

The Arcticulate

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Remembering 2015

A January morning in 2055..... A group of parents, friends, self-advocates, and staff started to plan for the 100th. Together they would brain storm ideas for The Arc's 100th Anniversary. But there was no meeting. There wasn't a group of people together in one room. Folks who were participating in this "meeting" were provided an electronic agenda and were asked to give some thought to how and when they would like to celebrate this remarkable milestone. At precisely 9am, the virtual meeting began and each member directed their thoughts to the special anniversary events that they would like to see throughout the year- 2055. "CHIP", an electronic device voluntarily implanted in men, women and children since 2043, signaled the end of texting, tweeting and emails. With CHIP people can simply transmit their thoughts, create 3D images and cause an action to take place simply through thought. So the Development Committee for The Arc's 100th Anniversary, (as they called themselves), transmitted their thoughts on the matter to a single electronic site where the information was shared with others and stored.

One young man did his meeting/thinking as he was transported to work in his "auto-auto", the current mode of transportation. He left his home, sat down in his auto-auto, and thought about opening the garage door. He then directed his thoughts to where he would like to go. His thoughts, just his thoughts, working through CHIP, opened the garage door and programed his electric auto-auto to



the corresponding coordinates for his desired destination. The auto-auto does the rest. While he being transported, a 3D image of the Executive Director for The Arc appeared like magic not only to this young man, but to all those participating in the "meeting". The Executive Director suggested that they review the milestones of The Arc and how other anniversaries were celebrated. They looked at the 50th Anniversary, then the 60th when instantly, a 3D image of a top hat and magic wand appeared to everyone. There was a collective awe from the group. The Executive shared the details of The Arc's 60th Anniversary. There was a juggler, and a magician, he said. "It was a gala held in October that quite creatively celebrated that "Magic Happens at The Arc". As an old article from Scranton Times - August 2015 - flashed before the committee members, the Director shared that 2015 was a particularly challenging time for citizens with intellectual and developmental disabilities and for The Arc. "The state didn't pass a budget until December that year! " If that wasn't bad enough", he said, "waiting lists for services were growing longer because there wasn't adequate

funding for programs and supports." "And The Arc still believed in magic?", the young man asked. The Director went on, "Well, there hasn't been a year when The Arc didn't face challenges. Remember, The Arc was born 100 years ago because parents wanted their little ones with disabilities to be able to go to the same school as their brothers and sisters. Over the years, we have fought for housing in communities, quality health care and services for those we love. Even today, as we plan to celebrate our 100th Anniversary, we have much to do. Our citizens with developmental disabilities should have the same access to the virtual world we now enjoy. They will be able to have their own "CHIP", their own "auto-auto as well as proper and necessary supports. Just as The Arc had promised their stakeholders in 2015, we

(Continued on page 10)



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

Please stay tuned: The United Way of Lackawanna and Wayne Counties 2016 Mike Munchak Community Service Scholarship Applications will be out in the Spring!

President's Message



Celebrating 60 years of advocacy and service at The Arc-NEPA has been a truly memorable and magical time for me. I have seen many awe-inspiring activities going on around The Arc. They are making many renovations, repairs, updates and conversions to their sites and that would not be possible without the generosity of several Foundations. We are so grateful for their continued support and belief in our mission.

I have been honored to be a part of The Arc's 60th

Anniversary Celebration. The Gala was held on October 22nd and Peter Danchak was the Master of Ceremonies for the evening. The room at Fiorelli's was transformed into a sea of activity and there was so much to watch and have your senses mesmerized. We were met with Rob Smith, the juggler, who had kept several flames in the air at one time and then led into a magical wonderland filled with illusions, fine and plentiful food, history, art, photos, amusement and so much that before we knew it the night was over. John

(Continued on page 3)

Exec's Corner



Over the last few weeks, I have had the opportunity to share some thoughts regarding our 60th anniversary. I would like to share them with you now.

The Arc began in the mid 50's by and for parents and family members as a support group to assist each other in educating, training and improving the lives of their children and family members.

The Arc of The U.S. had humble beginnings and has grown to over 850 chapters, represented in every state with nearly 100,000 members nationally. We are the largest national organization whose mission it is to serve the needs of, provide services, supports and advocacy to people with Intellectual Disabilities and their families. Those members give us clout when we speak to our legislators, and by the way we are blessed with well informed and supportive legislators from all levels; county, state and federal.

Let me throw a few dates at you:

1950's – The local Arc of Lackawanna County began. We were part of Allied Services on Cedar Avenue. We ran a summer camp.

1956 – Mary Campbell hired as our 1st Executive Director.

1960's – We moved with Allied to the complex on the Morgan Highway. We started Adult Day Services with 6 employees and 30 consumers.

In the early 60's, with the encouragement of our parent group, the Scranton School District held its first class for children with disabilities, one of the first in PA.

1966 – MH-MR Act – Many community services began.

1972 – PA Right to Education Act – I was hired as Program Coordinator-half time

1975 – PL 94-142 – Federal Right to Education Act

1978 – I was hired as our 2nd Executive Director.

1980 – The Arc PA sues the state over horrible conditions at Pennhurst and it eventually closed. When I started with The Arc, there were over 13,000 people with ID in state centers. Today, there are less than 1,000 (985).

1984 – We moved to Meadow Avenue. Began Community Residential Services, serving a number of those former residents of Pennhurst, mostly men with significant levels of disabilities.

1990's to early 2000's – All services grew and were embellished. People continued to come home from state centers.

2006 – We expanded into Carbon, Monroe, Pike, Susquehanna and Wayne counties. We became The Arc of NEPA.

Today – We serve over 300 people per week in various programs and services including residential, day support, advocacy and recreation and employ over 170 staff.

We have accomplished in those 60 years but there is so much more to do.

- We want to move more people from state institutions to communities back home

- We want greater opportunities in employment for all with I.D. who want to work

- We want to stop the bullying of people with ID and Autism

- We want to provide better community education in the prevention of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and Shaken Baby Syndrome

- We want to involve our consumers and self-advocates in decision making and remember the adage "nothing about us without us"

- We want to expand Inclusive Practices in our educational system

- We want full integration in society in all facets of life and work with our elected officials to change attitudes and pass positive legislation like the passage of the ABLE Act that will assist people with disabilities in all facets of their lives.

Throughout the years, The Arc and I have been blessed with many wonderful, hard-working supports groups like our three Parents of Down Syndrome groups in Monroe, Pike and Lackawanna counties and our three terrific Board of Directors; our general board, The Arc of NEPA Foundation and the Friends of The Arc Auxiliary; committed volunteers all to help forward our mission...and what can I say about the fabulous Arc staff. They are simply "the best". Two weeks ago, we celebrated our 60th anniversary at a Gala whose theme it was that "Magic Happens at The Arc". We hope to continue that magic for years to come.

On another note:

We are so proud of Miss Sara Wolff who has recently returned from The Arc US National Convention where she received a National Catalyst Award for her work in Public Policy for the passage of the Able Act. Congratulations Sara and thank you for your hard work. You are an inspiration to us all. Sara is a prime example of what a single person can accomplish and achieve with the proper supports from family, friends and community. No one can achieve success alone.

As we approach the holidays, may you and your family and friends share in the "Magic" of the season!

Respectfully,
Don Broderick, Executive Director

Sara Wolff: 2015 Arc National Catalyst Award Winner

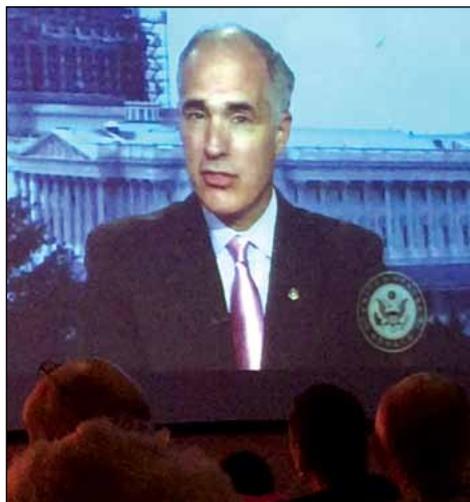
The first ever **Arc Catalyst Awards** were presented at the Arc National Convention on October 5, 2015 in Indianapolis, Indiana. Awards were presented in the areas of: **Public Policy Victory of the Year, Self-Advocate of the Year, Small Business Employer of the Year, National Employer of the Year, Entertainment Industry Excellence, Philanthropist of the Year, and Federal Government Advocate of the Year.**

The Arc's own **Sara Wolff** was a winner of the Victory in Public Policy category in recognition of her personal quest to secure passage of the ABE Act (**A**chieving a **B**etter **L**ife **E**xperience). This legislation, now law, is the most comprehensive legislation to support people with disabilities since the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). It will enable persons with disabilities to establish tax-free savings accounts to pay for life needs such as transportation, education, and medical care.

Other winners in this category, along with Sara, were the bill's major co-sponsors, Senator Bob Casey (PA) and Richard Burr (NC), and seven additional legislators who ensured passage of the Act.

Senator Casey, a close friend of Sara's, offered recorded comments of gratitude via a large screen video link, and singled out Sara for her courage and passion in promoting the ABE Act through public appearances and her "Change.org" online petition, which garnered nearly 300,000 signatures in support of ABE.

The Arc of NEPA is humbled and proud to be so closely associated with Sara Wolff, and congratulates her, along with advocates for disability rights from across the nation, on this prestigious national honor.



President's Message *(Continued from page 2)*

Graham, the illusionist/magician was outstanding and memorable! The feeling of extreme pride filled me knowing that I am a part of such a wonderful organization.

It's hard to believe that we are approaching the holiday season and we have so much to be thankful for. We have so many to thank...

Our funding sources in Lackawanna, Susquehanna, Carbon, Monroe and Pike Counties, the United Ways in Lackawanna, Wayne, Carbon and Monroe Counties, The Arc Staff and Volunteers, the Arc Board and Foundation Board, The Margaret Briggs Foundation, The Dental Association, FNCB, the Friends of The Arc Auxiliary, Gerrity's, Thomas P. Kearney Funeral Home, Keystone Chapter UNICO National, Keystone Sanitary Landfill, Kiwanis Club of Scranton, The Knights of Columbus, M&T Charitable Foundation,

NBT Bank, NEPA Center for Independent Living, Parents of Down syndrome, Pocono Parents of Down syndrome and Pocono Parents of Down syndrome North, PNC Bank, PNC Foundation, Sam's Club, Alice Sanner Memorial Fund, The Scranton Area Foundation, The Scranton Dental Society, The Scranton School District, Edith L. Trees Charitable Trust, Trios, Wayne Bank, Wells Fargo and many, many family and friends.

Plus, the community has been so good to us and supporting our many events: 5K Run/Walk, Arc Knight, Arc at Waldorf Park, Bake Sales, Basketball Game, Bowlathon, Bus Trips, Flea Market, Flower Sales, Golf Tournament, Measure-Up Campaign, Night at the Races, Pasta Dinner and the Spring Tea/Fashion Show.

We are very grateful to everyone for your past support and kindness. As you are thinking about your year-end philanthropic gifts, please remember The

Arc and the many children and adults who are benefitting from thoughtfulness and compassion. Wishing you all a holiday season filled with warmth and bountiful wellness.

Respectfully,
Ken Doolittle, President

Knights of Columbus Appreciation Dinner

The Knights of Columbus Appreciation dinner was held on November 20th at Waldorf Park. The Knights help to raise approximately \$10,000 a year through the Measure-Up campaign and Arc-Knight. Their dedication to The Arc is extraordinary and we are so grateful for this dedicated group of gentlemen.



Cookie Walk

When: Friday, December 4th 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

**Where: The Arc Conference Room
115 Meadow Ave., Scranton, PA**

Dear Friends,

Looking for a tasty way to start the holiday season... Please join us for The Arc Auxiliary's Annual Cookie Walk! The cookies will be sold by the pound. Also, we are asking for donations of cookies, so if you are interested in baking some delicious morsels, please do. :) Other items: The ladies will be selling chances on some great gifts. *A mini bazaar will be held with all kinds of items for purchase to help with your holiday needs.

The Arc Angels are performing in the 16th Annual Christmas Program "Magical Moments" beginning at 12:30 p.m. You are welcome to stay and experience the magic of the season. It's the most wonderful time of the year! Thank you, The Friends of The Arc Auxiliary

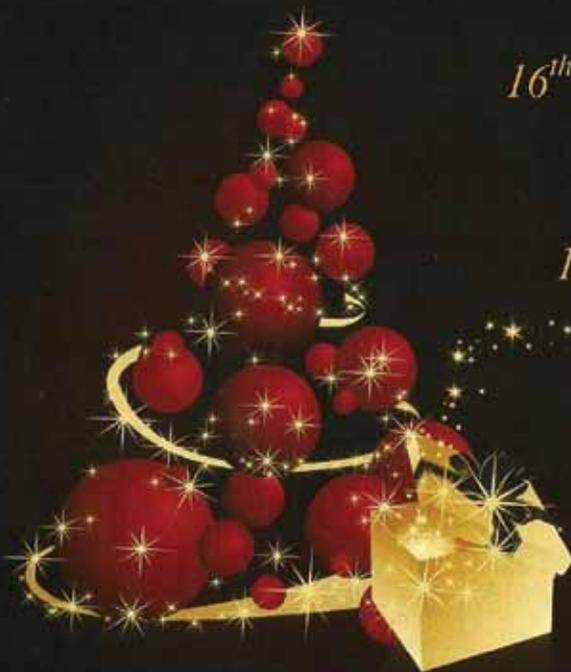
Any questions please call The Arc of NEPA 570-346-4010



The Friends of The Arc Auxiliary along with Arc Responds would like to announce the Arc Responds Holiday Project 2015 – The Snowflake Tree. Ornaments will list the needs of people who otherwise may not receive a gift for Christmas. We will try to purchase every item and make everyone's holiday a little brighter.

*You are cordially invited to attend the
16th Annual Christmas Program to be held on*

*Friday, December 4, 2015 at 12:30pm
115 Meadow Avenue, Scranton, PA 18505*



*MAY YOUR CHRISTMAS BE
MAGICAL*

*The Arc Angels of Northeastern PA proudly
presents "Magical Moments"*

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.



You are cordially invited to join us this holiday season at our

"Friends of The Arc Holiday Party"

Friday ~ December 11, 2015

At

Fiorelli's Banquet Facility, 1501 Main St., Peckville, PA

Evening Festivities:

6:00pm ~ 7:00pm Cheese/Crackers and Vegetables/Dip Display

7:00pm ~ 8:00pm Buffet Dinner

7:00pm ~ 10:00pm Music provided by E.J. The D.J.

6:00pm ~ 10:00pm Cash Bar

Special Guest Appearance, Door Prizes and Holiday Raffles!

Menu Includes:

Fresh Garden Greens/w Vinaigrette Dressing

Penne Rigate Pasta a' la Vodka Sauce,

Chicken Tenderloins Scampi Sautee,

Hand – Carved Certified Angus Sirloin of Beef, Fresh Fish of the Day

And Oven Roasted Potatoes & Seasonal Vegetable de Casa

Rolls w/ Butter

Dolce de Casa (Sweet of the House)

Coffee, Tea, Decaf, Soda

Cost is \$27.00 per Person

(Please return bottom half with your payment and reservations)

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Number of People Attending: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____ (Payable to: The Arc Recreation)

Reservations are **required** by Friday, **November 20, 2015**

Payments and reservations must be made in advance, NO EXCEPTIONS!

Groups of 7 or more we will be happy to reserve a table for you!

If you have any questions, please call Mari at 570/ 207-0825.

(Inclement Weather Date – Monday, December 14, 2015 – No Refunds)

Annual Board Retreat



The Annual Board Retreat was held on October 27th at Cooper's. Maureen Cronin, Executive Director of The Arc-PA, was the guest speaker.

Pictured: Ken Doolittle, Arc Board President; Alan Hughes, Arc Foundation Board President; Maureen Cronin, Executive Director, The Arc-PA; Corolla Sawka, Arc Auxiliary Board President; Don Broderick, Arc Executive Director.

Holiday Poinsettias

*The Arc of Northeastern Pennsylvania Foundation/
Friends of The Arc Auxiliary*

Orders Must Be Received By: Friday, December 4, 2015

- ★ \$10.00 Each
- ★ Choice of Red, White, Pink, or Marble - 6 1/2" pots
- ★ Foil wrapped container
- ★ Delivered fresh from Corky's

Great Holiday Gifts for Family, Friends, Co-Workers!

Proceeds benefit The Arc of NEPA Foundation & The Arc Auxiliary

Flowers will be available for pick-up on:

Tuesday, December 8th from 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 9th from 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 10th from 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Please pick up your order by Thursday, December 10th in The Arc Conference Room.

Multiple orders Welcomed!

Order Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State & Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Amount Enclosed: _____

Please reserve the following plants for me:

Red _____ # White _____ # Pink _____ # Marble _____

Special arrangements may be made for delivery on large

orders of 15 or more

Please make checks payable to:

The Arc - NEPA Foundation

and return the order form along with payment to:

115 Meadow Avenue

Scranton, Pennsylvania 18505

any questions, please call (570) 346-4010



Brew-A-Thon

Brewing up donations for local charities Simply Homebrew, Drums PA: In celebration of National Homebrew Day and American Homebrewers Association (AHA) Big Brew, Northeastern Pennsylvania homebrew clubs held a 24 hour homebrewing marathon.

All proceeds from this one of a kind Brew-A-Thon went to three local charities. "Our goal is to raise awareness of home brewing, while promoting the responsible consumption of alcohol, all while giving back to our community, at a fun never been done before event." said Mike Zorzi of the Luzerne County Brewer's. "What better way than to combine a hobby we love with helping our surrounding community!"

The local home brew clubs taking part and the charities they supported • Luzerne County Brewers - Supporting Ruth's Place Women's Emergency Shelter a program of Volunteers of America of Pennsylvania • Scranton Brewer's Guild - adopted One Life to Live Animal Rescue • Wyoming Valley Home Brewers - supporting The Arc of NEPA

A BIG thank you goes to the Wyoming Valley Home Brewers Club and Simply Home Brew for all their efforts to raise awareness and support for The Arc-NEPA!

United Way Day of Caring 2015



On Thursday, September 3rd, The Arc proudly participated in the United Way of Lackawanna and Wayne Counties "Day of Caring", during which hundreds of individuals from various companies and businesses in our community come together to work side by side with United Way partner agency staff to accomplish all sorts of tasks and to learn more about how their dollars benefit the agencies funded by the United Way. This year's

projects at The Arc included landscaping, weeding, planting, driveway sealing, painting and boiler inspections. The volunteers worked at Weston Park, as well as, the Adult Day Services Program area and several Community Residential homes. The Arc of NEPA has been a participant in "Day of Caring" since its inception, and we are proud of the many friendships made over the years through this special day.



Bobby Robbins to Special Olympics World Games!

Submitted by Mari Pizur

Bobby Robbins is an athlete in both Golf and Bowling with Area P Special Olympics and The Arc of NEPA. Bobby has been involved with Special Olympics for 20 years and The Arc Bowling for 18 years. He was chosen to go to California to compete in Special Olympic World Games in Golfing. He traveled with Jeff Snyder his unified partner and a great friend. They embarked on a trip to meet up with 13 Pennsylvania Athletes, 400 other United States Athletes and 6000 World Athletes. They played Golf for 14 days competing against the finest Athletes from around the world.

Jeff and Bobby struggled at first adjusting to the new golf courses. They were able to get their game together and played hard. Competing with the best of the best they tied with Norway for a Silver Medal win!

This was quite an accomplishment competing with thousands of the greatest athletes from around the world! They had fun and created lasting friendships! Their parents humble and honored by the athlete's accomplishments! Bobby's parents are so thankful for all the support for this once in a lifetime great adventure that will be remembered forever.

Congratulations Bobby and Jeff we are Pennsylvania Proud!

Bring Your Child to Work Day



Our Aktion Club Members hosted, The Bring Your Child to Work Day, this year, On Thursday, April 23, 2015.

The event was held at Our Adult Day Program, on Meadow Ave., in Scranton.

Arc Staff brought their children and grandchildren. The day was filled with a variety of different activities for them to share in, along with our Program participants.

The children and our consumers worked hand in hand on many projects. Both the kiddos, and our folks participated in an Exercise Class, Wii Dance Contest, and also planted flowers, together.

The children worked side by side with

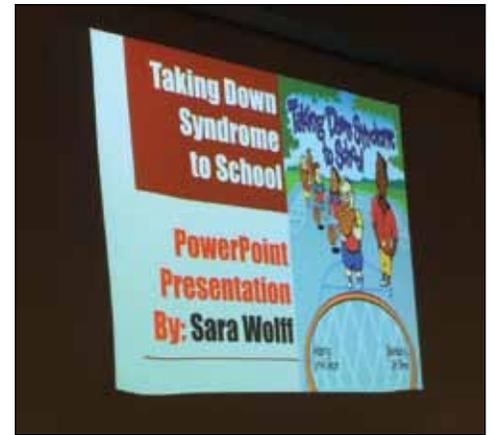
our folks on completing their Contract Work, which involves placing two different size screws in a plastic bag.

Everyone enjoyed having lunch together and afterwards they got to make their own ice cream sundaes.

At the end of the day's activities, our Aktion Club President, Chris McLean, presented each child with a Certificate of Appreciation, for sharing in this fun filled event.

Arc Auxiliary Education Program

Sara Wolff and several members of The Arc Auxiliary Education Committee presented their program to six 3rd grade classrooms at the Moscow Elementary School. The message being taught to the children is understanding acceptance, eliminating the "R" word and Don't Be A Bully, Be A Buddy.



Aktion Club

The Arc of NEPA Aktion Club comes to the rescue again. It was brought to the attention of The Aktion Club that the Salvation Army Food Pantry was in dire need of food items.

The Club members went into action and put collection boxes at both of our sites, Robinson Park, and Meadow Ave. A memo was made and distributed throughout our organization, kindly asking everyone for their support.

Numerous items were collected, along with a monetary donation from the Aktion Club Members. Then, members of The Aktion Club, along with Arc Staff went and delivered the donations.

Everyone at The Salvation Army was extremely grateful for all of our efforts!



Pictured: Seated - Vivian Dudeck; Sandy August. Standing - Erica Francis, Agnes Keller; Corey Martin; Captain Jenny -Salvation Army; Kristen Kijewski;



Select one session:

Fri. Dec. 11th

7-9 PM

OR

Sat. Dec. 12th

9-11AM

Learn how to organize your child's papers and information about their special needs

You MUST pre-register! Only the first 50 families to sign up for each session will be accepted for this FREE workshop.

Light refreshments will be served after each workshop session

Held in the Cafeteria of East Stroudsburg High School South

DECEMBER 11 OR 12, 2015 CARE BINDER WORKSHOP

For Families with a child with special needs

*Only one binder per family *No babysitting provided *You MUST RSVP with your name, email & mailing address, and desired session date by Nov. 23, 2015 to info@thePPODS.org



Pocono Parents of Children with Down Syndrome

THE PPODS

Wish to thank our sponsors:
Wal-Mart (\$2000 grant)
Working Dog Press (printing services)
Chef Rob Catering (food)

We still need sponsors for office supplies & paper products

Night at the Races

The Third Annual Night at the Races was held on November 6th, at St. Mary's Center and it was just incredible! The team work, friendships, love, laughter, prizes, donations, food and drink were outstanding. We had approximately 200 people in attendance and everyone was winning and having such a great time. Representative Sid Michaels Kavulich is the STAR of the evening with his talent and expertise in keeping the evening running smooth, efficient and timely. The committee is amazing at everything they do and they really SHINE in their organizational skills. They keep events manageable and fun at the same time. All of you deserve a HUGE round of applause, lots of rest and plenty of chocolate. We look forward to next year and seeing all of you again.



First row: Mary Carol Kanton; Bob Hoffman; Ann Hoffman; Jeanne Gardier; Nancy Crafferty; Peggy Tenelly; Jean Biggar. Second row – Bill Burke; Carol Burke; Peter Kanton; Eileen Williams; Eileen Rempe; Paul Sawka, Corolla Sawka; Linda Kusy; Michele McDade; Mark McDade

Halloween Party

The Friends of The Arc Auxiliary treated all of our folks to a Halloween Party featuring the musical talent of Michael Strasburger, yummy apple cider donuts and delicious apple cider. The costumes were very creative and looked fabulous. Everyone had a spooky good time and many tried out their vocal skills. Thank you to the Auxiliary for an afternoon of great fun!



2015 Scarecrow Contest



2015 Scarecrow Contest on Depot Street in Clarks Summit - 2nd Place Winners: Nancy Crafferty; Peggy Tenelly, Betty Moreken, Eileen Williams, Corolla Sawka, Linda Kusy; Betsy Youngblood

Leave a Legacy – Estate Giving Program

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.

We appreciate your kindness you show on an annual basis. As we move forward today and throughout the year, we also need to be remembered as we go into the future. With your generosity, we can continue offering the services to the individuals who need them. If you would like to explore a method of giving that is right for you, please feel free to contact us and we will be happy to meet with you. For specific financial or legal advice, please consult with an attorney or financial planner.



"A Feast for the Eyes"



The Billy Shaw Memorial Art Show "A Feast for the Eyes" was held on November 13th. We had almost 50 entries in the show with their colorful and creative artistry.

The abilities of the folks we serve are amazing and we want to share their talents with all of you. The featured artwork will be reproduced on Thanksgiving cards which will be

mailed to family and friends. Everyone who participated will receive their artwork framed for displaying.



Remembering 2015

(Continued from page 1)

will never stop advocating for children and adults with disabilities. They are entitled to have a full and respected life," he told the group. Finally, he transmitted a picture of a billboard from 2015. Smiling faces of consumers and staff pictured was a powerful reminder of what was. The Executive concluded, "In 2015, for our 60th Anniversary, we celebrated the magic at The Arc with a gala and so many more anniversary events that happened throughout the year. He, or his CHIP, sent the yellowed, dogged ear pictures from the gala of 2015. "Look at these pictures", he said. So many people, so many friends, family, and consumers, smiling, talking, laughing, enjoying the celebration and simply sharing one vision, one mission. Thanks to the many friends of The Arc, the staff and board members, they got it right in 2015. Let's try and do the same for 2055!" How about that.....

Maryclaire Kretsch

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 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.**

Fun Things are Happening Here at Robinson Park!

We started out 2015 a little Frozen, but soon discovered that **"Some People are worth Melting For!"**

While up here on East Mountain, behind our Castle Walls, there was much fun and excitement happening, including our indoor snowball fight.

As the **March Winds blew," The Irish Eyes were Smiling" on us during our St. Patrick's Day Festivities.**

One day in April we opened the door to Spring and look who **Hopped** in?. The **Bunny**, himself, with loads of **Warm Hugs**, which we are all fond of.

We no sooner blinked our eyes and,

Cinco de Mayo was upon us. With pinatas , sombreros, and one **large fly swatter** in hand the fun began. Before you knew, the room was filled with all kinds of goodies.

Then it was time for **The Ladies in Red Hats**, to gather together for some in door picnicking and song, with Janice Gambo.

Surprise!, it's your Birthday! Once again, **We Love to Celebrate Life!** Whether it is with a cupcake, or a home crafted watermelon cake.

In May, not wanting to forget our Veterans ,our Aktion Club Members organized a Donation Drive for the Gino J. Merli Veterans' Center. Some of the

Aktion Club Members had a chance to meet with some of the recipients at the Center.

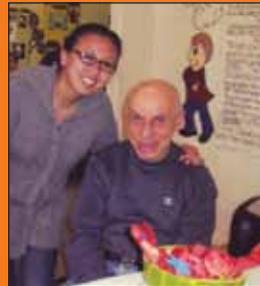
Oh and by the way as you look at the photos has anyone seen the **Gallon Pail of ice cream??**

Do you think that this warm weather has melted it , or maybe it is still Frozen??

Let's ask Barbie!!

Feel free to stop in and visit with us because we are always ready with smiles and warm Hugs!!!!, up here on the mountain.

Lovingly submitted by All The Folks At Robinson Park





The Arc
 Northeastern Pennsylvania
 115 Meadow Avenue
 Scranton, PA 18505

Non-Profit
 US Postage
PAID
 Scranton, PA
 Permit #122



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

VISIT US AT:
www.thearcnepa.org
 Find 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...

You can help. Become a member of The Arc of Northeastern Pennsylvania today. Benefits include:

- National, state, and local newsletters with current information on intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- The opportunity to participate in The Arc affairs at a local, state, and national level.
- Attend conferences, conventions, and seminars at a reduced cost.
- Discount prices on publications.
- Insurances services, credit card program, and free one year subscription to ABILITY digital magazine.

Stay Informed!

Membership Registration

New Member Renewal

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

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