Greetings from the Board,

At our June meeting, we said our goodbyes and expressed our thanks to Laura Evans and Cheryl Henderson. Laura had served as president of the board and Cheryl as secretary. Both had long memberships on the board.

We approved new officers and new board members. Our new officers are James Ward, president, Carroll Ward, vice-president, and Chris Bryant, secretary. Our new board members are Vanessa Keasler, Nick Swartz, and Kate Renalds.

Perhaps the most important news to share with you is the pending implementation of a new waiver system in the state of Virginia. We will do our best to keep you posted on developments and advocacy opportunities. I encourage you to attend the Legislative Forum scheduled for September 24th in Rm P126A at the Plecker Center at BRCC.

James W. Ward, Board President
From the Desk of the Op Shop Director

This has been a very busy couple months. During the month of April, the participants at the Op Shop spent a couple weeks planting geraniums as part of our fund raiser. The men and women did an excellent job and delivered about 175 plants to family, friends, and people in the community who purchased the flowers just in time for Mother’s Day. Participants were busy making gifts for Mother’s Day and Father’s Day and discussing information about the importance of Memorial Day.

The GOLD community program continues to thrive. We have participants volunteering at RMH cleaning windows and glass surfaces, delivering lunches for Meals on Wheels, and folding bulletins and setting up for dinners at the Asbury Methodist Church. Many individuals are going on one-one or small groups with staff to places and events of their choices. Some of the sites that have been visited are the Book Fair, Farmer’s Market, Bakery, Good Will Store, and to a variety of restaurants of their preference. Everyone who chooses has lots of opportunities to go on routine outings to Papa Johns to deliver boxes, the recycling center, and local schools to deliver sheets that have been laundered at the Op Shop.

We were able to take one field trip to Shenandoah to picnic and relax at an awesome park with lots of shade and picnic tables. The DSPs’ spend quality time with the participants working on skills needed to increase their independence in the community, and the time spent on outings and volunteering gives them a chance to apply these skills. We will be offering more opportunities for volunteering and fun one-one and group trips throughout the summer.

Our Rocktown Music Group had opportunities to meet once a week with our music therapist, Brianna, and a couple JMU students. We played percussion instruments, sang, and learned how to make music on the IPAD. We ended the year with a performance at the Very Special Art Festival held at Westover Park. Also, a couple students from The JMU Dance Department spent 6 sessions with our participants planning musical activities and lots of dancing. We enjoyed watching ‘The Trial of Goldilocks’ performed by the Valley Playhouse which was held at Simms auditorium.

What a super bunch of folks we have attending The Arc Day Support Programs, along with an awesome staff who support them.

Terri Gibbs
Director of Day Support Programs

Blossoms of Spring Update

Just found out some fabulous news! The Lighthouse Project, through BB&T Insurance of Harrisonburg, VA, is paying $1,500 towards the Blossoms of Springtime cost to Back Home on the Farm (Hess Greenhouses). This means that we raised $3442.00! They have already been such a wonderful group of folks (we had 13!) helping us with crafts for Mother's and Father's Day, plus other craft projects!! Everyone just loves when they come to help! They should be called Angels! THANK YOU to BB&T and to the LIGHTHOUSE PROJECT FOLKS!!!!

NAP TAX CREDITS
FOR DONATIONS

We have again been approved for tax credits for our donors through the Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP). The amount of the tax credit a donor receives toward his Virginia taxes has remained at the rate of 65%! Individual donors must donate at least $500. Businesses must donate at least $1,000. The Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP) encourages businesses, trusts and individuals to make donations to approved 501 (c)(3) organizations. To be eligible for participation in the program, agencies must apply each year and meet set criteria. Approval is for a 12-month period (July 1 - June 30).
Upcoming Resource Center Events


IEP/Transition Seminar - September 23, 2015

Power of Attorney/Guardianship/Special Needs Trust (SNT) - October 2015 date to be determined.

Waiver Workshop - November 10, 2015

Social Security Administration/Ticket to Work - March 15, 2016

Job Readiness/Job Fair - April 8, 2016

DONATIONS:
Stephen Boots
Robert Harper
Vincent & Barbara Harkins
Don, Florence & Todd Turner
Faith & Steven Hottle
BB&T Insurance and Bank
The BB&T Lighthouse Ladies
Johnny & Phyllis Garber for the card rack
Anonymous
Jennifer Bridges
Teresa Bruce
Kathi Fields
Tara Handy Palmer
Julie Harris
Brenda Long
Julia Merkel
Barbara Moyer
Jan Rhodes
Elizabeth Ruble
Daniel Rublee
Debra Thompson
Lacy T. Whimore, Jr.
Debbie Yancey
Ron Ornstein
Mary Ellen & Bradley Chewning
Shelby Sweeney in memory of her mother Charlotte Smith
Larry & Kathy Whitten through You Can’t Take it With You Fund of The Community Foundation of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County
The Herman & Janet Mason Families Fund of The Community Foundation of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County
Martin & Tillie Offenbacker
Larry & Jennifer Bridges
Rebecca Frackelton
Mr. & Mrs. William Zwanzig

Condolences:
The Roy Nicholas Family & Friends
The Mary Munson Family & Friends (Lori Yost’s Grandmother)
The Families of Lucille Hensley and Elnora Ludholtz (Becky Wiggins Aunts)

COURTESY RENEWAL REMINDERS

THANK YOU TO NEW MEMBERS & RECENT RENEWALS: Mary Ellen & Bradley Chewning, Ethelmay Keeney, Vincent & Barbara Harkins, Martin & Tillie Offenbacker, Mr. & Mrs. William Zwanzig

MEMBERSHIPS THAT HAVE RECENTLY EXPIRED: Evelyn Campbell, Mr. & Mrs. Charles Chenault, J. D. & Becky Glick, Patricia & Jerry Hilbert, Tom & Therese Hilbert, Mrs. Iva Kenney, Marci Kline, Mrs. Audrey Smith, John & Connie Stiles, Wylie & Diane Walton

MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRING IN JULY: Dr. & Mrs. John V. Barnes, John Canter, Patricia & Barry Carroll, Vivian Hevener, Dr. Andrew Kohlen, John & Dawn Krall, Charles Wampler, Jr.

MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRING IN AUGUST: Shenandoah County SEARCH, Johnny & Phyllis Garber, Emory & Beckwith Merryman, Phillip & Margaret Perry, Jackie Thomas Suggs, Steven & Fonda Watson

The Arc of Harrisonburg and Rockingham
620 Simms Ave.
Harrisonburg, VA 22802
(540)437-9214
www.hrarc.org

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter or are receiving duplicate copies, please call The Arc office at (540)437-9214, x130, email us the correction at arc@hrarc.org, or mail the address page back to us marked “remove” or “duplicate”.

Volume 42, Issue 4 Page 3
Become a Member of The Arc of Harrisonburg & Rockingham

Your membership includes membership in The Arc of Virginia and The Arc of the U.S. *Your dues are tax deductible!*

Name: _________________________________________ Address: __________________________________________________
City: State: Zip: Phone: ____________________________________
Email (for newsletter and event information): __________________________________________________________
Individual/Family Dues: $15

Renewal ☐ New ☐

Please mail form with your check to:
The Arc
620 Simms Ave.
Harrisonburg, VA 22802

Thank you!

I would like to make an additional contribution

$25 $50 $75 $100 $250 $500 Other:_______

My gift is in memory of / in honor of: ________________________________

Send acknowledgement to______________________________