

The Arc of Howard County

Achieving full community life for children and adults

with cognitive and developmental disabilities – one person at a time

October 2008

Infinite Possibilities

Only 1,000 raffle tickets will be sold for an **Infinity C35 sedan** or **EX SUV** in this year's Win Your Dream Car contest. The car is from JBA Infinity, 8594 Baltimore National Pike in Ellicott City, where the drawing will be held Oct. 30, 8 a.m., at the President's Breakfast.

The first prize winner of the raffle can choose a cash option of \$20,000 instead of the car. Drawings will also be held for secondary prizes including a GPS navigational system, digital camera, and 2 tickets to the 2009 Chocolate Ball presented by BB&T.

Raffle tickets are \$75 each. If the car is won and accepted, winner must title the car. Winner must claim prize within 14 days or forfeit rights to any and all prizes. All taxes are the responsibility of the winner. To order raffle tickets, call 410-730-0638.

Autumn Golf Tourney Set for October 24

The Arc of Howard County is hosting its Annual Golf Tournament on Friday, Oct. 24, 9 a.m. shot-gun start, at Timbers of Troy Golf Course, 6100 Marshalee Drive, Elkridge, MD 21075. Sponsorships, from \$5,000 to \$250, are available. Benefits include banners, signage, ads, logos on shirts, and opportunities for colleagues and friends to have a great time for a great cause.

Foursomes are \$500, individual golfers pay \$150. There is still time to join the fun. For information, call Kari Ebeling, 410-730-0638, ext. 306, or Bryan Sorrentino at ext. 271.

The Arc Receives Standards for Excellence Recognition

The Maryland Association of Nonprofit Organizations has recertified The Arc of Howard County with their Standards for Excellence recognition. The recognition is intended to promote ethical practices and accountability in nonprofit organizations across the state.

The Standards for Excellence are based on fundamental values of honesty, integrity, fairness, respect, trust, compassion, responsibility and accountability. The 55 Standards provide detailed performance benchmarks to help nonprofits strengthen their operations and describe how nonprofits should act to be ethical and accountable in their program operations, governance, human resources, financial management and fundraising.

Ebeling Selected for Leadership Premier Program

Kari Ebeling, Director of Resource Development for The Arc of Howard County, was recently selected for the Leadership Howard County 2008-2009 Premier Program, according to Paul Gleichauf, Chairman of the Board of Directors. Congratulations, Kari.

Silver Arc Legacy Fund Attracts Employee Donors

Employees of The Arc are making contribution pledges to The Silver Arc Legacy Fund, which helps ensure that money will be available for The Arc's programs now and in the future. Employees who pledge \$200 per year for the next 5 years can ask for payroll deductions of \$7.70 per pay period to make their pledge payments. Money in The Silver Arc Legacy Fund endowment is invested, and income will be available in perpetuity to meet the needs of The Arc and the people it serves.

Robert Vigorito Will Be Honored With Greenfield Award

Long time community benefactor Robert Vigorito has been selected to receive the 2009 Jim Greenfield Award for Compassionate Leadership. The dinner honoring Vigorito, a member of The Arc of Howard County Board of Directors and the founder of Columbia Triathlon, will be June 11, 2009.

Thank You To The Fundraisers

The **Iron Girl Triathlon** on Aug. 24, at Centennial Park, featured our own Kari Ebeling. The event garnered \$500 for The Arc of Howard County.

Cloud Nine Salon in Highland hosted a fundraiser for The Arc on Sept. 21. It generated proceeds of \$1,000 for The Arc.

Day of Sharing Helps Food Pantry

Giving back to the community has become a tradition at The Arc of Howard County, which joined with The Arcs in other jurisdictions to participate in a community service project on Sept. 25. The Arc of Howard County held a food drive for the Elkridge Food Pantry.

"Tropic Thunder" Boycott Is Learning Experience

Members of The Arc of Howard County community held a symbolic boycott at a local movie theatre showing the new "comedy/action/adventure" movie, Tropic Thunder. The protest attracted both print and broadcast media and gave The Arc the opportunity to discuss how words can wound. Executive Director Carol Beatty and Board President Joseph V. Murray, Sr., wrote a letter that was published in many publications.

Tropic Thunder depicts people with intellectual disabilities in a derogatory and demeaning manner. The labels "retard" and "retarded," are used in the movie for comic effect, and visual images ridicule people with developmental disabilities.

As a result of The Arc's work here and around the country, a trailer is being added to the DVD movie versions. The same PSA is going to be aired in Walmart stores nationwide. The PSA can be viewed at www.blueberryshoes.com.