

The Turning Point

Including *BUSINESS BRIEFS*, a yearly insert for the business community.

THE ARC OF MONMOUTH

Association for Retarded Citizens
Monmouth Unit, Inc.

Published three times a year.
Issue I, Volume III

A publication of The Arc of Monmouth, a non-profit agency serving persons with mental retardation and their families since 1949.

Fall 2005

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President's Message

Rhona L. Levy

The potluck dinner (known as the Covered Dish Supper) at The Arc of Monmouth is not a matter of "luck" at all! It is a given, from my experience, that the food will be delicious, the award presentations inspiring and the company socially delightful.

Almost like a dinner theatre evening, we were thoroughly entertained, if not occasionally brought to tears, by the testimonies given by those who had nominated the winners and also the touching "thank you" by the recipients themselves.

We all wish we could give of ourselves the way the award winners do. We know what the needs are but we often can't physically do what is required, or are too busy to fit it into our schedules. When that is the case, many of us will at least make a monetary donation to help the cause.

Is it just me, or are there more and more important causes that tug at our emotions and checkbooks? I have, in the last couple of years, decided to focus my charity resources on five organizations a year. Not that I give an enormous amount ... wish I could! But to feel I'm really doing something, I try to answer the call of five. I always give to The Arc of Monmouth. Frankly, I see clearly how carefully the money is budgeted and see the benefits, not just for my son, but others we have gotten to know personally in a variety of programs.

Hurricane Katrina funds have certainly drawn our attention. Did you know that The Arc of the United States is directing checks for Katrina funding to persons with developmental disabilities in the affected states?

I'm sure you, as I do, have other charities we like to support. As Thanksgiving approaches, it is a good time to remember the "award winners" and do our part to help make the world a better place.

May you and yours have a great holiday season.

Commissioner Visits The Arc of Monmouth



Commissioner James M. Davy

Department of Human Services (DHS) Commissioner James M. Davy, Division of Developmental Disabilities Director (DDD) Carol Grant and other DDD employees toured programs of The Arc of Monmouth on July 25.

First on their tour was the Ambulatory Care Center in Tinton Falls, where more than 800 persons with mental retardation and related disabilities receive health care and mental health services.

Commissioner Davy spoke with Arc's Director of Health Services Leone Murphy and psychologist Nancy Razza about their groundbreaking group therapy sessions for persons with mental retardation, and the psychiatric, behavioral and individual counseling services offered at the Ambulatory Care Center. Through internships at the center, other professionals are introduced to considerations when providing health and mental health care to this population, noted Murphy.

Davy and Grant later visited two adult training centers The Arc of Monmouth operates in Wall Township. "These centers serve persons with multiple disabilities," stated Arc executive director Mary Scott. "The Shore program cares for 15 persons who have serious physical or health needs in addition to a developmental disability, and the Green Grove Center offers services for persons with mental health or behavioral needs as well as a cognitive disability." The staffing in these centers is more intensive than that at other adult training centers funded by DDD in New Jersey due to the special needs of the persons served there.

Commissioner Davy expressed appreciation for the tour of Arc facilities, noting that Arc staff "are doing important work."

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published by
The Arc of Monmouth

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Executive Director's Report

Mary E. Scott

After 18 years with The Arc of Monmouth, and six years as Executive Director, I remain hugely proud of the organization. Through the joint effort of volunteers, employees, served persons, and friends, much is accomplished each year. Yes, we still see need in every direction, and are aware that many families require more supports and services. We will remain vigilant in our advocacy efforts for resources to meet those needs. But we also want to acknowledge the achievements that are taking place. Here are a few culled from department director's reports for FY 2005, which ended June 30, 2005:

- ◆ Twenty-nine new persons with disabilities were assisted to find jobs during the year, and another 25 previously-served persons found new jobs with Arc's assistance. Arc also became an assessment site for Access Link transportation services from NJ Transit.
- ◆ The Work Opportunity Center (WOC) helped 12 individuals enter community employment during the year, and provided community-based job sampling to consumers to assess vocational interests and skills.
- ◆ Hersh High graduated three students, each of whom was accepted in an appropriate adult service. Students in the school made good progress in increasing math and reading-language skills.
- ◆ Recreational opportunities were provided to 31 new people during the year. During a cruise in the Western Caribbean, Circle of Friends members visited the child with Down Syndrome whom they sponsor in Honduras. Twenty-five persons showcased their talents in a Variety Show.
- ◆ Nearly 800 individuals were served by our Ambulatory Care Center, which conducted a health fair attended by more than 100 persons. The Mobile Dental Clinic at Arc locations served approximately 25 persons weekly. Vital mental health services were provided, and five doctoral students spent time working with psychologist Nancy Razza to learn about provision of such services to our population.
- ◆ Residential programs served 84 persons. Staff assisted individuals to face medical challenges, including diabetes, and mobility issues arising from advancing age. The Independent Living Program supported 20 persons in such practical tasks as paying bills, getting to appointments with doctors, and keeping a clean house.
- ◆ Adult Services programs provided volunteering opportunities for served persons, including cleaning up clutter at local parks and assisting in Meals-on-Wheels deliveries. Groups focused on self-advocacy, music, socialization and more.
- ◆ Social Service responded to 347 inquiries during the fiscal year. The department offered seven trainings for families on the Individual Education Plan process, three sessions on Social Security programs (SSI and SSD), a workshop on transition from school to adult life, and they coordinated sessions on "what siblings need to know" and education advocacy.
- ◆ We responded to Action Alerts on 25 federal issues and 12 state issues, trying to protect the rights of people with disabilities and protect funding for their supports.

Thanks to everyone who played a part in the successes of the last year.

HELP THE ARC OF MONMOUTH BE THERE IN THE FUTURE

Planning for the future is not always an easy task. The Arc of Monmouth is looking toward tomorrow and we need your help to ensure the future of our services. You can contribute by giving a gift of cash, securities, real estate or insurance, or naming The Arc of Monmouth in your will. Your support will help build Arc's Endowment Fund and strengthen The Arc of Monmouth for a brighter tomorrow. The Arc of Monmouth needs you. Help ensure that The Arc will be there for the next generation of families that need us. For more information, contact Director of Development Victoria Stelmach at 732-493-1919, ext. 120.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our most recent appeal.
(Please note these are all of the donations received prior to *The Turning Point* going to press.)



Stacey Cooper (left) and Mary Scott

The Arc of Monmouth is gearing up for its 39th Anniversary Winter Glow Ball being held on December 2, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. at the Shore Casino in Atlantic Highlands. This year, The Arc will honor Stacey Cooper of Colts Neck, a former Mrs. World and strong supporter of The Arc of Monmouth.

"I am thrilled to be honored this year. My brother, Gary, and my entire family benefit from the programs and services that The Arc offers. He is a confident, well-rounded, good-hearted soul

MRPAGUEY-CO KNDMRYNYP MPPR

because of the support he receives from The Arc. I have seen him grow immensely over the years," Ms. Cooper said.

To kick off the planning of this event, a cocktail party was held at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Rocco and Vivian Ruggiero of Little Silver. The General Committee to the Ball was invited to the party, where they met Ms. Cooper, also a member of the General Committee, and her brother. New members were introduced to old members, and Chairman Anita Roselle of Fair Haven stressed the importance of the Ball. The largest fundraiser The Arc of Monmouth holds, the Winter Glow Ball helps support many programs that The Arc of Monmouth provides.

In light of the recent tragedy related to hurricane Katrina, The Arc of the United States has started a fund to help people with disabilities and their families. Ten percent of the net profits from the Winter Glow Ball will go directly to this fund. The Arc of the United States will channel 100% of all funds donated to those affected. There will be no overhead costs deducted and funds will be used to meet the most immediate needs of food, clothing, medicine and shelter.

As always, a spectacular live and silent auction are planned for the Winter Glow Ball in addition to the Giant \$100 50/50 Raffle and \$5 Raffle for a \$2,000.00 shopping spree at the Short Hills Mall.

Meet



Ruth

Ruth has been employed with Dining Services at Monmouth University for over 20 years. She works in the dish room and other areas of the kitchen, among other duties, while maintaining a 25-hour work-week. She works throughout the school year, from September through the end of May, but is always willing to help out during the summer if she is needed. This summer, Ruth chose to go back early because she missed working every day.

Ruth receives job coaching from The Arc of Monmouth. Her Job Coach, Brienne Mullaney, credits Ruth with

being one of the most reliable and hard working employees that she has ever worked with, and they have a long and beneficial working relationship. There are never any complaints about Ruth, her hard work and dedication to the job are always complimented. Ruth also has a great relationship with all of her co-workers and supervisors.

Ruth genuinely enjoys her work. She has made some wonderful friends who are always willing to lend a hand. Ruth loves making money and is very

proud that she gets up and goes to work every day to support herself. Working gives Ruth many opportunities that she would not otherwise have. She loves the sense of independence she gets from getting herself to and from work by taking and paying for a bus.

Ruth takes regular vacations. She is very social and loves the interaction with other people on a daily basis. A valuable staff member who is always complimented on a job well done, Ruth stands out as a wonderful and exceptional employee.

Hersh High Halloween



The staff and students of Hersh High celebrated Halloween in style with their annual Halloween party and dance. Creative costumes abounded, and there were games such as *Mummy Wrap*, a Halloween trivia game, and balloon races that ended with a big BANG as each student sat hard on the balloons. Dancing and festive snacks rounded out the afternoon, and a spooktacular time was had by all.

Covered Dish Supper Enjoyed by All

Early October again brought the enticing aroma of homemade foods at The Arc of Monmouth's Annual Covered Dish Supper. As usual, The Arc Center was overflowing with served individuals, honorees, guests, members, volunteers and staff, all of whom were kind enough to bring a main dish, side dish, salad or desert. There was so much to choose from, it was difficult to decide what to put on your plate.

The supper is held every fall and includes the presentation of The Arc of Monmouth Annual Awards. The following awards were presented: The Rita J. Vogel Award for Most Improved Track & Field Athlete, Matthew Felis; Citizenship Award, Joanne Ginda; Health Care Professionals of the Year, Nancy J. Razza, PhD and Daniel Tomasulo, PhD; Employee of the Year, Nancy Lutsky; Professional of the Year, Donna Farrell; Distinguished Community Service Award, 4H Kids for Kids; and Volunteer of the Year, Myles Levy.

"Congratulations to all of our award winners," said Executive Director Mary Scott. "You represent the best of our organization. The Arc of Monmouth thrives because of the accomplishments of our served individuals, volunteers, consultants and employees - all working together for our common purpose."

A few of our outstanding local award winners have also won on the state level. They are: Joanne Ginda, Bill Sackter Award; Dr. Razza and Dr. Tomasulo, Health Care Professionals of the Year; Sears, Roebuck & Co., Employer of the Year from The Arc of New Jersey; and 4H Kids for Kids, Distinguished Community Service Award.

The winner of the annual Unit Raffle was also pulled. Congratulations to Laura Baker who will be off on a vacation very soon!

Individual at Work Opportunity Center Meets her Hero

Claudia Mirro (right) an individual at The Arc of Monmouth's Work Opportunity Center (WOC), a huge NASCAR fan, met her hero, Jeremy Mayfield (left) driver of car #19. Claudia was a guest of Mr. & Mrs. Ray Evernham, owners of Evernham Motorsports and numbers 9 and 19 Dodge NASCAR race teams. She attended the race at the Pocono Race Track on July 24. Ray Evernham introduced her to her hero, Jeremy Mayfield, and to Kasey Kahne, driver of car #9. Claudia's nephew, Bobby Dowens of Holmdel, works on the pit crew for Jeremy Mayfield. Claudia was ecstatic to meet him. This was truly a dream come true for Claudia, Jeremy Mayfield's biggest fan.



Benefits Counseling for SSI and SSDI Recipients

New Jersey WINS (Work Incentive Network Support) is a collaborative project of the Epilepsy Foundation of NJ and Cerebral Palsy of NJ, which was initiated to fulfill the benefits planning assistance component of Social Security's Ticket To Work. NJ WINS provides benefits counseling to SSI and Social Security Disability recipients who wish to work or who are working and want to know how their earnings will affect their benefits (monthly disability checks and Medicaid or Medicare coverage). Although they are funded and trained by Social Security Administration, NJ WINS services are provided on a confidential basis. To schedule a free benefits consultation appointment, Monmouth County residents may contact Stacy O'Donnell at (732)262-8020.

Art at Arc a Huge Success



Ginger Morogiello

Fine art and fundraising met in a first-ever event last summer at the "Art at Arc" show given by Ginger Morogiello on July 16th at The Arc Center in Tinton Falls.

Artwork, a wine-and-cheese table and subtle linen draperies completely transformed the cafeteria of The Arc Center into an elegant art and sculpture gallery. The entire effect was created by Ginger and her friends. Ginger's son, Woody, who was featured in The Arc of Monmouth's 2003 Annual Report, attends an Adult Training Center at The Arc of Monmouth.

Ginger, a multimedia artist, said that she wanted to combine her two great loves ... art and Arc. The mostly one-woman art show gave a portion of the proceeds to The Arc of Monmouth along with all of the proceeds from a raffle, the prize for which was an original sculpture entitled, "Lady in the Leaf."

One of the many tables at the show exhibited the work of other area artists, and one table boasted work in a modern-art vein created by participants at the agency's Adult Training Centers.

The event was highly successful, bringing a taste of the local art world to The Arc of Monmouth and mingling two areas of interest with excellent results.

Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive Celebrates 10 Years

For the 10th year in a row, assistance. Last year, the Social Services department through generous contributions, we were able to serve of Monmouth's Annual 62 families, and hope to Thanksgiving Food Drive. increase that this year.

The food drive began in 1995, when generous contributions from enthusiastic department staff enabled us to deliver Food Drive, it is an agency-bounteous Thanksgiving base-wide project with several departments assisting with baked pies to the homes of 17 the collection of donations, low income families of Arc's assembly, and delivery of the served individuals. baskets.

Since then, with a combination of staff and solicited donations, approximately 50 Arc families per year have been provided with holiday *Editor's Note: By the time you read this article, the baskets will be made and delivered. Please check our Winter 2006 edition for this year's results.*



Happy Thanksgiving!

The Arc of Monmouth Gives Back

The Arc of Monmouth recently responded to the Trenton Backpack Challenge issued by the State of New Jersey to benefit New Jersey's Foster Children.

The challenge was issued early this past summer with the backpacks to be delivered the last week in July to Trenton. The drop-off places for the backpacks were mobile units known as the "New Jersey Foster Children's Winnebagos".

The Arc of Monmouth responded to the challenge. In addition to staff and families, The Arc of Monmouth's

Adult Services Self-Advocacy Group (SAG) members got involved. The SAG is a group of adults with developmental disabilities who meet together to discuss and act on their rights. In the interest of preserving the rights of others, the group also frequently engages in beneficial community activities.

Group members, accompanied by staff of The Arc of Monmouth, went to all of Arc's day program locations to pick up items that had been purchased and donated by staff and family members of served individuals. These included school supplies, toys, baby necessities

and, of course, backpacks. Along with a number of participants from Adult Services, the Self-Advocates then took the backpacks, stuffed with the other items, to one of the Foster Children's Winnebagos near the War Memorial in Trenton.

In the past the SAG has performed community projects for the Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS), the Count Basie Learning Branch of the Community YMCA, Tsunami Relief and The Arc of Monmouth's own Hersh High School.

Disability and the law: Changes Involving SSI

By Herbert D. Hinkle, Esq. &
Valerie A. Powers Smith, Esq.

Important changes went into effect in March 2005, affecting eligibility for Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

To be eligible for SSI, applicants must meet an income and resource test. "Clothing" has been eliminated from the definition of income. This means that payments for clothing or in-kind gifts of clothing will no longer be counted as income.

What is the practical effect of this change? SSI recipients living at home with parents frequently have their benefits reduced by 1/3 (from roughly \$600 per month to \$400 per month) because of in-kind contributions by parents of food, clothing and shelter. Now that clothing has been eliminated, more people should qualify for full benefits.

The regulations also change the definition of a resource. An automobile owned by an SSI recipient is no longer counted. Likewise, personal possessions, regardless of value, are no longer counted.

Special needs trusts are still needed to hold assets which a parent wants to leave someday to a disabled child. The rules do not change the need for this, but they do make things a little easier for applicants.

Herbert D. Hinkle, his partner, Ira M. Fingles, and their colleagues, S. Paul Prior and Valerie A. Powers Smith, maintain a statewide law practice with offices in Lawrenceville, Marlton, and Florham Park, New Jersey and Plymouth Meeting and Yardley, Pennsylvania. They lecture and write frequently on topics of law, aging, disability and estate planning and are available to speak to groups in New Jersey and Pennsylvania at no charge. Comments and suggestions for future articles should be mailed to: HINKLE & FINGLES, Attorneys at Law, 2651 Main Street, Suite A, Lawrenceville, New Jersey 08648-1012. You can also browse their Website at WWW.HINKLE1.COM.

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Annual Survey Results Positive

Every year, by conducting surveys, we hope to get important feedback on how families, persons served, staff and other interested persons feel about The Arc and the services we provide. We want to know whether we are responding to peoples' needs and where we can improve things.

This year, our goal was for at least 90% of persons served in one of our programs, who participated in our annual survey, to indicate that the program was at least "good" in helping them reach their personal goals. We were pleased this spring, when our survey results came in, that 95% of responders rated The Arc as at least "good" in this regard: 36% said "excellent," 30% said "very good," and 29% "good." Families and interested persons, too, indicated much satisfaction with the services at Arc that they had received, for example 83% of responders rated "Respect for served individuals" as "excellent" or "very good."

Somewhat disappointing this year was that the number of surveys overall that were returned to us was low. However, we did not just rely on surveys to tell us what was on the minds of our stakeholders. We also conducted mini-surveys, for example, in follow up to an inquiry for service that we received or in follow up to an Individual Habilitation Plan (IHP) team meeting. We also held two focus group meetings, one on the subject of residential services and one on the subject of services for families with younger children. We are grateful to the people who participated in these and we got some good ideas to help us in our planning.

From all of the information gathered from these sources, we have set goals and compiled a new 5-year strategic plan, which was approved by our Board of Directors in June. Thank you to everyone who offered feedback, ideas and advice. All of this helps us to stay on mission, keep moving forward and deliver the services and supports that people with disabilities and their families most need.

"You Light Up My Life" Spring Formal News

The "You Light Up My Life" Spring Formal, co-hosted by the 4-H Kids for Kids Club, will be held on Friday, March 24, 2006 from 7:00 pm to 11:00 pm at the Shore Casino in Atlantic Highlands.

As we all know, fundraising becomes more and more challenging. The 4-H Kids for Kids has announced that they are also struggling with raising the money to cover the cost of this spectacular event. For 22 years, a minimal registration fee of \$5 was charged. This amount will be increased to help cover more of the expenses for this extravagant evening. At this time the amount has not been determined. Look for details in our Spring Banner or on the registration form. The Arc recreation department and the 4-H Kids for Kids Club will help those that do not have the means to pay the registration through a scholarship fund. The 4H Kids for Kids Club thanks you for your understanding and support with this matter.

Focus on...Employment Services

This year The Arc of Monmouth celebrates the twenty-year anniversary of its Employment department. The concept of supportive employment is a relatively new one, allowing people with developmental disabilities the opportunity to hold jobs in the community and integrate with the working world. Pride in earning money, new friendship possibilities, better skills and an enhanced work ethic are all made available with supportive employment.

According to Jere Cogna, assistant executive director at The Arc of Monmouth, the agency's employment program was originally "a pilot program not expected to continue". She explained that The Arc of Monmouth was one of eight agencies nationwide to receive a grant from the federal government for such an experiment. The plan, she said, was "to see if individuals with developmental disabilities could work in the community". It was commonly believed by the public that day programs and sheltered workshops were the only options for people with developmental disabilities.

The employment program was originally staffed by temporary workers, hired only until the project grant ran out. History was made almost immedi-

ately, however, as The Arc of Monmouth was very successful in finding employment for served individuals and it was decided that the program should become permanent. Employees known as job coaches assisted individuals to find jobs and learn job responsibilities.

Funding was obtained from the New Jersey Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) and the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVRS). The program grew to serve more persons. Today, Arc Employment's eastern branch is known as Arc Employment and is located on Monmouth Street in Red Bank, and the western branch, Arc Resources Unlimited, is located at Freehold Raceway Mall.

Thea Strong, Director of Employment Services, noted that both individual and small group placements are arranged. She said, "I always feel that there are people who may not be quite ready to work independently, and they can benefit from a step in between--such as a group placement." Group placement (several served individuals being placed together in a competitive work site) is a good tool, she said, for assessment and preparation.

In individual placements, care is taken that the worker is not made to feel isolated. Thea explained that the Arc job coaches break down barriers between served individuals and other employees; they often initially serve as a spokesperson for those who cannot or do not speak for themselves.

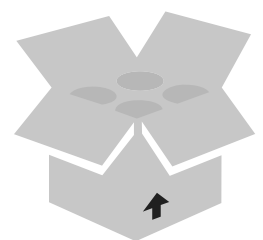
Thea said that in the year she has served in her position, she has seen great acceptance for the workers her department has placed. "Support makes all the difference," she said. "The program works beautifully. We stay with workers until they are able to perform the job independently---the time length depends on both the individual and the job."

Employment Services staff members are always creating new opportunities for the people served by the department. Currently Thea is reaching out to area medical centers and preparing workers to create holiday gift baskets to be sold at the Arc Resources Unlimited store.

Employment Services also operates a program known as the Employment Resource Center to assist people to move out of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and into employment.

We salute Arc's families during November, National Family Caregivers Month!

LOOKING FOR A CONVENIENT WAY TO SHIP YOUR HOLIDAY PACKAGES?



Look no further! The Arc of Monmouth can take care of all of your packing and shipping needs at their Freehold location. Located in the Freehold Raceway Mall's upper level next to Sears, The Arc of Monmouth can now ship packages via United Parcel Service (UPS)!

Please call 732-866-0435 for more information.

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Mr. William G. Mullen
Ms. Michele Myer

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Mrs. June E. Rasmussen
The Reilly Family
Ms. Mary E. Scott

Business Briefs

A YEARLY INSERT FOR THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY



Employer Appreciation Breakfast



Arc Business Advisory Council

Bayshore Community Health Services, Inc.
Jennifer Benanti
Debra Plonka

County of Monmouth
Art Chasey

G&C Associates
Greg Cross

Food Circus Supermarkets, Inc.
Nancyanne Fama

Nifty Packaging
Norman Ferber

Baxter Health Care
Regina King

Wheelock Signals, Inc.
Nancy Vanbrunt

Ocean Place Resort
Hilda Nieves

New Jersey Natural Gas
Hollis Cooper

American Mortgage Acceptance
Salvatore Pappalardo

Inspirations
Barbara Williams

American Cancer Society
Rose Ann Weber

The semi-annual Employer Appreciation Breakfast hosted by The Arc of Monmouth's Business Advisory Council was held on Thursday, October 27 at The Arc Center. This year's breakfast helped celebrate 20 years of employment services. Served individuals, employers and staff in the employment program were recognized.

The spirit of the program was clearly visible during the breakfast when Peter Krynack received his award as Worker of the Year. Peter, employed at Sears (which was awarded as Employer of the Year) said enthusiastically, "I love my job. The staff is always very helpful. I love to be part of Sears."

This year's guest speaker was Lee Webster, Chief of Rehabilitation Services who gave a presentation entitled "Keys to a Good Leadership Organization."

Other award recipients were Robert Tonking, Work Opportunity Center Worker of the Year; Acme, Rookie Employer of the Year; Stop & Shop, Most Accommodating Employer of the Year; Baxter Healthcare Corporation, Work Opportunity Center Sub-Contractor of the Year; and Air Cruisers, Work Opportunity Center Contractor of the Year.

Ms. Joan M. Sheldon
Lois & Joseph Shevlin
Mr. Philip Shiffman

Daniel & Frank Silvestri
Ms. Leah Singer
Mrs. Evelyn Skorinko

Mr. Charles Spencer
Mr. & Mrs. William & Joan
Stewart

Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Strozak
Ms. Elizabeth Teevan
Ms. Janet Terlinden

Mr. & Mrs. Trecate
Ms. Catherine M. Tuohy
Mrs. Janice Venables

WOC Self-Advocates Host Conference

The Self-Advocates Group (SAG) of Arc's Work Opportunity Center (WOC) hosted their second annual conference on Wednesday, October 19, 2005, at WOC from 10 am to 2 pm. Among the sixty to seventy people in attendance were self-advocates from Green Grove and Tinton Falls Adult Training Centers as well as WOC.

At the conference, members of WOC's self advocacy group spoke about their activities, including the WOC Self-Advocate election outcome, school supplies collected and donated to Gregory School, the rally in Trenton this past May, the last SAG Conference, a Monmouth Beach First-

Aid Unit visit, and fund-raising efforts for Hurricane Relief. Photos around the room triggered memories of these events.

The morning presentation was given by Takeena Thomas, Director of the New Jersey Self Advocate Project along with Frank Latham, Field Coordinator and Assistant Sam Jenkins. The morning session focused on issues that most concerned the advocates such as transportation, Medicaid and Medicare, food stamps and housing.

After a lunch of SAG favorites including pizza, a variety of submarine sandwiches, soda, muffins, apples, Oreos

and M & M's, the afternoon session began.

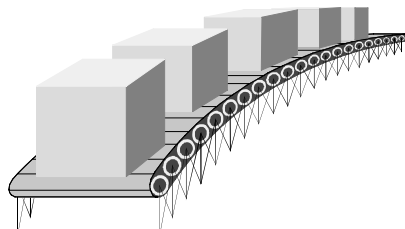
The afternoon speakers were Sharon Steinhorn and Ester Greenberg from The League of Women Voters. They talked to the advocates about being aware of their right to vote and how to register to vote. A flyer was distributed regarding voting rights and responsibilities, various elections that take place, and choosing candidates.

Risa Sha, Assistant Director of WOC said, "The conference was a big success. Individuals received answers to questions of greater importance to them and had fun."

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For more information call
Jen Nagle at
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This service also includes a personal customer relations liaison, a production team to oversee your projects from beginning to end, a quality control team to assure your company and product's integrity as well as your satisfaction.

Remember The Arc of Monmouth When you Give to the United Way

When you make a pledge or donation to the United Way this year, we would like to urge you to designate The Arc of Monmouth as a recipient.

Each year there is greater competition for the unrestricted United Way monies. This competitive process means that Arc can only be assured United Way funds if the agency is specifically designated on the donor's form.

Over the years, the funds we have received from United Way enabled our agency to continue many programs that might otherwise have been in jeopardy. Now we ask for your help in assuring the future of these programs.

Your Donation Questions Answered

The Arc of Monmouth is constantly fielding questions from generous local residents who would like to make donations. In each edition of *The Turning Point* we will try to answer a couple.

Q: Do you accept furniture?

A: We accept furniture only if it is in good condition and if it is needed in one of our programs. Due to our lack of storage space, when a potential furniture donation is called in, Lois DeSanto, Administrative Assistant in the Development Department, contacts all departments to see if the furniture is needed. Sometimes it is, sometimes it is not. If you have furniture in good condition that you would like to donate, please call Lois at 732-493-1919, extension 122.

Q: Do you pick up items?

A: When possible, we do pick up large items. This is not always possible due to the many other duties of our maintenance crew, conflicting schedules of our maintenance department and the donor, and limited availability of trucks. The Arc of Monmouth is grateful for useable donations and tries to make arrangements that suit everyone involved.

Q: What type of furniture is needed now?

A: We have great need for sturdy cafeteria tables and chairs for our Work Opportunity Center, and armed, vinyl cushioned office chairs for our Adult Training Centers.

If you have a specific question regarding donations that you would like answered, please email development@arcofmonmouth.org.

Advertise Here!

If you are interested in advertising your business here, please call 732-493-1919 ext. 120.

(All advertisements must meet both The Arc of Monmouth and United States Post Office non-profit standards for bulk mail.)

- ◆ Over 24,000 Turning Points distributed throughout the year.
- ◆ Each publication is available through The Arc of Monmouth website: www.arcofmonmouth.org

Call today!

Welcome New Members

*Ms. Cindy Bermingham
Mr. & Mrs. Roy Bolinger
Ms. Judy Byrne*

*Mr. Benny Cammarata
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph J. Day
Miss Eileen Deforest
Ms. Janice Fagan
Ms. Gloria Ford
Ms. Patricia Herrera*

*Mr. James Kennedy, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Phil & Barbara Kryzkowski
Ms. Mary Laresch
Ms. Ruby Laufer
Mr. Andrew Lenci*

*Ms. Susan Leslie
Mrs. Meredith Markov
Mr. William Moorehead
Mrs. Robin Newman
Mrs. Anne Pontecorvo
Jinfen Shi*

*Mr. Daniel Silvestri
Mr. Wayne Washington
Ms. Andrea Yarnall
Mr. Edward Young
Mr. John Vistas*

MEMORIALS & SPECIAL GIFTS

The following were received since the last issue of The Turning Point went to press. We thank everyone for their donations.

Donor

Ginger and Butch Morogiello
 Food Circus Super Markets, Inc.
 Lois Moberg & Jeff
 Cecil B. Scatuorchio and CeeTee
 Lucille Solden
 Dawn and Bill Baeszler
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 James Dugan
 Euro-Pro Operating LLC
 Andrew Johnson
 Kay and Tommy Burricelli
 Lucille Solden
 Virginia, Jim, Jamie and Jacci
 Robert Ryan
 Dottie and Tricia McCabe

In Memory Of

Dotty Desiderio
 Paul Azzolina's son
 Laurann Ciecura
 Laura Ciecura
 Jaci
 James Kennedy
 Arnold and Phyllis Schlisserman
 Laurann Ciecura
 Laurann Ciecura
 Mr. James Joseph Kennedy
 Rosemary Flaherty
 Alan W. Finley
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 Mary Ellen McErlean
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John and Teresa Palombi
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 The Hamilton First Aid Squad
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 Betty Ryan
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 Jeanne M. Warnock
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 Lori Lutzky
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 Monmouth Cares, Inc.
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 Jacqui Moskowitz
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 Carole and Irwin Lipkin
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 RDA Building Staff Carson Foods
 & Irv and Bob Kardane
 Mildred Valentine
Donor
 Mr. James A. Hilton
 Mollie & Joseph Giamanco
 Mr. & Mrs. Albert Flemer, Jr.
 Marilou & Bob Kaye
Donor
 Sue & Shel Mattison
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Mary Ellen Ryan McErlean
 Chris TyLuki
 Mildred Waite Diehle Zagury
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 Sandy Slonski
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 Mildred Zagury
 Mildred Waite Diehl Zagury
 Mildred Zagury
 Murray Habermann
 Laurann Ciecura
 Laura Ciecura
 Laura Ciecura
 Evelyn Phillips
 Delores McDermitt
 John Pekarchik, Sr.
 Jim Valentine
In Honor Of
 Lucy S. and Judith T. Hilton
 Lee Peter
 James, their son
 Stanley Kaye
Happy Birthday
 Rhona Levy
 Rhona Levy

Memorial or Special Gift Request

Please print complete names and addresses.

Donor: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Amount of Donation \$ _____

(circle one)

In memory of - In Honor of - Happy Birthday

Other _____

Name of the Person for whom donation was made:

Card To Be Sent to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip _____

Mail to:

The Arc of Monmouth, 1158 Wayside Road, Tinton Falls, NJ 07712

New Members Welcome - Join Today!

*There are several memberships from which you may choose.
 Please be as generous as your means will permit.*

Regular Members - \$25.00 Supporting Member - \$35.00

Patron - \$50.00 Benefactor - \$100.00

President's Council - \$200.00 and above

Ms./Miss/Mr./Mrs. _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

New Member: _____ Renewal: _____

Parent of person with developmental disabilities? _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Please charge my MasterCard/Visa/American Express:

Card #: _____ Exp. date: _____

Signature: _____

Mail to:

The Arc of Monmouth, 1158 Wayside Road, Tinton Falls, NJ 07712



Taken by photographer, Peter Mitev

Upcoming Events

December

- 2- Winter Glow Ball
- 16- WOC Holiday Party

January

Step Up For The Arc Walk planning begins.

March

Mental Retardation Awareness Month

<p>HELP WANTED</p> <p><i>Do you want to make a difference?</i></p> <p>The Arc of Monmouth is looking for caring and responsible people to work with us.</p> <p>We offer a variety of full and part-time jobs: days, nights and weekends, accommodating various schedules.</p> <p>We also have many volunteer opportunities and we offer student internships!</p> <p><i>For more information</i> <i>Call (732) 493-1919, ext. 610</i> <i>Fax (732) 493-0739</i> <i>humanresources@arcofmonmouth.org</i> <i>www.arcofmonmouth.org</i></p>
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1158 Wayside Road
Tinton Falls, NJ 07712

www.arcofmonmouth.org

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