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**Project Coordinators**

Bonnie Lewallen

**Mission Statement**

The Arc of Denton County, a non profit volunteer organization, is committed to expanding opportunities for people with any developmental disability to exercise the same rights, freedoms, and responsibilities as their fellow citizens by providing family support, public awareness, advocacy service and referral.

Phone or Fax: 800-375-4520

Phone or Fax: 972-436-8471

E-mail:

info@arcofdentoncounty.org

Website

www.arcofdentoncounty.org

A United Way Partner Agency



# ARCLETTER



FEBRUARY 2008

Volume 08 Issue 2

## MARDI GRAS MADNESS

The Arc of Denton County, a United Way Agency, is a non-profit, volunteer organization. It is committed to expanding opportunities for people with any developmental disability to exercise the same rights, freedoms and responsibilities as their fellow citizens by providing family support, public awareness, advocacy service and referral.

The Arc of Denton County is raising funds to support their program of Socials for adults with developmental disabilities in Denton County. Many of these adults have very little to look forward to, and The Arc socials make a difference in their lives. Each event is highly anticipated and attendance at the events keeps growing.

PLEASE help by making a tax-deductible donation. You can write a check made payable to The Arc of Denton County or check our website at <http://www.arcofdentoncounty.org/helpajester.html> to make a donation using PayPal.

## 15TH ANNUAL INCLUSION WORKS CONFERENCE

The 15th Annual Inclusion Works Conference will be held February 20th—23rd at the Renaissance Austin Hotel. Visit the Arc of Texas website at: [www.arcoftexas.org](http://www.arcoftexas.org)

and click on the registration box under Upcoming Events for more details.

This years event will be great as usual!!

Everyone Belongs  
Everyone Contributes  
Everyone is Treasured

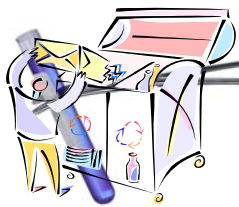
Everyone

# FEBRUARY 2008

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2 Mardi Gras Social
3	4	5 Board Meeting	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Self Advocate Meeting	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	

Please call the Arc of Denton County at 972-436-8471 or 800-375-4520 or email us at [info@arcofdentoncounty.org](mailto:info@arcofdentoncounty.org) for any additional information on events listed above or check our website at [www.arcofdentoncounty.org](http://www.arcofdentoncounty.org).

## CLEANING OUT!!



**Donate to The Arc of Denton County**

Get involved with Arc! If you are cleaning out, please donate clothing and household items. Call 214-337-8900 to schedule a pick up of large items. If you have clothing to donate there are deposit boxes in Lewisville at this time. The loca-

tions we have at this time are:

- Terrys Supermarket on Fox
- Albertson's on W. Main
- Lowes, close to service road
- WalMart Center on Main St (behind Payless Shoes)
- Fox Ave. and I-35 as you exit Fox
- WalMart at 3040 and 121

We will update this list as we get updates. The Arc of Denton County gets a percentage from the donated items for our programs.

## **WHO ARE THE SELF-ADVOCATE LEADERS OF DENTON COUNTY?**

The Self Advocate Leaders of Denton County are people living in Denton County, who live in group homes, institutions, their own apartment, or with their parents. It is a group in which we get together by our own choice. No one is forced to come to a meeting. Self advocates have a developmental disability.

## **WHY DO SELF ADVOCATES GET TOGETHER?**

The Self Advocate Leaders of Denton County get together to talk about problems we have , about how some of our problems are the same and how they can be solved. We talk about how to make things better in our lives. We talk about Rights, Responsibilities and Abilities. We talk about our goals and what we want for ourselves not what other people want for us. We ask questions and want answers. We think for ourselves, make decisions, and help people in the group to understand things that are said.

## **HOW CAN I BECOME A SELF ADVOCATE?**

If you are interested in becoming a Self Advocate Leader of Denton County all you have to do is call 800-375-4520 or 972-436-8471 and ask for Bonnie, who will give you information about meetings, dates, and times.

The Self Advocate Leaders of Denton County meet the third Wednesday of each month, unless otherwise notified, at MHMR located at 3600 E. McKinney in Denton at 7:00 P.M. Membership is \$7 a year.

## **SOME REASONS PEOPLE GIVE FOR BECOMING SELF ADVOCATES**

*"In the past I was not able to choose the clothes I wore because other people chose them for me"*

*"Because I want to live in an apartment and advocate for myself"*

*"No one thinks I can do anything for myself. I can"*

*"I want to learn more things so I can do them for myself and so I can help others"*

*"I want to go to the convention and stay at the hotel"*

**Join us at our next meeting, February 20, 2008**

## H E L P   T H E   A R C   E A R N   M O N E Y

**Donate to the Arc of Denton County while surfing the net**



There is a new and easy way to raise money for The Arc of Denton County—just by searching the Internet with GoodSearch.com.

It's simple. You use GoodSearch.com like any other search engine-the site is powered by Yahoo!-but each time you do, money is generated for The Arc. Just be sure to fill in "The Arc-Denton County" and click verify for the GoodSearch field "Who do you GoodSearch for?"

Last year, search engines generated close to \$6 billion in revenue from advertisers. With GoodSearch, part of the advertising revenue will now be directed to our organization.

We hope that you will not only use GoodSearch as your main search engine from here on out, but that you will also pass this message on to your friends and family. If you go to GoodSearch.com there is a sample email you can use to

ask your friends and family. The more people who use this, the more money The Arc of Denton County will receive.

This is a good way for you to contribute to your favorite charity (Arc, we hope!) with no money directly out of your pocket and no extra time involved. This can be used at most work places and at home when you are searching the net.

**N E W   O R   R E N E W I N G  
M E M B E R S**

Jill Slade  
James Miller

**D O N A T I O N S**

Sid/Donna Reichenberger  
Julie Sewell  
Jean Mainous  
St. Barnabas

Membership forms on back page of newsletter

Join The Arc of Denton County and receive local, state, and national newsletters.

THE ARC'S CLASSIFIED ADS



**Darin and Angie Yocum, Realtors,  
RE/MAX DFW Associates II**

- Denton County Residents
- RE/MAX International Hall of Fame
- Certified Luxury Home Marketing Specialists

**972.402.4185**



Please call us for a free Custom Market Analysis of your home  
972.402.4185

[www.teamyocum.com](http://www.teamyocum.com)  
teamyocum@verizon.net

Each office independently owned and operated

**THE ARC OF DENTON COUNTY'S WISH LIST**

Paper goods for adult activities (cups, napkins, plates)  
HP ink cartridges 48 75 21 22 58

NOTES OF INTEREST

**Mailing List**

If you receive our newsletter home from school and want to receive it in the mail, please call or fax us at:

800-375-4520  
972-436-8471

Or email us at:  
info@arcofdentoncounty.org

We will be glad to put you

on the mailing list!

**The New Idea**

Download or view a copy of the revised manual on the Arc of Texas website at

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

This has information you need before attending an ARD at your school.

(940) 387-1680

*Barbara J. Hokamp, Ph. D.*  
Postdoctoral Resident  
Adults, Adolescents, Individual and Couples Therapy

Play Therapy  
Child Parent Relationship Therapy

927 N. Locust  
Denton, Texas 76201

Ads

\$15 a month \$150 a year

Self Advocate meetings are the 3rd Wednesday of each month and are held at 3600 E. McKinney St. Suite A in Denton. The meeting hours are 7:00 –8:30 pm.

The meetings are open to anyone over the age of 18 with a developmental disability..

Please join us and develop leadership skills, learn more about your rights and responsibilities, and learn about voting and decision making. These are just examples of the meeting topics

Call The Arc of Denton County at 972-436-8471 or 800-375-4520 for more information about

## PROM, PARTY, BRIDESMAIDS DRESSES NEEDED!!

**We have received many beautiful dresses but are still collecting them to make sure we can fit each and every young lady attending this great event. We want to give a big THANK YOU!!**

The Arc of Denton County needs dresses for our upcoming semi formal event for adults with disabilities. This will be a semi formal dance and we are trying to locate dresses for everyone. Most of these adults have never experienced a prom or formal event and we want to make this an event they will cherish for a long time to come. If you have any dresses, and we can use items for the gentlemen, that you no longer need anymore, please contact The Arc of Denton County and let us make arrangements to get them from you. The response to this has been great but we still need more and still need all sizes.



**We are in need of larger size dresses if you have any or know of anyone with some.**

**This special event will be held in September 2008**

### **.The Arc of Denton County Annual Awards Banquet**

Listed below are the categories that the Arc of Denton County will be honoring at our Awards Banquet on April 21st. Each of the following categories need to fit the following criteria:

***“Positively influenced the attitudes and thinking of the general public regarding the life and ability of a person with intellectual or developmental disabilities”***

#### **Categories for nomination:**

1. Special Education Teacher
2. General Education Teacher
3. Educator/Administrator
4. Employee of the year (person with disability)
5. Employer of the Year (hires people with disability)
6. Case Manager/Foster Care Provider
7. Self Advocate (Person with disability)
8. Support Person (Therapist, Paraprofessional, Bus Driver, etc.)
9. Community Support
10. Arc Volunteer
11. Community Volunteer
12. Advocate (Person who advocates for people with disabilities)

Please fill out nomination form on back for each category that you have a nomination for. You may use blank paper if needed or make copies of the information sheet. **PLEASE RETURN NO LATER THAN TUESDAY, APRIL 1ST. WE CANNOT ACCEPT NOMINATIONS AFTER THAT DATE.**

Mail to The Arc of Denton County, P.O. Box 1279 Denton, Texas 76202 or  
 Fax to us at 972-436-8471 or  
 Email your information to: [bonniel@arcofdentoncounty.org](mailto:bonniel@arcofdentoncounty.org)

**THE ARC OF DENTON COUNTY AWARDS BANQUET NOMINATION FORM**

**CATEGORY OF NOMINATION:** \_\_\_\_\_

*(Please print or type)*

**NOMINEE INFORMATION: (Check one)  Individual  Group**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-MAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMPLOYER: (IF APPLICABLE):** \_\_\_\_\_

**NOMINATOR INFORMATION**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-MAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

***PLEASE CHECK THE SPELLING OF YOUR NOMINEE'S NAME !!!***

**SUMMARIZE WHY THE NOMINEE QUALIFIES FOR THIS AWARD**

*(Use blank sheet if necessary or make a copy)*

Membership Form

- Self Advocate \$15
- Member or Family \$20
- Supporting Member \$50

Check all that apply

- Interested citizen
- Self Advocate
- Professional in field of disabilities
- Parent/Relative of child with developmental disabilities
- Parent/Relative of Adult with developmental disabilities

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City,State.Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cash or Check enclosed for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Payable to:

The Arc of Denton County

P.O. Box 1279

Denton, Texas 76202

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE ARC

The Arc of Denton County

P.O. Box 1279

Denton, Texas 76202

Phone: 800-375-4520

972-436-8471

Fax: 972-436-8471

Email:



Non Profit Organization

U.S. Postage

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Lewisville, TX

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*If you have an address change, or prefer an e-newsletter, or want your name removed from our mail list, please notify us at [info@arcofdentoncounty.org](mailto:info@arcofdentoncounty.org) or contact us at 972-436-8471 or 800-375-4520. The editor of the ArcLetter writes as a non-professional. We attempt to report items of interest to our members. These items are not necessarily endorsed by The Arc of Denton County or reflect the opinion of The United Way. The Arc of Denton County does not promote any therapy, institution or professional system. Our desire is to bring information to families in an attempt to create an informative dialogue.*

A United Way Partner Agency

