



# the ARC Linkletter



[www.waynearc.org](http://www.waynearc.org)

September/October 2009

## FROM DAVID CALHOUN, OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As most of you are aware New York is facing significant budget deficits this year and it looks like it will continue in the foreseeable future. Wayne ARC and the services and programs we provide have not been untouched by this fiscal crisis. This past spring the State halted all new development, we were told that two of our projects, the Jeffery Road DayHab, and the right-sizing of the Clyde IRA, would not be funded. More importantly, for the first time in over 20 years, the State eliminated the inflation or trend factor for our rates of reimbursement. This has a major impact on our budget, as the cost of doing business continues to increase (food, gasoline, insurance, etc.) and we are operating with the same revenue from a year ago.

The Board of Directors and I knew last year that we might not receive the trend factor but the Board was committed to increasing staff wages by giving all staff a 2 % cola, continuing with longevity and giving staff a bonus. We are concerned about what the future will bring and will continue to monitor the situation in Albany very closely, Wayne ARC is financially secure and one of the fiscally strongest ARC's within NYSARC. We don't know what the New York state budget will look like next year but we will keep you informed when information becomes available.

On a positive note our proposal to renovate existing DayHab space to create a medical model day habilitation project was approved. We hope to begin construction within the next month or so. We would also like to welcome Candy Apple Day Care; they have rented three rooms at Roosevelt Children's Center for the next year.

## EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

### 2nd Quarter 2009 Recipients:

**ARS- Sharon Confer** nominated by Deb Stoep  
**CA- Sue Kell** nominated by Donna DeWolf  
**MSC- Mary Kay Jones** nominated by Alison Smith and Sunday Godfrey  
**RCC- Sage Walker** nominated by Cathy DeHimer  
**RS- Darla Kuperus** nominated by Jamie Arnitz

A reception was held honoring Employee of the Quarter recipients on September 16th. Each recipient received a \$50.00 gift card.



## BRIGHT SPOTS

- |               |                    |                                      |
|---------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Amanda Bement | Sue Everdyke       | Jim Ball                             |
| Lyn Strong    | Cindy Neill        | Mary "Gina" Buisch<br>(received two) |
| Jill Pollack  | Shawn Fallo        | Barbara DeBryne                      |
| Megan Sackett | Nancy Bernhardt    | Leslie Leo                           |
| Carol Magee   | Melanie Chalachan  | Linda Smith                          |
| Nicole Millon | Joyce Sherwood     | Michelle Weed                        |
| Caitlin Brown | Donna DeWolf       | Sharon Confer                        |
| Lisa Barnick  | Donald DeCann      | Jodie Tyler                          |
| Craig Smith   | Myrrh Ruiz         | Meredith Fingar                      |
| Kim VanHall   | Deb Jinks          | Terri Skinner                        |
| Linda Eckert  | Wendy Decausemaker |                                      |

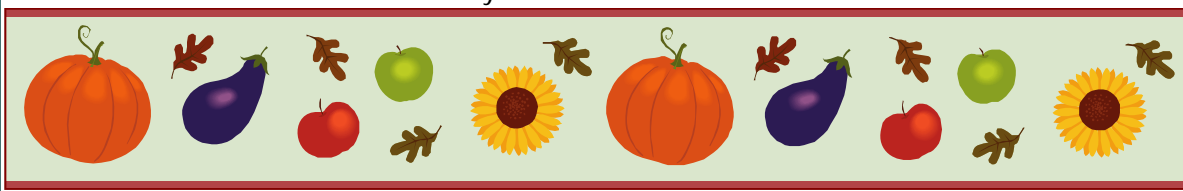
## Important Dates

- Sept 15th-** Innisbrook fundraiser starts
- September 17th -** NYSARC 60th Celebration Walk in Albany
- Oct 3rd-** United Way and Wayne ARC First Annual Canal Walk
- Oct 20th- 23rd -** Scholastic Book Fair at RCC
- October 21st-** Open House at RCC
- Nov 11th-** Veterans Day Agency is open
- Nov 26th & 27th-** Agency closed in observance of Thanksgiving
- Dec 12th-** Holiday Party at the Waterloo Holiday Inn
- Dec 24th & 25th-** Agency closed in observance of the Christmas Holiday



School is back in session. Drive Carefully!

Please submit entries for the next Linkletter no later than Nov. 1st to Terri Skinner via email at [skinnert@waynearc.org](mailto:skinnert@waynearc.org)





## ACROSS THE CANAL ...

*Roosevelt  
Childrens Center*

The 2009-2010 school year has started and so far all is going well. All the children seem to be adjusting to coming to school - newcomers and returning children alike. The staff have adjusted too - I think! We have a busy fall ahead of us with the Innisbrook school fundraiser starting September 15th, school pictures on October 8th and 13, the Scholastic Book Fair the week of Oct. 19 and open house on October 21st. RCC is currently sharing 4 staff with VanBuren Street. Michelle Snyder, Jane Aubertine and Joanne Salerno are all speech therapist who along with Michelle Sullivan a physical therapist are serving both locations. We would like to thank them for their flexibility and commitment to both programs.

## NEWS YOU CAN USE FROM HR

It's time to begin thinking about Open Enrollment again. Soon, we will be sending out the dates and times for both Group and Individual meetings. A memo was already sent out regarding the change that is being made regarding the deduction schedule for the voluntary benefits (i.e. Cancer Insurance, Voluntary Short Term Disability Insurance, Voluntary Accident Insurance and Voluntary Life Insurance). Beginning 1/1/10, deductions will be taken 24 times a year versus the 26 deductions that we are currently using. Our medical and dental deductions are already on the 24 payroll deduction cycle.

Also very soon you will be receiving information about the separate Open Enrollment period for the Sick Bank benefit.

Remember the deadline for the Employee of the Quarter (3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2009) nominations is October 5<sup>th</sup>. Forms can be found around the Agency in the plexi-glass holders located in all areas.

We will be holding Flu Clinics again this year. Please note-this is for the regular influenza vaccine not the swine flu vaccine. There will be two clinics-one at 150 VanBuren Street on 10/7 in the Canalside Conference room from noon-4 PM. The other will be held at RCC on 10/14 from 11 AM – 2 PM. You must make an appointment with Jeanna at Ext. 267 to attend either clinic. We are also researching the possibility of hosting a Swine Flu vaccine clinic. This is a totally separate vaccine and is given in two parts. We will be sending out a separate memo if we are able to host this additional clinic.

Please remember to use the ARCNet for the commonly used HR forms. Simply go to the ARCNet, click on Agency Wide information, Form center and then chose the form needed either under general forms or manager/supervisor forms. Whenever a form is updated, it is also updated on ARCNet, so you can be assured you are using the most recent version of the form.

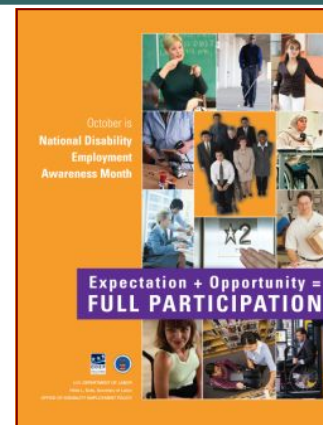
## DAY HAB LUAU

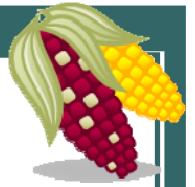
The Day Habilitation program held their annual picnic on Tuesday, September 2nd next to the greenhouse at VanBuren Street. The picnic had a Hawaiian theme including lei's and seashells. Some activities were pineapple bowling, karaoke and a fishing pond to name a few. A great time was had by all!



## NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH

Wayne ARC will acknowledge this month with an awareness campaign and employer breakfast. Articles detailing specific Wayne ARC services related to employment will run weekly in the Courier Gazette and Wayne Times. Additionally, a collaborative ad with Seneca-Cayuga, Yates and Ontario Arcs will run in the FingerLakes Times. On October 14th, we will host a breakfast to celebrate the many businesses who provide employment for the individuals we serve. Several elected officials will also be in attendance. We look forward to raising awareness in this area and celebrating those who recognize the tremendous potential in the people we serve.





## HIPPA REMINDER:

### Avoiding Computer Viruses

We have seen a recent increase in the number of computers being infected with viruses, so we thought it may be time to highlight a few simple things that you can do to protect your work computer. The people who create viruses are very sneaky, and as they change their methods to "catch" our users, the IT department must try and provide information that can hopefully keep you virus-free.

The newest trend is what is called a blended attack; the easiest way to describe this is by using an example:

You receive an email from a person you know. In this email is a short message saying "Check out this awesome video (or e-card, audio file, MP3, etc.) it is hilarious." At the bottom of the message is a link, something similar to this:

<http://127.0.0.1\manonfire\avideofromtom.com>

This link redirects you to a site that appears to have a video player, but when the page finishes loading, a box pops-up and tells you that you need to install a program to view the video. You click on the box that says, "Install Now" and nothing happens.

Chances are your computer has just been infected with a virus. Now this virus will scan your computer, locate an address book and send the original message that infected you to all your contacts i.e. your friends, co-workers, neighbors, etc.

Here are some simple ideas to thwart the scenario above:

1. If someone sends you an email and it seems out of character, send them a quick message asking them if they did in fact send you something and wait for their reply
2. *Never, never, never install* something on your computer if you don't understand what the program is used for.
3. Pay careful attention to all email that contain links and don't just click on it, without looking. Check the example from above. Does that seem like a site you would trust; shouldn't a video be posted on youtube.com or video.google.com? If you never heard of the site, email the person who sent the link to you and ask, "Did you send me a video, e-card, audio clip, etc."
4. If you have any doubt, delete the email...Is missing one "hilarious" video worth the headache of having to call IT and explain how you got a virus?

Thanks and sometime soon, these will be posted on ARCNet!

## LOOK WHO'S IN THE NEWS

Jennifer Blanchard will be a guest speaker at the NYSARC, Inc. Annual Recreation Conference held at the White Eagle Conference Center located in Hamilton, New York. The conference is scheduled for September 24th and 25th with the focus on "Recreation Goes Green".

Jennifer will explain how Wayne ARC thinks green as we support people in our day habilitation program. Jennifer also will facilitate the discussion of practices, ideas and questions about green projects within other agencies. Thank you Jennifer for being such a great representative of Wayne ARC!

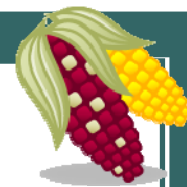
## INNISBROOK FUNDRAISER

Wayne ARC will be holding a fall fundraiser. Roosevelt has been doing a fundraiser through Innisbrook gift wraps for many years. It has been very profitable for the school. We have expanded the fundraiser to include all areas of ARC.

Items include gift wrap, gift tags, assorted chocolates, candles, magazines, mugs and much more! If you would like to preview the catalog or order online you may do so at [www.innisbrook.com](http://www.innisbrook.com) and enter school code 109976. Thank you for your anticipated support!

Any questions please contact Terri Skinner at [skinnert@waynearc.org](mailto:skinnert@waynearc.org)  
or call 315-331-7741 ext. 357.





## WAYNE ARC PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

On August 29th, Wayne ARC Parent Support Group held it's First Annual Family Picnic. Despite the weather, food, craft activities and even a Watermelon seed spitting contest was enjoyed by over 30 family members. Currently, there are 4 Support Groups sponsored by Wayne ARC in the Wayne County Area. For more information, please contact Amanda Bement at 315-331-7741, ext. 384 or Valerie Curtis at 315-331-7741, ext 311.



## WAYNE ARC WILDCATS

The Wildcats softball team held their banquet September 11th at Hallagan's Field. The team ended up the season with 2 wins and one loss. Team participants were given a trophy for all their hard work and dedication to the team. After the awards the coaches team took the field to play Wayne ARC staff. Experience edged out youth as the coaches beat the staff in the bottom of the 6th inning for a final score of 17 - 16. While the game was being played, the Wildcat team enjoyed hot dogs and hamburgers along with drinks. Congratulations to the Wildcats for an outstanding season!



## A GENEROUS ACT

Grace Faulkner is not your typical 9 year old. She decided to ask her birthday party guests to bring a monetary donation for Roosevelt Children's Center instead of gifts. Grace's sister Faith attends program at RCC and Grace wanted to help all the children attending RCC. She and her guest's donated \$100.00 to program. The generosity of this family did not end there. Grace and Faith's uncle asked his groomsmen to have a donation made in their name to Roosevelt in lieu of gifts. The total of that donation was \$500.00. The two donations will be used to purchase new gross motor equipment for the gymnasium at RCC. A huge thank you to this amazing family!



## WAYNE ARC VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

As of January 2009, we have had approximately 26 volunteers continue their placement or begin a placement with Wayne ARC. At the end of July, these volunteers have contributed more than 5,200 hours of service to our Agency. Current Foster Grandparents include: Joan Green, Sarah Mobbs, Joyce Mohondhis, Muriel Murphy, Marilyn Schrader, and Rachel Vito. Our two Senior Companions are Beverly Bump and Shirley Andrus. We have had many interns including: Nikole Pfeil, Meghin Purdy, Ashley Roemer, Alicia Sieling and Sarah Bessey. Our volunteers are: Donna Swart, Susan Doyle, Beverly Williams, Julianna Everdyke, Brenda Paylor, Johnna Sorensen, Sarah Bessey, and Tammy Snyder. We want to thank all who volunteer their time and talents to our Agency and those that we serve. A special thanks also to our golf committee volunteers who helped make this year's tournament so successful: Darrin Brentnall, Steven Felker, Tim Cappon, Mark Peake, and John Tickner. We also want to thank Rosemarie Wright for her service as a Foster Grandparent at the North Rose/Wolcott site.

