

Casino Night 2011 A Success!

Jeans, boots and hats set a casual tone for our old-west 2011 Casino Night fundraising event. Guests were welcomed by Honorary Co-Chair Catherine Leggett and her husband, Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett. Mr. Leggett praised The Arc and our impressive and important work in the Montgomery County community, then encouraged all guests to be generous in their support of the night's fundraising activities.

Honorary Co-Chair Greta Kreuz, ABC7/WJLA-TV Montgomery County Bureau Chief, was master of ceremonies for the first-ever Raise Your Paddle auction. Items used in The Arc's daily work were described and guests raised paddles to donate toward the purchase of each item. This unique

approach allowed 100% of the donation to go directly into our programs.

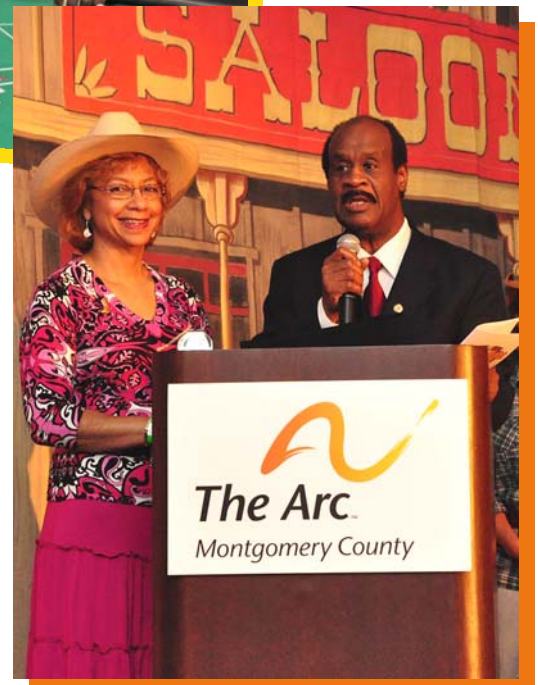
Generous patrons donated funds to



Casino Night photos courtesy of Ann Maas Photography and Marc Fitzsimmons.



purchase nine cribs and three changing tables, plus 18 sets of toys and sports equipment for the expanding Children & Youth Services programs. Vocational & Day Services received two computer touch screens and five specially adapted keyboards with trackballs. Residential Services received six microwaves, one heavy-duty, commercial vacuum and window treatments for an entire home, and nine e-Readers were donated to support the Next Chapter Book Clubs. In total, over \$88,000 was raised to support The Arc on June 4! Turn to page 4 for more photos.



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Identifying, creating and sustaining inclusive communities that embrace and engage individuals and families affected by intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Achieve with us.

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The Arc Montgomery County

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New Board Members Begin Service

Four new and 13 returning board members were elected to service on June 29, providing new leadership for the 2011-2012 fiscal year.

Charles Butler, Kathleen Maloney, Beth Sodee and Lillian Trippett (pictured in order) will be volunteering their time to advance our mission. Charles Butler is a Recreation Specialist with Montgomery County Department of Recreation. Kathleen Maloney is a self-advocate and dedicated volunteer for The Arc. Beth Sodee, also a self-advocate, represents S.T.A.N.D. Together. Lillian Trippett is an attorney with expertise in corporate and board governance.

Returning board members include President Frank Zappala, Vice President Tobin Conley, Treasurer Alan Pultyniewicz, Secretary Arlene Sullivan, Past President Eugene J. Mark, Jr., plus members Dave Castaneda, Tracey M. Fitzsimmons, Charles Franklin, Marilyn Greenspan, Maxine Hamilton (representing Residential Support Group), Wendy Kaufman, Michael L. Mack, Roger Marcotte, Gena Mitchell (representing Down Syndrome Network of Montgomery County), John Slavcoff and Andrea Soltesz.

Children & Youth Services Moves Completed

FICCC (Family, Infant & Child Care Center) has relocated from Rockville to Silver Spring, merging with Karasik Child Care Center at 10611 Tenbrook Drive. The combined program has been expanded to serve 170 children from ages six weeks to ten years, and is already 75% enrolled. This inclusive program allows children of all abilities, with and without special care needs, to learn and grow together. The center focuses on the developmental needs of each child through a partnership between families and professionally-trained staff, and provides opportunities for personal growth and development in a safe, positive, nurturing and enriching environment.

MPAC (Montgomery Primary Achievement Center) has completely relocated to Gaithersburg, sharing space with the new Summit Academy program at 205 South Summit Avenue (see separate article at right). Private physical, speech and occupational therapy services will also be offered in Gaithersburg. AfterAll, serving youth ages 10-21, remains at 410A University Boulevard West, Silver Spring. AfterAll has forged a new partnership with the Silver Spring YMCA to allow participants to join inclusive teen programs focused on fitness.

Thanks to a donation from Georgetown Preparatory School, ten children with special needs participated in gymnastics classes at MarVa Tots 'n' Teens in Rockville. Ten youth volunteers were paired with the students to provide one-to-one support, and the two-week program was overseen by an occupational therapist. This inclusive opportunity gave these children the chance to participate in a community program with typically-developing peers.



New Board Members

Joyce Taylor to Step Down as Executive Director

After four years of extremely successful leadership of The Arc Montgomery County, Executive Director Joyce Taylor will step down on December 31 to pursue direct service opportunities. Joyce has been employed at The Arc for over 30 years and previously served as Director of Vocational & Day Services for 18 years. In that position, she launched the Seniors Steppin' Out program and oversaw the 2009 opening of The Arc's Thrift Store in Wheaton. She helped grow the division by 300 percent by connecting capable workers with Montgomery County businesses to provide key services such as mailing, recycling and lawn care.

In June 2008, The Arc's Board of Directors requested that Joyce serve as Interim Executive Director, and in November of that year she was permanently appointed to the Executive Director position. Joyce led the agency through a difficult financial period, successfully returning it to a balanced budget and fiscal stability. The past three years have been financially challenging due to dramatic funding cuts at the federal, state and local levels. Joyce has continued to carefully manage overhead and infrastructure to reduce costs while maintaining quality services for The Arc's program participants. Joyce recently oversaw completion of a five-year strategic plan for the agency, incorporating input from all levels of the organization. The new plan, which calls for full inclusion and more community engagement, sets The Arc on a bold, new path toward being a leader in our community.

A nationwide search for a new Executive Director will be facilitated by Managance Coaching & Consulting. Information is available on our website regarding the position requirements and application process.

New Programs in Gaithersburg

Summit Academy has launched at 205 South Summit Avenue in Gaithersburg, offering an inclusive, upcounty nursery school program for children ages 2-4. Before and after school care is also available.



Activities include story time, music and movement, sensory play, number and counting games, as well as pre-reading, writing, science and art instruction. Children participate in multicultural celebrations, field trips and outdoor play. Classrooms are staffed with certified early childhood education teachers who encourage self-discovery, independence, creative thinking and cooperative learning.



In addition to the school program, private pay **physical, speech and occupational therapy** are now available to children 18 months-10 years

old. Skilled therapists guide children of varying abilities and needs, working closely with each family to identify goals and strategies.

For more information, contact Eileen Coyne, Program Director, EileenC@arcmontmd.org, 301.984.5777 x3315.

First Friday at the Thrift Store

Save 40% on the first Friday of every month at The Arc Montgomery County Thrift Store! No exclusions, just plenty of great bargains. The newly-redesigned store makes shopping easier, and there are street parking spaces right out front. Visit today!

2658 University Boulevard West, Wheaton, MD 20902, 301.984.5777



Thank You for Supporting The Arc Montgomery County!

These individuals and organizations generously donated from May 1-August 31, 2011.

Patricia Abell, Clyde Agnew & DeLando Haywood, Mitra Ahadpour, Harbhajan & Satinder Ajrawat, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP, Loretta M. Alexander, Maria Alfonzo & Aura Herrera, Melika Al-Kawas, Janice Allen, Ambius, Byron & Mary Anderson, Cheryl Andries, Edward & Noelle Angevine, Anonymous, Aaron & Kimberly Armour, Baby Proofing Montgomery, Lissa Bales, Barbara Barnhart, Karla Barrera, Barrington Gifts, Valerie Barton, Constance & Ursula Battle, James & Mattie Bazel, BBMK Contracting LLC, Donna Benjamin, Mark T. Bennett, Dolores Bernato, Bethesda Big Train Baseball, Fred Bewell, Michael Bledsoe, Albert & Faye Bonner, Thomas & Marjorie Bonorden, Frank & Patricia Bowery, Boris & Julia Brodsky, Oya Brooks, Jessie Brown, Rolf & Janet Butters, Sarah & Terence Byrne, Elisa Canete, Raul & Megan Cardenas, Care.com, Lia Carter, David & Donna Case, Pablo & Rebecca Chavez, Virek Chopra & Amber Khan, Adam Chornesky, Lisa Chulock, Rachel Chung, Robert & Asha Clark, Karen Colandreo, Compuware Corporation, Tobin & Susan Conley, Donald & Diane Creed, Karen Crews, James Cumberpatch, Howard & Marianne Dawson, Delcor Technology Solutions, Inc., Loretta DeLuca, Randall DePaul, Eileen Dillon, James Dinnel, Maureen Donelan, David & Maria Dudish, David & Audrey Dyer, Peter & Dana Eason, Edelman Financial Services, LLC, Fred & Hilda Ederer, Embarcadero Pacifico Beach Resort, Ross Erwin, Essential Inspirations, Estate Of Ruth Mathias, Andrea Evans, Edgar & Adrian Evans, Gail Ewing, Frank & Laurian Fasano, Jessica Ferretti, Fikorus Jewelry, Dionne Fine, David & Barbara Fishback, John & Ruth Fitzgerald, Ethan & Geoffrey Fitzsimmons, Marc & Tracey Fitzsimmons, John & Eileen Flood, Johnathan Folkers & Drennan Lindsay, Elizabeth Fontek, Charles Franklin, Alice Franks, Gary & Ellen Franks, David Freund & Karen Caplan, Douglas Gaddis & Gary Begin, Branch Banking & Trust Company, Teddy Gebre-Medhin & Sarah Tadele, George & Ruth Gibson, Del. Jim Gilchrist, Octavius Glenn & Danielle King, Dan & Donna Goldberg, Philip & Janet Golrick, Nan Gootenberg, Neil Greenberger, Sarah Greenblatt, Martha Anne Greenleaf, Steve Grenier, Thomas & Joan Grimes, Donald Hadley, William & Maxine Hamilton, Gregg & Holly Hand, James & Judy Hanger, Eleanor Harris, Robert & Susan Harrison, Christopher Hatch, Heavenly Scent, Barbara Hinkston, Del. Sheila Hixson, Craig Hoover & Julie Grohovsky, Latchezar Hristov & Kristina Popandreeva, Richard & Lorna Huber, Kent Husted, Konslyn Hutchinson, Thomas & Barbara Johnson, Arthur Jones & Joan Christopher, James & Winnie Kao, Linda Katzper, Kathleen Kaufman, Steven & Wendy Kaufman, Jeanne Kelly, James & Clara Kennedy, James & Faith Kirk, Klinedinst Management, Inc., Knights Of Columbus, Mater Dei Council #9774, Laura Knott, Del. Benjamin Kramer, Greta Kreuz, Robert, Lori & Diana Krolikowski, Jeffrey & Mary Laizure, Fannie Lee, Hon. Isiah & Catherine Leggett, Let Frank Do It, LLC, Carrie Lieberman, David Lightfoot & Sari Hornstein, Maurice Lipnick, Deborah Lucas, Randall Luttenberg & Heidi Lovett, Jaimie Lwin, Michael & Joseph Mack, Kathleen Maloney, Thomas & Carrie Mampilly, Robert & Diane Mand, Roger & Carol Marcotte, Eugene & Deborah Mark, Josie Mark, Katie Mark, Ken Martin, Loretta Martin, Betsey McCoy, Richard & Robin McEntire, Susan McGivney, Esther McGuire, Maureen McNulty, Katherine Meaker & Amy Moore,



Greta Kreuz and Tracey Fitzsimmons launched the Raise Your Paddle auction.



Boots, hats and cacti set the evening's casual atmosphere.

Donna Goldberg, Philip & Janet Golrick, Nan Gootenberg, Neil Greenberger, Sarah Greenblatt, Martha Anne Greenleaf, Steve Grenier, Thomas & Joan Grimes, Donald Hadley, William & Maxine Hamilton, Gregg & Holly Hand, James & Judy Hanger, Eleanor Harris, Robert & Kathleen Herring, Larry & Denice Hinden,



The Band performing during the reception.



Mark and Renny Springuel volunteered as cashiers throughout the evening.

Dan Melamed & Sharlene Weatherwax, Frances Metz, Mark & Amy Miller, Mizell Lumber & Hardware, Guillermo & Maria Montes, Moyer & Sons Moving & Storage, Inc., Tracy & Margaret Mulligan, Allen & June Murray, Allen & June Murray, Hanh Thi Nguyen, Thomas & Karen O'Connor, Robert Olcott, Open Door Presbyterian Church, Michael & Linda Orleans, PEPCO, Karen Pesapane, Scott Phelps, Laura Pike, Albert & Helen Pollin, Premier Cancun Vacations, Richard & Sonia Princinsky, Alan & Raymond Pultyniewicz, Henry Quintero & Marilyn Taggart, Donald Ralbovsky, Maria U. Reis, River Falls, Johnna Robinson, Jeffrey & Leslie Roeger, Danilo & Maria Nydia Romero, Ray & Kay Romero, Mark Ross, Round House Theatre, George & Karol Rubenstein, Steve Ruckman & Ximena Roca, Anton Salah, Virginia Salitrik, Friedhelm Sandbrink & Laura Jappe, Jackie Sanders, Torrin Sanders, Vernon Sanders, Molly Schechter & Shirlee Blanken, Stephen & Debra Schmal, Herant Seropian, Mark & Valarie Shadwick, Gloria Shannon, Craig & Christina Shawver,

Howard & Elizabeth Shire, Richard & Barbara Sincoff, Singleton Studios, Patricia Skelly, John &

Dorothy Slavcoff, Cheryl Snowden, Edward Snyder, Ilene Solomon, Larry & Maura Solomon, Jean Stringham, Roberto Tapia-Cerda & Erika Pereira, Joyce Taylor, Claudine Tchachet, The CIMA Companies, Inc., The Joan P. Karasik Charitable Lead Trust, The Manhattan Club, Thomas Cook Concierge Travel Club, Jonathan & Ifeoma Thompson, Arlette Thompson-Pile, Matthew Thornton, Ronald & Gardine Tiggler, Richard Trail, Allen & Marilyn Trainer, Lillian Trippett, Theodore & Susan Tung, Claude & Sara Tybaert, Doug Usher & Libbie Rifkin, Leonardo Vargas-Cervantes & Daria Cervantes, Gabriela Vidal, Jennifer Villar-Blouin, Jaroslav & Donna Vostal, Stephen & Mary Walter, Steven & Kristen Ward, Phillip & Ginny Ann Weinberger, Edwin Weiner, Donald & Carole Weiss, Donald Wertz, Phyllis White, Donald & Tasha Whitfield, Donald & Linda Wingo, Daniel & Melanie Wissinger, Mary Witt, Linda Wolfe, Martin S. Zdravec

In Memorium: Albert Antin, Candace Bryant, Betty Director, Ruth Hall, Mae Kline, Mia Palan, Oliver Philip, Cree Valcourt-Pearce, Rayna Wertlieb

National Disability Employment Awareness Month

By presidential proclamation, October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month, providing an opportunity to focus on improving employment opportunities and career pathways that lead to good jobs and sound economic futures for people with disabilities. This year's NDEAM theme is "Profit by Investing in Workers with Disabilities." The theme honors the contributions of workers with disabilities and serves to inform the public that these workers represent a highly skilled talent pool that can help employers compete in today's global economy. The Office of Disability and Employment Policy shares that by fostering a culture of diversity—or a capacity to appreciate and value individual differences—employers benefit from varied perspectives on how to confront business challenges and achieve success. Disability is a natural part of diversity, and businesses can benefit by taking steps to ensure people with disabilities are represented in their workforce.

According to the US Department of Labor, individuals with disabilities are employed at a rate far below Americans without disabilities, and their unemployment rate is twice as high. One goal of NDEAM is to raise awareness about employing individuals with disabilities, so everyone can contribute to our economy and realize their dreams. The entire community benefits when individuals with disabilities become tax-paying citizens and achieve greater independence. These workers can become indispensable employees, reduce their dependence on government support, enjoy fuller participation in their communities, gain self-esteem and confidence and improve their overall quality of life. Job programs through agencies like AbilityOne save federal and state governments tens of millions of dollars each year by delivering quality products and services for a fair price.

For more information about NDEAM and hiring individuals with disabilities, visit www.dol.gov/odep/. For more information about job training and placement, visit www.abilityone.org.



Respite Services Relocation

Respite Services of Montgomery County has relocated to 11600 Nebel Street, Suite 150, Rockville, MD 20852, just across the street from their previous location. There is a separate, rear entrance for Respite Services clients.

A collaboration between the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services and The Arc Montgomery County, Respite Services provides occasional, short-term relief to families caring for adults with functional disabilities, frail senior citizens, children with challenging behaviors and children or adults with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. Respite care allows family members to enjoy a period of restorative relief and rest from their caregiving duties. Respite services are an important part of an overall system families need to keep their loved ones at home.

To learn more, contact Karen Patterson, Respite Administrator, 301.816.9647, KarenP@arcmontmd.org, or visit the website, www.respiteservices-mc.org.

Agency Updates

A busy summer resulted in many positive changes throughout The Arc Montgomery County.

Vocational & Day Services recently matriculated five new transitioning youth. These young adults have been placed in various jobs throughout the county. An MTA grant was secured to cover 80% of the cost of a much-needed new transportation van, with delivery expected this fall, and September 30 will be a garden party to celebrate the harvest from their garden.

Residential Services completed renovation of the Bel Pre property, with stunning results (right). Several new nurses have been hired to reduce the caseload on the nursing supervisor. In addition, the entire division was reorganized to provide better oversight and onsite management of 44 residential program locations. Program Specialist, Program Coordinator and Health Care Assistant (HCA) positions were eliminated and replaced with ten Residential Supervisor positions. Residential Supervisors have their offices in the homes, instead of at the Nebel Street location.

Homes have been grouped together by geographic area, allowing the Residential Supervisor ease of travel between his/her assigned properties.

Information Technology installed computers and new printers in every residential home and assisted with rebranding by standardizing email signatures throughout the agency. A new telephone script will be implemented, making it easier for callers to reach the right division or program quickly. The process of creating an agency-wide database of information and forms has been initiated.

Family & Community Services has several new referrals for CSLA services. The successful Hispanic outreach and Sibshops programs are continuing in a new location at 10611 Tenbrook Drive, Silver Spring. This facility has larger space to accommodate more families and a child-friendly environment, with classrooms and inclusive playground. After a busy summer, the Respite House returns to being open on weekends, from Friday at 3 pm to Sunday at 7 pm.

Communications & Outreach welcomed 90 teen volunteers in the summer, who provided almost 4,000 hours of service to our Children & Youth programs. Junior Volunteers served as "extra hands" in the classrooms, allowing students more one-to-one interactions daily.

More than 20 local independent and public schools were

represented by summer volunteers.

Children & Youth Services updates are on page 2.



What is Inclusion and Why Does It Matter?

Inclusion is defined as the act of including or the state of being included. According to our new mission statement, The Arc Montgomery County identifies, creates and sustains inclusive communities that embrace and engage individuals and families affected by intellectual and developmental disabilities. We have developed an Action Plan that defines steps toward full inclusion for all of our program participants, based upon their needs and desires. The overall goal is for them to have meaningful, inclusive engagement in their communities and as much independence as possible.



We want to do more for the individuals and families we serve than advocate on their behalf or support them with programs. We seek to actively participate in creating inclusive communities where everyone will feel comfortable and valued as fully contributing citizens. This means making Montgomery County a place where people with I/DD live and work with abundant natural supports, going about their lives in the same way as typically-developing individuals. It also means we need to be a pioneer in developing innovative employment, housing, education and lifestyle opportunities.

The Arc has been active for over 50 years, working tirelessly and advocating for individuals with I/DD to have the same basic rights as all other citizens. Great strides have been made, such as a guaranteed free, appropriate public education for all children with disabilities, closure of most state-funded institutions, and successfully lobbying to have the word “retarded” removed from state and federal health, education and labor policy. It’s time for us to move to the next level...full inclusion. We plan to employ new language, attitudes and models of service delivery built on collegiality, respect, facilitation and community engagement. We need to create a business model which leverages a healthy mix of entrepreneurial, private and public funds to support our programs.

How will we get there? One program, one individual and one family at a time. The merger of Karasik Child Care Center and FICCC (Family, Infant and Child Care Center) is our first success story. This program is now fully inclusive, providing services for all children including children with disabilities and special health issues and typically-developing children. We have created a place where children can play and learn as equals instead of being segregated by stigmas and stereotypes. We are deliberately seeking out opportunities for our program participants to engage in their communities, through volunteer work and recreational activities. We are making new connections with business partners like the YMCA in Silver Spring, which is hosting several of our AfterAll program participants in inclusive youth fitness classes and the Barnes & Noble in Gaithersburg and Bethesda, which are hosting Next Chapter Book Clubs.

These are just a few examples of how The Arc Montgomery County is modeling inclusion for future generations. We encourage you to keep watching as we learn and grow.

Calendar of Events

Quarterly Membership Meeting

Wednesday, September 21
Wednesday, December 21
7-8:30 pm

Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, November 28
6:30-8:30 pm

Education Committee Meeting

Wednesday, October 12
Wednesday, November 9
Wednesday, December 14
7-9 pm

Holidays-Offices Closed

Thursday, November 24
Friday, November 25
Monday, December 26
Monday, January 2

Junior Volunteer Orientation

Friday, October 14
Friday, November 11
Friday, December 9
4-5 pm

Transitioning Youth Fair

Saturday, October 15
9 am-1:30 pm
(Montgomery College, Rockville)

RSG Meeting

Tuesday, October 18
Tuesday, November 15
6-8 pm

SibShops

Sunday, October 16
Sunday, November 20
1-5 pm

Transition Times

Wednesday, October 19
Wednesday, November 16
7:30-9 pm



Duck Race Festival

Sunday, October 2
1-4 pm
(The Rio at Washingtonian Center)

Detailed information for all events
is available on our website:
www.thearcmontgomerycounty.org

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Duck Race Festival

Sunday, October 2

Festival 1-4 pm

Duck Race 3 pm

*Lake Front Plaza
Washingtonian Center
Gaithersburg, MD*

**ADOPT A DUCK!
WIN \$50,000!
MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**



*Watch 5,000 bright yellow rubber ducks take to the water,
swimming to win prizes for their adoptive parents.*

*Enjoy FREE activities and entertainment for the entire family,
including music, games and prizes.*

*Visit www.duckrace.com/montgomery
to adopt a duck today!*

*Sponsored By
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*All proceeds benefit The Arc Montgomery County, which identifies, creates
and sustains inclusive communities that embrace and engage individuals
and families affected by intellectual and developmental disabilities.*


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