

Quarterly Newsletter
Volume 1, Issue 1
September 2016

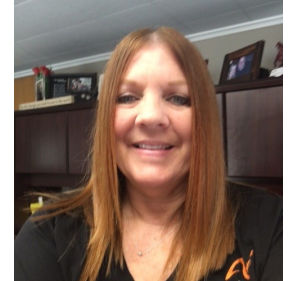
In this issue...

- Pg. 2 *Through the Years Variety Show*
- Pg. 2 *A New Way Self Advocacy Group*
- Pg. 3 *Program Spotlight: Summer Street*
- Pg. 3 *Birthdays*
- Pg. 4 *Nonprofit Week at the Capitol*
- Pg. 4 *Arc-a-Thon Blends Fitness and Fun*
- Pg. 5 *Events and Fundraising Update*
- Pg. 6 *Upcoming Recreation Events*
- Pg. 6 *Recreation goes to Vermont!*
- Pg. 7 *In Memoriam...*
- Pg. 8 *Town-Wide Tag Sale*

A message from our Chief Executive Officer, Sandy Amato

Greetings! Welcome to the first edition of our quarterly newsletter featuring all the exciting events and initiatives happening at The Arc of Southington.

As our needs and challenges have grown, so has our staff. This year we've welcomed two new people to our office staff. Michelle Govoni began in December as our full-time Bookkeeper, and Jennifer Peifer joined us in March as our Development Coordinator.



We've also been busy planning some fun events and fundraisers for the coming year, and dreaming big with plans for a building expansion to enable us to provide more ways to serve the intellectually and developmentally disabled in our community.

We are also launching a new website very soon with lots of helpful information for people to learn about what we do and the ways in which we can help those in need. We're also currently active on Facebook. You can follow us at www.facebook.com/ArcSouthington.

In the coming months we will update you on our progress and plans, and you'll be the first to know about our fun events and fundraisers and how you can stay connected to us.

Thank you for your continued support of The Arc of Southington. We are so grateful to be able to work with such a dedicated community!

Birdies for Charity Fundraiser



Presented by

COHN REZNICK
ACCOUNTING • TAX • ADVISORY

This year The Arc of Southington participated in the Travelers Championship Birdies for Charity fundraiser. The tournament was held August 1–7 at the River Highlands golf course in Cromwell. There were 1,841 birdies throughout the week long event.

Between our donors pledging on the number of birdies, making standard donations, and some renewing their membership with The Arc of Southington through the Birdies for Charity program, we were able to raise \$1,971.21! This total includes the 15% match that CohnReznick will contribute to the overall total. Not bad for our first time!

We hope to expand our participation in the Birdies for Charity program next year, and we will be sure to let you know the many fun and easy ways to get involved. Stay tuned...

Through the Years Variety Show



A New Way, the self-advocacy group sponsored by The Arc of Southington, performed their 3rd annual musical variety show on June 5, at the Plantsville Congregational Church.

The theme of the 2016 show was “Through the Years,” and featured songs from the 60s through today, skits and more.

Some of the musical numbers included a group skit as *The Muppets*, ensemble musical numbers—*Love Shack* and *New York, New York*—a couple of very inventive Elvis impersonations, and

two choreographed dance routines that brought down the house!

This year, The Arc of Southington received a Community Sponsorship Award of \$750 from the Community Foundation of Greater New Britain. The funds were used to purchase costumes from local thrift stores, materials to design the stage sets, and some much needed sound equipment.

The show was a huge success with an audience of over 100 people! Proceeds from the show went toward *A New Way* planning and initiatives.



A New Way Self Advocacy Group



Hello my name is Mike Ruzzi. I am the Self-Advocacy Coordinator at The Arc of Southington, and the founding father of *A New Way*.

A New Way is sponsored by The Arc of Southington. We are a self-advocacy group that helps people with disabilities to better themselves in today's challenging world. We help people to access services and make friends. The group meets the third Wednesday of each month (except July and August) to discuss issues and ideas. We also put on a pretty great talent & variety show each year!

For more information please contact me at 860-628-9220 x 240 or email sac@arc-south.org

Program Spotlight: Summer Street



John Boyle, a resident of the Arc of Southington, has been drumming since around the age of fourteen. While in high school in the 1960s, John joined the Southington High School marching band. John's favorite part about drumming is playing roll offs and polka beats.

Recently John purchased his own drum set and started taking lessons at the Music Shop to renew his love for drumming. John is very talented and able to play a variety of drumming beats. John would love to join a band one day but until then he continues to rock the Summer Street basement with a smile from ear to ear.

Check out a short video of John doing his thing on our Facebook page!
www.facebook.com/ArcSouthington



Several of our residents celebrated birthdays this spring & summer!

Our May springtime birthdays were Rita Dolan, Kim Antol, and Judy Greenlee.

Birthdays in August included Frank Marek, Barbara Roode, Jennifer Kronenberger, Rebecca Kronenberger, Mary Sprague, and Wendy Rice.

In September we celebrate the birthdays of Marjorie Holm and Holly Melnick.

From all of us at The Arc of Southington we'd like to wish everyone a very Happy Birthday!

Nonprofit Week at the Capitol 2016

CT Nonprofit Alliance Week at the Capitol is a unique opportunity for member nonprofits to showcase the services they provide and the impact they have on their local communities.

Over the course of the week, 50 nonprofit organizations attempt to educate policy makers and the public about the work they do to enhance the economy and the quality of life for all citizens of Connecticut.

The Arc of Southington was represented at the event by Sandra Amato, Patricia Gibney, and Jennifer Peifer. They had the opportunity to connect with other nonprofits, including those in the health and human services sector. They also were able to meet one on one with Senator Joe Markley who represents Southington in the State legislature.



Sen. Joe Markley, Jennifer Peifer, Sandy Amato and Tricia Gibney meet at CT Nonprofit Week at the Capitol.

1st Annual Arc-A-Thon Blends Fitness & Fun

On a beautiful sunny day in May, The Arc of Southington held its first annual walk-a-thon to benefit our programs. We had dozens of walkers and volunteers converge on the Southington High School track for a day of fitness and fun! In addition to the walking, we had face painting, games, and raffles. Thanks to our many sponsors we were able to provide water, snacks, and even Italian ice to our walkers for free. A special shout out to Tops IGA, Josh's DJ Company of Wolcott, Rob Pierpont Photography, Rita's of Southington, Southington High School, Bare Beauty by Heather, and Mr. Bimonte's Pizza for helping to make our day such a success! Next year will be even bigger. We can't wait!



You can check out all of our great pics from the Arc-a-Thon and other cool events on our Facebook page!
www.facebook.com/ArcSouthington

Events and Fundraising Update

Over the last several months The Arc of Southington has either hosted or benefited from several events and fundraisers. Among them, the Recreation Golf Tournament, 1st Annual Arc-a-Thon, Birdies for Charity in partnership with the Travelers Championship, Good Cause Gifts, and the weekly car shows in July sponsored by Blackstone's Irish pub and hosted by Doug and JoAnn York. In June, we were the recipient of a \$750 Community Sponsorship Award from the Community Foundation of Greater New Britain. Over the summer we also received donations from the Calvanese Foundation and the Rotary Club of Southington.

We're in the process of planning several fun events in 2016–2017 to raise money for The Arc of Southington. We will keep you posted as to locations, dates and details in the months ahead!

The Arc of Southington would like to thank all the sponsors, donors, and volunteers that help to make our events and fundraisers so successful!

For more information on how to get involved, please visit us at www.arcsouthington.org

Bus Trip Fundraiser to Foxwoods Casino to Benefit The Arc of Southington

There are still a few seats left!

Date: ***Saturday, October 1, 2016***

Time: ***10:00 a.m.—7:00 p.m.***

Cost: ***\$35***

Includes snacks and water on the bus, a \$10 food/free buffet, and \$10 Slot Play!

Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the commuter lot across the street from Sliders on South Main Street in Plantsville.

Return to the lot approximately 7 pm.

Please RSVP to The Arc of Southington by September 26th! Call 860-628-9220 ext. 100



Upcoming Recreation Events

The Recreation Group monthly dinner will take place on September 26th with a homemade soup and sandwich social. This is reserved for recreation group members only.



In addition, the Recreation Group will host a **Halloween Costume Dance Party** with a buffet lunch at the Cadillac Ranch on October 30th from noon to 3 pm. This event is open to all 18 and over. The cost is \$15/person. You must RSVP before October 25th.

If you are interested in attending the Halloween Costume Dance Party, would like to become a member of the Recreation Group or know someone who would, please contact Judy Roberge at 860-628-9220 ext. 120.

Recreation Goes to Vermont!

Due to the success of the 2016 Recreation Annual Golf Tournament, our group of 37 was able to take a trip to Vermont in August. They visited Stowe, and toured some of Vermont's most iconic places including Ben and Jerry's ice-cream, Vermont Teddy Bear Factory, and the Cabot Cheese Factory. They also took the gondola to the summit of Mt. Mansfield! They ended their great adventure cruising on Lake Champlain aboard *The Spirit of Ethan Allen*, while enjoying a buffet lunch. A great time was had by all. Recreation ❤️ Vermont!



In Memoriam

This year The Arc of Southington family lost three of our long time residents. We are all deeply saddened to say good bye to these unique individuals who touched so many lives.



Carl Marshall, 84, passed away on April 7, 2016, at home. Carl had been with The Arc of Southington for over a decade, mostly living with his brother, Bill (another Arc of Southington client), and recently living in his own apartment next door. Carl was fortunate to have Madeline Speruzzi, his Arc caregiver, for over ten years. They shared a strong bond and he often referred to her as “the love of his life.”



Grace Mule, 79, passed away on June 19, 2016. Grace loved her hot tea with cream, food, shopping, cats, looking at her cat magazines, music & dancing, getting manicures, and watching movies. Grace was non-verbal, but had no problem letting you know what she needed and or wanted. She was very loving, affectionate, and funny. Grace was with The Arc of Southington for over 20 years living at both the Summer Street and West Street homes.



Gregory Sadler, 55, passed away on August 1, 2016, at Mid-State Hospital after battling a short illness. He was with the Arc over 18 years. Greg attended Marrakech-Oak Tree Day program where he assisted in the mail room. He loved car rides with Grandpa Bill and listening to baseball games on the radio. He will be greatly missed by everyone at The Arc of Southington, and especially his roommates at Curve Hill group home.

When someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure. ~Author unknown





201 West Main Street
Plantsville, CT 06479
Phone: (860) 628-9220
Fax: (860) 621-2546
Website: www.arcsouthington.org

NON PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #161
CHESHIRE, CT
06410

New Website Coming Soon!
www.arcsouthington.org



The Arc of Southington is holding its **6th annual Town Wide Tag Sale** on *Sat., Sept. 24, 2016* (rain date Sun., Sept. 25) in the towns of Southington, Plantsville, Marion, and Milldale. The tag sale is open to residents and businesses/organizations of these towns and will be held at each individual location (times will differ for each participant).

Plan your shopping experience in advance by *purchasing a listing and map for \$1.00* at The Arc of Southington office (201 West Main St., Plantsville) Sept. 19–23 from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Southington Stop & Shop (505 N. Main St., Southington) and Tops Supermarket (887 Meriden-Waterbury Turnpike, Southington) will also sell listings and maps Sept. 17–23 during their normal business hours.

Proceeds from map sales benefit The Arc of Southington programs!