



Northwest Wayne County

Inside The Arc

December 2019/January 2020

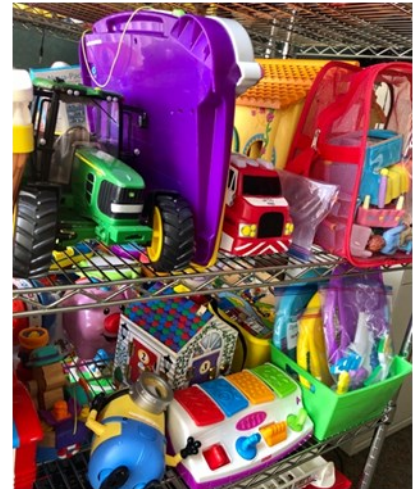
For nearly sixty years, The Arc of Northwest Wayne County has served people with intellectual and developmental disabilities such as autism, cerebral palsy, and Down syndrome. We offer lifelong support and build inclusion through advocacy, resources, and information. ***This work is only possible because of donations from people like you.***

How does your generosity help others? Let me share a story with you about the Radons.

The Radons welcomed Sean into the world on Valentine's Day. Because of his disabilities, the hospital kept him for another three months and then all of his therapies started when he arrived home.

The many appointments, therapies, and home practices became consuming for the Radons with constant, hard work - but they didn't want to miss one opportunity to help their son improve. ***"As a parent, you do everything you possibly can," his mother Janice said.***

When Sean was five, the school district wanted to place him in a special education classroom, but his parents didn't. That's when Janice heard about The Arc of Northwest Wayne County. Not only did The Arc team help get Sean enrolled in general education with support, but they also introduced the family to Lekotek.



Lekotek offers hundreds of toys families can choose from.

Lekotek is the only toy lending library for children with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the state of Michigan with hundreds of toys to choose from. It turned into a gateway of support for the Radons.

"It was such a blessing. It made therapy fun! We learned to play as a family." They could try out toys, borrow six each month, use them as motivation to reach milestones, and just play. Over time, Sean learned to walk, communicate without words, and connect with others.

Lekotek also brought her sons closer. "The boys were five years apart, and Jon, Sean's brother, didn't know how to play with him. But Lekotek changed that."

Continued on pg. 3



The Arc
Northwest Wayne County

26049 Five Mile Road
Redford, MI 48239

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

www.thearcnw.org

Next Board Meeting
December 10, 2019

2019 - 2020 Board of Directors

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| Programs & Services Assistant: | Sandra Dobson |
| Advocate: | Chesley Giertz |
| Lekotek Play Leader: | Lana Richardson |
| Lekotek Librarian: | Katie Perkins |
| Claims Processor: | Amy Pomicter |
| Accounts Payable Clerk | Diamond Watkins |
| Office Manager: | Latrice Wilborn |

Achieve with us.



United Way
for Southeastern Michigan

*Make a Difference in
Schools this March!*

EVERYONE BELONGS

**Would you like to volunteer during
Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month?**

- Read to 2nd graders
- Help build an understanding of inclusion
- Training and lunch included!



Contact Robin for more information at:
rcook@thearcnw.org
313-532-7915



For more information, visit our website at www.thearcnw.org.



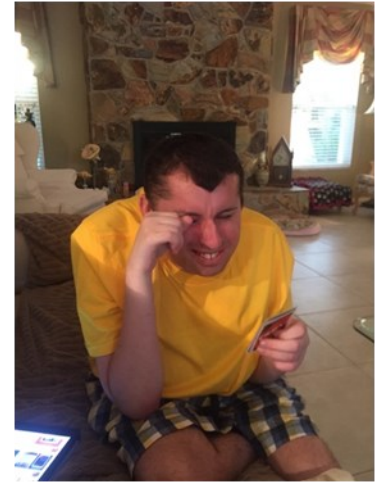
**Wishing you happy holidays and a joyous
New Year!**

With gratitude from the Board and Staff of The Arc NW

Continued from front pg.

Their favorite was the card game Uno. "Sean loved Uno, and he was good at it! The boys would play all the time growing up. And even when Sean was in the hospital, they would play as a team against others online. Almost every time they'd win - and then they would high five! They developed an unbreakable bond."

Sean passed away earlier this year at the age of thirty-two. Janice shared, "Everyone said that Sean inspired them. He was here for a reason. He may not have spoken and he walked later than expected, but he was the same as everyone else. Because of The Arc, he lived a great life."



Sean loved playing Uno.

We have started to expand Lekotek this year, and our plan is to grow from 452 play sessions to 1,000 each year by 2027. But Lekotek is just one of the programs we offer. Families also need help navigating the complicated system of supports and services. We provide educational advocacy to help them access the best education for their children. Adults can build social skills, friendships, and healthy lives through our Athletic Program and Just Fun Club. Families can get help transitioning their loved one from school to adult life, planning their future, and managing benefits and caregiving.

Will you make a special year-end gift of \$50, \$100, or \$500 to help more families like the Radons? Make your gift online through our website at www.thearcnw.org or call Wendy Erzen at 248-532-2915, ext. 208 to make your donation today. With your generosity, many more people with disabilities will get the chance to live their best lives.

Best,
Gretchen Sanewsky
Executive Director

**Just Fun Club
Christmas Dinner Dance
Sunday, December 8, 2019
Hellenic Center in Westland
2:00-6:30 PM**

Must pre-pay \$15 at The Arc NW by
December 2, 2019

**Special thanks to the Edward and Evelyn
Dik Family Foundation for covering
extra costs for this fun event!**



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

After I'm Gone Program



January 9, 2020

at Western Wayne Skill Center/Garfield Community School
Transition Planning and Turning 18

January 15, 2020

at Roosevelt-McGrath Elementary
Transition Planning and Turning 18

January 30, 2020

at Western Wayne Skill Center/Garfield Community School
Beyond Group Homes

January 21, 2020 2:00- 4:00pm via Zoom webinar

Transition Planning and Turning 18

You MUST RSVP via email in order to get participation
login: info@thearcww.org

Information sessions are held monthly
during the school year at

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

10218 Arthur St., Livonia, MI 48150

and at

Roosevelt-McGrath Elementary School

36075 Currier, Wayne, MI 48184

6:30pm - 8:30pm

**Please RSVP: 734-729-9100 or 313-532-
7915 ext 204**

**info@thearcww.org
mdriscoll@thearcnw.org**

**Check our website for info on
webinars beginning in October!**

What a fantastic turn out we had for our **Hawaiian Luau pizza dance!** It was held on Friday Nov. 15 in the new Thurston High School cafeteria. We served pizza, salad, ice cream cups, and pop to over 230 folks. Our entertainment was provided by Trademark. We would like to give a special **thank-you** to all the Girl Scouts in troop #77302 for the candy that they provided for our tables. We appreciate you thinking of all of our members!

Our upcoming JFC Calendar of Events for the 2019-2020 year:

JUST FUN CLUB NEWS

Dec. 8, 2:00-6:30 p.m. Christmas Dinner/Dance, (Dinner served at 2:30 p.m.) Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy Rd., Westland. MUST pre-pay \$15 at The Arc by Monday Dec. 2, 2019.

Jan. 10, 6:30-9:00 p.m. Country Western Dance, Thurston High School cafeteria, \$3.00 at the door

Feb. 14, 6:30-9:00 p.m. Valentine Dance, Thurston High School cafeteria, \$3.00 at the door



March 13, 6:30-9:00 p.m. St. Patty's Dance, Thurston High School cafeteria, \$3.00 at the door

April 17, 6:30-9:00 p.m. Chicken Dinner Dance, Canton High School, MUST pre-pay \$5.00 at the Arc by Thursday, Apr. 9, 2020

May 8, 6:30-9:00 p.m. Ice Cream Social Dance, Canton High School, MUST pre-pay \$5.00 at the Arc by Friday, May 1, 2020

Happy Holidays to All, Jackie Norris

The Arc Sports News

Basketball is starting!! See the right column of the calendar inside the newsletter for the date, time, and location of when practice will be starting for your team. Remember to check with your coach or Lana to make sure your health form is current. If your health form is expired, or will be expiring during the basketball season (through March 2020), you must update it before the season starts or you cannot practice. Tournament dates for basketball are: Area: Feb. 15, 2020, District: Mar. 7, 2020 (men or mixed teams only), if you win District, State Tournament Mar. 20-21, 2020.

Coaches, assistant coaches, volunteers, athletes

On Dec. 17th please come to Cooper Elementary, located on Ann Arbor Trail in Westland, between 6-8pm. The sports program will be highlighted in the 2020 Arc Dinner Dance video, and the video company will be at Cooper school filming. The Arc would like as many athletes, coaches, and volunteers to be in attendance. If you'd like to come & be part of the video please call or email me closer to Dec. 17th for the exact time.

Thanks to everyone for all your volunteering, time, and help you've donated to the sports program in 2019. This wonderful program brings much joy and friendships to so many people; without you it would not be possible.

Enjoy your family and friends and have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year ~ Janice

The Arc NW



We bowl every other Saturday morning at 9:00 am 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**.

Basketball Team Schedules



Pistons Basketball

Monday December 2, 2019 - March 16, 2020
7:00PM – 8:00PM Riley north gym

Wolverines Basketball

Monday December 2, 2019 – March 2, 2020
7:00PM – 8:00PM Cooper

Wildcats Basketball

Monday December 9, 2019 – March 16, 2020
5:45 PM – 6:45PM Riley

Hotshots Basketball

Tuesday December 10, 2019 – March 17, 2020
6:00PM – 7:00PM Cooper

Lightning Basketball

Tuesday December 10, 2019 – March 17, 2020
7:00PM – 8:00PM Cooper

GUYS & DOLLS



SATURDAY AFTERNOON BOWLING

OAK LANES

New bowlers are being invited to join us, but NOT UNTIL NEXT SEASON.

To register for bowling beginning in September, please contact:

Jim Gallas 248-318-8856 (cell) or
jagallas@comcast.net

BALL FOR ALL | 2020 Dinner Dance



The Arc
Northwest Wayne County

FEBRUARY 29, 2020
6:30 PM-12:00 AM

Laurel Manor | 39000 Schoolcraft Rd. | Livonia, MI 48150



The Arc
Northwest Wayne County

This year help us celebrate athletes and coaches from Arc NW Athletics



Tickets \$95 per person | \$65 per person with a disability
Includes dinner | vegetarian option upon request
RSVP BY FEBRUARY 1, 2020 AND ELIGIBLE FOR SPECIAL RAFFLE
Laurel Manor | 39000 Schoolcraft Road | Livonia
Open Bar | Dinner | Raffles | Live Band & Dancing

Purchase raffle tickets now and save!

Tickets will be full price the night of the event

PRE-EVENT PRICE: 10 TICKETS FOR \$20.00

EVENT PRICE: 6 TICKETS FOR \$20.00

Raffle tickets good for chance to win great prizes. Must be present to win. 50/50 raffle at event. Tickets available at www.thearcnw.org.

All proceeds benefit Arc NW Programs

	Fiscal Intermediary		Athletics
Lekotek Play and Toy Lending	Budget Help and Payroll	Advocacy and Future Planning	and Just Fun Club



Ball for All Committee

Cynthia Bryant
Luke Contos
David DiPonio
Chris Lerchen
Marianne Licari
Vince Licari
Bill Winkler

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Our Gold Sponsors



26049 Five Mile Road | Redford, MI 48239 | 313-532-7915 | www.thearcnw.org



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF
PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

December 3, 2019

Dear Friends,

In 1992 The United Nations established an international day of celebration for people living with disabilities to be held on December 3 each year. As their website describes, this day is owned by everyone who has a vital role in “identifying and addressing discrimination, marginalization, exclusion and inaccessibility” faced by many people with disabilities. “It is one day on the international calendar, yet it symbolizes the actions we should take every day, in order to create diverse and accepting communities.” This year the theme is “The Future Is Accessible,” which means that we must strive toward a future where barriers that stand in people’s way no longer exist. (www.idpwd.org)

Do you ever wonder what countries around the world are doing to meet this goal of a completely accessible future? Here are some of the good news highlights:

- In Nepal, the inclusion of people with sensory or physical limitations in schools was estimated to generate wage returns of 20%.
- In China, estimates indicated that each additional year of schooling for people with disabilities led to a wage increase of 5% for rural areas and 8% for urban areas.
- In Bangladesh, children who were provided with assistive devices (hearing aids or wheelchairs) were more likely to have completed primary school compared to those who did not receive any supports.
- In Pakistan, it was estimated that rehabilitating people with incurable blindness would lead to gross aggregate gains in household earnings of USD 71.8 million per annum.
- In the US, concerted efforts by Walgreens and Verizon to employ significant numbers of people with disabilities saw gains of 20% increase in productivity and a 67% return on investment, respectively. (www.idpwd.org/pages/the-case-for-why)

As we approach the holiday season, it’s nice to have some good news! Efforts toward full inclusion in many nations around the world are making a difference and improving the lives of our global community! Let’s join these voices in securing an accessible future for all!

Gretchen Sanewsky, Executive Director

Krazy Kopz

Millionaire Parties/Texas Hold 'Em - 2020

to benefit The Arc NW @ Vision Lanes
38250 Ford Rd. (at Hix Rd.) Westland 48185

**More Millionaire Parties coming in
April and October of 2020**



Thursday, Jan. 2,-Sunday Jan. 5,2020

Thursday and Friday evenings
from 6:00pm to 2:00am

Saturday and Sunday
from 10:00am to 6:00pm

To learn more or to volunteer contact
Pat Zagar at pzagar3@gmail.com or
call The Arc NW office at 313-532-7915

Benefits Increase for 2020

Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) Information for 2020 Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits for nearly 69 million Americans will increase 1.6 percent in 2020.

The 1.6 percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) will begin with benefits payable to more than 63 million Social Security beneficiaries in January 2020. Increased payments to more than 8 million SSI beneficiaries will begin on December 31, 2019. (Note: some people receive both Social Security and SSI benefits.)



The 30th Anniversary of ADA coming up!

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed into law on July 26, 1990. The Arc US will be in touch with local chapters about honoring this important milestone.

There will be a **presidential disability forum January 13, 2020** in Austin, TX. This will be live streamed and The Arc US will let chapters know when and how to access it.

In addition, here's an online link filled with toolkits and ideas for celebrating and commemorating the 30th ADA anniversary:

<https://adata.org/ada-anniversary>



Memorials

**In Memory of
Walter Balaka**

Bonita Jarlock

Lana Richardson

**In Memory of
Sean Radon**

Richard and Loren Parker

**In Memory of
John Norton**

Paul and Nancy Johnson

Laura Drlik & Carol Weyand

The Arc NW is sad to learn of the recent passing of Karen Beatty, daughter of long time members Gordon and Barbara Beatty.

Karen Beatty passed away on November 8, 2019.
We offer our condolences to the Beatty Family.















Donations

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**

Thank You

December 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Basketball <u>Pistons</u> 7:00 - 8:00 Riley North Gym <u>Wolverines</u> 7:00 - 8:00pm Cooper	3 Giving Tuesday 	4	5	6	7  Guys & Dolls Afternoon Bowling 1:30pm Start Time Oak Lanes
8  Just Fun Club Christmas Dinner Dance Hellenic Center in Westland 2:00-6:30pm	9 Basketball <u>Wildcats</u> 5:45 - 6:45pm Riley <u>Pistons</u> 7:00 - 8:00 Riley North Gym <u>Wolverines</u> 7:00 - 8:00pm Cooper	10  Basketball <u>Hotshots</u> 6:00 - 7:00 Cooper <u>Lightning</u> 7:00 - 8:00pm Cooper	11	12	13	14  Early Birds Morning Bowling League 9:00am Oak Lanes Guys & Dolls Afternoon Bowling 1:30pm Start Time Oak Lanes
15	16  Basketball <u>Wildcats</u> 5:45 - 6:45pm Riley <u>Pistons</u> 7:00 - 8:00 Riley North Gym <u>Wolverines</u> 7:00 - 8:00pm Cooper	17 Sports Video at Cooper Basketball <u>Hotshots</u> 6:00 - 7:00 Cooper <u>Lightning</u> 7:00 - 8:00pm Cooper	18 	19	20	21  Guys & Dolls Afternoon Bowling 1:30pm Start Time Oak Lanes
22 Hanukkah Starts 	23  Basketball <u>Wildcats</u> 5:45 - 6:45pm Riley <u>Pistons</u> 7:00 - 8:00 Riley North Gym <u>Wolverines</u> 7:00 - 8:00pm Cooper	24	25 Christmas Day 	26	27	28  Early Birds Morning Bowling League 9:00am Oak Lanes Guys & Dolls Afternoon Bowling 1:30pm Start Time Oak Lanes
29	30  Hanukkah Ends	31	The Arc NW office will be closed December 23rd- through January 1st. The office will re-open on January 2, 2020. 		The Arc NW Board Meeting December 10 6:30pm Arc Office	

January 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 	2 Millionaire Parties/Texas Hold 'Em January 2 through January 5. See inside newsletter. 	3	4  Guys & Dolls Afternoon Bowling 1:30pm Start Time Oak Lanes
5	6  Basketball <u>Wildcats</u> 5:45 - 6:45pm Riley <u>Pistons</u> 7:00 - 8:00 Riley North Gym <u>Wolverines</u> 7:00 - 8:00pm Cooper	7  Basketball <u>Hotshots</u> 6:00 - 7:00 Cooper <u>Lightning</u> 7:00 - 8:00pm Cooper	8	9 AIG "Transition Planning & Turning 18" Skill Center/Garfield 6:30 - 8:30pm	10  JFC <u>Country & Western Dance</u> Thurston 6:30 - 9:00pm \$3 at the door.	11  Early Birds Morning Bowling League 9:00am Oak Lanes Guys & Dolls Afternoon Bowling 1:30pm Start Time Oak Lanes
12	13  Basketball <u>Wildcats</u> 5:45 - 6:45pm Riley <u>Pistons</u> 7:00 - 8:00 Riley North Gym <u>Wolverines</u> 7:00 - 8:00pm Cooper	14  Basketball <u>Hotshots</u> 6:00 - 7:00 Cooper <u>Lightning</u> 7:00 - 8:00pm Cooper	15 AIG "Transition Planning & Turning 18" McGrath Elem. 6:30 - 8:30pm	16	17	18  Guys & Dolls Afternoon Bowling 1:30pm Start Time Oak Lanes
19	20  Basketball <u>Wildcats</u> 5:45 - 6:45pm Riley <u>Pistons</u> 7:00 - 8:00 Riley North Gym <u>Wolverines</u> 7:00 - 8:00pm Cooper	21  AIG "Transition Planning and Turning 18" Via Zoom Webinar 2:00 - 4:00pm MUST RSVP Basketball <u>Hotshots</u> 6:00 - 7:00 Cooper <u>Lightning</u> 7:00 - 8:00pm Cooper	22	23	24	25  Early Birds Morning Bowling League 9:00am Oak Lanes Guys & Dolls Afternoon Bowling 1:30pm Start Time Oak Lanes
26	27  Basketball <u>Wildcats</u> 5:45 - 6:45pm Riley <u>Pistons</u> 7:00 - 8:00 Riley North Gym <u>Wolverines</u> 7:00 - 8:00pm Cooper	28  Basketball <u>Hotshots</u> 6:00 - 7:00 Cooper <u>Lightning</u> 7:00 - 8:00pm Cooper	29	30 AIG "Beyond Group Homes" Skill Center/Garfield 6:30 - 8:30pm	31	The Arc NW Board Meeting January 14 6:30pm Arc Office

CHECK IT OUT!
The Arc of Northwest Wayne County's
Web Site
thearcnw.org

Friend us on Facebook
The Arc of Northwest Wayne



Facebook



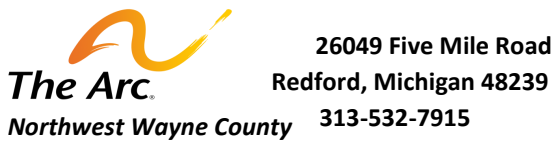
Instagram



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

Membership Application

Member Name(s) _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
Daytime Phone _____
Email Address _____

PHOTO DISCLAIMER: By joining The Arc NW I am agreeing to have my image used for printed and online marketing efforts.

Signature: _____

Membership Dues

New Member

Renewing Member

DONATIONS \$100

\$25 \$150

\$50 \$ ____ Other **\$100 Organization**

\$75

Achieve with us!

\$25 Individual Membership

Additional Membership Fees: \$5 to join Just Fun Club
\$15 to join Lekotek

\$50 Family Membership

An individual and his/her family or a group home with multiple residents. Includes additional membership fees for Just Fun Club and Lekotek.

Businesses, non-profits, community groups, or government entities that support people with disabilities.