



Boswell Regional Center Bulletin

July 2014

A Publication for Employees, Family and Friends of BRC

Journey Skyward

By: Jason Holloway

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The publication of the BRC Bulletin is made possible by the contributions of our dedicated and talented employees. The articles and pictures were written, taken and formatted by BRC employees. Their contributions are greatly appreciated! We sincerely hope that you enjoy this edition of the Boswell Regional Center Bulletin, July, 2014 Issue.

John Bell Williams Field in Raymond, MS, was the scene where several individuals' dream became a reality. All BRC individuals had the opportunity to be a co-pilot at Journey Skyward. However, only the bold, daring and fearless took advantage of this rare opportunity. Journey Skyward is an event that focuses exclusively on flying. The event is hosted by the ARC of MS, and this event provided individuals with any form of disability the opportunity to ride shotgun alongside a pilot. The individuals from BRC were excited and anxious about going up. Once they were comfortable and buckled-up in their seats, you could see the excitement on their faces. Some had facial expressions of nervousness, but once they landed and exited the plane their faces were full of joy and elation. While in the air, the passengers were instructed on some of the basic flying rules and mechanics of the plane. Journey Skyward was held in collaboration with Cyclists on their "Journey of Hope." These cyclists ride from coast-to-coast raising awareness of intellectual and developmental disabilities. The cyclists also served as volunteers and assisted passengers in and out of the plane. Overall, Journey Skyward was a huge success and made many dreams become reality.



Journey Skyward Photo Highlights



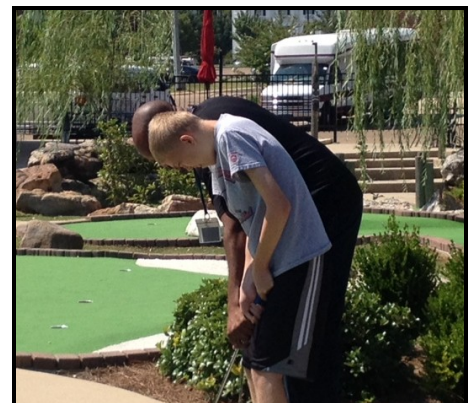
MAC Bowling Trip



MAC clients enjoyed a bowling trip to McComb during July. As you can tell by the pictures – the clients had a great time, and they enjoyed themselves.

MAC at the WaterPark

On several occasions during the month of July, the clients of MAC enjoyed refreshing trips to the local water park where they were able to play under the water sprinkler buckets. For those who did not want to get wet, there were slides and swings to play on. The clients were served picnic sack lunches. A great time was had by all.



MAC Fourth

By: Rachel Britt

The guys at the Mississippi Adolescent Center began celebrating the 4th of July early. There were several days of activities which included 2 rented waterslides, a jumper, water balloon and water gun fights, movies, good food and much fun. The activities for the week were finished off by a cookout on Thursday, July 3 for clients and staff which consisted of sausage dogs, hamburgers, ribs, baked beans, potato salad and watermelon for dessert. Everyone had a great time and was well fed.



Crystie's Critters



By Cassie Bynum

Over the past several months Ms. Crystie Baker has been visiting participants at Day Services with some amazing creatures. Some of the highlighted critters were: an alligator, turtle, snake, (non-venomous of course!), and various animal skeletons, skins, etc. The participants enjoyed their hands-on experience with the animals. During Ms. Baker's informative presentations, she reviewed topics relating to the animals such as habitat, feeding habits, care and maintenance. She also revealed to the participants some unknown facts and dismissed some popular myths about animals. Ms. Baker is an Outreach Biologist employed by the Museum of Natural Science. She has extensive experience working with schools and other agencies to promote awareness of animals and shares her passion with others.



BRC Hosts UMMC Bioethics Class



On July 22, 2014, Kathy Van Cleave (Division of Alzheimer's Disease and the Dementia) and Boswell Regional Center hosted Dr. Ralph Didlake and five of his University of Mississippi Medical center students. They had a chance to do the Virtual Dementia Tour, visit Boswell Industries (downtown), Dream Extreme, Pinelake and the museum. The Virtual Dementia Tour (VDT) is empathy exercises to help those who go through it get a better concept of cognitive and physical disabilities associated with aging and dementia. Dr. Ralph Didlake is a professor of surgery and director of the Center for Bioethics and Medical Humanities at UMMC. It is always a pleasure to have visitors here at BRC. We hope to see you again next year!

Spotlight on: Kathy Dampeer-Pittman



Ms. Kathy Dampeer-Pittman
BRC Public Relations Director

Kathy Dampeer-Pittman is our BRC Spotlight for the month of July. She is a graduate of Magee High School, Copiah Lincoln Community College with an Associates Degree in Child Development, a Bachelors in Business Management and a Master of Business Administration from The University of Phoenix. Kathy worked at Peoples Bank for 13 years before coming to Boswell Regional Center in 2007. She started out in the Division of Human Resources and was an Agency Educator during the Legislative session. In 2008, she transferred to the Public Relations Department and in 2012, became the Director of Public Relations. Kathy states, "I think I have found my niche. I have a true passion for people which comes naturally to me. I am thankful for this opportunity to work with individuals diagnosed with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. I enjoy my job, and it simply warms my heart to see the smiles on the faces of the ones we serve." While employed at BRC, Kathy graduated from the pilot group of the Accelerated Leadership Development Program (FOCUS) in 2008, and graduated from the Simpson County Leadership Development Institute in 2012. Kathy states, "I have gained a wealth of knowledge and definitely lifetime friendships. I am

looking forward to many years to come here at Boswell Regional Center."

Kathy is a past Board member and current member of the Simpson County Development Foundation, Board member of the Magee Chamber of Commerce, a member of the R.E.A.L. (Rural Education and Leadership) Christian Foundation Advisory Board, past Board of Directors for Keep Simpson County Beautiful, Magee Middle School PTO Officer, Read Across America volunteer, a member of the Order of the Easter Star Chapter 974, a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated, and was chosen as one of the Movers and Shakers of Simpson County. Kathy also played the role of a prisoner as an extra in the movie "The Help" in 2011. Kathy is a hard working supporter of Special Olympics, and is a member of Magee First Baptist Church. As you can tell, community involvement is important to Kathy. Kathy is married to DeWayne Pittman and they have two sons; Chandler 11, and Connor 5.

Southern Pine

By: Shylah Jones



We had a guest speaker come into Dream Extreme from Southern Pine and talk to the participants about electricity. He discussed the importance of electricity to our everyday lives. He also discussed the importance of staying away from power lines that are down and the dangers of them. The speaker gave a demonstration to the participants of how power works, and what can happen if you touch power lines. The participants were very involved and really enjoyed his visit.

Pastor's Corner

The following series of advertisements reportedly appeared in a daily newspaper:

Monday: "The Rev. A.J. Jones has one color TV set for sale. Telephone 626-1313 after 7 p.m. and ask for Mrs. Donnelley who lives with him, cheap."

Tuesday: "We regret any embarrassment caused to Rev. Jones by a typographical error in yesterday's paper. The ad should have read: 'The Rev. A.J. Jones has one color TV set for sale, cheap...Telephone 626-1313 and ask for Mrs. Donnelley, who lives with him after 7 p.m.'"

Wednesday: "The Rev. A.J. Jones informs us that he has received several annoying telephone calls because of an incorrect ad in yesterday's paper. It should have read: 'The Rev. A.J. Jones has one color TV set for sale, cheap. Telephone 626-1313 after 7 p.m. and ask for Mrs. Donnelley who loves with him.'"

Thursday: "Please take notice that I, the Rev. A.J. Jones, have no color TV set for sale; I have smashed it. Don't call 626-1313 anymore. I have not been carrying on with Mrs. Donnelley. She was, until yesterday, my housekeeper."

Friday: "Wanted: a housekeeper. Usual housekeeping duties. Good pay. Love in, Rev. A.J. Jones. Telephone 626- 1313."

Mistakes are inevitable in the publishing business but aren't you glad God got it right the first time. The Bible is a truth that needs no reprint and never needs excuses made for it. It only needs the application of its truths imprinted and implemented in our lives for its power to be seen.

Have a blessed day,
Bro. Rudy



Bro. Rudy Jackson
BRC Chaplain

Mission Statement

Boswell Regional Center offers Specialized program options to Mississippians with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. These programs are designed to identify the necessary supports for successful community transition. With collaboration between the individual, family, and community, dreams can become reality.

Where Dreams Can Become Reality

Linda Berry Retires!

While it's hard to see our co-workers retire from Boswell Regional Center, we are happy that they'll be free to participate in all those things they've been planning on doing upon their retirement. Whether it's arts and crafts, travel, spending time with family or other employment, we congratulate them on reaching this milestone and wish them well. Each retiree is honored with a certificate and a chance to say goodbye to their fellow employees at a retirement reception.



Pictured: Recent retiree, Linda Berry, Switchboard Operator, is pictured with Steven Allen, BRC Director. Congratulations!

BRC Employees of the Month



During the July Directors' Meeting, Boswell Regional Center recognized Employees of the Month in the area of support/professional staff: Employees of the Month for June are Mary G. Sims, Pine Lake Geriatric, and Brad Fairchild, Campus Police. Thanks for your hard work and dedication; congratulations to both of you!

BRC Governor's Service Awards



Boswell Regional Center employees receive Governor's service awards in recognition of a total of 80 years of state service. They were recognized for the dedication to BRC at the July Directors' meeting. Pictured are Brittany Walker (10 years), Gwen Hobbs (30 years), Becky Grayson (20 years), Donna Jones (10 years) and Rena Wood (10 years). Congratulations to each of you!

MAC Governor's Service Awards



Bobby Alsworth, Education Department, 10 years



Ian Smith, Recreation Department, 10 years



Chris Browder, Education Department, 10 years



Melba Fairman, Dietary Department, 20 years

MAC Employee of the Month



Cedric Sanders, Second Shift Residential Living, MAC Employee of the Month for June.

Masquerade™

Experience the Frenzy!

**\$5 Jewelry
and Accessories
SALE**

Thursday
August 28th
7 am – 6 pm

Friday
August 29th
7 am – 2 pm

First United Methodist Church
Ministry Center
(Located behind the Post Office Downtown)

Proceeds benefit & Sponsored by
Boswell Regional Center Friends & Family Association

Cash, Credit/Debit Cards & Payroll Deduction

Boswell Regional Center's Friends & Family Association is a non profit all volunteer organization that works to ensure **Boswell** individuals are valued and loved.

All monies received from memberships are donated to the organization to purchase items for the individuals served by **Boswell Regional Center**.

Donations

Donations may be made in memory or honor of a loved one:

In Memory In Honor of

By: _____

Acknowledgement should be sent to the following:

Name: _____

Address: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: () _____

Email: _____

Purpose

To promote and support the individuals of Boswell Regional Center

To foster the development of programs on their behalf

To recognize and reward the efforts of employees of Boswell Regional Center

To raise and receive funds for the accomplishment of the above purposes.

Fundraisers

Some examples of fundraisers that have been held are:

Scrub Sales

Jewelry Sales

Book Fairs

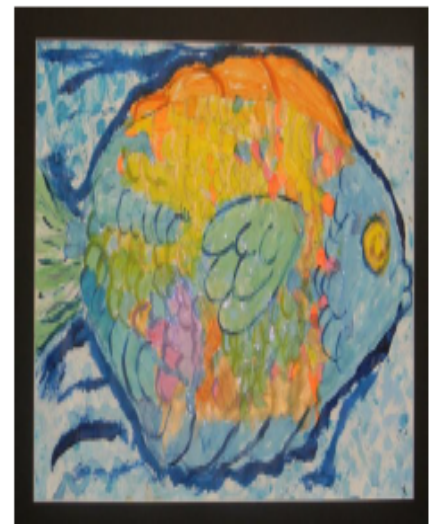
RADA Knives

T-shirt Sales

Special Hosted Events



Friends & Family Association



How to become a member...

Membership Information

Indicate at right which type of membership you wish by placing a check mark in the appropriate box.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: (_____) _____

Email: _____

Please make your check payable to:

Friends & Family Association
P.O. Box 128
Magee, MS 39111

Annual Membership Fees 2012-2013

- Single/BRC Employee - Free**
- Single/Non-employee \$5** Membership Card
- Bronze \$25** Membership certificate designating level of giving
- Silver \$50** Membership certificate designating level of giving
Name on all Friends & Family sponsored events
- Gold \$100** Membership certificate designating level of giving
Name on all Friends & Family sponsored events
Recognition in each issue of the Bulletin newsletter
- Platinum \$500** Membership certificate designating level of giving
Name on all Friends & Family sponsored events
Recognition in each issue of the Bulletin newsletter
Publicity in local media
Boswell 35th Anniversary cookbook