

**H** IN ITS 19TH  
**R** YEAR  
**A** OF  
SERVICE

Handicapped Resource  
Association of Texas  
October/November 1996



## Liz? Is That You?

Where else but at Celebration! HRA- and in the middle of Arlington, Texas, no less - can you find Liz Taylor performing as - herself?

More than 200 friends of HRA attended the October 18 *fun raiser* at the Arlington Hilton.

"Observers" saw the American Airlines employee entourage scarfing the coveted Reese's peanut butter pie. They saw executives from Bell Helicopter, Bank One, Bank of America, Aguirre, Inc., Arlington Hardware and Arlington National Bank gracelessly scrounge for surprise gift certificates under the tablecloths. (We were relieved that Emcee/HRA Director Rosalie Wells waited until *after* dinner to tell them about those.) They reported seeing Betty Baker in rare form, matchmaking like a banshee. And then, everyone stared in awe when LIZ TAYLOR breezed in and gave a very moving account of her own life, its trials and tribulations. She confessed *everything*.

Before Liz arrived, musical interludes were provided by a string quartet, courtesy of the office of UTA president Robert Witt. (Liz Taylor's act was actually performed by Janie Minick, a professional celebrity look-alike.) Photographer-elect Dave Watson took and handed out souvenir polaroids of Liz with various guests, and more than one single male was seen maneuvering himself into a chummy photo with the star.

Dinner was followed by a short recognition program in which major donors to HRA were awarded plaques, gracefully rolled out by the duo of HRA staff members Terry Ridle and Olivia Acosta.

Mayor Richard Greene declared October 18, 1996, **HRA Day** in a proclamation presented by Elzie Odom.

Our sources spied City Councilman Wayne Ogle, County Commissioner Marti Van Ravenswaay with husband Van; Erdie Allsup, Mary Jean and Tim Maloney, and several members of the Arlington City Council having fun.

Two major social events happened in Arlington that same weekend, Celebration! HRA and the Silver Spur Gala, proving that Arlington has room for a ton of good hearts. Celebration! HRA attracted over \$11,000 in community support.

Particular thanks go to the the Celebration! HRA committee made up of

Keith Aholt, Anthony Bailey, Betty Baker, TeCora Ballom Nellie Harrell, Aryn Merchant, Debbie Simmons, Rosalie Wells and Ann Zimmerman. Jerry Hipple Chaired.

"Next year is going to be *really* big," says HRA Executive Director Rosalie Wells, with a gleam. As 1997 brings HRA's 20th anniversary, she expects the equivalent of ten times this year's participation, part of which would be supported by underwriters.

### Table Sponsors were:

Aguirre, Inc. American Airlines Arlington Hardware Arlington National Bank TeCora Ballom, D.O. R.J. Carroll Co., Mrs. Jennie Dycus, Lockheed Martin Vought Summit Security Roger D. Allen Arlington Morning News Arlington Star Telegram Bank of America The City of Arlington HRA Board Southwestern Bell Texas Commerce Bank

### Honorees were:

Aguirre, Inc. Roger D. Allen, Arlington Hardware, Arlington National Bank, Bank of America, Bank One, Buz Post, City of Arlington, County of Tarrant, Employees of Bell Helicopter Textron, Inc., Employees of Delta Airlines, First Presbyterian Church, Lockheed Martin Vought, Paul J. Meyer Family Foundation, Great Southwest Rotary, Sid Richardson Foundation, Six Flags Sunrise Kiwanis, Southwestern Bell, Inc., Spring Creek Barbecue, Texas Rangers Wives, and the Junior League of Arlington.

### Call For Submissions

If you have a great story, a "stumper" question, great idea or a piece of input or advice, we're always looking for items of interest to our readers. (Especially from you, Clients and Attendants!) Send your submissions to HRA, attn. Cynthia Brink. Email: [alux@why.net](mailto:alux@why.net).

Rolling Wheels  
Free Flu Immunizations  
Winter Party in December



PACT Training  
Curtis Mayfield's new CD

## Phooey on the Flu

In a new and extra benefit to all employees of HRA, free influenza shots are now available. The immunizations are geared to protect staff, employees and the consumers they serve. Shots are available at MediSenter clinics in Arlington and Bedford, at the following addresses:

Arlington:  
1182 N. Collins St.  
(8-9 M-F; 10-6 Sat, 11-4 Sun).  
912 E. Park Row  
(8-8 M-F, 8-5 Sat)  
4370 Little Rd.  
Bedford:  
4101 Airport Frwy.  
(8-7 M-F; 8-5 Sat)  
And six other locations.

## ROLLING WHEELS

Plans are once again under way for the 1997 Fifth Annual DFW Classic Wheels Car Show at the Ballpark in Arlington. The committee is ready and promotions are about to begin. The show is a major source of funding for HRA and the Harold Key Endowment Fund. Car clubs and enthusiasts are invited to show early support by getting their members interested... there's still room for many volunteers and sponsors.

The Steering Committee for this year is made up of: **Bill Campbell, Dave Davis, Melinda Havran, Dave Watson, Daun Pace, David Morgan, Keith Aholt and Rosalie Wells.**

### WANTED:

Director for D/FW Classic Wheels Show, in July, definitely at the Ballpark in Arlington, benefitting HRA and the Harold Key Endowment Fund for the Great Southwest Rotary Club. Must be organized, energetic, crazy about people and cars, eager to make a difference in a fun and unique way. Low pay, long hours, supreme fulfillment, especially on days of show. Call Rosalie Wells (HRA), 469-1977, or Dave Davis (Rotary), 272-3299.

## Annual Meeting Brings Board Together

On Saturday the 19th of October the HRA Board of Directors met for its Annual Meeting. Status reports were given by staff on the year's growth and 1996-97 plans were discussed. The newly-elected board opted for conservative growth to maintain and strengthen existing programs; to diversify funding while maintaining geographic region, clientele and programs.

### Changes of Leadership

President	Melinda Havran, Social Worker, HealthSouth
Vice President	<b>Jerry Hipple</b> , Vice President & Branch Manager, Bank of America
Outgoing:	<i>Phyllis Badgett</i>
Treasurer	<b>Colleen Shannon, Ph.D.</b> , Professor of Social Work, UTA
Outgoing:	<i>Amy Merchant</i>
Secretary	<b>Dr. Lynn Brink</b> , Professor of Political Science, North Lake College
Outgoing:	<i>Mike Love</i>

These new officers will join the remaining Directors for 1996-97:

Mike Burgess, TeCora Ballom, Mike Love, Keith Aholt, Amy Merchant and Justin Carroll.

## Dart Officials Ixnay Change in Bus Fare

-from the *Dallas Morning News*

For the second time in two years, DART is backing off from a fare increase for people with disabilities, acknowledging that although service has improved, it hasn't improved enough.

Customers of DART's HandiRides had been objecting strongly to the fare increase which was proposed for January 1 and was to be imposed in conjunction with a regulation that would have cut the advance reservation time frame from two weeks to one day.

DART says that due to a high rate of last-minute cancellations, it loses about 17 percent of total hourly fees to the HandiRides contracted service. A proposal to control the cancellation rate and impose a rate increase had been designed to help defray the large subsidy which covers the cost of the rides. HandiRides cost \$31 more than the fare, as compared to \$2.60 more than the fare for regular bus service.

## Show & Tell? You Betcha!

On Wednesday 23 October the HRA staff was granted the opportunity to show off their expertise as computer users! Yes, we're fully automated and doin' great.

As Executive Service Corps started HRA on the path to automation, it was only fitting that they be invited back to see the fruits of their labor.

Mr. Ken Dunn and Ms. Sterling Lauer of ESC got the grand tour of each workstation and a brief demonstration of what goes on in the HRA computer world. We exhibited our skills in Quattro Pro (spreadsheet), WordPerfect, Paradox (database) and various other aspects of our Novell Perfect Office Suite. Just one year ago, we were at the "how do you turn this on" stage, and now the entire staff is utilizing all aspects of our networked 486's! Congrats, staff and thank you, Executive Service Corps!! -Jamie McCartney

## Winter Party to Honor Attendants



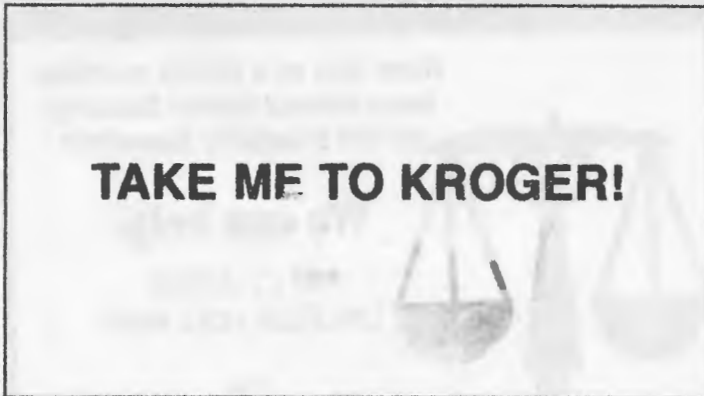
It's here again! HRA has organized a winter party to thank all the dedicated souls who unselfishly assist HRA clients every day.

This luncheon party will be held at HRA Arlington office, given by Catherine Durbin and a group of volunteers from Fielder Road Baptist Church in Arlington. Goodies and gifts will abound, and all staff members as well as attendants and board members are invited to attend. Date: December 11. Time: 11:30.

## Take this Kroger Cares Card and... use it.

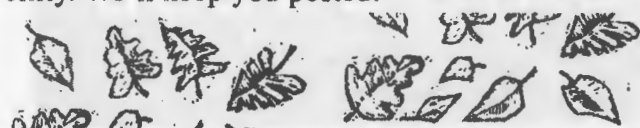
November and December are big months for groceries, making this the perfect time to contribute to HRA. This is the easiest most painless contribution you will ever make - Kroger gives HRA 1% of the total you spend using these cards. **Bonus!** the double sided tape should provide a good stick to the dashboard of your car. Put it in the envelope with your coupons,

staple it to your drivers' license - whatever you need to do to remember it's there!



## To Watch:

New medical research reports from Sweden give new hope that spinal cord regeneration is moving from the realm of possibility into the realm of probability. We'll keep you posted.



## DONOR THANKS

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## PACT TRAINING CLASSES

LEVEL I DALLAS:  
DECEMBER 7 @ 9A.M.

LEVEL I ARLINGTON:  
DECEMBER 11 @ 9A.M.

LEVEL II CLASSES FOR ARLINGTON  
WILL BE HELD AT 1P.M., ALSO  
DECEMBER 11.

LOCATIONS? DALLAS COUNTY  
PARTICIPANTS MEET AT THE  
DALLAS HRA OFFICE;  
ARLINGTON'S AT THE ARLINGTON  
OFFICE. (SEE HOLIDAY PARTY  
STORY ABOVE)

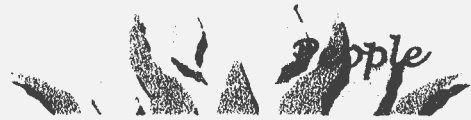
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## Six years after a crippling spinal cord injury, soul legend Curtis Mayfield returns with a new CD

by John Leland of *Newsweek*

Curtis Mayfield says he has "phantom hands" that seem to move while his own lie immobile. In his gracious Atlanta home, he speaks in the sweetly penetrating voice of his soul classics, but softer now, trailing away at the ends of sentences. The phantom hands, he says, sometimes worry at the keys of a piano; sometimes they hurt. They are a mystery to him, as is much about his body. "I feel like when I got hit, it knocked everything out of whack," he says. "Now everything is somewhere else. Sometimes it feels that if someone whacked me good another time, it'd knock them all back in place." For Mayfield, this is a good day. His blood pressure is strong so he can sit upright in his wheelchair. He smiles as he calls to his assistant, "Put on our number one record."

In 1990 Mayfield was tuning his guitar on a Brooklyn stage when a lighting tower blew down on him, leaving him paralyzed from the neck down. He did not figure to ever make music again. But last week he released "New World Order," an incisive collection of new songs that - good news - sounds like Curtis Mayfield. The title track plays in Spike Lee's new movie, "Get on the Bus." He recorded the music prone, singing a few lines at a time until his breath gave out. From the stereo, the song sneaks up, a hint of funky guitar and Mayfield's coolly passionate voice: "Darkness no longer," he sings, "a child is born." If it is not a number one hit, it is, just by its existence, a triumph. "It's nice to say, I'm back to living again," says Mayfield.

When asked for the stories behind classics like "People Get Ready" or "Superfly," Mayfield answers by reading lyrics. This is surprisingly edifying; even softly spoken, his words are powerful with narrative and rhythm. "My mother always read me lots of poems," he explains. "Paul Laurence Dunbar, I loved Dr. Seuss, limericks. These became the foundations for my hook lines and rhythmic patterns." He recites a lyric from "Keep on Pushing" from 1964: "God gave me strength/And it don't make sense/Not to keep on pushing."

Back then, this song became an anthem for the civil rights movement. In his quiet study, it still declares an unshakable pride and determination. Curtis Mayfield keeps on pushing.

Expand your knowledge...

### What in the world is a PHYSIATRIST?

*Physiatry is a specialized branch of medicine that not only employs the usual tools of medicinal practice, but also uses physical agents and therapeutic exercise in prevention, diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of disorders that produce pain, impairment and disability.*

-From a brochure produced by Baylor University Medical Center.

## Meet Justin Carroll

Welcome to one of our newest members of the Board of Directors. In his mid twenties, Justin Carroll also happens to be the youngest.

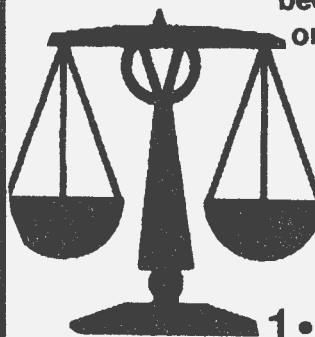
You wouldn't necessarily expect a family who runs a contracting business for Southwestern Bell to have such a vested interest in HRA, but Justin and his family are exceptions.

The history is simple. As Justin began to get involved with HRA through his parents' efforts, gradually his interest in making a substantial contribution increased. This summer, when HRA realized that Justin could add a fresh point of view by joining the Board, it popped the question, and he accepted.

Although he feels he has a lot of ground to cover in understanding HRA, he comments, "I just hope that I can contribute now, while I really learn what HRA is all about."

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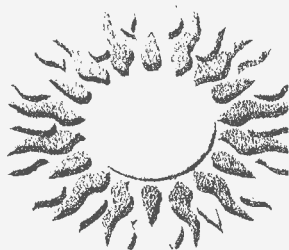
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Arlington office: 1635 A W. Division St. Arlington 76012 817-469-1977; fax 461-2334*

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