

THE ARC ADVANCE

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 3

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2009



FESTIVAL OF TREES

December 2-5, 2009

University Mall

Come join the fun!

Details on page 2

Our Mission

The Arc of Orange County works with and for people who have or are at risk for developmental disabilities to promote full participation in all areas of life in our community.

The Arc seeks to accomplish this through advocacy, education, and collaboration, as well as through the provision of quality supports to individuals with developmental disabilities, their families and the community.

Have an idea for the Arc Advance?

Contact Tom Galperin at 919.942.5119 x112.

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VISIT A WINTER WONDERLAND & STROLL THRU A FOREST OF AMUSEMENT

DECEMBER 2-5, 2009

THE ARTSCENTER at UNIVERSITY MALL • ACROSS FROM THE PRINT SHOP

Open to the Public – Wednesday, December 2nd – Saturday, December 5th

Journey through the magical Christmas Tree Forest
wonder at the imagination and creativity of local vignette and tree designers.

Family Day – Friday, December 4th – 3pm till 8pm

Enjoy an afternoon of arts & crafts, picture taking with Santa and other free activities!

Gala – Saturday, December 5th – 6pm - 9pm

This year's **Gala** will be held in the middle of the wintery wonderland. Enjoy an evening of light hors d'oeuvres, signature poinsettias drinks with cranberry juice & champagne provided by Triangle Catering, music by Equinox (Holden Thorp's band) featuring Terri Houston, magic by Joshua Lozoff's Parlor Magic and more!

Tickets are: Individual - \$50 and Couple - \$80

A Visit from "Santa"

Through a special agreement with Santa Claus and the North Pole, the Arc of Orange County has arranged for a special visit to Chapel Hill on Christmas Eve.... Experience Santa with Your Family The Night Before Christmas!

Raffle Tickets are: \$5 each, \$10 for three, \$15 for five, \$20 for ten

Place bids on your favorite tree & wreath designs via our Silent Auction.

Visit The Arc's Gallery featuring *The Art Walk of Fame* – A new addition to The Festival this year!

All proceeds benefit The Arc of Orange County and its efforts to assist the differently abled among us.

It's an amazing culmination of everything that makes the holiday bright and joyous in one location.

See you there!

For more information please visit www.arcoforangefot.org or call 919-942-5119, ext 116.



Michael and the Vacuum Cleaner Hospital

The following article was submitted by Stephanie Brenner, care provider for The Arc of Orange County.

When he was a little boy, Michael Carden watched his father repair vacuum cleaners, clocks, and other small appliances. As a result, electronics has been an interest for Michael, who has quite the collection of vacuum cleaners, radios, and various stereo equipment.

Michael looks forward to every Friday, because that is the day he volunteers at The Vacuum Cleaner Hospital. Located at 300-A South Elliott Road, the Vacuum Cleaner Hospital has been operating for nearly a quarter century. The owner, Tom Proctor, has been in the business since 1986, when he opened his first store on Chapel Hill Boulevard.

Michael has been volunteering at the Vacuum Cleaner Hospital for almost three years. He performs a variety of tasks, which include stamping price tags, helping stock inventory, moving vacuums and supplies from the storage room to the store floor,

and cleaning some of the vacuums that are being repaired. His greatest joy is putting together a new vacuum with Tom and asking questions that Tom so patiently answers.

Volunteering in the store has been a very positive experience for Michael, because not only is he learning more about vacuums and helping in the store, he is welcomed by the wonderful employees that work there.

When asked about Michael volunteering in the store, Tom said, "We look forward to his visits, and he always makes us laugh with his amusing vacuum cleaner sounds. It is has been a great experience of us."



Tom Proctor and Michael

Place your ad here!
Call Pat Richardson @ 919.942.5119 x116

Volunteer Spotlight: Margaret Scully

By Susan Paul

Recently, I sat down with Margaret Scully, a volunteer here at The Arc of Orange County and asked her about her experiences with us.

What has brought you to the Arc, how did you hear about us? Were you looking for a volunteer opportunity?

I have been aware of the Arc's good work for many years, so when I found myself with time on my hands, I decided I would lend some of it to the Arc of Orange County. I want to contribute to the Arc's mission of helping people with developmental disabilities lead fuller lives by participating more in our community.

Why do you think it is important to volunteer?

There simply is never enough funding to support the work that organizations like the Arc undertake. Volunteering my time is a way for me to contribute to their effort.

How has your experience been so far? Your volunteering, what areas are you involved with?

For the last few months, I have been serving as the 'co-chef' for the Health and Wellness Cooking Class. Our group meets on a weekly basis to prepare healthy meals, learn about healthy eating, and have fun. Once a month we prepare desserts for the Meals-on-Wheels program and, occasionally, we take educational field trips. In October we visited the Mapleview Dairy Agriculture Education Center to learn about farm operations and pumpkin production. I have enjoyed this time spent with an interesting and pleasant group of people.

Tell us a bit about yourself,....your family, your interests, your hobbies, other work?

I grew up in Connecticut and attended graduate school at UNC nearly 20 years ago. After living in Europe and Alabama for a number of years, I returned to Chapel Hill eight years ago with my husband, son and daughter. I enjoy traveling, exercising, reading and spending time with my family.

If there was one thing you could do to change the world into a better place, what would that be?

If world peace is too ambitious, I would settle for a world in which we all had deep respect and true compassion for each other.



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