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and Wheeler counties

CFO RETIRES

Don Newsom, Chief Financial Officer, celebrated his retirement at a breakfast reception on Friday, June 8th at TPC's Wallace Campus.

In August Don would have celebrated 36 years with the Center. In those 36 years with Amarillo State Center and Texas Panhandle Centers he experienced many staff and organizational changes.

Don said he had plans to travel, do some remodeling on his house and spend time with his family.

Many staff, family and friends were present to wish Don a fond farewell.



TPC STAR Athletes

Amy Garcia, Director, Autism Program

**State
Champions!**



Congratulations to the TPC Stars – again!

The TPC Stars played their hearts out. Their first game went into double overtime and they won in the last few seconds. I have never seen them so eager to win! I want to thank everyone who made this trip possible. Going to state means the world to these athletes and without you they would not have a such a wonderful opportunity so Thank You. I also want to give a special thank you to our torch runners. This group of people came out and cheered for our Stars as if they were our own personal cheerleaders. This made such a huge difference in the athletes level of motivation.

Did You Know?

A "Did You Know" section will be featured regularly in an effort to inform and educate employees of policies, procedures or news of importance.

Is a mental health professional required to report abuse or neglect that occurred during the childhood of a now-adult patient? (RQ-1030-GA)

Request for Opinion from Attorney General

On December 11, 2011, the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists requested an opinion from the Texas Attorney General (AG) on whether a mental health professional who is treating an adult patient must report any abuse or neglect, as those terms are defined in Chapter 261 of the Texas Family Code, that the mental health professional has cause to believe occurred during the adult patient's childhood.

Attorney General Opinion

The term "child" in Chapter 261 is not ambiguous. The Legislature specifically de-



defined the term "child" for purposes of Chapter 261 as: "a person under 18 years of age who is not and has not been married or who has not had the disabilities of minority removed for general purposes."

The term "child" used in chapter 261 refers to a person who at-present satisfies the definition and is under eighteen and on its face cannot be construed to include adults or former children, and instead can mean only those who are currently children.

Accordingly a professional is not required by subsection 261.101 (b) to report the abuse or neglect the professional believes occurred during an adult patient's childhood.

For more information visit:

<https://www.oag.state.tx.us/opinions/opinions/50abbott/op/2012/htm/ga0944.htm>



Texas Panhandle Centers will be closed on Wednesday, July 4th in observance of Independence Day.

Alicia Huckabay, IDD Psychology, answered last month's questions correctly and was randomly selected to win a \$25 gift card from Amarillo National Bank.



To claim your card, contact Joyce Lopez at 806.351.3308 or email: joyce.lopez@txpan.org.

Congratulations!

COMPLIANCE CORNER

Anna Isom, Quality & Compliance

Welcome to the Compliance Corner where you can quickly learn about sound compliance practices. If you have a general, compliance-related question about issues such as privacy - HIPAA, computer safety, business code of conduct, etc, chances are other staff has the same question. In order to share the information, we need to know what your questions are. So please email your questions to "Compliance Corner". If your question is chosen for the newsletter, you will receive a jean day pass. *Important Note – compliance questions may require immediate attention. If you have a question, please talk with your supervisor/ program manager first and inform them that you would like to submit your question to the "Compliance Corner."*

Question and Answer:

Question:

Is it OK for me to include a client's name in the "Subject" line of an email?

Answer:

When viewing a list of emails in your inbox, the subject line of each email is displayed as well as other information such as the sender, date, etc. If client identifiers are in the subject line, this increases the chance that someone other than the original recipient may see the information.

For this reason, it is important to minimize client identifiers in the subject line. For example, you should not include a client's name, social security number, or Medicaid number. If you need to include identifying information in the subject line, only list the TPC case number (e.g. 45678). All other identifying information should be placed inside the body of the email message (in the narrative section).

When sending email to others outside the agency (e.g. schools, police, state support living centers), that includes client identifying information, there are specific safeguards that must be followed. First, talk with your supervisor. If the email is appropriate to send to an outside person, staff can talk with their supervisor/program manager for instructions on sending a secure email. If additional assistance is needed, contact the Help Desk for guidance.

REMINDER:
**TAKE YOUR FLOAT DAY BEFORE AUGUST 31ST TO AVOID
LOSING IT IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY DONE SO.**

Contact the payroll department if you have questions.

What You Buy Means Something to Economists

Retail analysts should have known the economy was in trouble in 2009. Sales of underwear were down, signaling a major economic downturn.

Underwear makers have good news for you. Yearly sales for 2011 jumped 6.6 percent. According to the Underwear Index (championed by Alan Greenspan), the uptick in staples, like boxer shorts, is a sign that consumers are upbeat and not pinching pennies.

Golf courses had an increase of 21.4 percent in rounds played during 2011. The rise included both public and private courses, meaning that all kinds of golfers were willing to pay. They had a more positive outlook.

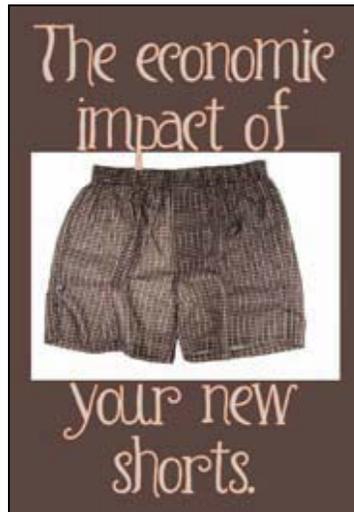
Sit-down restaurant sales rose by 8.7 percent in January 2012 over January 2011. Be-

cause more diners chose full-service places, as opposed to fast food, it's a sign that the economy is back on track.

Pay-TV sales were up a little in 2011. In spite of options like Netflix and Hulu Plus (\$7.99 a month), Americans are still spending \$50, \$100 or more per month for pay-TV packages.

Beauty salon sales grew by 5.4 percent over the last two years. In downturns, many customers skimp on hair gels, creams and haircuts. The turnaround is proved by 34 percent of salons saying they have hired more stylists in the past two years.

Mobile home makers shipped 3,800 units in December 2011, up 30 percent from the month before. Strong trailer-park sales may signal stronger overall housing numbers before long.



For better health, practice laughing at yourself



People who are able to laugh at themselves may be healthier than their more serious peers, according to a study by the University of California, Berkeley, and the University of Zurich in Switzerland. That ability was linked to good mood, good sense of humor and a more upbeat personality.

Study subjects were judged by how much they laughed at photos of themselves. It's the first such study ever done.

The authors of the study say the ability to laugh at oneself is a distinct trait, separate from general readiness to laugh, and linked to better overall health.



Annual Fan/Air Conditioner drive aims to save families from a hot summer

United Way
of Amarillo & Canyon

2-1-1 Texas seeking fans, air conditioners, or funds to help.

As our hot Panhandle summer starts to hit, United Way's 2-1-1 is working to make sure that at risk families have some means of keeping cool. The annual fan drive started May 15, and seeks to provide fans or air conditioners to the disabled, the elderly, and families with infants.

Last year, 100 families indicated a need for fans or air conditioners – Thanks to the unprecedented generosity of Amarillo residents, we were able to provide nearly all of the families with fans. 2-1-1 Texas is hoping to help all families who need a fan this summer, but they need your help to do it.

If you can donate, please bring by fans or air conditioner units, or monetary donations to the 2-1-1 desk, 200 S. Tyler St., Mon-Fri, 8-5 p.m.



The following employees were recognized through the Performance Enhancement Program for one or more of the following: Core Competencies, Safety, Critical Thinking, Communication, Client Rights, Continuous Quality Improvement, Professional Behavior, Customer Service:

- Susan Glenn, Respite Services**
- Mary Gambrell, Respite Services**
- Jessica Olson, Respite Services**
- Chesa Morris, STAR Program**
- Leslie Johns, Respite Services**
- Erin Rasmussen, MH Service Coordination**

Celebrate Father's Day on June 17



Brown Bag Lunch & Learn

What: Representatives from IMS will be available to go over the website. The website has undergone many changes and updates since the last lunch & learn. With the summer enrollment coming up this is a perfect time to review the features and perks this website has to offer.

When: Friday, June 15, 2012

Where: Wallace Street Campus - Training Room Bldg. 501

Please call Deborah Brown at 358-1681 to confirm your attendance.



White Hat Award



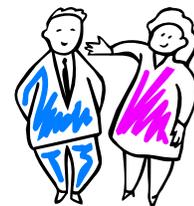
The IDD Service Coordination Department would like to present this month's White Hat Award to **Amy Garcia, Director, Autism Program**. Amy has done a great job with the Special Olympics Team keeping them motivated and organized. She also is committed to sharing information about Autism with interested parties. She is readily available to assist the IDD Service Coordination department when we need insight and support in her area of expertise. Thank you Amy.

Sharon Guinn for IDD Service Coordination

Welcome these New Employees...

Samantha Gonzales
Sara Muir
Lon Smith
Heather Hughes
Shelly Vanderburg

Canode Group Home
Behavioral Health Adult (PATH)
Club Meadows Group Home
ASCI Borger
Browning Group Home Pampa



Thinking About Becoming an Ex (smoker)?

becomeanex.org

This is the third in a series of articles featured to help those wanting to kick the habit.

Right Before You Quit Smoking:

The first step in forgetting an old flame is throwing out all the stuff that reminds you of “the way we were.”

So it's time now to go through your house, your car and your workplace and toss out everything that has to do with smoking.

Throw your clothes in the washer. There's a smell to a smoker's clothes, one you will not miss once you've quit smoking.

You might also want to visit your dentist. Your smoking has slowly made your teeth yellow. A good cleaning can give an immediate boost to your self-esteem, as well as give you another reason to stay quit.

It's time to gather supplies for your quit smoking date.

Have your nicotine replacements or other quit smoking medications ready.

And remember, some of the non-nicotine medications require you to start taking them up to two weeks before your quit smoking date.

- **Keep a water bottle around that you can refill.** It makes getting a cleansing drink

easier. It'll also help keep your stomach full. An empty stomach can sometimes set off cravings. We recommend you carry a bottle of water with you for most of the first week after you've quit smoking.



- **Buy things you can chew on:** carrot sticks, celery, toothpicks, cinnamon sticks, sugarless candy, sugarless gum. Stock the fridge with healthy snacks and sprinkle the candy throughout your house, in the car and at work. Keep it all as handy as you did your cigarettes — right in your pocket is best.

- **Get something for your hands to do.** Get a squeeze toy or a handball.

- **Make a list of your “Reasons I Want To Quit Smoking.”** Post copies of it around your house, car and workplace.

- **Do one last double-check** to ensure that you haven't overlooked a spare pack of cigarettes in the glove compartment or the pocket of an old coat.

Download the [mobile EX Plan](#). It's an easy way to access the **EX Plan** when you are on the go.

All this stuff is important. Remember, the more things you do to stop smoking, the better off you'll be on the day you quit smoking.

Articles, or suggestions for this publication may be submitted by the 1st of each month to:

Joyce Lopez • 901 Wallace Blvd., • Amarillo, Texas 79106
Phone: (806) 351-3308 Fax: (806) 351-3345 Email: joyce.lopez@txpan.org



"I think it's time to stop shopping when the computer asks you if you need another shopping cart."



Deja Viewer



Life has many twists and turns. Sometimes what looks like a very bad day can just be clearing the way for good things to come.

J. Kim Wright, Cutting Edge Law

Answer the questions correctly and your name will be entered in a random drawing to be eligible to win a \$25 gift card.

1. Who is this month's White Hat Award recipient?
2. According to retail analysts, sit-down restaurant sales rose by _____ percent in January 2012 over January 2011.
3. _____ is the first day of summer.



[Submit your answers to joyce.lopez@txpan.org. Deadline for responses is the 5th of the following month. You must type "Monthly Drawing" in the email subject line to be eligible. For those that do not have a computer, entries may be submitted via interoffice mail. The same requirements apply for hard copy submissions.](mailto:joyce.lopez@txpan.org)