARDED DEPENDENTS AND MEMBERS.

MEMBERS OF GOARC AUTOMATICALLY RECEIVE 'LEGISLATIVE ACTION NEWS' AND THE 'FOCUS' PUBLISHED BY ARC/NE, AND THE 'ARC' PUBLISHED BY ARC/US.

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS (HOME) \_\_\_\_\_

EMPLOYER NAME AND ADDRESS (OPTIONAL) \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (HOME) \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE (WORK) \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE CHECK ONE

PARENT ☐

PROFESSIONAL ☐

INTERESTED

CITIZEN ☐

IF YOU ARE A PARENT WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR SON OR DAUGHTER

SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_

PROGRAM \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER SERVICES \_\_\_\_\_

AGE \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE CHECK IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN THE GOARC VOLUNTEER PROGRAM ☐

ADULT/FAMILY MEMBERSHIP DUES - \$12.00

PLEASE SEND TO - GOARC

3610 DODGE

OMAHA, NE 68131



The Greater Omaha Association for Retarded  
Citizens is a United Way Agency

**SHIRLEY DEAN**  
**5809 SPAULDING**  
**OMAHA, NE 68104**

GOARC  
3610 Dodge St.  
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Omaha, NE 68131

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# GOARC gazette

Twenty Years of Advocacy 1963-1983 Twenty Years of Progress

VOL XV GOARC - THE GREATER OMAHA ASSOCIATION FOR RETARDED CITIZENS NO 5 & 6

## Standing Room Only Crowd Greet Candidates at GOARC's October General Membership Meeting



By Dan Costello

Nearly 100 people jammed into the GOARC meeting space on Candidate's Night held on October 24th.

The intention of the evening was to provide an opportunity for those interested in mental retardation issues to meet and to talk with those who were running for Legislature.

The candidates who came got an earful on issues ranging from insurance coverage for people who are disabled to the problems of adequate respite.

## Supreme Court Rules On 'Related Services' Under 94-142

By Dan Costello

In a recent Supreme Court decision [Irving Independent School District v. Tatro], the Supreme Court held that clean intermittent catheterization (CIC) could be included in the range of "related services" provided for by PL 94-142.

CIC is a simple medical procedure which is used to empty the bladder. The case centered around

an eight year old student with spina bifida who required CIC every three or four hours to avoid kidney injury.

Under PL 94-142 school districts are required to provide a "free appropriate education" which is defined to include "supportive services".

The local school district argued that CIC was not a supportive

service in the context of PL 94-142 and that they were not obliged to provide the service at school district expense.

The Supreme Court held that CIC qualifies as a related service because **the child cannot attend school, and therefore benefit from the educational program, without it.** Under this criterion it is deemed a support service.

## New Pilot Parent Coordinator Directs Busy Fall Schedule

By Brenda Sutton

Many of you already know that as of October first, I joined the staff here at GOARC as the Coordinator of Pilot Parents. It's not like I didn't know anything about this family support group; my family began our involvement as a piloted parent about 6 1/2 years ago, and eventually became pilot parents. I volunteered my time, when and where I could because I believe this program must be available to families in need. It wasn't a shock to my family and friends when I accepted this position and went back to work after an 11 year absence from the work force!

school, the Dukes of Hazzard, music, and pizza, but not necessarily in that order.

These past two months have been really busy and exciting around here for me. In October we had eight referrals to the program. I helped a family make contact with the Pilot Parents program in Cozad, NE, and also sent information on our program to Casper, Wyoming, where a Pilot Parent group is active.

I attended a coffee hosted by Karen Griffis and met some of the Pilot Parents' mothers in Council Bluffs. Thursday, October 25th a

puppet show from MCRI - "Kids on the Block". Judges were kept busy trying to choose the best costumes in several categories, and awarding ribbons to the lucky winners. We were treated to little people disguised as princesses, pumpkins, clowns, witches, nurses, bums, and even a butterfly.

Friday, November 16th, a coffee was hosted by Ada Calendine at her home in Millard. Dixie Ferrar spoke on the emotional stages of growth that parents encounter when raising a handicapped child. A great big THANKS to Ada and Dixie.



Games for the youngsters (and Brenda).



Evan and Jimmy Bondurant at the Halloween Party.

My husband Harv is self-employed. We own a security company and Harv keeps busy by installing security systems and locksmithing. Our two daughters, Stacy and Sarah are 10 and 9 years old and attend school at St. Bernards. They enjoy piano and all sports, especially soccer and football! Our son

Brian is 8 years old, attend school at Catlin Elementary and is in a TMR classroom. "BJ" loves

coffee hosted by Lore Wurtz in Elkhorn was attended by 12 moms and 15 children. Linda Esterling gave us some very helpful guidelines for choosing placements for our children. It was a very useful as well as fun morning for all! THANK YOU LORI AND LINDA.

Sunday, October 28th was our first Halloween Party and 15 families attended. We were treated to a

Monday, November 19th a film was shown to interested Pilot Parents at MCRT by Bob Cooper. The film was entitled "A New Set of Fears/A new Set of Hopes", and is about the emotional adjustments a family must make with the birth of a handicapped child. All of us that saw the movie agreed that it was very nicely and tastefully done and that all parents and

**PILOT PARENTS, continued on p. 11**

# HONEY SUNDAY GROSSES \$32,000

By Joan Nigro

This is my second year at GOARC and I am pleased by the response of all the "regulars" who are willing to work every year and, in fact, call me for "their" territory. Most of these people are strangers to GOARC, they are not a part of any of our programs but feel a need to be involved with helping people with mental retardation. It is sad to think of how many of our members and friends say no when asked to help, while strangers are excited about being involved. As you read this, I hope you will reflect on why you did or didn't participate in Honey Sunday. We needed you! Were you there?

Some of the organizations that helped with Honey Sunday (I apologize to anyone left out of this list - I assure you that you were needed and wanted and we are grateful for your support):

Jaycees - Omaha, Millard, Ralston, and Bennington

Westside High School - Interact, Zee Club, F.B.L.A.

Interfraternity Council and Panhellenic at U.N.O.

Creighton Sorority Pledges  
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church  
Zion Lutheran Church  
Maplewood United Methodist Church

St. Timothy's Lutheran Church  
Northwest High Deca  
Millard South High Student Council

Boys Town - many cottages  
Tim McGuire's Indian Scouts  
Boy Scouts/Cub Scouts  
Rainbow Girls  
Project II  
Zeta Tau Alpha Alumnae  
Omaha Legal Secretaries  
Boys Club/Girls Club  
Squires - Knights of Columbus  
St. Joseph's Church  
Ralston Deca

Each year there are core individuals who work so hard for many months for Honey Sunday. We

owe them so much for their energy and commitment:

Jim Brentlinger and his crew who moved all of the honey on Saturday and Sunday.

Area Chairpersons:

Tami Remhoff  
Stephanie Shope  
Sue Adkins  
Kathy Herman  
Rena Garcia  
Sandi Nolan  
Elise Fowler  
Joy Henry  
John Henry  
Sister Evangeline  
Dianne Iern  
Jeff Fuller  
Darrell Huff  
Joel Engelbert

Publicity - John Kramer

A special word of thanks also to Mayor Michael Boyle, who agreed to serve as Honorary Chairman of Honey Sunday and filmed a tv spot for us before he became ill.

Special thanks also to Bakers for including the Honey Sunday announcement in their grocery ad; Jane Palmer of the World Herald for her story and recipe column; Nick Schinker from the World Herald for his follow-up column; and Commercial Federal for assigning Maureen McNamara to us for Honey Sunday - she was super and brought a great crew along.

Each year space is donated so that we can have our headquarters for each area and keep our costs down.

On Sunday, December 2, Subby Basilico cooked chili for some of the Honey Sunday volunteers. I know I can always count on Subby to be there when I need help. Thanks Subby.

Honey Sunday in 1984 grossed over \$32,000. Net proceeds from the event will go to continue to the work of both GOARC and the Madonna School.

## PROJECT II Hosts New Zealanders

By Dena Launderville

Project II's Executive Committee members hosted a small get-together for two visitors from New Zealand. Harry and Mary Wilson from Nanganue, New Zealand wanted to talk to members of Project II about their self-advocacy group. Their visit to Omaha was one of many stops around the United States. Although they were here

to gather information to take back, they also contributed information that would be useful to Project II. Subjects ranged from recreation, volunteers and training, to values and community resources. Harry and Mary needed to travel back to Lincoln or the Project II members would have talked with them all night.



Tom Houlihan shows Mr. Wilson the Project II scrapbook.

## PERSONAL NOTES

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Jimmie Lazanis, a daughter, Rachael Joy, October 19th. She weighed 9 lbs. 14 ozs. CONGRATULATIONS

Andrew Chambers, infant son of Denny and Mary Chambers underwent open heart surgery at University Hospital on November 7th, and is recovering nicely at home. Get Well wishes from all of us.

Jane Sherratt had surgery October 23rd and is doing fine and she is back to work already!

Born to Jim and Sally Heits a son, James Isreal, November 28th. He weighed 6 lbs. and 14 ozs. CONGRATULATIONS

Moiria Baker, daughter of Clete and Nina Baker underwent open heart surgery September 27th and is doing just fine!!

In loving memory of the infant some of Mr. and Mrs. Agustin Lopez who passed away October 8th, you blessed their lives with your sweetness and love. Our sincerest sympathy to you.

We would like to urge all of our readers to contribute information about their families - milestones, tidbits, other news that you would like to share. Send any information to Editor, GOARC Gazette, 3610 Dodge St., Omaha, NE 68131.

### MEMORIALS

#### Given in the Memory of:

**Anton Usasz** by Joseph and Helen Shultz.

**Jeffrey Turpen** by Joseph and Helen Shultz.

**Arden Westbrook** by Joseph and Helen Shultz, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Tomaszkiewicz and family, and Mr. and Mrs. Gary Schultz and family.

**Mrs. Calvin Weinberg** by Joseph and Helen Shultz.

**Henry Bastian** by Mr. and Mrs. Herman Widhelm, Mrs. Joseph Borghoff, and Ms. Kathryn Hunasek.

## PEOPLE FIRST CONVENTION

By Dena Launderville  
People First of Nebraska 1984 Convention took place in Kearney over October 12, 13, and 14th.

This year Project II chartered a bus to transport 42 members, staff, and volunteers. We went down early so everyone could get unpacked and settled and to enjoy the facilities available to us at the Holiday Inn. A number of other Project II members and friends went by their own car or travelled with staff. The convention began early the next morning with everyone meeting for breakfast, then on to the conference opening and welcome. Nancy Ward, President of People First spoke about what had taken place over the last year and what People First needed to work on over the next year. Barb Jessing assisted Nancy on relating issues regarding Baby Jane Doe. The featured speaker this year was Lyn Rucker, Director of the Region V Mental Retardation Services. She spoke on Bill 2053 - Community and Family Living Amendments. This is a piece of national legislation that would limit federal medicaid funding to facilities of 15 persons or less. Members of People First were told that they could contribute to the

passage of the bill by writing their Senator and Congressional Representative. It was decided by all members that a letter and a petition would be made available for all to sign. Members asked that the following points be stressed:

1. We want other people to live like we do now.
2. People need to be able to live on their own if they can.
3. Give people who now live in the institutions and on waiting lists some self-worth.
4. No more Baby Does.
5. Live independent - we can depend on ourselves.
6. Help us to do things for ourselves.
7. We can live together.
8. People can speak for themselves, instead of being spoken for.
9. Help people who can't help themselves.
10. Give us the money we need.

After a lunch break, members again adjourned in the conference room for the Business Session. The first item discussed was on the Alcohol law and labels. A vote was taken and approval passed that the newly elected officers would work on this law over the next

**PEOPLE FIRST, continued on p. 9**



These Project II Conventioneers prepare for the trip to Kearney.

# arc SPECIAL EDITION

Twenty Years of Advocacy 1963-1983 Twenty Years of Progress

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS PROPOSES COMPUTER BASED MODEL

By Dan Costello

The Department of Public Institutions (DPI) confirmed its commitment to computer modeling as a way to analyze the budgets of community based mental retardation (CMBR) programs and the private providers who are not subcontractors with the regional programs. When the model chosen by DPI was published in a report prepared by the firm of Touche Ross and Co. Within several hours of the release of the report, DPI included the report's fiscal recommendations in the DPI budget recommendation for fiscal year 1985-86.

**First, clients are categorized as high, medium, or low need clients. Then a standard staffing ratio is assigned to each of these three categories - for both residential and vocational services.**

Each high need adult in a group home would be allowed .874 staff. Each medium need adult in a group home would be allowed .699 staff. Each low need adult in a group home would be allowed .350 staff. Also, each low need adult in any residential setting in which there is not staffing at all times would be allowed .350 staff. The same kind of approach was provided for children. High need children in group homes would be allowed .898

staff. Medium need children in group homes would be allowed .723 staff. Children classified as low need children would be allowed services would also be allowed

In vocational programs, each high need client would be allowed .25 staff and each low and moderate need client (including those in work stations) would be allowed

**Second, the number of clients in each category is put into the computer and multiplied by the standard staffing ratio. This gives a basic count of the number of direct line residential and vocational staff that a program is allowed.**

**Third, administrative staff and management staff are programmed based on the total number of clients served, regardless of the levels of need.**

One Residential Supervisor is allowed for each 50 adult residential clients and another for each 50 children in residential services. One Residential Coordinator is allowed for each 25 adult residential clients and another for each 25 children in residential services. One vocational coordinator is allowed for each 40 vocational clients and a Work Station Coordinator is allowed for each 40

work station clients.

At the area administrative level one van driver is allowed for each 50 clients. One half-time (.5) bookkeeper is allowed for each 75 clients. One administrative secretary is allowed for each 75 clients. And, one local program director is allowed for each 75 clients.

At the regional level one part time (.5) secretary/clerk is allowed for each 100 clients. One executive secretary is allowed for each region. One transportation supervisor is permitted for each 350 clients. One part time accountant (.5) is allowed for each 100 clients. One contract procurement officer is allowed for each region. .25 full time placement coordinator is allowed for each 100 vocational clients. One case worker is allowed for each 25 clients. One caseworker supervisor is allowed when the number of clients exceeds 275 with an additional supervisor for each additional 175 clients. One staff development person is allowed for each region. One fiscal director is allowed for each region. One administrative assistant is allowed when the total number of clients exceeds 600. And, finally, each region is allowed one regional director.

**REPORT, continued on next page.**

**Fourth, once the total number of staff have been calculated (again a multiplication process), salaries and fringe benefits are assigned to the positions.**

Wage rates were developed by taking the average salary (for the region or program in question) in 1983 for each position outlined above. These salaries were then adjusted by a percentage increase for 1984 and another percentage increase for 1985.

Fringe benefits for staff are decided as a percentage of salaries.

**Fifth, non-personnel operating and fixed costs are calculated.**

Vocational operating costs are allocated at 30% of vocational staffing costs. Residential costs are allocated at 40% of residential staffing costs. Administrative overhead and non-personnel costs are allocated at 37.5 of personnel costs. Client therapy costs are generated at 133% of the state wide average.

**Sixth, some items were included as "reconciliation" items.**

**Finally, in addition to these considerations, the model includes certain other assumptions.**

Staff who sleep in a residence are not paid for that time.

Residential services for children are included only "until the responsibility issues are resolved with the Department of Education and the Department of Social Services".

Home teachers are not intended to be included as a part of the regional program budget in the final model. Home teachers would be paid by the Department of Social Services (i.e. they would be foster homes) while the region or program would be allowed to have staff who recruited, trained, and monitored these foster homes.

Respite is not included.

In-home is included.

No funding for any client on a waiting list is included.

There are some additional points to be made in the model prepared by Touche Ross, but this analysis presents the essence of the model.

## RESPONSE

By Dan Costello

It is my belief that from the perspective of an organization that represents parents, consumers and other advocates the general idea of computer based modelling is certainly a broad concept with which we have no basic quarrel.

As with all applications of computer technology to human services, however, any model, whether it be for system design or for budget analysis, must have a sound basis in programmatic and administrative fundamentals in order to be acceptable.

A model for mental retardation services in Nebraska can be judged appropriate, sound, and acceptable to the extent that it meets seven necessary criteria. I believe that these seven points are rational, logical, and consistent with the current methodology for providing mental retardation services.

Without adequately meeting these seven criteria any model must be judged unacceptable.

**First, a model which provides for a statewide standard for services must be immediately and directly linked to services for all eligible persons.**

The Department of Public Institutions has for far too long avoided its responsibility to provide services for those on the long waiting lists in this state

by claiming that there are no statewide standards which would insure a reasonably uniform delivery of services. Now that this bureaucratic skirt behind which the Department has hidden will be removed, there can be no excuse for development of a model, and funding recommendations which only includes clients currently in services.

Any model which does not directly provide for services for all eligible persons can never be accepted as a statewide standard for budget evaluation or for system design.

**Second, a model must provide for adequate flexibility to address the individual needs of clients and must provide incentives for innovative services to meet those needs.**

The ACMRDD (Accreditation Council for Services for Mentally Retarded and Other Developmentally Disabled Persons) clearly states:

"It is not possible to stipulate professional staff ratios that are generally applicable to agencies for at least . . . reasons:

- 1) the needs of individuals served vary from one agency to another; [and]
- 2) the needs of individuals may be met through a variety of program approaches. . . .

For these reasons, each agency must determine the numbers of professional staff that are necessary to provide active and adequate services. This determination must be based upon an appraisal of the needs of the individuals served, the programs utilized to meet those needs, and the roles and functions of the particular professionals who are employed."

This does not suggest that staffing standards which account

for individuality are impossible to achieve. One example can be found in the regulations which govern special education in Nebraska. These regulations establish general student to teacher ratios. At the same time, however, they allow for a 25% variance from the standards to account for individual program considerations. This approach combines both the concept of a staffing standard as well as room to accomodate individuality in client needs.

In addition to this automatic variance, however, some, few residential programs will still require to be exempted from the general standards. For these, very few, cases some mechanism must be in place to evaluate services compared to the only, and far more costly alternatives in state regional centers or the state institution.

At the same time any model must provide an incentive for innovation and progress. Any model which places a high premium on client classification at the highest level of need will promote a "natural" tendency to classify more clients as high need, and to retain clients in that classification when they may legitimately have moved to categories which provide for less income.

Any model which fails to account for the individuality of client needs and fails to provide incentives for innovation and progress institutionalizes unsound mental retardation practices.

**Third, a model must encourage and support the integrity of the natural family setting for children with mental retardation.**

The failure to include respite and other non-educational children's services in any model is a sign that the model is short-sighted in its scope, ineffective in its cost/benefit analysis, supplants,

rather than supports the natural family unit.

**Fourth, a model for Nebraska must provide for flexibility in its regional or administrative structure to allow for the unique urban/rural nature of our state.**

In some rural areas distance may be a more relevant factor than the number of clients served. In some urban areas the congregation of clients in a limited geography may require less middle level management but more support in other areas.

Any model which fails to account for these considerations cannot be acceptable for application on a statewide basis.

**Fifth, a model should provide an incentive for maximum participation by all funding sources (including county funds).**

Any model which incorporates disincentives to maximizing income resources should be judged unacceptable from any management perspective.

**Sixth, any model should provide for a salary structure which brings staff to equivalent pay with their relevent counterparts.**

**Seventh, an acceptable model must be rooted in a sound data base.**

Data must be consistent from area to area, must be comprehensive, and must be accurate.

Finally, although it is not one of the criterion by which the model itself is judged, it must be understood that if negative fiscal impact results from the implementaton of any model of this sort must be phased in gradually to avoid undue disruption of the lives of individuals receiving those services.

These seven criteria can, if included in the model design, achieve a rational, coherent, and

clinically sound analysis of services.

Unfortunately, the model currently proposed by the Department of Public Institutions fails on every one of these seven tests.

## IMPACT

By Dan Costello

The impact on ENCOR if the current model were implemented would be immediate and severe for clients currently in services. It would be catastrophic for those waiting for services.

The following is provided by the ENCOR response to the Touche Ross Report.

1. The budget for ENCOR, based on the Touche Ross model calls for \$900,000 in cuts for two years. These cuts, combined with no new increases will mean a two year loss of \$2,650,000 to ENCOR.

2. The budget for ENCOR would require the elimination of over 100 direct line staff positions. At the same time the budget would allow for the almost doubling of middle level management.

3. The budget for ENCOR would only allow for seven van drivers for the five counties.

These proposals are included in the budget already submitted to the state legislature by the Department of Public Institutions.

## SECOND THOUGHTS

By Dan Costello

I would like to add two personal comments to the material contained in this special supplement to the regular GAZETTE.

**SECOND THOUGHTS, can't next page.**

First, even though the Touche Ross analysis comes to us in the guise of a budget analysis tool, I believe that it is a high water mark in naivete to assume that we are not discussing a model for services - not just a model for budget analysis. If the report fails to meet the acceptable standards for service design, it also fails to meet the acceptable standards for budget analysis.

Second, no single organization is going to be able to reply to the flaws in the report alone. The ARC's can address certain elements, but the regional programs and other providers who are effected must take an active role in the public response to the report.

## YOUR RESPONSE NEEDED NOW

By Dan Costello

Every person who reads this GAZETTE, and who agrees with the points made in GOARC's analysis of the report should sit down now and draft a letter to both the Governor and your state senator.

Parents, if your son or daughter is currently in services you must let these two people know what you feel about the impact of this report on services to your son or daughter. If your son or daughter is on a waiting list you must understand that cuts of this size will mean that you simply will not receive services in the foreseeable future.

Staff, make your own judgements about the how well you can do your job under the staffing criteria proposed in the report.

If you are an individual interested in mental retardation services make your own evaluation

of whether GOARC's criteria are reasonable; if so, compare them to the data in the Touche Ross report.

Whatever your relationship to mental retardation you must make a decision now. If you cannot

support the Touche Ross report you must make that fact known.

If you write nothing else, please spend a little time now to let the Governor and your state senator know how you feel about the proposed cuts!!

**PUBLIC FORUMS WILL  
BE SCHEDULED  
IN JANUARY TO  
DISCUSS THIS ISSUE**

-----  
**WATCH YOUR MAIL  
FOR MORE  
INFORMATION**



**ARC NEBRASKA'S  
SENATORIAL APPRECIATION  
DINNER SCHEDULED FOR  
MONDAY, JANUARY 28**



**PEOPLE FIRST**, continued from p. 4  
 year. The next items on the agenda were ratification of the By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation. Each item in the Articles and By-Laws was read over. Some were re-worded and changed. Others were approved as written. The Articles and By-Laws were then approved and adopted.

Election of Officers was the last item during the business session. Steve Richards from Grand Island is the new President. Bob Steele from Grand Island is Vice President, Kathy Miller from Scottsbluff is Secretary, and Pat Miller from Omaha is Treasurer. Judy Manot is Board Member from Grand Island; Ollie Rector, Board member from Omaha; Vicki Shields, Board Member from Lincoln; Curtis

**PEOPLE FIRST**, continued on p. 12



The opening session of the People First Convention.

## Workshop on Job Hunting Stresses the Worker with Mental Retardation as 'Hidden Resource'

By Dan Costello

GOARC's Public Education Program sponsored an all-day workshop for parents on how to help their son or daughter find employment on

Saturday, September 29th.

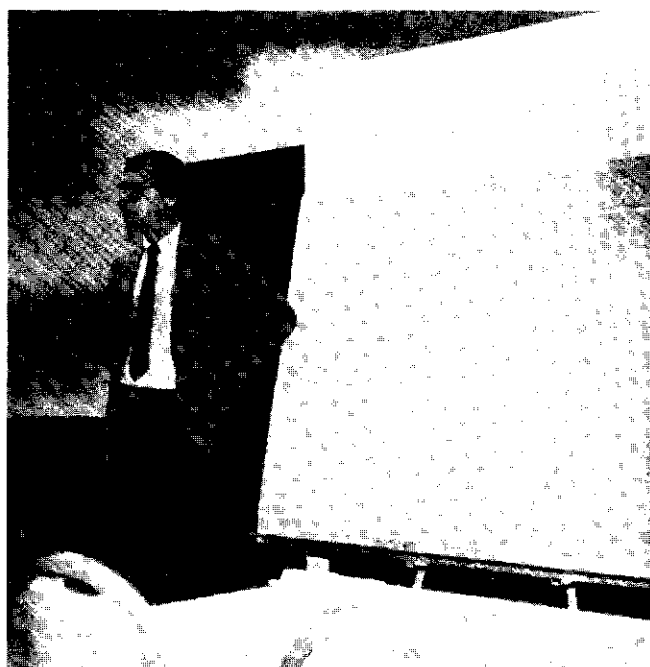
The workshop featured speakers from the ARC of the US On-the-Job Training Program: Mr. Howard

Laudert and Mr. Paul Jochim.

The workshop focused on selling workers with mental retardation to employers.



Parents and professionals attended the workshop.



Paul Jochim discusses employers objections.

## GOARC Will Offer Course In Parenting In March



GOARC WILL OFFER A SPECIALLY DESIGNED COURSE IN **SYSTEMATIC TRAINING FOR EFFECTIVE PARENTING OR S.T.E.P.** IN THE SPRING OF 1985. S.T.E.P. IS A BRIEF COURSE DESIGNED FOR TODAY'S PARENTS. S.T.E.P. OFFERS PARENTS A REALISTIC AND PRACTICAL APPROACH TO MEETING THE CHALLENGES OF RAISING CHILDREN TODAY. IT HELPS THEM LEARN EFFECTIVE AND ENJOYABLE WAYS TO RELATE TO THEIR CHILDREN. PARENTS WILL LEARN WAYS TO HELP RAISE RESPONSIBLE, HAPPY CHILDREN.

**HIS PARTICULAR SERIES OF CLASSES IS BEING SPONSORED BY GOARC TO FOCUS ON THE CHALLENGES FACED BY PARENTS OF CHILDREN HAVING A HANDICAP.**

HAROLD MOSELY, ACSW, LEADER FOR THIS CLASS, HAS FIFTEEN YEARS OF EXPERIENCE WORKING WITH PARENTS AND PEOPLE HAVING HANDICAPS. BY HAVING PARENTS OF OTHER CHILDREN WITH HANDICAPS IN THE GROUP IT SHOULD OFFER AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN AND SHARE TOGETHER AS PARENTS.

The class will run for five weeks on Tuesday nights from March 5, 1985 to April 2, 1985. The cost of the class will be \$25 per person or \$35 per couple.

For more information call the GOARC offices at 348-9220.

## Staff Changes Brings New Faces and Roles

By Dan Costello

Several staff changes were made in the GOARC offices over the past several months. Ms. Keryn Paul who had coordinated both the Pilot Parent and Sitters and Companions Program resigned in September to be able to devote more attention to her family. We will all miss Keryn.

To replace Keryn two part time staff have been assigned to these programs. Ms. Brenda Sutton will take responsibility for the Pilot Parent Program and Ms. Tami Remhoff will take over Sitters and Companions.

## Halloween Dance Draws Huge Crowd

By Dena Launderville

This year's dance was a huge success!! Co-sponsored by Project II and the Adaptive Recreation Department, the dance attracted over 200 people. Triangle, a live band, provided the music as everyone enjoyed the refreshments and costumes.

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND THE ARC OF NEBRASKA SENATORIAL APPRECIATION DINNER SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 28TH. THE DINNER WILL BE HELD IN LINCOLN AT THE PERSHING AUDITORIUM.

## Special Olympics Seeks Participants

By Dan Costello

The Nebraska Special Olympics is seeking any athlete who may be eligible for participation in Special Olympics, but who has not yet been reached.

Participants must meet the following eligibility requirements.

- 1) The individual must have mental retardation.
- 2) The individual must be at least eight (8) years old - there is no upper limit to age eligibility.

For more information, or to enroll an eligible person, please contact Ms. Margaret Mooreford at 345-5414.

## Project II Pot Luck

By Dena Launderville

Project II hosted a pot-luck dinner on November 30th. Everyone was asked to contribute by bringing one meat dish and one side dish. We had an overwhelming response with 44 people in attendance. There was a lot of food, talking and laughter as we all enjoyed the dinner.

## Project II Business Meeting Discusses Touche Ross Impact

By Dena Launderville

Project II held their monthly business meeting on November 16th. The guest speaker was Dan Costello. Dan presented the latest Touche Ross Report (see the special section in this issue). Project II members brainstormed a number of possible strategies that Project II could use to react to the report. These included letter writing, talking to Senators and others, discussing the problem with the Governor, asking people to visit programs, etc.

**PILOT PARENTS, continued from p. 2**

professionals that would view it should benefit from it immensely. We were also advised that the film could be checked out from MCRI for a small fee. Congratulations to the Cordel family from Blair and all that were involved in the production of this excellent film.

Everyone has read "The Little Golden Books" series to their children. I found a "look alike" and it is called "A Happy Day Book". I've seen these books at Skaggs and Bakers, and I'm sure that they can be found at other stores as well. I was pleasantly surprised when I found one designed for young children to help them to better understand handicapped people! In a Christian way, it tells them what handicapped people are like and how to treat them. This book is titled "MY SISTER IS SPECIAL" and the story is told by a little boy who has a little sister with Down's Syndrome. This book sells for \$1.29, or if you wish, stop by and check it out of our lending library [at the GOARC offices]. Has anyone read a good book or seen an interesting article lately? If so, please call me! We always love to get the latest and most recent books and articles.

WITH 1984 COMING TO AN END, I HAVE THE NEXT 12 MONTHS TO PLAN. I AM HERE TO HELP AND REPRESENT YOU, SO PLEASE CALL OR SEND ME YOUR IDEAS. ANYONE WISHING TO HOST A MORNING COFFEE OR EVENING 'GET TOGETHER', IN THEIR HOME, DON'T HESITATE TO CALL ME.

## **New Coordinator for Sitters and Companions Program**

By Tami Remhoff

Vital statistics of the new Sitter and Companions Program Coordinator:  
Hair: Brown

Eyes: Blue  
Age: 25  
Height: Too short  
Weight: Too much  
Interests: Reading, snow, reading, swimming, reading, kids, reading, reading, and reading.  
Education: Graduate of Marshall Senior High in Marshall, MN. Currently at the University of Nebraska with the expectation of a Bachelors degree in May.

That's the gravy - now - let's get down to the meat!

I am trying to get a training organized so I can increase the number of providers that are available. I know that some people have become frustrated because of a lack of available providers. I need your help! The best way to help is by letting any interested people know of the program and having them give us a call. These people might be a neighbor, a family member, or some one you get to provide services who hasn't had any special training. When you call please leave your name, address and phone number. If any of you could help with the training, please give me a call, too! I would greatly appreciate your help.

## **Project II Member Dies From Fall**

By Tom Houlihan

This is about a member of Project II. Her name was Donna Faye Criger. She was a friend. She always had a smile on her face. She was a happy person in her lifetime. Donna was a kind and good hearted person. She was a beautiful young lady. She was crippled all her life but it didn't make any difference.

Donna loved Project II a lot. She made everyone laugh with her when she came to the meetings.

This is my memorial

## **JUST FRIENDS**

By Dena Launderville

Activities, recruitment and training is what has taken place over the last 3 months.

Monthly activities are available to assist the teens, both in a planned activity and a chance to meet and socialize with others in the program. Activities that have taken place include:

Hayrack Ride  
Halloween Dance  
Chili Supper.

The Chili Supper was co-sponsored by the Christ Child Society's Junior High Girls. Along with Chili, everyone brought their favorite vegetables and a soda was provided. After eating our fill, we all gathered in the gym to plan "New Games". The evening was fun and a great success. The Just Friends program plans to co-sponsor another event in 1985 with the Jr. High Girls.

Recruitment and training are important aspects of Just Friends. This provides our program with the needed volunteer participants. Recruitment took place during September at Gross High School and St. Columbkille Parish in Papillion in November. Just Friends is also an Explorers Group and we held a First Nighter in October.

Teens accepted into the Just Friends Program go through three steps. The first meeting is a personal interview. then on to advocacy training (this includes myths and misconceptions, sensitivity and attitudes, and more). Then one last meeting for questions, concerns, and if they are to be matched, they receive information on their friend.

25 meetings have taken place during September, October and November.

Just Friends has been growing and will continue to do so in 1985. To date we have 34 teens involved in the Just Friends Program.

**PEOPLE FIRST, continued from p. 9**

Lewellen, Board Member from Scottsbluff. Nancy Ward is Past President from Lincoln.

The date for next year's convention was also decided. It will be October 11, 12, and 13, and again, it will be in Kearney at the Holiday Inn.

After the business session, members had the choice to attend one of five workshops. members also had the chance to attend two workshops on Sunday morning.

This year members from Project II presented six workshops:

- 1) Officers' Training - how to be an officer of a self-advocacy group.
- 2) How to overcome disabilities.
- 3) Budgeting your money.
- 4) How to get what you want from your IPP.
- 5) Pre-employment concerns.
- 6) What we expect from our self-advocacy advisors.

These workshops were presented by the Project II members. Several months, in some cases, had gone into the preparation of the presentations. A number of volunteers assisted the Project II members in getting ready.

This year's banquet had a new twist. Three groups presented skits: The Grand Island Strong Americans [that is the name of the local self-advocacy group], Advocacy First of Lincoln, and

Project II. Project II did the "Hat People" and a sing-along. Then came the dance. This was the chance for everyone to "get down" and enjoy some music, dance, and meet and talk to old friends. This year's music was presented by a disc jockey from KSYZ.

Sunday found everyone attending the last two sessions of workshops, one last chance to sit and talk to friends, and then hurrying to pack bags for the trip home.

Project II met in November to discuss the convention. They talked about what they liked, disliked and what they wanted to see changed or added next year. In the words of one member - "I liked the whole thing - I thought it was a success".

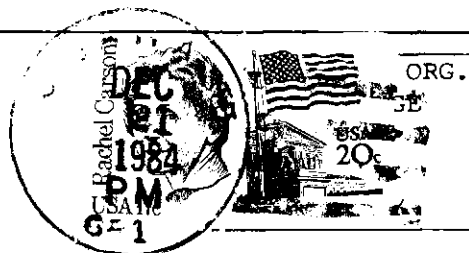
I would like to thank the many volunteers involved in the convention this year: Rita Yasson, Alice Meilman, Shirley Dean, Barb Jessing, Maggie Kenney, Rick Anderson, Mike Gilbert, Joe Taylor, and Jerry Kruse.



The "Hat People" was one of the fun skits that Project II presented in addition to the six seminars on self-advocacy topics.

Several readers have contacted us about equipment that they have available for sale. Please contact Ms. Marjorie Nelson, RR 2, Ong, NE (1-402-284-2354 - evenings) if you are interested in: two children's walkers (detachable seat, wheels with brakes, adjustable for height three years and up); or Pogon Buggy for child ages 4-10. Please contact Rachael at 493-6380 if you are interested in a child's adjustable four legged walker (25" maximum height). Please contact Shelley Knutson at 498-0316 if you are interested in an Ortho Kinetics Travel Chair.

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Ms. Dean  
2202 S. 11th St.  
Lincoln, NE 68502



The Greater Omaha Association for Retarded Citizens is a United Way Agency