



JUDGE ROTENBERG CENTER

A behavioral school for children and adults...

Newsletter

Spring 2008

From the Director's Desk

The cover of this newsletter shows an artist's rendition of our 250 Turnpike Street building. This art will be used in a new brochure we are developing.

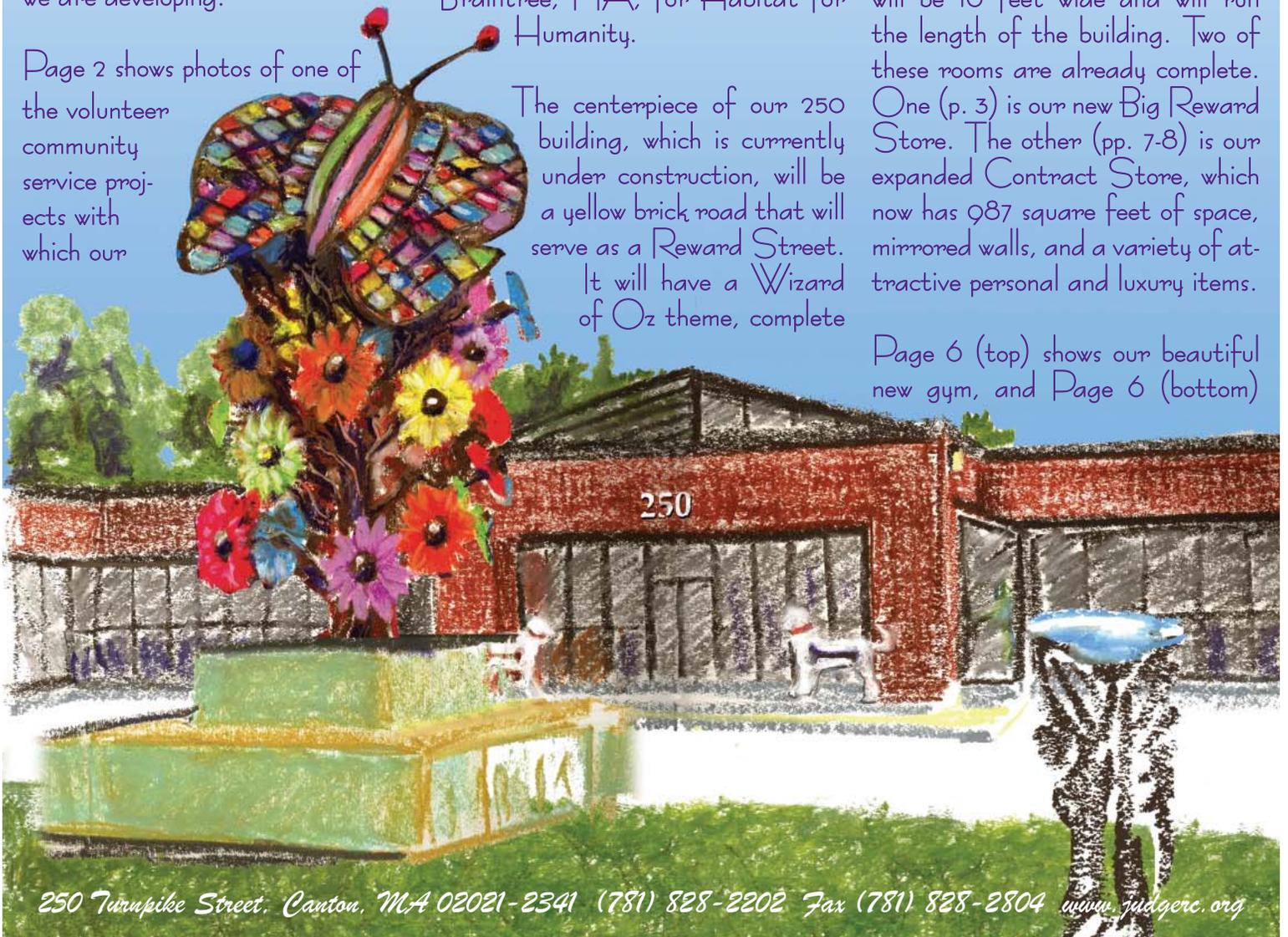
Page 2 shows photos of one of the volunteer community service projects with which our

higher functioning students have increasingly become involved. Recently, several students and staff volunteered to help remodel a house in Braintree, MA, for Habitat for Humanity.

The centerpiece of our 250 building, which is currently under construction, will be a yellow brick road that will serve as a Reward Street. It will have a Wizard of Oz theme, complete

with moving and talking mannequins of Dorothy, Tin Man, etc. All of the principal reward rooms will be located off of this Street which will be 10 feet wide and will run the length of the building. Two of these rooms are already complete. One (p. 3) is our new Big Reward Store. The other (pp. 7-8) is our expanded Contract Store, which now has 987 square feet of space, mirrored walls, and a variety of attractive personal and luxury items.

Page 6 (top) shows our beautiful new gym, and Page 6 (bottom)



shows the adjoining fitness room with exercise machines. The latter has plenty of windows and is brightly lit.

During the last few months, we opened two new classrooms for our developmentally disabled students. One is a classroom (p. 5) specially designed for teaching toilet skills. It has a section where students work on their computer and other academic skills, as well as a reward area. Several students have already been successfully toilet trained and several more are undergoing training.

The second new classroom for our developmentally disabled students (p. 4) is designed for teaching new skills, using 1-1 ABA (Applied Behavior Analysis) training. It has individual teaching cubicles. We have used this room to teach students how to use our touchscreen computers and academic software, how to use a zipper, how to tie shoes, how to button and unbutton, and other skills.

Matthew Israel, Ph.D.
Executive Director



Two students share a laugh while having breakfast together at their residence.



JRC students and staff volunteer their time to Habitat for Humanity house, helping to insulate an attic in a house in Braintree, MA.



Marcos flashes a smile as he does volunteer work on the second floor of the Habitat for Humanity project.



Several students relax at one of our outdoor picnic areas between our two school buildings.

New Big Reward Store

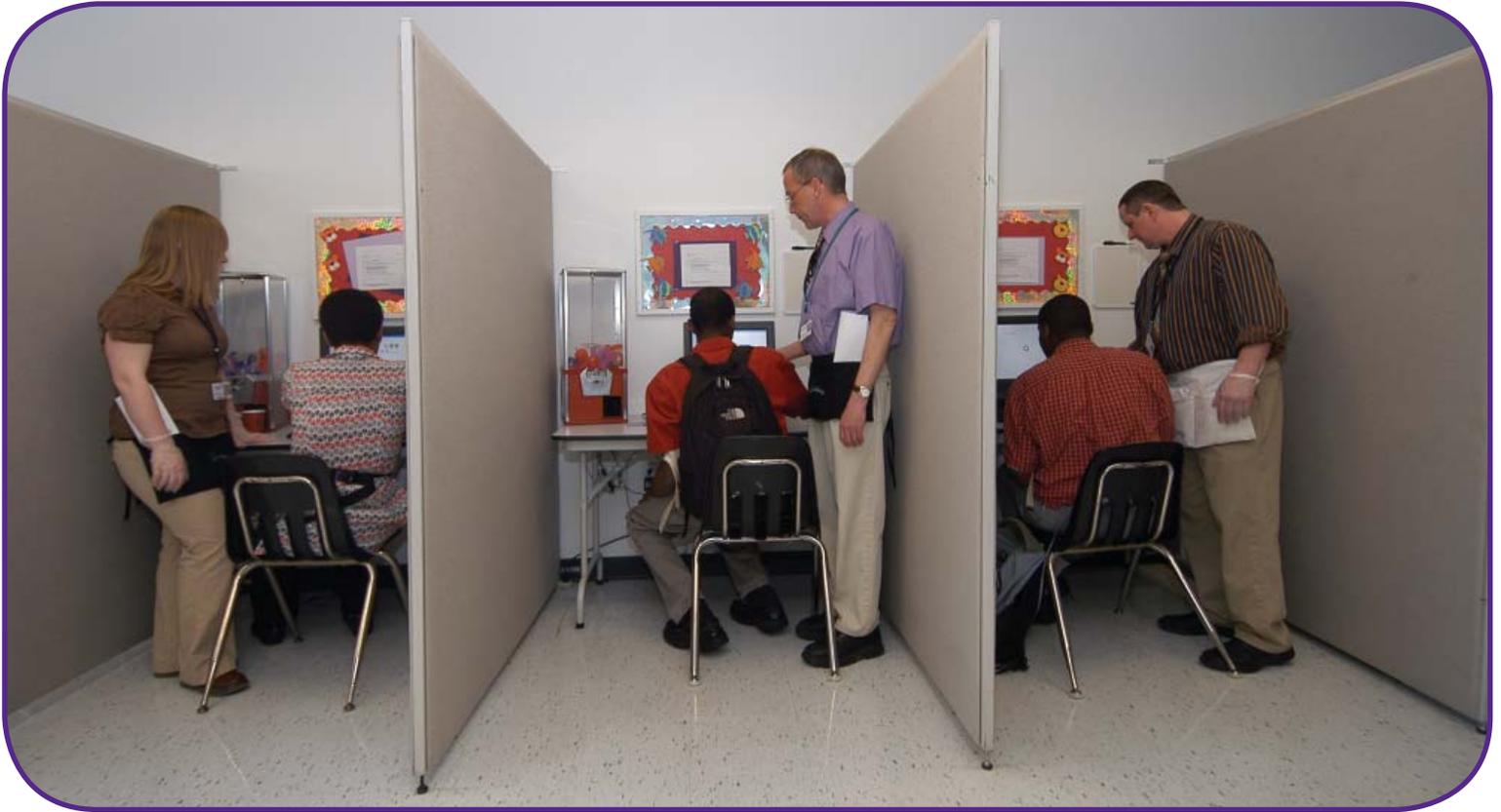


Our dazzling new Big Reward Store serves as a powerful motivator to encourage our students to improve their academic performance and behaviors.



Our students enjoy five flat panel TVs with XBox 360 game systems in the Big Reward Store.

Our ABA One-One Teaching Room



Our students are taught new skills with one teacher for each student. The teachers use Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) instructional procedures.



One of our students learns how to use educational software on a touch screen computer. Once he is taught to use them correctly, he will utilize them in the classroom to acquire new skills through self-paced instruction.



Curt successfully buttons his training vest with assistance from Mr. Cardozo. Our seamstress designed a series of button-training vests with different sizes of buttons and holes to help students learn this skill more easily.

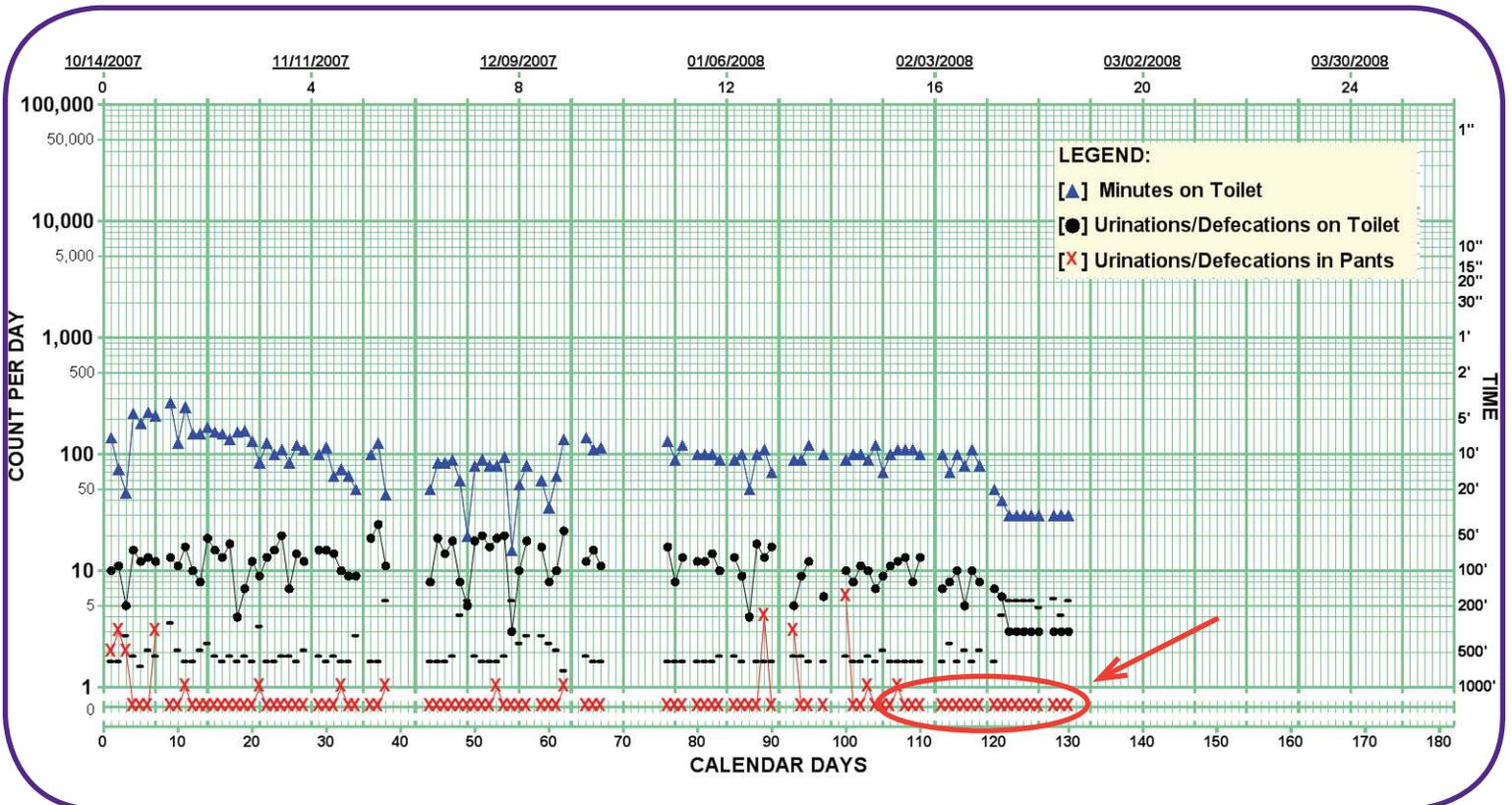
Our Successful Toilet Training Program



While in our new specially designed toilet training room, Genesis learns to indicate her need to use the restroom by showing staff a picture card with a drawing of a toilet on it.



Genesis sits in a chair and plays her drum as a reward after using the toilet appropriately.

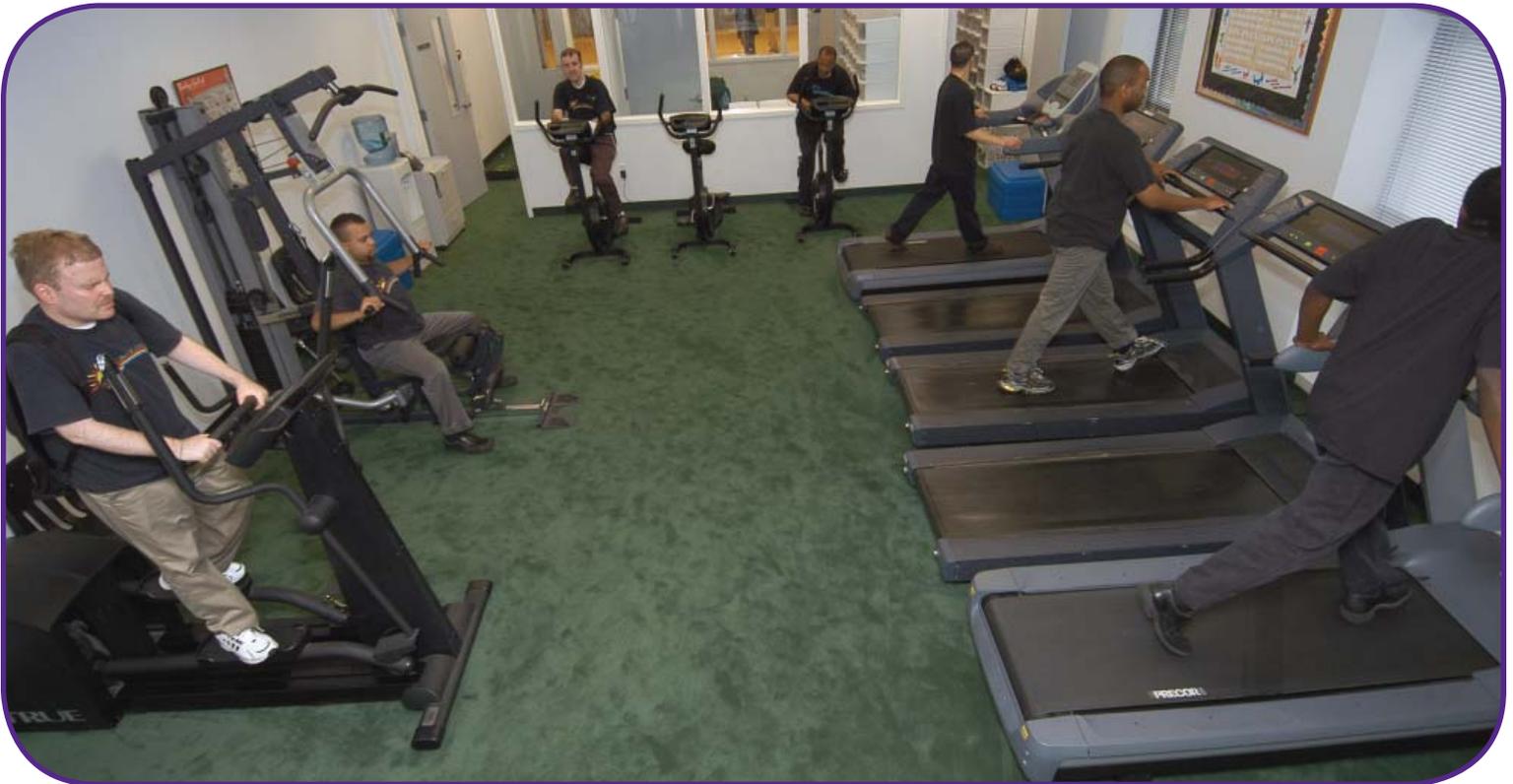


This is a chart showing the daily progress of a typical student in our toilet training program. The last 20 Xs (circled) show that this student has gone for the last 20 days with no "accidents."

Lots of Space for Physical Fitness



JRC's basketball team uses our new 2100 square foot court to practice. The basketball team has played 3 games with public and private schools and has won one of the games. Above the mats on the walls is a mural done by the artist Kip Frace that uses student hand and thumb prints as part of the painting.



Our Physical Education room features several treadmills, stationary bikes and a weight-training machine. Our goal is to have each student get 30 minutes of exercise, indoors or outdoors, each day.

New Contract Store



The Contract Store provides a reminder to our students of all the wonderful things they may earn by improving their academics and behaviors. Students enjoy buying gifts for their family members as well as for themselves.



Shane enjoys trying on sunglasses. Our Contract Store has recently been stocked with new items such as Crocs shoes, Perfect Petzzz (lifelike, breathing "pets") and fabulous jewelry.

JRC's Contract Store



Come see our new, enlarged, unique Contract Store where students can buy personal items with points and money they earn through their behaviors.