

Monthly Newsletter



THE ARC OF WARREN, VA

April 2024



The Arc of Warren, VA Roaring 20's Gala was a SUCCESS!

The Arc of Warren hosted a successful Roaring 20's Gala at Shenandoah Valley Golf Club on March 16, 2024, attended by nearly 100 people. The event raised an astounding \$21,000, which will be used to start up a fully accessible, non-Medicaid funded, part-time, pilot day co-op for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Attendees enjoyed food and drinks, music, dancing, gambling, a fun Photo Booth, and amazing prize drawings, ranging from fantastic experiences, stays at lovely a historic Bed and Breakfast, a local Air B&B including food and wine, spa packages, pet packages, local arts and even tickets to a Washington Nationals game, parking passes and fan gear.

Our Keynote speaker was Christian Downs, a self-advocate, husband, and father with cerebral palsy. He heartfully shared his story and struggles. He works to raise awareness for the needs of individuals with disabilities through his job at the Warren County Sheriff's Office and as an advocate with The Arc of Warren as our Community Liaison.

**ALL OF US AT
THE ARC OF WARREN
SINCERELY THANK YOU
FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

In this newsletter you can expect:

This month's social activities

Community News

Volunteer Spotlight

Highlights of the month

Local & State Advocacy Update

This month's Spotlight



Community News

In this Town Talk, Lynn Downs, the Executive Director of The Arc of Warren, shed light on the organization's pivotal role over the past 50 years. As a beacon of hope and inclusivity, The Arc of Warren has tirelessly worked to ensure that individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities are integrated into every facet of community life, from workplaces to schools, embodying their tagline "a life like ours, a life like yours."

The Arc's dedication to mainstreaming and inclusion has led to significant achievements, such as the heartwarming "Night to Shine" event, part of a global initiative by Tim Tebow to celebrate people with disabilities. The overwhelming joy and community support showcased at the event underscores the positive impact of The Arc's efforts.

Looking forward, the Roaring Twenties Gala is not merely a night of entertainment but a crucial fundraiser for the adult day co-op. This program aims to offer a structured yet autonomous setting for socialization, learning, and engagement, at no cost to participants and their caregivers, targeting to raise \$17,000 to ensure its success for a year.



This Month's Spotlight

Ann Deans Masch has been a tireless advocate, not only for her children, but others in the community. Ann was featured in an article by Laura Ruby in The Northern Virginia Daily

- Mar 13, 2024, Updated Mar 15, 2024

https://www.nvdaily.com/nvdaily/this-is-a-way-to-take-away-new-rule-enforcement-violates-rights-of-choice-advocates/article_a54a984d-d892-5fa9-a5ef-7fda10d3baf1.html?fbclid=IwAR33fvYXGwXu-zMQO4jJlrcMiwk6fciOoPSN-HEUaIJ6QCcIXn2vbqjd1hc_aem_ATVRZWX7LSm-XdorX5eTh3k5pqwk-SalrCUAtvK4L4U9dmx47db1UgKB-59Ds5ZYyro_flzdsLnMR8fAy4uBX6b1



Karaoke

Come and join us for an evening full of fun and laughter as we sing our hearts out! Everyone is welcome to participate and volunteer; so don't hesitate to join us.

Here are the details: •

- Date: April 26, 2024 •
- Time: 7 PM •
- Location: Burrell Brooks Jr Community Park

We can't wait to see you there!

Social Activities and Upcoming Events



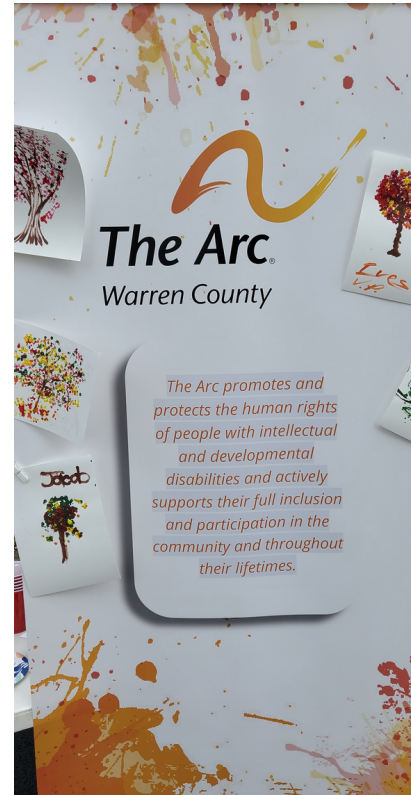
Painting with Katrinka

In our Spring session of Painting with Katrinka, we were thrilled to see a great turnout of eight participants. The subject of the painting was a charming bunny and everyone had a great time. Ignatius Ehlinger suggested that next time we paint with Katrinka, we should feature a flamingo on canvas.



Theater News

Auditions for A Hard Act to Follow, a special needs theater troupe, will take place on April 16th and 18th at 6 PM at Samuels Library. The play being auditioned for is "The Misunderstood Duck" by Winnie Ehlinger. Contact her at 540-636-1688 or 540-660-5234 if interested in helping with this fun event!



Sports

Challenger Ball will begin the Spring Season on April 6th, lasting until June 1st. Special Olympic Area 13, Local Spring Kickball will be taking place at Burrell Brooks Jr Community Park, behind the Shelter, every Thursday in the Month of May. If interested please contact Winnie Ehlinger, 540-660-5234 or Carol Olson at 540-622-4443. Registration is required.



Be in the K/now

Visit The Arc of Virginia, and learn how you can make a difference! Stay informed about legislative discussions and access Calls to Actions. Over 12,000 Virginians with developmental disabilities await community-based support. Visit the Action Center to join the MOVEMENT!

<https://www.thearcofva.org/alerts>

Upcoming Events

- April 6 through June 1 - Challenger Ball, every Saturday @ 3 PM
- Bowling Wednesdays @ 11 AM and 4 PM for 15+ / Jr's Mondays @4 PM
- April 12 - Birthday Card making for the Birthday Club, at Samuels Public Library
- April 16th and 18th Audition for A Hard Act to Follow
- April 25 - Birthday cards due
- April 26th - Karaoke Burrell Brooks Jr Community Park
- April 27 -A Taste for Books At Samuels Library @ 6 PM