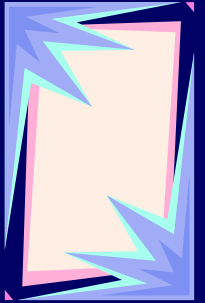


Spring, 2003

Volume 1, Issue 5



## “Bubby”

by M. Moos

That’s the pet name affectionately given to John Otto by his family and close friends. John is a gentle and kind person who often starts his day by asking, “Can I have a hug?”

John is very devoted to his sisters, especially Lisa; he asks about her daily. He loves to visit her.

He prefers his environment being quiet and relaxed; a real homebody. At the C/GArc Day Program he prefers listening to the jazz radio station, KYOT. One afternoon the radio station tried sneaking in a ‘close-to-rock and roll’ song, John immediately noticed and said, “I want coyote.” (KYOT)



Much of his sensitivity to sounds comes from one of the characteristics of William’s Syndrome. The positive side of this sensitivity to sounds and tones is that John has a savant characteristic where, if he hears a tune just a couple of times, he can go to a piano or organ keyboard and replicate it. He will turn his head to the side, not even looking at the keys, and with a huge grin on his face, he plays the song.

His family discovered this characteristic quite by accident. Their daughter, Kim, had been taking piano lessons and one afternoon after the instructor had left and Kim had gone to her room, they heard someone playing the piano; a melody that they had never heard practiced, but John had heard it somewhere, sometime. When they went into the living room, there was John playing the piano. He was six or seven years old.

When relaxing at home, he likes watching sports and ministry programs, where they sing harmonizing spiritual gospels. He will do a little jump as he ‘slam dunks’ a piece of garbage into the ‘basket’ to satisfy his need for sports and will sing along with the spirituals or say ‘Amen’ to the preacher.

He especially loves Christmas with all the beautiful lights, music and the opening of presents. He can play “Silent Night” on the harp, yes, the harp; finding his way on the strings by listening to its sounds. His parents encouraged him to play the harp because of its beautiful, soft sounds; like bubbles from heaven. His instructor didn’t believe them when they told her, “He’ll pick it up by ear-don’t try and teach him the notes and keys.”

He already has the keys in his head– why learn the hard way?



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## From the desk of Ron Travis: Executive Director



It is gratifying to see the wonderful response to our Holiday Party on December 13, 2002. This was an opportunity for staff, parents, the Board of Directors, friends and the persons we serve to visit with each other on a more social basis.

I'm told there were more than four hundred people in attendance and it seemed that everyone was having a good time.

With all the pressure of a potential war and problems with our economy, it was certainly nice to be reminded of how pleasant it can be to be in the company of friends.

I'd like to thank everyone responsible for the party as I know a great deal of effort goes into the preparation of this celebration.

I wish everyone a great 2003!

Ron Travis  
Executive Director

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### **Arc Enterprises** — a Subsidiary of Chandler/Gilbert Arc

by John Perkins

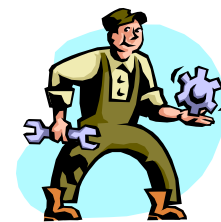
As another year draws to a close, we would like to take this opportunity to thank those who made 2002 so special for the Employment Program.

To the many employment opportunities, we extend our thanks and sincere wishes for a prosperous New Year.

-Alzheimers Assoc.	-Basha's
-Bell Forms	-City of Chandler
-CHLOR-RID	-Easy Care
-Fry's	-GMDC
-Hobaica HVAC	-IHOP
-Intel	-Motorola
-Oberg	-Shower Safe
-Town of Gilbert	-Pat & Oscar's
-Southwest Sunshine	-Albertson's
-Wendy's	-Block Buster
-Lowe's	

To the staff whose commitment and efforts make all things possible, we wish a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

Voc. Specialists:  
-Leah Barr  
-Art Garcia  
-Manuela Garcia  
-Cruz Medina  
-Chris Nitchoff  
-Laurie Martinez



Production Mgr: **Dolores Clark**  
Job Coach for Intel: **Linda Kelso**  
Job Coach for Basha's: **Helen Wade**  
Job Development/Placement: **Carol Werling**  
Lead Engraver: **Norma Petrini**  
Client Finances/Receptionist: **Fran Johnson**  
Receptionist: **Paula Giles**  
Employment Services Coordinator : **Sandi Lopez**

On behalf of all of us in the Employment Services, we wish all of you a very Happy and Prosperous New Year!

# Residential Services by Brandy Gavriloff

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**Hello**, we meet again! Well, as you are aware, the residential department has grown substantially over the past year with two new group homes and new individuals moving into our apartment setting. None of this would have been successful without the assistance of our Group Home Managers, Leads and staff. I would like to take this opportunity to say, “Thank You!”; you are appreciated.

There are a few staff that have been with us over the years. The following staff have been with us for over five years and form the backbone of the residential department and deserve an ‘honorable mention.’ I would like to show our appreciation for all that you do and recognize your efforts in helping us to have a successful residential program.

These staff include” Margaret Dejno, who has been with us for ten years. Kelly Standridge, who has been with us for nine years, and Gus Torres, six years.



**Australian Outback? No, a quiet corner of the Phoenix Zoo. L to R: Darlene Y, Venice O- Rose S- Geri W- Linda C- Mark D- Larry W (standing tall in the back) Jill D- Julia W.**

Of course, everyone has been busy this summer enjoying BBQ’s, going to the park, cooling off in the pool for Special Olympics swimming, and best of all– VACATION!

A group of ten people went with the City of Chandler Parks and Recreation Program to Disneyland after stopping off at the beach for a little sun and surf. They also visited nearby California Adventure.

Everyone came back with a story to tell. Some of the other residents are talking about what they want to do on vacation next year.

Until next time, be safe, healthy and happy!



**Nikki S. at the ever popular; Special Olympics Bowling!**



**At the Palace in Prescott: L to R: Maria C- Aubrey H– Diana A**

# Day Treatment & Training

by Tracey Hernandez

We all have dreams. Some of us see them to the finish, some of us never do. In the case of David Garcia, he is a doer of dreams, who saw one of his to the finish. He studied hard for his GED and went for the testing at Mesa Community College. Although he didn't pass, he went through with a grueling two weeks of testing. He missed his mark by a small percentage and is determined to begin again at the next opportunity. We are very impressed and proud to have his acquaintance. He is an inspiration to us all!

September was a very emotional time for everyone in the program. In remembrance of 911, we had a moment of silence to remember all those who perished and the brave people who worked hard to save the lives of so many. It was a very somber day for us as we watched the events unfold again, as we had the television on all day. We were all reminded of how precious and unique each life is.

We have had some new additions to the day program staff and people we serve! Unfortunately, we will be saying goodbye to Brent Coffey. Brent is moving and will be attending a program closer to his new home. We will miss him. You could always depend on Brent to tell you about his favorite movies or movie stars!

Once again CGArc participated in the United Way Fund Drive. Pizza was served and prizes were given out. Thank you to all who donated; despite the serious matter of helping others, we also manage to have fun. Thanks to Billy Parker and John Perkins for all their hard work.

One of our staff, Mike Grounds, was promoted to the transportation department. He is now officially in charge of making everything run smoothly and has done a great job!

Damiana Kniss, who has been helping in DTT when on summer break from her public school job, gave birth to a beautiful baby girl, who has the same name as her mom! Congratulations, Damiana and Jason!



**David Garcia celebrating his accomplishment of many months of studying for the GED test.**

**No more excuses!** Now with the new exercise room, *everybody* has an opportunity to get in shape! The process to start utilizing the various pieces of equipment is simple; read all the rules posted on the wall and watch as staff demonstrated how to use the equipment, then have someone monitor you as you try it. The room is equipped with a stationary bicycle, a treadmill, weights and body toning equipment. When individuals leave the exercise room, they are all smiles; maybe they are thinking of just how good they are going to look as they continue to exercise in the future!



**Brendan D– good for upper body strength.**

## Program Services and Staff Training by Marjie Hanna

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**“Reach high, for stars lie hidden in your soul. Dream deep, for every dream proceeds a goal.” -Vaull Starr**

Winter is in the air, which represents warmer clothes, cooler temperatures, holiday festivities, and most importantly; school!! Yes, classes are once again in session for the diligent students and employees of Chandler-Gilbert Arc. Last spring eight individuals completed a fifteen-credit certificate entitled: Developmental Disabilities Certificate Specialist, Level I. (see picture)



**L to R: Anna Marie Lopez-Guadalupe Hernandez-  
Laura Cruse-Marjie Hanna-Dona Harmon Stant-  
Kathy Imes.**

Last fall, the Level II certificate program began. Many of the students who completed Level I, are now pursuing a Level II certificate. Level II is also a fifteen-credit certificate that embraces a diverse selection of courses. Many graduates of Level I have completed Developmental Psychology.

**Not pictured: Tracey Hernandez-Damiana Kniss**

Students pursuing the Level I certificate, have just completed Psychology 101. Spring semester will offer Psych 241-242, “Psychology of Changing Behavior.” These classes are currently offered at the CGArc main office location. Instructors are provided by Chandler-Gilbert Community College, and have joined with CGArc in assisting employees in their educational pursuits.

For any individuals who are unsure about enrolling in classes provided by CGArc, here are some comments from those students who graduated Level I last spring:

-“The classes have been a real eye opening experience for me. I have learned so much about this field, and the challenges that individuals with developmental disabilities face.”-

-“I have been able to apply the information I learned in class directly to my job, which has been very beneficial.”-

-“I feel the classes helped me a lot in my field. I enjoyed all the classes; they were interesting and fun, and have assisted me in not only working with the people we serve, but people in general.”-

-“The instructors of the Level I program, were sensitive to the needs and success of every student. The classes have greatly assisted me in bringing relevance and meaning to the students I instruct. I have grown so much working in this field. I have far more compassion, confidence and inner strength.”-

It is with utmost appreciation that we, the graduates of Developmental Disabilities Certificate, Level I, extend gratitude to everyone involved in the educational opportunities we have received.



## Blimpies at Bank One Ballpark

by Nick Vosovic

We have just completed our 5th season at Bank One Ballpark. A great big “**Thank You**” goes out to our many great volunteers. I would like to mention a few special volunteers for all of their help:

- ▶ Chris Richard (Intel)
- ▶ Debbie Rubles (Basha’s)
- ▶ Dora Zorich, Michael Nemeth, Joseph Montanaro (America West Airlines)
- ▶ Jeannie Rogers (Salt River Project)
- ▶ Marilyn Langley (Web Converter)
- ▶ Cheri & Jerry Lewis (parents)

These individuals have not only been volunteering this year, but several years and several days at Bank One. Other companies that a big thank you goes out to are: **State Farm, Wells Fargo, Intel, Basha’s, America West Airlines, Salt River Project and Honeywell**. We could not have the success we have had, without all of these wonderful individuals as well as the coordinators from all of the companies.

I hope that we can count on each of you for future endeavors that C/GArc pursues.



**Maria Nugent– John Giordano-Jeannie Rogers, all SRP volunteers at Bank One Ballpark**



**Nick Vosovic, Development Coordinator, C/GArc and Jeannie Rogers, SRP Volunteer Coordinator**

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Chandler/Gilbert Arc Presents the **4th Annual Golf Classic**

At

Kokopelli Golf Club  
1800 W. Guadalupe Road, Gilbert, Az

**On February 17, 2003**

REGISTRATION

\$125

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nick Vosovic  
(480) 892-9707  
(480) 540-8978

Or email: [cgarc@cgarc.org](mailto:cgarc@cgarc.org)



## Staff Profile-

## “No Darkness One Week in June”

by M.Moos

That could be Scotland, where Margaret Dejno (pronounced Dayno), was born and raised. In the southwest corner of Scotland there is a town called Peebles, and that's where she grew up. It is a small town where tweed mills are still the main industry. Her father was killed in WW II, in 1943, Normandy, France. He was fighting in the Gordon Highlander Regiment, part of the British troops. Her uncle was in the Air Force, also fighting in Normandy, but he managed to survive.

Margaret remembers growing up in a more relaxed and community minded environment. “We went through all the school years with the same kids...*the same kids*. You grew up with them.”

For one week in June, the sun would sink behind the hills and night became gray shadows, but the gray only lasted one hour. A perfect time to celebrate...so the town held a festival, the Beltane Festival. For one week, Peebles celebrated with music, food and competitive events. On Saturday, the most clever boy and girl in middle school was chosen to be king and queen of the festivities. On Sunday, they held services at Cross-Kirks, near some old ruins. Monday they danced in the street outside the queen's house. Tuesday was the day of the races. Wednesday was Cornet and Lass day, where they had the ‘bussing of the colors,’ and a horse race crossing the river. Thursday night was concert night. Friday was a fancy-dress parade where they rode around the neighborhood in trucks to show the people who couldn't make it to the parade. Saturday was the special ‘crowning’ ceremony and specially selected visitors in the town were treated to a ‘royal’ meal at the biggest hotel.

It was a slower pace of life; everyone walked a whole lot more. Families could be seen out for walks after dinner in the evening. After graduating at 15, Margaret went to a state sponsored nursing school. An American agency contacted her to see if she was interested in working in the U.S. She had to go to the American Consulate to secure a work visa and went on to become a nanny for a family in Lake Forest, Illinois (near Chicago). She took care of Freddie, a little boy who was hydrocephalic. “He never slept. You could hear him playing his Elvis tapes of ‘Are You Lonesome Tonight?’, well after midnight.”

After her year was up, she wasn't ready to return to Scotland. The bright lights and “busy-ness” of the big city was too attractive. She was also attracted to a man, whom she met through a mutual acquaintance. She fell in love and was married.

Margaret worked in a Chicago hospital in the emergency ward for 24 yrs. “I loved it. The doctors and nurses were all so nice. I saw it all,” she says of the patients who came in with gunshot wounds, stabbings, drownings, burns... *everything*; she worked the night shift.

In 1987, she visited Mesa for two months in the summertime, but the heat was so extreme, she returned to Chicago. In 1992, she came to live in Mesa because that's where her two sons and four grandchildren were living. “I came out again and got used to it.”

She was offered a job with C/G Arc, and has worked the afternoon and night shifts for the residential program. She has been a dedicated employee for over 10 years.

She still misses Chicago and has lots of friends there. “It was so much fun to picnic at Lake Geneva or have lunch at one of the ethnic neighborhood restaurants. They have Polish, Greek, Spanish, Italian and Mexican specialties- anything you want.” Some of Margaret's skills, which includes cooking, probably started with Scottish haggis (oatmeal, barley, organ meats and special seasoning); she learned to bake it, slice it, serve it cold or fry it!



Administration  
Building & DTT Services  
3250 N. San Marcos Pl.  
Chandler, AZ 85225-7789

Phone: 480-892-9422  
Fax: 480-497-0657

Job Hotline: 480-497-1323  
Website: [www.cgarc.org](http://www.cgarc.org)

*Editor: Marcella Moos*

## Services and Resource List

### National References:

The Arc of the United States  
Ph: 800- 433- 5255  
Fax: 301- 565-5342  
[www.thearc.org](http://www.thearc.org)

### Website Links:

Valley of the Sun United Way  
[www.vsuw.org](http://www.vsuw.org)  
[www.autism-pdd.net/](http://www.autism-pdd.net/) (autism)  
[www.fraxa.org/](http://www.fraxa.org/) (fragile X)  
[www.pwsausa.org/](http://www.pwsausa.org/) (Prader-Willi)

### Local References:

Advocacy & Evaluations Services  
(602) 955-7287

Advocates Across America  
(602) 917-0955

The Arc (602) 243-1787

### Creative Corner: -DTT's Presentation Days-

Beth's project was monkey bread. Helpers are Mike A, Lela H and Jennifer G. Mike R is being silly making faces, while bottom picture shows Jennifer proudly presenting the finished pan of monkey bread.

