



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

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:



Claudia Wallin from
Midland Cogeneration
Venture

Dow Chemical Company
Hemlock Semiconductor Corporation
Kinderkare Children's Center
Midland Cogeneration Venture
Red Cross of Midland/Gladwin County
Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church
Shelterhouse
Midland County Fair
Dow Chemical Employees Credit Union
Christian Celebration Center
Midland Molecular Institute
Midland Fundraising

Dow Corning Company
City of Midland
Dendritech, Inc.
Ray's Bike Shop
CPI
Trinity Lutheran Church
Quebecor Word Pendell
Evangelical Free Church
Delphi Automotive
Midland Towne Center
Apothecary Shoppe

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



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.

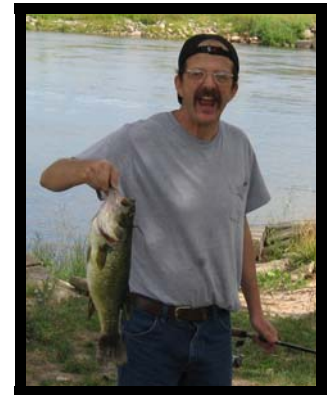


Above: Lisa, Cher (Support Staff) and Michael, Dow Corning's Health & Environmental Services division work crew.

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

EMAIL: general_info@arnoldcenter.org

The Arnold Center, Inc.
400 Wexford Ave.
Midland, MI 48640
(989) 631-9570
(989) 631-9316 Fax
Gladwin County Industries
490 Industrial Dr.
Gladwin, MI 48624
(989) 426-6300
(989) 426-0345 Fax

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