



Happy Hour Happenings

April 2015 - Issue 4

Happy Hour Service Center
Houston County Association for Exceptional Citizens, Inc.
Falcon Park, Inc. & Falcon Park III, Inc.

Cowart's Corner...

*Tod Cowart –
Executive Director*

Spring has sprung with flowers blooming, trees budding, grasses greening and the crops planted.....may we enjoy a few warm days and cool nights before the summer wave of south Georgia heat arrives. The weather is warming, daylight savings time has kicked in, and outside activities are taking advantage of beautiful days and evenings; strawberry pickings, volleyball practices, community outings, fishing, and residential barbeques to name just a few. We now have a heated and cooled Recycled Treasures/ Workshop IV facility for all of our persons served, customers, and employees. We have three current projects on the front and back burner as we move forward in the services to all of our individuals. The first is a new repair and maintenance program for light vehicle maintenance and car detail. This new program will provide new training opportunities for all persons served and vocational rehabilitation adults daily. A maintenance program curriculum will be implemented, consisting of basic services to vehicles, including oil changes, tire rotation, fluid levels, radiator flushing, and wash/detail of light weight vehicles and trucks. Partnership with the City of Warner Robins and the Mayor are in discussion for facility space for the new operation. Second, a data & document scanning & storage program through cloud based web solutions and/or company owned drive storage space, providing secure, confidential access to local businesses and government entities. Staff and individuals would secure and transport business documents to our secure facility for separating and scanning with each business containing its own website storage location. This program would be a natural segue to the document destruction program as businesses and the general public become paperless. Third, a new data & document destruction program with NAID certification (National Association For Information Destruction), specializing in plant-based document destruction, providing secure, confidential services to organizations and government entities. This program will involve building renovation with security cameras and new commercial shred equipment. Businesses and the general public would have the capability to view their documents being run through the shred equipment for safe and secure destruction. All of these new innovative programs will provide new training opportunities for all developmentally disabled adults and skill training for vocational rehab adults preparing to enter the job markets in our community. Summer will be a time of organization, preparation, and transition in all of our efforts to provide the highest quality services to every individual on our campus. Change is always hard with growing pains and our efforts to be the best provider we can be in our community and the Middle Georgia area. In everything new, and all of our current programs we continue to provide, may we continue to adapt and overcome all of the obstacles in service to all persons served. We continue to remember the William Updegraff family in the loss of a husband, father, grandfather, and long time Treasurer of our Board of Directors at Happy Hour. Also, we remember Ms. Jackie Barnett and family in the loss of her mother this past week. May God continue to bless our organization, our efforts, and our families in service to his children who need our special touch.

Inside This Issue:

Human Resources.....	2
Self-Advocacy	2
AD Report.....	3
Robins Review	3
Exceptional Mail & More ...	3
Ryals Wing.....	4
EDIUSAIAFAD.....	4
Recreation News	4
Workshop Words	5
Community Employment....	5
Social Service Dept.....	6
Recycled Treasures.....	6
Trans. & Maintenance	6
Falcon Park.....	7
Accounting Counts....	7
Dates to Remember.....	8



Human Resources Department

*Lori Chaney –
Human Resources Director*

Please help me welcome our newest family members to the TEAM:

Instructor Aide: John Johnson, Will Britton, Jessie Searcy

Truck Driver: Jim Anagnost

Documentation Specialist: Brooke Durham

We've hosted several tours to our Campus over the past several months...these include the Chamber of Commerce Youth Leadership, Mary Persons HS, Bonaire Elementary, as well as Mossy Creek, Thompson & Huntington Middle Schools. Students enjoy learning about the recycling process and seeing the work the individuals perform inside the workshops. If you'd like to schedule a tour, please contact us at 929-6615.

Make sure to stop by the HR Dept if you need any assistance with your 403b, health insurance, questions regarding policies or procedures, etc...as always, our door is always open.

If you would like to donate to United Way or Happy Hour directly, please contact me at 929-6615 or email me at lchaney@hcaec.com

Should you have any questions, concerns or shirt orders, please give me a call at 929-6615 or email me at lchaney@hcaec.com.



Self-Advocacy Committee

Debra M. Spears—Advisor

Happy Hour's Self-Advocacy Committee continues to meet the third Monday of each month at 1:00 in Workshop II Conference Room. The committee consists of individuals throughout the Happy Hour Campus. The committee members discuss issues and concerns they have at Happy Hour and suggestions to make our workplace better, as well as improve their lives in general. We strive to make sure all individuals are pleased with their services at Happy Hour.

Individual rights were discussed in our last meeting. It is a responsibility of committee members to ensure their peers understand their rights and utilize their voice in speaking up if they feel their rights are violated or things are not as they should be. Each member received a copy of "My Human Rights." Also, the civil rights of people with disabilities were reiterated and members will have further discussion at a future meeting on those rights. If you have any questions or you would like more information about our Self-Advocacy Committee, please feel free to call Debra Spears @ 478-929-6604.

*I can't change the direction of the wind,
but I can adjust my sails to always reach
my destination.*

- Jimmy Dean

*Always do your best. What you plant
now, you will harvest later.*

- Og Mandino

*With the new day comes new strength
& new thoughts.*

- Eleanor Roosevelt

*Do not go where the path may lead, go
instead where there is no path and leave
a trail.*

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

*Discipline is the bridge between goals
and accomplishment.*

- Jim Rohn

The AD Report

*Mike Forgue -
Associate Director*



Busy as bees throughout the facility.....

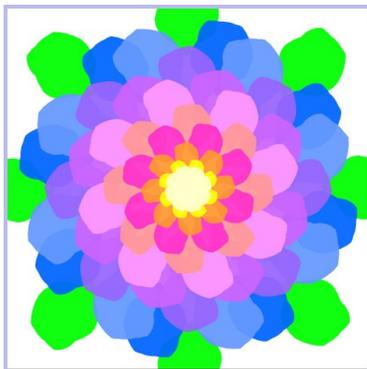
What an exciting time of year for Happy Hour staff and individuals! Everywhere you turn, there is something exciting going on. From Easter egg hunts to strawberry picking, picnics to cookouts, and plenty of work, work, work, the facility is buzzing with activity.

In operations, we have completed the installation of a therapeutic spa for our residential program. Falcon Park III now houses a brand new, state of the art water therapy system for our residents. The spa is in a protective enclosure providing year round access for our individuals. For our residents, this is all the buzzzzzzzzzz!!

Another exciting project we have seen to completion is the installation of an air conditioning and heating unit for Workshop IV/Recycled Treasures. With the temperatures rising, this is truly a blessing for the staff, individuals, and customers of Workshop IV.

Speaking of warmer temperatures, supervisors, please keep your staff and individuals hydrated when participating in any outdoor activity in the coming months. Frequent breaks may be required to prevent heat exhaustion in our work crews performing laborious activity out in the community.

To everyone, thank you for your continued efforts in making operations run efficiently!



Robins Review

*JR Dean –
Contract Manager*

EVERY DAY IN USA IS ARMED FORCES APPRECIATION DAY

Spring has finally arrived and we in Robins Recycling are looking forward to a warm and busy next few months. Since last autumn we have been actively involved in an environmental and recycling audit initiated by the base. We have revamped our route scheduling processes and inventoried and cleaned all recycling containers in over 240 buildings throughout the base. We also are participating in an in-depth review of our production reports. The production reports were used to identify and review our recyclable prices, tonnage and commodities sold, load totals and a review of our Performance Work Statement.

The audit is ongoing and will last through much of the summer. In the meantime, our contract has been approved for a 6 month extension which will expire the end of September.

Lastly, I'd like to welcome Chad H. to our team. He has a great attitude and is a welcome addition to our team.

Exceptional Mail & More

*B.J. Davidson -
Program Manager*

Spring has sprung and the pollen too!!! Our customers shipped off Easter baskets to lots of girls and boys. They were sent everywhere from here in the states to numerous APOs all over the world. And it was our pleasure to help our customers send that Easter joy to their loved ones.

We are seeing new faces everyday here at Exceptional Mail & More and adding new PMBs as they come. They call us their "One Stop Shop" when it comes to their needs and it is our pleasure taking care of them.

We have added two new individuals to our mail staff this quarter. Please come up to meet and greet, Enneisha and Crystal from Workshop II. They will be helping us sort and distribute the mail daily and we are glad to have them.

Indeed, spring has sprung and so has the time. As it sprang up for daylight savings, so did our hours. We are now open from 8:30am until 6:00pm, Monday through Friday to serve our community and you.

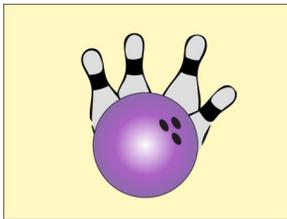
Recreation News

*Rose R. Neal-Moore—
Recreation Technician*

Special Olympics

The last day for our bowling program was March 24th, 2015. The participants bowled one game followed by a pizza party and trophy ceremony.

The Special Olympics local games was held in Fort Valley hosted by the Kay Center on April 24, 2015.



Masters Bowling will be hosted in Warner Robins again this year at The Gold Cup Bowling Lanes to be held in August. Dates to be announced.

Recreation News

It's strawberry pickin' time for Happy Hour once again! We are scheduled for April 17th & 23rd, and May 7th & 8th. The individuals will also enjoy lunch at the Lane Packing Picnic area and ice cream too!



Spring Fling

Our annual Spring Fling will be held in WS II on Thursday, May 21st from 6:00-8:00 p.m.



EDIUSAIAFAD, "Attitude of Gratitude"

Michelle Booth, Retail Manager

Have you thanked a serviceman today?



Thanks

Ryals Wing

*Jequetta Moor—
Ryals Wing Supervisor*

"HELLO" from everyone on the Ryals Wing. We have been diligently exercising to get into shape for the upcoming warm weather. Individuals and staff partnered to explore Happy Hour campus while enjoying the fresh air. We marched to music, walked around the designated track and frolicked in the park. The swings brought out the kid in all of us. Experts say exercise increases strength and mobility, improves balance to help prevent falls and develops social interactions/self-esteem. Exercise is AWESOME!!!

A Valentine's Day of hearts, cards and love was the theme for February. Red, pink and white hearts of all shapes and sizes dangled from the ceiling. Arts and crafts mosaic cards were made from beautiful vivid colored paper along with candy-filled decorated mason jars for gifts. Valentine's Day + Ryals Wing = the perfect excuse to have a party. Everyone pitched in to decorate. Music played and food flowed as we danced and performed karaoke to some of our favorite lyrics of choice. What an exhaustingly fun day!

This March, some of Ryals Wing Individuals attended the state's largest disability advocacy - Disability Day at the Capitol. Outdoor rallies, food and events were enjoyed while causes were explained and "new friends" made. St. Patty's Day was also brought to us in March with "Everything Green." A party with green clovers, curtains and wall art was held. Green punch and cookies were served as we all wore our green attire. Great job Ryals Wing "Green Team!"

The courtyard on the Ryals Wing was full of activity in April. The aromatic grilled food could be smelled all over campus from the cookout on Good Friday. Nice weather, excellent food and good company made a GREAT day. Peter Cottontail even visited the Ryals Wing to celebrate by hiding colorful eggs, he led the Easter Egg hunt for the golden and two prize eggs. Joyful sounds of laughter were heard throughout the courtyard. We had such a BEAUTIFUL day. Thanks to the cafeteria staff for cooking such great food, and everyone that served and cleaned-up.

Workshop Words

Cedric Singleton—Workshop I Supervisor

Hello to family, friends, Board Members, stakeholders and HH employees that have taken the time to pick up and read this quarter's newsletter. Since our last publication, we have been discussing how we can raise our standards for serving our individuals. We feel it's of utmost importance we teach them the skills they need to prepare them for the outside world. We have laid the foundation but have barely scratched the surface of them reaching their highest potential. WE believe that through trainings, and opportunities, WE, as an organization will fulfill OUR MISSION of providing them with the life, social and work skills needed to create a better future for EVERY individual and staff serving under the Happy Hour umbrella.

Now, on the fun side of the coin, we would like to thank Mrs. Judy Morris for donating puzzles and board games and also Mr. and Mrs. Bodenhamer for donating the Wii game system. With their contributions, our individuals have the chance to explore new activities such as playing Family Feud, Deal or No Deal, Are You Smarter Than A Fifth Grader, competing in a coloring contest and other board games.

The individuals recently participated in a huge Easter egg hunt while taking photos with the Easter bunny. If you missed this, I want you to know that you missed ALL the smiles, hugs and love that the individuals displayed that day. Now, with all that being said, I feel like we fulfilled the life, social and work skills as part of OUR Mission. A big, THANK YOU to all Happy Hour staff for EVERYTHING you do to make the individuals lives a little brighter! Please remember to recycle.

Emory Askew—Workshop II Supervisor

As we continue to work on sorting, flattening and rolling newspapers, shredding magazines and hard back books we are also staying very busy with several other contracts. The Daedalian contract is still coming in monthly, and our shredding contracts are growing larger by the month by regular customers and new. To all of our customers we send out a big "THANK YOU". We finished the Dictionary contract for the Chamber of Commerce. The labels were placed inside the front cover then boxed and sent to different elementary schools. We appreciate their business and their confidence in our work.

We would like to welcome Jessie Searcy as Instructor Aide to the workshop II "TEAM". Several of our individuals and staff enjoyed going to the 2015 Disability Day at the Capital held in Atlanta.

Community Employment

Kelvin Taylor – Community Employment Manager

Community Employment hopes that everyone is enjoying the nice spring weather! We are still offering the special on carpet cleaning for two rooms and a hall for \$99.00 (different rate for staff)!! As the weather gets warmer we will start washing company vehicle as well as staff vehicles for \$10.00. Contact Staci or Kelvin if you would like your vehicle washed.

We would like to welcome back Tonya Johnson. She was out for awhile with health issues and is now back and ready to go. Tina Ward is having a baby boy and is due July 4th! Help us welcome back Tonya and congratulate Tina!

Our janitorial contracts are going well and we are glad that we are able to give the Happy Hour individuals more work opportunities in the community and getting them out of the workshops into a different work environment. Andrea, Eric, Phillip and the individuals are doing a great job on our custodial contracts!

The Vocational Rehabilitation program is going well. Flora, Annalisa, Lucius and Kristen worked diligently in finding opportunities for our Voc Rehab individuals and really picked it up with being down a job coach. If you have a need for VR help in the workshops please call Kelvin or Staci.

Community Employment is working hard everyday to open new opportunities for our individuals served. Please continue to keep your eyes and ears open for new employment opportunities for our individuals. If you hear that a business would like to help our individuals served or have any questions please contact Staci at 922-1700, or contact Kelvin at 922-1700 (office) or 747-8978 (cell).

Jackie Barnett—Workshop III Supervisor

Our newest driver, Jim Anagnost is working out great—for the routes and for the individuals. Rick Hawkins moved from the warehouse to truck driver, and that is also going well. We welcome new individual, Chris B., and farewelled Leon H. to WS I. And we're hoping for fast recoveries for Pat W., Kenneth J., Maggie Veal and Jackie Barnett from their recent medical procedures.

Meanwhile, the recycling flows, with hard work on collecting, processing and selling 25 tons of material every month.

Happy Springtime everyone!



Social Services

*Carla Plant, Debra Spears, Jennifer Dalton & Lester Ward
Social Workers*

Spring is in the air! People often view this season as a time for cleaning, growth, and renewal. So whether your spring cleaning, gardening, or getting back to your new year's resolution a great way to stay motivated is to break those large projects into smaller tasks. It also helps to reward yourself when you make progress and try thinking of ways to make your projects fun. Speaking of fun, Happy Hour has some exciting events coming up like our Spring Fling and Strawberry picking at Lane Orchid. So, be on the lookout for dates springing up soon!

The Social Service Department would like to recognize the hard work and dedication our volleyball team has shown while preparing for the local Special Olympics. We want to encourage everyone to continue supporting them. We also want to recognize all of our bowling participants from the 2014-2015 season. Great job and congratulations on all of your awards! The Valentines dance, Cherry Blossom Festival and Disability Day at the capitol were all a huge success. Despite some inclement weather at the capitol, everyone looked great in their bright t-shirts!

During the month of January, Abby N. had a successful transition to her nursing home. We wish the best to Melisha B., LaGina S., and David C. who are also no longer at our day program. Due to Danny S. declining health he has also been released to Elberta Healthcare in Warner Robins, Georgia. Danny and Abby's family welcomes everyone to come visit them and asks for continued prayers. All of these individuals will be greatly missed. We thank these individuals and their families for giving us the opportunity to serve them.

The Social Service Department continues to strive to help our agency grow and to help more people get the services they want and need. This February we welcomed Karl "Rocky" Y. to Workshop 1 and our residential program. Also in February, we welcomed Aubery C. to the Ryals Wing. For the month of March, we were happy to have Chadwick H. start in Workshop 3. We hope to have several more individuals starting within the coming months. If you or someone you know has questions about receiving services at Happy Hour please let us know. Last but definitely not least, our department is very excited to now have Jennifer Dalton as our Social Services Manager!!! We are moving in the right direction!!!

Recycled Treasures

Michelle Booth—Retail Manager

Yes, Spring is here! We are busy with Spring cleaning and excited to see what great items we will receive from our wonderful donators. Please tell all your friends to come see us. We enjoy serving our community in all aspects. Our upcoming sales are as follows:

May 1, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, 29 & 30
June 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 18, 25, 26, & 27
July 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 23, 24, 25, 30 & 31



Transportation & Maintenance

Jim Cheshire, Transportation Manager

Happy Hour follows the Houston County School District schedule for weather related closures. Tune into 13WMAZ or WNNG AM 1350 if bad weather is coming our way and you are wondering about possible closures.

For individuals that are transported by Happy Hour please remember to call 929-6603 for ALL changes to your schedule. We would like to be as efficient as possible and not make unnecessary trips. Your phone calls are always welcome! Transportation and Maintenance Department
478-929-6603

Spring time greetings to all—even though the temperatures are close to summer like, we know it's spring because of all the allergy suffering going on! 😞

We were pleased to present Mr. Ed Finnegan, Director of the Office of Fleet Management for the Georgia Department of Administrative Services, as speaker at our March In-Service Training. I know his presentation was interesting and enlightening to most of us as he discussed the various policies and procedures for use and care of state vehicles—policies that apply to Happy Hour vehicles as well. I've received a number of favorable comments about Ed's presentation. We need to be sure we all continue to follow all driving rules and maintain the good safety record we've had over the last few years. And, as the vehicles age, we need to continue to treat them kindly so as to be able to provide transportation services to as many individuals as possible.

In that regard, we have made a few route changes and will look into doing more to accommodate requests that we have for transportation. We are limited by the type vehicles we have, and distance in some cases, but will try to work out what help we can. We are fortunate to have been donated a van to meet residential needs for transportation—it is a single wheelchair van with 125,000 miles but will be a good backup for our group homes, thanks to Mr. Napier.

With spring and rain, everything on campus has gone to growing and blooming—everyone should take note of how good things look as Jeff has been busy at cutting, trimming, and grooming. Things look even better when each of us picks up and puts litter in its place as we make our way around the campus.

Make sure to continue communicating your maintenance and transportation needs to our department. And thanks for respecting the vehicles and our grounds!

Falcon Park Happenings

*Rosemary Wright , Freddie Wallace & Rhonda Pittman
Home Managers*

April showers have been plentiful this season. Hopefully, the May flowers will be just as beautiful as the showers were plentiful.

As usual, staff continue to meet our Individuals daily health care needs. We now have a therapeutic spa housed at Falcon III for pleasure as well as medical needs. We are in the process of developing rules and guidelines for it's use. Once management finalize the Do's and Don'ts we should be ready to enjoy our spa.

Our individuals are looking forward to participating in various summer activities (day & overnight). If anyone is interested in chaperoning any of our trips, please contact management.

We are sorry to inform you that Danny S. is no longer in our Residential Program, due to his medical needs. Our population is truly aging. We hope to develop a program geared more toward meeting the needs of our elderly individuals.

We continue to work on our annual 16 hours of education and training; fire safety, body mechanics, and proxy care.

We have completed several annual inspections, fortunately,

we have done well on all of them (no citations). We would like to thank the staff for making this possible. "Kudos to all of you"!

So, until next time, stay cool, calm and collective, but work hard!

"Your value does not decrease based on someone's inability to see your worth"

-Author Unknown



Accounting Counts

*Deletta Hall –
Accounting Manager*

Well Spring (sniff, sniff) is officially here...so is the pollen and spring showers. We spent most of the first quarter inputting the past payrolls so that the W2's would go out on time; **we succeeded!** Thanks to Rhonda for keeping the current payrolls and payables going along with Tod, Letitia, Liz and myself trying to catch up. We pray that we will **NEVER** have to go through anything like that again. We are thankfully caught up to March and look forward to the future of a new accounting software program.

Our In-Service Day was held on March 13, 2015 in WSII, unfortunately Rhonda and I missed it due to the catching up but we heard it was extremely informative.

We want to congratulate the Employees of the Quarter, Cam MacDonald for Workshops, Rhonda Atcheson and Chris Fowler for Administrative, Community Employment for Team Group and Detta Harvey for Residential.

The individuals enjoyed the Valentines Dance, the Mother's Group did an outstanding job of decorating and refreshments, the individuals always have such a great time.

So let me get back to work, we have to start preparing for the end of the year. Gee, seems we just finished that.



"Blessed is everyone that feareth the Lord; that walketh in his ways. For thou shalt eat the labour of thine hands; happy shalt thou be, and it shall be well with thee". Psalm 128:1-2

Workshop Words Continued

*Workshop II—From Page 5
Emory Askew –Workshop II Supervisor*

The trip was very fun as we cheered on the special speakers and got to see the new location of Disability Day at Liberty Plaza. All of our persons served were given a tee shirt and lunch was provided. Each one that went on this trip had tons of fun.

Thanks to WSII Individuals Served for all your hard work each day for keeping up with the plastic and not letting it build up. Thanks for keeping the work shop clean and alive. Praises to the staff for all documentation being turned in on time. Let's continue to keep up the good work.

Work shop II was also the host of the anticipated arrival of the Easter bunny. He took pictures and gave out baskets to our persons served. As they participated in the self help classes they were able to color eggs and assist in making their baskets.

Most of all over the last quarter the persons served and staff enjoyed the Valentine dance held at the Wellston Center. We have some really talented dancers here and boy they showed what they could do. They did not want the music to stop.

We have some hot days ahead and as a "TEAM" we will continue to serve our individuals that come to us every day.

HAPPY HOUR

Houston County Association
for Exceptional Citizens, Inc.

202 N. Davis Dr. PMB 164
Warner Robins, GA 31093

For more information about Happy
Hour please call Tod Cowart
@ 478-929-6613

Houston County Association for
Exceptional Citizens, Inc., working
as Happy Hour, has been in opera-
tion since 1956, and is one of the
oldest organizations in the Middle
Georgia area serving developmen-
tally disabled individuals. Over
these years, there have been many
expansions from the original seven
consumers to the present one hun-
dred seventy (170).

Happy Hour is accredited by the
Commission on Accreditation of
Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF).
We are also a United Way Agency
and a non-profit agency under IRS
rule 501 (C) (3).

To:
Staff/Consumers/Parents/
Guardians/Service Providers/
Business Partners



We're on the Web!
www.hcaec.com



Employee Awards

Employees of the Year 2014

Kelvin Taylor
Korina Woodard

Employees of 1st Quarter

Administrative—Rhonda Atcheson,
Chris Fowler
Instructor—Cam McDonald
Residential—Detta Harvey
Job Coach—Andrea Taylor

Happy Hour Team Award Community Employment

Congratulations to everyone
and thank you for
your hard work and dedication.



Participant Awards

Superstars of 1st Quarter

Teandra L.—Ryals Wing
Thomas G.—WS I
Amiene Mc.—WS II
Paul P.—WS III



Dates to Remember:

May

Yard Sale—1, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 21,
22, 28, 29 & 30
Board Meeting—21st
Annual Meeting & Spring Fling—21st
Memorial Day Holiday—Closed 25th

June

Yard Sale—4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 18,
25, 26 & 27
In-Service—23rd

July

Yard Sale — 9,10, 11, 16, 17,
23, 24, 25, 30, & 31
Board Meeting—16th(Tentative)