



FRAGA GAB



Family Resource Agency of North Georgia

April 2011

Staff Of The Month



Ann York is Center Supervisor at Valley Point HS and Dalton High EHS.

Staff of the Month for April is Ann York, Center Supervisor at Valley Point HS and Dalton High EHS.

"Ann is very prompt in getting tasks done which helps our center run very smoothly and efficiently.

Ann demonstrates great work ethics. She is very understanding and considerate of the staff, she meets all deadline. Ann is always willing to help others.

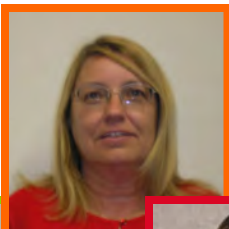
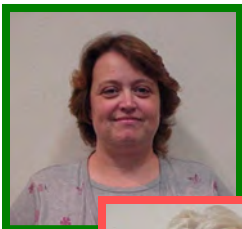
She really shows care and concern for the children and families. Ann is a "people person" and anyone who knows her loves her. Ann worked especially hard to get Valley Point "up and running again."

Thank you so much, Ann, for all that you do!

CAUGHT in the Act

Sharon Lyons, Joyce Williams, Billie Beebe, Ashly Smith, Debbie Bowers, and Caroline Ware (pictured left to right, below), all took two minute restroom breaks to allow the infant classroom teachers to be able to take a full break recently when the Center was short staffed. That shows true team-

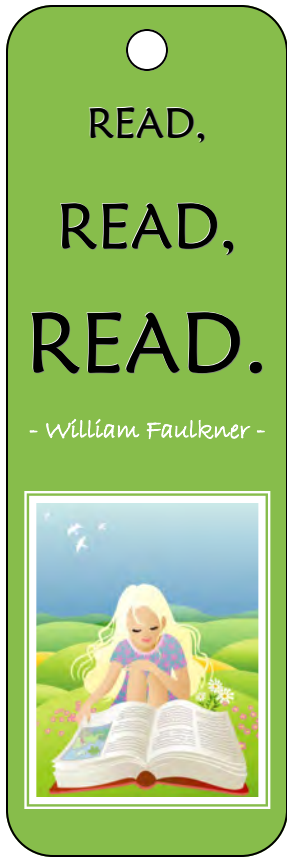
work and caring for your coworkers! We appreciate you! ~Sherry Williams and Kim Davis, Mountain View HS/EHS/Pre-K.



IN THIS ISSUE

From The Director's Desk	2
Paula's Point of View	2
Melissa's Page	2
Think Pink!	3
Special Projects News	3
Center Stage	3
Quality Corner	4
More Center Stage	4

April 30th marks the end of GHSA's On Target For Reading program. Clip out this bookmark, add a ribbon, & read, Read, READ!





From The Director's Desk

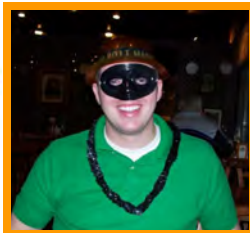
By Rebecca Fulham, Director

Funding: Congress has still not been able to come up with a compromise that they can put in place for the budget - either for this fiscal year or the next year. So there is no news yet on funding. I will send out an email with any announcements that are made.

EHS: Thank you to all of you who mentored the staff from our sister Head Start program in Cleveland. They received an EHS grant this year for the first time as part of their Expansion funding and they came down to "shadow" and meet with our EHS staff to assist them in setting up and implementing their EHS program. The Tennessee Head Start staff were very appreciative of the help they received from our program and they had great results on their Federal Review! Thank you to all of you who assisted!

Monitoring: Since we received commendations from the Review Team and our Regional Office on our excellent system for monitoring of the program, I have been looking at how we monitor and the role of the Quality Monitors in providing support to center staff. I am so proud to be able to say that the scores and results of our monitoring - of education, family service and CACFP - prove that we are, indeed, a "high functioning" program. And we have had no facility issues on licensing reports since the review. Center staff are, as James Anderson says, where the "rubber meets the road". It is your high level of performance and dedication to the concept of Head Start that has made us a quality program. Thank you for your commitment to excellence!

CM Retreat. Hard to believe another year has almost passed and, with it, another CM Retreat! Each year, the Child Development department goes on a retreat to work on various aspects of team building and how we can improve ourselves as leaders and, in turn, influence our child development programs in positive ways. This year's theme was **Weaving Connections in a New Year**. We spent half a day at Sheltering Arms Georgia Training Institute in Atlanta, GA doing team building activities and classroom observations in Head Start, Early Head Start, and Pre-K. We even had homework! All the staff that attended received information about Team Building Strategies and Solutions that we can apply — everyone found something (or several somethings!) that they could use to "bring the retreat experience home for everyone". Retreats aren't all work, though — as you can see below! We're looking forward to a great 2011 as we bridge from this program year to the next.



Riddle me this, Batman! Does Joseph Burrage, CM have an alter ego we should know about?!



Can you "unmask" the new Child Development Staff?



Pictured L to R are: Amy Turner, Joseph Burrage, Martha Baker, Stacy Long, Maria Ortega-Valdovinos, Gidget Griffin, Ann York, and Bridgette Tinson.

Paula's Point Of View

By Paula Bacon, Assistant Director



It's hard to believe the end of the school year is only a couple of months away. Plans are already being made for Parent Appreciation Day and for Staff Appreciation Day, as well as beginning the planning process for the NEXT school year! One major event coming up in the 2011-12 school year is the deadline for the education mandate for Head Start Teachers to have an AA degree. We are very close to having everyone completed by the beginning of the new year. If you have not gotten the AA degree yet, please be sure to stay on track so you will meet the requirement! For the HS Teachers who already have the AA degree, now is the time to get started on your BA degree. The HS mandate is that 50% of the HS Teachers must have a BA degree by October 1, 2013. This is only a couple of years away and it will take about that long to complete your degrees. Please contact Becky Goins for more information on colleges and universities that are working with Head Start to help reach this goal. Remember, your individual professional development plan is designed to help you set goals for reaching these requirements and Becky is a great resource for helping you make your plans.



Melissa's Page

By Melissa Hankins, Child Development Coordinator

CM Retreat 2011!



Think Pink!

By Teresa Millican, Program Coordinator

April is Child Abuse Prevention month. As mandated reporters, we have the responsibility to report any suspicion we have about a child that potentially has been abused or neglected. Beyond reporting, however, it is our privilege to share great parenting tips with families that may help them understand what is typical for the age child they have and also help them understand how to cope with those many challenges. We also need to be aware that a large group of children who are abused or neglected are children with disabilities. Thank you for being so supportive of those families and mentoring them too. April is also Autism awareness month, and we celebrate the Week of the Young Child too. We celebrate all our young children, and know that special needs kids are just kids!

Thank you to Amanda Leverrett at Lakeview for helping out since there has been a turn-over in staff recently. She has really done a lot of extra work and always has such a cheerful attitude!

Thank you Alba Gonzalez and Annette Caliz for translating for us so efficiently.

Daphney Price at Dalton Heritage and Isabel Fuentes at Chattooga have been receiving great responses from their Crayon Pals in kindergarten this year. It is exciting to see such enthusiasm from our friends in the school systems.

Dade HS/EHS. This week the children at Dade HS/EHS celebrated Dr. Seuss' birthday in fine style. The center was decorated and stories were read all week long. Pictured (left) is M.J., who wanted to be called "Mary Loo Who" for the special day. A special thanks to Kohl's Department Store for donating books and stuffed Seuss animals for all the children. ~Charlotte Cuticchia, CM.

As Dr. Seuss says...

**The more that you read,
The more things you will know.**



Special Projects News

By Debbie McKissick, Special Projects Coordinator



KUDOS go out to Retha Aters, Kim Gardner, Donna Blevins, and Eva Neil for the program having "no findings" on the annual audit of enrollment eligibility. **CONGRATULATIONS!**

Also **CONGRATULATIONS** to Dalton Heritage HS and Tiger Creek HS. Both centers received "no cites" during their recent licensing visits. Excellent work!

Just a few **REMINDERS:**

NAEYC Week of the Young Child is April 11-15, 2011.

Our annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon is April 29th from 11:00am—1:00pm

Mountain View HS/EHS/Pre-K. We have a lot going on at Mountain View! We celebrated Dr. Seuss's birthday during the week of February 28th—March 4th. We had our very own "Dr. Seuss" (Kim Cordell, top right below) visit our center to read to the children. She went in each classroom and outside on the playground to read to them. The children loved it — they had so much fun! Thanks to all the staff for making this week and all the other weeks of the year fun for the children. ~Lisa Payne-Rice, CM.

Westside HS/EHS. Mr. Martes, Westside Elementary School Principal (bottom right below), dressed up as the Cat In The Hat and came to read a book to the HS rooms to celebrate Dr. Seuss's Birthday. The children were so attentive and excited. They kept asking him to balance the fish in a

bowl on his head just like he did in the book. I would also like to give a huge THANK YOU to all the staff at Westside EHS/HS for a great welcoming as their new CM. Everyone has been so cooperative and nice throughout the transition. I look forward to great and exciting things as your new CM! ~Kaye Ralston, CM.



**Family Resource Agency
of North Georgia**

403 Chickamauga Avenue, Suite 201
Rossville, GA 30741

Tel: 706.861.0105
Fax: 706.861.3627



www.fragahs.com

Wow! We can't believe how fast this year is flying by! Things are starting to wind down for the end of the year and we are finishing our classroom visits. During our visits, we have seen so many fun and creative classroom activities that we thought it would be great to form a committee to gather some of those ideas to form a lesson plan resource book — made by YOU, the teachers! Stay tuned for more info in the coming months!

QUALITY

CORNER

~ Submitted by
Betsy Taggart
and
Martha Baker,
Quality Monitors

- 1 Melissa Greene
- 2 Betty Jackson
- 3 Steven Anderson
- 4 Georgia Gillean
- 6 Jennifer Wiley
- 9 Mercedes Queen
- 10 Glenn Elrod
- 11 Ernestine Bonaparte
- 12 Tiffany Mills
- 13 Brenda Burgess
- 14 Joyce Anderson
- 19 Darlene Carver
- 20 Sherri Williams
- 22 Charlotte Cuticchia
- 23 Debbie McKissick
- 24 Angela Fowler
- 24 Marie Newborn
- 25 Sandra Boydston

**A
P
R
I
L**



Dalton Heritage HS. Congratulations for the No Findings on their monitor visit. Your hard work paid off. GREAT JOB!!! ~Stephanie Mitchell, CM.

Whitfield HS/EHS, Valley Point HS, and Dalton High EHS. Thank you to the staff for all of your TEAM WORK and dedication to the program. As the end of the year approaches it's easy to get burned out, but your hard work and commitment to the children and families does not go unnoticed. I appreciate all you do!! ~Stephanie Mitchell, CM.

Dade HS/EHS. Happy Spring from Clara at Dade EHS (see picture below)! We are so proud of Clara and her teachers for the progress they've made this year. Congratulations, Clara — great job! We are proud of all of your hard work! ~Submitted by Teresa Millican, Program Coordinator/Disabilities/Mental Health.



*You will find as you
Look back upon your life,
That the moments
That stand out,
The moments
You have really lived,
Are the moments
You have done things
In the spirit of LOVE.*

~Henry Drummond

Why did the bunny eat the wedding ring?
Because he heard it was 18 carrots!

How many rabbits does it take to change a light bulb?
Only one — if he hops right to it!

Why did the bunny build a new house?
She was fed up with the hole thing!



Have a Happy, Hoppo Spring!