



# THE LINK



United Way Agency  
CARF Accredited

SUMMER/FALL 2007 2007

Arnold Center, Inc.

## Vision Statement

*The Arnold center is the leading organization paving the way to maximize opportunities and enhance self-esteem for people with differing needs.*

## EMPLOYER APPRECIATION NOTED



Hollis McKeag  
representing the City  
of Midland



Claudia Wallin from  
Midland Cogeneration  
Venture

The Arnold Center is a not-for-profit organization headquartered in Midland with offices in Saginaw, Bay and Gladwin counties. The Arnold Center has been providing community and employment services throughout the area since 1967. Gladwin County Industries, a division of the Arnold Center, has also provided community and employment services for individuals with disabilities since 1986. At the Arnold Center Annual Meeting in July the following organizations were recognized for their partnerships with the Arnold Center:

- |                                     |                         |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Dow Chemical Company                | Dow Corning Company     |
| Hemlock Semiconductor Corporation   | City of Midland         |
| Kinderkare Children's Center        | Dendritech, Inc.        |
| Midland Cogeneration Venture        | Ray's Bike Shop         |
| Red Cross of Midland/Gladwin County | CPI                     |
| Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church   | Trinity Lutheran Church |
| Shelterhouse                        | Quebecor Word Pendell   |
| Midland County Fair                 | Evangelical Free Church |
| Dow Chemical Employees Credit Union | Delphi Automotive       |
| Christian Celebration Center        | Midland Towne Center    |
| Midland Molecular Institute         | Apothecary Shoppe       |
| Midland Fundraising                 |                         |
- To these and our many other partners, thank you for your support.

## A GREAT LOSS

The Board, staff and employees of the Arnold Center would like to extend their condolences to the family and friends of Mr. George Rapanos. In George's passing our community has lost someone very special. As many of us know, George was a champion of many causes; but you may not have known the Arnold Center was one of them. George was a charter board member of the Arnold Center and a true advocate for people with disabilities. Even in his retirement, George often stopped by the Arnold Center when in town to reminisce and visit with friends. During his visits, George often talked about his and his associates involvement in the development of the Arnold Center and acknowledged the Arnold Center as a legacy he was very proud of. As a tribute to his pride in the Arnold Center, and its mission, George presented the agency a very special gift, a bronze plaque containing a small collection of his poetry. The public is welcome to stop by the Arnold Center and share George's gift. George, will be missed greatly, but never forgotten. His legacies will endure and thankfully the Arnold Center is one of them.

### The Summit

*Out of the dust we cometh,  
With sighs of grief and care,  
Until the day at the summit,  
An Experience of joy so rare.*

*When my earthly breath ceases,  
And the winds do softly blow,  
This withered heart will blossom,  
Beyond the starts that glow.*

*By . . . George Rapanos*



## NEW ENTREPRENEURS



In 2004 the Arnold Center had a wonderful year exploring new ideas and creating jobs for individuals in the community. In the early part of the year, the Bean Canteen was named and people crowded the lobby of the 555 Medical Building for the Midland County Chamber of Commerce's ribbon cutting ceremony. We were off and running and the coffee was flowing. Later that same year, another enterprise materialized in the lobby of the Midland Community Center, Center Court Café, a welcome sight for sports enthusiasts and anyone who visited the center, offering soft drinks and snacks of all kinds.

The initial plan for the enterprises was that one day, in the not too distant future, they would be owned and managed by individuals who receive Arnold Center services. That dream has now become a reality. With the support of family, friends and community partners, the ownership of the Bean Canteen and Center Court Café were transferred to two budding entrepreneurs.

Successes like these result only from the commitment and collaboration of many community partners and the support of an extraordinary community. Thank you Midland! Good luck in business to these entrepreneurs, and may they serve as an example to other budding entrepreneurs that with hard work and the support of a great community like Midland they too can turn their dreams into realities.



Center Court Cafe



## Community Employment

Part of the job at the Arnold Center is to help others fulfill their dreams of independent community employment. To achieve these goals we need help from partner businesses in the community so we are asking you to consider working with us. One way to become involved is to volunteer to be an On-the-Job Evaluation site.

On-the-Job Evaluations provide vital information on a person's work performance and abilities. They give us the chance to see the employee "in action" performing the kind of work they say they would like to do for a living. An On-the-Job Evaluation is usually three weeks long and averages 15—25 hours a week. During this time, the employee works at your location, doing work they are interested in (I.e.: stocking, cleaning, clerical, etc.) and the Arnold Center provides the person's salary, covers them under the Arnold Center's insurance and worker's compensation. . . All you provide is the location and work to be done.

Currently the Arnold Center is working with some wonderful individuals who have gone through the OJE process and have worked on their employment skills. They are now ready for a job and are eager for interviews and consideration for employment.

- We have one hardworking lady looking to break into the food service industry. She is a high school graduate with prior food prep classes. She has years of experience in housekeeping, general cleaning and ensuring guest satisfaction as well as experience in production work and assembly.
- A dedicated individual is looking for work and is ready to start as soon as possible in a bussing/dishwasher position. This person has sixteen plus years as a dishwasher at a Midland area restaurant that closed down. During his sixteen plus tenure, he only missed one day of work . . .so we know he is VERY reliable!
- We know an experienced receptionist looking to find a second job working three hour shifts 2-3 days a week. This person is experienced at multi-line phone systems and general office work and has recently completed computer classes in Microsoft Excel and Power Point.

Don't hesitate to call about job openings you have that the above three individuals would be suitable for, or any other job openings you may have open. Also, if you are interested in becoming on OJE site, we have more information to share with you, feel free to call (989)631-9570.



## Manufacturing News

Midland Fund Raising has returned for their 4th year with the Arnold Center.



*Pictured here is a sample prize pack.*

August kicks off a busy month for Midland Fund Raising as they get ready for the start of the new school year. The Arnold Center and Gladwin County Industries will again be involved in putting together the prize packs and inserting the gift wrap samples into a brochure. Arnold Center employees will be putting together 80,000 prize packs and 225,000 gift wrap samples. Midland Fund Raising works with hundreds of schools across the country and the items we work on are used in the fund raising activities for children all over.

**Employers Need to Comply**

E-Verify from the Department of Homeland Security Helps Employers Meet their Form I-9 Compliance Responsibilities.

E-Verify is a free government service to verify, via the Internet, the employment eligibility status of newly-hired employees. E-Verify (formerly known as the Basic Pilot/Employment Eligibility Verification Program) is administered by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in partnership with the Social Security Administration (SSA). The goals of E-Verify are to reduce unauthorized employment, minimize verification-related discrimination, be quick and non-burdensome to employers, and protect the privacy and civil liberties of employees. For more information visit: <https://www.vis-dhs.com/employerregistration>.



*Our mission at the Arnold Center is to promote improved quality of life for individuals with differing needs, by encouraging and supporting personal growth and inclusion in the community through the development of their vocational, social, and life skills.*

Each day, all around the Midland and Gladwin communities, people with disabilities are working, participating in an activity or volunteering their time, but in all cases it's people getting to know people and enriching lives by doing so. Here is just a glimpse of what has been happening recently.

## FACES AND PLACES



*Above: Susan & Supervisor get ready for the lunch rush at KFC in Gladwin*



*Above: A group of customers enjoying a Loons Game.*

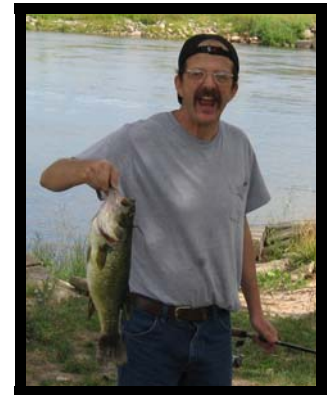


*Above: Lisa, Cher (Support Staff) and Michael, Dow Corning's Health & Environmental Services division work crew.*

*Below: Perry, Mary, Roland, Kandy, Jill & Mark enjoy learning to build bird feeders from pop bottles.*



*Below: Phil caught a 17" bass on a recent fishing trip.*



*Below: Ken & Nathan keep up with the flowers and weeds on the Midland Flower Crew.*



*Above: Mark D. applies for his library card at the Gladwin County Library.*





## Customer Recognition

July 25th, the Arnold Center held its Annual Picnic and Awards Recognition ceremony. The Marvin Schulze Award Winner, Ray Watson, is pictured bottom left. Back in May, the staff at Gladwin County Industries recognized the efforts and accomplishments of their customers in the Gladwin County Connection Program for the 2006 year. Right, Worker of the Year, Rose Press's name was added to the plaque in the cafeteria at Gladwin County Industries with previous winners names.



## Youth Works! Services at Michigan Works!

The Youth Works! Service assists low-income youth in completing high school, determining their interests, getting jobs, and entering post high school training opportunities. Career Skills Training is offered to help youth with job-seeking skills and successful work behaviors. Work Experience is offered to provide the opportunity to earn a solid work reference and perform work behaviors and ethics while receiving on-the-job training. Youth Works! is looking for employers who are willing to mentor out youth. The service covers the wages and workman's compensation for the youth worker. The employer provide the worksite and learning experience. If you are interested in becoming a Youth Works! Work Experience worksite, please contact Lorna Strautman or Renee Sprague at (989) 631-3073 for more information.



**Cup & Chaucer**

The bearer of this coupon is entitled to 50 cents off any espresso at the "Cup & Chaucer"

Must present this coupon each time you visit the **Cup & Chaucer**

*Located in the Grace Dow Library*

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GROWTH THROUGH LASTING PARTNERSHIPS



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