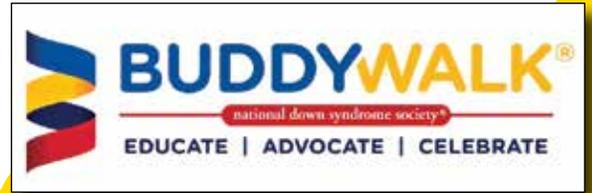


# The Arcticulate



Proud to Present: Buddy Walk 2022  
Sunday, October 2nd

## Congratulations Arc Employees!

We would like to congratulate the following staff on their years of service at The Arc of Northeastern Pennsylvania! We thank you for your dedication and commitment to our Mission and look forward to many more years to come!

### 35 Years of Service:



Dorothy Nelson: "I started working at The Arc 35 years ago. For 30 of those years, I've been a CLA Supervisor. I love my job and find it very rewarding. If you love your job, you will never work a day in your life. My hobbies are walking my dog, Annie and feeding strays along the way".

### 30 Years of Service:



Noreen Cosmark: "When I started my career at The Arc, I was given two weeks to last. Every day I showed up, trying to make a difference in the lives of our folks. Little did I know, they would make the difference in mine. So 30 years later, I am now the Residential Manager. I have been blessed with the best coworkers, the most amazing mentors/bosses, and all the extra love from all our folks. I am forever grateful. The only way to do great work is if you love what you do-Steve Jobs".



Elizabeth Jezorwski: "My name is Lisa Jezorwski and this year I'll be celebrating 30 years with The Arc of NEPA! I'm currently a CLA Supervisor for two of

our community homes but through my years I've worked in several different departments in The Arc. I'd have to say my favorite part of my job is the unconditional love that I receive on a daily basis from the individuals we serve. They've taught me how to appreciate the little things in life and to be able to laugh my way through some of life's toughest days. When I'm not working, I enjoy spending time with my family and friends. I love gardening, taking pictures, crafting and traveling. I look forward to working with some of the most caring people I know and serving our folks for many more years to come! Enjoy the little things, for one day you may look back and realize they were the big things- Robert Brault".

### 20 Years of Service:



Mari Pizur: "I have been with The Arc of NEPA for 20 years. I started as a Recreation Coordinator and am now currently the Manager of Recreation Services. I graduated from The University of Scranton with a Bachelors in Human Services and a minor in Business Administration. I did my internship at LARC when it was a one room day program"



Doreen Mahan: "They say time flies when you're having fun. I can't believe it's been 20 years! It's been an honor and a pleasure taking care of the Court St. ladies. I feel blessed to have the love and support of my fellow coworkers who are more like family! They all know I'm obsessed with my cat, so I'd like to share this proud moment with my Bentley".



Kathy Ciullo: "I've been a loyal employee at the Adult Day Program for 20 years. I've been in the same room with great co-workers and clients who I love dearly.

I am a nurturer by heart and taking care and loving the clients comes easily. I am also an animal lover and have taken care of pets in my home. I've brought awareness to the cat population in my neighborhood, finding homes and getting cats spayed through St. Cats. My Arc family is very special to me; they loved and took care of me at a very difficult time in my life and I will never forget"!

### 15 Years of Service:



Deanna Decker: "I started at The Arc of NEPA in January 2007. I have been running Community Ops in Monroe County for the past 12 years. The things I like most about my job is interacting with the individuals we serve and seeing how excited they are when they see me! My hobbies include crocheting and needlework".

(Continued on page 4)



Northeastern Pennsylvania

115 Meadow Avenue  
Scranton, PA 18505  
Tel: 570-346-4010 Fax: 570-346-8436  
www.thearcnepa.org  
Email: frontdesk@thearcnepa.org

# President's Message



There is a lot going on and we are proud of the accomplishments that have been made so far. We began the season with our Annual Golf Tournament which was held on May 23rd. The weather was beautiful and it turned out to be a great day for golfing. The Glen Oak Country Club was outstanding in their service, food, attention to detail

were all second to none. I would like to thank several people for their diligence, time and effort in helping to put together a very successful fund raiser. Carol Chisdak who has dedicated her time from the very beginning - she along with several committee members have built this event into something truly amazing. We would like to thank Bill Domenick and his family for their support - we were grateful that you chose to spend your day with us. To everyone who came to play, volunteer, made a contribution or supported us in any way, we want to let you know that we are thrilled to receive such generosity.

We have had the Foundation Annual Meeting and the

Annual Membership Meeting and Awards Luncheon. Both were very well attended and unforgettable. At the Foundation Meeting we recognized people, companies, community groups and foundations for their outstanding philanthropy and give The Arc update, as well as, report on fund raisers and upcoming events. The Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon centers its program around the honorees who are nominated throughout the year for their efforts, time and kindness who go above and beyond for the people we serve. Both meetings are extremely valuable in keeping everyone up to date with what's happening at The Arc.

It is an honor to be the president of such an outstanding organization. Maryclaire Kretsch and her employees are such a dedicated group of people. I wish to thank all of you for your tireless commitment and quality of work. I salute each and every one of you.

Thank you and I hope you are enjoying the wonderful summer we are having!

Peter Kanton  
*Board President*

## Exec's Corner



### As Summer Winds Down.....

This summer has been particularly favorable for those who love hot weather, picnics, swimming, and all the wonderful gifts of the season. Summer also brought us the wonderful experience of The Arc's Summer Camp. Being virtual the last two years, this year was in person

and it was exceptional! The campers, ahhh the campers, the campers who joined us this year brought smiles, hugs, laughs, and an unforgettable experience. It is amazing to see how much the kids have changed over the year. Little ones have grown and a few have become young adults since we last met. We also made new friends this year!!

The Friends of The Arc Auxiliary supported camp by providing the financial resources to bring in experiences that campers loved. Children enjoyed a petting zoo, the aquarium, and of course the ice cream truck, a requirement for any summer camp. Our gratitude to the Auxiliary for once again wrapping their arms around individuals we serve by providing the opportunity for us to offer welcomed and much appreciated experiences.

The enthusiasm and compassion of the camp staff was demonstrated every single day. The extraordinarily hot weather proved to be no obstacle for camp staff. With a record number of freeze pops consumed, every day camp counselors ensured safety and a meaningful experience for

all. Swimming, waterslides, arts, crafts, nature walks and preparing for the end of camp show dominated the regular events. To visit camp is an opportunity to be reminded why you love the work that you do. I thank Mari, Holly, Renee, and each camp counselor for a camp experience that was safe, compassionate and most of all fun!

Christmas in July is a summer camp staple and this year was no exception! Santa took a short break from the cold winds at the North Pole and traveled south to enjoy a heat wave in northeastern Pennsylvania. Mrs. Claus apparently forgot to tell Santa that he wouldn't need his long cloak. Dressed in his winter garb, he hopped on a City of Scranton fire truck and rode his way into the camp, waving and bringing smiles to the campers. Santa assured us that everyone is on the nice list. He added that he hoped we could stay there until December 25th. Thank you Santa.

The last day of camp is a celebration of the kids and all they have done together over the weeks of camp. The songs sung, the pride of wearing the The Arc's Summer Camp t-shirt with sunglasses and a cool hat made obvious that once again Mari and her team provided children with one amazing experience. A young gentleman camper thanked Mari and camp staff and told them he will miss them in the note he wrote.

We thank the campers for giving us the opportunity and the unforgettable experience to in getting to know them.

Maryclaire Kretsch  
*Executive Director*

# The Arc Recreation Teenage Wellness Program

## Calling ages 13-21 years old

*Join us for some fun and exercise!!!*

### **September 2022 Schedule**

#### **Monday, September 12th**

5:30pm

Then join us for a night of.....

Yoga with our one and only Mindy Hill at The Arc of NEPA (Back parking lot - rear of building). Healthy snack and drink will be served Fee \$5.00. Reservations required by Wednesday, September 7.

#### **Monday, September 19th**

5:30pm

We will be having a Country HoeDown with EJ the DJ! The Arc of NEPA (Back parking lot - rear of building). Healthy snack and drink will be served Fee \$5.00. Reservations required by Wednesday, September 14.

#### **Monday, September 26th**

5:30pm

We will be moving and grooving with exercise led by Marianne Scrimalli! The Arc of NEPA (Back parking lot - rear of building). Healthy snack and drink will be served. Fee \$5.00. Reservations required by Wednesday, September 21.

*For reservations or any questions contact Mari or Holly at 570-207-0825*

*The Arc's staff is not responsible for the supervision of program participants*

*Parents/staff must stay with each participant.*

*Inclement weather the program will be held in The Arc.*

## 2022-2023 "Fun & Friendship" Bowling League

**Bowling will start promptly at 4:45pm**

Season bowling will commence on Tuesday, September 6th and Friday, September 9th at Idle Hour Lanes (Route 6, Dickson City). Both Tuesday and Friday bowling practice begins at 4:35pm and league bowling begins promptly at 4:45pm. You must be on time!!! The season consists of approximately 30 weeks and will conclude at the end of April. Bowling will

cost \$10.00 per bowler per week, if unable to bowl there is an absent fee of \$3.00 per week. Bowling fees must be paid on a weekly basis to The Arc recreation staff before you begin bowling.

Should we need to cancel bowling because of inclement weather, you will receive a voice message through our new calling system (Dial my Calls). Holidays observed by The Arc

include November 25, December 27 and December 30, 2022.

The Arc's staff is not responsible for the supervision of league members.

Parents / staff must stay with the bowler.

*For more information, call Mari or Holly at 570-207-0825.*

## 2022-2023 "Fun & Friendship" Teenage Bowling League

**Calling All Teenagers (ages 13 thru 18)**

Our Teenage bowling will begin on Friday, September 9th at Idle Hour Lanes (Route 6, Dickson City). Teenage bowling practice begins at 4:35pm and league bowling begins promptly at 4:45pm. You must be on time!!! The season consists of approximately 30 weeks and will conclude at the end of April.

Bowling will cost \$10.00 per bowler per week, if unable to bowl there is an absent fee of \$3.00 per week. Bowling fees must be paid on a weekly basis to The Arc recreation staff before you begin bowling.

Should we need to cancel bowling because of inclement weather; you will receive a voice message through our new calling system (Dial my

Calls). Holidays observed by The Arc include November 25, December 27 and December 30..

The Arc's staff is not responsible for the supervision of league members. Parents / staff must stay with the bowler.

*For more information, call Mari or Holly at 570-207-0825.*

# Congratulations Arc Employees

(Continued from page 1)



Sheila Hartranft: "I am a mom of 5 children who have fully supported me during my first year with The Arc of Carbon County from 2006-2007, and they fully support me as my journey continues with The Arc of NEPA. I have been with The Arc for 15 years as a Recreation DSP. I love my job and the members who have become extended family for me. I have a personal relationship with all the families. My favorite part of this job is bringing smiles and happiness to the members. My interests include spending as much time as I can with my kids and grandkids, waiting for my first great-grandchild to arrive! I also enjoy genealogy, reading and hiking".



Desiree Vojta: "I started as a sub in the Adult Day Program in July 2007. I have transitioned through a few positions and I am currently the Lead Fiscal Assistant. What I love most about my job is knowing we make a difference in someone's life. Seeing smiles on the most beautiful faces makes my heart so happy! When I'm not working I enjoy being an overprotective mom to two handsome boys, crafting and of course – leopard print!"

## 10 Years of Service:



Rebecca Mordente: "They say family is blood but I've found through my job that that isn't always true. I've worked with The Arc for ten years and those I care for have found a way into my heart! When I was first hired, my position was supposed to be temporary but after a short while, I decided that this was my place and this was where I made a difference. I love what I do and those I serve!"



Julie Masker: "I have worked for The Arc for 10 years both as a DSP and a Supervisor. Through my years here at The Arc, I can say my

happiness comes from the happiness of many women and men I take care of every day. I am very family oriented and love the fact that I was able to find a job that has allowed me to extend my family to those I work with side by side and serve. I have always believed 'happiness is the art of making someone else happy'! When I am not at work, I like to surround myself with my family and friends to relax and engulf myself in their lives, and just sometimes a relaxing night at home with a good book".

## 5 Years of Service:



Angela Anthony: "My name is Angela Anthony, and I have been at The Arc for a little over 5 years as a Residential Program Specialist. I have been

in this field for close to 20 years. I started out as a Direct Care Professional, then moved up to Program Specialist, then switched over to become a Behavior Support Specialist and finally came back to my roots as a Residential Program Specialist again. I missed working with our individuals on a more hands-on level. What I love most about my job is getting to see the individuals grow and be a part of their lives. I enjoy Advocating for them and couldn't imagine doing or working anywhere else. I truly feel blessed each and every day here at The Arc".



Sarah Hannon: "I worked at The Arc as a DSP since January 2017. One of my favorite things about my job is seeing the consumers' smiling faces when

we are playing games, singing, doing puzzles, and coloring, all different activities. We have such a good time. I love my job!"



Julieann Masters: "I've been working in Day Program for five years- the last four years in intense support. What I love about my job is the joy I see on my client's

faces everyday".

(Continued on page 5)

## Fun at the Fishing Pier

By Angela Anthony

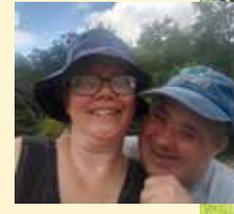
So many of our folks enjoy the outdoors and don't always have the opportunity to participate in outdoor events as much as they would like due to the lack of activities scheduled for our folks.

Well on 7/8/22 a couple of our folks had the wonderful delight of fishing at The Pier in Lake Scranton. They were so thrilled about having the chance to fish, they couldn't contain their excitement. Our Winfield crew went with staff and what a fun filled day they had. There was a lot of smiles, laughs, and pure joy shared that day.



They spent about 2 hours fishing and became true fishermen. At one point Joe caught a tree branch but his luck changed and he caught his first fish!! Rob wasn't as fortunate but he was deemed the "Casting Master" by his housemate and

staff for his amazing abilities to cast his pole. They enjoyed themselves so much that on the ride home all they kept talking about was coming back and catching the "Big One"!!



# Congratulations Arc Employees *(continued from page 4)*



*Pictured left to right: Deanna Decker, Roseann Polishan, Kathy Ciullo, Rebecca Mordente, Dottie Nelson, Noniey Cosmark, Doreen Mahan, Mari Pizur, Angela Anthony, Julie Masker, Sarah Hannon, Julieann Masters, Desiree Vojta, and Tina O'Malley, HR Assistant. Not pictured: Lisa Jezorwski, Sheila Hartranft, Saleena Hidalgo, Doreen Hull, Patricia Vivian, Carly Romankow, Selena Casino, and Keisha Holbeck.*



Saleena Hidalgo: "I have been a DSP at The Arc of NEPA for 5 years now. As a single mom of 4, The Arc has been such an amazing job that has worked with me through the years. What I love most about my job is that I get to work with the adults with disabilities and make a huge difference in their lives, and also the bond we grow with all our consumers. I love working on activities with them and going out into the community. I look forward to many more years within the company and the more consumers I will meet along the way".



Doreen Hull: "I have been employed with The Arc for 5 years. I work with our senior clients. We enjoy doing arts and crafts. They are so proud of their work and they're amazing in all that they do! It brings me so much joy and happiness to help each and every one of them and to have the chance to be a part of their everyday lives".



Patricia Vivian: "I've worked at The Arc for 5 years. Before this, I was a CNA for 8 years. I love helping people!"



Carly Romankow: "I have been a Recreation DSP for five years. One of the many reasons I love working for The Arc is the relationships I have made with the consumers.

Some of them I have known since high school, and it is really neat to have known them for over 20 years! I am married, a full time paraprofessional, plus a proud mom to 3 kids. In my free time I enjoy spending time with my family and friends".



Roseann Polishan: "I have been at The Arc of NEPA since September 2017. I can't believe it has been 5 years! I love my job as an advocate! Each day is different and

I learn something new every day! It feels good to help individuals with disabilities and their families. I have three children. My oldest son Hunter has I/DD and he is my inspiration for working in the field of advocacy. Outside of work I enjoy spending time with my family and friends, traveling, attending concerts and theatre and going to estate sales and flea markets".



Selena Casino: "I've been at The Arc for 5 years. My position is in the Adult Day Program in Special Hab. What I love about my job is the guys and gals and how

much fun we have! My hobbies include camping, traveling with my son and husband and going on adventures".



Keisha Holbeck: "I work as a Direct Support Professional at The Arc. My hobbies are cooking, shopping and watching movies. What I love most about working at

The Arc is watching the progress and growth of the individuals I serve. I look forward to working at The Arc for many more years to come!"

*You are cordially invited to*

## The Friends of The Arc Auxiliary Membership Mixer

La Buona Vita  
200 Reilly Street  
Dunmore, PA 18512

Wednesday, October 5, 2022  
6:00 p.m.

Cost is \$10.00

*Please join us for:*

### The Power of Self Advocacy

Special Presentations by:  
Miss Sara Wolff  
The Tutti Ensemble

*Featuring an Artwork Exhibit presented by The Arc Masterpiece Program*

*with a Special Raffle - Art Piece donated by Mr. Tom Hennigan - to be held.*

Please bring a guest to join!  
Memberships are \$10.00.

RSVPs are due by September 28 by calling 570-207-0824 (Please leave a message)

*The Friends of The Arc Auxiliary have been raising awareness, as well as, raising funds for the folks served by The Arc-NEPA.*

## Remembering Our Beloved Auxiliary Board Members

Over the years, we have said, "Goodbye" to some of our friends and it has been painful to know that we won't be sharing a lunch or "happy ending" sundae with them or hearing about their families and listening to their stories. They are missed in so many ways... The Auxiliary board, who are more of a family, was built by ladies who have extraordinary gifts and talents.

Eileen Williams chaired this committee and presented a plaque that will remind everyone of who these ladies were and how important it is to keep their memories alive.



Seated: Eileen Rempe; Eileen Williams; Corolla Sawka; Christa Lucke. Standing: Trish Shivock; Carol Burke; Mary Theresa Montoro; Nancy Crafferty; Helga Harrington; Linda Kusy; Sara Wolff

### Welcome to The Arc Family!

Kathleen Foley  
Olivia Blockberger  
Erika Callejas  
Mianicole Duverge  
Chesna Andrade-Foster  
Nicole Gaffney  
D'Ambra Galvin  
Laura Graytock  
Victoria Herne  
Madison Howell  
Todd Monahan  
Julie Pabst  
Gracie Secor  
Emily Ferguson  
Joshua Godlewski  
Joseph Wessner  
Mya Falcone  
Cayleigh Issberner  
Julia Cuozzo  
Keith Feliciano  
Sharon Symuleski

# BUDDY WALK OF NEPA

## Sunday, October 2, 2022

**Event begins at 12:00 noon**  
Adults: \$15.00... 15 & under \$5.00  
Free for Individuals with Down Syndrome  
PenFed Field at Veterans Memorial Stadium  
at Scranton High School  
816 Providence Road, Scranton

*This event raises awareness and funds for programs and activities that benefit people with Down syndrome and their families.*

**Jon Meyer – EMCEE**  
**\*Sara Wolff – Grand Marshall**

Included in Price: Tee Shirts, EJ the DJ, Pride Squad Cheerleaders, Juggler, Emergency Vehicles, Pony/Horse Rides, Character Appearances, Petting Zoo, Bounce House, Face Painting ... Also available to purchase: Gift Baskets, 50/50 Raffle, Food Trucks ... Also, please visit Local Providers, Vendors and More!

The Buddy Walk® was established in 1995 by the National Down Syndrome Society to celebrate Down Syndrome Awareness. Locally, \*Sara Wolff started the walk 22 years ago as part of her senior project at North Pocono High School. For more information, please call 570-346-4010.

# The 22nd Annual Golf Tournament was a Huge Success!

The 22nd Annual Golf Tournament was held on May 23rd and was a wonderful success! Everyone was thrilled to spend the day together at Glen Oak Country Club which is a beautiful venue. Carol Chisdak offered so much support which led to a great event. Our Celebrity Chair was Bill Domenick! He was very excited to be a part of this annual event and we were thrilled to have him join us. Celebrity Chair - Bill Domenick... As quoted by Bill's sister, Marge, "my brother Bill "was over the moon" for having been chosen to be the guest host of the 22nd Arc Golf Tournament. Bill is 76 years old, so this is the highlight of his golfing journey. In 1997, Bill joined "Kidz Golf Team". Bill was 48 years old and this was the beginning of Bill's love for golf. He couldn't wait until Friday arrived because that was the day when he had golf practice. He enjoyed learning the sport from his instructor, Joe Lillis. During this time, Bill worked at Tobyhanna Army Depot. He started working there when he was 26 years old. He worked in the kitchen, but part of his job was delivering food to the satellite kitchens. He got to know many people in all the various departments and was loved and respected throughout the years by all his coworkers. He worked at the Depot for 37 years and retired in 2008 at age 63. Bill has lived an abundant life and his family is very proud of him.

We also had several members of the Special Olympic Golf Team join us for the tournament - they had an awesome time, everyone enjoyed their company and many thanks to the Friends of The Arc Auxiliary for sponsoring this group of fine athletes. Joseph Hollander, Foundation Board President, welcomed everyone after the wonderful buffet dinner. Many won awards at our several contests and we were overwhelmed with their generosity of donating their winnings back! We are truly grateful for the folks who believe and support our mission.

*(Continued on page 7)*



# The 22nd Annual Golf Tournament was a Huge Success!

(Continued from page 6)

HUGE thank you goes to Bill Domenick and his family and friends. We are so grateful for your kindness, enthusiasm and friendship. Special thank you goes to: Carol Chisdak (Golf Chair) for always going above and beyond; Bert Morgan and Joe Lillis for helping in any way you can; Jeff Spagna and Bob Sedlak for making this the best golf tournament ever and for each and every one of the volunteers - your time and effort is greatly appreciated!

## Thank you:

- Body Dynamics • Brucelli
  - Carmen Morgan
  - Coopers • Fratellis
- Glen Oak CC • Jaworski
- King Outdoor Advertising
- Lamar Advertising Mendicino's
- McCarthy Floral • RailRiders
  - Sanderson Place
- The Scranton Times
  - Superior Trophy
  - The Training Loft



## Major Sponsorships

### Bronze Sponsorship

Cable Associates, Inc.  
Dinner  
Knowles Associates Insurance  
NBT Bank  
Scranton Dodge Chrysler Jeep  
Cocktail Hour  
John and Carol Heim, A.J. Guzzi General Contractors, Inc.  
Lynda and Edward Lynett  
Lunch Sponsor  
Howell Benefits  
Flight Award Sponsor  
Robert and Faye Rosenberg  
Halfway Point Sponsor  
Carol Chisdak  
Waste Management

### Hole Sponsors

Maggie Anderson  
Lou and Mary Auriemma  
Barbetti McHale, LLC  
Rick & Faye Bishop  
Black Sheep  
Bill Burnell and Kate Holod  
Susan Caldwell  
Classic Properties  
Michael Cutler Co.  
Family Prescription Counter  
Maureen Gallagher  
Helga and Tom Harrington  
Hendrick Manufacturing Co.  
Alan Hughes  
Ann/Bob Hoffman  
Ruthie Hollander  
Thomas P. Kearney Funeral Home, Inc.  
Keystone Chapter of UNICO National  
Lake Scranton Urgent Care  
Iris Liebman and Mike Mardo  
Barb Lynch  
NET Credit Union  
Joseph F. O'Hara and Sons, Inc.  
Orthodontic Specialists  
MotorWorld Lexus  
Mark and Michele McDade  
Mark Lynn  
Mary Lou and Miller  
The Prescription Center  
PA State Troopers Association  
PNC Bank  
Sid Prejean and Melinda Ghilardi  
Russomano Cleaning Services  
Elaine Shepard  
Stirna's Restaurant  
Tim Wagner's Sports Corner



Wayne Bank  
Eileen Williams

### Cart Sponsorships:

Bill Burnell & Kate Holod \* Carol Chisdak \* Maureen Gallagher \* Jordan's Towing \* Mark Kwiatkowski Morgan Family \* Naniewicz Family \* Orthodontic Specialists \* Rempe Family \* Alexandra Yantorn

### Golfers:

Andy Anderson - Bert Morgan, Jeff McDermott, Mike Kutch \* Rick Bishop - Gerry Auriemma, Lewis Sare, Sid Prejean \* Carol Chisdak - Cathy Wendolowski, Linda Keene, Sandy Yantorn \* Jim Cunningham - Jim Ghigiarelli, Jim Gavin, Tom Dougherty \* Bob Durkin - Rick Pusey, Brian Regan, Debbie Kolsodsky \* Neil Hollander - Shane McAndrew, Joe Pasqualichio, Tom Tulaney \* Ronald Keller - Tommy Kusy, Bob Brzuchalski, Ricky Phillips \* Jon Koniszewski - Grant Taylor, Paul Cavaliere, Nick Dabbieri \* Vince Kuchinski - Mark Leombroni, Frank Giovagnoli, John Borgna \* Cindy Lempicky - Roberta Kelly, Doreen Tench, Marilyn Striepeck \* Joe Lillis - Michael Robbins, Mark Kwiatkowski, Joe Schmidt \* Marianne Lyons - Tim Lyons, Jim Quinn, Jim Gavigan \* Michael McHale - James McHale, Chris Kearney, Jed Byron \* Joe O'Brien - Jenna Kraycer Tuzze, Ken Doolittle, Mark Lynn \* Louie Passeri - Bobby Robbins, Doug Calzola, Dave Emmett \* Gordy Robinson - Todd Monahan, Keith Herne, Michael Christ \* Jim Rogan - Cory Rogan, Ryan Rogan, Adam Leonard \* Mike Ruane - Tim Wagner, Reilly Ruane \* Jaime Ryan \* Janet Veltri - Mary Murphy Fox, Susan Adamec, Debbie Murazzi

# Arc Stars Presents Singing... Dancing... Acting Extravaganza

The Arc Stars Theatre program was back in person this year and everyone was excited to see each other and overjoyed to be up on stage once again! Singing... Dancing... Acting... Extravaganza was a HUGE success and The Friends of The Arc Auxiliary were so happy with all the work and dedication that went into the project. There were weekly practices during May and June with a dress rehearsal. Everyone was thrilled to be a part of the process and we are truly grateful to the Lackawanna County Department of Arts and Culture, Scranton Area Community Foundation (NEPA Gives) and North Pocono School District for their on-going kindness and support. The production of the play was on June 25th at North Pocono High School. This was our fifth production and it is our goal is to continue the educational and fun learning experience that The Arc Stars enjoy.

## ***We would like to thank:***

*Lindsay Cocker - Artistic Director*

*Greta Georgieva - Assistant Director*

*Christina Sohns-Williams and her sister, Jennifer Sohns-Petty - Choreographers*

*Avery Roberts - Technical Director*

*Sponsors - Gerrity's Supermarkets, Hawk Family Foundation; Garth S. Estadt Insurance Agency, Inc.*



# The 67th Annual Membership Meeting and Awards Luncheon

The 67th annual meeting of The Arc's members and Board of Directors was held at La Buona Vita on June 28th. This annual gathering highlights the contributions of individuals, businesses, board members, agency staff, and most importantly, the accomplishments of individuals served by The Arc. We honored three consumers for their awesome abilities and extraordinary talent; recognized 21 employees for their years of service and dedication; a board member who completed her service to the board: Mary Beth D'Andrea; Sincere Appreciation was given to the Eynon-Archbald Lions Club; Special Recognition was awarded to Medicap Pharmacy - Eric Pusey; Steve and Denise Fagan received the Making a Difference Award; Outstanding Philanthropy was made in memory of Ruth Matis and The Arc Award, which is the highest honor bestowed annually by the agency, was presented to Carol Chisdak for her many years of service to the board and her stewardship of The Arc. The Arc-NEPA wishes to congratulate all award winners, and thank everyone who works or volunteers to make The Arc of Northeastern Pennsylvania so successful in its mission. On behalf of the folks we serve, we salute you!



# Friends of The Arc Auxiliary Annual Meeting



Seated - Peggy Tenelly; Eileen Williams, Corolla Sawka, Carol Burke, Betsy Youngblood, Betty Moreken. Standing - Sara Wolff, Eileen Remppe, Arc Director PR/Dev't, Linda Kusy, Jean Biggar, Pat Kwiatkowski, Maryclaire Kretsch, Trish Shivoock, Helga Harrington, Ann McDonough



Seated - Eileen Williams, Corolla Sawka, Carol Burke. Standing - Jean Biggar, Pat Kwiatkowski, Maryclaire Kretsch, Arc Executive Director

The Friends of The Arc Auxiliary gathered for their Annual Meeting at Coopers. The Officers and a new board member were installed by Eileen Williams to the Board.

We welcomed Corolla Sawka as President; Mary Murphy Fox, VP; Nancy Crafferty, Treasurer; Jean Biggar, Recording Secretary; Carol Burke, Corresponding Secretary

and Eileen Williams, Immediate Past President. New member is Pat Kwiatkowski. Great to have everyone on board!

## ***Eighteenth Annual Family Fun Fall Festival Waldorf Park***

***Proceeds Benefit The Arc of NEPA***

### **East Coast Trio and The Wanabees**

When: Sunday, September 11, 2022 Time: 3:00 pm - 8:00 pm

***Tickets at the door: Adults \$30.00***

***Children 4 to 12 \$5.00 and Children 3 and under are free.***

***(Each child will receive 5 free tickets to play games in Kiddie Korner)***

***Adult Pre-Sale Tickets Available for \$25.00***

***(Pre-Sale Tickets must be purchased by Wednesday, September 7, 2022)***

***(Pre-purchased tickets may be picked up at The Arc's front desk or we will hold them at the festival's registration desk upon request and payment)***

Ticket includes Buffet served between 3:00pm to 6:00pm  
and Grilled Sandwiches served 6:00pm to 7:00pm.

Entertainment: East Coast Trio and The Wanabees  
Kiddie Korner – 3pm to 6pm

Gift Basket raffle, Instant Bingo, 50/50, Bake Sale, Cash Bar and Much, Much More!

Everyone is Welcome to come and enjoy the day of Fun!!!  
(You do not need to be a member it is open to the public). Rain or Shine (areas sheltered)

*More information, call Mari or Holly at 570-207-0825.*

# The H&K Group presents: Autism Awareness One Piece At A Time - Walk, Run, Dance

Friday June 3rd was a great day to spend at The Pocono Raceway, aka "The Tricky Triangle" as the H & K Group Hosted their 1st Autism Awareness Event of which The Arc of NEPA was one of the beneficiaries, along with SAFE Inc (Supporting Autism Families Everywhere).

The event had something for everyone, including country line dancing, a race/walk, touch a truck, basket raffle, resource tables, vendors and food!

Eileen Rempe and Roseann Polishan were in attendance to represent The Arc of NEPA and spent time networking with individuals and other professionals. (add in picture of us from event)

From their website: The H & K Group is described as " a dynamic

family of vertically integrated companies providing heavy civil construction and construction materials to the Mid-Atlantic Region." We are extremely grateful to Veronica DeMarest and the entire H & K Group for their generosity and hosting this wonderful event.

Roseann traveled down to the headquarters for the H & K group in Skippack PA for the check presentation, where she presented H & K with a plaque of appreciation with the fingerprints of many of our Arc of NEPA consumers.



## Current Employment Opportunities

[www.thearcnepa.org](http://www.thearcnepa.org)

<b>Full Time</b> <b>\$15.00-\$16.50/hr</b> <i>*Benefit Eligible</i>	<u>DSP</u> <u>Float</u> *requires shift flexibility <span style="float: right;">1 Position</span>
	<u>S/M/T alt Saturday</u> 11p-9a <span style="float: right;">5 Positions</span>
	<u>W/TR/F alt Saturday</u> 11p-9a <span style="float: right;">4 Positions</span>
	<u>Monday through Friday</u> 4p-11p <span style="float: right;">2 Positions</span>
	<u>Fri/Sat/Sun</u> Fri 2p-11p; Sat/Sun 9a-11p <span style="float: right;">1 Position</span>
<b>Full Time</b> <b>\$17.00/hr</b> <i>*Benefit Eligible</i>	<u>CLA Supervisor</u> *requires shift flexibility <span style="float: right;">1 Position</span>
<b>Part Time-B</b> <b>\$16.00-\$17.00/hr</b> <i>*Non-Benefit Eligible</i>	<u>DSP - Must be able to work every Sat &amp; Sun</u> 9am-3pm <span style="float: right;">5 Positions</span>
	11am-7pm <span style="float: right;">1 Position</span>
	3pm-9pm <span style="float: right;">1 Position</span>
	3pm-11pm <span style="float: right;">12 Positions</span>
<b>Part Time-A \$15.00/hr</b> <i>*Partially-Benefit Eligible</i>	<u>DSP</u> <u>Monday through Friday</u> 4p-9p <span style="float: right;">1 Position</span>

**--All positions require flexibility--**

**\*\*Contact Mary Ann or Tina in Human Resources for any additional information or questions**

Our outstanding benefit package includes:

Health insurance*	Dental insurance*
Vision insurance*	Life/AD&D insurance
Pension	Vacation days*
Personal days*	Sick days*
Holidays	Credit union
Direct deposit	Long Term Disability Insurance
\$400 for new employee referral bonuses	
Fitness Club reimbursement	

**PLEASE NOTE:**

**Minimum requirements for these positions include:**

**\*\*\*18 years of age or older**

**\*\*\*High School Diploma/GED**

**\*\*\*Valid driver's license**

**Previous Human Services experience helpful, but not necessary. Paid training provided.**

*To be considered for one of these positions, a completed application must be on file with our Human Resources Department. THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES WITH THE ARC.*

## Foundation's Annual Meeting



*Pictured: Seated - Maryclaire Kretsch, Arc Executive Director; Peter Kanton, Arc Board President; Carol Chisdak; Mary Beth D'Andrea. Standing - Ken Doolittle; Bill Burke; Joseph Hollander, Arc Foundation Board President; Mary Lou Miller; Tammy Jackson*

The Arc-NEPA Foundation had its 25th Annual Meeting at Cooper's Seafood House. Several individuals, companies, community groups and foundations who have been extremely generous

to The Arc-NEPA this past year were recognized for their benevolence. We are grateful to the community for their commitment to The Arc's programs and services.

## What is New with Advocacy

### The Arc of NEPA Presentation Calendar 2022-2023

#### September

Sept 15th 11:00 am: "IEP Walk Through" - Presented by The Arc of NEPA Advocacy

Sept 20th 11:00 am: "Social Security Benefits Overview" - Presented by Vera Saeli Social Security Administration Vulnerable Populations Expert

#### October

Oct 4th 11:00 am: "Medical Assistance Overview" - Presented by PA Health Law Project

Oct 18th 11:00 am: "Identification to Implementation - An Overview of Special Education" Presented by The Arc of NEPA Advocacy

#### November

Nov 3rd 11:00 am: "Bullying, School Discipline and Safety"- Presented by Heather Hulse from McAndrews Law

Nov 10th 1:00 pm: "Due Process and Mediation" - Presented by Bradley Goldsmith Law, LLC.

Nov 17th 11:00 am: "Myths of Special Education"- Presented by The Arc of

#### NEPA Advocacy

##### December

Dec 1, 11:00 am: Tips and Training for Individuals with I/DD and families on Safety and Positive Relationships with Law Enforcement - Presented by Members of the Pennsylvania State Police.

Dec 6, 11:00 am: "Power of Parents"- Presented by The Arc of NEPA Advocacy

##### January

Jan 5th 11:00 am "Transition from Early Intervention to Kindergarten"- Presented by The Arc of NEPA Advocacy

Jan 10th 2:00 pm "Transition from Early Intervention to Kindergarten" - Presented by The Arc of NEPA Advocacy

Jan 18th 10:00 am "How To Be A More Effective Parent Advocate" Presented by Kerry Smith, The Peal Center

##### February

Feb 16th 11:00 am "What I Wish Professionals Knew About My Child with Disabilities" Presented by The Arc of NEPA

##### March

March 22nd 10:00 am "Being an

*(Continued on page 14)*

## Honorariums



Celebrating birthdays, anniversaries, special events are all beautiful moments to be honored and cherished. Remembering your loved ones, friends, neighbors, co-workers is a wonderful way to let them know how much you care and that you are thinking of them. We can help relay those messages for you.

When you send The Arc a donation along with the name of the person(s) being honored, we will send a pre-printed card to the honorees, letting them know that a donation was made in their name and who sent the gift. It's a great way to say, "I Care" and benefit The Arc!

## Memorials

We also have a Memorial Program which sends your sympathy and condolences when a loved one passes away. We are here to assist you in making your wishes known.



## Advocacy cont.

*(Continued from page 13)*

Effective Self-Advocate” Presented by Brian Habermehl (Self Advocate) IDD Awareness Month Project (spotlighting accomplishments of individuals with IDD)

### April

April 25, 11:00 am “Overview of Early Intervention Services” Presented by The Arc of NEPA Advocacy

### May

May 18th 11:00 am “The ABC’s of Special Education” - Presented by The Arc of NEPA Advocacy

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*In an effort to increase public awareness and community education, The Arc of NEPA Advocacy Department has developed a list of presentations that we are able to offer to schools, agencies and parent / community groups.*

*Below is a listing of the various presentations that we have created that are available for you to choose from. Most of the presentations are 1 hour in length with time for Q & A.*

*In addition, we can offer customized presentations for your age group and time limit. Topics can include acceptance, understanding differences, inclusion, explaining a specific disability or addressing a unique need in your classroom or group.*

*We can also arrange presentations or co-present with other professionals on the topic of your choice.*

*To schedule a presentation, please contact one of the following:*

*Mandy Colville 570 561-3285 mcolville@thearcnepa.org (Pike, Monroe, Wayne counties)*

*Roseann Polishan 570-209-4180 rpolishan@thearcnepa.org (Lackawanna, Carbon, Susquehanna counties)*

*Katie Foley 570-468-4707 kfoley@thearcnepa.org (Luzerne county)*

*We look forward to working with you to further outreach in your community.*

**20 Myths About Special Education** - Facts about frequently misunderstood components in special education. (1 hr)

*(Continued on page 15)*

## Residential Happenings

*By Noreen Cosmark*

Happy Summer all!! It seems that our Residential folks have the right idea. They have been soaking up the sun at Parks, going swimming, out for walks, attending cookouts, and planning various mini day trips.

On July 15th, we joined forces with a non-profit organization, “Helping Because We Care” and planned a picnic up at Mcdade Park. We had face painting, carnival type games, Cornhole, Sand art, photo shoots, and a dance party courtesy of “EJ the DJ”, playing some of our folks favorite tunes.

A special thank you goes to Jean B., the Friends of The Arc Auxiliary

and to The Arc for the donations that made this event possible. The smiles on our folks faces was amazing. Everyone had a great time and couldn’t stop talking about how much fun they had had.

On another note, some of our staff attended a Diversity Training, the first of many. Everyone that attended was in agreement that it opened their eyes in some areas that needed improvement here. We are looking forward to the future planning of a Diversity Fair to raise education and awareness.

Enjoy the sunshine, stay safe, stay healthy and make some memories!!!!

## The Arc Recreation Schedule

### SEPTEMBER 2022

**Tuesday, September, 6**

**Friday, September 9**

**WELCOME BACK BOWLERS!**

Starting time at Idle Hours is 4:35 pm sharp!

**Thursday, September 8**

**STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE SOCIAL and ADVISORY MEETING**

Weston Park (2725 Belmont Terrace) at 6:00 pm! Bring your ideas and wish list for your 2022/2023 Recreation Program Plans! Enjoy a Strawberry Shortcake and a social hour with your friends! Fee \$5.00. Everyone must pay including staff, family members, and family aides. Reservations are required by Monday, September 5.

**Sunday, September 11**

**NINETEENTH ANNUAL “FAMILY FUN FALL FESTIVAL”**

at Waldorf Park 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm

**Thursday, September 15**

**“BEACH DANCE PARTY”**

Let’s wrap up summer festivities with a “Beach Dance Party” featuring the Famous EJ the DJ. We will Rock Weston Park (2725 Belmont Terrace) at 6:00 pm! A snack and beverages will be served. Fee \$5.00. Everyone must pay including staff,

family members, and family aides. Reservations are required by Monday, September 12.

**Thursday, September 22**

**GAME NIGHT AT MCDADE PARK**

at 5:30 pm (Note time change) Interested in playing Bocce, Basketball or Corn Hole! Get competitive - challenge your friends to play a game or two! Fee \$5.00. Reservations are required by Monday, September 19.

**Thursday, September 29**

**Play Ball!**

Grab your baseball glove, bat and spikes (sneakers) and get ready to play a pick up baseball game. The West Scranton Girls Softball Team will be joining the fun!

Not a baseball player? Come and cheer on your friends at Weston Park! The game will start at 5:30pm (Note time change). Snacks and Drinks will be served. Fee \$5.00. Reservations are due by Monday, September 26.

**For reservations or any questions contact Mari or Holly at 570-207-0825.**

## Advocacy cont.

(Continued from page 14)

**Powerful Parents** - 10 tips to help you become a more effective participant in special education. (1 hr)

**Intelligent Lives** - Screening of "Intelligent Lives", a documentary from Dan Habib that challenges the perception of intelligence, and points to a future in which people of all abilities can fully participate in higher education, meaningful employment, and intimate relationships. Screening is followed by a brief Q & A discussion. (2 hrs)

**The ABC's of Special Education** - A brief overview of important topics that pertain to special education A-Z. (1 hr)

**IEP Walk Through** - Discussion on the different sections of the IEP and important information to be include. (1 hr)

**Identification to Implementation, An Overview of the Special Education Process** - Review of the regulations and procedures involved in seeking school age special education services. (1 hr)

### **Overview of Early Intervention**

- Information on IDEA part B & C, eligibility, evaluations and services for birth to age 3 and ages 3-5. (1 hr)

**Transition to Kindergarten** - Review of the policies and procedures parents should know when their child transitions from Early Intervention to Kindergarten. (1 hr)

**Transition in the IEP**- Review of Transition beginning at age 14 in the IEP and how parents can prepare for the transition to adulthood. (1 hr)

**Get Organized** - Make and take workshop on how to keep your child's medical and educational records organized and accessible. (1 hr- 10 participant max)

**IEP vs 504**- Learn key differences between a 504 and an IEP. (1 hr)

**ESY**- Review of All Aspects of Extended School Year. (1 hr)

### **What I Wish Professionals Knew About My Child with Disabilities**

Presentation geared towards professionals (and future professionals) to increase understanding and promote positive relationships with individuals with I/DD. It has been created based

on feedback from individual and family experiences. (1 hr)

**Successful Inclusion Throughout Life**- Tips for both families and providers for meaningful inclusion of individuals with I/DD from childhood through adulthood. (1 hr)

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*Please join us for the next meeting of the Parent/Caregiver Group.*

**Thursday October 20th @ 10 am**

The Arc Conference Room or via Zoom

Light refreshments will be served

RSVP to : Roseann Polishan – Arc Advocate at rpolishan@thearcnepa.org or 570-207-0821

Group mission is to form a welcoming resource for families and caregivers to give them a sense of belonging and connection.

Group objective is to find the topics that interest you and that you would like more information on, provide resources and the opportunity to share with each other.

*We hope you can join us!!*

## Leave a Legacy

**Remembering...** The Arc's founding parents, concerned community members and friends have passed on a legacy of commitment to a new generation. Today, we seek to sustain this legacy.

**Building...** Looking toward tomorrow may often be intimidating, but at The Arc we continue the mission and grow with the needs of the children and adults we serve.

**Leaving a Legacy...** By giving a gift to The Arc, you are ensuring a bright future for the people served in our programs. Estate giving allows for a variety of ways for individuals to choose the support most appropriate for planning their legacy: Outright cash gifts, designated life insurance policy, bequests, real estate.

## Donate Your Vehicle

### An Easy Way to Turn Cars into Cash for Charity



The Arc Vehicle Donation Program accepts all cars, trucks, motorcycles, RVs, regardless of the condition of the vehicles. Towing is free to the donor. If you want to donate your vehicle, please click on the link on The Arc's website [www.thearcnepa.org](http://www.thearcnepa.org) or call 1-877-

272-2270. All you will need to do is provide the year, make and model of a vehicle, the general condition, the vehicle identification number and the title of the vehicle of the must be available for information purposes when calling. All vehicles that are donated to our program must have a clean title. Please indicate The Arc of Northeastern Pennsylvania as the chapter to receive the proceeds of the sale of the vehicle.

**Donating is easy!  
It may be tax-deductible.**



# The Arc™

Northeastern Pennsylvania

115 Meadow Avenue  
Scranton, PA 18505



## Our Vision

*"People with intellectual and developmental disabilities are entitled to live full, self-determined and respected lives."*



VISIT US AT:  
[www.thearcnepa.org](http://www.thearcnepa.org)  
Like us on Facebook

Affiliated with the  , The Arc of PA and The Arc of US.

DESIGNED BY: BILL PILLING GRAPHICS

*Sign Up!*

## Membership is the key...

- Access to the latest information, including newsletters;
- Up-to-the minute alerts about the latest on Capitol Hill so you know when to take action;
- Discounted registration to our annual national events such as National Convention;
- Access to exclusive insurance coverage rates through our partner Mercer
  - Includes Group Term Life Insurance, Health Insurance such as major medical, Medicare supplement, life line screening, hospital income, and accidental death and dismemberment insurance.
  - Coverage and availability may vary by state.

### Stay Informed!

#### Membership Registration

New Member

Renewal

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Type of Membership

\_\_\_ \$25.00 - \$49.99 Friend

\_\_\_ \$50.00 - \$99.99 Sponsor

\_\_\_ \$100.00 - \$499.99 Supporter

\_\_\_ \$500.00 - \$999.99 Benefactor

\_\_\_ \$1,000.00 + Partner

Please remit to:



## The Arc™

Northeastern Pennsylvania

115 Meadow Avenue  
Scranton, PA 18505