

# T M I

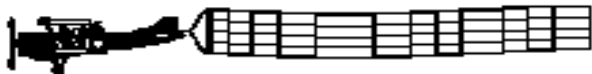
## Toward Maximum Independence

*A non-profit agency assisting people with disabilities to live, work and participate in their communities.*

## 4th Annual Auction & Dinner May 16, 1997

TMI's Fourth Annual Auction Fund Raiser is coming up on May 16th. Again this year, it will be held at the Admiral Kidd Club from 6:00 to 10:00 PM and will include Silent Auction and cocktails at 6:00, dinner at 7:30 and Live Auction at 8:00. Dinner is \$15 per person. We will be giving a special award to both the individual and the team which raises the most money through gifts they solicited. Money raised in the auction goes to the Julie Casey Scholarship Fund, renamed last year after Julie's unexpected death. We greatly miss Julie and will surely miss her presence at the auction where she was always an assertive participant and a cheerful supporter. Her mother, Delores, continues to be an active member on TMI's Board of Directors.

*Pictured: Julie Casey at her library job. We celebrated her life in a memorial gathering last August at the Casey home.*



- **Upcoming 4th Annual Dinner Auction**
- **Statewide Network of S.L. Services Aims High**
- **TMI Testifies At Senate Hearing**
- **Program Updates**
- **Employee Interview**
- **Find Out What's New and Who's Who in Notable News**
- **How Green is your Garden? Find Out In This Edition's Green Corner**
- **Hip Tips**
- **Advocacy Meeting Information**

## California Network of Supported Living Services

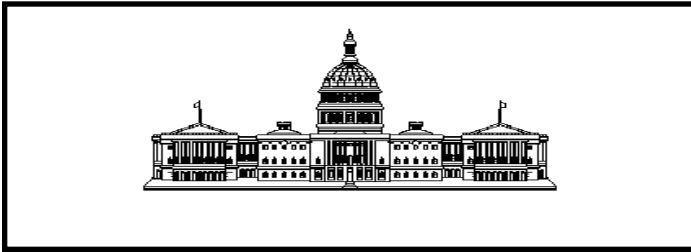
TMI's Executive Director, Connie Saverino, has been instrumental in the formation of the Statewide Network of Supported Living Services. The Network began last fall with a meeting of interested persons at the Supported Life Conference and has grown to include over 65 different agencies and organizations as well as parents and friends of Supported Living. Most recently, Connie and the Network's representative, Tom Heinz, of East Bay Innovations, were in Sacramento to meet with Peggy Collins of Senator Thompson's office. Peggy is eager to see the Network represented in System's Review Meetings which currently include PAI, Inc., ARC-California, UCP-CA, OAB and LA Autism. The major purposes of the

*Continued on Pg. 2*

## CA Network - *Continued*

Network include information sharing, networking, collaboration around legislative, regulatory or systems issues, organization of training opportunities regionally to pool training resources aimed at enhancing the development of exemplary practices in personalized supports, support and direction for coalition building in local communities and regional center catchment areas, and organizing support around legal or legislative issues such as access to IHSS, SSI or the impact of Welfare Reform.

*Article By Connie Saverino, Contributing Journalist*



## News From The State Capital

Connie Saverino

### TMI Responds to Strauss Study

On February 25th, Senator Mike Thompson held a hearing in Sacramento of the Senate Select committee on Developmental Disabilities and Mental Health. The hearing addressed "Developmental Center Down-sizing: The Impact on Consumer Quality of Life". That same day, the San Francisco Chronicle published an article with a front page headline: "Deadly Push To Discharge from State Asylums." This opposition to recent closures and downsizing resulting from the Coffelt Settlement was fueled by Dr. David Strauss' reports of significantly increased risk of death in the community as compared to DC's. TMI submitted testimony questioning the Strauss data and its disparity with the Conroy data which reports no increases in mortality for Coffelt class members. We are hopeful that DDS can clear up any questions regarding the safety and quality of life of persons who have moved to the community since the Coffelt settlement. Currently, the Department is working with independent researchers to review the controversial data.

## Program Updates

### Family Support Services

A Leader Among Us . . .

Therese Madden-Connor is the new Program Director and brings to Family Support Services over 25 years of experience working with children, youth and families. She has been a Special Education Teacher, Resource Specialist and Mental Health Clinician. She holds a Masters Degree in Education, a Doctorate in Psychology and is a Licensed Marriage, Family and Child Counselor.

Based on a fundamental belief that "all children belong in families," Family Support Services offers two components within the program.

- **Alternatives to Placement**

This component provides an extensive level of support to the families of origin of children determined to be approaching the risk of out-of-home placement. Those supports include, but are not limited to, behavioral consultation by a licensed psychologist; frequent contact with the families, including 24-Hour emergency support; and development of a transition plan for a reduction in the level of support required for the child to continue to live at home.

- **Alternative Families**

When efforts to maintain a child within the family of origin have failed, this component seeks to match the child with an alternative family. Those children who have "severe developmental, physical behavioral and/or cognitive disabilities" and thus are considered in need of Level 4 services, are matched with an alternative family, certified by TMI to meet the requirements of Community Care Licensing. The component provides on-going support to both families of origin and the alternative families to assure the integration of the child within the family, school and community. The support includes assistance to the parents at

## Program Updates - Continued

IEP and IPP meetings; behavioral consultation by a licensed psychologist; frequent contact with the families, including 24-Hour Emergency support; and development of a transition (discharge) plan.

Currently, Family Support Services has 27 children in Alternative Family placements and 2 Alternative to Placement participants.

For more information about the FSS program, please call Therese Madden-Connor at (619) 467-0600, Ext. 3307.

*Article By Kim Trotter, Contributing Journalist*

## Community Living Services

Independent Living and Supported Living Services have been quite the hoppin' programs these days!

### • Supported Living Services

The program is currently involved in starting 5 new living arrangements in areas ranging from Escondido to El Cajon. Many SL Assessments are being done. We are currently interviewing for those positions and more.

Program anniversaries are being celebrated this year too! Congratulations to Kathy and John; Tom and Ollie; and Joanne and Irma - together they've been making it work for 6+ years!!

New Roommate Situations are happening! Congratulations to Cynthia Barron and Cathy Cosner who are enjoying the "country life" in Valley Center and Sandy Holthaus and Gwen Surret out in sunny Ocean Beach!

### • Independent Living Services

The I.L. program has also been receiving referrals from all the San Diego Regional Centers, including North County. We are expanding our services in North County and will be introducing ourselves to all the case-workers in that area. We are currently in the process of setting up a small office in the home of a North County Coordinator to provide easier access to TMI. The Coordinator will be tele-commuting 2 days per week. We already have a phone line, FAX and computer! We are certainly hoping for a positive outcome for the effort.

C.L.A.C. is going strong. We would like to congratulate the Council for putting on two very informative inservices on nutrition and safety.

Way to go! *Article By Simone Ferber, Contributing Journalist*

## Community Employment Services

CES is currently providing on-the-job support and community skills training to 91 individuals within CES's two components. 29 in Supported Employment and 62 in Integrated Work. Due to the extraordinary efforts of the Coordinators, the majority of individuals in CES are working in integrated settings and waiting lists for job placement are low.

Several months ago, Marilyn Williams, CES Coordinator and Job Developer contacted the San Diego Union Tribune which led to an article by Ozzie Roberts describing the successful placement of a young lady in Supported Employment who is currently working at Target in Encinitas. The article appeared in the March 17, 1997 issue. Hopefully many of you had the opportunity to read it. CES would like to thank Marilyn for persevering on behalf of people with disabilities. Through her efforts, the general public will hopefully become more aware of the benefits to people with disabilities who are gainfully employed and to the employers who hire them.

CES and TMI would like to recognize the following employers who are providing employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

Bahia Hotel - *West Mission Bay*

Baskin Robbins - *Chula Vista*

Bennigans - *Mission Valley*

Boll Weevil - *Lakeside*

Burger King - *Clairemont*

Casey Office - *Old Town*

Catamaran Hotel - *W. Mission Bay*

Chili's Restaurant - *Escondido, Mission Valley*

**Classic Reprographics - Downtown**

**Danka - Kearny Mesa**

**Family Maintenance - Poway**

**Hyatt Regency - Downtown**

**J.C. Penny - National City**

**McDonalds - Kearny Mesa**

**Mossy Acura - National City**

**Motel 6 - El Cajon**

**Page Net - La Jolla**

**Pizza Hut - Tierrasanta, Chula Vista, Imperial Beach, Poway, Linda Vista, La Mesa**

**Pretzel Time - El Cajon**

**Red Lobster - Chula Vista**

**Round Table Pizza - Poway, Rancho Bernardo**

**San Vicente Inn & Golf Club - Ramona**

*Continued on Pg. 4*

## Program Updates (CES) – Continued

TGIF Restaurant – *La Jolla*

T.J. Max – *Point Loma*

TMI – *Kearny Mesa*

Taco Bell – *Chula Vista, Poway*

Target – *Clairemont, La Mesa, Point Loma, Encinitas*

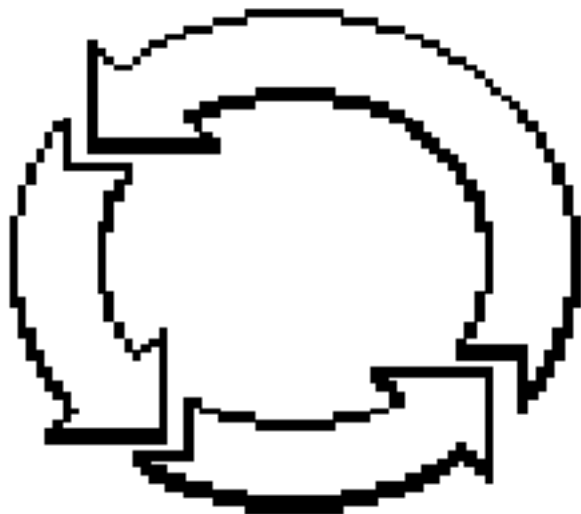
Trader Joes – *Pacific Beach*

Unforgettables – *Hillcrest*

Vons – *Rancho Bernardo*

WalMart – *El Cajon, Santee, South Bay*

*Article By Louanne Davis, Contributing Journalist*



## Green Corner

Simone Ferber

**Who Says** New Years is the only time for resolutions! The arrival of tax season seems to be the natural time to reassess; not just your finances, but generally the way you live. For many, tax season can elicit thoughts of conservation, but it shouldn't be limited to just budgeting. (You know I had to somehow get around to the **GREEN** of things!!) So please read on and get a jump on some earthly tips for the upcoming season.

**Does anyone remember the 3 R's???? REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE!!!!!!**

*Did you know . . . Litter* lasts way too long. A scrap

of paper on the ground will take a month to decompose and a soda can won't disappear for over 200 years! ! !

**Reuse:** Save money and Reduce Garbage!!! Reuse glass and plastic jars by putting small items in them such as nails, pencils, buttons and art supplies.

**Recycling** can go beyond aluminum cans.

*Did You Know . . .* Rather than tossing a broken item out - check to see if it can be fixed. You'll save money and help reduce waste. Remember, items that are donated to chari-table organizations can be a tax write-off (I had to bring up taxes again - it is the time!) Old radio's, furniture, and mattresses are also items that, in the hands of the right people, can be **Reused**. Think about having a garage sale! Your trash may be someone else's treasure - and they'll pay for it!

**Recycling** can also mean reusing plastic grocery bags to line trash cans, cover leftovers, and for shopping. Save PAPER! Instead of using paper towels to wipe up spills, use RAGS made from old clothing. Another way to get the most use out of paper is to always use both sides of a paper as scratch paper. And, if you don't need the whole sticky, use only what you need - use sticky "strips!"

*Did You Know . . .* If we recycled half the world's paper we would save 20 million acres of forest land! Get this - it takes 50% less water and 64% less energy to make paper from waste paper pulp than virgin wood.

*Did You Know . . .* By recycling 1 phone book you are saving 17 trees????

I hope you all have enjoyed just a few of my **GREEN** Wisdom Tips for Life. See you next edition. Start early and avoid the flea season rush!!

*Simone's Green Corner is a regular Column. If anyone has any "Green" tips they would like to share, please write to Simone Ferber at the TMI office.*

## Employee Interview

Candice Villegas

*CES's Integrated Work Program has had many success stories. In this issue, we take an in-depth look at Sophie Leras and her job at Walmart.*

Sophie has worked at Walmart for almost one year. During that time, she has worked in several departments through out the store, learning valuable job experience. Sophie is currently working in the store's Toy Department.

**CV:** How do you like working at Walmart?

**SL:** I really enjoy my job.

When I first started, I had no experience with retail and I was really nervous, but very anxious to work.

**CV:** Did you receive a lot of support when you started?

**SL:** I did. I got a lot of help and support from my job coach and other associates at the job. I learned how to overcome problems that I had, like becoming frustrated or upset if something was wrong or I didn't understand how to do a task. Now, when those feelings come up, I know how to deal with them.

**CV:** What are some of your responsibilities in the Toy department?

**SL:** I'm responsible for the Children's Book section and the Ball Pit. I keep everthing stocked and in order

and I really like it!

*I caught up with Walmart's Toy Department Manager and asked her about Sophie's work. "Sophie takes great pride in her work. She is always willing to take and learn new tasks and responsibilities." Recently, a local book vendor for Walmart stated, "Sophie keeps the neatest, cleanliest, most organized book section in the district."*

*Sophie stocking shelves in Children's Books Section.*

**CV:** How has finding a "real" job in the community affected you?

**SL:** Since working at Walmart my life has changed a lot! I have a better attitude about things, my

self-esteem is great, I know how to express myself a lot better than before. But, best of all, with the knowledge I now have, I am living independently and will be going into supported employment where I will work by myself. That was my goal and I'm really happy!

## NOTABLE NEWS



### Welcome New Employees!

In CLS, 2 new S.L. roommate positions have been filled. Bob Surret is now rooming with Dick Fenderson, and David Hudoba and Robbie Drewitt now share a pad in O.B. An additional "Welcome" to Skip McKenzie who is now living in North Park with his new roommate, Doug Petkoff.

In the Independent Living component, 7 new facilitator

positions have been filled. These new employees are: Judith Claire, Judi Leafdale, William Hart, Stacy Golembiewski, Yow-Wei Chi, Pam Rotherberg and Roxane Montijo-Wall.

In CES, 6 new facilitator positions have been filled: Misti Kent, Chuck Herman, Colette Poy, Charlotte Kelly, Rosie Borrelli and Rob Griffith.

Administration has also enjoyed a few positions being filled. Welcome Dawn Dughi, FSS Coordinator; Alicia Stubbs, Front Desk Admin. Assistant; and Therese Madden-Conner, Director of Family Support Services.

### Moving On . . .

Debbie Johnson is leaving the agency for a new position. Debbie has been a long time, outstanding employee. We will all miss her and wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors. Don't forget us at next year's Girls Scout Cookie sale!

### Congratulations . . .

To Beth Ritter for always coming to the rescue in a

*Continued on Pg. 6*

## Notable News - Continued

pinch and for the special acknowledgment she received at our March All Staff Mtg. Way to go Beth, and a big THANK YOU!

Additional Congratulations to the TMI Council for putting on two very informative in-services on nutrition and safety! They were great!!



### *Birth Announcements*

Congratulations to the following

proud parents: Bonnie and Lester Stanley, Jessica and Frank Lujan, Alicia and Norman Faleano, Shannon and Vance Sutton and Tammy and Larry Secrist.



### *Hazel Dean Dies At Age 63*

Last fall many of us at TMI said good-bye to

Hazel, one of our dearest friends and our best teachers. Hazel died of complications related to congenital respiratory failure.

Though we didn't always agree with her, we respected her convictions. She lived and died as she wished, staying in her own home until only days before the end, when she was hospitalized for comfort. Her friends at St. John of The Cross gave her a beautiful Mass. She made a difference in many lives and so many of us are grateful for having had the change to know her.



### *Upcoming Events*

The TMI Council is having an Ice Cream Social at the War Memorial Bldg on June 13, 1997 at 6:00-9:00 PM. Money raised will go toward the TMI Council Fund. The Council raises money throughout the year to put on yearly events such as the Annual BBQ and Holiday Party.



### *News Flash*

Due to the huge demand for phone numbers in the (619) area code and the worsening regions number storage, the phone companies are introducing a new area code. As of March 22, the new (760) are code will take affect. For 6 months callers can continue to use either area code. Then, beginning September 27, for the next 3 months callers will hear a message instructing them to hang up and use the 760 area code. Finally, as of December 27, numbers in 619 will be reassigned. More area codes are on the way in California. Make sure you see you local paper, or call you local phone company for further information.

## **H I P • T I P S**

### **Attention All You Animal Lovers!**

It's time to celebrate your link with Mother Earth and all her creatures. Tis' the season to "SPRING AHEAD" and get a jump on the flea season before it gets a "jump" on you. Give your furry friends at home a break and "BREAK" the cycle! Here are some tips to keep both you and your pets comfortable and FLEA-FREE!

- **SEE YOU LOCAL VET** - Ask about the birth control pills for fleas.
- **WASH** your pet's linens once a week in 140 degree water (very hot, so be careful) and add a few drops of essential oils that act as repellants, such as Cedar Oil, Anice Oil, Eucalypus Oil. If your out shopping for a bed for your pet, take note they do make beds that come Cedar-filled!!
- **BATHE** your pets in citrus shampoo and flea comb them at least 3 times/week. If those little critters are too fast, get a spray bottle of mixed water and alcohol - it acts like a stun gun and you can pick those fleas right off!!!
- **VACUUM** every day and make sure you sprinkle either diatamecous earth or Boric Acid on your rugs using rubber gloves to work the powder in, then just vacuum it up. The powder of both products dries up any fleas and their eggs! Make sure to save a little inside your vacuum to prevent starting your own vacuum- packed hatchery - Yuck!!

Do you have any "Hip Tips" that you would love to share with our readers? Or, maybe you have some questions. If so, feel free to contact me or leave a VM message. at 467-0600, Ext. 3313.

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# TMI

## Advocacy Meeting Information

Advocacy means to speak up for oneself. There are many Advocacy Groups that meet regularly and their goal is to help people to become aware, informed and able to speak up regarding issues in their lives.

You can call Area Board XIII for updated information at 637-5563.

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### List of Advocacy Groups In Your Area:

1. **Council People First:** Meets on Saturdays every other month. Contact Sara Couron at Area Board 637-5563.
  2. **TMI Council:** Meets every third Monday at TMI. Contact Rhonda Birich at 467-0600, Ext. 591.
  3. **San Diego Group:** Meets monthly, 3rd Wednesday of each month at 5pm. Contact Georgia McWhorter at 467-0600, Ext. 539.
  4. **South Bay Group:** Meets monthly, 2nd Tuesday of each month at 5:00 PM. New Contact will be announced. In the interim, contact Maureen Burris at 467-0600, Ext. 3312.
  5. **East County Group:** Meets 3rd Tuesday of each month at different locations. Please check location lists. 5:30 PM. Contact Maureen Burris at 467-0600, Ext. 3312.
  6. **North County:** Contact Area Board for current groups.
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### Additional Advocacy Groups and Representatives:

- California People First Representative: Greg Henderson - 237-1095
- DDS Advisory Committee Representative Norma Rottenberg - 443-6428

For Your Information: There are dozens of other advisory committees in San Diego. Call Area Board XIII at 637-5563.

# Our Mission

It is the mission of TMI to support the value, right and responsibilities of all people with the support of their advocates to make informed choices regarding how they live, work and express their membership in community. We accomplish this by providing personalized supports to people in their own homes, workplaces, schools, families and neighborhoods.

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Louanne Davis	Connie Saverino
Rita Deckman	Mark Saverino
Simone Ferber	Kim Trotter
Lydia Newman	Candice Villegas

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*This newsletter is published quarterly for program participants, family, friends and colleagues of TMI, a non-profit organization.*

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