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The Archive

The Arc of the Ozarks

$1.5 million addition increases capacity

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. The first phase should be ready for occupancy by the end of the year. Then the remodeling of current office space into training facilities begins.

When fully completed, the new addition also will house a counseling and a family support center, including a specialty resource library and Internet access.

A training kitchen, funded in part by the Darr Family Foundation, will allow classes in meal planning and preparation for The Arc clients.

The addition is of brick and adjoins the current Timothy Grant Newport Activity Center. Renovation of current office space there will increase efficiency and our training and education facilities. The recreation/therapy center will retain its full size gym and aquatic center.

Architectural and engineering services are under the direction of Windsor Warren. RC Kramer is the contractor.

Board member honored

Dunn (L) with Jim D. Morris at the Ground Breaking Ceremony for the Jim D Morris Campus in Springfield.

The Arc's board vice chairman, Richard "Dick" Dunn is this year's Association of Fundraising Professionals Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser.

The honor recognizes Dick's efforts on behalf of The Arc to complete the $1.5 million capital campaign and to have a positive impact on all of The Arc's advancement efforts. Dick consistently helps with activities and fundraisers at The Arc, spearheaded the committee work for development of a positive working relationship with The Foundation, and was instrumental in the creation of the advancement department. John Foley, president/CEO says of Dick, "He truly gives of his time, talent and treasures. We are pleased to see the fundraising professionals recognize Dick for his work on behalf of The Arc and all the support services we provide those with disabilities."

Dunn is slated to become chairman of The Arc board in 2010.

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From the desk of John Foley

John Foley, President/CEO

We're all about building, but it's much more than bricks and mortar. Yes, the ongoing construction of a new addition and renovation to the Timothy Grant Activity Center is perhaps the most visible work, but we also are busy building our financial base; our quality programming; community awareness in Springfield, Monett, Bolivar and Mountain Grove.

We also are constantly building our staff. Trainings to keep our staff informed on the best care for our clients is ongoing. In fact, that heavy schedule of various trainings, some going as late as 8 pm on Friday nights, is just one example of our need for the new addition on our Jim D. Morris campus.

Our bricks and mortar phase one is nearing completion and we want to move on to phase two, which is the second floor of the addition. A capital fundraising campaign for that will begin soon. Our goal is about $750,000.

At the same time we have ended another year in the black, while initiating a safe harbor fund. That goal is to have six months of operating costs in a reserve fund.

Communication efforts begin with a new publication for The Arc. It includes annual report aspects, but is designed to give readers a better look at who we are and what we do. It puts a face, or actually many faces, on The Arc of the Ozarks.

Of course all of our building, our progress, is possible only through your help. We value how you support us, whether it be with your time as volunteers, your talents and expertise and/or with your dollars. Thank you!

HoneyBaked Ham is giving back to The Arc

HONEYBAKED
The world's best ham

HoneyBaked Ham at the corner of Battlefield and Fremont in Springfield, is raising money for The Arc. No coupons are necessary, just mention The Arc when you make your purchases. For every ham or turkey sandwich bought, $1 comes back to The Arc; for every turkey bought in November, it's $3; and for every ham in December, The Arc gets $5.

So hurry and place your orders, before the supplies run out. You benefit with great turkey or ham; The Arc benefits by the donation from HoneyBaked Ham.

Please help us Go Green

Please send us your email address so we can send this newsletter electronically.

Just email, info@thearcoftheozarks.org, the following information: Name, email address, telephone number and mailing address.

In appreciation for helping us Go Green, we will send you a Go Green tote. Limited quantities are available.

Give us your email and we'll send you this tote with The Arc logo.

Chili cook-off is a scorching success

Chili and cookie contest with dessert auction raises funds for Employee Relations Committee

The Arc may be known for the quality of service provided to those with disabilities, but now a few can add accolades for their chili and cookies.

Cindy Miller and her committee worked diligently to get the entries in and find the right judges. Cindy writes, "Thanks to everyone for making this year's Annual Chili Cook Off a huge success. The Baked Goods Auction was fun and raised more money this year than last so it was overall WONDERFUL."

The lucky judges for this year were: Chili: Doug Wombles, Wendy Jackson, Georgia Houser and Bob Barnard. Cookies: Alisa Lowry, Audra Trout, Dick Jones and Ron Bahl. Each set of judges labored hard to pick the winners and we are very appreciative of their willingness to donate their time and, for the hotter chilies, sacrifice their taste buds.

It's not too early to start planning for 2010. This year's judges have volunteered again. United Access and Managed Care have committed to entering next year.

Cindy concludes, "Congratulations to all who won prizes, those who participated and to those who took honors in the relay races that Nurse Jeff Ziegler coordinated."

The Big Winners:

Chili:

1st Place…..Community Connections—"The Bomb"

2nd AND 3rd Places…….. Oak Hill

People's Choice…..Debbie Kleen

Cookies:

1st Place…..Cindy Miller

2nd Place…..Community Connections

3rd Place.....Plymouth's Boolicious Chocolate Chip Cookies

Did you know?

The Arc's annual budget is about $17 million with more than 650 employees. Using the Chamber's 2-3 multiplier, the overall economic impact to this community is $34-51 million.

Christmas Extravaganza is set for Dec 7

The annual Christmas Extravaganza, benefiting The Foundation, will be Dec. 7 at the Tower Club. Tables of ten may be reserved for $750; individual tickets are $75 each, if committed before Nov. 10.

Highlighting the festive event will be music by Zachary Slaight and the MSU Pride Christmas Brass Ensemble. A silent auction also will be held including items to start your holiday shopping or just brighten your home. Unique this year will be the availability of several of Peter Engler's wooden Santa creations.

Engler Santa ornaments, made specifically for The Arc, signed and numbered, will be the donor gift for tribute or memorial donations of $50 or more. The Foundation has contracted with The Arc's Employment Solutions crew to package and mail the ornament orders.

To make a reservation, order an ornament or for additional information, contact Larry Freund, Foundation executive director, 417-883-9992.

No limits was unlimited for fun in the sun

As we face the cool breezes of fall, we remember the warmth of summer and how the Education and Recreation department made sure that it took full advantage of the warmer weather when nearly 60 individuals attended the summer camps. Each week camp attendees participated in field trips and crafts which mirrored that week's theme.

During Stars & Stripes Week, participants were encouraged to find different ways they could help each other and the community. Rock Star Week helped participants learn about different types of communications and improve their communication and social skills. A Disney themed week involved regular discussions regarding positive self-esteem and ways to improve our self-esteem and that of our friends. The summer culminated with Sports Week where participants focused on team building skills and activities that focused on exercise and health.

Each week also included field trips and crafts. Trips were taken to numerous locations such as Bennett Springs Fish Hatchery, Springfield Nature Center, Springs Farm, Republic Aquatic Center the History Museum, a show at the Springfield Little Theatre and the Jordan Valley Fountains. Crafts included making flags, tye dye shirts, foam fingers for sporting events and making homemade ice cream. Participants were able to take part in other activities including making musical instruments, face painting, and a dance party.

Integrated camps in Springfield, Republic, and Willard park boards continued through the month of August with 10 participants enrolled.

It's not too late to get a tax credit for your donation

YOP 50 percent tax credits remain available through December 31, 2010. However, our goal is to complete the sale of these tax credits by the end of this year. This allows The Arc to apply for more NAP and YOP tax credits in the coming year.

Tax credits, normally in $1000 increments, allow the donor to take the normal charitable deduction on the federal return, which then flows through to the state, allowing the normal deduction, plus granting 50 percent of the original gift as a tax credit.

Tax credits have been invaluable in completing the current construction phase and will be needed as we begin to raise funds for the completion of the second floor of the new addition. Currently that area remains unfinished, pending additional funding.

Regardless of your use of tax credits, any donation you make to The Arc is tax deductible and if done by Dec. 31, 2009 can apply to your 2009 tax return.

Everyone gets to work, everyone gets a paycheck

Last spring, the MO Planning Council RFI awarded a $75,000 grant over two years to be used by The Arc to increase employment options for the individuals receiving services. During these two years, The Arc will explore transitioning the Community Connections Day Program to competitive, community-based employment.

The Arc will be looking to assist current work crew members in the Employment Solutions program to move into competitive employment. Lori Pace, director of Employment Solutions and Paula Gronniger, director of Community Connections will oversee this new direction for the agency.

"As part of this process, The Arc has hired Organizational Change Consultants, which has helped organizations make this change since 1990," says Lori, "so they have a lot of experience and expertise to bring to the table." The consultants already have met with individuals receiving services, parents/guardians, funding sources, staff and community members.

The entrepreneurial spirit already is alive and well at The Arc, as Paula and the clients and staff in the day programs have created a cottage industry. They produce dog and cat treats, decorative soaps and incense for sale to the public.

John H. Foley, president/CEO says, "This is a fundamental change for The Arc. Clients who come to us will have a job relevant to their abilities."

Who we serve:

Thomas Williamson works at Mexican Villa on E. Sunshine. Prior to working at Mexican Villa, Thomas worked for The Arc of the Ozarks on a work crew. He received assistance from Employment Solutions to secure his current position as a host/busser and has been employed by Mexican Villa for the past 2 years. Thomas lives in his own apartment and spends much of his free time volunteering for A Sporting Chance. He is an avid golfer and loves to bowl.

Grants Received

Pearl Foundation—$2,000 for Monett Easy Stand

Webster Electric Foundation—$6,000 for landscaping work in Marshfield

The Arc of the Ozarks is on Facebook

The Arc of the Ozarks is on Facebook: Three times actually. The Arc as a whole, ed/rec and Employment Solutions, have all taken the leap with the most popular social networking site on the Internet.

The recently redone main page, can be found by going to www.facebook.com and searching for The Arc of the Ozarks in the search box. The Arc Facebook was established to keep employees, clients, families and friends up to date on the happenings at The Arc. Through the site we can update our "fans" about volunteer opportunities, events, campaigns and important news. The site also allows us to post videos, photo albums and the occasional fun fact or brain teaser.

You can find the education & recreation program on Facebook by visiting The Arc of the Ozarks main page and following the posted link.

Employment Solutions has also set up a fan page to keep everyone up to date on the organizational change that is in process here at The Arc. There is a link to Employment Solutions page through the main page or you can find the site by typing "Employment Solutions The Arc of the Ozarks" in the search box.

Keep an eye out for The Arc on YouTube soon. A link will be posted on Facebook and on The Arc website when available.

First person to post a "comment" on the Facebook page gets a free Go Green Grocery Tote.

The Monett office moves into new facility

The Monett Arc is now officially at 1010 Old Airport Road, and everybody is happy to say the least. It was all smiles at the recent dedication of the former child care facility. The dedication ceremony was attended by approximately 75 people ranging from board members to clients to interested citizens and city officials.

The Arc of the Ozarks, Monett

Renovation of the 6,825 square foot building was completed by The Arc's maintenance staff, headed by Ron Wolfe.

John Foley, president/CEO of The Arc says the new quarters allow for consolidation and expansion of current services offered in the Monett area. "The renovation to the building, made it most suitable to our use as a day program and offices."

Foley continues, "Our purchasing this building was a community collaboration. We could not have done it without the help of the USDA, Thom Conus at First State Bank, the Barry County Board for the Developmentally Disabled and the Lawrence County Board for the Developmentally Disabled."

The facility, built in 2001 as a day care, has a commercial kitchen, eight bathrooms, storage and classrooms.

The local VFW Chapter kicked off the ceremony with presentation of colors.

A large crowd gathered for the dedication ceremony.

Monett Mayor Jim Orr shared at the ceremony.

Employees of the Month

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:

Monett

July - Carrie Heseman, Team Manager, Sixth Street Team
August - Stacey Webb, Receptionist
September - Jim Garringer, Direct Support Professional for Community Connections
October - Michael Eubanks, DSP Sixth Street ISL

Springfield

July - Joel Brown, Team Manager, Norton Team
August - Krystle Hurst, Assistant Director of Education/Recreation
September - Mark Miller, Crew Manager for Employment Solutions
October - Kelly Burks, Program Manager, East Side Day Program

Special Events Coordinator Nate Reed

Nate Reed joins advancement team

Nate Reed is the new special events coordinator at The Arc of the Ozarks, announces John Foley, president/CEO. Reed completed his academic work at Drury University, were he was a member of Drury's award wining SIFE team. He also developed special projects within the SIFE program.

In this issue you can read about some of the great special events Nate is organizing, which are going to be both fun and fund raising. Nate can be reached through e-mail at nreed@thearcoftheozarks.org or at 417-864-7887.

Upcoming Events

Q Enoteca night supports The Arc Nov 13

Q Enoteca on Commercial Street in Springfield will be hosting a support The Arc night on Friday, November 13 from 5:30-8 pm. Event attendees will have opportunities to purchase artwork, listen to live music, and participate in a raffle for a gift basket containing items donated by C-Street merchants. A portion of Q Enoteca's sales for the night will also benefit The Arc. Q Enoteca is located at 308 W. Commercial St. just west of Campbell Ave. Contact Nate Reed at nreed@thearcoftheozarks.org or (417) 864-7887.

Don't forget!
The 2009 Christmas Extravaganza takes place Monday December 7 at the Tower Club. See pg 3 for more information.

Preparations begin for 2010 Hunt, Fish and Swap

Preparations have begun for the 2010 Hunting and Fishing Swap Meet. Following the success of last year's event, the planning committee has started early and already received commitments from several speakers and vendors. This year's event will take place the last weekend of February, the 26th-28th. New this year will be a sneak peak event on Friday which will include barbecue sponsored by SOMO Agri Supply. Tickets for the sneak peak will be $25 each and are available by contacting Nate Reed at (417) 864-7887. 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.

The 2010 Hunt, Fish and Swap will take place Feb 26th-28th.

Heads up:
The Arc night at JQH Arena will be Monday January 18th at the Lady Bear's basketball game versus Illinois State.

Help pave the way for The Arc's future

Engrave your name, or that of a loved one, in a brick that will remain indefinitely at The Arc flag plaza. A regular sized paving brick, 4'x8' costs $100 and holds 20 characters and three lines. Other brick sizes are 8"x8" and cost $250. We also offer a granite slab for a wall, which measures 10"x10" and costs $500. There is a limited number of bricks and granite. Bricks make great holiday presents. Messages are customizable. Sample messages: A tribute to Libby Barnard for 25 years of service; Congratulations to Jim for earning his GED; In loving memory of Winnie Lodge. For more information or order forms, contact Julie Guillebeau or Nate Reed in the advancement office (417) 864-7887.

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

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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

Use search engines? Shop online? Use GoodSearch.com

Search engine donates portion of revenues to nonprofit organizations

As you begin your holiday shopping, think GoodSearch.com. This search engine donates 50 percent of its revenue to charities. You use GoodSearch.com as you would any other search engine, as it is powered by Yahoo! The money GoodSearch.com donates to your cause comes from its advertisers. This means the users and charities do not spend a dime.

The Arc is registered with GoodSearch.com and has raised $54.00 since being registered. Let's try to add to that as we all share the Christmas spirit when shopping on line. Some online retail sites such as Amazon.com will donate a portion of their proceeds to your charity for items purchased through GoodSearch.com

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

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.