

Summer 2011

CELEBRATIONS

SUMMER BITS AND PIECES

DANCING THE NIGHT AWAY

Residents at Birch House Salsa danced in the 18th & Vine Area

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A live Jazz band played Jazz, Blues, Rock 'n' Roll and Salsa music as David, Kenny, Buddy and James of Birch House walked into Danny's Big Easy Restaurant and Lounge in the 18th and Vine District.

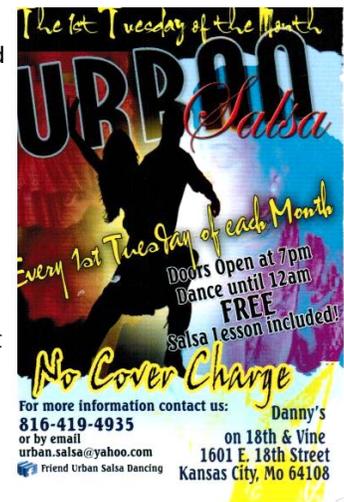
The outing was to support David's program objective of going out into the community to listen to Jazz music. Well, they did a little more than just listen to Jazz music. Once they arrived, David tapped his feet to the music, snapped his fingers, bobbing his head while drinking an O'Doul's non-alcoholic beer.

To the delight of onlookers in the lounge, they watched the residents dance with others in the restaurant and showed off their moves. While, smiling, laughing, clapping their hands and snapping their fingers, and they tried to imitate other dancers on the floor, even attempting to do a line dance.

One of the band members allowed David to sing into the microphone the "Happy Birthday" song to a customer celebrating their birthday. David sang Happy Birthday, while patting his leg to the music, and imitating a guitar player and horn player with his hands. He walked over to a woman extending out his hand and to ask her to dance. Once on the dance floor, he got his groove going, swaying and turning his dance partner. When the record ended, he bowed his head like a gentleman, and walked the woman to her seat. The whole table of the birthday party, and other customers, applauded David, laughing and commenting on what a great dancer he was that he was very polite. The customer asked staff if they could buy the residents something to drink. She treated David, Kenny, Buddy and James to sweet potato fries and a cold Coca-Cola.

Soon David had asked several women to dance, they all commented to staff about the great group of men. A female employee, who was asked to dance, commented that she noticed how the guys were dancing with rhythm, laughing, being courteous and having fun. The owner, Danny, watched the residents interact all night, thanked them for coming in and invited them to come back again. They have attended each month since May.

Once they returned home, David, Buddy, Kenny and James couldn't wait to inform their housemates of their dancing outing. They will all be attending Urban Salsa on the first Tuesday of each month from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.



The 1st Tuesday of the Month
URBANO Salsa
 Every 1st Tuesday of each Month
 Doors Open at 7pm
 Dance until 12am
FREE
 Salsa Lesson included!
No Cover Charge
 For more information contact us: Danny's
 816-419-4935
 or by email
 urban.salsa@yahoo.com
 on 18th & Vine
 1601 E. 18th Street
 Kansas City, Mo 64108
 Friend Urban Salsa Dancing

David, Kenny, Buddy and James of Birch House attend Salsa Dancing each month in the 18th & Vine District.

Contributing Writers

- Kelsey Brazelton (Editor)
- Jim Johnson
- Cecile Simmons
- Jody Michael



SUMMER EMPLOYEE ANNIVERSARIES

1 Year

Mahdia Brown
Tanya Gardner
Tina Dooley
Myrtle Moore
Mallory Ervin
Clara Wilson
Ellen Williams-Siggal

Shaun Powers

2-5 years

Erica Dixon (2)
Demetreus
McMichael (2)
William Lee (2)
Anita Wilson (2)
Michelle McCann (3)
Georgett Perkins (3)
Wendy Tyson (3)
Connie Bryant (4)
Collette Shannon (4)
Joy Schulz (4)
Karen Harrison (5)
Marilyn Smith (5)

6-9 Years

Charissa Williams (6)
Debra Hardin (6)
Connie Johnson (6)

10+ Years

Willie-Jean Sybert (10)
June Gates (11)
Ron Huffman (15)
Carolyn Quinzy (16)

RESIDENT ACTIVITIES

Worlds of Fun Residents from CDD

Roller coasters, water rides, deciding who would be scared the most or who would get wet, were some of the experiences for the CDD residents on the day they went to Worlds of Fun.

Residents from all the homes attended and most discussed which person would get wet first or who would go on the next scary roller coaster. It's a day everyone looks forward to; a day to get away from workshops and daily office life.

The more adventurous residents of Kinbrook and the Villas Apartments rode the Fury of the Nile, the Monsoon and the Sea Dragon to keep cool as well as the Boomerang to dry off. The lone resident who attended from Elms House preferred to keep it low-key by riding the Octopus, the Viking Voyager and Fjord Fjarlane.

Thrill rides and roller coasters held the interest of the staff members, whereas the water rides kept residents and staff alike cooled down from the hot temperatures of the day.

By the end of the day, staff and residents had tired looks on their faces and appeared ready to go home. Everyone will look forward to next year's excursion, but in the meantime, rest and relaxation are in order.



Bradley May of Summit Apts. holds up his caricature he had done on his day at Worlds of Fun. Bradley and many other CDD residents spent a day at the park.

CDD BABIES

New Additions CDD Staff welcome new babies into the World

The 1950s were known for many things, but one of them being the "Baby Boom." Well, it seems as though 2011 can be known as that for CDD as several staff members in the agency welcomed babies in the last six months.

The year began with QDDP Nicole James. She had a daughter named Kennedy, February 17, 2011.

Just as Nicole had her baby, we found out our Operations Director, Shaun Powers and his wife were expecting as well as Cedars' House Manager, Charissa Williams. In fact, they were both due around the same time: early July.

Several months went by, and just before Charissa was about to be off on maternity leave, she got a surprise baby shower thrown by her residents at Cedars House. With many gifts in tow, Charissa was off to be a mommy. Several days later on July 3, 2011, Charissa delivered a baby girl named Alaya.

And just as everyone left for the 4th of July weekend, with his baby's due date so close, the return of Shaun come Tuesday morning was in question. Tuesday morning came and we had an e-mail in our Inboxes with news that Regan Powers was born on July 3, 2011 as well.

For now, the baby boom has come to a halt, but the word will be spread if more are born.



(left) Charissa Williams and her husband display a diaper cake they received at their baby shower. Both received many gifts from Cedars' residents.

(right) Regan Powers came into the world on July 3, 2011. She was born via a home birth to Shaun Powers and his wife.



(left) Kennedy James was born February 17, 2011 to Nicole James.





CDD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Jim Johnson

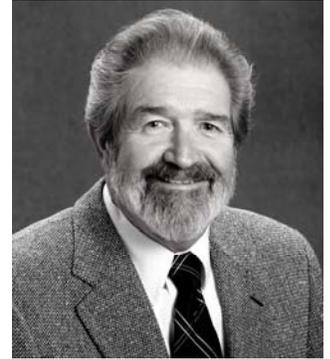
Greetings. As you can see from this edition of CELERATIONS, the agency is featuring busy summertime activities. Unfortunately, a few things in July and August had to be postponed due to the extreme hot weather. The sunny hot days also required excessive use of sunscreen this summer. In addition to the activities covered in this edition, we sent 21 residents to camp, two residents vacationed in Oregon, and 10 more have trips planned for September. Thanks is in order to the Kansas City Royals Community Ticket Program, and to Starlight Theatre for their ticket donations. Pre-season Kansas City Chiefs tickets are always in demand. Two of our lucky residents accomplished something at the Chief's game I have thus far been unable to achieve, having my picture taken with a Chiefs' cheerleader (see page #4). Our donor account has been accessed considerably this summer for recreation and travel and we thank our CELERATIONS' readers for that.

As I have mentioned in past editions, CDD operated with a considerable number of openings in our group homes and apartments. Funds appropriated this year by the Missouri General Assembly to address the growing waitlist have been helpful in filling our vacancies. Thanks is in order to the Service Coordinators from the Regional Office and eitas for working with CDD to provide homes for a half-dozen or so new residents. This agency has truly amazed me in the last couple of years with the adjustments we've made to address the needs of persons considering our services and supports. We have conscientiously made an effort to address the service needs of persons currently being referred to us. This leads me to my next deserving compliment.

Though our management capacity has been stretched to the limit, our management and professional staff have been

champions at working with Service Coordinators to develop individual supports for our new residents. Many of the persons being served now at CDD would not have been referred to a typical community provider a few years ago. Our Program Director, Sarah Mudd and Coordinator, Carmen Jordan have patiently shown me that CDD can successfully serve a broad range of persons with very high needs. This agency is doing its part to lower the state's waiting list. Our mission: ...assisting persons with disabilities in achieving their fullest potential, is being realized. My job is to see that these key staff members have the resources necessary to serve and assist, and to broaden the scope of our capacity and mission. What a privilege, and yes, thanks Sarah and Carmen.

I will close with some sad CDD news. Bobby Kirkham moved to Lafayette Manor in Grandview on July 6, 1999. That was the month CDD opened its retirement home. Bobby's years with us ended on **July 27, 2011**. We do not have a release to print one of the many photos we have. Bobby was a patient, gentle soul, and loved and admired by all the residents in the home. He is missed. **Bobby Kirkham was 67.**



Mike of Kinbrook Apartments waits for his pizza at FunHouse Pizza. Residents who could not attend Worlds of Fun, were treated to a Pizza Party lunch.



Our Mission: To Support Persons with Disabilities in Achieving their Fullest Potential

**CENTER FOR
DEVELOPMENTALLY
DISABLED**

**1010 W 39th Street
Kansas City, Missouri
64111**

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Fax: 816-756-5612
E-mail: info@cddkc.org
www.cddkc.org**



Developmental Disability Services of Jackson County

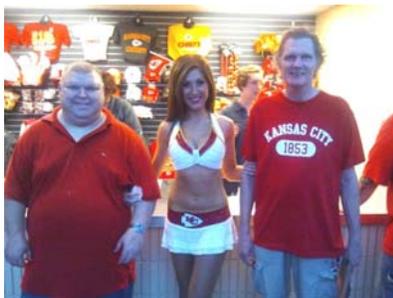


Chiefs Game Residents take advantage of donated tickets

On Friday, Aug. 12, Daniel R., David G. and Bradley M. of Summit Apartments received donated tickets by Board member, Mark Arnesman, to go see the Kansas City Chiefs play against the Tennessee Buccaneers. It was the first game of the season and even though it was a pre-season game, everyone in the stands was excited to get a look at the new Chiefs' players.

David, who doesn't usually like loud noises, even said it was exciting to be in Arrowhead Stadium and hear the fans cheering on the Chiefs. Daniel was upset that they lost the game, but Bradley and David were just excited to get to see them play. The seats were in a great location and they were able to see all the game action.

In addition to seeing the game, the Chiefs Cheerleaders handed out calendars with the Chiefs' Team pictures and signed them for the fans. Bradley, David and Daniel were given the opportunity to pose with their favorite cheerleader and take a picture.



David and Bradley at Summit Apartments were treated to the first pre-season Chiefs Game. The tickets were donated by a Board member.

Fun was had by all and we look forward to a great year for the Kansas City Chiefs. Thanks again Mark Arnesman for the tickets.

CDD has resident openings in our apartments and group homes. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a resident with our agency, please contact us.

CDD is a private, not-for-profit organization. We are designated as tax exempt by the Internal Revenue Service under section 501(c)(3).

All donations to CDD are tax-deductible. We have a restricted account for donors to assist the residents with financial needs, travel and recreation. If you wish to contribute, please send your check or money order to:

**CDD Donor Account
1010 W 39th Street
Kansas City, MO 64111**

Log on to our Web site at www.cddkc.org to check us out.

Additional information about the agency will be made available upon request.