

Achieve with us.

### Lana Richardson Celebrates 25 Years as Arc NW Staff

For Lana Richardson, working with children who have disabilities is more than a job, it's a calling. She recalls being 12 years old and observing a group of kids her age at school who were learning in their own classroom. Lana was immediately drawn to these youth with disabilities and knew she wanted to be part of making a difference in their lives.

Early in her career Lana worked in daycare centers and preschools and readily demonstrated her gift for connecting with children who have learning differences. Her passion became working one-on-one with children who needed extra support and understanding.

On February 1, 1994 Lana began working with the

Latchkey program through The Arc NW at the urging of her niece. After three years she became the Director. During this time, she worked in the Community Participation Program for individuals 26 years and older, helping them to be included in community activities. She also worked at The Arc NW summer camp for teens and young adults.



Lana (on Left) - continued on pg. 2



Northwest Wayne County  
26049 Five Mile Road  
Redford, MI 48239  
313-532-7915  
[www.thearcnw.org](http://www.thearcnw.org)

## ANNUAL DINNER DANCE

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2019  
FROM 6:30 PM UNTIL 12:00 AM**

**LAUREL MANOR 39000 SCHOOLCRAFT RD.  
LIVONIA, MICHIGAN**

**TICKETS \$95 PER PERSON \* \$65 PER PERSON WITH A DISABILITY  
INCLUDES DINNER**

VEGETARIAN MEAL AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

**OPEN BAR, LIVE ENTERTAINMENT, RAFFLES AND DANCING!**

*Please respond by Friday, February 8, 2019.*



For your convenience, all reservations will be held at the door-no tickets will be sent.  
Please provide the name of each guest on the reverse side of the response card.  
Please mail the enclosed response card or register at [www.thearcnw.org](http://www.thearcnw.org)



26049 Five Mile Road  
Redford, MI 48239

Phone: 313-532-7915 Fax: 313-532-7488

www.thearcnw.org

Next Board Meetings  
February 12, 2019  
March 12, 2019

## 2018 - 2019 Board of Directors

### OFFICERS

PRESIDENT **Kathy Pfuhrer**

VICE PRESIDENT **Greg Wittrock**

SECRETARY **Bill Winkler**

TREASURER **Susan Gardynik**

### DIRECTORS

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Resource Director:                      Michelle Driscoll

Director of Development:                Wendy Erzen

Programs & Services  
Assistant:                                    Sandra Dobson

Advocate:                                    Chesley Giertz

Lekotek Play Leader:                      Lana Richardson

Lekotek Librarian:                         Katie Perkins

Claims Processor:                         Amy Pomicter

Clerical Assistant:                        Branden Powell

Office Manager:                          Latrice Wilborn

**Achieve with us.**



United Way  
for Southeastern Michigan

## From The Director

Lana - Continued from pg. 1

All this experience was a springboard to Lana's dream job of being the Lekotek Leader at The Arc NW which she began in 2000. Lekotek is a national program that provides monthly play sessions and a toy lending library for children with disabilities ages 12 and under. Lana's duties include leading play experiences with children and their caregivers, providing play to school groups, giving presentations to parent groups, and supervising the Toy Librarian.

Lana finds that child-directed play is important for self-discovery, socialization, and helping parents learn how to interact with their child. She understands toys as "children's tools for learning" and the play sessions a welcome departure from therapy and the structure of school. **"Play is the cornerstone for being part of the community," Lana says.** She is providing a gateway for a future of successful inclusion and employment.

When asked what she loves most about her job Lana says, "I love watching the kids grow, supporting families, and being an advocate for them. I've grown a lot too." Lana exudes patience and a gentle presence which immediately attracts kids of all ages. Children who come to The Arc in a grumpy mood immediately brighten with smiles and hugs when they see Ms. Lana! One of the most rewarding things for Lana has been watching these kids grow into adulthood over her 25 years with The Arc NW.

Lana has seen a lot of changes in programs and staff at the Arc NW but remarks how blessed she feels to share in this important mission with such an excellent team. She hopes that The Arc NW will continue to expand and reach more people who need services. Over the last few decades society has come a long way with including individuals with disabilities and not using hurtful labels. She hopes that job opportunities will increase and those with disabilities will be even more integral in community life.

*Lana has given so much to The Arc NW, and to families over these past 25 years. We cannot thank her enough for her dedication, her faithful commitment and her huge heart. We congratulate her on this milestone and thank her for blessing all of us with the special person that she is!*



**Amy Pomicter** **Claims Processor/Accounting Assistant**

Amy holds a bachelor’s degree in finance from Wayne State and a master’s in professional accountancy from Walsh College. She has experience working for Michigan National and Comerica Banks reconciling accounts, posting invoices, maintaining accounts payable records, working with vendors, and troubleshooting account issues. She is detail-oriented, motivated, and a solid team player. Most important, she has a heart for the mission of The Arc and has benefitted from The Arc NW advocacy services.



**Wendy Ernzen** **Director of Development**

Wendy Ernzen holds a bachelor of science degree in Finance from Oakland University and a master of public administration degree from UM. She has extensive experience in nonprofit development including event planning, grant writing, administration of corporate and individual giving, and procurement of major gifts. She is currently the Chair of Transportation Riders United advocating for inclusive public transportation in Detroit. She has a personal passion for The Arc NW’s mission as she has a daughter with a disability.

The Arc of Northwest Wayne County  
The Arc of Western Wayne County

## ***After I’m Gone Program***



### **February 14**

“Social Security & the Dept. of Human Services”  
Speaker will discuss the programs and services available to your son or daughter with a disability, including SSI, SSDI, Medicaid, Food Assistance and Adult Home Help.

### **February 28**

“Supporting People in Decision Making”  
Attorney Roxanne Chang will discuss the various options for supporting people in making important decisions, such as Power of Attorney, Representative Payee Status, and Trusts.

Information sessions are held monthly during the school year at

***Western Wayne Skill Center/Garfield  
Community School***

10218 Arthur St., Livonia, MI 48150

6:30pm - 8:30pm

## **Interested in Serving on The Board of Directors of The Arc NW?**

We’re seeking individuals wishing to contribute their time, experience and resources to furthering The Arc NW’s mission of “support, information and advocacy” on behalf of people with intellectual and developmental abilities. We’ve come a long way - and there is still much to be done!

Contact our Nominations Committee Chair, **Rebecca Wenglinski** at **beckpolska@gmail.com** or **call her at 313-378-9876.**



Happy New Year!

What a FABULOUS way to end 2018 with our annual Christmas Dance with over 200 people at the Hellenic Center on Dec. 15th. We were served a delicious dinner and yummy dessert. Everyone enjoyed dancing to so many songs that the Trademark Band played for us. Many of the members and their families visited the photo booth to have their colorful pictures taken. It was so much fun wearing the silly glasses and hats. Santa also visited us going table to table to shake hands. He also enjoyed having his picture taken on the dance floor!

Our Hawaiian Luau Dance was held on Friday, Jan.11, at Thurston High School. We had 200 people attend and enjoy cheese, pepperoni or vegetable pizza with salad, pop, water and ice cream cups! Trademark Band ROCKED the night away with so many awesome songs to dance to. There were also colorful Hawaiian leis, head bands and necklaces for everyone to choose from.

Our raffle winners were:

**Ann Munn, Sheri Holly, Katie Holt, Nicole Brey, Sue Clay, Kori Porter, Megan Fedick, John Mouton, Deann Brown and Chris Russo.**

Please mark your calendar for the upcoming Dances:

**-Valentine Dance, Friday, Feb. 8, 7:00-9:30, \$3.00 (at the door) Thurston High School.**

**-St. Patrick's Dance, Friday, March 15, 7:00-9:30, \$3.00(at the door) Thurston High School**

**-Chicken Dinner Dance, Friday, April 12, 6:30-9:30, \$ 5.00 (MUST pre-pay at the Arc by Apr. 5) Canton High School**

**-Ice Cream Social Dance, Friday, May 10, 6:30-9:30, \$5.00, (MUST pre-pay at the Arc by May 3) Canton High School**

Happy Winter, Jackie Norris

## JUST FUN CLUB NEWS

Happy 2019 and Valentine's Day Everyone

***WESTLAND BOWL is the new location***

**For May 3<sup>rd</sup> Sport Program Bowling Fundraiser**

**Westland Bowl is located on Wayne Rd. in Westland**

**Lots & lots of room. Start getting your group together.**

**Basketball** has started. Thank you coaches for getting your rosters to me so quickly. Upcoming basketball tournaments: February 16<sup>th</sup> at Franklin High School. District tournament March 2<sup>nd</sup> at either Northville or Saline High School. State Tournament weekend of March 15 & 16. Lady Hot Shots will be attending. Men's team must win both games at District tournament to attend. **Good Luck, Everyone!**

**Field & Track** season starts Tuesday February 12<sup>th</sup> 7pm at Franklin High School Fieldhouse.

**Swimming** season starts Sunday February 17<sup>th</sup> at Schoolcraft College, 4-5pm for beginner swimmers and 5-6pm for advanced swimmers. Congratulations to Swim Coach Addie and her husband on the upcoming arrival on newest little dolphin in their family Baby Newberry who is due the first of February. Tournament dates for these sports: Area Spring Games - May 10. State Summer Games - May 30-June 1.

**Health forms** Parents can call the Arc, speak to Lana, she'll check your Son's or Daughter's health form for date before the season even starts. Health forms expire 3 years from date of doctor's exam. If new form is needed visit The Arc or SOMI website to obtain one. Form must not expire before June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Coaches of field/track, swimming check the dates of expiration on your athletes, volunteers, & yourself. If they expire on or before June 1<sup>st</sup> new forms or certifications are needed. Health Forms must be current when season starts.

Thank you, Everyone – Janice Bearden

## The Arc Sports News



Department of Clinical Pharmacy  
428 Church Street  
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1065

Steven R. Erickson, Pharm.D.  
Associate Professor  
734-763-4989 • Fax: 734-763-4480  
Email: [serick@med.umich.edu](mailto:serick@med.umich.edu)

**Volunteers needed for a research study: Assessing the effect of an inhaler demonstration on performance of inhaler technique by people with intellectual or developmental disabilities**

You are invited to learn more about a research project that is being conducted by researchers from the University Of Michigan College Of Pharmacy. The study will determine whether people who have an intellectual disability can use and learn how to use an inhaler by viewing a commonly used internet-based inhaler educational video. I am looking for people who do NOT use inhalers, who are age 18 years and older, and who is a person who has an intellectual disability. People who complete the study will receive a \$10 gift card as a thank you for participating.

Whether you are a person with an intellectual disability or you are a person who supports a person with an intellectual disability, contact me if you are interested in learning more about this study. My name is Steve Erickson and I can be reached at phone number 734 763 4989 or by email at [serick@med.umich.edu](mailto:serick@med.umich.edu).

**JFC**

**Friday, February 8**

**7:00 - 9:30pm**

**Thurston High School**

**Redford**

**Front Door Entrance**

*Valentine's Day Dance!*



**GUYS & DOLLS**

**SATURDAY AFTERNOON BOWLING**

**OAK LANES.**

30 weeks of Saturday afternoon bowling.

If you are interested in joining  
please contact:

**Jim Gallas 248-318-8856 (cell) or**  
**[jagallas@comcast.net](mailto:jagallas@comcast.net)**



**The Arc Early Birds  
Bowling League**



We bowl every other Saturday morning at 9:00 at Oak Lanes on Middlebelt in Livonia. It's a fun league made up of bowlers with a variety of skill levels. If you want to join, please call Vicki Soto at **734-422-3732.**

# Donations

Michael and Karen Parkinson  
John and Carol Zago  
Sunny and Ifeyiawa Ilechukul  
Derek and Janet Espley  
Stephen Kanyo  
Michael Kelly  
Kathy Pfuhler  
James Gallas and Dixie Hibner  
Philipp Bocketi  
Victoria Tong  
Michael Averill  
Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Beatty  
Marc and Jane Averill

Paul G. Sharrow, CPA PC  
Doug and Sharon Govan  
Ms. Linda Brewer  
Eileen Murphy  
Cynthia Dziurgot  
Andy and Fran Ficara  
Jean Barber  
Jo-Ann L. Pirro  
Bill Winkler  
Christopher Erickson  
Christina MacPhail  
Mrs. Joyce Wickman  
Maureen Beaty

John Elliott  
Alois Anderle  
Mr. and Mrs. Don Maaha  
Timothy Carolan & Theresa Zielasko  
Jordan Meharg  
Pat and Betty McRae  
Vadaver Ramchandren  
Dixie Hibner  
Kathy McRae & Jery Luttman  
Kathy Diegal  
Nazzareno Troiani  
Dwight & Mary Sue Thomas  
Matt Rousseau  
Marlene Diponio  
Kathleen Cafferty  
Evelyn Chetcuti

# Memorials

## In Memory of Mary Larkin

Karen Pence  
Jim & Nancy Horner  
Kim & Katie Hahn  
Dan & Barbara Collins  
Deb & Emily Hedges  
LanAnn Lathrop  
John, Sandy & Melissa Dobson  
Jackie & Melissa Marchewka  
Bonnie Jarlock  
Robert and Anne Marie Diakow  
Kathy & Stacie Vial  
MaeYong & Robyn Ogletree























## In Memory of Arlene Solak

Jerry & Shirley Brown  
Claudette Pilon  
Charles & Celeste White  
Paulette Kwiatkowski  
DeeAnn Brown  
George & Andrea Goodison

If you hear of the passing of an  
Arc member please let us know.  
Help us honor the memories  
of our members and support one  
another through difficult times.


Call The Arc NW office at  
313-532-7915

# February 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
						
	<p><b>The Arc NW Dinner Dance</b> Saturday February 23, 2019 Laurel Manor Livonia</p>					<p>Guys &amp; Dolls <b>NO Bowling</b> Oak Lanes Tournament</p>
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	<p><b>Wolverines</b> 7:00pm - 8:00pm <b>Cooper</b></p> 	<p><b>Cooper</b> <b>Hotshots</b> 6:00pm - 7:00pm <b>Lightning</b> 7:00pm - 8:00pm</p> 			<p><b>JFC</b> <b>Valentine Dance</b> 7:00 - 9:30 Thurston High School</p> 	<p>Bowling 9:30am Oak Lanes</p> 
	<p><b>Pistons</b> 7:00pm - 8:00pm <b>Riley North Gym</b></p>					<p>Guys &amp; Dolls Bowling 1:15 Check-In Oak Lanes</p>
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	<p><b>Wolverines</b> 7:00pm - 8:00pm <b>Cooper</b></p> 	<p>Field &amp; Track Franklin HS Fieldhouse 7:00pm</p> 		<p><b>AIG</b> Social Security &amp; The Dept. of Human Services 6:30pm - 8:30pm</p> 		<p>Basketball Tournament Franklin HS</p> 
	<p><b>Pistons</b> 7:00pm - 8:00pm <b>Riley North Gym</b></p>	<p><b>Cooper</b> <b>Hotshots</b> 6:00pm - 7:00pm <b>Lightning</b> 7:00pm - 8:00pm</p> 				<p>Guys &amp; Dolls <b>NO Bowling</b> Oak Lanes Tournament</p> 
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<p><b>Swimming Schoolcraft</b> 4 - 5pm Beginners 5 - 6pm Advanced</p> 	<p><b>Wolverines</b> 7:00pm - 8:00pm <b>Cooper</b></p> 	<p>Field &amp; Track Franklin HS Fieldhouse 7:00pm</p> 				<p>Bowling 9:30am Oak Lanes</p> 
	<p><b>Pistons</b> 7:00pm - 8:00pm <b>Riley North Gym</b></p>	<p><b>Cooper</b> <b>Hotshots</b> 6:00pm - 7:00pm <b>Lightning</b> 7:00pm - 8:00pm</p> 				<p>Guys &amp; Dolls <b>NO Bowling</b> Oak Lanes Tournament</p>
24	25	26	27	28		
<p><b>Swimming Schoolcraft</b> 4 - 5pm Beginners 5 - 6pm Advanced</p> 	<p><b>Wolverines</b> 7:00pm - 8:00pm <b>Cooper</b></p> 	<p>Field &amp; Track Franklin HS Fieldhouse 7:00pm</p> 		<p><b>AIG</b> Supporting People in Decision Making 6:30pm - 8:30pm</p> 		
	<p><b>Pistons</b> 7:00pm - 8:00pm <b>Riley North Gym</b></p>	<p><b>Cooper</b> <b>Hotshots</b> 6:00pm - 7:00pm <b>Lightning</b> 7:00pm - 8:00pm</p> 				

**CHECK IT OUT!**  
The Arc of Northwest Wayne County's  
Web Site  
[thearcnw.org](http://thearcnw.org)

Friend us on Facebook  
The Arc of Northwest Wayne County



**Facebook**



26049 Five Mile Road  
Redford, MI 48239

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Each edition of this newsletter is prepared for mailing by volunteers from Zeta Tau Alpha.



26049 Five Mile Road  
Redford, Michigan 48239  
313-532-7915

Inside The Arc is also available online at  
**thearcnw.org**  
Call 313-532-7915 to end your printed mailed newsletter.

### Membership Application

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address** \_\_\_\_\_ **Daytime Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Birth Date** \_\_\_\_\_

(Name line above for member(s) with intellectual and developmental disability)

Address (if different) \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (if different) \_\_\_\_\_

*Welcome!*

### Membership Dues

- New Member
- Renewing Member
- Associate Member
- \$35 Annual Family or Group Home Membership
- \$25 Individual Membership
- \$25 Associate Membership

**DONATIONS**  \$10  \$25  \$50  \$100  \$150  \_\_\_\_\_ Other