

# Inspirations

June 2012



## Director's Corner- Mary Lynn Bisland



Greetings to All Terrebonne Arc followers!

Hopefully, many of you are aware that TARC is an internationally accredited agency for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Since the first attempt at accreditation, TARC has continued to maintain this prestigious accomplishment. Through hard work and following all of the guidelines, as to what is required to be the BEST, Terrebonne Arc (TARC) has once again been designated as an OUTSTANDING agency both locally, nationally, and internationally. The Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation

Facilities (CARF) completed TARC's 4th accreditation survey June 20-22. The 3 surveyors from Georgia, Wisconsin, and Ohio were very impressed with ALL of TARC's accomplishments, awards, and programs. I am proud to say that TARC will be given another 3 year accreditation. This achievement puts TARC in the forefront of other similar agencies in the eyes of funders, families, and our community.

There is much coordination and effort that goes on daily, to maintain the standards that CARF requires of an accredited agency. These standards of excellence need to be worked on daily, weekly, monthly, and quarterly. CARF is an on-going process! ALL of TARC's policies, procedures, programs, and business practices are guided by CARF guidelines. These guiding principles are what has brought TARC to the forefront as a leader and example to so many.

As always, our efforts are made for those we serve, families, and our community.

I wish to thank Alison Ordoyne, CARF Coordinator, TARC Directors, Board Members, and ALL Staff, for doing an outstanding job! This effort is by everyone, and it takes a VILLAGE. It goes to prove that every person involved has a HEART for TARC. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Mary Lynn Bisland

## TARC Annual Report Now Online!

This year, TARC's 2011 Annual Report will not be distributed to our membership to save on costs of paper and production. However, please review it online, as well as our donor listing, at [www.terrebouncearc.org/annualreports](http://www.terrebouncearc.org/annualreports). In this year's report, you will find our financial statement and business information. It reviews all the ways TARC "creates opportunities" for all of our individuals.

TARC is now hiring  
the following:

CDL Bus Driver  
Residential Floater  
PCA- Personal  
Care Attendant

[www.terrebouncearc.org/careers](http://www.terrebouncearc.org/careers)

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# Let's Get Together Club



Let's Get Together has been having a lot of fun! In April, the group watched the New Orleans Zephyrs play Round Rock at the Zephyrs field in New Orleans. Over 80 people came to the game. The Zephyrs won, and we had a blast! In June, the club sponsored an educational night in the TARC Cafeteria. Police officers from the Terrebonne Parish Sheriff's Office visited the club and taught good citizenship. Dogs from the K-9 Unit were also on hand. Everyone enjoyed seeing the dogs! We ate a delicious dinner and danced afterwards. Cajun Crate worker, Herman McElroy, DJ'd the event. In July, the club will be accepting fall dues of \$10. We are looking forward to a movie night in August, a Harvest/Halloween dance in October, and our Annual Christmas Gift Exchange in December. Let's Learn, Laugh, and Live!



## TARC Garden and Market Festival

On May 5, TARC held the 2nd Annual TARC Garden and Market Festival. TARC teamed up with the La-Terre Master Gardeners and LSU AgCenter to provide a variety of educational opportunities, guest speakers, and garden related vendors. TARC embraced this new opportunity once again and enjoyed having the community visit TARC. Entertainment was provided by Billy Stark, Frank Ball, and TARC Express.



TARC showcased their food, gourmet candy products, bakery products, worm tea fertilizer, salsa and pepper jelly. New TARC products were also revealed at the event that includes Maison d'Art's creative stepping stones and Houma Grown's Garden Marbles. The TARC grounds were also renovated with an exceptional garden and raised beds. The Houma Grown Farmer's Market was open with fresh produce and an array of beautiful plants. TARC appreciates all of the community support, and is now looking forward to next year's garden market.



## Client Spotlight– Kip Robichaux



At the young age of 34, Kip Robichaux just completed his 10th year working for WalMart in the Garden Center. Kip works three days a week in maintenance. In his 10 years, he has enjoyed constructing lawnmowers and garden related merchandise and working outside. "It is so wonderful that WalMart has worked with Kip all these years. They have always been very supportive of Kip, and we are truly appreciative," said Nelwyn Robichaux, Kip's mother.

Prior to working for WalMart, Kip graduated from Terrebonne High School and worked in maintenance at Lowe's. He has been a part of TARC's Supported Employment division, Creative Employment Opportunities, since 2001. He learns on-the-job skill training with a job coach.

In his spare time, Kip enjoys riding his golf cart, going to the mall and playing games. One of his favorite things is traveling and staying in a hotel. Congratulations Kip on your success!

# CONOCO PHILIPS GRANT



This spring, TARC received an \$11,000 grant through ConocoPhillips. The grant money will help buy new and needed equipment for our screen printing division, Grand Designs. (l to r) Mary Lynn Bisland, TARC Executive Director, center, accepts the check from Kim Hebert (left) and Bobbie Chauvin. Grand Designs workers, Myles Dupre and Tanya Theriot accept the grant.

## TARC Tidbits



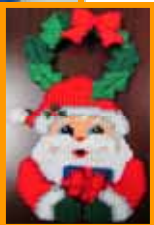
TARC staff and volunteers participated at the TFAE 5K Run for Excellence by serving chicken and sausage gumbo.



2011-2012 TARC Client Representative and Cajun Crate worker, Herman McElroy received a Certificate of Appreciation for an outstanding job from the TARC Board President, Larry Pete, for his term. Congratulations Herman!

## Creative Clients

Cajun Confections worker Dorothy Naquin has been creating needlepoint crafts for over 20 years. She saw it in a store one day, and she asked her mom if she can buy it. Her mom told her, "you have to finish it." Dorothy, who taught herself the craft, has been finishing the pieces ever since. "I kept at it, I worked it, and I finished it." "I love making the needle point crafts in my spare time." Keep up the great work Dorothy!



Creative Employment Opportunities worker Dustin Cheramie regularly enjoys putting large puzzles together in his spare time. He recently constructed a 1000 piece puzzle of The Last Supper in which it took him 5 months to complete. Upon finishing, he framed the puzzle and now keeps it in his home. Great job Dustin!

**Now Available at**  
**Houma Grown Market**  
**Zucchini**  
**Okra**  
**Summer Plants**  
**Open Monday-Friday**  
**7-12**

## Upcoming Events

- ♦ **August 7-** LGT Movie Night
- ♦ **September 3rd- Labor Day**  
TARC Closed
- ♦ **October 27th-** Harvest Dance  
Woodmen of the World
- ♦ **November 19-23** Thanksgiving  
TARC Closed
- ♦ **December 25-Jan.1-** Christmas  
TARC Closed

## Department Spotlight—Sunshine Express



Since 2000, Sunshine Express Early Care and Education Center has been teaching, training, and developing young minds for future generations. As one of the only centers of its kind in the nation, Sunshine Express includes children with different developmental needs and group them according to their developmental need rather than chronological age. Staff are continuously trained in developmentally appropriate practices and they promote self-esteem and self-confidence through strategies and activities geared toward independence. Breakfast, lunch and snacks are provided to meet the nutritional needs of the children as well as a variety of activities throughout the year to provide exceptional programming.

Sunshine Express is a 2-star education center and continues working toward the goals set forth by the Louisiana Quality Start Program. Quality Start is a voluntary program for licensed centers designed to increase the quality of early learning for all children throughout Louisiana. To be eligible for star ratings, the center must meet all federal and state guidelines and pass evaluations performed by the Quality Start Program.

Sunshine Express is now taking applications for Fall Registration. We currently have openings for toddler and pre-school age. Call Sunshine Express Director Pam Pellegrin at 580-1136 for more information.