

The Turning Point

THE ARC OF MONMOUTH

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A publication of The Arc of Monmouth, a non-profit agency serving persons with intellectual & developmental disabilities and their families since 1949.



President's Message Robert B. Gura

As our 60th Anniversary comes to a close and we begin a new decade, The Arc of Monmouth is still navigating through the rough waters of the difficult economy and budget cuts. With a new Governor we expect new ideas and new ways to cut the state budget. Recent news reports indicate a \$1 billion state budget shortfall in the current fiscal year and a \$ 9.5 billion dollar budget deficit for fiscal year 2011. The size of the deficit is about a third of the state budget, and the largest deficit ever, according to press reports. Governor Christie has asked the heads of state departments to submit plans for cuts of 15%, 20%, and 25% in their departments. Those are huge cuts. The Arc of Monmouth and other provider agencies rely on state support for our services. We are not out of hot water yet.

Thank you to everyone who has made a contribution in any way during these trying economic times. Charitable giving is low, and every dollar helps. The financial support of our friends is greatly appreciated.

There are many ways for you to support The Arc of Monmouth this spring. Please take a look within these pages to find information about both our upcoming Walk and Golf Tournament. Both events not only provide a wonderful time, but help the agency a great deal.

We do have anniversaries to celebrate this year. I am proud to say that this March marks the 30-year anniversaries of our Colombian Manor, Virginia Manor and Marc Manor Group Homes! This is 30 years of loving, nurturing, supportive residences for individuals with developmental disabilities. The Arc staff members who work in these group homes truly give of themselves. You can see it in the homes they oversee, you can see it as they walk through the Arc Center with their residents. They are more than just caregivers; they are friends.

Let's hope this decade brings good fortune to all. I wish you all the best in the New Year.

Three Meridian Hospital Presidents Honored at the 43rd Winter Glow Ball



At the Winter Glow Ball from the left are honorees Timothy J. Hogan, President of Riverview Medical Center; Steven G. Littleton, President of Jersey Shore University Medical Center; W. Peter Daniels, President of Ocean Medical Center; Anita Roselle, Chairperson; and Robert Gura, President of The Arc of Monmouth. (See story page 5.)

Arc of Monmouth Receives Three Year CARF Accreditation

The Arc of Monmouth is proud to announce that the organization has been accredited for a period of three years by CARF for the following services: Employment Services: Community Employment Services: Job Development, Job Supports, and Job-Site Training; Employment Services: Comprehensive Vocational Evaluation Services, Employee Development Services and Organizational Employment Services; and Community Services, Community Integration.



This accreditation decision represents the highest level of accreditation that can be awarded to an organization and shows The Arc of Monmouth's substantial conformance to the CARF standards.

(Continued on Page 3)

Guardianship, Estate Planning & Special Needs Trusts

Start planning now!

Date: March 6, 2010

Time: By Appointment only

Location: The Arc Center, 1158 Wayside Road, Tinton Falls

Contact: Sherry Blackman at 732-493-1919, ext. 600 or
sblackman@arcofmonmouth.org

Learn about:

- Establishing an estate plan, including wills, special needs trusts, durable power of attorney and living wills
- Choosing guardians and trustees
- Considering life insurance and other means of providing financial protection, planning and investment review

Ask questions:

Meet with an attorney from the law firm of Hinkle, Fingles & Prior. Ask your questions. Learn about the steps you need to take. This personalized on-site appointment can assist you to begin the process of estate planning for your family member.

There is NO fee for this consultation.

When you register, you will be contacted by the law offices and be given information about the issues to be discussed at your consultation.

Thank you, FILCO!

Thank you Philip Fina, William Pappas and the employees of
Fiduciary Intermediary Ltd.

for participating in your second Informal Friday for Arc!

If you would like to hold an Informal Friday for The Arc of Monmouth at your business, please call development at 732-493-1919

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

Congratulations Columbian Manor Virginia Manor & Marc Manor!

These group homes
operated by
The Arc of Monmouth
are celebrating their
30th Anniversary
this March!

They are each planning
big celebrations to honor
this milestone.

Don't miss our next issue
to see photos from the
parties and histories of
the homes.

12th Annual Step Up For The Arc Walk May 15

Plans are in the works for the 12th Annual *Step Up For The Arc Walk*! Set for May 15, we will once again be at Liberty Park II on West Park Avenue in Tinton Falls. This park is wheelchair and stroller friendly, so bring the entire family!

Registration is at 9 AM, and the walk begins at 10. There is no fee to register, but anyone who brings in a donation of \$40 or more will receive an official 2010 walk tee shirt. The Masonic Lodges of the 17th district will again provide a spectacular lunch to all walkers, and help with a continental breakfast.



This walk happens in conjunction with 20 other chapters of The Arc across the state, raising money and awareness for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Thank you to our state sponsor: Hinkle, Fingles and Prior, Attorneys at Law.



The Edward M. Rosell Memorial Arc Golf Classic Set for June 21

A new spin is put on an old classic to honor someone near and dear to The Arc of Monmouth.

Last spring Edward M. Rosell, long-time volunteer and supporter of the agency, passed away. He served on The Arc Golf Classic committee since its inception in 1977, many of those years as Chairman. In addition, he was President of the Board of Directors for the agency and on the General Committee to the Winter Glow Ball for many years. In his honor, the Arc Golf Classic will now be known as The

Edward M. Rosell Memorial Arc Golf Classic. It will be held on June 21 at Bamm Hollow Country Club in Lincroft. The cost is \$250 per player.

This event provides a full day of golf on a beautiful course and a dinner following the tournament. Prizes are awarded for low gross and closest to the pin. Don't miss this great event! If you are interested in playing or sponsoring please call The Arc of Monmouth's Development Department at 732-493-1919.

Carf Continued from Page 1

An organization receiving a Three-Year Accreditation has put itself through a rigorous peer review process and has demonstrated to a team of surveyors during an on-site review that its programs and services are of the highest quality, measurable, and accountable.

CARF is an independent, nonprofit accred-

iting body whose mission is to promote the quality, value, and optimal outcomes of services through a consultative accreditation process that centers on enhancing the lives of the persons served. Founded in 1966 as the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, and now known as CARF, the accrediting body establishes consumer-focused standards to help organizations measure and improve the quality of their programs and services.

2010 Blue Ribbon Mile

Dedicate a section of the walk path to someone special!

Make a \$50 donation in someone's name to the walk. A blue ribbon displaying each name will be placed along the path of the walk as well as on a dedication board!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Name(s) to be placed on ribbon and board: _____

Amount enclosed: _____

___ Check enclosed or:

AMEX/MC/VISA: _____

Exp. Date: _____

Name on card: _____

Please mail to:

**1158 Wayside Road
Tinton Falls, NJ 07712
Attn: Development**

Save the Date!

for The Arc of Monmouth's
Annual Meeting

Tuesday, June 22, 2010
7:30 PM

The Arc Center
1158 Wayside Road
Tinton Falls

*Attorney Valerie Powers-Smith of
Hinkle, Fingles and Prior
will speak about*

***"Disability Services in a Time of
Declining State Resources."***

*Watch for your notice
in the mail!*

Thank You to Everyone Who Made This Year's Winter Glow Ball A Success



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Arc's Snowflake Wishes Come True

Every year some of the individuals served by The Arc of Monmouth are placed on a wish list for receiving holiday gifts. Over the past several years, The United Way of Monmouth County has found many possible donors of gifts for those in need.

This year, given the current state of the economy, expectations were low. Happily, donations of gifts did come from the United Way, but The Arc also reached out to some of the high schools in Monmouth County to see if any of their extracurricular clubs would be interested in helping. The agency was amazed at the response. The Family Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) club of Ocean Township High School; the Octagon Club from Freehold Township High School; the National Honor Society from Neptune High School and the St. Leo's Club from the Colts Neck High School responded generously.

In addition, a call was received from the Langosta Lounge in Asbury Park. The staff there routinely helps those in need throughout the year. They purchased gifts for 76 people on The Arc's list.

This is the true meaning of the end of year holidays: quietly helping others to make their holidays brighter. It warms our hearts to know there are people out there who still take the time to care. We are especially heartened to know that our community's young adults are willing to reach out and help those who have less.

Thank you to everyone who contributed gifts for individuals served by Arc.

Tyshon Woods continued from page 7.

I liked being in front of people, hearing their opinions and knowing that I was helping other people."

Candace Layton, one of Woods' teachers, was impressed with his speaking ability.

"For one occasion, we worked together on writing down what he needed to say and he practiced it at school and at home by himself," says Layton. "He was well acclimated to what he needed to do and say by the time he gave the speech. He understood the core of the lecture. I thought he did extremely well. He got good advice and support from Frank, also."

"Ty absolutely has the potential to be a leader in the disability community," Layton says. "He considers both sides of any argument, is always open to looking outside the box and always takes other people's thoughts and feelings into account. When making a decision, he is willing to listen to others brainstorm. He's a people person. In the four years I've known him, I've never heard a negative word about him."

During the leadership classes in 2008, a les-

son on leadership styles impressed Woods so much that he wrote to Latham about it.

"Frank taught us about the goose and the eagle. The eagle flies solo, while goose flies in a V-formation with a flock. When the leader of the geese gets tired, he goes back into the flock and someone else steps up. They honk to keep each other in line and to encourage the leader to keep going.

"I like teamwork. Someday, when I am a leader, I want to go back into the crowd to let others lead. First, I want to advocate for myself, and the, I want to advocate for others. Hopefully, I will do it as my job someday."

For more information on the NJ Youth Leadership Project, go to: www.njcd.org/YouthLeadershipProject/ylphome.htm

To schedule trainings for your area contact Frank Latham at 609-292-3745.

Printed with permission from *People & Families*, Winter 2010; published by the New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities. This story appeared on the cover.

Congratulations George!



George Johantgen recently received an award from the Foodtown located in West End, Long Branch. His award was for 5 years of dedication and hard work at Foodtown. George received a gift certificate and key chain. When asked about how he felt about the honor he answered very modestly, "I am only doing my job and I don't see the reason for an award." George has always been very dedicated to his work and takes a lot of pride in it.

Welcome New Members:

Mr. John Bauer
Mr. Paul Bermingham
Ms. Lynda Glenn
Mr. David Lewandowski
Ms. Katherine Moldenhauer
Mr. Sean Torphy
Ms. Sallie Zimmerman

Would you or your
company like to
sponsor this
newsletter?

Call the development
office at
732-493-1919
to find out how!

Good Times & Happy Memories at the Annual WOC Holiday Party



A great time was had by all at the annual Work Opportunity Center's holiday party.

Food, music, crafts, gifts and entertainment rounded out a fabulous day.

Thank you to Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC for underwriting this event!

EXTRA! EXTRA!

Do you have news?

Do you have a great story about you or someone you know that participates in The Arc of Monmouth's programs?

We would love to tell it!

If you have a story, please call the development department at 732-493-1919, ext. 125



Possible Changes in Guardianship Laws

Proposals are underway that may change New Jersey's guardianship laws. The changes would mean that when an individual with intellectual or developmental disabilities reaches the age of 18, the individual would automatically be presumed to be capable to make their own decisions, much as an individual who does not have developmental disabilities. Most states have this as their norm.

Since 1985, all DDD-eligible individuals have been legally required to be assessed for their guardianship needs when they reach the age of 18. The Department of Human Services for each municipality in the state oversee this process. The Department is also required to process applications for guardianship through the court system.

"Guardianship is a legal determination of capacity that removes an individual's fundamental right of self-determination," stated Kim Friend, Chief of the Bureau of Guardianship (BGS). Most states do not follow the philosophy of restriction but opt for a more individualized person-centered approach (e.g., assessing what area of life can the individual make informed decisions). Traditionally, New Jersey assumes an individual in need of a guardian unless assessed otherwise.

A proposal to enact the NJ Health Care Surrogate Act would address health concern issues. Many times DDD-eligible people are able to make some informed decisions on their own (special purchases, vacations, etc.) but may have some difficulty with making

informed medical decisions due to their cognitive ability of understanding.

The Surrogate Act would address the concerns families have about the individual's ability to make informed decisions about their health care. The act would also delineate the conditions when a surrogate may be needed and exactly what his or her responsibilities would be.

For more information visit www.state.nj.us/humanservices/ddd/services/guardianship/

Reprinted with permission from *DDD Today Vol. III November 2009*

The 43rd Annual Winter Glow Ball Shines



Over 300 guests enjoyed the 43rd Anniversary Winter Glow Ball which was held on Friday, December 4th at the Shore Casino in the Atlantic Highlands.

This year's honorees were Timothy J. Hogan, President of Riverview Medical Center; W. Peter Daniels, President of Ocean Medical Center; and Steven G. Littleton, President of Jersey



Shore University Medical Center. Together, these three hospitals make up the Meridian family. These facilities not only take care of the individuals served by The Arc of Monmouth, but the public as well. It is due to the commitment of these three gentlemen that the three hospitals that encompass Meridian operate at the high standard that they do.

The "Tuesday Group," the Executive Committee to the Ball, presented Chairperson Mrs. Anita Roselle of Long Branch, a bouquet of flowers for her 20 years of dedicated service and wonderful leadership.

Held every first Friday in December, the Winter Glow Ball is the largest fundraiser of the year for The Arc of Monmouth, and this year was no exception. Guests enjoyed an evening of dinner, dancing and spectacular live and silent auctions.



Hand & Stone Massage
Healthy Glow Airbrush
Tanning
I Love Nails
Igloo Italian Ice
Jersey Mike's Subs
Julia's
La Dolce Vita
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Lame

Mr. & Mrs Robert
Lanfrank
Langosta Lounge
Le Fandy
Lulu Rose
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Staples
Mrs. Carol Stillwell
Takara Steak House
Tavolo
Tekniques Salon
The Apprehensive Patient
The Atlantic Club
The Couture Exchange
The Detail Doctor
The Mill
The Peddler of Long Branch
The Raven & The Peach
The Store from River Road
The Wine Loft
The White Butterfly
Town & Country Jewelers
Town Five Cleaner's
Tuzzio's
Two River Theater, Red Bank
Victoria Raffael Salon
Warren Tricomi Salon
Waterford-Wedgwood-Royal
Doulton
What's Your Beef
Wisteria
WOW, Tinton Falls
Yard's Creek Soaring

The Arc of Monmouth 2010 Strategic Planning Questionnaire

The mission of The Arc of Monmouth is to improve the lives of persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. This is accomplished through advocacy, services and supports, cooperation with community partners and community education. The Arc of Monmouth also works to prevent the causes and effects of intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Approximately every five years, The Arc of Monmouth does strategic planning to help prepare for the future. We are currently seeking input for a new Strategic Plan. We welcome input from all. If you have anything you want the board of directors and administration of Arc to consider in the new plan, please let us know. Here are a few questions you may wish to answer, but please add anything else you believe is important for us to keep in mind. Thank you for your time and consideration.

1. What do you like about The Arc of Monmouth? Please note Arc services and supports you think should continue.

2. What do you not prefer about Arc, and would like to see change? Please note any Arc services and supports that you think should not continue.

3. What new services or supports would you like The Arc of Monmouth offer?

4. What are some of the obstacles that could impede the work of The Arc of Monmouth?

Please provide any other comments you believe are important for Arc in its Strategic Planning process.

Thank you!

Please return this form to Joyce Loguidice at The Arc of Monmouth, 1158 Wayside Road, Tinton Falls, NJ 07712 or fax to 732-493-3604.

Youth Leadership: Tyshon Woods A Future Leader in the Disability Community

By Maryann B. Hunsberger

Tyshon Woods might not fit the typical profile of your advocate ready to take over in a leadership role in his community. But the 19-year-old has the drive, focus and understanding to make it happen.

And now he's getting some support as well.

Woods has lived in foster care for 17 of his 19 years.

"I am always moving, and moving around is hard," he says. "I get used to it after a while. But it's hard to get attached to people because you get heartbroken. It's never stable."

For the past eight months, Woods had been living in a foster home in Long Branch that feels comfortable. He gets along well with his foster brother, also 19, who shares a bedroom.

"We hang out at home playing video games and watching movies on TV," Woods says. "I also like going with him and my foster mother to the mall. I hope this placement will be stable, because I really like it here. I hope to stay for a long time."

Woods expresses himself through art, particularly drawing. He considers himself to be "quite good" at art and also spends much time reading. He took karate lessons for two years and hopes to resume his lessons. "I asked my foster mom to take me and we're hoping we can get the finances for that soon." He regularly writes to his biological brother, who lives in a different foster home in South Jersey. He talks to him on the phone and sees him about twice a year.

Woods attends Dorothy B. Hersh High School in Tinton Falls, run by The Arc of Monmouth County. He likes going to high school.

"Reading is my favorite subject. I really like writing, too, especially when I write letters to my family. I like math somewhat, but not as much as reading and writing."

He is friendly with his classmates, but they don't see each other outside of school.

Through the school, Woods got a job stocking shelves at Pep Boys and Staples.

"Hopefully, I can get a job after I graduate doing what I learn at these internships. I enjoy working. It keeps me busy and I like being with my coworkers."

At school, Woods took part in the Youth Leadership Project of the New Jersey Council, on Developmental Disabilities. The project is offered in selected areas throughout the state for young people with developmental disabilities who want to become better advocates for themselves and others.



Coordinator Frank Latham runs the eight-session course. According to Latham, the purpose of the project is to develop personal and organizational leadership at every level.

"One participant may want to be a Council member someday as a result of the program. Another participant may simply want personal empowerment from the program," says Latham.

As the Youth Leadership Project progresses, it becomes more flexible and looks different from year to year and group to group.

"The project is more community based now," Latham says. "Instead of advocates coming to us, we go to them-- at their schools, in their local libraries, at other community locals--wherever they are comfortable gathering close to their homes. We tailor the sessions to match the topics they want to focus on--from reaching out to politicians,

trying to understand health care and Medicaid, making the transition to adulthood, working together toward common goals.

"They drive the content," says Latham.

Latham says Woods brought a unique perspective to the youth leadership session he attended.

"He's a kid who has had experiences in the foster care system that haven't always been positive. But you wouldn't know it from how he handles people and his surroundings. He can reflect on how his situation hasn't always been positive, but still have a positive outlook."

Woods says he was eager to get involved with the project.

"I'm young, so I didn't know how to speak up for myself yet. Frank is teaching us how to do this. He also taught us about politics that apply to people with disabilities. He said that voting is a way to speak up for yourself, so while I was taking the course, I voted for president for the first time. I was a little nervous, but it made me feel empowered. I felt like I was doing my part for people with disabilities."

For one session, Latham asked the students to create a success pyramid, listing accomplishments and goals. The pyramid should start at the bottom with the easy challenges and works up to the hardest one.

"Tyshon finished his in record time," says Latham.

Woods worked toward his public speaking goal when he gave lectures at youth leadership conferences in October 2008 and October 2009 at the Work Opportunity Center in Long Branch.

"I was still in the leadership class the first time I spoke. I was nervous then, but felt comfortable the second time. Other students and people who graduated heard me speak. I thought it was fun. I really liked public speaking. It made me feel like I have good leadership abilities, like a teacher.

(Continued on Page 9)