

THE ARC OF BENTON COUNTY
 ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
 1885 NW 9TH STREET
 CORVALLIS, OREGON 97330
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 WEBSITE: WWW.ARCBENTON.ORG



Advocate

January 2006

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
 ADVOCATING FOR AND PROVIDING SERVICES, AS NEEDED, TO INDIVIDUALS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND THEIR FAMILIES.

An Invitation from the Membership Committee

February, the Valentine month, seems an appropriate time to announce an opportunity for our members to touch someone's heart. The Arc of Benton County extends an invitation to our members to contribute to a special membership program with the sole purpose of aiding families, with children who are developmentally disabled, to become members of The Arc. With the cost of raising children with disabilities increasing, there are numerous families unable to support the advocacy work of The Arc through a membership.

- The Arc Board 7:30 PM
1st Thursday
- Membership Committee 9:00 AM
Louise Teater's Home
1st Tuesday
- Resale Committee 10:00 AM
Arc Office
3rd Monday
- Equitopia Committee 6:00 PM
Arc Office
1st Thursday
- Bingo Committee 11:30 AM
Springfield
4th Monday
- Public Policy 8:30 AM
Arc Office
3rd Thursday
- Finance Comm. NOON
Arc Office
Monday before BOD Meeting

- There are a number of avenues financial may take:
1. Contribute a full membership of \$20.00 or a family membership of \$35.00.
 2. Pay in full a membership of \$20.00 naming the person for whom it applies.
 3. Contribute a portion of a membership to be deposited in The Arc's designated Membership Assistance Fund.

Please note any such contribution is tax deductible. The Officers, Directors, and Membership Committee feel strongly that our members are the heart of our organization's strength. The number of members do keep us in beat with our advocacy efforts and legislative influence. We do not want families to miss the opportunity to share in the support of our advocacy due to the lack of funds. A very "hearty" thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
 Membership Committee

Below is a form that can be cut out and sent along with your donation to: The Arc of Benton County
 Membership Assistance Fund
 1885 NW 9th St

Membership Assistance Fund

I/We wish to contribute...

_____ \$20.00 membership

_____ \$35.00 family membership

_____ \$_____ to Membership Assistance Fund

_____ The amount shown is membership for: _____
 (please print name and address)

Make checks payable to: The Arc of Benton County
 For tax deductible credit, please print your name and address:

Be Creative

Call for Photographers

The 2006 Oregon Conference on Direct Supports is seeking submissions to the Photography Contest and Exhibit.

To those who have walked a million miles and to those who have not walked at all... this year's conference is designed to challenge us all. A better understanding of life in each other's shoes will empower us all to support each other with the same vigor in which we would support ourselves.

Please use your camera to share your vision. You may interpret the theme, *In Our Shoes*, visually in a photo or photos that capture the essence of the theme. We would like to see photographers produce compelling images to document reality and beauty in the developmental disability community and beyond. The show is open to photographers with a developmental disability, a family member or friend of a person with a developmental disability, or a professional service the developmental disability community.

Works will be selected based on their ability to convey emotional intensity, individual artistic vision and the composition of the work. A photographer may submit up to three images. Each image must include his/her name, address, phone number, e-mail, and a short artist biography.

Submitted images will be on display at the Oregon Conference on Direct Supports, La Sells Stewart Conference Center at OSU, July 19, 20, and 21, 2006.

Digital images and required information may be e-mailed to: info@arcbenton.org

Unframed hard copies of the work and required information may be mailed to:

The Arc Gallery
1885 NW 9th Street
Corvallis, Oregon 97330.

Submissions will not be returned unless accompanied by a self-addressed envelope affixed with the proper postage. Deadline for submissions is May 15, 2006.

For more information, please contact The Arc office, 753-1711.

Call for Stories and Artwork

The World Institute on Disability is seeking brief stories, quotes, humor, poetry, artwork and cartoons about people with disabilities who have faced abuse. The stories should exemplify challenging, stopping or interrupting abuse and mistreatment at the hands of providers, caregivers, personal assistants, medical and other types of service providers and helpers.

These pieces will be compiled and issued as: *CAPE, Curriculum on Abuse Prevention and Empowerment*, a training guide for disabled people, family members and service providers.

Submission of written pieces may be up to 750 words in length (four double-spaced pages). Shorter pieces are most welcome. Please submit manuscripts electronically or on paper, double-spaced in 12 point type face.

Submission of cartoons and cartoon strips with humor and story line, and small drawings such as those depicted in the New Yorker Magazine will be used to illustrate pages of text. Artwork and cartoons must be black and white and submitted on 8 1/2 X 11 size paper. Cartoons and drawings must depict disability-positive images. Please include a short biography, along with name and contact information. Submissions will not be returned, please keep your own copy.

Deadline for submissions: March 15, 2006

Send submissions to:

Marsha Saxton, CAPE
World Institute on Disability
510 16th Street
Oakland, CA 94612
marsax@wid.org

Be Informed

January Safety Tip Poison Prevention

Poisoning often involves young children as they begin to explore their environment. Some of the

Cosmetics	Cleaning Substances
Plants	Foreign bodies and toys
Pesticides	Art Supplies
Alcohol	Pharmaceuticals (over the counter & prescription)

most common household items involved in poisonings include:

Remember that many poisons look like safe items (e.g. oil soap resembles apple juice, window cleaner looks like blue fruit drink, etc.) Children cannot tell the difference between safe and poisonous items. Blocking access to poisonous items and medication is the best way to prevent poisoning.

Keep poisons in original containers and avoid storing anything except food in food containers.

Place the 1-800-222-1222 Poison Control phone number on all telephones and in critical places in your home. If someone has collapsed or stopped breathing, call 911.

Understanding Individuals With Asperger's Syndrome or High Functioning Autism

March 22, 2006 Salem, Oregon

This one-day seminar is designed for special education teachers and directors, psychologists, speech pathologists, counselors, social workers, classroom teachers, instructional aides, nurses, school administrators, case managers, parents and attorneys

E. Amanda Boutot, Ph.D., BCBA, has her doctorate degree in special education and has worked in the field for over 15 years. She is currently on the faculty at DePaul University in Chicago in the Department of Language, Literacy, and Specialized Instruction. Dr. Boutot has numerous publications and presentations to her credit and is a nationally recognized expert in autism. She serves on the board of the Division on Developmental Disabilities for the Council for Exceptional Children.

Having Trouble Getting Medication Since January 1?

Beginning January 14, 2006, pharmacies can bill the Office of Medical Assistance Programs (OMAP) if you are unable to get claims paid through the Medicare system for a drug that the State of Oregon covered for its dual eligibles prior to January 1, 2006. OMAP will authorize an emergency override for clients who have both Medicare and Medicaid coverage.

In order for OMAP to consider a Medicare Part D-covered medication for payment, pharmacies must:

1. Continue to bill the Medicare Part D plan as the primary payer through an E-1 query
2. Try to resolve the issue with the Medicare Part D plan directly
3. Bill Wellpoint/Anthem, Medicare's point-of-sale Solution at 1-800-662-0210
4. If you are still unable to resolve the problem through the steps above, contact the Department of Human Services (DHS) Medicare Hotline at 1-877-585-0007 for assistance.

This is a temporary solution while DHS continues to work with the federal Medicare

Be Generous

VOLUNTEER SPOLIGHT on... ..

Gilda Li

Gilda Li is an Arc volunteer with the ArtFocus group that meets each week. Gilda sits with the artists as they work. She talks with and gives one-on-one attention to the participants, and provides support to the instructor, Elizabeth Black.

A woman of many talents, Gilda has a degree in counseling as well as being a certified therapeutic harp practitioner. Gilda moved to Oregon about 5 years ago from Chattanooga, Tennessee in order to be closer to family. After moving to Corvallis, she volunteered for a time with Benton County Hospice putting her harp skills to good use. Volunteering in the ArtFocus class gives her a chance to work closely with people of different ages and in a venue that allows her to really get to know with whom she is working.

Watching the artists create is what Gilda likes best about her volunteer time. During a recent conversation about her role with the ArtFocus group, she said, "I learn much more then I give."

Well, we think you give a lot. Thank you, Gilda.

The Arc of Benton County would not be able to function properly without volunteers. We have people who donate their time in every one of our programs: art, recreation, weekday socialization activities, Equitopia, resale stores, our bingo hall, committees... the list goes on. If you would like to volunteer, we can find a place for you. Just call. 753-1711

The Arc of Oregon 2006 Convention Presentation Proposal

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

Working Title of Presentation: _____

Please provide a brief description (50-75 words) of your session. If selected, this information will be used in The Arc Convention Program. Please note if handout material will be provided.

Preferred Length of Session: 45 minutes _____ 90 minutes _____
Preferred Time Block: Fri. afternoon _____ Sat. Morning _____ Sat. Afternoon _____
Preferred Room Set-UP: Theater _____ Classroom _____ Round Tables _____ U-Shaped _____
(Not guaranteed)

Equipment Needed: Flip Chart & Markers _____ VCR & Monitor _____ Overhead Projector _____
Slide Projector & Screen _____ Other _____
(We cannot provide in-focus equipment)

Please Mail or Fax this form to:

Convention Planning Committee
c/o 1804 SW Brooklane Drive
Corvallis, OR 97333
Fax: 541-758-1354
Phone: 541-753-8687
blsackett@comcast.net



The Arc congratulates
SARA GELSER
on her appointment to the
Oregon State House of Representatives.

Have a concern about pending Federal Legislation ? Make it known!

Senator Ron Wyden, 230 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510
Washington Office: 202-225-5244, District Office: 541-431-0229

Senator Gordon Smith, 404 Russell Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510
Washington Office: 202-224-3753, District Office: 541-465-6750

Rep. Peter DeFazio, 2134 Rayburn House Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510
Washington Office: 202-225-6416, District Office: 541-465-6732

Rep. Darlene Hooley, 2430 Rayburn House Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510
Washington Office: 202-225-5711, District Office: 503-588-9100