

Kovar Grant to Support VOSAC Expansion

This fall the agency became the recipient of a Knights of Columbus KOVAR grant for nearly \$19,000 that allowed us to purchase equipment and supplies for the new addition at the Triangle Services Center. Previously, a KOVAR grant purchased all the new furnishings at the Center when the building was totally renovated. We are extremely grateful to the Knights for awarding these grants to us. Please support the Knights in the spring when they do their annual tootsie roll sales.

Triangle Facility's Addition Nears Completion

The Arc is very proud of the new addition to the Triangle Community Center on Fuller Heights Road that houses the VOSAC and Little Creek Mobile Crews. Through a Prince William County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) we were able to add on a large multipurpose room with a room divider and additional activity space that will allow program expansion and the ability to serve more participants. Perhaps one of the most important features of the addition is the overhead canopy that allows drivers to pull under a covered walkway so participants do not get wet during inclement weather.



The agency began renting the building in the mid seventies from a church that allowed us to use the downstairs for an adult activity center. Soon the church moved and the County purchased the property on our behalf. Later in the nineties, the County donated the property to The Arc. The facility was in need of massive repairs to better serve our participants, many of whom use wheelchairs.

New Transition House Opens

Late this fall we will be opening a new transitional group home in the Montclair community. The home will serve three residents who need additional support beyond our supported living program but don't need 24 hour supervision seven days a week. Two staff members will be making this their home on the lower level to add to the support of the three residents.



A Community Development Block Grant matched dollar for dollar the purchase of the property, which allowed The Arc to expand our residential program offerings.

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Two years ago with the help of another CDBG grant the building was gutted and a massive redesign was accomplished to better serve the adults attending the VOSAC and Little Creek Mobile Crew programs. Combined with the new addition this facility should be able to serve our needs for many years to come.

Farwell Jake!



The Arc of Greater Prince William is a not-for-profit organization that provides opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities and support for their families.

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The
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Schedule of Events

Dec. 9	Christmas Dance Hillendale Fire Station	7:00pm – 10:00pm
Dec. 10	Holiday Festival Constitution Hall, DC	3:00pm – TBA
Dec. 14	Staff Christmas Party Montclair Country Club	7:00pm – 10:00pm
Dec. 15	Teen Christmas Costello Park, Manassas	7:00pm – 10:00pm
Dec. 18	Parents' Day Out Muriel Humphrey Center	Noon – 8:00pm

12th Annual Circle of Support

On Saturday, November 4, 2006, Hylton High School was once again the location for the Circle of Support Conference. Nearly 600 attendees attended a choice of 34 workshops on topics related to many aspects of disability covering the lifespan of individuals. Over 40 children were provided childcare for the day, supervised by Anne Will and Michelle Dawson. 15 children attended SibShops under the direction of Kate Brackney.

For the first time, the Circle of Support Conference featured two keynote speakers. Kathie Snow, our morning keynote, gave a thought-provoking talk on “Disability Is Natural & Other Revolutionary Common Sense.” Bill Stillman, a young man with Asperger’s Syndrome and our afternoon keynote, gave an “insider’s” view of autism in his talk on “The World Needs Autism.”

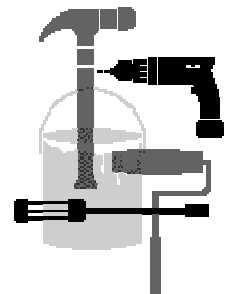
The Circle of Support Conference Committee is comprised of members from The Arc of Greater Prince William, parents, Prince William County Public Schools, the Prince William County Community Services Board (case management and early intervention), the Virginia Department of Rehabilitative Services, and volunteers. They are already planning the November 3, 2007, Circle of Support with Rick Lavoie as the keynote speaker. His website is www.ricklavoie.com.



Robert Day Center Receives Grant for Repairs

A year ago, The Arc purchased the rental site in the City of Manassas that was being used for the Robert Day Child Care Center. The building was for sale and the agency could not find an alternative location without interrupting services. Due to the high commitment for this program, the Board of Directors voted to take money from the agency’s reserves to ensure the program could continue.

Unfortunately, the building needs extensive repairs and maintenance to bring it up to acceptable standards. Through the City of Manassas, a Community Development Block Grant is providing for \$20,000 of repairs that the agency must match dollar for dollar. We are seeking donations for the remainder of the work. New carpet and flooring were the first items to be installed and now the other major repairs need to be addressed. Anyone wishing to help is asked to contact the main office at 703-670-4800.



Three New Vans are on the Road

Once again the agency was very successful in obtaining a FTA grant that allowed us to obtain three new vans. This highly competitive grant pays for 80% of the total cost of the vehicles with The Arc paying 20%.

Two center aisle 13 passenger vans and one big body on chassis wheelchair van were put on the road in late October. These vehicles bring the agency's total transportation fleet up to 32 vehicles. We are one of the biggest transportation providers in our community. Willie Mathis, our Transportation Coordinator, oversees the supervision and maintenance of our large fleet.

Universal Design House Opens Soon

The long awaited universal design demonstration house will be open for public viewing beginning in December. This special home is being built by Centex Homes at the New Bristow Village, 10616 Poagues Battery Drive, Bristow, VA 20136 near Linton Hall Road and Route 28 in Bristow, VA.

The house will be open Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. This home features accessibility and easy living for all lifestyles. It is a barrier free, convenient, comfortable home for everyone but especially for someone who uses a wheelchair.

The Arc has been an active participant in the Greater Prince William Coalition on Housing and Universal Design which is bringing attention that houses need more accessible features whether a person has a disability or not. Please visit this wonderful example of an easy living home.



Knights of Columbus Adopts Home

The Knights of Columbus Ascension Council 9285 of Sacred Heart Parrish is providing lawn maintenance and Christmas decorations for our Neddleton group home. In late October, they raked, aerated, and heavily seeded the lawn, provided mulch for the flower and bush beds and trimmed existing bushes. Next spring, Neddleton will have one of the best "grounds" in the neighborhood.

We Salute Our Business Partner

The Arc recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with **Woodbridge Plumbing**. As a community service, Woodbridge Plumbing will perform minor plumbing repairs for the Neddleton group home free of charge. Plumbing repairs that are larger and more complex will be provided on a negotiated reduced cost basis. This agreement is indicative of a business community that really cares about citizens who are not as fortunate as you and I. **Woodbridge Plumbing** already gives a sizable discount for our other plumbing needs.

PWCAN - What is it?

Have you ever wondered how you would know when an emergency event threatens your community? The Prince William Community Alert Network (PWCAN) is an electronic emergency notification system that County officials use to send emergency information to all registered users. For example, if severe weather - like a tornado - is forecast for Prince William County, users will receive an alert advising them of the threat and providing specific instructions about what they should do.

PWCAN can send messages to email accounts, and any wireless device that receives text messaging for free. To sign up go to www.pwcgov.org/pwcan and click new user. Take the first step and sign up. **Emergency Preparedness begins with you!**

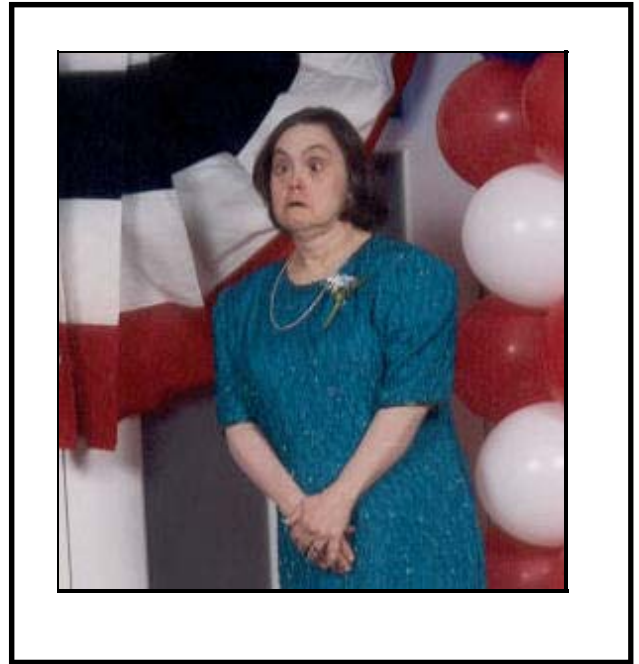


In Memory

Ann Wall, a long time resident of our group homes, died on July 17th after a very long illness. The staff at her home is to be commended for their continued care and devotion to her during her time of illness. With the help of Hospice, she was able to die at home. Ann is best known for her beautiful weaving skills at our Spinaweb shop in Occoquan where she worked for many years producing hand woven items for sale.

Richard Cole, a long time participant in many of our programs, died September 23rd. He is best known for his love of our bowling program each Tuesday afternoon at Bowl America in Woodbridge. Richard began with us by attending the old Muriel Humphrey School with Erna Gilker as his teacher. When he became an adult, Richard was part of our adult day programs such as the Woodbridge Adult Activity Center and working at Spinaweb.

We will miss both of these people, as they were part of The Arc family for more than three decades.



Ann Wall



Richard Cole (left) with his good friend Garry Mitchell



Membership Application

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Teen Membership	\$6.00	Individual/Family	\$15.00
Adult Self Advocate	\$6.00	Business	\$50.00

Dues and Donations are Tax Deductible

Mail to:
The Arc — GPW
13505 Hillendale Drive, Woodbridge, VA 22193

Membership Has Its Privileges

We hope you are a member of the Arc. Exciting things are happening at our agency and we hope you are proud of the work we try to accomplish. We are a membership organization open to anyone who is interested in supporting people with developmental disabilities. As a member, you automatically belong to the state and national advocacy organizations and you will receive their newsletter to keep you informed of their activities. We need you to join with us as we grow.



Think of Us This Holiday Season

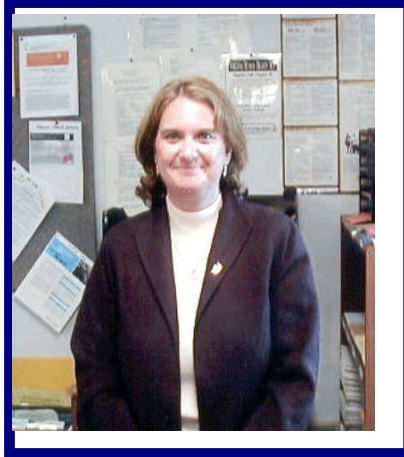
The Arc is an amazing agency with so many programs and activities that some people may think we have lots of money and really do not need people to contribute to our services. That is not the case. We depend upon community support. Many of our programs have waiting lists and we have had to severely cut back on some the scholarships we offered. Please think about giving a year end donation. We promise to be good stewards of your gifts.

Need a Holiday Gift?

Spinaweb, our shop in Occoquan at 305 Commerce Street, has beautiful hand woven items for sale and most of the items make ideal gifts for that person who has everything. People are amazed that our adults make these beautiful placemats, tablecloths, women's clothing, etc. For an unusual holiday gift this year, remember to think of Spinaweb. Not only will you purchase something special you will also be helping employ our adults.

**The Arc
wishes everyone a
Happy Holiday Season!**

Meet our Assistant Executive Director Susan Rudolph



Susan Rudolph became the first Assistant Executive Director a year ago to meet the growing and changing clinical needs of our agency. Susan is a registered nurse, a certified case manager, and a certified rehabilitation counselor – we could not have found any-

one with more expertise than Susan. Susan is committed to person centered planning and staff members working as a team. Her efforts are already showing within the agency.

“A leader in the disability field”

Prior to joining The Arc family, Susan was Director of Program Services at Brain Injury Services, Inc. for several years where she became known throughout the state as a leader in the disability field.

Our Executive Director, Karen Smith, states, “Susan and I have worked together on Boards and Committees for years. I was so excited to learn of her interest in our new position. We have thoroughly enjoyed working together this past year and Susan will help us move in even greater directions in the future years ahead.”

Who is Our Mystery Guest?



Look for the answer in our next edition!

Hint: He makes The Arc beautiful all year!

A Christmas Play



We are very excited about our Theatre group here at The Arc! Our folks have been working since the middle of August on their Christmas production, “The Grinch’s Christmas Carol”.

This promises to be a very interesting twist on the traditional Christmas Carole story! Please support this theatre group by attending their production December 6, 2006 at 6:30pm. They will take the stage at Manassas Park Senior High School.

**Please notify us at
(703) 670-4800
if your address has
changed or if you
would like to be taken
off our mailing list.**

Return Service Requested

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FROM WHERE I SIT

Karen L. Smith, Executive Director

One of our special employees, Jerome Jacobs, is retiring after 15 ½ years of service with our agency. We are really going to miss him and many of those reading this newsletter probably don't even know him. Jake is the behind the scene type of person always keeping busy, never wanting lots of attention.

For the past 10 years Jake has been our Property Manager, overseeing the repair and maintenance of the agency's 27 locations. That alone is overwhelming. He always has a smile and his daily motto for years has been "this is going to be a wonderful day."

Whenever I want to know what's happening among the staff members in the agency, I talk with Jake. He always knows the feelings of our staff. He is a master of listening to others and his biggest concern is always about the special people we serve.

We hope to find a good replacement for Jake, but no one will ever take the place of this most respected gentleman. Every day of his life he lives what he believes. We are going to miss you, Jake, and we wish you a wonderful day in your retirement.

**"This is going
to be a
wonderful
day."**