

## No Obstacles!

### Fitting theme for 2006 Bregman Conference

Highlights include the Chris Burke Band and World Special Olympian Katie Rouille

Adults with developmental disabilities are already looking forward to the 13th annual Larry Bregman, M.D. Educational Conference, March 11 and 12, 2006 at Georgia Perimeter College. This year's theme, No Obstacles! is a fitting legacy to the beloved Atlanta pediatrician, who wanted children with disabilities and their families to focus on their many abilities and on living life to its fullest.

The fun begins Saturday night with a dance sponsored by the Down Syndrome Association of Atlanta, featuring live music from international television star and musician, Chris Burke and his band. Sunday morning, attendees will return to campus for breakfast and register for a full day of sessions, starting with a keynote speech by Katie Rouille, a World Special Olympics gold and silver medalist, who will discuss living life without obstacles.

Program and skill sessions will include popular favorites from years past, such as computer skills, jewelry making and line dancing, as well as new offerings such as resume writing and

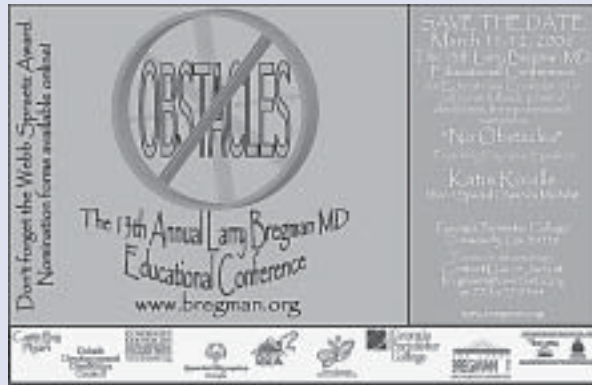
emergency preparedness. The conference and dance are open to all adults with disabilities, family members and caretakers who are at least 18 years old. Advanced registration is \$18 per person, and financial assistance is available to assure that everyone can participate. Family members and caregivers are encouraged to participate in a concurrent conference designed to address their interests and concerns, such as navigating benefits and independent living.

The planning and outreach committee, comprised of conference alumni, staff and more than a dozen service providers, is coordinated under the JF&CS Disabilities Services Division. Volunteers are needed throughout the weekend.

The Webb Spratz Award, which honors an outstanding individual who works behind the scenes to improve life and opportunities for individuals with disabilities, will be presented at the conference.

Nomination forms can be found on the website at [www.bregman.org](http://www.bregman.org).

RRA is pleased to be one of the sponsors of this event. For more information, contact Jody or Lisa at 770-677-9344 or [bregman@jfcs-atlanta.org](mailto:bregman@jfcs-atlanta.org), or register online at [www.bregman.org](http://www.bregman.org).



# choices!

Affirming the unique and intrinsic worth of adults with developmental disabilities, RRA supports choices made by those we serve, so they are empowered to lead the lives they desire.



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## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- **5th Annual Fashion Show** will be held at the Atlanta Athletic Club on Friday, Sept. 8th
- **13th Annual Golf Classic** will be Tuesday, Oct. 8th at Crooked Creek Golf Club
- **RRA's 19th Annual Gala** will be Saturday, March 3, 2007 at the Crowne Plaza Ravinia Hotel

## UPCOMING TRAININGS

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| • <b>March 4</b> -CPR at NFRH 9am-12:30 pm                             | • <b>April 10</b> -New Hire Pt. 1 at North 9:30-4:30 pm                |
| • <b>March 4</b> -PCA Test, Observations South                         | • <b>April 11</b> -New Hire Pt. 1 at North 9:30-4:30 pm                |
| • <b>March 6</b> -New Hire Pt. 1 at North 9:30-4:30 pm                 | • <b>April 12</b> -New Hire Pt. 1 at North 9:30-4:30 pm                |
| • <b>March 7</b> -New Hire Pt. 1 at North 9:30-4:30 pm                 | • <b>April 15</b> -CPR at NFRH 9:00 am-12:30 pm                        |
| • <b>March 8</b> -New Hire Pt. 1 at North 9:30-4:30 pm                 | • <b>April 17</b> -CPR at North 5:30-8:30 pm                           |
| • <b>March 13</b> -Ostomy (Ileal Conduit) at North 9:30-11:30 am       | • <b>April 19</b> -Ostomy (Ileal Conduit) at North 9:30-11:30 am       |
| • <b>March 13</b> -Ostomy (Ileal Conduit) at North 11:30 am-1:30 pm    | • <b>April 19</b> -Seizure Tng. at North 12:30-2:00 pm                 |
| • <b>March 13</b> -Seizure Tng. at North 2:00-3:30 pm                  | • <b>April 19</b> -Self Catheterization at North 2-3:30 pm             |
| • <b>March 15</b> - Ostomy (Ileostomy) at South 10:00 am-12:00 pm      | • <b>April 24</b> -Diabetes Tng. at North 10:00-1:00 pm                |
| • <b>March 15</b> - PCA Test, Observations South                       | • <b>April 24</b> -1st Aid at North 5:30-8:30 pm                       |
| • <b>March 22</b> - Diabetes Tng. at North 10:00 am-1:00 pm            | • <b>April 26</b> -Ostomy (Ileal Conduit) at North 10:30 am - 12:30 pm |
| • <b>March 22</b> - Ostomy (Ileal Conduit) at North 11:30 am - 1:30 pm |  |
| • <b>March 25</b> - 1st Aid - NFRH 1:00 pm-4:30 pm                     |  |
- April Training Dates Are Tentative and Could Be Changed. Please Check the Posted Calendars.*

## SUPPORT INSIGHTS FROM SOUTH FULTON

By Roderick Foster, Support Manager

Recently, three Support Managers from RRA's South Fulton office were asked to share their insights about their positions. Jimilah Williamson, Jessamy Anderson, and LaTaunya Robbins agreed to give their views on the Support Manager position.

**Jimilah Williamson** has been with RRA for five years and is the manager at Dixie Lake. She believes that managers have to be patient with staff and those we serve. Jimilah said that managers must "look at situations thoroughly" to get the "whole picture." She said that she enjoys "the immediate gratification you get when you help consumers with their goals."

**Jessamy Anderson** has been an RRA employee for seven years and is the manager at Azalea Drive. She shared that family members of those we serve must be included in the support team. Jessamy also said, "The best reward is when the consumers need us less."

Finally, **LaTaunya Robbins** has been on staff with RRA for seven years and is the manager at Hidden Lake. For LaTaunya, it is important to listen to the concerns of staff and consumers. According to LaTaunya, "Time waits for no one." For this reason, she said that a manager must perform duties in a timely manner. LaTaunya also said, "I can be and I am a diligent team player." She said she enjoys playing on the Hidden Lake team.

These three managers all enjoy working with the wonderful individuals we serve at RRA and look forward to more years with them. These managers represent the face and warmth of RRA. Jessamy Anderson summed it up best when she said, "What keeps me going is the sense of fun and trust I share with those we serve at RRA." ♦



Jimilah Williamson, Jessamy Anderson, and LaTaunya Robbins, who support many of those RRA is privileged to serve in South Fulton.



## ALFRED COLE HAS A GREAT NEW GOAL AND REAL FOCUS IN HIS LIFE!

The words of Alfred Cole:

I decided to go back to school to get my GED because I wanted to finish high school and go to college. I am beginning to understand that I never learned many things while I was in school. I have two teachers at Goodwill. I mostly spend classroom time with Beverly and I have a Russian teacher, but I cannot remember her name. They really help me a lot and say that I am one of their best students because I come to class everyday and study hard because I want to learn. I do not goof off like the other students.



Alfred Cole

Sometimes the other students look at me weird. I told them I am forty-one years old, and I know that without an education life can be hard.

Most of them are 15-18 years old and all they come to class to do is play around. I don't care if they think I'm weird because one day I will get my GED and go to college and get an office job doing contract work. Without an education my only jobs have been labor jobs and they hurt my back.

## RRA'S 12TH ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC

By John David

I am happy I can go to the Goodwill and get my GED. ♦

We had a good time at the tournament! My group was at Hole 11 most of the day. There was a new Lexus there to win, for anyone who got a hole-in-one. It had a lease for two years. But no one got a hole-in-one, although one of the players almost got a hole-in-one. It was a nice car! I would have liked to ride around the golf course in it!

Rose Prophitt and Suzanne Payne worked with me on the green. I liked being with them. This year the tournament was at Crooked Creek in Alpharetta. I like helping at the golf tournament. It's fun!



The golf classic raised almost \$55,000 for RRA last October. ♦ John David with Suzanne Payne

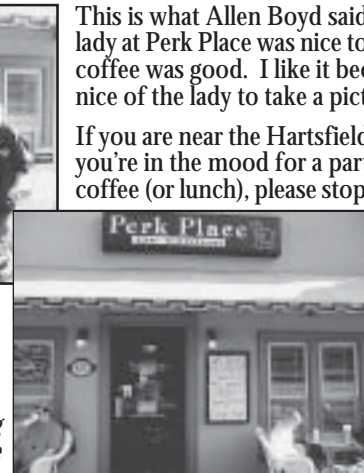
## PERK PLACE COFFEE SHOP IN HAPEVILLE WELCOMES RRA COFFEE LOVERS

By Maria Lee

On October 19, 2005, a group of individuals who are particularly fond of coffee, visited Perk Place Coffee Shop in Hapeville for the first time. The owner, Laura Murphy, was very welcoming. The gentlemen liked the place so much that they want to go back on a regular basis.



Lowell, Allen, Bennie, Laura Murphy, Scottie, Kenneth and Robert.



Lowell and Scottie enjoying coffee outside Perk Place

This is what Allen Boyd said about their visit. "The lady at Perk Place was nice to us. The scone and coffee was good. I like it because it was quiet. It was nice of the lady to take a picture with us."

If you are near the Hartsfield-Jackson Airport, and you're in the mood for a particularly good cup of coffee (or lunch), please stop by. Perk Place is located at 673 N. Central Ave., Hapeville, phone 404.768.5678. Their website is www.perkplacecoffee.com. Perk Place offers free wireless access if you are interested in that as well! ♦

## RICKIE GARY BRIGHTENS THE DAYS OF MANY PEOPLE!

By Maria Lee

Don Rogers, the General Manager at Burger King at the Metropolitan Parkway location said that he appreciates the job and positive attitude that Rickie Gary brings. Rickie has worked there for approximately four years and is doing very well. Don said that Rickie cheers people up when he comes to work. He speaks to everybody and brightens everybody's day. Not only does he brighten the employee's day but he also brightens the customers' day sitting in the restaurant area. Don also said that the ladies that work at the Kroger's nearby love Rickie. He even brightens their day. So as you can see, Rickie's smile and personality bring smiles to many people's faces. ♦



Rickie Gary and Don Rogers

## GALA PLANTINUM SPONSORSHIP PRESENTED BY ROSWELL ROTARY CLUB

Roswell Rotary President, Cheryl Greenway, and Charity Director, Mike McRay, present \$5,000 contribution to RRA Executive Director, Richard Colyer and Board Chairman, Jeff Hamling.



Once again, RRA is thankful for the partnership and faithful support of the Roswell Rotary Club and all its members. The Roswell Rotary Club has been chosen as District 6900 Club of the Year for several years, including 1999-2000, 2000-2001, 2002-2003, 2003-2004, and 2004-2005. This club and its members live out the motto of Rotary, "Service Above Self" in many outstanding ways, and we are very grateful for their friendship, trust, and support. ♦

## CHAMPAGNE TASTES OPENING "CHAMPAGNE LITE"

Opening on April 1st, "Champagne Lite" will be located on the lower level of the current store, featuring consigned items, specially purchased samples, and close out items including furniture, lamps, home accessories, art, books, collectibles and much more! All consigned merchandise will be marked with an original price upon receipt, then reduced by 25% if not sold within 30 days, and reduced again at 50% if not sold within 60 days. Items not sold within 90 days will be returned to the seller or may be donated to RRA, Inc. for their use or disposal. A great place for you to sell and find new treasures! For more information, please call Nancy or Jeff at Champagne Tastes, 770.641.6373, Ext. 0.



## GALA SPONSOR COMPANY PROFILE

Wherever We Open Our Doors, We Also Open Our Hearts!

Based in the United Kingdom, InterContinental Hotels Group (IHG) owns, manages, or leases almost 3,600 hotels and 539,000 guest rooms in nearly 100 countries and territories around the world, making it the world's largest hotel group by number of rooms. The Group owns a portfolio of well-recognized and respected hotel brands, including InterContinental Hotels & Resorts, Crowne Plaza Hotels & Resorts, Hotel Indigo, Holiday Inn Hotels and Resorts, Holiday Inn Express, Staybridge Suites and Candlewood Suites.

IHG has a long and distinguished history of community involvement, a legacy in which we take great pride. This is especially true in the Americas region, which is home to the majority of our hotels and employees. Through corporate initiatives, employee volunteer programs, the grassroots involvement of individual hotels and in scores of other ways, the Americas region is committed to supporting IHG's overall mission for social responsibility: to help the world become a better place, one community at a time.

IHG is delighted to continue its multi-year, multi-level relationship with Resources and Residential Alternatives (RRA) into 2006 and beyond. In addition to providing financial and in-kind support for the organizations' many special events, including the annual black-tie gala, IHG takes an active approach to its partnership with RRA by continually striving to engage and empower its clients by providing them with services and employment opportunities.

In conjunction with its continuing work in support of the Americans with Disabilities Act, IHG hosts informational meetings for hiring managers within IHG corporate offices and hotels, encouraging them to consider hiring people with disabilities from organizations such as RRA. IHG recognizes the unique contributions that each and every person in a society can make, and believes we should act in the best interests of all our citizens to ensure that everyone has equal access to services, employment and the opportunity for a fulfilling life.

In May of 2005, IHG's far-flung, 120-plus-member Global Sales team came together in Atlanta for an annual planning session. As part of this

team-building process, the group organized its annual "Genuine Act of Kindness" community involvement initiative, and selected RRA as the beneficiary. The sales team sponsored and participated in a "field day" for more than 80 clients of the organization. Events included softball, games, a picnic, and arts and crafts projects, and the day concluded with the presentation of a new, IHG-donated wheelchair scale, along with a donation check.



IHG's Senior Vice President of Corporate Affairs, Vicki Gordon, also serves on the board of RRA, providing ongoing hands-on involvement. ♦

All of us at RRA are deeply grateful for the love and support shown by everyone associated with IHG to those we are privileged to serve at RRA. Thank you so very much!



RESOURCES & RESIDENTIAL ALTERNATIVES

## Eighteenth Annual Gala

CELEBRATING THE MANY FACES OF RRA

WITH MUCH APPRECIATION TO OUR SPONSORS!

PRESENTING SPONSOR



PREMIER SPONSORS



PLATINUM SPONSORS

The 680 Group at Smith Barney



The Roswell Rotary Club

WADDELL

SMITH

Galen & Anna Kilburn

Waddell, Smith, Magoon and Freeman, LLC  
Certified Public Accountants

THANKS TO THESE AND ALL OTHER SPONSORS (WHICH ARE LISTED ON PAGE SEVEN) AND OTHER DONORS WHO HELPED MAKE THIS EVENT SUCH A GREAT SUCCESS!



## ANGELS WALK AMONG US!

By Nancy Blankenship, Store Manager

Champagne Tastes decided to promote a **Secret Angel** program for the holidays to ensure every client in the RRA homes received a gift so they would know the kindness and generosity of total strangers did indeed include them. The idea was to have customers select a gift from the store for each of the names on the roster, then the store would wrap each gift and deliver it for free.

While it seemed a great idea, customer response was initially slow, due in part to many simultaneous appeals for donations for Katrina and Rita storm victims. At one point Jeff and Nancy were concerned that everyone would be adopted by a Secret Angel. "We were prepared to dig deep into our own pockets to pull this off" said Nancy. Then, on an especially quiet day at the store, a new customer arrived saying she happened to see the store as she turned onto Old Alabama Rd., had no idea what it was and decided to stop and see what it was about.

Reverend Dolores McCabe, Chaplin for Atlanta based Altus Healthcare and Hospice, says in retrospect "God led me to you." When she learned the store's purpose was to support RRA, Inc.'s homes and programs for developmentally disabled adults, she asked for more information to present to her company. She had been appointed Chairman for her company's community service program and was looking for ideas that they could support. Returning to her office with an RRA pamphlet and newsletter, she presented the information to her group and they were excited about the possibility of a real "hands on" opportunity rather than a simple donation of money. Mr. Hugh Henderson, President of the locally owned company, heartily endorsed their idea to adopt one of the RRA homes to provide holiday decorations throughout the home and gifts for the residents. They selected Crabapple where Catherine, Bruce, Denny C., Denny M., and Marshall (*who works at the store*) reside.

Rev. McCabe and her associates arrived during the day while the residents were gone and transformed the home into a holiday delight with beautiful trees, ornaments, teddy bears and gifts for each resident. "When the residents came home they were totally surprised and thrilled" said Support Manager Sasha Gay-White. Rev. McCabe reported all of her group had a good time as well as they pulled off the surprise.

"All of us at Champagne Tastes are deeply grateful to Rev. McCabe, Mr. Henderson and their wonderful associates for their generous response and commitment to our Special Angel project. As I read some information about Altus, it defined *Altus* as a Latin word meaning



"to lift" or "to elevate". Rev. McCabe had no idea that her spontaneous visit to the store that day and her interest in our Special Angel project did exactly that for us on a day when we wondered if the program would succeed. Thanks from everyone at Crabapple, too, for the precious gifts of love and caring you gave to all!"

\*Altus Healthcare and Hospice, Inc. was created to provide an array of personalized comprehensive services to those who elect

to live their final days in familiar surroundings. Altus provides hospice service to all persons regardless of race, color, national origin, disability or age. Services are provided regardless of ability to pay. Services are covered by Medicare, Medicaid, most private insurance plans, and/or private funds. Anyone can recommend a patient/family for hospice care.

For more information call 770-730-8405. ♦



We welcome you to see our fabulous selection of first quality, name brand merchandise!

We are pleased also to announce the addition of a new consignment store "Champagne Lite" on the lower level! (See page 2 for more details!)

Furniture • Home Décor • Lighting • Patio • Rugs • Gourmet Gifts • Jewelry • Accessories • Consignment Merchandise

Mon. - Sat. 10:00 am - 6:00 pm • Sun. 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm



Best of all, the profits go to Resources & Residential Alternatives, Inc. RRA is a non-profit organization with 22 residential group homes and apartments plus two workshops providing contract service work opportunities as well as job training and coaching for employment in other businesses for adults with developmental disabilities. Be sure to ask to see the items created by individuals served by RRA.

Your shopping dollars will directly help RRA & those we serve!

Directions: Take GA 400 north to Holcomb Bridge Road (Exit 7A - Norcross). Turn right (east) and go to the second stoplight. Then turn left (north) at Old Alabama Rd. Just beyond the Wachovia Bank you will see Holcomb Bridge Crossing Center, where Champagne Tastes is located, in the former Georgetown Interiors location.

1575 Old Alabama Rd. • Roswell, GA 30076 • 770.641.6373, Ext. 0

Bring this ad with you and receive a 10% discount on your purchases (not previously discounted) prior to 5/31/06.



## NEWS FROM SUPPORT SERVICES AT RRA

By Joyce Edwards,  
Senior Director of Support Services

**RRA is expanding its support service options to better serve adults with developmental disabilities.**

### PRIVATE HOME CARE LICENSE

Good news! Recently we received our provisional Private Home Care License for the South Fulton office. The immediate result is that some of our residents who have been waiting a long time to move into their own apartments with RRA providing personal support service now can do so. It made my day when I got a thank you message from Melissa Crowley. That alone would make it all worth the effort.

Happily, there's more reason to feel good about it. RRA now has a new service to offer. That couldn't be more important to the long-term financial stability of RRA in the current Medicaid waiver environment.

While we've gotten started down this path, there is a lot of work cut out for us over the next 4-6 months including, but

not limited to, the following tasks:

- Obtain a license for the North Fulton office to provide these same services.
- Implement the service in the South
- Obtain the full license for the South office as soon as possible once we are providing services to two people.
- Define staff structure and identify staff leadership capable of providing high quality and expansion

### CHANGES IN STAFF STRUCTURE

#### Support Manager II

Almost from the day I started at RRA, it has been clear to me that we needed to empower staff members in the homes who are closest to the residents. We have been operating with a system where most day to day decisions are made by the Coordinators including staff schedules, dealing with call-outs. Some decision-making authority, like the decision to seek medical care, was transferred to Support Managers several

months ago. The current way we operate means that our Support Managers are not really managers at all. Both our rate of pay for Support Managers and our expectations are below that of other agencies in the area. This is "costing" us. It affects our quality and our costs. Support Managers are providing direct care during their work hours and have neither the time nor the skills to coach and train other staff. Coordinators are overburdened with the details of running homes and have little time to work on identifying ways to significantly enhance the quality of service to each person.



We are implementing a pilot program with four Support Managers who will become Support Manager II's. This group will participate in a regular training and support program led by me and James Moore and will be supervised directly by James. They will also receive an increase in pay and approximately one-third of their work hours to be free of direct care responsibilities. Additional staff will be hired to cover

those direct care hours. We anticipate this structure will be in operation by mid-March. Sasha Gay-White, Charlene Moss, Sheryl Taylor, and Shanita Farlow have been selected for the pilot program. In time, it is our intent to spread this model throughout the agency. It does not eliminate the Coordinator position, but it is expected to change the role to one more akin to a case manager. The total number of coordinators assigned to residential is expected to decrease. It is anticipated that the change to this model will take up to 1.5 years.

### CHANGES IN STAFF ROLES

Maria Lee's and James Moore's areas of responsibility have been reconfigured. Maria Lee is now responsible for Day Services and Support Employment in both North and South.

We have hired Lynette Onsinyo to serve as Supported Employment Coordinator for both North and South. She will be responsible for developing a strong Supported

Employment program and seems like the perfect person for the job. She begins on March 1st.

James Moore is responsible for residential services in the North with a major assignment of implementing the Support Manager II role. He is working closely with me on this project.

Seth Quick is now a Senior Coordinator and is reporting directly to me regarding Residential Services and the implementation of Personal Support Services in the South.

I expect some additional changes over the next 6-8 months as we move a little further toward implementing and expanding new and improved services. ♦

## WAYNE SCRUGGS ELECTED CORPORATE SECRETARY OF RRA

Wayne Scruggs was elected to serve on the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of RRA as Corporate Secretary, at its meeting on February 22nd. Wayne and his lovely wife, Julia who was a model at RRA's Fashion Show last fall, are the parents of L'Henry Alexander, who is served by RRA in South Fulton and lives in RRA's Branchwood group home.

Wayne holds a Masters Degree from Georgia State University in Public Administration. He served as Program Director of 180 adult services staff with the Fulton County Department of Family and Children Services for sixteen years. He was in charge of children's residential services for four years as well. In his last four years of public service Wayne was with the Fulton County Human Services Dept. as Director of Emergency and Transitional Housing. This program provided shelter and permanent housing to thousands of homeless families and individuals.

Wayne is now retired and enjoying a life of volunteering, traveling, playing golf and enjoying Scrabble.

We are pleased to welcome Wayne to this new role as the first member of the Executive Committee from South Fulton. ♦



Wayne Scruggs

# RRA's STAFF COVENANT AND FAMILY COVENANT

*An Approach to Better Communications Among Staff and With the Families of Those We Serve* By Richard Colyer, Executive Director

Years ago, when I was serving as the Vice President of an international organization based in Fort Lauderdale, we realized that it would help us have the opportunity to get along much better and settle disagreements if we committed together that we would strive for a better way to handle these matters. This resulted in the development of our first Staff Covenant. As years went by and I began consulting with ministries and nonprofit agencies around the country, this kind of document became a valuable tool to share in many of those places.

Soon after arriving at RRA two and a half years ago to assume the role of Executive Director of this agency, I saw the same need for this kind of Covenant here that I had seen in so many other agencies and ministries. After adapting it to fit RRA and sharing it with the Staff Directors and Board of Directors, we presented it to our staff. It was adopted and has now become a regular part of all New Hire Training Classes each month.

As you read it below, you'll see that it speaks of our standard of conduct and communications with the public, our coworkers, and those we serve at RRA.

## STAFF COVENANT

**RRA's mission is:** Affirming the unique and intrinsic worth of adults with developmental disabilities, RRA supports choices made by those we serve, so they are empowered to lead the lives they desire.

• With this in mind, our goal as RRA employees is to reflect a high standard of conduct and to be especially watchful at all times in the area of communication regarding the agency, our coworkers, and those we are privileged to serve.

• In signing this **STAFF COVENANT**, I am hereby committing myself to giving good reports about my fellow employees and of this agency. When this is not possible, I commit to remain silent or to privately go to the person, confirm my goal, and explain the problem or offense that would hinder me from giving a good report. This Covenant applies to all my relationships within RRA — with my supervisors, with my peers, and with those subordinate to me.

• I hereby commit to approach an offender in a spirit of cooperation and respect, having first examined and corrected my

own attitude and actions. I also commit to refrain from going to another employee if I am angry or upset with him or her. I will wait until I have had time to calm my emotions and think of possible solutions or answers to the situation.

• Only if I am unable to restore my relationship with an offender will I share the problem with someone else (preferably my immediate supervisor) who can help me in the process of resolving the matter.

• When staff members come to me to share about another employee or group of employees who have in some way offended them, I will seek to remind them of this **STAFF COVENANT**, as respectfully as I can.

• When I violate this goal, I purpose to apologize and seek to restore the relationship with others immediately.

As you can see, it's a pretty simple document which provides a way of resolving issues that are bound to come up in the every day work week at RRA. We really need this commitment to one another because of the intensity of the work we do and the potential for conflicts to grow and result in discouragement and burnout. Even though we are not perfect in implementing it, it has resulted in improved methods of resolving communication concerns.

In the past several months another document has been developed, called the **SUPPORT SERVICES FAMILY COVENANT**, which provides the family members and guardians of those we serve to have an improved way of expressing and dealing with their concerns. It has gone through several stages of revision, presentation to the Executive Committee of the Board, to the Board of Directors, to selected parents and family members who are involved in the lives of those we serve, and finally was presented at the last two Family Meetings at RRA to family members present. Our goal is to have every family member receive and sign this document so they join us in the effort to have better ways of resolving concerns and improving communication.

## SUPPORT SERVICES FAMILY COVENANT

**RRA's mission is:** Affirming the unique and intrinsic worth of adults with developmental disabilities, RRA supports choices made by those we serve, so they are empowered to lead the lives they desire.

With this in mind, our goal is to work together with the consumers and their family members and/or guardians to help accomplish this mission, advocating for the consumers to have personal choices in their living and vocational arrangements.

## Residential Concerns

*Outcome: People experience continuity and security. People are respected. People are satisfied with services. People have intimate relationships. People are safe.*

First of all, the group home residences where the consumers live are **their** personal homes, managed by RRA and its employees. Because they are group homes, they are not the extended residences of the consumers' family members or guardians. Therefore, for family or guardians to gain access to the homes, they should obtain permission from the individuals being served who reside there since it is their home or from the residential staff on duty.

Parents and guardians are always welcome at the home of their loved one, but please keep in mind that the choices in furnishings and amenities (such as televisions, stereos, computers, etc.) are up to the consumers occupying the rooms. Family members and guardians are welcome to assist them in purchasing such items and in decorating their **personal** living areas, including the holidays.

All common areas within the homes are shared by all individuals being served living in the homes and by the residential staff managing and serving in the homes. You are welcome to offer to assist, but please keep in mind that the choices in decorating these common areas are to be given to all the residents and staff living in the homes. Parents or guardians should not provide holiday decorations or any furnishings without obtaining the consent of the Support Managers who will base their decisions on the choices of the individuals being served who live in the homes for all common areas.

We realize that staff turnovers create new relationships and issues for those individuals living in the homes. We ask the family members and guardians of those being served to understand that it takes time to resolve matters and assure that all new staff are fully trained. We ask for and appreciate your patience.



Richard Colyer



## Birthdays

### Staff Birthdays

October	
Ralph Parks	10/3/2005
Teresa Robinson	10/4/2005
Shanavia Valentine	10/4/2005
Lucia Reyes	10/4/2005
Nancy Blankenship	10/4/2005
John Williams	10/5/2005
Bernicia Cody	10/6/2005
Claretha Sheppard	10/8/2005
Peyton Reed	10/10/2005
Susan Wrenn	10/10/2005
Shanita Farlow	10/10/2005
Amy Hines	10/22/2005
Elizabeth Gunhouse	10/26/2005
Avril Williams	10/26/2005
Josphat Mbugua	10/30/2005
Charlene Foote	10/31/2005

### November

Charlene Moss	11/1/2005
Christopher Kamami	11/2/2005
Victoria Best	11/3/2005
Sharon Roberts	11/7/2005
Deborah Rozzell	11/9/2005
Joan Williams	11/12/2005
Roderick Foster	11/15/2005
Seth Quick	11/18/2005
Shirley Pahl	11/19/2005
Lynita Henderson	11/25/2005
Steve Harris	11/26/2005
Jeff Pagano	11/27/2005
Robert Shilt	11/30/2005

### December

Shayaa Muhammad	12/1/2005
LaTaunya Jarrette	12/1/2005
Sunil Jayanna	12/2/2005
Bernard Larkin	12/2/2005
Olugbenga Erinoso	12/4/2005
Maggie Gochett	12/5/2005
Maria Lee	12/6/2005
Natasha Clark	12/7/2005
Grace Muchiri	12/10/2005
Cherlyne Yavo	12/16/2005
Agnes Johnson	12/17/2005
Christi Rickett	12/18/2005
Abigail Kotey	12/18/2005
Toby Adesomi	12/19/2005
Godwin Martins	12/23/2005
Deandria Williams	12/24/2005
Vincent Sampson	12/26/2005
Shona Rosier	12/26/2005
Mary Jane Barsalou	12/27/2005
Jerome Thorpe	12/27/2005
Christine Phillips	12/28/2005
Jameania Ransom	12/30/2005
Stephen Pullie	12/31/2005

### January

Femi Obanor	1/2/2006
Janita Hosch	1/3/2006
Angela Kihara	1/5/2006
Shaniqua Bizzell	1/16/2006
Alice McPherson	1/18/2006
Sheila Singley	1/24/2006

### February

Abraham Erhunmwunse	2/1/2006
Josephine Otigho	2/5/2006
Wakita Cunningham-Jones	2/7/2006
George Esuke	2/9/2006
Lisa Smith	2/10/2006
Timothy Ndaraya	2/12/2006
Francisco Lewis	2/13/2006
Suretha Maxwell	2/13/2006
Joyce Njau	2/17/2006
Iris Akhi-Gbade	2/18/2006
Alberta Daniel	2/19/2006
Bolang Ekokobe	2/22/2006
Gary Chester	2/23/2006
Shayla King	2/27/2006
Smart Essien	2/29/2006
Carol Holman	3/2/2006
Yolanda Freeman	3/5/2006

### March

Sasha-Gay White	3/5/2006
Felton Gay	3/10/2006
Marise Jean-Jacques	3/13/2006
Judy Hyde	3/14/2006
Robert Morgan	3/23/2006
Sheryl Taylor	3/29/2006
Jean Kennedy	3/29/2006
Willie Grove	3/30/2006

### Consumer Birthdays

October	
4th	Denny Calhoun
4th	Gwen Kilburn
6th	Charlie Robinson
15th	Jackie Brantley
16th	Rodney Gary
17th	Eddie Blackmon
22nd	Mark Boehm
24th	Ira Hall
26th	Willis Boyd
30th	Gregory Bishop
30th	Stephen Court
31st	Ira White

### November

3rd	Billy Hughes
5th	Chris Dann
5th	Amy Purcell
8th	Rickie Gary
9th	Greg Crowder
10th	Gina Williams
13th	John Love

### December

2nd	Phyllis Cantrell
7th	John Brady
7th	Brian Adams
8th	L'Henry Alexander
8th	Cathy Curtis
9th	Christina Knight
14th	Robert Aldridge
20th	Bobby Norton
22nd	Seth Barocas
23rd	Denny Mansell
24th	Jack Dowdy
29th	Scott Cooley

### January

3rd	Kathy Sullivan
14th	LaKiysha Franklin
16th	Nancy Swint
21st	Santiel Edwards
28th	Derrick Pittman
30th	Sharon Swift
31st	Richard Frank
31st	Junifer Louis

### February

2nd	Wilbert Banks
2nd	Charles Suggs
11th	John Covington
13th	David Lumpkin
18th	Christel Hayes
19th	Catherine Slaughter
27th	Monteia LeFevre

### March

2nd	Larry Knight
3rd	Sara Dial
3rd	Joseph Parks
4th	Charlene Barlow
4th	Lyle Eichberg
5th	Debbie Bentley
5th	Michael Eubanks
7th	Ernesto Walker
14th	Stuart Utterback
19th	Bill Lewis
26th	Mark Willingham
28th	Steven Inman



## Staff Anniversaries

### October 2005:

Sheryl Sterling	17 Years
Elly Meyer	16 Years
Toby Adesomi	8 Years
Robert Morgan	7 Years
Frank Markham	6 Years
Yolanda Freeman	5 Years
Cherlyne Yavo	4 Years
Charlene Moss	4 Years
Carolyn Hill	2 Years
Jean Sullivan	2 Years
Susan Wrenn	2 Years
Marion Hillman	2 Years
Sunil Jayanna	2 Years
Cecilia Udoinyion	1 Year
Marian Robinson	1 Year

### November 2005:

Shirley Pahl	18 Years
Monica Tory	8 Years
Vincent Sampson	4 Years
Suzanne Payne	4 Years
Demetrius Fryson	2 Years
Roderick Foster	2 Years

### December 2005:

Cynthia Smith-Hickson	9 Years
Peyton Reed	8 Years
Duncan Ngari	3 Years
Olugbenga Erinoso	2 Years

### January 2006:

Gary Chester	8 Years
Jimilah Snead	5 Years
Alice McPherson	3 Years
Lisa Smith	3 Years
Melissa Crawley	2 Years
John Lawler	2 Years
Teresa Robinson	2 Years
Pauline Waweru	2 Years
Shanavia Valentine	2 Years
Bolang Ekokobe	2 Years
Seth Quick	1 Year
Wakia Cunningham-Jones	1 Year
Katedra Brown	1 Year
Shanita Farlow	1 Year
Thomas Holden	1 Year

### February 2006:

Marie Palmieri	8 Years
Willie Grove	7 Years
Alex Tre McDugle	6 Years
Karen Jones	4 Years
Silvia Flockhart	4 Years
Abraham Erhunmwunse	4 Years
Berthe Mbimbe	3 Years
Bernard Larkin	1 Year
Charlene Foote	1 Year

### March 2006

James Moore	16 Years
Maria Lee	10 Years
Trish Holtz	10 Years
Mary Jane Barsalou	9 Years
Steve Harris	9 Years
Amy Hines	7 Years
Jessamy Anderson	7 Years
Regina Whitsett	6 Years
Ralph Goins	4 Years
Claretha Sheppard	3 Years
Rose Prophitt	3 Years
Chad Hunter	3 Years
Jeff Pagano	2 Years
Christi Rickett	2 Years
Judy Hyde	1 Year
Josphat Mbugua	1 Year
Shona Rosier	1 Year
Angela Kihara	1 Year
Vanessa Emerson	1 Year

## RECENT STAFF PROMOTIONS & ADDITIONS

- **Sasha-Gay White** at Crabapple and **Ryan Rice** at Holcomb Bridge are new Support Managers at North Fulton.
- **Shae Dotson** is serving RRA in the role of Client Records & Staff Development Coordinator.
- **Lynette Onsinoy** will begin working on March 1st as the new Coordinator of Supported Employment at both North and South Fulton offices, responsible for developing a strong Supported Employment program for those we serve who desire mainstream employment.
- **Letitia (Tish) Ford** has just been hired to serve as Executive Assistant to Richard Colyer, DeAnn Rauth, and John Lawler. She will be starting her new position on March 20th. ♦

## MEDICARE PART D

By Marcia Helton, Staff Nurse

All consumers who are eligible have been enrolled in the appropriate Medicare Part D program to cover their prescription needs. If you have questions or concerns about this, please feel free to contact RRA's Staff Nurse, Marcia Helton at 770.664.4347, Ext. 104. ♦





- AZALEA DRIVE**  
 Living room furniture  
**BARRINGTON LANDING**  
 Latch Hook Kits  
 Paper & Paints  
 Stone Mountain Parking Pass  
**BENJAMIN E. MAYS**  
 Coffee table and end tables  
 DVD player  
 Kitchen curtains  
**BRANCHWOOD**  
 Coffee table and end tables  
 Lamps  
 Television  
 Large decorative rug  
 DVD player  
 Futon Mattress  
 New Bedroom furniture for Nancy Swint

- COLD CREEK**  
 New Van for transporting consumers

- COLONY DRIVE**  
 Tickets to Brave/Hawks games

- CRABAPPLE**  
 Flooring and cabinet restoration  
 Carpet Shampoo Machine  
 A new or gently used van

- DENNA DRIVE**  
 Curtains and draperies for the dining room windows from Penneys

- DIXIE LAKE**  
 Roll-a-Ramp for wheelchairs  
 Screen door  
 Sofa, Loveseat and coffee table  
 Futon mattress for sleep over Support Staff  
 DVD player

- DODSON DRIVE**  
 Television for Robert Aldridge's room

- EAST HEMBREE**  
 Patio Furniture  
 New flooring for the kitchen and hallway

- HOLCOMB BRIDGE**  
 Marching band type drum for Scott

- LEGACY 213**  
 Microwave

- LOWER DIXIE LAKE**  
 Deck swing or glider  
 Futon mattress for sleep over Support Staff  
 Full size mattress set  
 Television for den  
 New den furniture

- LYNNE CIRCLE**  
 Armoire for Dwayne  
 Puzzles  
 Printer  
 White Towels/Wash Cloths

- PINE GROVE**  
 Stone Mountain Parking Pass

- TOLLWOOD**  
 Refinish kitchen cabinets  
 Replace kitchen flooring

- SEVERAL HOMES**  
 Front Loading Washers & Dryers for those homes serving individuals in wheel chairs. Please call for information on which homes could use these.

- ALL HOMES**  
 Tickets to Sporting Events, Stone Mountain Park, Six Flags, Lake Lanier Islands, etc.  
 Pots and pans, silverware, towels

If you would like to help any of these wishes come true by donating an item or money to purchase one, contact Shirley Pahl at 770-664-4347, ext. 109 or DeAnn Rauth at 678.468.9980. You can also send your check made payable to RRA Foundation. Please indicate what the gift is for and mail to: RRA, 1200 Old Ellis Road, Roswell, GA 30076. **Thank you!** ♦



## A SPECIAL NEED TO ENHANCE DAY SUPPORT SERVICES AT BOTH NORTH AND SOUTH FULTON

Can you imagine thirty to forty individuals with developmental disabilities of various types all working, receiving training, doing crafts, and the like in one single large room? It's not a good or safe situation for anyone we serve! Some need quietness and calmness in order to focus on what they are doing. Others love to talk and make as much noise as they can. This often leads to difficult situations that none of us would want to tolerate. We desperately need to change this as soon as possible!

Our immediate goal is to install folding or accordian style walls (similar to what you often see in hotels or churches that can give flexible separation to the Day Support Service facilities at both North and South Fulton creating separate classroom and work space areas. **The more sound proofing they can offer, the better!**

If you would like to help with these strategic needs, please call DeAnn Rauth at 678.468.9980! Additional Wish List Items for Day Support Services follow:

### WISH LISTS FOR DAY SERVICES

- To donate any of the following items for Day Support Services at **North**, please call 770.664.4347 for Ralph Parks at Ext. 127 or DeAnn Rauth at 678.468.9980.*
- Two sturdy folding tables for use as classroom setting (*The white ones from Sam's Club work well!*)
  - Good sturdy and comfortable folding chairs that can be used in a classroom setting or other places (*The white ones from Sam's Club work well!*)
  - Miniblinds for windows
  - Books on bird watching, bird feeder, geography (maps) fiction, Bible stories
  - Two or three hotel narrow seminar-style tables for use in a new computer training lab.

*To donate any of the following items for Day Support Services at **South**, please call Samuel Surtain at 404.684.5991, Ext. 27 or DeAnn Rauth at 678.468.9980.*

- Gated fence for new garden area outside of Day Support Services
- Bird feeders, bird watching books
- Electronic learning equipment for computers
- Two gas grills
- Shades that soften the light from fluorescent fixtures

**Both Day Support Services at both North and South Fulton** can always use paper, appropriate math books and reading books, pencils, arts and crafts supplies, activity materials, paints, brushes, and canvases, table games, large print Bingo games, jumbo puzzles, and simple sporting equipment, balls, and other sports supplies. Please help provide these if you can! Or ask your church, Sunday School class, or civic organization to help as well. Thanks! ♦

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS!

- Kim Pisor** – Canon (LBP-45X) Laser Beam Printer  
**Bill Gordon** – Single bed, rug and work bench  
**Kay Pinkston** – 2 lamps, 2 pictures, storage box, and bedroom set  
**Galen & Anna Kilburn** – 36" Sony TV, 3 men's sports jackets, 3 men's shirts, 5 men's pants and 2 bags of clothes  
**Brian & Christi Rickett** – Men's dress pants, men's dress shirts, men's causal pants, men's causal shirts(polo) and a lady's jewelry box and 1 men's sweater  
**Robert & Charlene Padgett** – Men's dress pants, men's dress shirts, men's sweaters, and men's causal shirts  
**Bob & Melanie Agualine** – Lawn furniture, office desk & credenza and office chair  
**Faye Cole** – Men's and ladies clothes  
**Sam & Kay Briggs** – Futon bed/sofa & bedding, 9 drawer chest of drawers, small bookcase, 2-2 drawer wood file cabinets, office chair, 3 timers for lights, 27" TV, 5 shovels and 2 rakes, wooden ladder, tools – metric and fractional wrenches and sockets, screw drivers, chisels, 50 ft long outdoor extension cord, 2 long handled bush trimmers, electric hedge trimmer, lawn edger- rechargeable battery – rechargeable wall mount, bed and mattress, CPU, monitor, computer games, printer, silverware, office desk chair, 20" TV and cart, 2 cart/tables, ¼" electric drill and 50 drill bits, electric power saw, saber saw, electric chain saw, 2 women's jackets, 2 wool hats, exercise bike, large wooden desk and hutch, computer keyboard, and mouse, and surge protector  
**Art Eckman** – Christmas decorations  
**Doug & Susan DeMoura** – 2 Christmas trees and assorted Christmas decorations  
**Sid & Cindy Theus** – Christmas tree, assorted Christmas decorations, Christmas wreath, 2 televisions  
**Scott** – 3 beds, 2 bikes, box of videos, fish tank and croquet set  
**Mike Fegley** –RATTAN furniture including a large couch, a large chair, ottoman, a round coffee table, and an end table  
**Pat Orem** – Computer and printer  
**Jerrell Anderson** – Washer and dryer  
**Brenda Wadell** – Two sofas  
**Margie Pouier** – Sofa, TV stand, 2 speakers and pictures  
**Eric Leichty** – Carpet steamer/cleaner and clothes  
**Mr. & Mrs. John Callen** – Tennis mugs  
**Dwaine & Shirley Setzer** – Framed and matted prints, rugs, furniture, home decorative items and dishes  
**Pat Brake** – Electric typewriter and cheese  
**Lynne & John Buchanan** – Furniture and other miscellaneous items from Marjorie Buchanan  
**Evan & Aaron Palmieri** – For making 120 valentines for those we serve at RRA



### Behavioral Concerns

*Outcomes:*  
*People are respected.*  
*People interact with other members of the community.*  
*People have friends.*  
*People are safe.*

In our commitment to helping consumers achieve happy, fulfilling, and productive lives, we obtain the counsel of a well-trained behavioral specialist to guide us and to train the staff in matters of assisting various consumers in developing better behavior patterns. We request that the family members cooperate with RRA and its staff and support actions in place to improve behavioral matters regarding those being served. This would include following behavioral support plans when the consumers are visiting in your home or possibly even limiting home visits while behavioral concerns are being addressed.

### Medical Concerns

*Outcomes:*  
*People have the best possible health.*  
*People are safe.*

We ask that family members follow medical protocols for those being served by RRA in place by their physicians and pharmacies when they are visiting their homes. Advice or concerns in this area should be addressed to the Coordinator of Support Services or Staff Nurse. ORS requires a prescription/doctor's order for any medication to be taken. This includes over-the-counter medications, vitamin supplements, herbs, etc. Family members and guardians must also comply with this regulation. Introduction of any new medication needs to be made via a prescription/doctor's order along with notification to RRA's staff nurse. It is unsafe for medications to be presented at the home without a doctor's knowledge. This regulation also ensures medical monitoring beyond the residential home itself, i.e. physicians, pharmacy, staff nurse, and Coordinators of Support Services.

It is natural for family members and guardians to be concerned about the medical well being of their loved one. However, if RRA determines that changes in the medical protocols being requested by family members are not in the best interests of the individual being served, we expect the family members and guardians to follow the advice and protocols recommended by RRA's nurse after her consultation with the physicians of those we support.

### Vocational Concerns

*Outcomes:*  
*People are satisfied with their personal life situations.*  
*People choose personal goals.*  
*People participate in the life of the community.*  
*People exercise rights.*  
*People are treated fairly.*  
*People experience continuity and security.*

RRA will always seek to honor and assist those being served in achieving their own personal outcomes, goals, and desires. We purposely serve as advocates for the consumers.

When this involves their work choices and opportunities, we will seek to honor the wishes and needs of the individuals being served.

When possible, and it is the choice of the individuals served to work in supported employment opportunities, RRA will assist them in obtaining jobs and providing job coaching to enable them to be successful on their jobs.

For some individuals, it is their choice or in their best interest to utilize Day Support Services. Once again, RRA provides sufficient staff to support them in achieving their outcomes and in receiving the training they desire and need for success in their daily work experience.

### Day Community Activity Concerns

*Outcomes:*  
*People interact with other members of the community.*  
*People have friends.*  
*People experience continuity and security.*

Some individuals served finish their supported employment or return from North Fulton Training Center before their residential support staff is on duty. When this occurs, Day Community Activities are provided at homes served by RRA both in North Fulton and South Fulton designed for this purpose. Special support staff is provided for the Day Community Activities program to provide consumers with various opportunities for outings, activities, crafts, and other similar beneficial programs. Concerns in this area should follow the same chain of command as that listed in the Vocational Support services plan outlined earlier.

RRA's goal is to provide the individuals we are privileged to serve with very high quality services that help them achieve their personal outcomes and desires. We want those services to be as seamless as possible between residential support and the vocational support services. To achieve that goal, we also need the full cooperation and

participation of the family members and guardians of those we support.

In signing this Support Services Family Covenant, you are hereby agreeing to give your full cooperation to RRA in all these matters and in resolving concerns or issues that you face regarding your loved one we support.

### Resolution of Concerns

We ask that all family members or guardians follow this chain of command when wanting to resolve matters relating to their family members served by RRA.

- First, we ask that family members or guardians communicate their concerns and desires and to seek to resolve any matters with the support staff on duty in the Group Home and/or in Day Services and/or the Support Manager as soon as it is convenient.
- Next, if further help is needed, contact the Coordinator of Support Services supervising the Support Manager and staff serving in that area.
- In the past, we understand some family members or guardians have feared retaliation against their loved one. Our commitment is to keep this from happening at all times. Should this ever be the case, it will be cause for immediate dismissal of the guilty employee.
- The third step is to take the matter to the Director of Support Services at either the North Fulton office or South Fulton office, as appropriate, and seek resolution.
- Fourth, if a matter of concern is not resolved by the Director of Support Services, please make contact with the Senior Director of Support Services, who oversees all of Support Services.
- Finally, if the previous steps don't achieve the result desired, feel free to take the matter to RRA's President/Executive Director who will convene a committee of the Board of Directors to review the situation with all parties involved and make a final decision.

The **SUPPORT SERVICES FAMILY COVENANT** will be mailed to all family member/guardian contact persons in the near future for signature. Our goal is to promote improved communication and to give support staff the opportunities to care for areas of concern to family members and guardians in an affirming way, at the point closest to where the service and/or concern can be remedied.

We believe the above method of resolving concerns will go a long way towards helping parents, family members, and guardians know how best to handle situations when they come up and get the help they need in the quickest possible way. We hope you will appreciate this effort and suport it! **Thank you.**



# 18TH ANNUAL GALA HELD AT THE CROWNE PLAZA RAVINIA HOTEL ON FEBRUARY 4TH — “CELEBRATING THE MANY FACES OF RRA!”

The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual GALA will be marked in the RRA “History Book” as the one to remember! This year the GALA made a few changes that definitely proved to be successful. First, we were very fortunate to secure our first *Presenting Sponsor* with the **InterContinental Hotels Group** and many other valuable sponsors, whose names are listed on the opposite page.

Guest began arriving and had pens in hand and ready to bid! People were crowded around the silent auction tables admiring the many trips, household items, sports memorabilia and so much more.

Guests sat down to a wonderful dinner and soon the evening program began. It was a very moving program as Melissa Crawley, Rickie Gary, Marshall Port and Alfred Cole shared stories about their accomplishments, wishes and people who are important in their lives.

The next highlight of the evening was when RRA President, Richard Colyer announced the winner of the Tex Crossin Award. As many of you may remember, this award is given each year to one person who truly makes a difference in the lives of the clients at RRA and was established in memory of our late Executive Director, Tex Crossin. We were very pleased to have Alfred Cole announce that the winner of this award for 2006 was his good friend, Mr. Tom Davis.

After the evening program Art Eckman and Jeff Hamling got the live auction up and rolling. This year, the verbal auction raised over \$47,000! We had many exciting items, such as a week long stay at a lovely villa in Tuscany, and autographed guitar from Alan Jackson and so much more. The most exciting items were those given to us by the people we support. Alfred Cole auctioned off playing a round of golf with him at Crooked Creek, Marshall Port donated an original painting of his artwork “Fireworks,” and Leigh Smith, Lisa Espinosa, Bill Lewis, Bobby Brock and Bobby Norton (with the help of RRA staff members, Christi Rickett and Rose Prohitt, and former staff, Nandeen Pagano), created a beautiful concrete table and two benches that were hand painted, tiled and grouted – a true piece of art! The three items alone raised \$22,700!

Another new item this year was the selling of two hundred raffle tickets for \$100 each. The winner, Brad Johnson, received two round-trip business class tickets on Delta Airlines and five-night accommodations in Paris or Rome (winner’s choice) at the lovely InterContinental Hotel in either city.

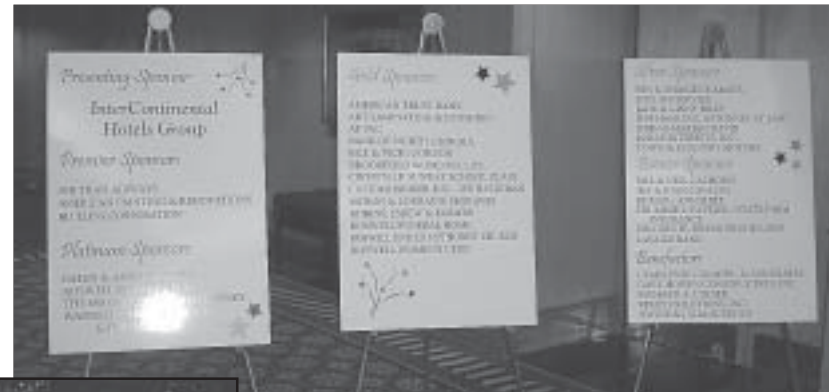
After the live auction, Java Monkey kept the guests on their feet while others keep the bids running on the silent auction. As the evening got later and the bids kept getting higher and higher all the people who had worked so hard to make this event a success had large dollar signs in their minds and smiles on their faces for RRA.

Due to the support of InterContinental Hotels Group, our other sponsors and donors, the many contributors for the verbal and silent auctions, and a fabulous host committee, and people who attend with their wallets wide-open, we are very pleased to report that we raised over \$170,000! The is a \$66,000 increase from last year, so as we said earlier – it is a night to go down into the RRA “History Books!”

The dollars raised at this event will be used for the many repairs that are in great need, such as bathroom repairs, rebuilding decks, serious mold damage, roof, chimney, and gutter repairs and the list goes on and on for RRA’s twenty-three group homes and respite house. All combined these repairs total around \$380,000. We also hope to complete the build out of the remaining warehouse facilities at the north headquarters to make classrooms available for training and for the Supported Employment Training program for a cost of \$115,000 through other fund-raising this year.

A great big “THANK YOU!” again to all of those who volunteered their time to make this event such an exciting and successful year. I hope each of you will mark your calendar to attend this fun event next year on Saturday, March 3, 2007 again at the Crown Plaza Ravinia Hotel. ♦

-- By DeAnn Rauth, Director of Development



**Photos:**

**Top:** Display of Gala Sponsors as guests entered the ballroom.

**Left:** Vicki Gordon, Senior Vice President, Corporate Affairs for the InterContinental Hotels Group and Anne Brown, President, The Project Company, who assisted in planning and coordinating the auction.

**Center:** Atlanta Brave Andruw Jones with RRA consumers, John David and Matthew McWhorter.

**Right:** Tex Crossin Award Winner, Tom Davis, with his daughter, Julie, and Alfred Cole, who is served by RRA.



**Photos:**

**Left:** The beautiful mosaic tile table and benches, carrying the Gala theme, “Celebrating the Many Faces of RRA” and the words, “Dreams” and “Happiness” done by RRA consumers, Leigh Smith, Bill Lewis, Lisa Espinosa, Bobby Brock, and Bobby Norton, with the purchasers, Victor and Angie Smith.

**Right:** RRA Consumer, Marshall Port, with his beautiful oil painting “Fireworks” with the purchasers, John and Lynne Buchanan.

**Bottom:** RRA founder, Ginny Riley, with her husband Jack Riley and their son, Bruce Riley, who is served by RRA.

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