



Northwest Wayne County

7170 N . Haggerty Rd
Canton, Michigan 48187

Non-Profit Organization
U. S. Postage
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Westland, MI
Permit No. 2082

October is Disability Employment Awareness Month

And Down's Syndrome Awareness Month

WHAT SHOULD YOU KNOW? MEET KEVIN!

(This interview with Kevin is featured on www.thearc.org, October 11, 2022/in [From the Frontlines](#)/by Pam Katz)



What do you want people to know about Down syndrome?

I want people to know that just because I have Down syndrome doesn't mean I can't live a fun and exciting life. I have a great life because of my Down syndrome. I want people to know that people like me with Down syndrome are fun, we are loving, we love to hug and we can own our own businesses.

Be nice to me and respect me because I am human, not because I have Down syndrome. I just want to be treated like everyone else and given the same chance to do things. Yes, I can do it. I just need a little more time.

What are you most proud of?

I am most proud of my family. I love all my 5 sisters and 1 brother. I love that we all get along. I am very proud that I graduated from North County High School in 2002 and from Gigi's prep in 2021. I am proud that I can work at my three jobs and make my own money.

I am proud of my life.

What does a good life look like to you?

I am happy with my life. A good life looks like my life now. I want to spend lots of time with my girlfriend Emma. I want to keep going on family vacations with my 5 sisters and 1 brother. I want to always stay living in my house. I want one day for all my sis and brother to live with me.

I hope one day to get married and have my own family. I would love to have my own business, work out more and get healthy.

The Arc of Northwest Wayne County is proud to support people with disabilities to live and work fully included in the community! We celebrate having co-workers, neighbors, colleagues, and friends like Kevin!



7170 N. Haggerty Rd
Canton, Michigan 48187
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

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
☐ \$75

- ☐ \$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.

- ☐ \$100 Organization

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

Achieve with us!

Friend us on Facebook

[The Arc of Northwest Wayne County](#)



2021-2022 Board of Directors

Officers

President – Rana Ramouni

Vice President – Heidi Warren

Secretary- Samantha Van Sumeren

Treasurer- Jim Simon

Past President - Kathy Pfuhler

Directors

Dianka Saddler Arin MacFarland

Ryan Klotz Ursula Price

Bill Winkler Nadia Khalyleh - CPA

Roxanne Riggio

Steve Raymond

Team Arc



The Arc Staff

Executive Director - Gretchen Sanewsky Payroll Clerk—Lakamala Williams

Development Director— Irene Watts Payroll Assistant—Deanna Reed

Office Manager -Latrice Wilborn Accounting /Claims Coordinator - Amy Pomicter

Lekotek Play Leader - Lana Richardson Intake Specialist - Lisa King

Lekotek Librarian - Katie Perkins Advocacy Director - Bettie Cunningham

Accounts Payable - Nichole Mayfield Advocate -Khalilah Montgomery



October 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5 After I'm Gone 6:00Pm Millionaire Party	6	7
8	9	10 Arc Board Meeting 5:30 PM	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Arc NW Spooktaclar	27	28
29	30	31 Halloween				3





THE ARC NW

SPOOKTACULAR

THURSDAY
OCTOBER 26
4:00-6:00 PM

A SENSORY FRIENDLY EVENT

SNACKS

GAMES

TRICK OR TREAT

7170 N. HAGGERTY RD. CANTON

313-532-8524

The Arc NW **WELCOMES ABOARD**
New Board Members for 2023-2024



Arin MacFarland

Arin was a para-educator at Cooke School in Northville for 15 years. She has served on The Arc NW Dinner Dance committee and she, with her husband John/MacFarland Painting, have been major sponsors of the event. She says,

What resonates with me about The Arc's mission is that everyone deserves to be Included in all aspects of life regardless of any disabilities they may face. I think The Arc is an important organization to give hope to many families that may fear how to navigate everything that comes with having someone in their life with special needs. It's a wonderful safe space for members to feel that their needs will be met. It gives a voice to those that may not have one. The opportunities are endless when you have a community standing behind you, fighting for you and wanting the best for you, and that's what The Arc has done for so many.

Nadia Khalyleh

Nadia is the CFO of a large restaurant chain in the area and looks forward to sharing her financial expertise with the board to support the mission. She says,

The Arc's mission deeply resonates with me and aligns with my personal values. The principles of inclusivity, equality, and human rights are important to me, and I believe in promoting these ideals within society...

I have a strong connection to the cause of inclusion and activism for individuals with disabilities. Growing up, I committed countless hours volunteering with my local Special Olympics team. During my college years, I had the privilege of leading The Alliance for Disability Awareness at the University of MI Dearborn. It was a transformative experience that solidified my commitment to working towards a more inclusive society.

Ursula Price

Ursula is the Controller for Southwest Counseling Solutions in Detroit. She says, *The Arc Northwest Wayne County resonates with me because of its meaningful impact and the passion I share with the Arc's mission...*

I will bring an unique perspective as I have worked a combination of 25+ years in corporate America and a nonprofit agency as a senior executive/leader. My current organization provides wraparound services to veterans, children, adults, and families with behavioral health needs. Professionally, I am a Controller where I successfully manage accounting & finance and grant management & administration teams.

...I have a proven record in the areas of financial analyses, accounting policies and procedures, financial reporting as well as applying and writing grants. I will bring leadership, expertise, but also a willingness to listen and think out of the box, which every agency needs at times.



Do you enjoy music and want to enrich your music skills?

Melanie's Piano Studio offers music classes and piano lessons for adults with special needs.

Call Melanie for more information at **248-445-0462**.

Melanie comes highly recommended by one of our Arc NW members.

Do you LOVE to create?



**Come explore creating
your own art
at The Arc NW!**

Progressive Art Studio Collaborative (PASC) will be providing art workshops at The Arc NW to create art your way at your own pace. PASC is a program of Services to Enhance Potential (STEP). **THERE ARE STILL OPENINGS** to participate! If you receive services through DWIHN the cost of the workshops is covered for you. All materials are supplied.

SEE THE INSERT IN THIS NEWSLETTER TO SIGN UP!



PASC STUDIO SESSIONS AT THE ARC NW

The Arc of Northwest Wayne County, 7170N Haggerty Rd, Canton, MI, 48187 is partnering with the Progressive Art Studio Collective (PASC) program to run a series of art studio sessions on Wednesdays from 6-8pm in October 2023, open to teens and adults who wish to advance their artistic skills and develop a career in art. Sessions are led by professional artists trained to support individuals with disabilities.



To sign up contact the Arc of Northwest Wayne County
email: info@thearcnw.org
or call: Lana at 313-532-8524

PASC is an exhibitions and studio program based in Wayne County, dedicated to supporting artists with developmental disabilities and mental health differences to advance independent artistic practices and build individual career paths in the art and design fields. PASC is a program of Services to Enhance Potential (STEP) a non-profit service organization that supports individuals in the pursuit of their chosen goals and the achievement of personal satisfaction in their lives.



progressiveartstudiocollective.org

stepcentral.org

After I'm Gone

Future Planning Sessions



Financial Literacy Workshop:

- o Topic: Estate Planning
- o When: Thursday October 5, 2023
- o Where: **Via Microsoft Teams Webinar** Register in advance visiting www.thearc.org/aig/

Lunch and Learn

- o **Next Lunch and Learn Session**
- + When: **Wednesday, October 18, 2023, at 12 noon -1:00 pm**
- + Where: **The Arc NW** 7170 N. Haggerty Rd, Canton, MI 48187 in the **large Conference Room**

For more information, please contact: Bettie Cunningham at (313) 532-7915, ext. 204/bcunningham@thearcnw.org or Khalilah Montgomery at (313) 532-7915, ext. 200/kmontgomery@thearcnw.org

Thanks!

Bettie Cunningham

Advocacy Director

The Arc of Northwest Wayne County

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www.thearcnw.org

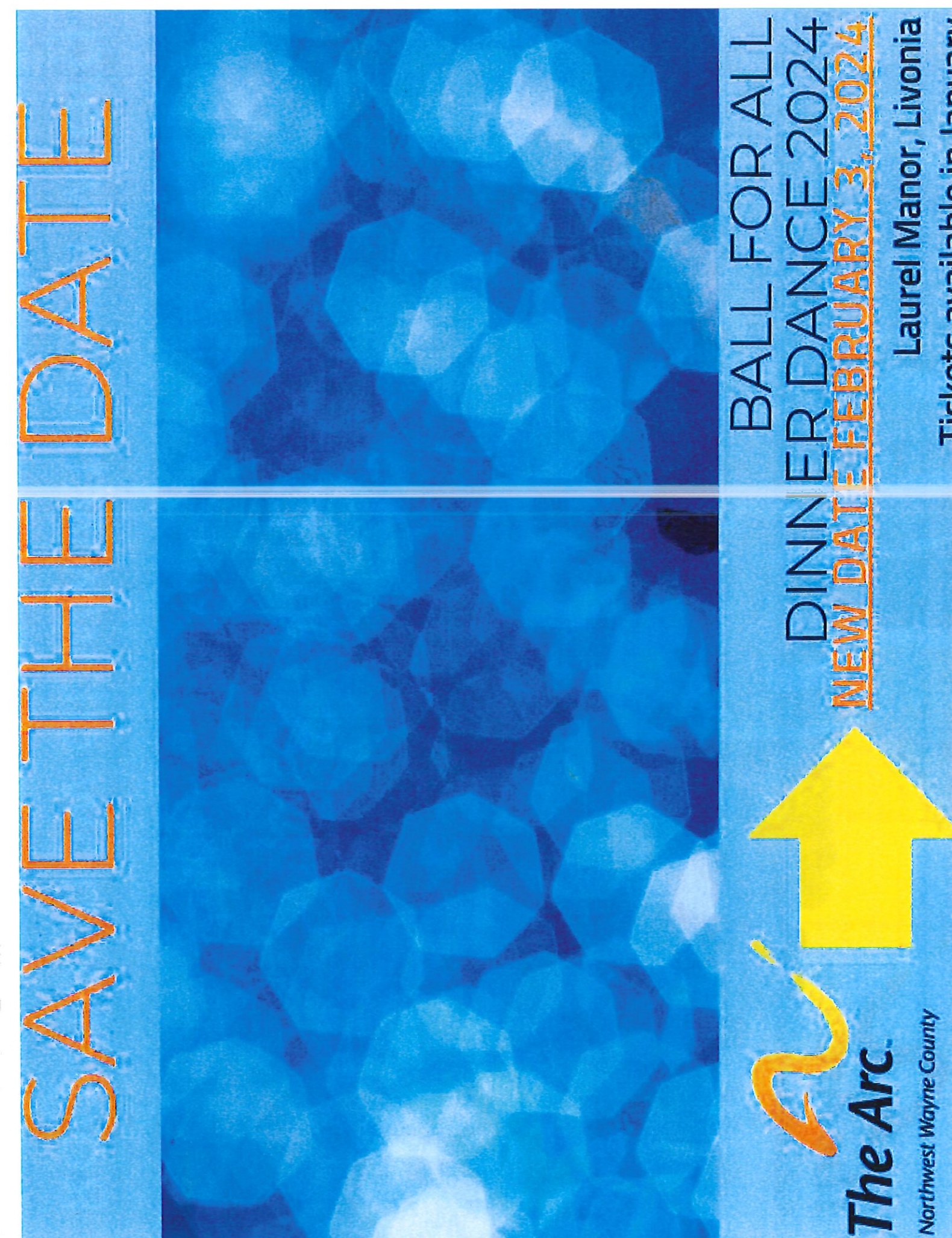


Sip & Support

Thursday, November 2, 2023

Fleming's Steakhouse and Wine Bar in Livonia

Register now at www.thearcnw.org



Just Fun Club News

Just Fun Club News

On Friday, September 22 we had our hot dog roast at the Rotary Park in Livonia Michigan. We had 180 people attend this event. Everyone filled the pavilion with laughter, fun and yummy hotdogs, chips, chocolate chip cookies, pop, and water.

Our next event will be held at Thurston High School on Friday, October 6, from 6:30 PM to 9:30 PM. It will be our Halloween Dance. Come dressed in your favorite costume and be ready to have a fun evening ! We will be serving donuts and cider and the Trademark band will be entertaining us on the dance floor.

There is a three dollar entry fee at the door. This is not a prepaid event. Looking forward to seeing everyone then.

Happy Halloween,
Jackie

Note from the Editor

Athletic Notice : To all athletes if you are playing sports you will need to have a membership with The Arc of Northwest . Please contact Lana

At 313-532-8524 for your membership information.

Reminder: When writing an article for the newsletter please keep it to a minimum . We are now being asked to use Arial and size 14 Font, for individuals to read our newsletter with ease.

Many articles are too long and need to be edited to fit on the page.

Thank you for your understanding.

If you have any questions you can call Lana at 313-532-8524 or email Irichardson@thearcnw.org.