



MAYOR'S ALLIANCE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES NEWSLETTER • AUGUST 2001

City to Make More Playgrounds Accessible

Utilizing funds from the Community Improvement Tax the parks department has informed the City Council that they plan on improving accessibility at more than a dozen parks and playgrounds. Sand at 38 playgrounds will be replaced with wheelchair-safe rubber play surfaces.

Assistants Needed for Therapeutic Horseback Riding Program

Quantum Leap Farm Inc., a therapeutic and recreational horseback-riding program for adults with disabilities, need volunteers to work with the horses and perform barn chores. Clerical help is also needed. For more information about the program and to volunteer call (813) 920-9250.

State-Wide ADA Conference

The Governor's Working Group on the ADA in conjunction with the Florida ADA Network will hold a statewide ADA conference August 15th - 17th in Orlando. Continuing education credits will be offered for rehabilitation counselors, lawyers, social workers and building officials. For more information on the conference call the Governor's Working Group at 850-487-3423, TTY 850-410-0684.

Alliance Board Meets with Mayor

Board members of the Alliance recently met with Mayor Greco at his City Hall Office to discuss several issues concerning persons with disabilities. One of the topics was curb cuts in Tampa. The Mayor asked the Alliance to assemble a list of priority intersections that are lacking curb cuts. If you know of an intersection that you would like put on the list please call 254-1111 between the hours of 9am and 4pm and leave a message with the cross streets.

Able Trust to Host 4th Symposium on Disabilities

The Able Trust's fourth Symposium on Disabilities will be held at the St. Petersburg Hilton, September 11 - 14. The event will feature educational workshops, a keynote lunch, general sessions and the 2001 Ability Awards Banquet. For more information regarding the symposium call Kristen Knapp at (888) 838-2253 or email her at <kristen@abletrust.org>.

Free Booklet Available About Macular Degeneration

The American Health Assistance Program has produced a booklet titled "Living With Macular Degeneration." The booklet describes the disease and offers advice on how to create a safe living environment by reducing glare and highlighting objects that you have trouble seeing. For a free copy of this booklet call (301) 948-3244 or order on line at <www.ahaf.org>.

You Have the Right to Live Anywhere You Choose

The Fair Housing Act was amended in 1988 to include persons with disabilities. This means that you have the right to choose wherever you wish to live and you cannot be discriminated against if you

require a wheelchair, personal care attendant or a service animal. If you feel that you have been discriminated against in a housing situation due to a disability you have the right to be heard. In the City of Tampa the Human Relations Office handles such complaints. To file a complaint or get more information call the Human Rights Office at 274-5835.

Dial 211 for Agencies and Services and 711 for Relay

Looking for help from an agency or for a service? Now you can call 211 and get all the information you need regarding agencies and services. 711 is now the direct number to reach the relay system to talk to persons with impaired hearing. 711 replaces the 10-digit number that was used previously. Neither of these numbers replaces 911, which should be used for emergencies only.

"Tis" the season

For Hurricanes and Tropical storms...are you ready? Persons with disabilities have different needs during this season, have you taken care of yours. If you have to be evacuated from your home, do you know where to go and how to get there? Can you get hold of at least two weeks worth of medications to take with you? Have you made arrangements for your pets (shelters will take service animals only)? If you need assistance evacuating have you made prior arrangements with a friend, relative, neighbor or the Red Cross? These are the basics steps that you must take to be ready for "the season." If you do require special care please get in touch with the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) now! The Hillsborough County EOC can be reached at 272-6900. Don't wait until it is too late, be prepared for the worse and you will be safe.

Mayor's Alliance Board Meeting

3rd Wednesday every month
at 1:00 p.m. (New day & time)

Sandy Freedman Tennis Club
59 Columbus Drive, Davis Islands

Everybody Welcome!

Dates to Remember

2nd Monday every month - 7pm

The Mayor's Hour

Live cable telecast on CH-15 Time-Warner in Tampa and Hillsborough County and CH-17 on Adelphia cable. Your chance to ask Mayor Greco a question or express your concern, live in the studio or by phone. To call in a question to the Mayor call 274-8328. To be part of the studio audience call Mindy Snyder at 274-7033. Repeats on Sundays pm, Mondays at 7pm and Fridays at 3pm.

1st Monday every month - 3pm

Employment & Job Fair Committee Meeting

Hilton Hotel Reservation Center, 7920 Woodland Center Blvd. For more information, call Cindy Stephens at 984-6840 or Kathy McGlone at 243-7522.

3rd Wednesday every month - 1pm

Alliance Board Meeting

Sandy Freedman Tennis Complex 59 Columbus Drive, Davis Islands

3rd Wednesday every month - 2pm

Accessibility Committee Meeting

Sandy Freedman Tennis Complex 59 Columbus Drive, Davis Islands

3rd Tuesday every month - 2pm

Florida Council for the Blind,

Greater Tampa Chapter

USF Westside Conference tn. Section B

3rd Tuesday every month - 6:30pm

Tampa Self Help for Hard of Hearing

People (SHHH) Group

Jefferson High School

1st Thursday every month

Therapeutic Focus Group

All Peoples Life Center, call 744-5978 for more information.

4th Wednesday every month - 2pm

County Alliance Meeting

Tampa Lighthouse for The Blind, 1106 W. Platt St. For more information call Elizabeth Mueller at 273-3611 or Debra Guest at 558-5557.

3rd Thursday every 3rd month - 2pm

HARTLINE ADA Consumer Forum

Hartline Offices, 4305 East 21st Avenue. For more information contact Lauren Skiver at HARTLINE 623-5835, ext.1171.

Get Involved! Join the Alliance Board!

For more information call 254-1111.

Support Groups

City of Tampa Office of Human Rights	274-5835
Hillsborough County Information Line	272-5900
Self-Reliance Cross Disability Support Group	975-6560
VA Spinal Cord	972-2000 ext. 6388 Heather Mahoney
Brain and Head Injury Support	908-1375 Bob Barrett
Multiple Sclerosis Self Help Group	287-2939 or 800-922-0170
Statewide Advocacy Network on Disabilities, Inc. (STAND)	
Offering education and resource services to persons with disabilities	258-5700 Patricia Miller
Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology (FAAST)	
Learn about assistive technology	251-7591
Amputees Together	870-3323
Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA)	935-6540 Ben Ritter
All People's Life Center 6105 East Sligh Avenue (east of 56th St.)	
Fully accessible recreation center	903-2248 Al Orr
Florida Spinal Cord Injury Resource Center	253-4286 Bill Renje, Jr.

Officers & Committee Chairpersons

Chairperson: Norman Mallory	988-4985
Treasurer: Connie Hayden-McPeak	276-5555
Secretary: Kelly Hickman	974-8927
Past Chairperson: Chuck Porter	276-2029 ext. 6140
Advocacy and Accessibility Co-chairpersons:	
Norman Mallory	988-4985
Bob Ellis	974-2002
Employment Committee Chairperson: Cindy Stephens	984-6840
Awareness Committee Chairperson: Chuck Porter	276-2029 ext. 7659
Mayor's Representative: Herb Gold	254-1111



MAYOR'S ALLIANCE
FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

DICK A. GRECO, MAYOR

City Hall 8th • Tampa, FL 33601

*The Alliance thanks
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for printing this newsletter.*