



The Archive

The Arc of the Ozarks

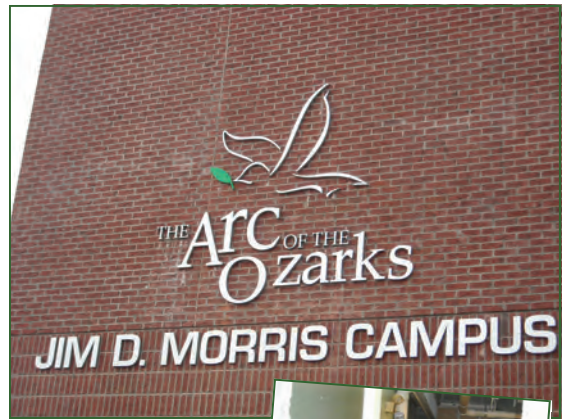
Move made to new building

Staff at The Arc in Springfield received a late Christmas present as they made the transition into their new offices during the last week of December. Pleased to start the New Year in the new facilities, the staff rushed to pack for the move after the occupancy permit for the addition was approved. While still settling in, the staff has recognized the benefits associated with this new facility.

The two-story, 7,400 square foot addition to the Jim D. Morris Campus expands our ability to provide training and continuing education for children and adults. With the first phase now completed, the remodeling phase of the project has been started and is scheduled to be completed in early to mid February. The remodeling of former offices in the Timothy Grant Newport Activities Center will substantially increase the efficiency of staff training sessions and group gatherings.

“We are very pleased with our new facilities,” said President/CEO John Foley. “Everyone has moved in, but we are still settling in which may take a while.” Many staff members had been in the same office space for five or more years, with Executive Vice President Mike Powers having worked out of the same office for 17 years.

Once everybody has settled in and renovations to the Timothy Grant Newport Activities Center are completed a ceremony will be scheduled to celebrate the occasion and the new offices.



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From the desk of John Foley



John Foley, President/CEO

We ended 2009 with a sigh of relief and yet are holding our collective breaths. We are relieved that The Arc did not receive any cuts as Gov. Jay Nixon managed a tight state budget. But, we know we can't depend on not seeing some reduction in funding from the state. We are anxiously waiting to hear the State of the State address, as rumors are that the Governor will withhold some \$200 million in funding this month. We also anticipate cuts in addition to that \$200 million.

All programs are doing well and watching expenditures carefully. We have moved Finley home residents, after matching them to other homes operated by The Arc where they will continue to make friends and receive support. This move results in only one vacant bed in our facilities at this time, allowing for an efficient use of space. Finley's future is in negotiations for either a home for children needing special assistance or leased to another agency.

As we continue our renovations, we also are looking at expanding the kitchen into a larger teaching facility. Our goal for all renovations is to design for future growth.

As we look ahead, 2010 will be tough, but also filled with opportunities. As your president/CEO I am grateful for the trust and support you give me as we make The Arc the premiere support provider for individuals with disabilities. Thank you.

Grants Received

\$2,000 from J.J.C.T.M. Foundation

\$13,174 from Christine Loetel Trust

\$2,100 from Greene County Board for the Developmentally Disabled (see page 5)

Monett plans events

The Arc's Monett area teams are always busy planning activities. We will try to highlight some of these events each quarter.

Wayne Pearson will be celebrating his 75th birthday on Saturday February 6th at the Monett offices of The Arc. Family and friends are invited to join the party.

The Monnet group will also be throwing a Valentine's celebration with carnival games and other activities. This celebration will take place Saturday Feb. 20 from noon to 3pm.

For questions about activities in the Monett area please contact Robin Boring, director of the Monett office, at 417-354-0071.

Don't forget to support The Arc online

In addition to our new website (see page 6), The Arc is using other online tools to keep our supporters informed and also to help raise funds.



By following The Arc on Facebook you can see exclusive photos, receive program updates and news on special events. Employment Solutions, Community Connections and Education and Recreation departments also have Facebook pages to keep you up to date on happenings in those departments.



GoodSearch.com is a search engine which shares its revenues with not-for-profit organizations. You use GoodSearch.com as you would any other search engine. The money GoodSearch.com donates to your cause comes from its advertisers. This means the users and charities do not spend a dime. Please GoodSearch for The Arc!

Go to GoodSearch.com. Enter "The Arc of the Ozarks" in the line that requests the charity's name, hit "verify" and start shopping, searching, AND supporting The Arc.

Editors note

One of our goals at The Arc is to empower individuals to live life to the fullest. Our clients realize that having a disability does not have to hinder them from reaching their dreams. Below is a small sample of how people are living their dreams.

A dream is realized

In June of this year Robert, who lives at the Finley home, was able to realize one of his lifelong dreams by taking a 45 minute helicopter ride in Branson.

Robert received a stimulus check this year that allowed him to set aside money for a fun activity. His guardian contacted The Arc staff and asked for ideas on things to get Robert. The staff knew that Robert had a dream of flying in a helicopter.

Management at Finley was able to contact several helicopter charter companies in the area and found one that was willing to give Robert a deal on a ride. Robert received a 45 minute ride for the price of a 30 min ride and a staff member was allowed ride for free.

From the helicopter Robert was able to see Table Rock Lake and Dam, the Branson Strip, Silver Dollar City, and the Ozarks country side. The company, Chopper Charters, also allowed the rest of the Finley residents into the hanger where the choppers were stored and let them sit inside as a pilot gave them a tour of the cockpit. Robert and the entire Finley crew had a great time on the trip.



Dallas trip reconnects family

Kim, who lives in an ISL, understands the importance of family. A longing to see her brother inspired Kim to fly to Dallas in November. Kim had not seen her brother in several years because health issues limited his travel opportunities to come visit her. Kim knew if she wanted to see him it was up to her to make a trip.

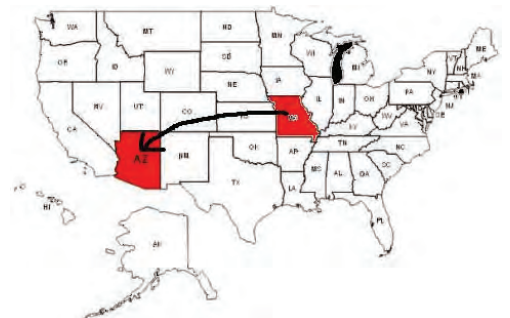
Upon hearing of Kim's desire to make the trip, Lakeside ISL Team Manager Pepi Wallace worked very closely with Kim's brother, Jeff, to make arrangements for the flight. Pepi helped Kim prepare for the trip; helping Kim purchase some new clothes and eating breakfast with Kim before the big flight. She then assisted Kim with getting checked in at the airport.

When Kim saw her brother after the flight she threw up her arms with joy and said "I've missed you so much!" Kim enjoyed her trip to Dallas and was very excited to spend time with her brother. Her brother also threw a party at his home for all of his friends to come over and visit with Kim. Kim enjoyed the attention and telling everyone about her new home, her job and her life in Springfield.

The trip of a lifetime

Adam, whom lives at Sherman Group Home, is always on the go: Working, spending time with friends, weekend trips with his aunt, etc. Despite experiencing a full schedule of outings and activities, Adam had a dream that had not been realized. Adam desired to visit his best friend in Arizona. Worried about the prospect of Adam flying alone, his guardian was reluctant to agree to the trip. However, Adam pleaded his case and his aunt purchased Adam a ticket on a non-stop flight to Arizona. When Adam learned his dream was about to be realized he literally screamed and began to cry saying, "It's what I've always wanted."

Adam departed on Nov. 13 for his first independent vacation. While in Arizona, Adam attended a NASCAR race, which he always loves doing, and visited with his friend.



This independent adventure improved Adam's self esteem and granted him an amazing time with his friend.

Community Connections participates in parade

Clients, staff and family from Springfield Community Connections programs participated in the 2009 Sounds of the Season parade in Springfield on Saturday, Dec. 12. The group worked for weeks to prepare for the parade after an anonymous donor stepped in to support the group with its desire to spread holiday cheer during the parade. The float featured a seven foot tall Christmas tree with an abundance of ornaments and decorations. Float participants even wore matching red or green sweatshirts. For many individuals involved this was the first time to participate in a parade. Said Kelly Burks, Community Connections East Manager, "We are thankful that we had this opportunity, it was a great time and everybody had fun." The group hopes to make parade participation an annual event and has already developed plans for next year. "We'll start building the float in July," claimed one staff member.



Christmas Extravaganza supports The Arc Foundation

The Arc of the Ozarks Foundation celebrated its 15th Annual "Christmas Extravaganza" on Monday Dec. 7. This year's event, held at The Tower Club in Springfield, was attended by over 170 supporters and featured a silent auction, music, and the presentation of "Making a Difference" awards given to two individuals with disabilities who have made a difference in our community. Local TV Sportscaster Ned Reynolds was the master of ceremonies for the event with special music provided by Zachary Slaight. "Overall we are very pleased with how this event went. The attendance was outstanding and the food and music were fantastic. We have already discussed changes we can implement next year to make the silent auction run even better, otherwise things were just great," said Larry Freund, executive director of The Arc of the Ozarks Foundation.

The 2010 event will feature a name change to The Connie Meyer Christmas Extravaganza as a tribute to Connie's parents Ken and Jane Meyer for their instrumental role in the founding of The Arc of the Ozarks. Save the date now to attend The Connie Meyer Christmas Extravaganza on Dec. 6, 2010.

Greene County Board gift brightens holiday

Greene County Board for the Developmentally Disabled made Christmas brighter for clients without families by granting The Arc funds needed to purchase them gifts. Funds granted totaled \$2,100 and were used to buy gifts for nearly 30 people.

On Christmas Day, many people in the Renovations program were not alone as they joined others at the Timothy Grant Newport Activities center for activities and a traditional Christmas feast.

Celebrating the Holidays at The Arc

The holiday season, from Thanksgiving extending through New Years, is a time filled with festivities and fun with family and friends. Here at The Arc we believe in celebrating as a community, whether at homes or day program, or in the office.

Activities ran galore this year with several events hosted by the Education and Recreation department, including craft nights, dances and a dinner with Santa. Other holiday activities included a fundraising gala, Community Connections in the parade (see page 4), and an employee potluck dinner and gift exchange. Below are a few photos taken during the holidays. To see more photos check out The Arc's Facebook page.



Heads Up!

Be on the lookout for these upcoming client events from Ed/Rec:

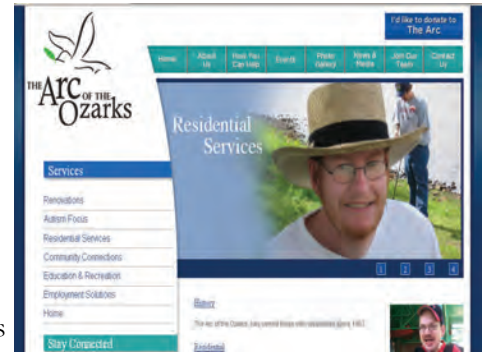
January - Winter Splash Bash - Fri. Jan 29

February - Sweetheart Formal

For more information contact Mary or Krystle at 417-864-7887 or mmargreiter@thearcoftheozarks.org.

The Arc launches new website

The Arc has increased its online presence and capabilities with the launch of a new website in mid December. The website, which can be found at www.thearcoftheozarks.org, offers a fresh look at what The Arc is all about. “One of our goals was to make the site easy to navigate,” said The Arc’s Chief Advancement Officer Julie Guillebeau. Links to all departments can be found on the website, in addition to information on jobs, events and donation opportunities. Julie concludes “The website is our face on the Internet; it needs to be inviting and show the heart of The Arc while providing valuable information for those in need of services.” Within minutes of the website’s launch, The Arc began experiencing its benefits as a request for help and multiple job applications were submitted through the system. “We are seeing more job applications than ever before,” said Karen Hokanson, Human Resources Assistant.



ERC banquet honors employees

The Employee Relations Committee (ERC) of The Arc hosted its annual Employee Appreciation Banquet on Saturday Jan. 16 to recognize the hard work and service of The Arc employees. This year’s event was held at the Ramada Oasis Convention Center. Employees enjoyed a specially selected meal and entertainment. Employees who have completed one, five, ten, fifteen and twenty years of service were specially recognized and received a gift courtesy of ERC and The Arc. In all, over 160 individuals received recognition. Recognitions included Employee of the Year for Springfield and Monett, two parent/guardian of the year awards and two community service awards. Ben Thatcher was named Springfield Area Employee of the Year while Patty Reed earned that award for Monett. The Arc recognized the doctors of FMCC - Cox and Steven Newbold, MD as Community Service Members of the Year for Springfield and Monett respectively. Maxine Tipword and Steve and Donna Carl were recognized as Parent/Guardian of the Year recipients.

In addition to these awards, four lucky employees received an additional \$500 in their mid January paychecks. Their names were drawn from the more than 600 employees without a major accident in 2009. This great accident free number resulted in The Arc’s insurance “risk number” being lowered, which provides savings for The Arc to use on programs.

Employees of the Month—2009 Review

Reflecting back on 2009, The Arc of the Ozarks would like to recognize the following valuable employees who have gone above and beyond to support the individuals we serve (*italicized* names are newly recognized employees):

Monett

January - Patty Reed, Program Manager, Cassville Community Connections (CC)

February - Pam Nicholls, Sixth Street, ISL Team Manager

March - Ruth Ann Richards, Direct Support Professional (DSP), Sixth Street Team

April - Joann Stewart, DSP, Community Connections

May - Pam Liley, Shift Supervisor, Cassville CC

June - Heather Lemings, Employment Training Specialist (ETS), Employment Solutions

July - Carrie Heseman, Team Manager, Sixth Street Team

August - Stacey Webb, Receptionist

September - Jim Garringer, DSP, Community Connections

October - Michael Eubanks, DSP, Sixth Street ISL

November - *Patty Pippin, DSP, Community Connections*

December - *Amy Singleton-Williams, ETS, Employment Solutions*

Springfield

January - Jackie Mayne, Shift Supervisor, Oak Hill Residential Team

February - Cindy Miller, Office Assistant

March - Daniel Fellwock, DSP, Finley Team

April - Christine Gregory, Shift Sup, Renovations Team #3

May - Elizabeth Clemmons, DSP, Sagamont Team

June - Mike Rasmussen, Information Technology, Assistant

July - Joel Brown, Team Manager, Norton Team

August - Krystle Hurst, Assistant Director of Education/Recreation

September - Mark Miller, Crew Manager, Employment Solutions

October - Kelly Burks, Program Manager, Community Connections East Manager

November - *Ben Thatcher, Program Supervisor, Autism Team*

December - *Robbie Green, Shift Supervisor, Renovations*

Upcoming Events

Area college athletic programs support The Arc

Recognizing the impact not-for-profit organizations have in our community, several area college basketball programs are hosting awareness nights in support of The Arc during January. During these awareness events, fans have an opportunity to cheer for their team using a specially designed megaphone which offers information on services The Arc provides and ways the community can support those services.

We are grateful for these opportunities and hope to fill the stands with members of The Arc family.

Contact Nate Reed nreed@thearcoftheozarks.org for more information on these games and ticket opportunities.

	January 4 The Arc night at Drury Men's Basketball vs. Rockhurst—8:00pm	
	January 9 The Arc day at Drury Women's Basketball vs. Bellarmine—3:15pm	
	January 18 The Arc night at Missouri State Lady Bears Basketball vs. Illinois State—7:05pm	
	January 30 The Arc day at SBU Bearcat Basketball vs. Missouri Southern	
	Women's Game: 5:30pm Men's Game: 7:30pm	
Have an event idea? E-mail Nate Reed at nreed@thearcoftheozarks.org		



HUNT, FISH & SWAP
 8am-6pm, Saturday, February 27
 1pm-4pm, Sunday, February 28

2-Day Pass \$8 - Free Parking. Concession Stand.
 Hear experts on fishing, deer hunting and re-loading
 Hunting dog demonstrations and more, daily!
 Door prizes will be given away throughout the event

PLEASE HELP RAISE MONEY TO BUY A MUCH-NEEDED VAN TO TRANSPORT PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

BE A SPONSOR
SPONSOR LEVELS:
\$1,000 Choice of booth location
 Sponsor sign
 Program page and display banner
 Direct mail appeal
\$500 Booth
 Logo program listing
 Sponsor sign
 Direct mail appeal
\$250 Booth
 Program listing
 Sponsor sign

BE A VENDOR
 booths available, large items outside
 Dealers: \$50
 Individuals: \$50

THE Arc OF THE Ozarks
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 p.417.864.7887 t.417.864.4307

MAP

2010 Hunt, Fish and Swap takes place February 27 & 28

Vendors are signing up for the 2010 Hunt, Fish & Swap event. This year's event takes place the last weekend of February, the 27th and 28th. The swap meet will take place from 8-6 on Saturday and 1-4 on Sunday. Two day tickets are available at \$8 each. Vendor booths and sponsorship opportunities are still available for the weekend. Booths are \$50 for the weekend and sponsorships start at \$250. Contact Nate Reed for more information nreed@thearcoftheozarks.org or (417) 864-7887.

Current Event Sponsors:

ADSmith, United Access, Friga Construction, Barker-Phillips-Jackson, Inc., SOMO Agri Supply, Mineral Mountain Ranch, Cabela's, Southwest Center for Independent Living (SCIL) - for Day at the Range, Associated Electric.

Day at The Range and Outdoor Adventure Fair:

An annual event sponsored by SCIL and the Missouri Conservation Department, Day at the Range is an opportunity for individuals with disabilities in the Ozarks to experience the outdoors. Contact Patty Hayne (psmith@swcil.org) for more information.





This newsletter is provided free of charge on a quarterly basis to all those interested. For more information contact:

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Monett Office

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417-354-0071 Fax: 417-354-0631

Bolivar Office

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417-777-3079 Fax: 417-777-8579

Joplin Office

1820 E. 20th, Ste. 10 Joplin, MO 64804
417-625-4528 Fax: 417-625-4827



Commission on Accreditation
Of Rehabilitation Facilities



United Way of the Ozarks

Support The Arc of the Ozarks!
2nd Tuesday of the Month
4pm-10pm

Texas Roadhouse will Donate 10%
of your food purchase to
The Arc of the Ozarks
when you give this flyer to
your server or mention
The Arc of the Ozarks!

Call AHEAD SEATING

255 East Monastery
Springfield, MO

Texas Roadhouse helps support The Arc

The Arc of the Ozarks is taking advantage of the 10% Fundraisers program at Texas Roadhouse. Beginning with Tuesday Feb. 9, the second Tuesday of each month will offer an opportunity to dine out and support The Arc at the same time. Anytime between 4 and 10pm on the second Tuesday of the month bring in this newsletter or mention The Arc to your Texas Roadhouse waitress and 10% of your purchase will be donated back to The Arc.

“We are very thankful for the support Texas Roadhouse has shown us through this process,” said Nate Reed, special events coordinator at The Arc. “They put together all of the fliers for us and provided excellent ideas on how to market these fundraisers. It is great to see a company giving back to their community.”

If you have questions about this benefit you can contact Nate Reed at nreed@thearcoftheozarks.org.

Mission Statement

Our mission at The Arc of the Ozarks is to support individuals with disabilities in directing their own lives as valued members of the community.

The Arc believes every person should have the opportunity to achieve the highest level of independence.

We, at The Arc of the Ozarks, are committed to assisting you or your loved one in reaching that level.