

Supports

A 21 Plus Vocational Service Publication

3rd Quarter 2011 July- September

Announcements

- LATC phone number is 732-364-0555
- MSATC phone number is 732-341-0863
- Supported Employment's phone number is 732-240-3118 Ext 13
- Tayo Makinde, Program Director
732-341-1464
tmakinde@21plus.org
- Loren Gudzak, Family Support Coordinator
732-240-3118 x 29
FSC@21plus.org
- Inclement weather will be announced on radio station WOBN 92.7

November and December closing dates

MSATC and LATC

**November 11
November 24 & 25,
December 23 & 26**

From the Desk of Tayo Makinde

Program Director

As the year is coming to a close our Adult Training programs continue to work hard on crew jobs, volunteer opportunities and craft creations. We seem to be right on target, adapting to schedule changes and changing our traditional work hours, we have become open for new clientele.

Keeping that in mind, we are preparing for the holiday season with new holiday gift items for sale. Additionally, don't forget to contact us in regard to our gift wrapping services. Let us make the holiday a little easier for you!

With the holidays approaching, we will also see the weather change, so please refer to our handbook regarding the inclement weather policy on keeping clients home.

Here are a few reminder tips for the inclement weather:

- a. Dress in layers. Avoid pure cotton, linen, or other similar materials, however, because these fabrics retain moisture and will chill you.
- b. Layer a knit sweater or sweatshirt over the top of the first layer.
- c. Add your coat or jacket as the top layer. It is usually a good idea to get a coat that has a waterproof or water-resistant outside layer, especially if you will be exposed to rain, sleet, hail or snow.
- d. Wrap a scarf around your neck and pull it snug. You may want to tuck it into your coat for added warmth. You can also pull the scarf over your mouth to guard against the cold air.
- e. Put your hat or cap on before going outside. You may also want to consider ear-muffs if you don't have a hat that covers your ears.
- f. Keep your hands warm with gloves or mittens. Again, if you are going to be in the snow or rain, waterproof gloves are preferable

Main Street Adult Training Center

VOLUNTEERING AT THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

MSATC participants have been volunteering at the Monmouth/Ocean Red Cross office in Tinton Falls for many years. Recently, they asked for our assistance in preparing for their recent fundraiser, "Rock 'N Roll Ride Tour." Bill B., Kim R., Lois H. and Dolores M. arrived at the Red Cross office prepared to offer their assistance. They worked diligently folding hundreds of brochures, which highlighted the specifics of the upcoming event.

In addition to the self-gratification and purpose the team felt, their efforts were greatly appreciated by the American Red Cross. A letter of commendation was extended to each of the participants in recognition of their volunteer efforts. Please read the following excerpt from the letter: "You had a great team! We can get our brochures out to everyone so our "Rock 'N Roll Ride Tour" will be a success. Please thank everyone in the team for a job well done."



CRAFT CORNER

We are gearing up for a very busy fall and winter holidays. We are now making warm and cozy fleece scarves. We have several styles and many colors to choose from. We are making more of the very popular fabric wreaths. We are pleased to take special orders on colors of your choice for scarves and wreaths. Please give us a call at MSATC: 732-341-0863, and ask for Candi, Dottie, or Dale and we will be happy to take your order.

We successfully completed a special order for 21Plus Site Manager Leah Dempsey's wedding. We made 300 chocolate candy pops in 2 flavors and 2 designs, the bride

and groom. We individually wrapped each one and then tied them with personalized ribbon. To display the wedding favors we also made two festively decorated candy pop holders. Leah told us they were a big hit at her wedding.



On October 15 we attended the Silverton Fire Dept. Poker Run and Vendor/Craft Fair. All day, participants would stop by the table and proudly point out all the different crafts they had made.

Our fleece scarves were very popular with customers, especially the animal prints.



We will be attending the Brick High School Holiday Craft Fair on Cedar Bridge Rd, Bricktown on November 19 from 10am until 4pm.

See you there!

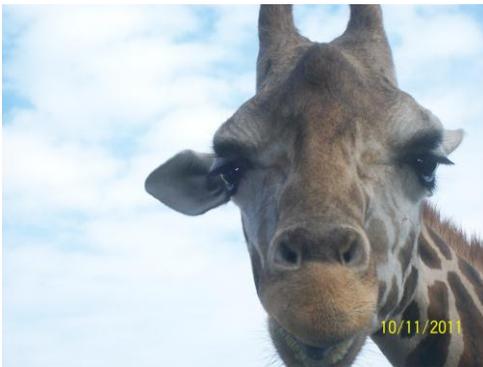
ANIMAL KINGDOM

Dale and participants Janet H., Nancy W., Carol D., and Bill B planned an exciting and educational trip to the Animal Kingdom in Bordentown, N.J. This was their first visit to the refuge for endangered animals and everyone was full of anticipation as they entered the zoo's education room.

They learned all about the thirteen different endangered animals that call Animal Kingdom their home. The zoo is home to Tapirs, Mandrill baboons, Columbus monkeys, Spot Nosed Guenon and Lemurs, just to name a few.

Camels and giraffes also call this kingdom their home. Everyone was amazed at how big and friendly they were and stunning to see from just three feet away. Nancy was having the time of her life feeding the different types of monkeys, while James stood in awe of the three-toed Sloth that came to sit in front of him in his enclosure. Bill loved the bird section. These were the most beautiful birds anyone had ever seen.

This was a day filled with observing, learning and sharing the wonderful adventure into worlds we may never see anywhere else. A great day filled with memories was had by all.



HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Please join MSATC staff and participants at our Holiday Open House, December 9, 2011, 1:00pm until 3:00pm. John Torresi, from Gold Medal Entertainment, will lead everyone in festive holiday music that is sure to have everyone up from their chairs and dancing. The participants will be serving light refreshments afterwards. Our beautiful crafts will be on display for your holiday shopping pleasure. For those participants needing to take the bus home, Ocean Ride has generously offered to drive participants home at 2:30PM. Please join us!

Lakewood Adult Training Center

JENKINSON'S AQUARIUM

Upon arriving at Jenkinson's Aquarium, Jason and Ursula decided they would go watch feeding time with the seals

first. Jason was excited as he watched the lady feed the two seals and then watch them do tricks. Next it was on to the touch tank, where Jason and Ursula touched a turtle. Ursula's face lit up with amusement as she approached the penguins. They watched the penguins for a while. At the shark tank Ursula noticed one of the sharks was missing a portion of his tail and she asked an aquarium host about it. The host discussed the eating habits of sharks and how mistakes happen. She stated the shark would recover and said to come back in a few weeks to check on it.

Ursula and Jason enjoyed a good laugh about a lizard with a black tongue that looked like he was making weird faces as he lashed his tongue out.

On our day trip to the aquarium Ursula and Jason saw and learned about many new things and enjoyed themselves very much.

PUMPKIN PICKING

On October 10th Mark, Sean, John, Ursula and Crissy went to Silverton Farms to go pumpkin picking. When we arrived at Silverton Farm we were greeted by the farmer, Lori. She welcomed us to the farm and explained what the facility had to offer. Lori told us that they had chickens, goats, and sheep.

She also pointed out that they grew all kinds of vegetables. Everyone was excited to see the farm animals.

We went to see the sheep and the goat. The farmer came by to tell us that it was ok to feed the animals grass. Everyone enjoyed feeding them. We proceeded to the pumpkin patch. Everyone took their time to pick just the right pumpkin. We all enjoyed going to the farm that day, and hope to go back soon.

SIX FLAGS

September brought to close another successful season for our Six Flags employees. Dawn, Holly, and Pat worked long, hard hours throughout the summer at The Character Café.

Each day they would arrive at work eager to get started. If stationed in the back of the kitchen their job was to gather the items for the hamburgers, such as, lettuce, tomato and pickles; put them on the bun, and set them aside to wait for the burger. Outside on the patio their job would be to clear and wipe the tables, as well as sweep the patio.

Inside they would wipe tables and fill condiment jars and bins. All jobs were completed with a great customer service attitude, helping patrons when they could and directing them where they needed to be, always done with a smile.

Dawn, Holly, and Pat never complained as each day they walked from the back employee parking lot through the entire park to their designated job, even when it was hot or raining. They all maintained their regular work hours at the ATC completing jobs and tasks they were assigned, as if their schedules never changed. Although the hours were late and the days were long, another successful season was had. They are all looking forward to another season at Six Flags next year.



Family Support Services

TASTES OF THE WORLD

From the fragrant, sultry smells of India to the fresh and artistic delights of Japan, those joining our Restaurant Review: "Tastes of the World Club" will be engaging in more than their taste buds in each month's featured culture.

Each month our group will meet to first discuss and learn about the culture, their customs, dress, traditions, etc. However, it has been said that "the best way to get to know a country or culture is through their food," and so the group will then set out on a journey to experience the culture via a local restaurant to further explore the culture they just learned about, however, now engaging all five senses, especially TASTE!

The club is a great way to try new types of foods and hang out with friends. The club meets the first Monday of each month. Preregistration is required. Call our Family Support Coordinator if you have any question or would like to join.

TUESDAY SOCIAL

In November, Family Support will launch its Tuesday Socials. This club is geared towards individuals 16-22 years old. The first few times meeting, the group will stay at our meeting location. Here we will enjoy playing games, watching movies, listening to music, socializing and much more. After we get know each other, we will take the club on the road. We will be able to enjoy going to the movies, bowling, sporting events and other entertainment. These trips will depend on the wishes of the group. Please contact our Family Support Coordinator with any questions.

Supportive Employment Services

While the economy makes obtaining new jobs for our folks difficult, this has not stopped one of our clients from obtaining new skills and expanding within her current job. Penny Pierson has been with 21 Plus' Supported Employment Program since 2003, when she was hired on at the ShopRite in Jackson as a bagger.

Penny is a bright, quick learner and while she may like to joke around with customers and coworkers, she is serious when it comes to her job tasks. Penny's sister-in-law is a wonderful advocate for her and knows Penny's potential. During Penny's last IHP it was suggested that perhaps Penny would do well in the task of "shopping" the store and to discuss adding this task to Penny's job tasks during her shifts.

Shopping the store consists of going up and down each aisle to collect those items that are out of place due to customers leaving unwanted items wherever. Once collected, the items are brought up front and sorted into separate carts by the aisle they belong in. The Employment Specialist thought this was a great idea and was grateful to the ShopRite front end management that approved the idea and allowed Penny to start training on the task with Employment Specialist right away. To have such a supportive and flexible management team at the place of employment for our folks is so important to their growth, both mentally and emotionally; and to the ShopRite in Jackson, 21 Plus is truly thankful.