

The Arc/Rowan Newsletter

The Arc/Rowan Board of Directors

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Manager
Travis Walker - Part time staff

2007 Volume Number 2



Hold These Dates for the 4th Annual Festival of Trees

Friday, November 30, 2007: 7 pm - 9 pm

Saturday December 1, 2007: 11 am - 8 pm

Sunday December 2, 2007: 1 pm - 5 pm

F & M Trolley Barn
Salisbury, North Carolina

Get the Christmas spirit!

The Arc/Rowan Festival of Trees Committee continues the planning process for this years' Festival. The committee has new ideas this year that we feel everyone will enjoy.

Bring your family and friends to see unique and beautifully decorated Christmas trees while helping children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Admission to the Festival is **free** this year



Membership - The Heart of The Arc/Rowan

Membership is “The Heart” of The Arc/Rowan. At this time we would like to thank the following individuals and businesses for becoming new members and or renewing their memberships from January - July of 2007.

Norman & Becky Albrecht
Pete & Jeannine Bader
Felix & Diane Barr
James Bradhsaw
Miss Mabel Barnhardt
Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Beaver
David Bovender
Don Bovender
Mrs. Betty Brown
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Buchanan
Marilyn Chandler
Trina Chester
Carl & Joy Childers
Lori Cinquemani
Mary Sue Clodfelter
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Cook

Roy & Nancy Collins
Nicole Cote
Sue Crowell
Jamima DeMarcus
Delores Elliott
Carol Grant
Judy Haigler
Mrs. Catherine Hall
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hunter
Ron & Allyson Hunter
Karen Hyder
Wanda Jones
A. Gerald Jordan
Knights of Columbus
Kimberly Kyle

Rose Mary Lambert
Nick & Gail Langdon
Busby & Webb Orthodontists
Mark & Barbara Perry
David & Kathy Pulliam
Renita Ritchie
Olin & Ruth Robinson
Carolyn Rogers
Carrie Rogers
Dr. Erma Scarlette
Marti Springer
Betty Thompson
Diane Trinqué
Mr. & Mrs. Clement Wells
Dr. Martha West
Mrs. Jean Wurster

News from the Public Awareness Committee...

The Arc/Rowan education seminar series for 2007-2008 is set! Seminars will be offered the fourth Tuesday of each month from September to May. The following seminars will be offered this year:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Sept 25, 2007	Guardianship
Oct. 23, 2007	Introduction to The Arc/Rowan
Nov. 27, 2007	Presentation on “The Quads”
Dec. 2007	Christmas Party (no seminar)
Jan. 22, 2008	TBA
Feb. 25, 2008	Special Olympics overview
Mar. 2008	Annual Dinner (no seminar)
Apr. 28, 2008	Asperger’s Syndrome
May 26, 2008	Transitioning from High School to Adulthood

A new membership brochure has been created! This brochure is a significant update on our older brochure. The only item left to resolve is printing, and we expect that the new membership brochure will be available for use within the next few months.

The Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS) awareness program, as well as the “New Kids On The Block” puppetry program, are temporarily on hold until the beginning of the new school year. Please contact The Arc of Rowan if you are interested in working with the puppet program.

The Arc/Rowan is planning a contest to create names for the two new Quads that are about to be built. The “Name The Quads” contest will offer prizes to the winning entries, so be on the lookout for more information in the near future!

Please visit our website: www.thearcrowan.org

GET WITH THE PROGRAM (COMMITTEE)

May Update

While eating dinner and watching the news coverage of the State Visit of Queen Elizabeth II, I was reminded of that famous line from American history, "The QUADS are coming!" Well ok, maybe it was spoken quietly by a lady named Jane and not shouted by some guy named Paul, and I don't remember Jane riding a horse at the time. Apologizes to Paul Revere aside, the fact the quads are indeed coming is exciting news.

The Quads are the result of collaboration between The Arc/Rowan and The Arc of North Carolina in obtaining grant monies from HUD to buy land and build two four-unit apartment buildings specifically for people with developmental disabilities. In meeting notes from October 2004, the Quads were referred to simply as the agenda item "assisted living." It has been an exciting, frustrating, and seemingly endless process from the initial concept to the point of being a few months away from actual groundbreaking for construction. Stay tuned for further updates on the Quads in the next newsletter.

Another big item of the Program Committee is the Summer Day Program. The Arc/Rowan is planning to have three sites this year (a first), with forty participants per site. Further, the Summer Day program has been invited to have 50 Summer Day attendees to participate in a Summer Music and Arts Camp. Plans are being made to have a dedicated arts person at each site to help with this new opportunity.

The Program Committee meets on the first Monday of the month at 5:15 pm in The Arc/Rowan offices. The members of the Program Committee would love for you to attend and take part with us at our meetings.

MORE PROGRAM COMMITTEE NEWS

July 2007

The Program Committee has been busy with several items. In June, the Salisbury City Council gave the final stamp of approval to the site plans for the new Quads. This approval clears the way for construction to begin. On a side note, while several residents in the area of the Fulton Street site had questions at the planning board meeting, there were no negative public comments at the City Council meeting. Plans are underway for groundbreaking ceremonies later in the fall.

The Summer Day Program is in full swing as of the writing of this article. The three sites, North Rowan Middle, Granite Quarry Elementary, and China Grove Elementary are wonderful places for the campers, and many, many thanks to the Rowan-Salisbury School System for its continued support of this important program.

Members of the Program Committee are contacting parents/guardians of campers over the course of the summer to make sure their child is having an enjoyable experience at camp. Further, we are asking during our contact, if there are any concerns which the parent/guardian feels needs to be addressed. Many thanks for the time spent by the committee members for the help with this project.

The Program Committee normally meets the first Monday of the month at The Arc/Rowan offices at 5:15 pm. Due to the Labor Day holiday, we resume our monthly meetings on Wednesday, September 5th at 5:15 pm at First Baptist Church in Salisbury. The committee picked this date and time because it happens to coincide with the famous Wednesday night suppers First Baptist serves. We would love visitors to our meeting, and would also welcome anyone wishing to join our committee.

Robert Ritchie - Committee Chair

Piedmont Behavioral Healthcare
Call Center
1-800-939-5911

Use this number for information, referral,
24-hour crisis line, access to services,
links to providers, questions
about current or needed services

Please visit The Arc/Rowan Website
www.thearcrowan.org

SAVE THESE DATES!

The Arc/Rowan Fourth Annual

Festival of Trees

November 30th - December 2, 2007

**F & M Trolley Barn
Salisbury, North Carolina**

Sporting Events to Remember

Challenger Baseball - Submitted By: Joy Childers

Challenger Baseball Season 2007 was a great success due to the dedication of Beth and Glenn Dixon and the generosity of Rowan Little League. Through their vision came an inspiring season. We played games on Thursday evenings and some Saturday mornings. Two teams were formed and dubbed The Arc Angels and The Civitan Reds. The children were allowed to choose their teams. Along with the choice of teams, they were able to choose their positions. Many times we had rotating catchers and such.

Each player had a buddy to help them field balls and run bases. Our buddies were sometimes family members, friends, and teachers. We also had a group from Rowan Regional Medical Center, West Rowan High, and The Arc Board of Directors. We would like to extend our gratitude to those who came and gave time and encouragement to our children.

This season was sprinkled with many highlights. Matthew perfected his slide into home. We had some heavy hitters the likes of Cullen, Nathaniel, Travis, A. J., Chris and Austin. We had some great catchers like Tyron and Gracie. Michael, Will, and Taylor whizzed through the bases at high speed. Abby fielded balls at third base. In left field our resident optimist and cheerleader Emily and Braves biggest fan Noah kept their eye on the ball, while Trey kept his eye on his shadow. Tyler played great right fielder. Dakota made some super plays at short stop. Maggie wasn't so bashful when she connected with the ball for a double play. As you can see, we had so many great moments the kids will be talking about it all summer.

But I don't know who had more fun the kids or the fans! Seeing the love of the game on the faces of the children was enough positive energy to last you until the next game. This league was all about camaraderie and encouragement. There were no negative comments about coaching or players. There was only positive encouragement and gratitude. We are looking forward to our next season and hope more will join next year. Please contact The Arc/Rowan for any Challenger information.



Upward Basketball

All Kids Included - Submitted by: Mary Ann Cody

First Baptist Church in Salisbury has been hosting an outreach program called Upward for the past several years. In this program children ages 4-13 are taught basketball skills, introduced to Jesus and encouraged to do their best in a noncompetitive environment. This year a challenge team for children with physical and mental disabilities was added. Eleven children with varying disabilities played and no child was turned away.

Every practice and every game was new and exciting. The children all learned new skills, met new goals and made new friends. Not only did these kids succeed but the impact that they had on their coaches and the crowds was irreplaceable. These precious children demonstrated perseverance, joy, and gratitude. Not a single shot was left uncelebrated and the acceptance that these children demonstrated towards each other served as a wonderful reminder of the unconditional love that Jesus died to give.



Able-bodied and able-minded peers began to take notice and soon many were asking if they could play with us. Here they were sitting and playing side by side with kids who may not be able to speak or write or walk but it didn't matter. They're were all just kids.

Being one of the coaches, I am already looking forward to next season. I would like to give a big thank you to First Baptist Church for reaching out to a group that is often forgotten and for recognizing that salvation is not based on a person's abilities but is free for **all** who will believe.

Have you ever been asked "What is The Arc"? or What does it stand for?

First , it is not an acronym.

We are The Arc of Rowan. We are an advocacy agency supporting people with developmental disabilities such as Down's Syndrome, Autism, Cerebral Palsy and mental retardation.

Advocacy *n.* 1. Active support as of a cause, idea or policy.

Advocate *n.* 1. A person who argues for a cause; supporter or defender. 2. A person who pleads in another's behalf; intercessor.

The Arc of Rowan is a Chapter of The Arc of NC. The Arc of North Carolina has been advocating with and for people with developmental disabilities for over fifty years. Advocacy can take many forms. It can be as simple as one parent helping another find a dentist or as complex as influencing legislation through a large grass-roots letter writing campaign.

Advocacy is what The Arc does best. The Arc of North Carolina and The Arc of Rowan provide advocacy to people with disabilities and their families. The advocacy varies but usually includes assistance in accessing services, reporting abuse, special education rights, community resources, benefits information, and parent support. Volunteers and staff from The Arc work to inform the community about disabilities and sit on numerous committees, working groups, planning boards and advisory councils. By sitting on the various committees and boards, The Arc perspective is brought to the table so that people with developmental disabilities will be represented when and where decisions are being made. Information that is learned in these activities is then shared with members of The Arc throughout the state. The Arc of North Carolina shares state, federal and policy information with local chapters at times with the entire membership of The Arc through a newsletter or by using the Action Alert Network. You can subscribe to the Action Alert network at our web site www.thearcrowan.org or at www.arcnc.org

A Time to Say Farewell to Some Very Special People

Hazel Shores died in June. She was one of the pioneers that founded The Arc of Rowan in 1954. The Arc of Rowan was founded and remains today an advocacy organization for and about people with mental retardation and related developmental disabilities. Her kindness to all people was inclusive of people with disabilities. She sought funding and resources for the first special education class in Rowan County. She dedicated her life to improving the quality of life for people with mental retardation. Her leadership spanned over fifty years. She was always a champion for people with disabilities and an unconditional friend. In 2002 she was recognized by The Arc of Rowan with the Outstanding Service Award for her lifetime achievements. Her son, Darrell, was her inspiration. Darrell died a few months prior to his mother. Both have been in declining health for several years.

Margaret Summerset Carter past away in July. She like Hazel was among the first organizers of The Arc of Rowan. She thought special education in 1955! Wow what an inspiration for us all. She made a difference by being apart of the first special education classes in Rowan County.

These pioneers will be missed greatly.

The Arc/Rowan would like to thank the following Foundations
For their support of during 2007:

The Blanche & Julian Robertson Family Foundation, Inc.
Thee Food Lion Charitable Foundation
The Philip Morris Employee Community Fund
Speedway Children's Charity
The Woodson Foundation

We would also like to thank the
The Knights of Columbus - Sacred Heart Council
for their wonderful contribution to The Arc/Rowan



It is that time again!
The Annual Hills Bassmasters
Fishing Tournament.

The event will take place on Saturday,
September 29, 2007 from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30p.m.

This fishing tournament is for adults
18 years and older with a developmental disability.

Spaces are limited,
so if you are interested please call
The Arc at 704-637-1521
as soon as possible to make your reservation.

When your reservation is made,
then you will receive the details of the day's events.

For those of you who have participated in this event before,
you know how much fun it is - for those who have not
done this before - you are missing out!!

Remember - **SPACES ARE LIMITED!!**

Contact The Arc/Rowan as soon as possible.

September 14-15, 2007

**The Arc of North Carolina
Paving the Way**

**2007 Annual Convention
Marriott at the Civic Center
Durham, North Carolina**

Keynote Address by Al Condeluci, PhD, CEO - UCP of Pittsburgh

"Building Community From the Inside Out"

Building Community From the Inside Out

The challenge of inclusion rests with not only understanding culture and community, but also finding ways within the culture for meaningful participation. Historically, people with disabilities have been kept apart from community. This exclusion has set a tone for the greater community that people with disabilities are better off in their own space. This presentation takes an active look at community and relationships with an effort toward building a community where each belongs.



Here's A Sneak Peek at Convention 2007

IEP Roadside Assistance

Bring your questions and your child's IEP and meet privately with a parent educator from The Exceptional Children's Assistance Center (ECAC). **ECAC parent educators** can suggest ideas for improvement, offer troubleshooting tips, and share information and resources.

Get details about this in the convention registration which is coming soon!

Registration Coming Soon.....



Days / Weeks / Months of Awareness

January

Mental Wellness Month
National Birth Defects Prevention Month
National Folic Acid Awareness Week

February

National Eating Disorders Awareness Week
National Wise Mental Health Consumer Month
American Heart Month
Children of Alcoholics Week

March

Mental Retardation Awareness Month
National Sleep Awareness Week
National Problem Gambling Awareness Week
National Brain Injury Awareness Month
Brain Awareness Week
National Inhalants and Poisons Awareness Week

April

Counseling Awareness Month
National Autism Awareness Month
WalkAmerica – March of Dimes Birth Defects
Alcohol Awareness Month
National Alcohol Screening Day
National Occupational Therapy Month
National Youth Sports Safety Month
National Child Abuse Prevention Month

May

National Mental Health Month
National Stroke Awareness Month
National Trauma Awareness Month
National Suicide Awareness Week
National Mental Health Counseling Week
Childhood Depression Awareness Day
National Anxiety Disorders Screening Day
National Alcohol and Other Drug-Related Birth
Defects Week
National Sleep Month – Better Sleep Month
National Women's Health Week
Schizophrenia Awareness Week
National Employee Health and Fitness Day
Cornelia de Lange Syndrome Awareness Day

June

National Aphasia Awareness Month
National Headache Awareness Week
National Men's Health Week

July

Idea--4th of July – drinking & driving

August

National Immunizations Awareness Month
Spinal Muscular Atrophy Awareness Month

September

National Rehabilitation Week
National Alcohol&Drug Addiction Recovery Month
STOP A Suicide Today Day
Healthy Aging Month
National Suicide Prevention Week

October

National Spina Bifida Prevention Month
Rett Syndrome Awareness Month
Mental Illness Awareness Week
National Depression Screening Days
World Mental Health Day
National Brain Injury Awareness Month
Pastoral Care Week
Talk About Prescriptions Month
Let's Talk Month
National Down Syndrome Awareness Month
National Child Health Day
SAVE (Stop America's Violence Everywhere)
National Disability Employment Awareness Month

November

National Alzheimer's Awareness Month
National Epilepsy Month
National Brain Aneurysm Awareness
National Family Caregivers Month

December

Idea--Drunk & on drugs Driving Prevention

Information confirmed July 2007 via:
www.amsa.org
www.healthfinder.gov

Thanks to all of you who sent your MVP card numbers to our agency. The Food Lion Shop & Share Program is going very well for our agency. The Arc/Rowan has been receiving quarterly checks from Food Lion and we appreciate all your support.

This is a great way and a very convenient way to raise money for The Arc/Rowan!! For those of you who are not familiar with the program here goes - each time you shop at Food Lion and use your MVP card, a portion of your total grocery purchase will be donated to The Arc/Rowan.

So if you have not signed up here is your chance. There are three way you can sign up for the Lion Shop and Share:

1. Complete the attached information sheet with all the information requested and it back to The Arc/Rowan at 1918 W. Innes St., Salisbury, NC 28144
2. You can call The Arc/Rowan at 704-637-1521 with the information.
3. If you have access to the internet you can sign up by going to www.foodlion.com Go to fundraising - click to register MVP card and then complete steps 1 & 2. If you register you number yourself, please remember that this number has to be registered each year.

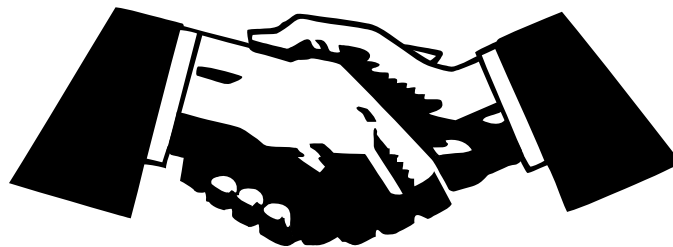
Name: _____

Address: _____

MVP Card # (12 digits): _____

Phone Number: _____

Please return to The Arc/Rowan as soon as possible - thanks for your help!!



Calendar of Events

July, 2007

7/4 & 5/07 - The Arc/Rowan Summer Day Program will be closed.

7/20/07 - Shaker's Dance: 7 - 9:00 p.m. at Salisbury City Park.

August, 2007

8/9/07 - The Arc/Rowan Summer Day Program ends.

8/17/07 - Shaker's Dance: 7 - 9:00 p.m. at Salisbury City Park.

September, 2007

9/5/07 - Down Syndrome Support Group Meeting 6:30 p.m.

9/10/07 - The Arc/Rowan Board of Directors Meeting.

9/14-15/07 - The Arc/NC State Convention in Durham - contact The Arc/Rowan for more info.

9/25/07- The Arc/Rowan Monthly seminar - Guardianship Seminar

9/29/07 - The Hills Bassmasters Fishing Tournament.

Remember: The Festival of Trees

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Rowan County
Member Agency