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Arc of California
www.arccalifornia.org

Arc of the U.S.
www.thearc.org

Regional Center of East
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www.rceb.org

Big Night with A Big Band

Over 200 clients, relatives, honorees and staff members poured into LARC Hall at the Walpert Center in Hayward June 26 to see 11 people accept Client of the Year Awards. The Arc also honored two businesses, a Union City Fire Inspector, five Castro Valley Adult School teachers and the LARC organization during the evening.

Cathy Ogle, pictured at the right with her relatives was named the Client of the Year from the Tri Valley Vocational Development Center. (See the complete list of honorees in the left hand column.)



Following the ceremony, everyone danced to the big band sound of "In Full Swing" a 20-piece group led by Bob Wiseman and Milt Bowerman. Band members donated their time for the event.



Wiseman's wife Lonee was also honored along with other members of the of the LARC organization. The LARCs are women who contributed thousands of dollars to the Walpert Center over the years. Wiseman's mother, Ernestine, was also an active

member. The LARCs operated a Thrift Shop in downtown Hayward for years and used the profits to improve the Center - including building LARC Hall where the awards ceremony was conducted. Other LARCs who have been so good to us over the years include: Ellouise Snyder, Jean Moran, Maria Johnson, Dorothy Alexander, Mary Alice Peterson, Darlene Wells, Izzy Baker, honorary member Fred Alexander, Edna Butt, Vee McKnight, Christine Ochoa, Mary Ann Ryan, and Rhoda Sward.

Union City Fire Inspector Denice Daly (pictured with emcee Dick Fitzmaurice and Arc President Bob Perrotti) was named Volunteer of

HONOREES Annual Awards Ceremony

Xavier Wilson - First Step Children's Center in Hayward.

Marissa Hewitt - San Leandro SCOPE Program. Marissa operates the snack bar and is active in the program's recycling effort.

Rick Atkins - Union City SCOPE Program. Rick has increased his verbal skills in the last year. Loves the 49ers.

Cathy Ogle - TriValley Vocational Development Center in Livermore. Cathy is practically mistake-free in her packaging job.

Keri Jones - Walpert Vocational Development Center in Hayward. Keri is outgoing and loves to sing.

Adam Lee - Union City Vocational Development Center. Adam is the safety expert at the center.

Jim Leung - San Leandro Vocational Development Center. Jim is determined to get the job done.

Lupe Castro - Alternative Ventures Program in Hayward. Lupe makes people smile with her comic one-liners.

Teresa Woodside - Alternative Ventures Program in Union City. Teresa volunteers for almost every project.

Thomas Meyers - Individual Job Placement. Tom has done exceptionally well at his job at the Cheesesteak Shop in Berkeley.

Rosalie Henley - Group Job Placement. Rosalie

the Year for her outstanding work helping Union City clients understand the importance of fire safety.

The Arc Service Award went to Castro Valley Adult School and teachers Rori Rigney, Cathy Castenada, Pat Vukman, and Signey Barry. Classes offered include money and computer skills training, cooking, sewing, exercise, the Hot Lunch Program and gardening. All make the lives of our clients richer.

Here are a couple more photos from the evening -



Directors Elected

Four members of the Arc of Alameda County Board of Directors were up for election this year. With a combination of in-person and proxy votes, Steve Dietsch, Allan Hauskens and Jim McGoff were elected for a two-year term along with client representative Aldo Bernesconi (pictured on left). The vote came at the Annual Membership Meeting held just prior to the Awards Ceremony on June 26th. In addition to overseeing the vote tally, President Bob Perrotti applauded Executive Director, Ron Luter, for solving the facility problem in San Leandro (see next story) and for developing a new, more inclusive program for clients, called The Right Track.



Moving Up - Moving In

The Arc of Alameda County has begun the process of moving into its new location on Doolittle Drive in San Leandro. Restroom upgrades and other improvements to the facility are in the works and some equipment and supplies have been moved-in.

First "tenants" will be clients from the San Leandro Vocational Development Center. Soon to follow will be a new Right Track Program which calls for clients to work two days a week and participate in community activities on the other days. The goals of the program are: full social inclusion, recreational, increase in independence skills, and volunteer participation in community projects.



Eventually, those programs will be joined by the San Leandro SCOPE program and by the administrative staff.

"We are combining two facilities into one," said Executive Director Ron Luter, "we will save money and provide a wider range of community-based activities for our clients. It's an exciting time!"

The move-in date is expected to be sometime late August or early September.

has been doing a great job keeping police cruisers spic-and-span for the Livermore Police Department.

Business of the Year - Shasta Soft Drink Company. Shasta has been loyal to The Arc and our clients since 1997.

Business of the Year - Japonesque. The Arc packages some 30 Japonesque beauty supply products including make-up brushes, eyelash curlers and tweezers.

Bob Perrotti Volunteer of the Year Award - Denice Daly. A Fire Inspector in union City, Denice has given many hours of her time talking to clients about fire safety.

Organization of the Year Award: The LARCs. The LARCs formed in 1967 and operated a thrift store in Hayward to raise money to support various Walpert Center projects once of which was the construction of LARC Hall.

The Arc Service Award - Castro Valley Adult School and teachers Rori Rigney, Cathy Castenada, Pat Vukman, and Signey Barry. All teach classes at the Walpert Center that make the lives of our clients richer.

First Step Kids Have New Playground

The Arc's First Step Children's Center, located at the Walpert Center in Hayward, has a new playground. There's new equipment and maybe more importantly new, soft ground cover!



The upgrade was made possible by a \$50K grant early this year from the Alameda County Childcare Facilities Fund.

"This is wonderful," said First Step Director, Mary Foster, "the yard is beautiful, the kids love it and it's a safe place for them to play."

The "grass" by the way is from Heavenly Greens - totally artificial, tough and best of all, there's no cost for maintenance.

See more pictures on The Arc's Facebook page at <http://tinyurl.com/arcalameda>.

Shop On-Line - Help The Arc

Shopping on-line can save a lot of time. And now it can be a win-win - save time for you, add a portion of each sale to The Arc's coffers. Shop with any of the "Shop On-Line" merchants and they will donate a portion of every sale to The Arc of Alameda County in your name or anonymously; it's your choice.



You'll find everything there - apparel, art, automotive supplies, department and drug stores, electronics, pet supplies, office equipment, toys and more!

All you have to do is visit www.arcalameda.org, click on the little shopping bag icon found on the right side of our home page, (like the one pictured here) and start shopping! You can also put a shopping bag directly on your desktop so access is only a click away. And by the way, there is no additional cost to you for using this service.

Tell your friends!

Project Inclusion

As the Arc expands and develops programs that encourage clients to enjoy what their communities have to offer, please be on the lookout for discount coupons or even "freebies" to various events and venues.

We're in the beginning stages of packaging outings for 4 or 5 clients at a time. For example, the group might start the day by visiting a coffee shop and enjoy a latte using a gift card, then take in a movie using discount coupons from a local theater and wrap up the day shopping at a store in the mall that has a buy-one/getone free offer. Get the idea? There are all kinds of possibilities.

Cash or coupons/cards are welcome. We could also use a volunteer or two to further refine and coordinate the Project Inclusion program. If you're interest in exploring the idea, contact Dick Fitzmaurice - rfitzmaurice@arcalameda.org.

Reminder: Please contact us with the names of people who are members of service clubs. We would love to be part of their program to do a short presentation about The Arc. Let me know!

Thanks and I hope you enjoyed the newsletter.
Sincerely,

Richard Fitzmaurice
The Arc of Alameda County
rfitzmaurice@arcalameda.org